

Relationship between Membership in Social Networks and Tendency to Immigration in Postgraduate Student of Tehran University

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Abstract

Experts immigration is one of the major problems in developing countries. In another side internet daily extensive and availability of virtual climate has an unavoidable impacts on personal and social aspects. Therefore, in this study, the relationship between membership in social networks and have a tendency to migrate have been examined. The theoretical framework is Ravnshtayn theory, globalization and social capital. Ravnshtayn believes that extensive communication facilitate migration which nowadays internet and virtual social media are suitable channel to facilitates Cross-border communications. Internet has also led to present of transnational identities and has correlation with other variables such as social capital, national identity and national belonging cosmopolitan. The methodology of the study is survey and questionnaire was used. The study sample 526 students of Tehran University was selected using random cluster. The main hypothesis of the research based on the use of virtual social networks and increasing students' tendency to emigrate from the country was confirmed. Among the sub-hypotheses, social capital and cosmopolitanism had a significant direct relationship with the tendency to emigrate and national identity, family belonging and national belonging had a significant inverse relationship with the tendency to emigrate, and all hypotheses were confirmed. The results showed that in addition to the significant effects of using virtual social networks in increasing their tendency to migrate, its indirect effects on the tendency to migrate through increasing the sense of cosmopolitanism and reducing the sense of national belonging and sense of national identity are significant.

Keywords: Social network, Expert, Immigration, Membership.

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1. Introduction

The migration of skilled and experienced labor is a problem that the vast majority of developing countries face today. People who have become skilled and specialized labor by spending a lot of material and spiritual expenses (of which university education is one of the manifestations), but after graduating due to many individual and social factors, decided to leave their homeland and search. They get another Mawtani; And the loss of such problems is on the country of origin. Skilled labor is one of the human resources of a society; Capital whose impact on the country's economy is undeniable and will generate wealth through scientific and research channels, and as a result of the migration of these people, huge financial losses will be inflicted on society and the resulting profits will flow into the pockets of the destination country.

Scientists believe that new technologies have facilitated chain migration by increasing the number of friends and relationships abroad that may or may not be willing to help. New technologies have also facilitated the emergence of transnational identity. A person with a transnational identity is someone who identifies himself or herself as a member of a nation or an ethnic group; Despite the fact that no people or nation lives in that geographical area (Komito, 2011, p. 1077). McGregor and Siegel believe that social media can attract immigrants by sending information about the destination country, and also has the potential to increase the demand for human trafficking. Because the development of online technologies allows traffickers to access a wider range of victims and to advertise online for their services over larger distances (McGregor and Siegel, 2013, p. 6).

On the other hand, advances in the early 1990s in the field of computers, software, hardware and telecommunications; It has greatly increased people's ability to access information (Fysal, 2013, p. 11). The idea of media neutrality (of which the Internet is one example) and the impact of its format on the identity of its users is one of Marshall McLuhan's achievements. According to McLuhan, "the most important effect of the media is that it affects our habits of perception and thinking" (Fahim, Khaniki and Entezari, 2012, p. 141). Information technology has also accelerated global integration and migration (Fysal, 2013, p. 11). The expansion of the sphere of influence of the Internet has changed all the previous equations. According to Giddens, we live in an

interconnected age in which people around the world share a single information order. This situation is largely due to the international reach of modern communication (Giddens,2007, p. 652) and the Internet is the beating heart of this communication revolution (Ibid).

The tendency to emigrate can be the first step towards leaving national ties and severing ties with the community of origin. And in many cases it leads to migration. A quick look at the number of educated people who leave the country every year and the estimated financial losses that follow to the country's economic body, the importance of this issue is clear. According to 2005 statistics, 6 out of 10 international immigrants live in developed countries. And according to estimates, the number of immigrants in 2050 will exceed 250 million. New studies show that if developed countries provide only a 3% quota for migrant labor, the annual growth of global assets will be between 50 to 200 billion dollars (Moqaddas and Sharafi, 2009, p. 163). The available statistics on the migration of elites and professionals show the fact that developing societies facing poverty have always faced many problems in manpower development. And this has caused the flood of migration from these communities to the developed world to continue (Shahramnia and Eskandari, 2009, pp. 48-49).

The upward trend in the use of virtual social networks in recent years and the desire of young people to emigrate from the country can be closely related to each other. And since, according to Ros, Adela & others, today we face a lack of empirical knowledge about the formation of information networks and the use of information and communication technologies in the field of migration (Ros, et al., 2007, p. 4). It is necessary to investigate this issue. Today, many people use networks such as Facebook, LinkedIn, WhatsApp, Telegram, etc. to be informed of daily news and to communicate with others, and spend hours of the day in cyberspace as a result of users of virtual social networks. It is increasingly expanding. As of September 30, 2013, Facebook registered 1.19 billion active users. This number has increased exponentially since the site was launched in 2004; Which is almost equal to one in seven people in the world (McGregor and Siegel, 2013, p. 2). The question that arises here is what effects the expansion of the number of users of virtual social

networks has on the desire of educated people to emigrate. This article does not consider the immigrant himself, in other words, the actual immigrant. An immigrant is a potential immigrant: that is, a person who, if an opportunity or condition is provided, tends to move (Kazemipour and Ghasemi, 2007, p. 131). Thus the study of migration has an important place in demographic studies, because along with fertility and mortality, it changes the volume and growth of the population, as well as its structure and characteristics. Immigration also plays a decisive role in the distribution of the population of countries and regions, as well as the growth of the labor force in each region.

According to the theory of selective immigration, with every opportunity that arises, some people choose to emigrate and some to stay. This is not a coincidence. Immigrants usually have characteristics that make them different from those who stay or stay. Internal and external studies on migration agree that the desire and decision to migrate depends on age, sex and education (Hosseini Rad, 2008, p. 8). So far, no research has been done in the country on the relationship between the use of virtual social networks and migration, but foreign research has proven the hypothesis of facilitating migration due to the use of virtual social networks. Dekker & Engberson (2012) believe that new channels of communication created by social networks can transform immigration networks and facilitate them through four functions:

- 1) by strengthening strong family ties by building superficial relationships with people who They can help in the process of migration and integration into the new culture.

- 2) By creating a network of potential relationships.

- 3) By creating a credible source of individual awareness about immigration.

- 4) The combination of these elements can help reduce migration costs (including the emotional costs of separation and access to information and communication); And helped immigrants move easily, all of which suggests that social media can have different effects on social relationships (Dekker & Engberson, 2012, p. 21). In this study, we seek to achieve the following questions: What is the tendency of migration among graduate students of the University of Tehran? What is the use of virtual social networks among graduate students of the University of Tehran? Is it between the use of the

network? Virtual social networks and the degree of willingness to migrate is there a significant direct relationship or not?

2.Review of Literature

In this paper, Ravenstien's theories, globalization migration networks, social capital, and Castells's network society are used as a theoretical framework. In the seven laws in Ravenstein's theory, the law of communication and immigration states: communication and its development increase the immigrant's knowledge of his surroundings, thus creating a direct relationship between the two; In other words, as communication expands, so does immigration. And the Law of Superiority of Economic Motivation in Migration: Ravenstein, without neglecting other factors influencing migration, emphasizes the role of economic factors in the formation, growth and continuation of migration and considers it the most important motivating factor for migration (Zanjani, 2013: 130-131).

Massay defines immigrant networks as a set of interpersonal relationships that link immigrants to previous immigrants at the destination and to non-immigrants in the regions of origin through relationships of kinship, friendship, and participation in the community of origin. Immigrant networks facilitate migration in several ways: 1) People who come in contact with immigrants find that they may be more comfortable somewhere other than where they currently live. 2) Immigrant networks reduce travel costs by obtaining information on safe and cheap routes or smuggling routes. These networks also reduce emotional costs; Because if immigrants enter an environment where people speak their own language, the shock of their similarity is reduced and they are prevented from being rejected. 3) Immigrant networks increase the expected benefits of immigration by helping people find jobs. 4) Immigrant networks help reduce the cost of living for new immigrants (Kazemipour and Ghasemi Ardahai, 2007, p. 136).

According to the theory of globalization, the migration of specialists to developed countries is the result of increased global interaction and sustained global inequality between nations, both of which reflect the process of intense global interaction. On the one hand, as the process of globalization intensifies,

relations between countries, especially between the developed and developing world, are strengthened. On the other hand, this process preserves and perpetuates the general differences between countries in terms of development (Moqaddas and Sharafi, 2009, p. 174).

In the theory of network society, Castells states that new information technologies connect all parts of the world in global networks made of tools. These links are in addition to the rapid development of people's network connection. It has paved the way for widespread international migration (Castells, 2001, p. 22). Social capital is the link between the people with whom one interacts (Zokai, 2006, p. 49). The wider the circle of social relations, the greater the probability of spatial mobility.

Various researches have been done in the field of social networks and migration. Pryor has given four steps for analyzing immigration decisions: a) Awareness before the decision of mental satisfaction of spatial facilities in the previous place of residence, b) Implicit decision to move in whole or in part or stay, c) Search for a definite decision to move and Deciding on the destination as a public and specific place of residence d) Assessing the mental satisfaction of the spatial facilities in the new residence (Lahsaeizadeh, 1989, p. 203).

To study immigration decision-making, Dejong (1989) identified seven concepts: expectations, values, understanding family migration norms, gender roles, residency satisfaction, immigration networks, and behavioral requirements and facilitators. The results showed that the dimensions of expectations and residency satisfaction are not directly related to the behavior of permanent or temporary immigrants, while they are indirectly related to each other through the intention to migrate. According to Dejong Research, previous immigration experience is an important immigration facilitator that directly enhances both permanent and temporary migration behavior. The experience of previous migration has had a direct impact on migration by raising awareness of the target community and reducing doubts about the process of migrating, working and living in another environment. When the dimensions of expectations / values, satisfaction and gender roles in the model are controlled, none of the typical exploratory variables of immigration

intentions, ie education, income, land ownership or the underlying variables of society are statistically significant factors (Aminzadeh, 2011, p. 23).

Zoakai (2006) showed that normative pressure and the influence of reference groups, risk-taking, cosmopolitan tendencies, independence of action and individualistic values, values, aspirations and identity characteristics, quality of life are the most important factors determining the tendency of Iranian youth to leave They are the homeland. SharifiGhaderi (2010) showed that 52 young people who have received their news and information as Internet news sites. They have considered their desire to emigrate from the country to be high and very high.

Rajabi showed that repulsions of origin have a significant correlation with the tendency to emigrate from the country and are important and determining factors in the tendency of educated people to emigrate from the country. Bad economic conditions and lack of hope for better economic situation, lack of hope for a suitable position in Iran, feeling of intellectual insecurity and lack of attention to the creativity and competencies of experts by officials, lack of proper access to scientific research tools, lack of meritocracy in posting Executive services and frustration with political tensions, provide the most important factors to reduce the tendency to emigrate from the country for university graduates (Rajabi, 2001, p. 77).Tayefi considers factors such as not meeting the job and educational expectations of the individual, the pressure of intellectual and cultural factors, the influence of family or friends, unfavorable future prospects as the most important factors of young people's tendency to emigrate (Tayefi, 2001, p. 63).

Shabanloo (2001) showed that political and cultural conditions inside and outside the country and economic conditions inside the country are effective in migration. But social and professional conditions inside and outside and economic conditions abroad were rejected. His findings have shown that the situation in developed countries is favorable and satisfactory for them. Most respondents had a strong tendency to emigrate from the country(Shabanloo, 2001). Also Ebrahimi (2001) indicated factors such as lack of appreciation for innovation and initiative, lack of optimal use of working hours, ambiguity of economic future, inadequacy of salaries, wages and job opportunities have

played a role in people's tendency to emigrate. The results of his work show that, in the eyes of students in general, economic factors have a higher priority than scientific-educational, social-cultural, political factors in this field (Ebrahimi, 2001, p. 88).

The Hypotesis of this research are:

1. There is a direct relationship between the use of virtual social networks and the tendency to migrate.
2. There is a direct relationship between the use of virtual social networks through the strengthening of social capital and the tendency to migrate.
3. There is an inverse relationship between the use of virtual social networks by undermining the national identity of users and the tendency to migrate.
4. There is a direct relationship between the use of virtual social networks by strengthening the cosmopolitan feeling of users with a tendency to migrate.
5. There is an inverse relationship between the use of virtual social networks by weakening users' family affiliation with the tendency to migrate.
6. There is an inverse relationship between the use of virtual social networks by weakening users' national affiliation and the tendency to migrate.

3. Methodology

In this research, the research method is survey. The statistical population of this dissertation has been master's, doctoral and professional doctoral students of Tehran University. Due to the fact that graduate students are considered to be the specialist force of the society and huge financial expenses have been spent on their education, they have been emphasized with the approval of the supervisor. The sampling method is multi-stage cluster. First, the University of Tehran was selected as the statistical population of the research and a list of different faculties of this university was prepared; In the next stage, among the various faculties, the faculties of technology, basic sciences, arts, medicine and humanities were randomly selected as clusters. Then, among the students who are users of virtual social networks and are engaged in master's and professional doctorate Education questionnaires were distributed.

According to the statistics of the Informatics Center of the University of Tehran, at the time of the research, a total of 12,933 graduate students and 5,000 professional doctoral students were studying at the university in 2016, which was a total of 17,933 people. Cochran's formula was used to determine the sample size. According to Cochran's formula, the sample size was estimated to be 376 people, but due to the fact that the questionnaires were distributed during the student exams at the university and the possibility of non-response or incompleteness of the questionnaires was felt, 526 questionnaires were distributed among students to increase accuracy.

Table 1: Cronbach's alpha value of the indicators

number	variables	Cronbach's alpha
1	Social capital	0.790
2	Feeling cosmopolitan	0.691
3	National identity	0.810
4	Tendency to migrate	0.813
5	National affiliation	0.713
6	Family belonging	0.775

4. Findings

The results showed that 43.2% (227 people) of the respondents were women and 56.7% (298 people) were men. The mean age of the respondents was 26.1 and the standard deviation was 4.1. The youngest respondent was 16 and the oldest was 39 years old. The majority of respondents (81.6) were single at the time of the survey and 15.2% were married. 76.8% of the respondents were master's degree students, 17.5% were doctoral students and 5.1% were professional doctoral students. 72.1 The students did not have any other job except studying and in the next stage they were in a large employee difference (9.3). Most of the respondents have been studying in the Faculty of Engineering and Technology of the University of Tehran (28.1) and in the next rank are the students of the Faculty of Humanities (23.6) and the Faculty of Basic Sciences (19) and the Faculty of Fine Arts (17.1), And the School of Medicine (3/10). Also 69.4% of respondents have an income between 1 and 4 million. 14.5% have income between 4 to 7 million and 5.5% have income above 7 million Tomans.

Table 2: Frequency distribution of respondents by membership in each of the virtual social networks

social networks	Frequency	Percent
Facebook	153	29.1
LinkedIn	86	16.3
Telegram	497	94.5
Yahoo Messenger	35	6.7
line	37	7
Whatsapp	103	19.6
Viber	42	8
Instagram	223	42.2
Bitalk	4	0.8
Other	14	2.7

The data in the table above show that Telegram was the most popular among the virtual social networks among the users, followed by Instagram and Facebook. Percentage distribution of respondents according to the duration of using virtual social networks during the day showed that 52.5% of respondents use virtual social networks for one hour to 3 hours during the day, 16.7% between 3 to 6 hours, About 6% is more than 6 hours.

Table 3: Distribution of respondents' tendencies based on the main variables

index	social capital	cosmopolitan tendency	family belonging	ofnational identity	national belonging	tendency to emigrate
Very weak	41.3	0.2	1.1	3	4.9	4.9
Weak	41.4	2.3	7.6	8.6	16.7	19
medium	13.1	9.1	21.1	26.2	39.4	31.7
Strong	4	28.1	40.1	39.9	27.9	31
very strong	0.2	59.9	29.3	22.2	10.1	12.4
unanswered	0	0.4	0.8	0	1	1
total	100	100	100	100	100	100

The findings show that the percentage distribution of responses according to the levels of the central variables of the research showed that 82.7% of the respondents had weak and very weak social capital and only 17.3% had strong to very strong social capital. The results also show that the respondents' cosmopolitan feelings are high and 88% of them are in the strong and very strong classes. Only 11.6% of them have a weak to moderate cosmopolitan feeling. About 26.2% have a moderate national identity orientation and 62.1%

have a strong and very strong national identity orientation. According to the family belonging index of users, only 8.8% of the respondents have a very weak and weak belonging to their family. 21.1% have average belonging and 69.4% have a strong and very strong sense of belonging to their family. In terms of respondents' sense of national belonging, 21.9% have very weak and weak national belonging to their country, 39.4% are in the middle class and 38% have strong and very strong national belonging. The index of tendency to emigrate indicates that 24.2% of the respondents have a low and very low tendency to emigrate, 62.7% of them have a moderate to high tendency to emigrate from the country. About 12.4% have a very high tendency to migrate.

Table4: Comparison of the average tendency to migrate among users with migration networks and without migration networks

Tendency to migrate	Frequency	Mean	standard deviation	statistical test
with immigration networks	459	3.32	0.79	T=2.502
without immigration networks	58	2.04	0.86	Sig=0.013

According to the data in the table above, the average rate of migration tendency among people who have immigration networks (friends or relatives who have previously migrated) is 3.32 and the average number of people without immigration networks is 2.04. Findings also indicate that the T statistic is equal to 2.502 and the significance level is equal to 0.013. As a result, the relationship between migration networks and the tendency to migrate is significant.

Table 5: Correlation coefficient of independent variables with the tendency to migration

Tendency to migrate	Correlation coefficient	Sig
Use of virtual social networks	0.20	0.017
Social capital	0.163	0.000
Feeling cosmopolitan	0.527	0.000
National identity	0.385	0.000
National affiliation	0.567	0.000
Family belonging	0.122	0.005

The coefficient of determination in the regression model is equal to 48.2%, which means that the independent variables entered in the model have been able to predict and explain 48.2% of the variance changes of the dependent

variable, ie the tendency to migrate. Examining the simultaneous effect of variables shows that from the sum of independent variables that entered the regression equation as predictor variables, show that the net effect (beta) of the effect of the use of virtual networks on the variable of migration tendency is 0.150 and from The comment is statistically significant. The variables of cosmopolitan tendencies (0.409), national belonging (-0.379) and national identity (-0.127) which are negative and inverse in the two variables of national affiliation and national identity and in the cosmopolitan variable for relation. It is positive and direct.

Table 6: The values of regression coefficients in the model determining the tendency to migrate

Dependent variable	Independent variables	b	S.E	Beta	Sig	R ²
tendency to migrate	Constant	2.995	0.260	---	0.000	0.482
	National affiliation	0.401	0.046	0.379	0.000	
	Use of virtual social networks	0.180	0.017	0.150	0.349	
	Feeling cosmopolitan	0.507	0.042	0.409	0.000	
	National identity	0.138	0.045	0.127	0.002	

Path analysis shows that the direct effect of the variable of using virtual social networks on the tendency to migrate is equal to 0.150 and the indirect effect of this variable on the tendency to migrate is equal to 0.171 and the total effect of this variable is equal to 321 Is / 0. The direct effect of the variable of national sense of belonging on the variable of tendency to emigration is -0.368 and the indirect effect of this variable on the dependent variable is -0.116 and its total effect is -0.484.

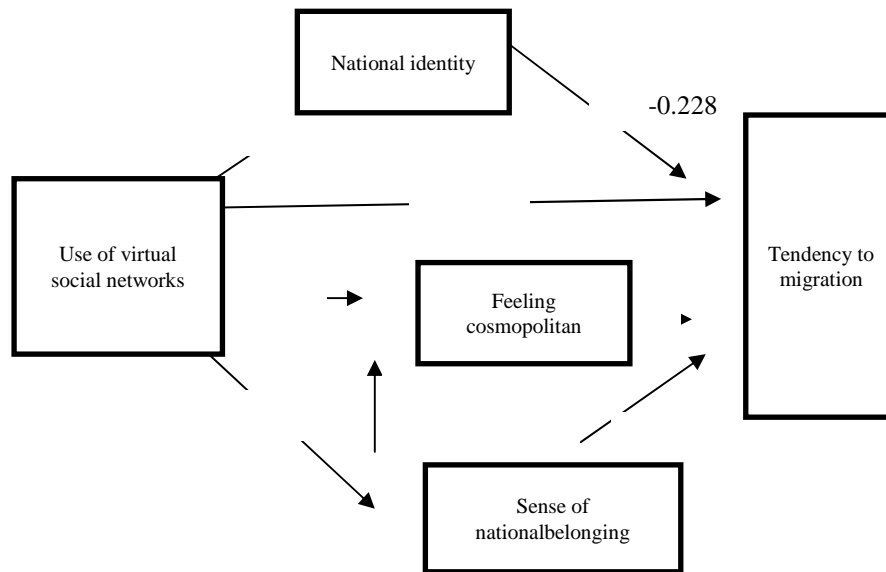


Figure 1: Path diagram of the direct and indirect effects of independent variables on the tendency to migrate

The two variables of cosmopolitan attitude and national identity also have only a direct effect, which are equal to -0.414 and -0.228, respectively. The results of the route diagram show that although the direct effects of the use of migration-oriented virtual social networks are significant, they are not significant.

But the indirect effects of the use of virtual social networks are significant and significant through increasing the sense of cosmopolitanism and reducing the sense of national belonging and sense of national identity.

5. Conclusion

This research was conducted by survey method and using a questionnaire among 526 senior and doctoral students and professional doctorates of the University of Tehran. The statistical population of the study was limited to graduate students because the migration of these people has more negative consequences and will cause irreparable financial losses to the country's economic body.

The results show that about 43.2% of the respondents were women and 56.7% were men. The average age of the respondents is 26.1 years old.

Of course, according to the age conditions, they can be expected to have the highest tendency to emigrate. When asked about the popularity of each of the virtual social networks, it was found that Telegram has the most users with 94.5%. Also about 87.6% of the respondents had immigration networks abroad and 11% of them did not have such networks. 88% of the respondents had a strong and very strong sense of cosmopolitanism.

About 62.1% of the respondents had a strong and very strong national identity. 43.4% of the respondents had a strong tendency to emigrate from the country. 69.4% of the respondents had a strong and very strong sense of family belonging to their family. 39% of respondents had moderate nationality to their country.

The findings show that there is a significant relationship between the use of virtual social networks and the tendency to migrate and the main hypothesis of the research was confirmed.

There is a significant relationship between social capital and the tendency to emigrate, and the higher a person's social capital, the higher his tendency to migrate. However, Pearson correlation shows a very weak relationship between these two variables.

There is a significant and direct relationship between cosmopolitanism and the tendency to emigrate.

And the intensity of this relationship is moderate. The stronger the sense of cosmopolitanism in a person, the higher his tendency to emigrate. There is a significant inverse relationship between national identity and the tendency to emigrate, and the weaker the national identity, the stronger the tendency of the individual to emigrate.

The findings show that there is a significant and inverse relationship between family belonging and tendency to emigrate, and the weaker a person's family ties, the stronger his tendency to migrate.

There is a significant and inverse relationship between national affiliation and tendency to emigrate, and the weaker Far's national affiliation, the stronger his tendency to emigrate. In this study, the main emphasis has been on the

fourth law of Ravenstein's theory on the development of communication and migration; In statistical studies, the main hypothesis of the research showed a significant relationship between user and the use of virtual social networks as a means of communication and increase the tendency of users to migrate. As a result, the fourth law of Ravenstein theory is a good explanation for the root cause of migration.

Of course, Ravenstein acknowledges the superiority of economic incentives in immigration. In interviews with students, the vast majority cited economic motivation and a lack of suitable job opportunities as motivating them to emigrate in the future.

In the question of immigration networks and comparing the average of people with immigration networks and people without immigration networks through t-test, a significant relationship was observed between immigration networks and the tendency of respondents to immigration. And this finding is consistent with Messis's theory.

Massay has defined immigrant networks as a set of interpersonal relationships that link immigrants to previous immigrants at the destination and to non-immigrants in the regions of origin through friendship, kinship and community ties.

In this study, users who had relatives, friends or acquaintances of immigrants had a higher tendency to migrate.

Therefore, it can be inferred that Massay's theory is consistent with the current conditions of our society and explains part of the variance of students' tendency to emigrate. Also, according to the theory of globalization, following the modernization of societies, global social relations are intensified and a global social is formed in which the commonalities of all human beings in the fundamental and ultimate values are the basis of unity and collective organization of the ruling order. Accordingly, globalization signifies the emergence of a universal human identity, beyond specific ethnic, tribal or national identities.

The findings showed that the use of virtual social networks had a significant and inverse relationship with national identity and more consumed users had a weaker national identity and a stronger sense of cosmopolitanism. As a result,

the theory of globalization can also explain part of the variance of the dependent variable in the current conditions of our society. In general, the results of this study are consistent with the results of Zokai. Zokai(2006) believes that respondents understand cosmopolitanism through direct, indirect and non-objective (virtual) experiences. According to him, young people have further developed cosmopolitan experience, which is one of the factors influencing their desire to emigrate.

In this study, the relationship between cosmopolitanism and the tendency to emigrate was confirmed by statistical analysis, although the intensity of this relationship was moderate.

The results of multivariate regression analysis also indicate that although the direct effects of the use of virtual social networks with a tendency to migration are significant, but not significant.

But the indirect effects of using virtual social networks by increasing the sense of cosmopolitanism and reducing the sense of national belonging and sense of national identity are enormous. The variables of nationality, cosmopolitanism and national identity have a significant effect on the tendency to emigrate.

The adjusted coefficient of determination is equal to 0.482, which means that the independent variables of the research can explain 48.2% of the changes in the dependent variable. According to the research findings, the following suggestions are:

a) Strengthening national identity through virtual networks: According to the findings of user research, virtual social networks weaken national identity and increase the tendency to migrate, but due to the need to use these networks in the current space, it is possible to strengthen national identity. In cyberspace, it greatly reduced the motivation to immigrate.

b) Employment: As mentioned in the Theoretical Findings section, most respondents cited economic problems as their motivation for emigration and exile. As a result, financial incentives are still the strongest reason for the emigration of elites and professionals, and employment should be provided, at

least for graduate students who have spent more years specializing at university.

c) Merit: In interviews, respondents mentioned issues such as job dissatisfaction and lack of merit in the workplace and stated their motivation for migrating to this issue; It is appropriate for the authorities to pay more attention to this issue in order to preserve their human capital.

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