

Abstract

The association between peer victimisation, interpersonal sensitivity and psychotic-like experiences in adolescents were studied. Psychotic-like experiences (PLEs) in children and adolescents were found to relate to increased risk for development of psychopathologies. This research aims at studying the relationship between psychotic-like experiences and peer victimisation (a risk factor) and interpersonal sensitivity (a potential psychosocial protective factor) in a non-clinical sample. A sample of 423 local secondary school students completed online questionnaires. Results showed significant positive correlation between interpersonal sensitivity and PLEs. Self-report of peer victimisation predicted more frequent PLEs than non-victims. The moderating effect of interpersonal sensitivity on relations between peer victimisation and PLEs was significant but weak. Further research is needed to investigate interpersonal sensitivity as a possible moderator. Interpersonal sensitivity explained a large percentage of variance in PLEs, which provided evidence for the important role of interpersonal sensitivity in the development of PLEs.