

Abstract

The present study examined the effect of anticipated consequences after parental knowledge of children's sexual orientation on coming out intention among 357 lesbian, gay, and bisexual young adults (aged 18-35) in Hong Kong. The moderating roles of relational self-construal and current parent-adult relationship were also examined. Results showed that anticipated realization of true self and perceived parental acceptance were significantly related to coming out intention to both fathers and mothers, while perceived parental rejection and unfulfillment of parental heterosexual expectations were not related to coming out intention to both parents. Findings also showed that relational self-construal was significant in moderating the relationship between perceived parental acceptance and coming out intention in the maternal model, but not in paternal model. The moderating role of current parent-adult relationship was significant in the relationship between unfulfillment of parental heterosexual expectations and coming out intention to both parents, while relational self-construal did not moderate such relationship. Limitations and future research directions were discussed.

Keywords: Sexual orientation; coming out; parental acceptance; filial piety; Chinese