

ABSTRACT

Researches based on Western samples have identified two clusters of parental reactions to children's negative emotions: a) supportive reactions, which are related to better socioemotional outcomes of children; b) unsupportive reactions, which are related to poor socioemotional outcomes of children. This study aimed to examine the functional relevance of children's perceived maternal reactions to their negative emotions and also explore the mediating role of children's emotion regulation strategy linking their perceived maternal reactions and socioemotional outcomes in Chinese culture. Participants were 301 adolescents (144 female students, mean age=12.21 years). Participants completed scales regarding their perceived maternal reactions to negative emotions, emotion regulation strategy, and a wide range of socioemotional outcomes. Results shown that adolescents' perceived maternal supportive reactions were related to better socioemotional outcomes while their perceived maternal unsupportive reactions were related to poor socioemotional outcomes. Mediation results shown that cognitive reappraisal strategy partially mediated the relationship between children's perceived maternal supportive reactions and emotional well-being. Expressive suppression strategy partially mediated the relationship between perceived maternal unsupportive reactions and emotional well-being as well as the relationship between perceived maternal unsupportive reactions and social competence.

*Keywords:* maternal reactions, emotion regulation strategy, socioemotional outcomes