

Abstract

The aim of this study is to investigate the development of eating disorders by different levels of body and self image problems. Psychological characters and maladaptive eating behaviors were examined among 973 adolescent girls by different combinations of body and self-image: negative self evaluation (NSE), negative body evaluation (NBE), negative self and body evaluation (NSBE), and positive self and body evaluation (PSBE). The NSBE group -- people with both body and self-image problem, scored the highest in nearly all variables. The combination of low self-esteem and high body dissatisfaction placed people in high risk of development of eating disorders. Drive for thinness was also explored to be the mediator of the paths from self-esteem and body dissatisfaction to eating disorders and depression.