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Introduction

- Peer victimisation is a form of aggressive behaviour which is experienced by approximately 10-30% of youths in sport (Vertommen et al. 2017).
- Perfectionism has previously been associated with peer victimisation (Miller & Vaillancourt, 2007) in a school context.
- Perfectionism has been shown to be related to friendship conflict in youth sport (Mallinson et al. 2014) but has yet to be examined in relation to peer victimisation.
- Therefore the aim of this study was to examine the relationships between different dimensions of perfectionism and peer victimisation and perpetration in youth sport.



Method

- The study employed a cross-sectional survey-design.
- 147 youth sport participants ($M_{age} = 13.76$ $SD = 1.4$ years; 49% males) completed the questionnaire.
- The questionnaire included measures of domain-specific and performance specific perfectionism and experiences of perpetrating and being a victim of peer victimisation:
 - Brief Hewitt & Flett Multidimensional Perfectionism Scale (Hewitt et al. 2008)
 - Other-Oriented Perfectionism (1990) Scale (Hewitt & Flett, 1990)
 - Performance Perfectionism Scale for Sport (Hill, Appleton & Mallinson, 2016)
 - Personal Experience Checklist (Hunt, Peters & Rapee, 2012)
 - Personal Experience Checklist –Reversed

Results

- Multiple regressions were performed for each instrument of perfectionism against overall victimisation and overall perpetration and against each subscale for victimisation and perpetration.
- Other-oriented perfectionism as measured by the (1990) scale was a significant positive predictor of overall perpetration, physical perpetration and physical victimisation.
- Other-oriented performance perfectionism was a significant, positive predictor of overall perpetration.
- Neither self-oriented perfectionism nor socially prescribed perfectionism were significant predictors of any perpetration or victimisation behaviours.

Table 1. Perfectionism regression models for the significant criterion variables

		B	β	t
Outcome: Physical victimisation				
	SOP	.03	.09	.93
	SPP	-.05	-.14	-1.28
	OOP90	.13	.26	2.91*
Outcome: Overall perpetration				
	SOP	-.02	-.13	-1.31
	SPP	-.003	-.02	-.19
	OOP90	.06	.27	3.08*
Outcome: Physical perpetration				
	SOP	-.02	-.06	-.63
	SPP	-.03	-.10	-.97
	OOP90	.11	.31	3.58*
Outcome: Overall perpetration				
	SOPP	.004	.02	.26
	SPPP	.01	.04	.43
	OOPP	.04	.21	2.30*

* $p < .05$

Conclusions

- The findings suggest that other-oriented perfectionism is the most problematic dimension in relation to interpersonal behaviours.
- Youth sport participants high in other-oriented perfectionism are likely to have greater interpersonal difficulties with their sporting peers.