"Experience of Tehran":
Image of Tehran in the Films of Today's Cinema of Iran

Azam Ravadrad[1]
Baharak Mahmoudi[2]

Abstract

The main question in this paper, is what kind of imagination of Tehran is created through Iranian films. Is the image of Tehran has been changed over time? This research has been conducted based on the analysis of some impressive films in last two decades. The central argument is although the city has been represented through its acute problems and difficulties and pivotal issues like consequences of immigration to the city, shortage of occupation and dwelling over time, the new generation of Iranian filmmakers react different from the past generation. Content analysis of these movies show that new generation of filmmakers prefer to stay in Tehran and fight with problems rather than emigrating from the city.

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1. Professor of social communication sciences, University of Tehran, ravadrad@ut.ac.ir
2. PhD of social communication sciences, University of Tehran (Corresponding author), baharak.mahmoodi@gmail.com

Discourse Analysis of Gender Equality in the Sixth 5-years Plan for Economic, Cultural and Social Development of Islamic Republic of Iran

Parvin Alipoor[1]
Mohammad Javad Zahedi[2]
Amir Maleki[3]
Mohammad Reza Javadi Yeganeh[4]

Abstract

The planning system in Iran is affected by the governing political and social discourses, and what places such discourses should hold for subjects and categories are represented in the development plans. Among the very important subjects is the subject of women. The subject of women should be located in which field of discourses, takes different senses and identities which themselves are manifested in the planning system and, in turn, leads to the establishment of gender equality or continuation of gender inequality. The present paper deals with the study of the current conflicts in Iranian society on semantic hegemony in the field of women discourse evolution, and representation of the debate on gender equality in the Sixth Plan of Development by Laclau and Mouffe's method of discourse analysis. Findings, regarding the discourse evolution, show that the discourses of equality, which as stated by Fairclough are the result of discourse dialectic of the reformists and the fundamentalists, recovers the void signifiers in the field of discoursiveness and gives them new meaning. Accordingly, it articulates the signs of "women occupation", "equal chances", "removing the legal obstacles", "familyism", "paying no attention to gender", and "welfare and insurance of women" in linkage with the central signifier of "equality of man and woman". Also the discourse analysis of gender equality in the Sixth Plan of Development indicates that the governing discourse on the Sixth Plan has been formed by the pivotal sign under the title "gender equality" and with the signified of "occupational chances", "health and hygiene", "women literacy", "reform of legal system" and "participation in decision-making and decision-taking". Such semantic signs contain, respectively, the economic equality, hygiene equality, legal equality, and political equality. Although, such signifiers in the texts of the plan fail to totally cover the meanings implied in the concepts, we could be hopeful that by executing the Sixth Plan of Development, the required grounds for institutionalizing the civil demands for the object of establishing the gender equality in society shall be provided, hence the role of women in the development of our country becomes more highlighted.

Keywords: Development, Discourse analysis, Gender, Gender equality, Sixth plan of development.

1. PhD candidate of sociology, Payame Noor University (Corresponding author), p_alipoor@yahoo.com
2. Associate professor, Faculty of social sciences, Payame Noor University, m_zahedi@pnu.ac.ir
3. Associate professor, Faculty of social sciences, Payame Noor University, a_maleki@pnu.ac.ir
4. Associate professor, Faculty of social sciences, University of Tehran, myeganeh@ut.ac.ir

A Survey Research on the Political Culture Orientations of Teachers and Its Factors

Omid Ghaderzadeh[1]
Yagoub Ahmadi[2]
Khalid Miarghonj[3]

Abstract
The political culture in current societies, in general, and in a transitional society such as Iran, in particular, has a critical role in the development of civic and political participation; and in this respect, elites and middle class have a crucial role in the creation and solidification of democratic political culture. Within the conceptual framework of Tessler, the current study is an attempt to investigate the political culture orientations among teachers and other concomitant factors. This study is a survey during which 310 teachers in Boukan were interviewed. In terms of cognitive dimensions (political pluralism) and the extent of involvement dimensions (practical involvement in politics) in political culture, the mean political culture among the teachers was average. Results of the present study indicated that 54.5 percent of the teachers had a democratic political culture, 17.8 percent were indifferent toward political culture, 15.5 percent had an activist political culture, and 11.3 percent had a limited political culture. Explanatory findings showed that there is a direct relationship between the teachers' political culture and variables such age, socioeconomic status, experiences of political participation, and ethno-religious orientations. Also multivariate regression analysis indicated that these variables determined 52 percent of the variation in the political culture orientations among teachers.

Keywords: Ethnic and religious orientations, Political culture, Practical involvement in politics, Political pluralism, Teachers.

1. Associate Professor, Kurdistan University (Corresponding author), o.ghaderzadeh@uok.ac.ir
2. Associate Professor, Payam Noor University of Sanandaj, yahmady2001@yahoo.com
3. MSc of Sociology, Kurdistan University, khalid.miarghonj@yahoo.com

A Study of Social and Psychological Factors Affecting Feeling Lonely (Case Study: Tehran Citizens)

Abdolhossein Kalantari[1]
Seyyed Saeid Hoseynizadeh Arani[2]

Abstract

Among the social issues that with the advent of the modern age has overtaken the human society and has attracted the attention of many researchers, is concern about degradation of social communication, the weakening of the ties and the development of the phenomenon of feeling lonely; a phenomenon that caused by the fluidity of social relations in contemporary society. The aim of this study is to evaluate social and psychological factors affecting the loneliness among Tehran citizens. The method used in this study is survey, and the statistical society are all citizens over 18 of Tehran metropolis. A sample of 524 people from them were selected according to Cochran formula and multi-stage cluster sampling were selected for the study and statistical data were evaluated descriptively and analytically by using spss16 software. Findings showed that the average prevalence of feeling lonely (Range 0-100) in the population under study was 36/13, and half of the citizens at moderate downward level, 30/6% at moderate level and 6/6% at high and moderate to high level experiences feeling lonely in their Everyday life. Analytical results also showed that variables of religiosity, social support, mental health and life satisfaction have Significant and negative relation and social isolation variable have significant and Positive relation with feeling lonely. Also Social support variables has highest level of direct and pure impact on feeling lonely.

Keywords: Feeling lonely, Life satisfaction, Mental health, Religiosity, Social isolation, Social support.

1. Associate professor of sociology, Faculty of social sciences, University of Tehran, abkalantari@ut.ac.ir
2. PhD student, Social issues study of Kashan University (Corresponding author), hoseynizadeh69@ut.ac.ir

Women Mental Imagine and Objective Experience on Security (Case Study: Women Working in the Unofficial Sector of Hamadan Town)

Ali Mohammad Ghodsi[1]
Assadollah Naghdi[2]
Mahbobeh Roueentan[3]

Abstract
"Women in the cities" is a new field of urban studies. Vitality of public space and improving the quality of environment, depend on the presence of people and social interactions among them regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, social grouping and individual abilities. In humanistic urbanism, it is emphasized on the needs of specific groups such as women, children, the elderly and the disabled, and their easy access to urban spaces. Feeling secured among women from both mental image of urban spaces and objective experiences are two key concepts of feeling secured or fearing from space, which could affect women activities in the society. The experience of fear affects their presence in the public sphere. In fact, in a gendered space, women security and feeling secured are reduced, and a reverse relationship between space and security emerges. The method of this research is survey, in which 205 women filled in the questionnaire. Results showed that mental index is better than the objective experience, and more than 50 percent of the population, experience insecurity objectively.

Keyword: Gender, Informal sector, Mental image, Objective experience, Security, Space.

1. Associate professor of sociology, University of Bu-Ali Sina, ghodsi@basu.ac.ir
2. Associate professor of urban sociology, University of Bu-Ali Sina (Corresponding author), naghdi@basu.ac.ir
3. MSc of sociologic research, University of Bu-Ali Sina, termeh_mr@yahoo.com

Awareness of Social Class, and Its Dimensions and Consequences among Iranian Students

Hamzeh Nozari[1]

Abstract
This paper presents data from two surveys of attitudes and awareness of Iranian students in 1382 and 1394 to analyze their knowledge and attitude toward social class and its importance. The main goal is to analyze the students' awareness of their social class, their attitude toward the impact of social class in achieving social and economic opportunities, and the correspondence of objective indicators and subjective about social class. The data was interpreted according to Weber. Findings showed that the majority of students considered themselves to be of a social class, and believed that people were aware of class differences in society. There is a correspondence between the students' socio-economic status and their economic awareness about social class. Results indicated that most students considered themselves as belonging to the middle class. In addition, most respondents believe that social class affects on achieving social and economic opportunities. Nevertheless, more than half of them hope that after graduation and employment, they will be of a higher social class.

Keywords: Achieving opportunities, Awareness, Inequality, Social class, Socio-economic status.

1. Assistant professor of Sociology, Kharazmi University, nozari56@gmail.com

An Analysis of the Relationship between Urban Space and Feeling Socially Secured in Tehran

Bahram Bayat[1]

Abstract

In the process of qualitative and quantitative development, there were serious changes in the life of people in cities and particularly metropolises, and from this perspective, the real and mental world of citizens were seriously changed as well. One of these changes was in the security, so that people with different social and cultural background, have different assumptions of security and feeling secured. In this research, this assumption and its formation is explained. The theoretical framework of this research, is taken from theories of the two fields of feeling secured and urban spaces analysis. The method in this study is survey, and the information is gathered by questionnaire. The statistical population of this research is consisted of 670 citizens of Tehran, who were chosen and interviewed by multistage cluster sampling method. To determine the reliability, Cronbach alpha test, and for validity, the technique of known groups were used. The data was analyzed by SPSS. Results showed that the attitude toward security differed based on gender, region of residence, marital status and age of the respondents. Also there is a relationship between their region of residence and their attitude toward security. On the other hand, there is a meaningful relationship between belonging a neighborhood and attitude toward security; but there is not a meaningful relationship between the urban fabric variable and multiple forms of insecurity.

Keywords: Belonging a neighborhood, Feeling secured, Physical space, Security, Urban Space.

1. Assistant professor, Supreme National Defense University, bahram.bayat@gmail.com

Representation of Modernity Transition in Iran Contemporary Literature (Case Study: An Anthology of Hedayat and Farrokhzad's Works)

Amir Azimi[1]
 Hossein Abolhassan Tanhaei[2]
 Hossein Aghajani Merssa[3]

Abstract

This paper deals with the representation of modernity transition in Iran contemporary literature. Forough Farrokhzad and Sadeq Hedayat, as the two leading figures of Iran contemporary literature, were selected to trace the methodological elements in their thoughts and works, according to the modernization transition process in contemporary Iran. The main question of the research, which is being answered through a documentary and content analysis based on an interpretive sociology outlook, is that what style or outlook is Forough Farrokhzad and Sadeq Hedayat's methodological concerns in contemporary Iran transition to modernity are based on, so that it has influenced on their cognition, viewpoint and their creating works of art. Results indicated that both of them had followed action research attitude through a dialectical process. Yet they are different in the sense that some of the static aspects of their works is specified to their own contexts as the results of a dialecticism between objectivity and subjectivity, concerning their outlooks toward human being. While Sadeq Hedayat's traditional point of view within a patriarchal structure has led him to make no distinction between tradition, religion and objectivity of the age through a naturalistic mutual implication, Forough has succeeded to go beyond the traditional gender-related limitations to achieve new horizons of thought regardless of gender.

Keywords: Action research Attitude, Forough Farrokhzad, Interpretive Sociology, Iran Contemporary Literature, Modernity, Sadeq Hedayat.

1. PhD candidate of cultural sociology, Islamic Azad University Central Tehran Branch, amirazimi1300@gmail.com
2. Assistant professor of sociology, Islamic Azad University Central Tehran Branch (Corresponding author), ha.tanhaei@iauctb.ac.ir
3. Assistant Professor, Islamic Azad University Central Tehran Branch, h.aghajani@iauctb.ac.ir