

# Analysis on the Current Situation of School Bullying in Junior Middle Schools in Tianyang County

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**Abstract:** Taking the junior middle school students in Tianyang County as the research object, the writer of this paper conducted a survey in the form of questionnaire and interviews. This survey involves six aspects: the perception of school bullying, the place where it occurs, the types of bullies and victims, the bad behavior of bullies and the coping strategies of victims. Based on the results of the survey, it was identified that social environment, school environment, family environment and students themselves all were related to the emergence of school bullying among rural junior high school students. In this regard, specific measures such as actively purifying the social environment, strengthening school education and management, and strengthening family prevention were put forward to effectively prevent the school bullying among junior middle school students in villages and towns.

School bullying is a kind of behavior that occurs inside and outside the school and can cause physical and psychological injury to school members (students and teachers)<sup>[1]</sup>. In recent years, the frequent occurrence of school bullying has attracted close attention from the government and society. In May 2016, the Office of the Education Supervisory Committee of the State Council formulated “the Notice on Implementing Special Management of School Bullying”, which requires local governments to carry out special management of school bullying. In November of the same year, the Ministry of Education, together with many other governmental departments, issued “Guidelines on Preventing and Curing Bullying among Primary and Secondary School Students”, with the aim of preventing and curing school bullying. Under the background that the state and the government attach great importance to school bullying and bring it into the national governance system, the frequency of school bullying in China has been reduced to some extent through the joint efforts of various social forces. According to the special report issued on September 5, 2018 by China Justice Big Data Research Institute, the number of school bullying cases during the year of 2015 to 2017 decreased year by year. In 2015, people's courts at all levels in our country closed more than 1000 cases of school bullying at first instance. In 2016 and 2017, school bullying cases decreased by 16.51% and 13.37% respectively year on year<sup>[2]</sup>. But the overall situation of school bullying is still grim with some new changes. In this context, the writer conducted a survey on school bullying in Dongjing Junior Middle School, Qiaoye Junior Middle School, Babie Junior Middle School and Wucun Junior Middle School in Tianyang County, Baise City, Guangxi from March to May, 2019. Concretely seeing into the current situation of school bullying among junior middle school students in Tianyang County, the author put forward pertinent suggestions based on the analysis of the causes, in order to provide reference for maintaining the physical and mental health of rural junior high school students in Tianyang county.

## 1. Investigation on the Current Situation of School Bullying of Rural Junior Middle School Students

### 1.1 Objects and Methods of Investigation

Taking the students of Dongjing Junior Middle School, Qiaoye Junior Middle School, Babie Junior Middle School and Wucun Junior Middle School in Tianyang County, Baise City, Guangxi as

the research objects, the author selected 2800 students through stratified sampling. Finally, 2730 valid questionnaires were collected, with a recovery rate of 97.5%. The survey was centered on the students' awareness of school bullying, their own implementation of bullying and the situation of being bullied, specifically involving the understanding of school bullying, the place where it occurs, the reasons for its existence, the types of bullies and bad behavior, the types of victims, coping methods and preventive measures of school bullying<sup>[3]</sup>.

## **1.2 Results**

### **1.2.1 Situation of School bullying**

According to the investigation results, 354 rural junior middle school students participated in bullying, and the incidence of bullying was 12.97%. Among the bullies, boys account for 83.7% and girls account for 16.3%; Among the victims, boys account for 82.6% and girls account for 17.4%.

### **1.2.2 Understanding of school bullying**

According to the investigation results, the proportion of students who hate school bullying is 66.7%; the proportion of students who look on is 13.6%; the proportion of students who are indifferent to school bullying is 11.5%; and the proportion of students who regard school bullying as normal is 8.2%.

### **1.2.3 The place of school bullying**

According to the investigation results, school corners school accounts for 22.2%, toilets for 13.4%, roads for 12.3%, playgrounds for 10.9%, classroom for 4.9%, and places not involved for 38.1%.

### **1.2.4 Reasons for school bullying**

According to the investigation results, 26.3% of the students thought that school management was lax; 19.4% thought that psychological guidance could not be effectively implemented; 18.5% thought that the impact of family environment was caused by students; 35.8% thought that the adverse social environment was caused by students.

### **1.2.5 Types of bullies and bad behavior**

According to the investigation results, in terms of types of bullies, strong students account for 10.5%, grumpy students for 28.5%, students neglected by teachers and excluded by students for 16%, students with poor family environment for 22.5%, and the rest for 22.5%. As for bad behavior, with regard to smoking and drinking, students who frequently smoke and drink account for 67%, students who seldom smoke and drink for 22.5% and students who don't smoke and drink for 10.5%; with regard to surfing the Internet and killing time in bar, students who often surf the Internet and kill time in bar account for 44.5%, students who occasionally surf the Internet and kill time in bar for 43.6% and students who never surf the Internet and kill time in bar for 11.9%; with regard to films and TV works involving bullying and killing, students who particularly like these account for 44.5%, students who normally like these for 34.2% and students who don't like these for 21.3%.

### **1.2.6 Types of victims**

According to the investigation results, emaciated students account for 16.6%, solitary and unsociable students for 29.5%, poor students for 11.4%, students with personal grievances for 31.5%, and students with very poor academic performance for 11%.

### **1.2.7 Coping Methods and Preventive Measures of school Bullying**

According to the investigation results, with regard to coping methods, students who chose to report to the police account for 36.7%, students who endured silently for 31.8%, students who vent on others for 12.5% and students who used other coping methods for 19%; with regard to

preventive measures, students who think that schools should strengthen management account for 32.5%, students who think that schools should strictly deal with bullies for 22.6%, students who think schools should pay close attention and provide effective psychological guidance for 24.5% and students who think that relevant laws and regulations are needed for 20.4%.

## **2. The Influencing Factors of School Bullying of Township Junior Middle School Students**

### **2.1 Internal factors**

#### **2.1.1 Physiological factors**

Physiological factors refer to genetic factors, physical factors, biorhythm and other biological factors. Among these, the first two mainly refer to gene, chromosome, endocrine, central nervous system and other factors, while biorhythm refers to the periodic fluctuation of physical agility, emotion and intelligence from the day of birth to the end of life. Junior high school students are mostly 12-15 years old teenagers, who are in the period of secondary sexual characteristics, which is a stage of self-consciousness awakening and puzzle. If not properly educated and guided, they will be susceptible to external unfavorable inducements and thus conduct deviant behaviors at school. What's more, they are bursting with energy and got well-developed bodies, which constitute physiological conditions for bullying<sup>[4]</sup>.

#### **2.1.2 Psychological factors**

Psychological factors include intelligence, personality and willpower. Some junior high school students aged 12-15 display weak cognitive ability and self-regulation consciousness, fail to correctly recognize their responsibilities and obligations, and have difficulty in making correct judgments on things; some with strong self-awareness neglect others' feelings and enjoyments in daily learning and life, which leads to the conflicts with other classmates and teachers. In addition with poor emotion management ability during adolescence, they tend to get impulsive and conduct bullying, and even excessive criminal acts. In terms of willpower, many junior high school students have weak self-control ability, and thus may respond excessively and violently on others when they meet setbacks or are fooled by others.

### **2.2 External factors**

#### **2.2.1 Family environment**

The survey results have shown that family environment has an impact on bullying tendency of students. And relevant studies also show that family environment is one of the important factors inducing school bullying of junior high school students. Failing to set an example with own conducts, some parents do not pay attention to regulate their own morality, speech or behavior, and treat their sons or daughters with scolding or even beating, which will subtly affect students' psychology and behavior and make them tend to bully. In addition, students in disharmonious family environment or incomplete family may acquire little care and feel unsatisfied both spiritually and materially, and thus easily get self-abased, depressed, rebellious and other characteristic alike, which are likely to impel themselves to use violence against others with the simulation of bad incentives<sup>[5]</sup>.

#### **2.2.2 School environment**

School environment is an important factor inducing school bullying. This is mainly due to the inadequacy of school education and school management. In the aspect of school education, school leaders and teachers only pay attention to the knowledge education and cultivation, neglect the comprehensive development of students' morality, intelligence, physical fitness, aesthetic value and labor, and fail to effectively implement quality education. Thus, it is likely for students to set up deviating ideological concepts and then act against morality. In terms of school management, school leaders and teachers believe that students have grown up and thus create a relatively open school environment, making students feel unconstrained in school life. Some students act recklessly and even commit violence against others. In addition, while implementing school management,

although psychological guidance is advocated and implemented, they fail to alleviate students' psychological problems with pertinence and help them maintain a healthy psychological state. Then, the persistence of some students' unhealthy psychological state will increase the incidence of school bullying<sup>[6]</sup>.

### **2.2.3 Social environment**

The society affirms the importance and rationality of individual's pursuit of interests, but it also brings conflicts between interests and righteous in some cases. Specifically speaking, the social environment is very complex. Especially in the age of self-media, information dissemination is pluralistic and fast and bad information is not easy to filter. With frequent access to the Internet in daily life and learning, junior high school students can receive and disseminate all kinds of information, while they are also vulnerable to the influence of some adverse factors. In addition with the lack of rationality in distinguishing between right and wrong, they are prone to money worship, egoism, hedonism and other bad concepts, which will be externalized into excessive words and deeds, induce conflicts and school bullying as a result.

## **3. Suggestions on Preventive Measures of School Bullying among Rural Junior Middle School Students**

### **3.1 Actively purifying the social environment**

The social environment has a great impact on the rural junior high school students. Many rural junior high school students are affected by adverse social phenomena and have radical ideas, and then implement school bullying. Therefore, in order to prevent the occurrence of school bullying, it is necessary to purify the social environment. Purifying the social environment means vigorously promoting the healthy and upward mainstream values. Relevant departments should strengthen the attack on the dissemination of information about bullying, pornography and so on, so that students can be influenced and infected by the positive energy of society, establish correct opinion about values, life and the world, better develop themselves, and make contributions to the society and the motherland<sup>[7]</sup>.

### **3.2 Strengthen School Education and Management**

Schools should pay great attention to students, understand their actual situation (especially their psychological changes and unhealthy psychological state), strengthen quality education involving different forms of activities, and encourage and guide students to participate in them, so that students can be deeply educated, establish correct ideological concepts, distinguished between right and wrong, and resist bad temptation and information in daily life and learning. While strengthening school management, schools and teachers should not blindly and compulsively control students, but understand the actual situation of students' learning and life, clarify their difficulties in learning and life, give students help and care, and make them establish trust in schools and teachers. Then, students may seek more help from teachers and schools when they encounter difficulties or problems, so as to avoid going astray [11]. In addition, it is supposed to purify the school environment by forbidding foreign personnel entering the school and strictly implementing the registration system when students go out, so as to ensure that students can study and live in a good environment, cultivate students' quality and morality, enhance their comprehensive quality and promote students' sound development.

### **3.3 Strengthening family prevention**

Family is the harbor for children to grow up, and parents are their first teachers. In order to help students correct themselves, maintain a good mental state, clear their responsibilities and obligations and develop themselves well, parents should set an example, maintain family harmony through efforts in avoiding quarrel or fighting, learn the correct way of education, and offer positive care while creating a favorable family atmosphere. What's more, parents should pay attention to cultivating the sense of responsibility, obligation, honor and other aspects, improve their

offspring's ability to deal with pressure, frustration and setbacks, thus making students grow healthily<sup>[8]</sup>.

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