

Abstract

The present study was designed to explore the influence of childlessness on psychological well-being, namely loneliness and depression, with the moderating roles of age, gender, perceived social support, familism, and attitudes toward childlessness among Hong Kong Chinese adults aged 30 or above. One hundred and thirty two Hong Kong Chinese adults (61 males and 71 females) participated in the study by completing self-reported questionnaire. Data including demographic variables, perceived level of social support, familism, attitudes toward childlessness, loneliness, and depression were obtained. Linear regression was performed to examine the collected data. Results suggest that childless men are more prone to loneliness than do women. Moreover, childless elders and childless adults with stronger familism tend to be more depressed than do comparable younger ones and those who share a weaker sense of familism. Findings help to fill in existing research gap and important future research directions were being discussed.