Abstract

The purpose of the present study was to assess the association among self-concept, life satisfaction and behavioral trajectories of underachievers. A cross sectional research design was used. The sample size for the study was 400 school children including 200 males and 200 females selected using stratified sampling technique in which simple random strategy was used in the age range of 13 to 16. Identification of underachievers using a common scale and Colored progressive matrices scale were used for screening underachievers. Data collection was done using Multidimensional student life satisfaction, child behavior checklist and multi-dimensional self-concept scale. Correlation, stepwise regression and independent sample t test were used. Results showed that there was a negative relationship of friends-sub-dimension of multidimensional life satisfaction scale with anxiety dependent sub-dimension of child behavior checklist with withdrawal dependent and somatic component of the checklist attention component, thought component of CBCL rule breaking and aggressive behavior component of the child behavior checklist. It has been determined that life satisfaction in relevance to school, friends, family, living environment and conceptions of the self positively influence or predict social functioning behaviors of children. It was also found that school related life satisfaction significantly and negatively predicted the internalizing functions of underachievers. Also, dependent self-construal friends dimension of life satisfaction, living environment and family oriented life satisfaction negatively predicted internalizing functions i.e. anxiousness, withdrawal and somatic complaints.

Keywords: self-concept, child behavior checklist, multidimensional life satisfaction, correlation, regression, independent sample t test