Adaptation of Dimensions of Identity Formation Scale (DIDS) to Georgian population

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The research aim

- To Adapt Dimensions of Identity Development Scale (DIDS) to Georgian population

- DIDS - a relatively new instrument (2008)

- developed in the process of refining of the Marcia identity development model
Identity - Erickson

- Erickson viewed personal identity as the set of goals, values and beliefs that one shows to the world. It includes career goals, dating preferences and other aspects of self that identify an individual as someone different from others (Erikson 1968).
Identity - Marcia

- Marcia’s model of identity defines identity in empirical terms of exploration and commitment.
- Exploration refers to the individual's period of engagement in choosing among meaningful alternatives;
- Commitment refers to the degree of personal investment the individual exhibits (Marcia, 1966, 1988).
Identity - further developments

Identity- further developments

• Later, a fifth dimension, ruminative exploration

• “Worrying and obsessing over making the perfect choice” –

• was added (Luyckx et al 2008, Ritchie et al, 2013)
Identity profiles

• Achievement profile is characterized by high scores on commitment dimensions and exploration dimensions except ruminative exploration.

• Foreclosure profile is characterized by high scores on commitment dimensions and low ones on exploration.

• Ruminative moratorium is characterized by high scores on all five dimensions.

• Carefree diffusion is characterized by low scores on all dimensions.

• Diffused diffusion is characterized by low scores on commitment dimensions and moderate scores on exploration.
Instrument- Dimensions of Identity Development Scale (DIDS) (sample items)

- **Commitment making**
  Decided on the direction I want to follow in life
  Know what I want to do with my future

- **Identification with commitment**
  Plans for the future offer me a sense of security
  Because of the path of life I have mapped out, I feel certain about myself

- **Exploration in breadth**
  Try to figure out regularly which lifestyle would suit me
  Think about what to do with my life

- **Exploration in depth**
  Work out for myself if the goals I put forward in life really suit me
  Think a lot about the future plans I strive for

- **Ruminative exploration**
  Doubtful about what I really want to achieve in life
  Hard to stop thinking about the direction I want to follow in life
Translation into Georgian

• According to the guidelines for test adaptation (Hambleton, 1994; Van de Vijver and Hambleton, 1996; Hambleton, 2000, ITC, 2010)

• The DIDS was parallel translated, back translated and

• Refined to its final version through expert group work and pilot testing.
Reliability and Validity

- Internal construct validity
- External construct validity

Identity profiles/typologies
Method - participants

- 695 Georgian students
- from 18 to 30 years of age
- Mean age of participants - 22.1 (SD=2.5).
- 64 % females and 26% males
Internal Validity

- Cronbach’s alphas of the 5 subscales ranged from
  - .711 – for exploration in breadth,
  - .610 – for exploration in depth,
  - .760 – for commitment making,
  - .730 – for identification with commitment and
  - .710 – for ruminative exploration.
Internal Validity

- Cronbach’s alpha for exploration in depth scale is lower than .7
- For scales with less than 10 questions lower alphas are expected
- Mean inter-item correlation 2.487
- Briggs and Cheek (1986), recommend an optimal range for the inter-item correlation of .2 to .4.
Internal validity

Positive correlations between:

• commitment making and identification with commitment - .742
• exploration in breadth, exploration in depth - .587 and ruminative exploration – .659, .476;
• exploration in depth and commitment making - 0.162, and identification with commitment - 0.293

Negative correlation between commitment making and ruminative exploration - .267
Internal validity - discussion

- Exploration in breadth scale showed no significant correlation with commitment making and identification with commitment.
- The Belgian sample 1 showed similar results (Luyckx et. al., 2008) however, Belgian sample 2 and American sample showed positive correlations as expected.
Internal validity - discussion

• It might be that Georgian students have less opportunities to explore, than their Belgian and American counterparts.
• Therefore, they explore less and make commitments sooner.
External Validity

• Beck Depression Inventory (BDI, 1961) (Arutinov, Grigolava, 1999), alpha .948 on a sample of 273 in 2008 (Buziashvili, 2008)

Silberberg state-trait anxiety Inventory (Arutinov, Grigolava, 1999), alpha of .857 on a sample of 310 in 2011 (Aslanishvili, 2011)

Rosenberg self-esteem scale, 10 item Georgian version was validated on 227 students with Cronbach’s alpha .804 (Mestvirishvili, 2011)

Diener satisfaction with life scale, 1985) under the process of adaptation
Silberberg state-trait anxiety inventory

Positive correlations with
- Exploration in breadth .382
- Exploration in depth .358
- Ruminative exploration .434

Negative correlations with
- commitment making -.213
- identification with commitment -.156
Beck depression inventory

Positive correlations with
• Exploration in breadth .255
• Exploration in depth .179
• Ruminative exploration .218

Negative correlations with
• commitment making - .308
• identification with commitment -.257
Rosenberg self-esteem scale

Provided significant correlations with 3 scales only:

- commitment making  .288
- identification with commitment  .380
- ruminative exploration  -.151
Diener life satisfaction scale

Provided significant correlations with 2 scales only:
  • commitment making \( .173 \)
  • identification with commitment \( .279 \)
External validity - Discussion

Exploration in breadth and exploration in depth scales did not provide significant correlations with

1. Rosenberg self-esteem scale,
2. Diener life satisfaction scale,

Ruminative exploration did not provide significant correlation with

Diener life satisfaction scale
External validity - discussion

- The Belgian Sample 1 did not provide correlations between exploration in breadth and in depth dimensions and self-esteem (Luyckx et. al., 2008)
- Also, reason for no correlation of exploration in breadth, exploration in depth and ruminative exploration with life satisfaction might be that life satisfaction scale is still under the process of adaptation to Georgian population
External validity - discussion

• According to Lyuckx et al., 2008, exploration in breadth and in depth dimensions should not correlate with anxiety, or depression, but ruminative exploration – should.
• In our case, they do, implicating that these scales also contain a ruminative element and showing that exploration processes evolve differently with Georgian students.
• Also, in American sample (Ritchie et al., 2013), exploration in depth correlated with depression.
Cluster Analysis - identity profiles
Identity profiles: comparison

• Achievement - exploration in breadth is low in Georgian sample and high in American and Belgian samples,
• Ruminative moratorium is similar,
• Foreclosure is similar,
• Diffused diffusion - exploration in depth is low in Georgian sample and high in American sample, however, is low in one Belgian sample,
• Carefree diffusion is similar,
• Undifferentiated - ruminative exploration is low in Georgian sample and high in American and Belgian samples (Shwartz et al, 2011, Lyuckx et al, 2008).
Discussion - Clusters

- The same 6 clusters emerged
- Difference in configuration with:
  - Achievement - low exploration in breadth might be an issue of the scale, which, produced less correlations as well
  - Undifferentiated - low ruminative exploration in our case suggests that our sample does not worry about their lack of explorations and commitments
Discussion - Clusters

- Achievement: 17 (Georgian), 14 (American), 14 (Belgian)
- Foreclosure: 8 (Georgian), 14 (American), 14 (Belgian)
- Carefree Diffusion: 10 (Georgian), 11 (American), 17 (Belgian)
- Ruminative Moratorium: 32 (Georgian), 14 (American), 19 (Belgian)
- Diffused Diffusion: 10 (Georgian), 15 (American), 14 (Belgian)
- Undifferentiated: 22 (Georgian), 29 (American), 27 (Belgian)
Discussion - Clusters

• Different from American and Belgian samples (Scwartz et al, 2011, Lyckx et al, 2008),
• Undifferentiated cluster volume is smaller,
• Foreclosure is smaller, instead,
• Ruminative moratorium volume is larger.
• The reason might be an age distribution of the samples:
• Both Belgian and American samples are younger than Georgian one.
Discussion

- In general, the questionnaire yields the same scales and the same clusters.
- The problem: exploration in depth and exploration in breadth scales do not show the same correlations.
- Two clusters: achievement and undifferentiated behave in a different way.
Steps to be Taken in Future

• Revising questionnaire – exploration in depth scale, especially
• Factorial validity
• Cluster correlations with other questionnaires/traits
Literature


• Aru Tinovi b., Grigolava A. (1999) *Adaptation of Beck Depression Inventory*. Abstracts of the Psychology Conference, Tbilisi. p. 4-5  *In Georgian*

• Aru Tinovi b., Grigolava A. (1999) *Adaptation of Spilberger State-Trait Anxiety Inventory*. Abstracts of the Psychology Conference, Tbilisi. p. 5-6  *In Georgian*


Literature

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Thank you