

Abstract

This study examined the relationship between perceived group discrimination, perceived personal discrimination, and emotional functioning. Imaginary audience and need for approval were proposed as moderators for the link between perceived personal and group discrimination. A total of 554 adolescents ($M=13.11$ years) completed the questionnaires. Most of them were Chinese rural-to-urban migrant adolescents, whose parents were rural-to-urban migrant workers. As hypothesized, migrant adolescents perceived less discrimination toward themselves than toward the disadvantaged group. Also, the personal discrimination they perceived associated with lower emotional well-being. Moreover, imaginary audience and one kind of need for approval were confirmed to be moderators for the link between perceived group and personal discrimination. So the higher level migrant adolescents' imaginary audience or negative approval-based self-appraisal, the more likely they would translate group discrimination into pernicious personal discrimination.

Keywords: migrant adolescents, discrimination, well-being, imaginary audience, need for approval