

Beyond Matchmaking: Exploring the Mechanisms from Assortative Mating to Child Aggression in a Chinese Context

Authors : Shan Jiang

Abstract : Child aggression represents a significant global issue, with its familial determinants being crucial. Family is a vital context for child development, but prior research on the impact of parental assortative mating on child aggression is limited. This study investigates the effects of assortative mating on child aggression, elucidating the mediating mechanisms involved and examining gender-specific responses, within a substantial sample of 10,570 parents and their children, grades 1-6, in Hangzhou City, Zhejiang Province, China. The findings indicate that children exhibit a significant increase in aggressive behaviors when maternal income surpasses paternal income, contrasted with families where the father's income is higher. The study identifies family communication, co-parenting quality, and parental problem-solving strategies as significant mediators in the relationship between parental income/education differences and child aggression. This research contributes to understanding the parental influence on child behavior within the family system and offers valuable implications for child protection policy and intervention strategies.

Keywords : assortative mating, aggression, children, family

Conference Title : ICSW 2024 : International Conference on Social Work

Conference Location : Tokyo, Japan

Conference Dates : September 05-06, 2024