ABSTRACT

We analyzed undergraduates' (N = 232) day-to-day lying behavior in order to explore the frequency, the kinds of lying behavior, and gender differences, and to analyze the relationship of lying behaviors to the individual undergraduates' psychological characteristics. We developed a questionnaire in order to carry out an analysis by using descriptive statistics, t tests, and Pearson product-moment correlation analysis. We found that the undergraduates' day-to-day behavior could be divided into the following five types of lying: excuse, absenteeism, cheating, negative, and spending. More than 80% of the undergraduates said they had not told a lie in a day-to-day situation within the 1-year period covered in this study. There was no significant gender difference in any aspect of the undergraduates' day-to-day lying behavior. There was a significant correlation between day-to-day lying behavior and negative psychological characteristics.

Keywords: lying behavior, psychological characteristics, cheating