Abstract

Body dissatisfaction was common among young women and sufficient in distinguishing eating disorder groups from controls. This study, therefore, examined the role of fear of negative evaluation together with body dissatisfaction in eating disorders development. A questionnaire was administered to 1799 female secondary school girls in Hong Kong. Results showed that more severe eating disturbance was present in the group with high body dissatisfaction and fear of negative evaluation. Higher levels of drive for thinness, depression, as well as weight and appearance concern, and lower level of self-esteem were found in that group. It confirmed that fear of negative evaluation and body dissatisfaction played a significant role in the development of eating disorders.