

## Abstract

Roommate relationship quality and the potential for roommate relationship continuance and extension can be influenced by many factors. Attachment to roommates, which can be carried over from attachment to mothers, should play an important role in these two relational outcomes. The present study examines the relationship between attachment to mothers and attachment to roommates, and the effects attachment to roommates have on the two relational outcomes (roommate relationship quality and potential for roommate relationship continuance and extension) in combination with perceived, ideal, as well as ideal-perception discrepancies of roommate beneficent behaviors in a Hong Kong Chinese context. It was hypothesized that avoidant attachment to roommates would bear greater negative effects on the two relational outcomes than anxious attachment to roommates would in an initially-established roommate relationship context, and that lower ideal-perception discrepancies would have positive impact on the two relational outcomes. Effects of changes in attachment to roommates on the changes in the two relational outcomes were tested with change in ideal-perception discrepancies as mediator. Hypotheses were generally supported. Implications of the study for future research were discussed.

(178 words)