Ergenlerde Siber Zorbalığın Yordayıcısı Olarak Algılanan Sosyal Yetkinlik ve Toplumsal Kaygı

Perceived Social Competence and Social Anxiety as a Predictor of Cyberbullying in Adolescents

Bünyamin ATEŞ[*], Muhammet GÜLER[**]

Extended Summary

Purpose

This study is aimed to examine how perceived social competence and social anxiety variables predict cyber bullying level of adolescents.

Method

This study is descriptive research in an scanning model. The research group of this study consists of 421 students including 231 females (%54.9) and 190 males (%45.1) who are ongoing their education in high school grade in 2015-2016 academic year in Erzincan province and districts centers and selected randomly. The average age of research group is 15.95. Cyber Victimization and Bullying Scale, Perceived Social Competence Scale, Social Anxiety Scale, Personal Information Form are utilized as data collection tools in this study. The data obtained in the study are examined by using multiple linear regression analysis and stepwise regression analysis methods.

Results

it is stated in the research results that adolescents cyber bullying has a negative correlation with perceived social competence and significantly positive relation with their social anxiety. In the study, it is confirmed that perceived social competence and social anxiety variables are significant predictor of cyber bullying variable. This two variables explained about % 30 of cyber bullying. It is found out that perceived social competence variable has significantly predicted the adolescents cyber bullying in first range and social anxiety variable in second range.

Discussion

[*]Yrd. Doç. Dr., Erzincan Üniversitesi Eğitim Fakültesi, Erzincan-Türkiye
Bunyaminates81@gmail.com
[**]Yüksek Lisans Öğrencisi, Milli Eğitim Bakanlığı muhammetguler@hotmail.com

In the current century technology and information has changed and developed but it is not overlooked that as well as its positive sites such as obtaining information quickly there are negative sites such as cyber bullying. The things that created by human hands are combination of positive and negative as general nature. It can clearly be seen in technologic improvements related to information and communication. While the favourables which change and development bring together impact the individuals lives in a positive way, the hitches may lead undesired results in individual and social angles. In this context, cyber bullying concept comes up as contemporary problem depending on informational and communicative technological developments. Cyber bullying is often known as repetitive behavior with the purpose to harm opposite through devices such as computer and mobile phone. Cyber bullying can be shaped as threat, defamation, sending offensive messages, making speeches to opposite person in virtual environment. In this context, knowing cyber bullying and related variables is anxiety as important and valuable for eliminating or at least minimizing the negative behaviors. In conducted literatüre review it is seen that cyber bullying associated with different variables such as daily internet usage time, parents' educational levels, subjective well-being, parental control, sense of belonging to school, perceived academic success, gender, (Akbaba & Eroğlu, 2013; Navarro, Ruiz-Oliva, Larrañaga, & Yubero, 2015; Peker, Eroğlu & Ada, 2012; Rice et al , 2015; Wong, Chan & Cheng, 2014) as well as associated with social variables such as empathy, interpersonal sensitivity, perceived social support. Batman & Ayas 2013; Peker & Eroğlu, 2015; Rey, Lazuras, Casas, Barkoukis, Ruiz, & Tsorbatzoudis, 2016). Acting cyber bullying in visual environment rather than in a real World can be because of anxiety, fear and inability perception so the individuals can perform the behaviors that they can't in a real world and even can be called as cyber bullying, in visual environment. Because generally for them it is very unlikely to encounter with the people, who they do cyber bullying, with true identity in real world. From this point of view, cyber bullying is thought to be associated with social anxiety and social competence perception. This idea is supported by the results obtained in the study.

Conclusion

At the end of this study, it can be said that perceived social competence and social anxiety variables are significant predictors of cyber bullying variable.

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