

ON PROSOCIAL BEHAVIOR AND MORAL MOTIVATION IN THE SCHOOL COMPETITION AREA

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Abstract

We learn daily from the media about different acts of violence that some people are doing against some other people, about various crimes that are committed and about other antisocial acts, identified as aggressions in media. The prosocial behavior instead is less promoted, although humans' level of civilization recommends it instead of being aggressive. Such behaviors are learned from the early age, and the environment where the child is growing has a great importance. The present study aims to offer a perspective on the prosocial behavior of only children and children with siblings as evaluated by teachers and it also aims to perform an evaluation of the prosocial behavior in terms of moral motivation. We used a sample of 62 subjects with the age between 7 and 10 years. We had 37 subjects who were the first born in the family, 18 subjects who had a big brother/sister and 7 subjects with 2, 3 or 5 big brothers/sisters. The results show that the appreciation of the teachers is in the favor of those who are the first born in the family, with younger brothers; they are seen as more developed in terms of prosocial behavior in comparison to those who are only children or with those who have older brothers. Regarding the moral motivation, most participants chose answers that fall into the moral motivations category; those who chose selfish motivations appeared to come from families where they were the youngest.

Keywords: prosocial behavior; birth order; siblings

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