

TURKISH 6th-8th GRADE STUDENTS' SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING SKILLS AND LIFE SATISFACTION

Assist. Prof. Dr. Hülya ŞAHİN BALTACI Mehmet Akif Ersoy University Faculty of Education Department of Educational Sciences Guidance and Counseling Burdur- TURKEY

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to find out that whether 6th-8th grade Turkish students have any life satisfaction differences depending on gender, class level, and perceived parents attitude and whether students' social emotional learning skills are a predictor of life satisfaction. The participants were 388 students, between age range of 15–18, who were attending seven different elementary schools in Burdur, Turkey. Their ages ranged from 10 to 15 years old. Data were collected by using Social-Emotional Learning Skills Scale and the Multi-Dimensional Student Life Satisfaction Scale-Short Form. Results indicated that life satisfaction did not differ by gender, but did differ by class level and perceived parental attitudes. According to stepwise multiple regression analysis, 8th grade, perceived parental attitudes (over tolerant), self-esteem enhancing skills and stress-coping skills were significant predictors of students' life satisfaction.

Key Words: Life satisfaction, Social-emotional learning skills, Perceived parent attitudes, Gender.