Abstract

A cultural-specific CPAI Openness scale was developed for the Chinese people. Relations among Openness, self-disclosure, and responsiveness were examined in order to study Openness in the communication perspective. One hundred and fifty-four university students completed three questionnaires: the Openness Scale, the Self-disclosure Questionnaire and the Opener Scale. It was found that self-ratings on the Openness were related to one’s level of responsiveness but not to the level of self-disclosure to same-sex friends, suggesting that Chinese Openness is associated with responsiveness. Two facets of the Openness Scale: Communication Style and Thinking Style, are significant predictors of responsiveness.

Chinese communication style may be useful to account for the results. Gender differences were also found in self-disclosure and responsiveness, which indicate the gender influence on these two ways of communication. Future research could examine Openness in other forms of interpersonal relationship in order to have a broader picture of Chinese Openness in the communication context.