



## Examining the Fear of Women Victimization from the Perspective of Lifestyle Sociology

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### Abstract

The purpose of this research was to investigate the fear of women victimization from the perspective of lifestyle sociology. The research universe included all the texts related to the sociology of lifestyle. The research sample embraced the fear of women victimization. The research method was descriptive-analytical. The library method was used to collect data from texts and references related to the subject. The results showed that lifestyle played an important role in women's fear of victimization and crime. The demographic differences of women were also related to their lifestyle in terms of the possibility of victimization in relation to the environment in which they lived. The fear of women victimization, according to its connection with crimes, was obtained in four dimensions: financial, life, psychological and moral. The selected lifestyle indicators included four dimensions: traditional, modern, sporty and risky. Also, the findings showed that the more traditional the women's lifestyle, the less fear of victimization and the more modern, the greater the fear of victimization. Individuals who adopted a sport lifestyle showed less fear of being victimized, and individuals who chose a lifestyle of risky behavior experienced more fear when faced with social insecurity. Based on this, it is necessary to improve the lifestyle of women from the perspective of social welfare, promote the native lifestyle (Islamic, compatible with social norms) and confront the spread of dangerous lifestyles (abnormal and incompatible with the society's culture) to reduce the fear of victimization.



## Extended abstract

**Introduction:** Nowadays, the study of the fear of victimization and its related factors is a very important subject for academic research due to the negative effects it has on the daily life of individuals (especially women) and the society as a whole. Fear of victimization is a recently coined criminological term dating back 40 years. Fear of being a victim is an emotional reaction of fear or anxiety caused by crime or its symptoms, which relates a person to crime. Lifestyle is a more or less comprehensive set of functions that a person uses because it not only fulfills his/ her current needs but also embodies the specific narrative that he has chosen for his personal identity in front of others. The purpose of this research was to investigate the fear of women victimization from the perspective of lifestyle sociology.

**Method:** The research universe included all the texts related to the sociology of lifestyle. The research sample embraced the fear of women victimization. The research method was descriptive-analytical. The library method was used to collect data from texts and references related to the subject.

**Results:** The results showed that lifestyle played an important role in women's fear of victimization and crime. The demographic differences of women were also related to their lifestyle in terms of the possibility of victimization in relation to the environment in which they lived. The fear of women victimization, according to its connection with crimes, was obtained in four dimensions: financial, life, psychological and moral. The selected lifestyle indicators included four dimensions: traditional, modern, sporty and risky. Also, the findings showed that the more traditional the women's lifestyle, the less fear of victimization and the more modern, the greater the fear of victimization. Individuals who adopted a sport lifestyle showed less fear of being victimized, and individuals who chose a lifestyle of risky behavior experienced more fear when faced with social insecurity.

**Conclusion:** the spread of individualism, new values and the reduction of collective attachment to supporting reference groups, caused individuals to feel lonely due to the difference in thinking and acting style with their peers, neighbors and community members or its modern consequences. For such reasons, with more tendency towards modern lifestyle, the probability of being victimized and the feeling of fear of being victimized also increased in women. Individuals who adopt a sports lifestyle showed less fear of victimization because of sports networks, self-confidence and physical self-esteem and social capital. The lifestyle of risky behavior also caused individuals to lose respectable groups with acceptable social capital while approaching criminal circles, and in case of facing social insecurity, they experienced more fear. Individuals who experienced a risky lifestyle and fear of victimization because of the lifestyle of risky behavior caused individuals to lose respectable, dignified groups with acceptable social capital while approaching criminal circles. In such a circumstance if they face social insecurity, they experience more fear. Based on this, it is necessary to improve the lifestyle of women from the perspective of social welfare, promote the native lifestyle (Islamic, compatible with social norms) and confront the spread of dangerous lifestyles (abnormal and incompatible with the society's culture) to reduce the fear of victimization.

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elaborating the content, content analysis, editing the article and is the corresponding author. Tahereh Jahanparvar: contributed in the research design and editing the article. Elham Hosseinzadeh: Text design and editing the article. All the authors reviewed and approved the final version.

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