

Abstract

The present study examined the psychometric properties of a newly developed measure: the Self-Deflation Proneness Scale (SDPS). SDPS is designed to assess self-deflation tendency among adolescents. Participants, 5099 adolescents from five high schools in Hong Kong, completed the SDPS and other scales measuring different aspects of psychosocial adjustment. Results showed that the SDPS demonstrated excellent internal consistency (with $\alpha = .94$, and item-total correlations ranged from .66 to .84) and acceptable 1-year test-retest reliability ($r = .63$). Factor analysis revealed a 1-factor solution (extracted 66.46% of the total variance), suggesting a unidimensional construct. The SDPS was significantly correlated with the Rosenberg Self-esteem and the Labile Self-esteem scales, indicating good concurrent validity. Regression analyses indicated that even after partialling out the effects of Rosenberg Self-esteem and Labile Self-esteem scales, SDPS was still able to contribute additional variance in predicting depressive and borderline personality symptoms among adolescents. Together, findings from this study support the reliability, construct validity and predictive utility of the SDPS as a measure of an important aspect of self-image among adolescents.