

An exploration of bullying among post-primary school children in Ireland.

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PhD aim

- Explore the behaviours and consequences of bullying among post-primary school students in Ireland

Objectives

- Compare the outcomes of bullying
- Measure the prevalence of bullying
- ...



HBSC Study

- World Health Organisation (WHO) cross-national research project
- Improve understanding of young people's health and wellbeing
- 4 year cycle
- 2014 – first time Ireland collected data on cyber bullying

Rationale

- Bullying associated with negative health outcomes & risk behaviours
- Lack of information on cyberbullying in Ireland
- Data on cyberbullying in Ireland – HBSC 2014
- Differences in consequences of traditional and cyber among Irish adolescents?

Paper aims

- To examine:
 - the prevalence and type of bullying among post-primary school students
 - the impacts on self-reported health and wellbeing of involvement in
 - bullying
 - risk behaviours



Methods

- 318 participants aged 15 to 18 years from 8 schools
- 59% boys, 41% girls
- Self report questionnaires
- Class period
- Ethical approval granted by NUIG REC

Cyberbullying index

- How often have you been bullied at school in the past couple of months in the ways listed below?
 - Someone sent mean instant messages, wall postings, emails and text messages, or created a Web site that made fun of me
 - Someone took unflattering or inappropriate pictures of me without permission and posted them online
 - Someone tricked me into sharing personal information in an email or text message and forwarded that

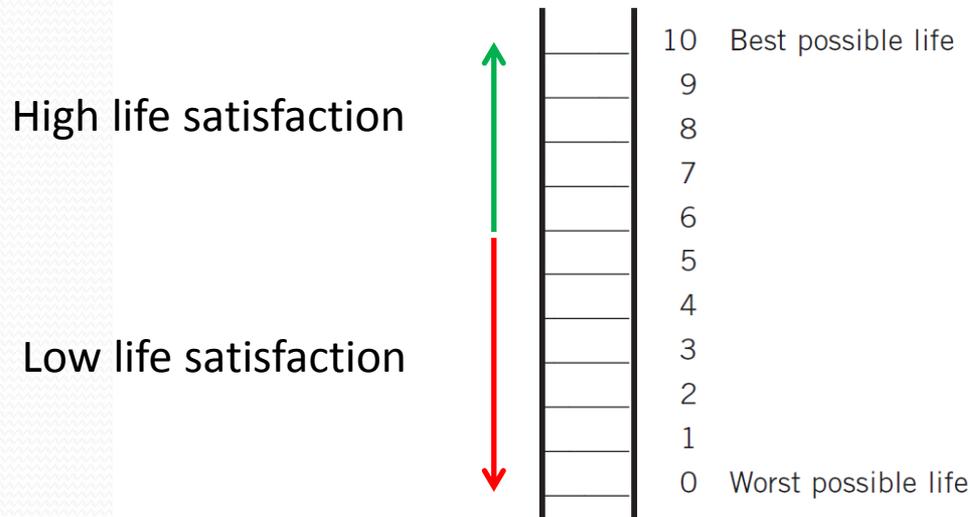
Health and Wellbeing

Here is a picture of a ladder:

The top of the ladder '10' is the best possible life for you and the bottom '0' is the worst possible life for you.

In general, where on the ladder do you feel you stand at the moment?

Tick next to the number that best describes where you stand.



- 'Would you say your health is excellent, good, fair or poor?'



Risk behaviour index

- 4 behaviours (Brooks et al, 2012)
 - smoking
 - drinking alcohol
 - cannabis use
 - sexual behaviour

Results

	All		Self Rated Health				Reported life satisfaction			
			Excellent		Not excellent		High		Low	
	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n
Never bullied										
All	66.3	209	73.8	76	62.7	133	71.6	161	52.8	47
Boys	67.6	125	71.0	49	65.5	76	71.1	96	56.0	28
Girls	64.6	84	79.4	27	59.4	57	72.2	65	47.5	19
Traditional only										
All	14.3	45	11.7	12	15.6	33	11.1	25	22.5	20
Boys	15.7	29	14.5	10	16.4	19	14.1	19	20.0	10
Girls	12.3	16	5.9	2	14.6	14	6.7	6	25.0	10
Cyber only										
All	9.8	31	8.7	9	10.4	22	8.4	19	13.5	12
Boys	10.3	19	10.1	7	10.3	12	8.9	12	14.0	7
Girls	9.2	12	5.9	2	10.4	10	7.8	7	12.5	5
Traditional and Cyber										
All	9.5	30	5.8	6	11.6	24	8.8	20	11.2	10
Boys	6.5	12	4.3	3	7.8	9	5.9	8	8.0	4
Girls	13.8	12	8.8	3	15.6	15	13.2	12	15.0	6

Results

	All		Self Rated Health				Reported life satisfaction			
			Excellent		Not excellent		High		Low	
	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n
Low risk										
All	58.2	184	68.3	71	53.3	113	62.2	140	48.9	44
Boys	50.5	94	62.9	44	43.1	50	53.3	72	44.0	22
Girls	69.2	90	79.4	27	65.6	63	75.6	68	55.0	22
Medium risk										
All	27.5	87	25.0	26	28.8	61	27.1	61	27.8	25
Boys	31.2	58	30.0	21	31.9	37	31.9	43	28.0	14
Girls	22.3	29	14.7	5	25.0	24	20.0	18	27.5	11
High risk										
All	14.2	45	6.7	7	17.9	38	10.7	24	23.3	21
Boys	18.3	34	7.1	5	25.0	29	14.8	20	28.0	14
Girls	8.5	11	5.9	2	9.4	9	4.4	4	17.5	7

Results

- More likely to report poor health and wellbeing if bullied
- Stronger effect on wellbeing, than on health
 - Stronger in relation to traditional bullying
 - Stronger among girls than boys
- Risk behaviours – Majority at low risk (girls)
 - Poor health
 - Low life satisfaction
- Low risk behaviour
 - Boys – high risk

Conclusion

- Bullying a common occurrence among post-primary students
 - Traditional bullying more common than cyberbullying
- Risk behaviours and bullying was associated
 - Cyberbullying alone – middle and high risk
 - Cyber and traditional – high risk
- Important issue for adolescent health and wellbeing

Next...

- Paper 2 – Bystanders (2010)
- HBSC 2014 cyberbullying data

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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

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Thank you!

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