

Abstract

The present study examined the prevalence and predictors of suicidal and parasuicidal behavior among adolescents in Hong Kong. A community sample of 2,202 Chinese adolescents completed questionnaires, assessing suicidal behaviors and various borderline personality features. On the whole, 30% of them reported suicide ideation and 35% engaged in self-injurious behavior when they were upset. Impulsive behavior and intense mood were found to be the significant predictors of suicide ideation and self-injurious behavior. Findings also supported a predisposition-stress model, in which suicidal behaviors are the outcome of interactions between one's negative affect traits and invalidating family environment. Individuals who do not have enough resources to deal with stressful life events are more likely to engage in suicidal behavior.