

Wsparcie społeczne a zachowania agresywne młodzieży ponadgimnazjalnej z powiatu bialskiego, województwa lubelskiego

ABSTRACT

Introduction. The concept of social support is ambiguous and complex. *Sęk* presents social support as a kind of social interaction during which information, resources and services as well as objectively existing and available social networks performing the functions of assistance to persons in distress are exchanged. Social support is very important for the science of care, including nursing. In the existing research in the field of nursing, the focus has been on the influence of social support on, among others, the perception of health, health behaviours, disease prevention, and increasing the effectiveness of treatment and rehabilitation.

Many authors, both Polish and foreign, undertook the attempts to define aggression. The classic definition of aggression was proposed by *A. Buss* who described aggression as a "reaction providing harmful stimuli to another organism." Numerous studies aimed at clarifying the causes of aggressive behaviour showed that aggression conditions are multifactorial, and its basis can be both genetic factors and environmental factors. The presented research implies that social support (or lack thereof) - as one of environmental resources of the youth - can be associated with aggressive behaviour.

The aim of the study is to analyze the relationship between the perceived social support and the level of aggressive behaviour in high school youth. Implementation of the main objective is based on the search for answers to the following research questions which also constitute **specific objectives:**

- How do high school students perceive general availability of social support?
- What is the level of aggressive behaviour of young people in relation to sex, place of residence and family situation?
- What is the relationship between tangible support and aggressive behaviour of young people?
- What is the relationship between cognitive-evaluative support and aggressive behaviour of young people?
- What is the relationship between the support of belonging and aggressive behaviour of young

people?

- What is the relationship between the support boosting someone's self-esteem and aggressive behaviour of young people?

Material and research method. Field research (quantitative) was conducted among high school students from the Biała Podlaska County, the Lublin Voivodeship. The study involved 530 students of third and fourth grades of four schools, including two high schools and two vocational schools. 508 correctly filled questionnaires (recovery factor of 95.8%) were accepted for statistical analysis. The study was conducted using the audit questionnaire supervised by a researcher, that is, the author of the study. To collect data, the following research tools were used: 1. Aggression Questionnaire by A. Buss and M. Perry (Amity version); 2. Interpersonal Social Evaluation Scale (ISEL College 48 Version); 3. Author's questionnaire consisting of questions concerning the family situation and data about the respondent.

Results. Statistically significant differences in the level of physical aggression, verbal aggression, anger and general aggression versus the gender variable were detected. A higher level of anger was present in women while in men the level of physical aggression, verbal aggression and the overall rate of aggression was higher. Analyzing the sense of social support while taking into account the gender of the youth surveyed, the author found out that women perceived greater availability of tangible and evaluative support.

By analyzing the obtained results, it was concluded that the sense of availability of tangible support at a high level was associated with statistically significant lower levels of general aggression among young people of eighteen years of age, living in a detached house, with parents with vocational education, whose father worked physically, declaring themselves as persons definitely happy. The perception of the availability of financial support at the average level was associated with the highest levels of aggression among young people who were the oldest or the youngest of the siblings, in whose house there were addicts.

In the case of the existence of the sense of belonging, the author did not find that it was associated in a statistically significant way with the overall level of aggression among young people participating in the research. The sense of existence of evaluative support at a high level was associated with higher levels of aggression among the surveyed women. Availability

of support of self-esteem was associated with both reduction and increase in aggression among the surveyed students. Feeling a sense of availability of support of self-esteem at a high level was associated with greater aggressiveness among men, young people living in a detached house, vocational school students, members of groups, organizations or associations, young people whose mother had high school education and did not work or worked part-time. Low availability of support of self-esteem was associated with greater levels of aggression among adolescents living in the city, having more than three older or younger siblings, not belonging to any kind of groups, associations or organizations, whose father had a high school education, did not work or worked part-time.

The sense of the availability of social support at a high level was significantly associated with lower levels of aggression among males, young people living in rural areas, respondents living in a detached house, learners in basic vocational school, belonging to groups or organizations, young people of 18 years of age, respondents whose father had vocational education and mother did not work or worked part-time.

Conclusions. Based on the research conducted the following conclusions were drawn:

- Greater availability of social support was perceived by the youth living in the city, belonging to groups or organizations, and individuals who recognize themselves as happy.
- A higher level of aggression was observed in men, students of basic vocational schools whose father did not work or worked only part-time.
- The perceived availability of financial support at a low level was associated with higher levels of general aggression in responders of 18 years of age, definitely happy, living with both parents in a detached house, who are the oldest of the siblings, mother and father had vocational education, father worked physically. Higher levels of aggression were also found among the youngest of the siblings in whose houses there were addictions and who perceived availability of tangible support at a medium level. Variation of dependence between tangible support and aggressive behaviour indicate the complexity of the relationship.
- The feeling of availability of support at a high level was associated with higher levels of aggression among women.
- There was no correlation between the availability of the sense of belonging and aggressive behaviour of the young people examined.

- The availability of support of the sense of self-esteem at the average level was associated with the lowest level of overall aggression in men, young people living in detached houses, in the city, attending basic vocational school, having more than three siblings, not belonging to groups, whose mother had vocational education, did not work or worked part-time, whose father had high school education, did not work or worked part-time. Availability of support of self-esteem at a low level was associated with higher levels of aggression among young people who belong to groups.