

ABSTRACT

Different individuals display distinctive patterns of emotional reactivity even facing the same emotionally provocation. Such patterns influence attention, cognitive and behavioral reactions in various situations, which in turn affect one's vulnerability to different emotional disorders. The present study reports the development and evaluation of the Emotion Vulnerability Scale (EVS), a 20-item self-report measure of emotion sensitivity, intensity and habituation, among 4782 Chinese adolescents in Hong Kong. The EVS assesses emotional reactivity patterns of four negative emotions including fear, anxiety, anger and sadness. Factor analysis revealed two factors of emotional reactivity best characterized the data. Results indicate that the EVS has a strong internal consistency ($\alpha > .95$). The EVS is also associated with mood liability, borderline personality disorder features, self-esteem and response to stress in the right direction, suggesting good convergent and divergent validity. Moreover, findings also support predictive validity and criterion-related validity. These findings provide preliminary support for the psychometric properties of the EVS.