

Abstract

The present study aimed at comparing the normative data on Child Behavior Checklist (CBCL) between the Hong Kong and U.S. general population samples. Parents of 2,116 Hong Kong children aged 6 to 18 and 2,368 U.S children aged 4 to 18 completed the questionnaires. Mean competence and problem scores were compared by culture, age and sex using independent *t*-tests with Cohen's *d* calculated as the effect sizes. Results showed that cross-cultural differences for problem scores were generally small to medium. Consistent cross-cultural gender differences, with boys scoring higher on Externalizing syndromes and girls scoring higher on Internalizing syndromes, were found in the present study. In contrast, scores on competence scales showed considerable cultural differences. The present findings have supported the cross-cultural applicability of CBCL and suggested the development of bicultural norms on children's behavioral and emotional problems for the Chinese and American populations.