

Coping strategies have important implications for adolescent health, including friendship adjustment, emotional well-being, and physical well-being. In terms of friendship adjustment, adolescents who use active coping strategies are more likely to have positive friendship quality (Shin & Ryan, 2012). Research also finds that coping strategies have implications for emotional adjustment, such that adolescents using avoidance coping are more likely to be isolated and anxious (Shin & Ryan, 2012). In terms of physical health, avoidant coping styles have been linked to negative physical health (Wilson et al., 2005). There is also evidence that the association between coping styles and well-being vary depending on gender (Wilson et al., 2005). In the current study, we will examine adolescents' coping in relation to their well-being and whether the relations differ for girls and boys. Participants are friends in 8th, 9th, and 10th grades and were asked to complete survey questionnaires. They completed the Brief COPE (Carver, 1997), which assesses coping strategies. For example, items assess active coping (i.e. taking actions to fix the situation) and avoidance coping (i.e. denying the situation exists). The adolescents also completed the Friendship Quality Questionnaire (Rose 2002 revision of Parker and Asher 1993). To assess emotional well-being, adolescents completed the Multidimensional Anxiety Scale for Children (March et al., 1997) and the Center for Epidemiological Studies Depression Scale (Eaton et al., 2004). The Short Form (36) Health Survey (RAND Health; rand.org) was used to assess physical well-being. Correlational analyses will examine the relations between coping and well-being. T-tests will be used to compare girls and boys in their coping and well-being. Correlational analyses will also test whether there are gender differences in the associations between coping strategies and well-being.