

SOCIAL ATTITUDES OF SOCIO-ATTITUDINAL DIMENSIONS OF PERSONALITY IN INMIGRANTS AND AUTOCHTONOUS GROUPS

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INTRODUCTION

This paper is part of a broader research which deals with the psycho-social factors that influence the adaptation of inmigrants of different nationalities in the Valencian Autonomous Community. We shall limit ourselves to setting forth some partial results concerning the attitudes of these groups. To this end, on the one hand, we have analyzed the attitudes of inmigrants and autochtonous persons about their own race, nationalism and country, which allows us to discover certain aspects of the social identity of these groups. On the other hand, we have analyzed the attitudinal characteristics of the subjects from a more traditional point of view based on the study of the so-called socio-attitudinal dimensions of the personality, paying special attention to authoritarian, and dogmatic behavior patterns.

Now, we describe the characteristics of the study.

METHOD

Sample

The sample used is a total of 100 subjects distributed in the following way: 20 Valencians, 20 Arab immigrants from the Middle East, 20 German immigrants, 20 Italian immigrants and, finally, 20 Romans.

On Table 1, the basic statistics related to mean and rank of age can be seen, and also the number of men and women that make up each one of these groups.

TABLE 1. ALGUNAS CARACTERISTICAS DE LA MUESTRA QUE HA PARTICIPADO EN EL ESTUDIO

GROUP	N	AGE MEAN	AGE RANK	MALE	FEMALE
Valencian People	20	31.30	18-52	10	10
Arabian People	20	34.30	21-47	16	4
German People	20	37.90	19-57	10	10
Italian People	20	36.05	18-60	10	10
Roman People	20	37.08	21-60	10	10

Instruments

All the subjects fulfilled the following tests:

(a) The Spanish version of Osgood's Semantic Differential made by Pinillos and Pelechano in 1973, which isolates the evaluative dimension, with ten bipolar adjective scales; the firmness-stability dimension, with twelve, and the activity dimension, with ten. As we indicated above, the concepts that the subjects had to rate were: "My Race", "My Nationalism" and "My Country" (see table 2).

(b) The Dogyant Questionnaire on fascism, dogmatism and anti-authoritarianism, made up of 96 items with two alternative answers, and which derive principally from Adorno's F and Rokeach's DO scales, adapted respectively for Spanish people by Pinillos and Pelechano. The factorial analyses carried out with this test give rise to six first order factors, which in turn give rise to two factors in a second order analysis (Pelechano, 1987). The first order factors receive the following nomenclature: manichaeism; authoritarianism; conventionalism and paci-

fist conservatism; dogmatism and paranoid xenophobia; intellectualized disenchantment with the social world; organization and social planification together with personal independence; and, finally, the sixth: social conventionalism and anti-intrapection. The two second order factors, as you can see at the bottom of Table 2, include, on the one hand, F2, F4 and F5, and, on the other hand, F1, F3 and F6.

TABLE 2 . INSTRUMENTS**SEMANTIC DIFFERENTIAL**

Dimensions	Concepts
Evaluative (10 bipolar scales, 1 to 7)	"My Race"
Firmness-stability (12 bipolar scales, 1 to 7)	"My Nationalism"
Activity (10 bipolar scales, 1 to 7)	"My Country"

DOGYANT QUESTIONNAIRE

First order factors

F1 = Manichaeian authoritarianism (12 items)

F2 = Conventionalism and pacifist conservatism (13 items)

F3 = Dogmatism and paranoid xenophobia (22 items)

F4 = Intellectualized disenchantment with the social world (17 items)

F5 = Organization and social planification together with personal independence (29 items)

F6 = Social conventionalism and anti-intrapection (15 items)

Second order factors

F1 = F2 + F4 + F5

FII = F1 + F3 + F6

As for the process followed to collect this information, we must point out two things:

In the first place, the autochthonous Valencian group and the three groups of immigrants living in the Valencian Autonomous Community, answered the Spanish versions of these instruments. On this point, it is important to point out that the immigrants had a good enough knowledge of the Spanish language to do these tests and that if they did not understand any particular point, it was explained to them in their own language. We would like to make it very clear that a selected control was kept in this sense.

In the second place, the Romans answered our adaptation of these tests in Italian. But we must point out that the correction of the tests was carried out using the key to the Spanish version, since at the time when these partial results were obtained, we did not yet have enough Italians to carry out factorial analyses that complied with the minimum scientific requirements.

RESULTS

The results obtained will be presented in two sets: those referring to social attitudes and those referring to socio-attitudinal dimensions.

At the top of Table 3, you can see the means scores of the groups for each dimension and concept rated by means of the semantic differential, as well as the semantic distances between the three concepts for each of them. The results shows that, in the case of the German immigrants, there is a greater distance, above all in the concept "Race" with respect to the other two. As opposed to these results, in the group formed by the Arab immigrants, the three concepts made up a cohesive whole, with little difference as to the meaning they share. On the other hand, for the Italians, Romans and Valencians, race and nationalism were very close together, with a greater difference in the semantic space for the concept "Country".

At the bottom of this same table, one can see the mean scale points obtained by each of the groups in the evaluative and activity dimensions. These were the most outstanding results:

In the first place, the Arab immigrants pronounce more favourable judgments in relation to their own group or, in short, appreciate their social identity more than the other four, as can be seen from the scores achieved in the evaluative judgements of the three concepts. However, at the same time, this is the group with greatest polarization between the evaluative judgments and those which entail a more active behaviour.

In the second place, and unlike the previous case, the German groups compared to the Arab group in particular and the other groups in general, is the one with the lowest scores in the evaluative dimension. Besides, in the case of this group, there is a smaller polarization between the evaluative and the activity judgments in the different concepts, with the exception of the concept "Race", in which the Germans have considerably higher scores in the activity dimension as compared with the evaluative dimension.

In the third place, the two Italian groups react in a fairly similar way. The most notable thing to point out would be the slightly higher scores obtained by the Italian immigrants than by those residing in their own country, and in the latter there is also a greater polarization between the evaluative and activity judgements.

TABLE 3. SEMANTIC DIFFERENTIAL

A) MEANS FOR EACH DIMENSION, CONCEPT AND GROUP

CONCEPTS	Valencian people	Arabian people	German people	Italian people	Roman people
“MY RACE”					
Evaluation	47.85	52.25	43.50	46.65	47.95
Firmness-stability	60.20	60.10	61.30	60.45	51.85
Activity	49.20	43.10	49.00	46.45	43.55
“MY NATIONALISM”					
Evaluation	45.60	54.40	37.90	44.95	44.95
Firmness-stability	59.50	60.25	48.70	59.40	53.80
Activity	49.70	44.90	37.35	46.20	41.90
“MY COUNTRY”					
Evaluation	50.50	54.50	46.50	54.00	49.15
Firmness-stability	57.45	60.65	59.30	61.45	49.70
Activity	47.95	43.40	46.65	42.95	40.40

B) SEMANTIC DISTANCES BETWEEN CONCEPTS FOR EACH ONE GROUP

		Nationalism	Country
Valencian	Race	1.54	4.02
	Nationalism		5.59
Arabian	Race	2.81	2.33
	Nationalism		1.56
German	Race	18.05	8.26
	Nationalism		16.52
Italian	Race	2.01	8.20
	Nationalism		9.83
Roman	Race	3.94	4.00
	Nationalism		6.06

C) MEAN POINT SCALE IN THE EVALUATIVE AND ACTIVITY DIMENSIONS FOR EACH ONE GROUP

	Valencian people	Arabian people	German people	Italian people	Roman people
"MY RACE"					
Evaluation	4.79	5.23	4.35	4.67	4.80
Activity	4.92	4.31	4.90	4.65	4.35
"MY NATIONALISM"					
Evaluation	4.56	5.44	3.79	4.50	4.50
Activity	4.97	4.49	3.74	4.62	4.19
"MY COUNTRY"					
Evaluation	5.05	5.45	4.65	5.40	4.92
Activity	4.80	4.34	4.67	4.30	4.04

In the fourth place, the group of Valencians is clearly differentiated from the other groups in that it obtains systematically the highest scores in the activity dimension in the three concepts. Unlike the Romans, also autochthonous, the evaluative and activity judgements are not very polarized.

We shall now set forth the results concerning the socio-attitudinal dimensions. First, we shall present a bivariate analysis carried out on the groups with the two second order factors. Then the multivariate analysis, specifically the discriminant analysis carried out with the six first order factors.

According to this, at the top of Table 4, you can see the means and standard deviations of each one of the groups both in first and second order factors of the Dogyant Questionnaire. At the bottom, the value of Student's "t" and the level of statistic significance obtained by the differences. These results suggest that the German immigrants differ systematically from the other groups due to the low scores they obtain in both factors. In fact, if we omit the German immigrants from the comparisons, we discover two interesting results. The first has to do with the absence of significant differences between the groups in the first second order factor which, as Pelechano suggested, would involve aspects related to a modern social parliamentary conservatism in which social organization and personal

independence do not constitute antithetic elements. The second has to do with the differences we find between Valencians and the immigrants from Italy and the Middle East resident in Valencia in the second order factor, which combines the need to belong to a social groups with dogmatic, intolerant, mistrustful elements, aspects which seems to define these two latter groups most characteristically. In this sense, on another occasion (Báguena, 1988; Báguena et al. 1988), we suggested that a more authoritarian xenophobic style was present in these immigrants, which shows itself as an attitude of repulse towards other ethnic groups, which must be interpreted according to the attitude of acceptance/repulse that the autochthonous population shows towards these same immigrants. From the results which are in our power we know that, in fact, the Germans are more favourably accepted by Valencians than other two ethnic groups.

As to the multivariate analysis, on Table 5 you can see the data relative to the discriminant analysis, Rao's V procedure, carried out with the six first order factors in Dogyant Questionnaire. All the factors, except the sixth which was not chosen as a relevant variable for the analysis, have given rise to the emergence of four discriminant functions, of which the first two were significant at levels .000 and .003, as can be seen on the table. On the other hand, at the bottom you can see the percentages of exact assignment of the subjects in different groups. Thus the total percentage of subjects correctly classified was 47% which is the equivalent of a prediction coefficient, or rather we should say a postdiction coefficient, of .68 in relation to the variables in the Dogyant Questionnaire. We would also like to point out that the greater power of prediction of these variables is linked with the groups of German and Arab immigrants respectively with 70% and 55% of subjects correctly classified.

DISCUSSION

Now that we have set forth the results, we would like to finish up with a series of reflections.

The first is that we are aware of the limited, provisional nature of the findings because of the small number of subjects that make up the groups. This limitation has affected the methodology of the study from two perspectives. On the one hand, it has made it impossible to factorize the Questionnaire Dogyant, and consequently, to carry out a serious cross-cultural comparison between Valencians and Romans. On the other hand, the extension of the sample has not permitted us to interpret the results obtained according to the time the immigrants have been in the new community, a variable which has an important influence on the aspects examined in this survey, as we can gather from Berry's proposed model on the acculturative process (Berry, 1980).

TABLE 4 . DOGYANT QUESTIONNAIRE

A) FIRST AND SECOND ORDER FACTORS. MEANS AND STANDARD DEVIATIONS

GROUPS		F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	FI	FII
(1) Valencian	M	2.05	10.00	4.25	12.00	21.10	4.25	43.10	10.55
	SD	2.11	1.79	3.01	1.18	4.12	2.43	6.26	6.86
(2) Arabian	M	4.80	8.20	4.80	11.05	24.25	5.75	43.50	15.35
	SD	3.19	1.86	2.87	1.43	3.63	2.77	6.14	8.20
(3) German	M	1.10	8.25	1.55	11.40	19.10	2.80	38.75	5.45
	SD	1.18	1.81	1.24	1.36	4.30	2.06	5.71	3.76
(4) Italian	M	4.60	9.25	6.05	10.90	22.65	5.70	42.80	16.35
	SD	2.42	2.34	3.68	1.92	2.99	2.49	6.37	7.40
(5) Roman	M	3.00	9.90	5.20	11.15	21.30	4.65	42.35	12.85
	SD	1.73	2.00	1.72	1.11	4.30	1.74	6.03	3.70

(M = Mean; SD = Standard Deviation)

B) COMPARISONS BETWEEN GROUPS ("t") IN THE TWO SECOND ORDER FACTORS.

FACTOR	1-2	1-3	1-4	1-5
FI	-0.20	2.24*	0.15	0.38
FII	-1.96*	2.85**	-2.50*	-1.28
		2-3	2-4	2-5
FI		2.47*	0.34	0.58
FII		4.78***	-0.39	1.21
			3-4	3-5
FI			-2.07*	-1.89
FII			-5.74***	-6.12***
				4-5
FI				0.22
FII				1.84

$$FI = F2 + F4 + F5 \quad FII = F1 + F3 + F6$$

(*) = $p < .05$; (**) = $p < .01$; (***) = $p < .001$

TABLE 5. DISCRIMINANT ANALYSIS WITH THE SIX FIRST ORDER FACTORS IN DOGYANT QUESTIONNAIRE

A) Summary Table

Step	Variable	Wilk's Lambda	Sig.	Rao's V	Sig.	Change in V	sig.
1	F1	.71	.000	39.21	.000	39.21	.000
2	F2	.57	.000	66.07	.000	26.86	.000
3	F5	.50	.000	82.33	.000	16.25	.003
4	F3	.45	.000	96.04	.000	13.72	.008
5	F4	.40	.000	113.47	.000	17.43	.002

B) CANONICAL DISCRIMINANT FUNCTIONS

Fc.	Eigen value	% of variance	Cumulati. percent	Canonic. correla.	After function	Wilk's Lambda	X ²	d.g.	sig.
					0	.40	86.94	20	.000
1	.83	69.69	69.69	.67	1	.73	30.00	12	.003
2	.32	26.68	96.37	.49	2	.96	4.00	6	.676
3	.04	3.30	99.67	.19	3	.99	0.37	2	.832
4	.00	0.30	100.00	.06					

C) CLASSIFICATION RESULTS

PREDICTED GROUP MEMBERSHIP

ACTUAL GROUP	Nº CASES	PREDICTED GROUP MEMBERSHIP				
		1	2	3	4	5
1 Valencian	20	40%	5%	25%	10%	20%
2 Arabian	20	15%	55%	15%	10%	5%
3 German	20	10%	5%	70%	0%	15%
4 Italian	20	15%	35%	5%	30%	15%
5 Roman	20	15%	15%	10%	20%	40%

Percent of "grouped" cases correctly classified: 47%

The second point we would like to mention is the clearest finding in this study. It is that the two groups that show the greatest difference in the aspects assessed are the Arab and the German. In the former, the concepts rated which refer to the social identity of the group make up a cohesive whole. At the same time, their own social identity is highly valued and retained, but it does not result in an active behaviour but rather in attitudes of intolerance. A more detailed study would be necessary to determine whether this attitude is the result of the group's own choice or whether the broader society they live in has imposed it on them. By other side, in the case of the Germans, there is a greater distance between the three concepts, and although the social identity of the group is less favourably assessed, there is a more active attitude towards it. Indeed, nationality, German or Arab, and the dimensions of the semantic differential interact in a similar way in concepts of race and country. Besides, judging from the scores obtained in the Dogyant Questionnaire, the German immigrants would appear to be the most integrated of the different groups of immigrants, and they are also characterized by a more tolerant socio-attitudinal profile than any other of the group that have been included in this study.

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