

Personality, Socioeconomic Status, and College Students' Subjective Well-being

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Outlines

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Introduction

- Social inequality and education in China
- Mental health, Subjective well-being and youth development.

Research Questions

- 1、 Is there a difference between Urban and Rural students' SWB?
- 2、 Does SES affect SWB directly when personality factors are controlled?
- 3、 Is social support an important mediating factor between SES and SWB?

Method

- The total of 756 college students from 7 Universities in Guangzhou were recruited in this research.
 - Male: 328, Female:428
 - Age: Mean=20.61 (SD=1.54)
 - Single child: 267
 - Urban :471, Rural:285
- Using self-report questionnaires, data reflecting SES,SWB,SS were collected.

Results

Rural and Urban differences (Mean and SD)

		Hukou		
		Urban	Rural	
Father's	Mean	4.10	2.86	F=137.39,
Occupation	SD	1.51	1.23	p<.001
Father's	Mean	4.50	3.22	F=226.47,
Education	SD	1.26	0.89	p<.001
Mother's	Mean	3.34	2.49	F=63.88,
Occupation	SD	1.59	1.07	p<.001
Mother's	Mean	4.06	2.79	F=207.27,
Education	SD	1.32	0.91	p<.001
Family	Mean	5.03	3.47	F=116.17,
Income	SD	1.98	1.85	p<.001
Life	Mean	4.28	3.79	F=29.25,
Satisfaction	SD	1.21	1.67	p<.001
Positive	Mean	3.19	3.14	F=1.38,
Emotions	SD	0.56	0.54	p>.1
Negative	Mean	2.33	2.35	F=0.15,
Emotions	SD	0.65	0.68	p>.1
Social	Mean	5.30	5.05	F=14.52,
Support	SD	0.89	0.87	p<.001

SEM Result

SES	0.18**	SS
	0.12*	
	0.32***	0.18**
EXTRAVERSION	0.35***	SWB
	-0.61***	
NEUROTICISM	-0.18**	

$\chi^2=214.45$, $df=104$, RMSEA=0.050, SRMR=0.056, NNFI=0.95, CFI=0.9

Note: * $p<.05$, ** $p<.01$, *** $p<.001$

Conclusion

- The results showed that students with Urban “Hukou” experienced more life satisfaction and social support than those from rural area.
- SES and personality traits affected subjective well-being directly.
- But most important, social support has a significant mediating effect on the relation between SES and SWB.
- Suggestion: We cannot change students' family status, but we do can help them to built their social network and get more social support.

- Thanks a lot!