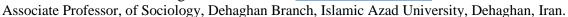
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The study of teenage girls' understanding of body beauty in the identity process, case study: Khorramabad city

Asghar Mohammadi <u>6594-8419-2000-000</u>



Sahar Heydari <u>000900064</u>3834170

Ph.D. Candidate of Cultural Sociology, Dehaghan Branch, Islamic Azad University, Dehaghan, Iran.

Extended Abstract

Introduction:

Naturally, human tends to see beauty, understand it, seek it, create it, and organize their individual and collective life according to it (Shahdadi, 2015: 60). This trend in the culture of modernity, at the individual and social levels, is an identity-building material and a space that exposes the individual to the reading and evaluation of others (Etmidamifard and Hosseinzadeh, 1400: 476). Like many countries in transition, Iran has changed its formation and sources of identity through the world of information and is not in a suitable cultural context. Studies have shown that young girls may be more obsessed with their appearance and consider attention to other aspects of development, such as education or independence, less critical (Tigman, 2005: 379). In recent years, beauty has become a concern of many girls at a young age; it can be easily seen in the public spaces of society and with more intensity in virtual social networks. For many of these people, having a body and a face that is by the shared norms and standards of beauty is considered a desirable identity characteristic and is of great importance. Such orientations adopted by these people conflict with some of the cultural and social values governing society. Because in the system of customs that govern our society, concern for beauty and trying to define a part of one's identity through it is not accepted for girls at a young age, and usually in the social-cultural context of Iranian society, girls are not accepted. Unlike young girls, makeup and beauty-related actions are not expected at a young age. Understanding this fact leads to the reflection that "understanding the beauty and trying to acquire it as a desirable identity-building component for girls at a young age" is the product of what objective and subjective conditions and relationships govern society. The methodology of such a problem can lead to a better understanding of the issues related to the identification processes of girls at a young age and make it possible to formulate solutions that can plan and manage such issues.

Theoretical literature

According to Turner, changes such as industrialization, individualism, and modernity have caused attention to the body, and the body has become connected with its identity and concept in this era, and of course, the emergence of modernity is wholly related to the development of consumerism and consumption (Turner, 1996: 7 quoted from Bagheri et al., 1400: 400). Giddens believes that due to the phenomenon of widespread dissemination of western cultural patterns at the international level, which is intensified and facilitated through mass media and new communication technologies, on specific values related to the forms and Ideal body sizes and objective goals are considered on the behavior of people, especially women, in different societies to harmonize or bring their body characteristics closer to these values (Giddens, 2003: 4). Shilling (1993) believes that the body may best be thought of as an incomplete biological and social phenomenon that changes within a range as a result of its participation in society. Therefore, the body is in a continuous state of "unfinished." The body as a being is becoming. A project that must be worked on and completed

as a part of one's identity". Based on the research of Emily Martin (1994), "body" is related to the concept of the immune system, which now underpins our thinking about the body, organizations, machines, politics, etc. Featherstone (1991) argues that the body is reproduced as a means of self-expression reinforced by consumerism. Body projects are attempts to create and maintain a coherent and sustainable sense of self-identity through attention to the body, especially its appearance (Federstone, 1991). Baudrillard (1990) believes most people in traditional and early industrial societies worked with their bodies. Today, an increasing number of people in post-industrial societies do not work with their bodies; instead, they work their bodies. According to Bourdieu (1986), the physical dimension is so vital that it can only be seen as a part of cultural capital. The management and development of the body itself has a fundamental role for human agency in general, the production of cultural and economic capital, and the achievement and maintenance of status. In his study, Goffman (1959) uses the "dramaturgical approach," which refers to the performance method used by the actor, and its meaning is related to the broader social context. Interaction is considered a "performance" shaped by the environment and the audience and is formed to provide "effects" to others consistent with the actor's goals.

Research method

The present research has used the phenomenological method to understand the perception of teenage girls in Khorramabad city about body beauty in the process of identification, and to collect raw data, a semi-indepth interview method has been used. The statistical population of this research is all girls under the age of fifteen living in Khorramabad city. After conducting interviews with 21 teenage girls, the researchers concluded that the information obtained from the participants was repeated, and no new data was produced. The research tool and the main interview questions were developed based on the research literature. The general question was started around the nature of the topic and expanded according to the interviewees' answers.

Research findings

The perception of beauty by girls under fifteen can be seen as the product of their interactions with various elements of the new world. "Identifying with a celebrity," "being validated in interaction," "acquiring social capital," "taking advantage of opportunities," and "physical idealism" are themes that girls under the age of fifteen express their actions. Under their influence, they shape their body so that their physical identity is beautiful; in other words, they look like "a person with a beautiful body." Usually, such perceptions of beauty are legitimate and accepted by society for young people and people who pursue beauty according to their age. Therefore, transforming these ideas for teenagers can be a social issue that motivates wide-ranging reflections.

conclusion

Girls under fifteen can understand beauty as a product of their interactions with different elements of the new world. "Identifying with a celebrity," "being validated in interaction," "acquiring social capital," "taking advantage of opportunities," and "physical idealism" are the themes that girls under the age of fifteen express their actions. Under their influence, they shape their body so that their physical identity is beautiful, and in other words, they look like "a person with a beautiful body". The result of this research shows that the understanding of "girls under the age of fifteen of Khorram Abad city" is not much different from the understanding of young people.

Key words: adolescent girls, body beauty, identification process, phenomenology, Khorramabad city.