

Abstract

The present study is to compare the frequency of anxiety symptoms among adolescents in Hong Kong and in Germany. In addition, academic learning motivation is hypothesized to be a significant predictor of anxiety symptoms. Five specific learning motivations; general mastery, general performance, competition, intrinsic goal and family-oriented academic motivation; are selected for the present study. Empirical evidence supported our hypothesis that Chinese adolescents in Hong Kong would report significantly more anxiety symptoms than German adolescents. More, this cultural difference can be partly explained by the endorsement of different learning motivations between the two samples. Chinese adolescents scored significantly higher on performance-oriented learning motivations that correlate positively with anxiety symptoms.