

**An Analysis and Assessment of Intergroup Social Capital
toward Rural Sustainable Development
(Case Study: Kerman Province, Rigan County)**

Mahdi Ghorbani¹
Leila Avazpour²
Marzieh Siramirad³

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Abstract

In order to stimulate unity and maintain loyalty among individuals in different groups, strengthening social capital within a group is essential. This study is to analyze the intergroup social capital toward rural sustainable development in Rostam-Abad-e- Ali Charak Village of Rigan County in Kerman Province, in which the empowerment of local communities has been operationalized. The statistical population in this study is the members of rural development groups, which include 149 people in 9 groups. In this paper, the relationship of trust and participation in beneficiaries' network were assessed using network analysis questionnaires and through direct observation and interview with all actors, based on macro-level network indicators such as density, reciprocity, transitivity, and average Geodesic distance in two phases i.e. pre-project and post-project. Results show the average level of trust, participation, and social capital before RFLDL project implementation; whereas, once the project was accomplished, these indicators enhanced to an optimum level. The rate of trust and collaboration exchange among actors increased too, and this project boosted the unity and solidarity of individuals. Hence, this project resulted in higher trust, collaboration, and social capital, and underpinned essential social foundations for optimum rural development achievement.

Keyword: Intergroup Social Capital, Network Analysis, RFLDL Project, Rostam Abad-e- Ali Charak Village, Rural Sustainable Development.

1. Associate Professor, Faculty of Natural Resources, Tehran University (Corresponding author)

Email: mehghorbani@ut.ac.ir

2. PhD Candidate, Faculty of Natural Resources, Tehran University, Email: leila.avazpur@ut.ac.ir

3. MSc Graduate Student, Faculty of Natural Resources, Tehran University

Email: m.siramirad@ut.ac.ir

Tehran's Neighborhood Management and Sub-Councils: Assessing Urban Governance in Hassan-Abad-e Zargandeh

Pooya Alaeddini¹

Maryam Sadat Pourmirghaffari²

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Abstract

This paper is to analyze the neighborhood management and neighborhood sub-councils (Showrayari) of Hassan-Abad-e Zargandeh from the point of view of urban good governance. Governance indicators used include decentralization and facilitating participation, transparency, accountability and accountability, efficiency and effectiveness, fairness and justice, consensus, rule of law, strategic vision, as well as empowerment and social empowerment of citizens. Data have been collected in Hassan-Abad-e Zargandeh in Tehran as our case study through a questionnaire survey targeting neighborhood residents, a set of interviews with neighborhood management and neighborhood sub-council members, and a desk-review of plans and documents. Findings show major gaps in realizing citizen participation and good urban governance, which must be addressed through a set of initiatives that are wider in scope and deeper in reach. Yet, the process of transforming the centralized and top-down urban administration into a more participatory form of management has already begun, and identifying its strengths and weaknesses will pave the way for improving the governance system.

Keywords: Good Governance, Hassan-Abad-e Zargandeh, Municipality of Tehran, Neighborhood Management, Neighborhood Sub-Council (Showrayari).

1. Associated Professor, Faculty of Social Sciences, Tehran University (Corresponding author)
Email: palaedini@ut.ac.ir

2. MA in Social Planning, Tehran University, Email: m.pourmirghaffari@gmail.com

A Critical Review of the Sociological Market Research in Iran: In Search of Engravedness

Somaye Varshovi¹

Ali Youssefi²

Hossein Akbari³

Ahmad Reza Asghapour Masouleh⁴

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Abstract

In Iran, market is a multi-functional institute, and plays an important role in Iranian economic, political and social life. Thus, there are various definitions of market. This paper critically studies the concept of the market and the factors affecting the market's economic actions in terms of new economic sociology, specifically the concept of engravedness (i.e. the economic activities in the context, objectives, and processes depending on the non-economic actions or institutions). The results of systematic review of the market's sociological studies, especially in the field of engravedness studies, shows: Firstly, there are the six different views of the market such as space, culture, class, informal institutions, network, and field. Secondly, among the factors influencing the market's engravedness, more emphasis has been placed on the structural and institutional factors, including social and commercial networks of the market, commercial laws and regulations, urban development plans, and the market's informal values and norms. Finally, each of the six types of markets is influenced by a certain type of spatial, cultural, political, structural and institutional engravedness.

Keywords: Engravedness , Market, Mechanisms engravedness , New Economic Sociology.

1. PhD Candidate in Social Sciences and Development, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad
Email: s.varshoe@gmail.com

2. Associate Professor, Department of Social Sciences, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad
(Corresponding author), Email: yousofi@um.ac.ir

3. Assistant Professor, Department of Social Sciences, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad
Email: h-akbari@um.ac.ir

4. Assistant Professor, Department of social Sciences, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad
Email: asgharpour@um.ac.ir

A Semiotic Analysis of Representations of Terrorism in Hollywood, both Before and After 9/11

Azam Ravadrad¹
Niloofar Hooman²

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Abstract

This paper is to analyze the image of Arab Terrorists before and after 9/11 in Hollywood movies. Whereas since 1990's, Muslims have been the main subject of the movies with terrorism theme, regarding the 9/11 as one of the most important dates in terrorist attacks in the US history, two movies with the theme of Islamist terrorist attacks produced before and after this date were selected and analyzed. The constructionist approach was employed in representation theory of Stuart Hall as the main theoretical framework. For the research method, the semiotic approach was used based on John Fisk's triple analysis. Results showed that before 9/11, terrorists have been shown as weak, uninformed and deceived by religion. But after that, they are radical people who commit terrorism acts consciously, and are fully aware of their actions consequences.

Keywords: Orientalism, Representation, Semiotics, Terrorism, Terrorist.

1. Professor, Department of Communication studies, Tehran University (Corresponding author)
Email: ravadrad@ut.ac.ir

2. PhD Candidate in Communication studies, Tehran university, Email: niloofarhooman@ut.ac.ir

Moral Panic in the Modern world: A Study of the Relationship of Religious Commitment and Socioeconomic Status to Moral Panic

Esmail Sadipour¹

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Abstract

This paper aims to, historically and empirically, study the moral panic and its relationship with emerging some modern phenomena in Iran's society. The statistic sample included 185 individuals who were selected through stratified random sampling. Data were analyzed through religious commitment inventory (Worthington et al., 2003), the questionnaire of socioeconomic base (Nabavi et al., 2008), and moral panic (Shahabi, 2008). through descriptive statistics and regression analysis. Results showed that age and religiousness, having a positive significant relationship with moral panic, were the direct predictors, while the socioeconomic class was a reverse predictor of moral panic. In addition, findings showed that moral panic has been a main technique for competing with rivals. Moreover, considering the role of age and the increasing desire of the new generation towards modern phenomena, especially in the media field, it is recommended to recognize intergenerational distinctions and the media status in the development of community morality, and to provide appropriate cultural content for youth by educators.

Keywords: Age, Moral Panic, Religious Commitment, Socioeconomic Status.

1. Associate Professor, Department of Educational Psychology, Allameh Tabatabai University
Email: e.sadipour@atu.ac.ir

**Sociological Explanation of the Relationship between Political Hope and Social Indifference
(Case Study: Shiraz University Students)**

Jahangir Jahangiri¹
Nasrin Mohammadi²

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Abstract

In sociological studies, social indifference is one of the main issues in modern societies. This paper is to study the relationship between social indifference and political hope among students. Because political hope is concerned as an important element of any society. In this paper, rational choice theory was used as the theoretical framework. The method of this research was survey. Using a questionnaire, a sample of 400 students from Shiraz University were studied. The sampling method was stratified. Results showed that social indifference among 40.5% of students was higher than average, 27% high, 19% lower than average, and only 13% was low. Also, the results of Pearson correlation test, it was confirmed the relationship of the political hope and its components (believing in getting optimal citizenship rights, believing in the government legitimacy, believing in the possibility of effective political-social participation, being optimistic about the policymaking) with social indifference. Results of multivariate regression analysis, employing step-by-step approach, showed that among the components of political hope, believing in getting optimal citizenship rights, believing in the government legitimacy, and being optimistic about the policymaking explain 15% of social indifference changes.

Keywords: Being Optimistic about the Policymaking, Believing in the Effectiveness of Political Institutes, Believing in the Government Legitimacy, Political Hope, Social Indifference.

1. Associate Professor of Sociology, Shiraz University (Corresponding author)
Email: jjahangiri@gmail.com

2. MSc in Sociology, Shiraz University, Email: nava15.mohammadi@gmail.com

Studying the Socio-Spatial Segregation of Migrants in Mashhad

Mojtaba Rafieian¹
Mohammad Ghazaie²
Reza Ghazi³

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Abstract

Socio-spatial segregation is one of the most important challenges faced by metropolises e.g. Mashhad today. One of the factors of this phenomenon is the presence of immigrants in cities, who, according to their preferences, select specific areas of residence in the city, and thus, add to the urban socio-spatial segregation. This paper aims to study the residential pattern of migrants and their preferences to select an area for living. Descriptive-analytical method and second-hand data from census and Mashhad's comprehensive plan were used to study the socio-spatial segregation of migrants. Moreover, two-group and multi-group indices, spatial analysis of Moran and hot spot, along with Pearson correlation index were used to analyze the data. Results indicate that due to the multi-group index which is 0.44, and due to the Moran statistics, migrants are living segregated and clustered in Mashhad. Thus, one of their most important preferences for inhabiting somewhere is the existence of their own group. On the other hand, the significant relationship between the share of migrants from total urban population and some socioeconomic and households variables indicate that Mashhad's migrants usually select residential environments which are appropriate for them based on their socioeconomic origins. Therefore, migrants with a weaker origin mainly choose areas for residence which are not in favorable physical conditions. As a result, these factors not only separate migrants from the main fabric of the city and each other, but also intensify the segregation and spatial gap in Mashhad, and prevent sustainable development.

Keywords: Choosing Housing Area, Immigration, Mashhad, Segregation, Spatial Gap.

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1. Associate Professor of Urban Planning, Art and Architecture Faculty, Tarbiat Modares University (Corresponding Author), Email: rafiei_m@modares.ac.ir
 2. PhD Candidate in Urban Planning, Art and Architecture Faculty, Tarbiat Modares University, Email: mohammad.ghazaie@modares.ac.ir
 3. MSc in Urban Planning, Art and Architecture Faculty, Tehran University
Email: r.ghazi@ut.ac.ir

Explaining Gender Inequality in NGOs of East Azerbaijan Province

Hossein Safari¹
Parvaneh Danesh²
Khdijeh Safiri³
Sirous Fakhraei⁴

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Abstract

The issue of this study is that based on internal data and reports, the number of active women or female founders of NGOs in the province of East Azerbaijan is very smaller than men. The main question is that what sociological factors prevent women to be members or founders of NGOs. The theoretical framework of research is interactionism and feminism. The method of research is survey and the research tool is questionnaire. The statistical population includes urban women with at least twenty-five years of age, higher educated, and unemployed. The sample size is 371 female and the sampling method is quota-cluster sampling. Correlation analysis showed that the relationship of gender and patriarchy variables to the women inability to establish or join the NGOs is 0.48% and 0.36%, respectively. The gender variable is more correlated with the study issue than patriarchy variable. These relationships are direct and significant. Based on these findings, women are more incapable of establishing or joining NGOs to the extent that community expectations of women's sexual roles are greater and patriarchy is stronger in culture and tradition. Based on regression analysis, gender and patriarchy variables explain 26% of dependent variable variance.

Keywords: Gender, Gender Inequality, NGOs, Patriarchy, Women.

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1. PhD Candidate in Social Problems Sociology, Payame Noor University (Corresponding author), Email: safari.pnuk@gmail.com.
 2. Associate Professor, Department of Social Sciences, Payame Noor University
Email: p_danesh@pnu.ac.ir.
 3. Professor, Department of Social Sciences, Alzahra University, Email: kh.safiri@alzahra.ac.ir.
 4. Assistant Professor, Social Sciences Department, Payame Noor University
Email: sfakhraei@pnu.ac.ir.