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Psychological research of perception features of a parental position and self-relation in different cultures

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Abstract

The Self is a hypothetical construct that generates self-identity necessary to derive the essence of the person, for the existence of “I”. The formation of the self-attitude in adolescence is greatly influenced by the style of parenting. Each specific type of parenting has its consequences (Rice, 2000). Basic and the main function of the family is that it gives conditions for personal development, self-determination, for the acquisition of integrity and identity. The relation to the self is the basis of construction of the attitude towards other people and is one of the most actual cross-cultural aspects. The culture is the set of behavior models which person acquires in the process of a growth and acceptance of self-cultural role (Lurie, 2005). Novelty of work is caused by the lack of experimental data in the field of self-relation and its interrelation perception of a parental position in different cultures. In the present study following methods were used: 1) method of “Self-attitude” of Pantileeva -“MIS”; 2) Technique "Teenagers about parents" (Wasserman, Gorkova, Romitsyna - ADOR), 3) Technique "The child parental relations of teenagers" (DROP). Scales named as "Cooperation, democratism, empathy, and acceptance" - all these factors are on one pole and positively influence to the subjects. Because these factors are positive and closely connected with each other, they are more suitable and desirable for young men in respect of the self-relation and stabilizing the relations with their parents (rs ≥0,5;  p ≤0,01). As a results of the study the features of parental education perception, the self-relation in various cultures showed that in general young men possess rather positive attitude towards themselves, self-confidence and safe idea according to perception of people

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around. Thus, the self-relation scale has significant differences among two cultures, and that character of the self-relation is caused by features perception of a parental position.

Keywords: self-awareness; self-attitude; cross-cultural psychology; child-parent relationships; self-concept; perception of parental position; identity formation.

1. Introduction

Self-concept is a dynamic system of human representations of himself, which includes as a proper awareness of his physical, intellectual and other qualities, as well as self-esteem and the subjective perception of the external factors influencing this person (Burns, 1986).

By Vygotsky (1983), self-consciousness means a transition to a new principle of development - teen gets control over internal regulation of mental processes and behavior in general. Self-consciousness is a social knowledge transferred into.

In the self-consciousness differentiate two aspects: the process of acquiring knowledge about themselves and the process of the self-attitude. The self-attitude has three components - cognitive, emotional and connotative components (Sardjveladze, 1989).

According to Rogers (2001), I-concept consists of representations of their own characteristics and abilities of the individual, his ideas about the possibilities of interaction with other people and with the outside world, the value ideas about the purposes or ideas that may have a positive or negative direction.

Thus, we see that in an attempt to characterize itself is a strong evaluation, personal moment, the source of which is a subjective interpretation of other people's reactions to these qualities, as well as the fact that they are perceived as a background objectively existing standards, and through the prism of common cultural group or individual value concepts learned throughout life.

In the process of identity formation individual has to relate their own values and behavior with the values and the behavior of his family.

The most influence on adolescents’ personality appears as a style of their relationships with the parents, which is supported by their social status (Lesgaft, 1991).

In intra-family functions the role of mother looks much more important and significant than the role of the father. In addition, relationships between fathers and children are complicated by the fact that men are less expressive, and not able to express feelings and relatively subtle psychological experiences.

These qualities, which is valuable nowadays, wasn’t included in traditional stereotype of the men (Lafreniev, 2004). Therefore elder adolescents often feel proximity with their mother and honesty towards her, than towards fathers.

Burns (1986) noted that the monitoring and support of the parents have a positive effect on self-esteem of man.

Culture is a basic part of our "I". Since culture plays a very important role in shaping our sense of "I" and identity, it has a profound effect on all of our behavior (Matsumoto, 2002).

During the development of the individual within a certain cultural environment, the latter forms, limits and determines their sense of "I" so that the self-concept “makes sense” only within this cultural environment.

Sources of cultural models are not understood by man; with these same cultural patterns dictate human behavior. It is important to remember that culture is refracted in a special way in the behavior of each one of us (Matsumoto, 2002).

2. The Basic Maintenance. The Basic Content

Our research is devoted to the study of perception of parental position and self-attitude of the personality in cross-cultural aspect. In this study took part 60 students of the Kazakh group, 60 students from Russian group.

Methods: technique to study "the self-attitude" (Pantileeva "MIS"); and technique "Teens about parents" (Wasserman, Gorkova, Romitsyna - "ADOR"); Technique "The child parental relations of teenagers" (DROP).
1. Study of emotional-personal component of self-consciousness ("MIS").

The entire sample highest average values have some scales, namely "self-confidence", "reflected the self-attitude" and "self-value". All students tend to a positive attitude towards themselves, confidence in their behavior.

For students of the Kazakh sample high values showed following scales: "reflected the self-attitude", "self-value" and "internal conflict" and self-attachment, good installation, self-relation were revealed.

For students of the Russian sample high values showed following scales: "Self-leadership", "self-confidence", "self-value", and the lowest scores on the scale "internal conflict". They are characterized by high self-confidence, a positive attitude toward themselves, and the high self-value and prosperous perception of the social relation to themselves.

In Kazakh sample scores on "self-affection" and "internal conflict" is much higher than those of their Russian peers. Results on the scale “Self-leadership” at the Russian sample are much higher than those of the Kazakh sample.

Between Kazakh and Russian students there were statistically significant differences which were obtained by the following scales "self-affection" for Kazakh samples, and "Self-confidence" for Russian samples.

2. Determine how adolescents perceive attitudes, behavior and parenting methods of their parents (technique "Teens about parents" - "ADOR"). The entire sample in the perception of parental position the highest average values have scales - "positive interest", "autonomy" and "inconsistency". Students of both samples perceive the positions of their parents as accepting, positive, autonomous, but inconsistent.

In Kazakh students sample results on a scale of "inconsistency" both parents do not differ. Also, we see that on a scale of "directive" mothers show the higher result than fathers.

Kazakh youths perceive the parent position as inconsistent with both parents, although mothers are perceived as more directive than fathers.

Russian students sample showed the highest mean values on the scales: "autonomy", "inconsistency" and "hostility". In this sample, the position of the mother is perceived as more directive and autonomous, and the position of the father as an increasingly hostile and inconsistent.

According to the analysis of differences between the two samples was found significant differences in the following scales: "positive interest" (.000), "directive" (.406), "inconsistency" (.000).

3. Analysis study of relationships within the family, relationships of teenagers with their mothers and fathers, for the entire sample showed that in estimating the position of the parent highest average scale values have the scale 1 "Acceptance" and the scale 9 "Monitoring". The subjects of both samples value equally high their mothers on the scales "Monitoring" and "Acceptance", and their fathers on the scale "Monitoring".

The subjects of Kazakh sample value high their mothers on the scale 2 "Empathy" and their fathers on the scale "Monitoring".

In the Russian sample appreciate mothers and fathers on a scale 4 "Cooperation" and fathers on a scale 1 "Acceptance".

In both samples appreciate mothers and fathers on a scale 7 "Promoting autonomy" and fathers on a scale 20 "Relationship satisfaction".

From the 20 scales only scale 4 "Cooperation" has significant difference in the average estimates of the mothers and fathers in both groups (p ≤ 0.05; 0.039). Scale "Cooperation" has the strongest direct correlation with the other scales for both samples according to the results of correlation analysis. This suggests a close relationship between the compared data sets (all rs ≥ 0, 5 and very high level of statistical significance of P ≤ 0, 01). Subjects in both samples consider parents as a source of mutual cooperation.

Scale "Cooperation" in the Kazakh sample detects connection with such scales as "Acceptance, empathy", rs = 0.821 (p ≤ 0.01); and in the Russian sample with such scales as "Democracy, acceptance", rs = 0.763 (p ≤ 0.01). The higher the subject evaluates the cooperation with parents, the higher he evaluates: the level of acceptance and empathy on the part of parents (Kazakh sample), the level of democracy and acceptance by the parents (Russian sample).

These features form a set of desirable psychological factors in the process of the self-attitude and stabilize the child-parent relationships. For our subjects, the most desirable relationships with parents, based on cooperation, democracy, as well as on the unconditional acceptance and empathy.
The scale "Cooperation" has negative correlations with such scales as "Conflictness", \( r_s = -0.663 \) (\( p < 0.01 \)) and "Inconsistency, uncertainty of parents", \( r_s = -0.622 \) (\( p < 0.01 \)) in both samples.

The scale «Cooperation, democracy, empathy, acceptance» is at one pole and has a positive effect on the subjects. Since these factors are positive and are closely linked with each other, they are the most favorable and desirable for young men in terms of the self-attitude and stabilize relations with their parents.

3. Conclusions

1. The impact of parental position’s perception on the self-attitude and self-perception in adolescence is, first in a positive attitude towards themselves, self-confidence and prosperous perception of the social relation to themselves, second for the formation of prosperous self-attitude, self-value and self-acceptance, significant role plays acceptance of parents, their positive interest to the child and low hostility, as well as inconsistencies in the process of family upbringing.

2. Thus the self-attitude and self-perception in two cultures have significant differences, and that the nature of the self-attitude and self-perception due to the peculiarities of child - parent relationships.

   In general, the perception of parental position in adolescence is prosperous, positive. Mother’s figure in both cultures serves more directive than the father’s figure, but the inconsistency in upbringing is equally evident for both father and mother.

   Perception of parental position plays a significant role in the self-attitude and self-perception of youth. Adequate image of the "I" leads to understand ourselves as a whole person and mastering self-consciousness that is in fact one of the central tasks of late adolescence and adolescence.

   Thus features of perception of parenting, the self-attitude and self-perception in different cultures showed that in general, young people have a positive attitude towards themselves, self-confidence and prosperous perception of the social relation to themselves.

3. Cooperation between family members combined with all the positive psychological characteristics of relationships (acceptance, empathy, and democracy but not with the conflict).

   The problem of child-parent relationships determined by the variety of relationships of children and parents and those disturbances in the child-parent relationship, which may have a significant impact on the welfare of the young men in the family and the further development of their self-concept.

   Parents accepting, their positive interest to the child, low hostility and inconsistencies in the process of family upbringing play a significant role for the formation of the positive self-attitude, self-value and self-acceptance in adolescence.

   The self-attitude of personality is mediated not only by the type of parenting, personal achievements or skills, but also by some other psychological realities that certainly included in the vital activity of the individual.

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