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Assumed-competence and daily strength and fluctuation of depression and hostility in interpersonal situations

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This study examined the relationships between assumed-competence that was based on undervaluing others, and emotional experiences of depression and hostility in interpersonal situations. Scales measuring assumed-competence and self esteem were administered to 445 university students. They were then requested to describe the most remarkable event of the day in their interpersonal relationships, and to evaluate various emotions at that time, each day for a week. Results showed that respondents who were categorized as assumption type, with high assumed-competence and low self esteem, experienced a higher level of depression and hostility in their interpersonal events than the other types. Furthermore, it was revealed that they had larger fluctuation in their emotions than those of high self esteem type, who possessed low assumed-competence and high self esteem.

Keywords: assumed-competence, hostility, depression, diary method

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