

ABSTRACT

With practice of “one-child policy” in PRC, sibling studies were rare in the Chinese context. The study examined the sex composition and relative age effects on sibling relationship quality in Hong Kong. 236 primary school students ($M_{age} = 10.6$) filled out the Sibling Relationship Questionnaire (SRQ) based on relationships with one of their siblings ($M_{age} = 11.1$, $SD = 4.7$). A three-way analysis of variance only revealed three main effects: higher warmth in females than males, in elder than younger siblings, and higher status in elder than younger siblings. Results were discussed with reference to traditional Chinese values. Important relative age effects on warmth and status reflect the extension of family hierarchy to Chinese sibling interactions.