

Abstract

This 18-month longitudinal study focused on examining the effects of different dimensions of parental psychological control (i.e., love withdrawal and guilt induction), on adolescent's functioning in the urban and rural China. Three waves of data were collected from 788 urban and rural secondary-school students (mean age = 12.91 years). Adolescents reported on their perceived parental psychological control, and their own emotional functioning, behavioral functioning, and academic functioning at each wave. Additionally, their grades in three major subjects (i.e., Chinese, math, and English) were obtained from school records. Hierarchical multiple regression analyses were conducted and the results revealed that love withdrawal was negatively predictive of adolescents' emotional functioning and academic functioning, whereas guilt induction was positively predictive of adolescents' academic functioning. Further, within-culture differences, were evidenced on academic functioning, showing negative effects of love withdrawal on intrinsic value of schoolwork of urban adolescents but not rural adolescents, and on use of learning strategies of rural adolescents but not urban adolescents.

Key words: Parental Psychological Control, Love Withdrawal, Guilt Induction, Adolescent's Functioning, Urban and Rural China, Longitudinal Study, Multidimensional Approach