

**Abstract**

The present study examined the relationships among family invalidation, affective instability, and borderline personality features among Chinese adolescents in Hong Kong. Subjects, over 5000 high school students from five local schools, completed measures assessing family relationships, borderline personality features and depressive symptoms. Results demonstrated good internal consistency, concurrent validity and predictive validity of the Family Invalidation Scale. Subjects reported high family invalidation tended to report more other family relationship problems, more BPD and depressive symptoms. The Family Invalidation Scale contributed significant additional variance in predicting BPD and depressive symptoms even after the effects of other family variables were partialled out. The interaction between family invalidation and affective instability was also found to predict inappropriate anger and self-damaging impulse for both adolescent boys and girls. However, the interaction effect was only found in predicting identity disturbance for girls, and in predicting depressive symptoms for boys. No interaction effect was found for unstable relationships. Clinical implications of these findings were discussed.