



School Violence in Korea


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Statistics

- 2012 National survey on school violence (Youth Violence Prevention Foundation, 2013)
 - ⊙ N=5,530 (G4 in elementary school ~ G3 in high school)
 - ⊙ The most serious type of school violence
 - ⊙ Bullying 24.4% → Physical violence 23.3%
 - ⊙ During the last one year
 - ⊙ Victimization 12% (2011: 18.3%)
 - ⊙ Perpetration 12.6% (2011: 15.7%)

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- ⊙ Pain after victimization 49.3% (2011: 33.5%) – suicidal ideation 44.7% (2011: 31.4%)
 - ⊙ The first time they experienced violence at school – Elementary school (esp. G5 17.8%) 78.3%
 - ⊙ Type of victimization
 - ⊙ Name calling, insult, verbal threat 41.2%
 - ⊙ Physical violence 18%
 - ⊙ Cyber violence 8.4%



⊙ Witness 41.7%

⊙ Ignore 44.5%

⊙ Fear of being a next target 30.6% → No interest 26.9% (2011: 21.5%) → Don't know what to do 19% (2011: 28.5%)

Changes in Policy and Practice

- From December 2011 to June 2012
 - ⊙ Six suicidal death of victimized students
- Suicide #1 reason for death among ages 10-19 & 20-29
 - ⊙ Suicide: Suicidal attempts = 1:772 (NECA, 2012)
- Three changes by Ministry of Education in 2012
 - ⊙ Comprehensive Plan for School Violence Prevention
 - ⊙ National survey for school violence targeting all 5,590,000 students
 - ⊙ National Mental Health Screening in all schools

○ The 2nd National Survey in August 2012 by MOE (KEDI)

- ⊙ All students G4 in ES ~ G3 in HS
- ⊙ Online survey - Response rate 73.7%
- ⊙ Perpetration 4.1% (bullying by group 62.6%)
- ⊙ Victimization 8.5% (severe cursing 33.4%, money stolen 16.2%)
 - ⊙ More than 1-2 times a week or at least four months 19.6% (n=110,000)
- ⊙ Witness 17.5%
 - ⊙ 31.3% ignored



○ Comprehensive Plan for School Violence Prevention in 2012

- ⊙ Priority on the protection of victimized students
- ⊙ Strict action against perpetrators
- ⊙ Intensification of character education

Research Trends

○ Late 1990s

- ⊙ Suicide of a 16-year-old victimized student
- ⊙ “Wang-ta” or “Wangtta”
 - ⊙ Exclusion by the group
- ⊙ Research on prevalence, awareness, individual characteristics of victims



○ 2000s

- ⊙ Predictors of perpetration and victimization
 - ⊙ Ecological approaches
- ⊙ Psychosocial consequences of being bullied
- ⊙ Development of intervention programs for victims
- ⊙ Conformity to bullying behaviors



○ 2010s

- ⊙ Participant roles
- ⊙ Defending behaviors & outsiders behaviors
- ⊙ Interest in teachers' roles, awareness, attitudes, etc.
- ⊙ Peer victimization & school life satisfaction
- ⊙ Social status... perceived popularity
- ⊙ Cyberbullying
- ⊙ Bullying & multicultural children

Future Directions for Research

- Need for longitudinal study
 - ⊙ Developmental trajectories of peer victimization
 - ⊙ Stability of participant roles
- Further study on bystander behaviors
- Development of bystander intervention programs
- Empirical study on treatment efficacy of bullying prevention programs
- Consideration of school-level variables
- Verbal bullying
- Cyberbullying
- Bullying against students with disabilities
- Bullying against multiracial students



Thank you!

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