

Adolescents' values of children and their intentions to have children: A multi-level perspective

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Value of Children (VOC)

- Reasons for having children
- Needs children fulfill for their parents (Hoffman & Hoffman, 1973)
- Emotional, social, and economic benefits and costs from having children (e.g., Arnold et al., 1975)



Relations Between VOC and Fertility (1)

- Economic needs can be best fulfilled by many children
 → Economic VOC positively related to fertility
- Emotional needs can be fulfilled by 1 or 2 children as good as by many children
 → Emotional VOC negatively related to fertility



Relations Between VOC and Fertility (2)

- Mostly confirmed at the group-level (e.g., Trommsdorff, in press; Kagitcibasi & Ataca, 2005)
- Partly confirmed at the individual level (e.g., Kagitcibasi, 1982; Nauck, 2007)
- Multilevel models needed to account for differential effects on the cultural and on the individual level



Method: Cultures in the Study

Cultures selected to represent

a) Geographic and Cultural Regions of the World: Europe, Asia, Africa (excl. Americas & Middle East)

b) Range of economic development: per capita GNP from 3.120 \$ (India) to 35.660 \$ (Switzerland)







France





- Population = 61m
- GNI per capita = 32,240 \$
- Total Fertility Rate = 2.0
- Teamleader

Prof. Dr. Colette Sabatier, Université Victor Segalen, Bordeaux





Germany





- Population = 82m
- GNP per capita = 32,680 \$
- Total Fertility Rate = 1.3
- Principal Investigators:

 Prof. Dr. Gisela Trommsdorff
 University of Konstanz
 Prof. Dr. Bernhard Nauck
 Technische Universität Chemnitz





Switzerland





- Population = 8m
- GNP per capita = 40,840 \$
- Total Fertility Rate = 1.4
- Data provided by Dipl.-Psych. Karen Fux, University of Konstanz





South Africa





- Population = 47m
- GNP per capita = 8,900 \$
- Total Fertility Rate = 2.7
- Teamleader Prof. Dr. Karl Peltzer Human Sciences Research Council, Cape Town







Turkey



- Population = 74m
- GNP per capita = 8,410 \$
- Total Fertility Rate = 2.2



• Teamleader

Prof. Dr. Cigdem Kagitçibasi Koc University, Istanbul

Dr. Bilge Ataca Bogazici University, Istanbul







Israel



- Population = 7m
- GNP per capita = 23,840 \$
- Total Fertility Rate = 2.7
- Teamleader

Dr. Asher Ben-Arieh, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Dr. Muhammad M. Haj-Yahia, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem







India





- Population = 1.12bn
- GNP per capita = 2,460 \$
- Total Fertility Rate = 2.5
- Teamleader

Prof. Dr. Ramesh Mishra, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi





Indonesia





- Population = 226m
- GNP per capita = 3,310 \$
- Total Fertility Rate = 2.2
- Teamleader
 - Dr. Lieke Wisnubrata, Padjadjaran University, Bandung
 - Drs. Peter R. Nelwan Padjadjaran University, Bandung



People's Republic of China





- Population = 1.31bn
- GNI per capita = 4,660 \$
- Total Fertility Rate = 1.8

• Teamleader

Prof. Dr. Gang Zheng, Chinese Academy of Sciences, BeijingProf. Shaohua Shi, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing



Republic of Korea





- Population = 49m
- GNP per capita = 22,990 \$
- Total Fertility Rate = 1.1
- Teamleader

Prof. Dr. Uichol Kim, Inha University, InchonProf. Dr. Young-Shin Park, Inha University, Inchon





Japan





- Population = 128m
- GNP per capita = 32,840 \$
- Total Fertility Rate = 1.3
- Data provided by Chiaki Yamada, MA, Université Victor Segalen, Bordeaux, France







Cultures	Males	Females	All	M Age	(SD)
Germany	137	174	311	15.7	(1.1)
France	90	110	200	15.7	(1.2)
Switzerland	55	76	131	19.8	(1.9)
Israel	69	119	188	15.8	(1.4)
Turkey	144	162	306	14.7	(1.1)
South Africa	122	195	317	15.0	(1.2)
India	148	152	300	16.0	(1.5)
Indonesia	135	165	300	15.3	(1.0)
China	129	177	306	13.8	(1.1)
Korea	143	252	395	15.3	(1.5)
Japan	77	130	207	16.5	(0.8)
Total	1249	1712	2961	15.5	(1.7)





Mean Differences: Emotional VOC



Mean Differences: Traditional VOC



Mean Differences: Number of Children (Intendend Fertility)



Hierarchic Linear Modeling (HLM)





Discussion: Mean Differences

- Emotional VOC high in all cultures \rightarrow universal?
- Traditional VOC declines with modernization
- Intended Fertility
 - Extreme cases (Israel & China) due to political rather than cultural and structural reasons?
 - French adolescents rather pro-natalistic
 - Trend to having 2 children



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Discussion: Multi-Level-Analysis

- Individual-Level-Effects
 - Positive (instead of negative) effect of Emotional VOC on Intended Fertility in modern(izing) cultures
 - Traditional VOC and Intended Fertility unrelated
- Culture-Level-Effects
 - Positive effect of Traditonal VOC on Intended Fertility
 - Negative effect of Emotional VOC on Intended Fertility
 - Traditionality weakens positive (individual-level) effect of Emotional VOC







- Multi-level analyses needed to account for theoretically meaningful differential effects across levels
- Emotional VOC positive predictor of fertility in most cultures
- Traditional conceptualization of the VOC-Fertility relation valid mostly for culture-level analysis
- Limitation: Results refer to adolescents only





Thank you!









References

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Pooled Solution	EMO	TRAD
01 Child helps around the house.	.15	.61
02 Makes family more important.	.50	.32
03 Increases responsibility, develop	.61	.21
04 It is a joy to have a small baby	.73	.14
05 Fun to have young children around	.76	.10
06 Pleasure watching children grow.	.78	.12
07 Feeling of love parent and child	.75	.03
08 Standing/reputation among your kin	.30	.58
09 Less likely to be lonely in old age	.34	.49
10 Raising helps learn about life/self	.62	.21
11 Older relatives feel more children	.03	.62
12 life will be continued through	.38	.46
13 Sure enough children will survive	.07	.59
14 To carry on the family name	.13	.68
15 To help your family economically	.07	.72
16 Have someone to love and care for	.63	.18
17 A duty according to your belief	.15	.56
18 Children can help when you're old	.20	.62

VOC – Structural Equivalence and Reliabilities

	Tucke	er`s Phi	Cronbach's a		
	EMO	TRAD	EMO	TRAD	
Germany	.97	.97	.81	.80	
Turkey	.99	.99	.84	.86	
Israel	.75	.61	.76	.68	
Korea	.97	.98	.83	.78	
China	.98	.98	.89	.82	
Indonesia	.95	.96	.79	.76	
France	.96	.94	.75	.77	
India	.96	.97	.84	.84	
Japan	.98	.99	.89	.81	
South Africa	.84	.73	.88	.77	
Switzerland	.98	.96	.78	.95	





Linear Regression Analysis Emotional VOC + Traditional VOC \rightarrow Intended Fertility

Culture	Predictors	Beta	Culture	Predictors	Beta
Japan	Emotional VOC	.52**	Turkey	Emotional VOC	.16*
	Traditional VOC	01		Traditional VOC	04
Germany	Emotional VOC	.46**	Indonesia	Emotional VOC	.16*
	Traditional VOC	05		Traditional VOC	09
Switzerland	Emotional VOC	.37**	Israel	Emotional VOC	.06
	Traditional VOC	.12		Traditional VOC	05
Korea	Emotional VOC	.33**	South Africa	Emotional VOC	.04
	Traditional VOC	.02	_	Traditional VOC	.07
China	Emotional VOC	.31**	India	Emotional VOC	14+
	Traditional VOC	.16+		Traditional VOC	.30**
France	Emotional VOC	.20*			
	Traditional VOC	05			



Multi-Level-Analysis (incl. Random Effects)

n = 2342		Inter	ept Slope Emot. V		pe VOC	e Slope /OC Trad. VOC	
	Ind. Level	В	df	В	df	В	df
Model 1	No. Children	2.11	10	.29**		.00	10
	Cult. Level	В	df	В		В	df
Model 2	Effect Emot. VOC	-1.16	8				
	Effect Trad . VOC	02	8				
Model 3	Effect Emot. VOC	91	8	.42	8	31	8
	Effect Trad . VOC	.18	8	46**	8	.14	8



Multi-Level-Analysis (Fixed Effects only)

n = 2332		Inter	cept	Slope Emot. VOC		Slope Trad. VOC	
	Ind. Level	В	df	В	df	В	df
Model 1	No. Children	2.09	2329	.30**		02	2339
	Cult. Level	В	df	В		В	df
Model 2	Effect Emot. VOC	93**	2327				
	Effect Trad . VOC	.30**	2327				
Model 3	Effect Emot. VOC	93**	2323	.42	2333	34	2323
	Effect Trad . VOC	.30**	2323	48**	2333	.14	2323

