
This study, using data from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health, a nationally representative sample of 8,939 adolescents in grades 7 to 12, found that "an adolescent's own violence lessens the negative association between street violence and depression. Similarly, exposure to street violence moderates the association between own violence and depression" (p. 355). This effect was most pronounced for boys and older adolescents. According to the authors, these counterintuitive findings suggest that "being aggressive in the context of community violence could be an adaptive strategy that preserves adolescents' sense of control in a volatile and unpredictable environment" (Child Development). A summary of the study is available at the Child Development Newswire:

http://cdwire.net/cgi-bin/pub990170781409.cgi?itemid=9990196612928&action=viewad&categoryid=9960170781449&page=1&placeonpage=38&totalDisplayed=50

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