

The Components of Psychological Growth in Adolescents Overcoming Bullying Experiences


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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The sentence, “The interplay between victimization and stigma is particularly damaging...” is insightful but lacks reference to more recent European or Spanish contexts. Including regional data would improve contextualization.

The paper cites Liu et al. (2024) on family adversity but does not clearly link this to Spanish adolescents. Please discuss whether family adversity is a salient factor in the Spanish cultural context.

The sentence, “These findings mirror previous evidence that rumination and maladaptive cognitive patterns mediate...” could be expanded by explicitly linking which of your subthemes (e.g., cognitive reframing) counteract rumination.

The sentence, “Importantly, this study contributes to the growing recognition that adolescents are not merely passive victims...” is compelling but would benefit from positioning your findings in relation to resilience theory (e.g., Ungar’s work).

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The transition to the study's aim, "Against this background, the present study focuses..." is abrupt. A clearer research gap statement (what is unknown in existing PTG/bullying literature) would make the rationale more persuasive.

The table is clear but somewhat overloaded. Consider merging similar concepts (e.g., "managing anger" and "reducing fear responses") to avoid redundancy.

The mention of "online peer forums, inspirational videos, and mental health apps" is contemporary. However, you should also discuss potential risks (cyber-victimization, misinformation) to provide a nuanced view.

When stating, "Such findings are consistent with evidence that bullying experiences compromise feelings of security..." please explicitly tie this back to your participants' quotes for stronger grounding.

The reference to "digital coping tools" is underdeveloped compared to other themes. Please integrate existing literature on digital resilience or e-mental health interventions to enrich this section.

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.