

Meta-Analysis of the Iranian Studies on Social Harms

Marzieh Gorjiposhti¹

Assistant Professor, Chalus Branch, Islamic Azad University, Mazandaran, Iran

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Abstract: The present study is a meta-analysis of the previous studies in the field of social harms. For this purpose the study is presented in two sections: theoretical evaluation and the methodology of studies. In Recent years there has been an increase in the studies related to the field of social harms. Previous studies and statistics show that the high number of addictions, divorce, suicide and change of style is becoming a social and cultural acute problem which needs fundamental reformations. Based on the theory of Klineberg, an individual is affected by the individual culture or the environment's culture that has a fundamental role in relation to institutes, places and interactive ability and communications and the lack of relationship of individuals with social values results in social harms. Also the general evaluation of referees considered 68.2% of the theoretical and empirical basics, 78% methodology, 50% of the results, 49% of the guidelines as good. Based on the subject of the study about the social harms, some guidelines were categorized for them addressing cultural and social institutes (family), media (educational and religious) and social institutes, etc.

Keywords: meta-analysis, social harms, sociability, social inorganization.

Introduction

The cultural and psychological problems of the society that are not considered as social problems from the view of some of the groups and people and have lost their indecency or are considered unimportant. We face many psychological-cultural problems that show new dimensions of social problems and disorganization: accusations, defamation, threat, making forged identity for the elites, attacking and aggression and advertising for aggression that threatens cultural environments such as media and universities and cultural environments.

Sociability means that people need societies to survive and to learn the survival methods. Sociability also creates our personal traits (Shron, 2000:1/63). One of the best tools for the creation of interaction and balance in the society and its maintenance is the programs of mass media especially TV shows and radio broadcastings; in this way through a comprehensive planning the sense of responsibility can be cultivated and the value dimensions of culture be increased in the society. So, social issues are collective, real, variable, age related, lawful and controllable phenomena that their proposition and practical realization needs the existence of a unified social unit, proper and true interaction between social thinkers to create thinking and proper social atmosphere. So the present study, based on the studies in the field of social harms, has dealt with previous studies.

The importance and necessity of the study

Youths create the future of any society and the planned cultural invasion of the enemy has targeted this group and so serious attention to their life style including their behavior, preferences, attitudes and behavior motivations is a necessity and inevitable need. Youths should be considered important, because some of the cultural features present in them is the necessity of a certain age and will be left after that, but a part of it is cultural features that might develop in the society in future. So, one of the best contexts for the observation of cultural changes in the country is the study of youths' cultures (Abazari and Chavoshian, 2002).

¹ Email: margorjip@gmail.com

If these psychological-cultural obstacles that prevent fruitful activity and development is not dealt with, and the society members do not be psychologically prepared for participation and collective activity, then disillusionment and disappointment will increase and empathetic participation in different areas of culture, economy and society will never emerge. In general, decisions that are in line with the democracy, citizenship rights, tension removal, peacefulness, return of sense of trust, stable and harmonious order, dealing with insecurities, pressure reduction and the modification of official and judicial structure can help the formation of proper mental-cultural state in the society and prepare spirits for work and activity: growth of sense of dutifulness, working discipline, mutual trust, encouragement of collective works, and production with direction and prioritization to national and public resources instead of group and private interests should be among the first and basic goals of such plans. In a healthy political and cultural space the possibility of construction increases and through self-dependence, self-determination, prosperity and regeneration will promote in different areas. Although each of the mentioned social issues and problems can be studied separately, the connection between these issues and their structural connection needs a collective solution for these issues. This is the aim of the present study to deal with these issues in a collective way.

Theoretical framework

The sociological view towards social issues

There are seven main views about social issues in the sociology: social pathology, social inorganization, value conflict, deviant behavior, labeling, criticism and social constructionism. Based on the view of social pathology, the conditions and arrangements are in a way that consider the appealing social behaviors as healthy, but those that are far from the “appealing” behaviors, are considered as ill and so are bad. So, the approach of social pathology, considers the violation of moral expectations as a social issue.

Social disorganization

Based on this view, disorganization is the condition of unsuccessful laws, there are three main types of disorganization: anomy, cultural struggle and disorder. Based on the view of value conflict, a social issue is a condition that is not compatible with the values of some of the groups whose members work to improve and modify some of the issues. Based on the view of social misbehavior, social issues express the deviance from the expectations from the norms. The behaviors or conditions that become distant from the norms are considered as deviation. Based on the view of labeling, social issue or social deviation is defined by the social reaction towards the violation of the laws or expectations.

Social-cultural dimension

In their lives, people make contact with institutions, environments, places and certain people. In these interaction and communications, some interactions (Mead, 1963) take place between the person and environment and also between people. As a result of these cultural interactions between people or people with the environment, first a culture is introduced and then that culture will be accepted or rejected by that person. i.e. in Klineberg’s idea the individual will be affected by the culture of environment or the culture of the other person he/she is communicating with (Klineberg , 1993, 10/1). With the acceptance or rejection of the mentioned culture, the person will have an identity similar or different from the culture introduced by the environment or the other person. But in majority of the cases, most of the people will accept the culture of the group or the society or the condition.

The real and virtual spaces youths spend their time in include: the family, school and classes, educational classes such as arts and sports, parties including the birthdays, restaurants, coffee shops, malls, parks, libraries, mosques, Basij centers, TV, satellite, internet, Cafénets and cell phones.

Socialization

In Durkheim’s expression, in fact socialization of a person means to enter an idea and ideology, the change of a person which is personal, private and unsocial to a social person that is usable for the society, i.e. the acceptance of values, laws and traditions of the society in which he/she is living in.

Socialization is the compatibility and conformity of the person with the values, norms, traditions and attitudes of the social group in which he is active. In other words, it can be said that socialization is a process through which the person achieves the necessary knowledge and skills for the effective and active participation in the group and social life (Alagheband, 1991: 1/106). In Sharon's idea "since we are all cultural creatures, we learn the fundamental thoughts, values and norms of our society and depict them in our views and social world (Sharon, 2000, 1/28).

A short review of data

For a brief review of the articles under study in this meta-analysis, their characteristics is shown in table 1 that includes name, field of study, research method, variables, research population, data collection tools, theory frameworks.

Table (1): previous studies

Name-year	Field of study	Research method	variables	Study population	Data collection tools	Theoretical frameworks
Sadegh Salehi (2010)	Social issue	documentary	disorganization, value conflict, misbehavior	descriptive	Library	Social issues is a relative matter and exists in all of the societies including pollution, poverty, crime, deviation, discrimination, drug abuse, authorities, inflation, delinquency
Ebrahim Salehabadi (2012)	Cultural and social	survey	The consumption of cultural products	385 Shirvan	questionnaire	To preserve the cultural life of the society, the recognition of the life style is necessary. Structural changes in the economic, social, political and cultural system
Gholam abbas Tavasoli (2001)	The cultural-mental dimension of the society	documentary	Divorce-addiction, suicide, the escape of youth	-	library	It has dealt with social and cultural issues including addiction, divorce, having no guardian
Morteza Monadi (2001)	Cultural-social	documentary	Life style space	From 1992 to 2006 changes in the space of youth	library	Any age following the culture of the spaces of the society, the culture of people will become harmonious with the culture and sociability of these spaces.
Javad Afsharkani and Zahra Zamani (2009)	Social culture	survey	Space communication	2009, Hamedan	questionnaire	In the process of digitalizing, information and social, cultural inequality
Seyed Ali Akbar Nataj (2010)	Social-cultural	documentary	Communications-addiction-crimes	Descriptive-social Mazandaran	documentary	The interaction models, the acceptance-rejection models in the level of organizations results in the change in structures and their functions

Abualghasem Heydarabadi (2010)	Social-cultural	survey	Internal-external trust	Mazandaran	questionnaire	Human relations, family sociability and religious beliefs
Heydar Janalizadeh, Seyed Zahra Hosseini (2010)	social	Descriptive and explanatory Quantitative and qualitative	Social-divorce-family	Mazandaran 40 families of martyrs	Questionnaire	Marrying a person from the same social class, classes, shortcomings, racial,
Aliasghar Firuz Jaeiyan (2010)	Social	Quantitative, qualitative	Economic, social, cultural and psychological factors of divorce	Mazandaran province	documentary	Cultural and social factors: age, family interference Psychological-physical factors and economic factors
Mohammad Baratnejad, Arash Ghahraman (2010)	Religious culture	survey	Sub-culture, typology, values and behaviors, norms	600 subjects, Mashahd	questionnaire	Beliefs, insights, legends, dominant ideas and even superstition

Research method

Meta-analysis

In recent years an interdisciplinary field of study has been developed with the name of cultural studies and is increasingly developing. The aim of cultural studies is that through combination of the social and cultural studies and data collected from the empirical observations of theoreticians, an analysis and theory is provided for cultural issues and society. The combination of the results of the previous studies helps the completion and unification of all of the research efforts in one area. A review of the previous studies besides making a connection between previous and future studies results in the gathering and logical organization of many diverse studies in a certain area. Through putting together of the studies we may find a hidden pattern in the data. So the analysis unit in the meta-analysis of diverse studies is about a certain subject.

Empirical and theoretical evaluation of the articles from the view of referees

Research structure (expression, importance, purpose)

From the view of the referees 70% of the articles had subjects totally related to the title of the study and 30% of them were related to some extent. Also, in 50% of the designs the dimensions of the issue were completely explained and in 40% of the designs they were explained to some extent and in 10% of the cases the issue needed more research. In 50% of the designs the importance and necessity for the issue is expressed well and in 30% of the cases they were expressed to some extent and in 20% they needed more study. In 60% of the designs the goals of the study were completely achieved and in 20% some of the goals were achieved and in the other 20% they needed more study. So, from the general point of view of the referees 68.2% of the studies were good, 21.4% were average and 10.4% were reported as weak.

The theoretical bases of the study

90% of the studies have used recent papers of researcher from foreign countries and in 10 % of them they have been used to some extent. 50% of the designs paid attention to the sociology subject, 40% of the designs were a combination of the social and cultural theory and 10% of the articles were mostly about social disorders.

Also, 50% of the resources were only 5 year old and 40% were between 5 and 10% were between the first and second five years. Also more than 92% used maximum 10 resources and about 8% needed more study and 40% used related theoretical resources with the subject of the study, 20% of the theoretical bases were related to some extent and 40% were to some extent related to the research questions. So, from the general view of the referees 78% of the studies were good, 12% were average and 10 % were reported as weak.

Research methodology

In this study more than 50% of the research methods were survey which used questionnaires as data collection tool and the rest of them were documentary. In general referees' idea was that good articles were chosen.

So, from the general view of the referees about the generalities of the study 50% were good, 40% were average and 10% were weak.

Results of the study

In the articles only 40% of the results were based on goals, 30% were related to some extent, 40% were related, 20% needed more study and 10% needed a connection between the results and the main question of the study. So, from the general view of the referees 49% were good, 39% were average, and 12% were weak.

Research guidelines

In 32.4 of the articles all of the guidelines were presented and 37.1% some of the guidelines were related to the subject of the study but in 15.2% of the cases the guidelines were not much related to the results of the study and of course in 15.2% no guideline have been provide. About the practical guidelines based on the studies most of the social and cultural harms need more attention. So the general view of the referees about the generalities of the study, 47.4% were good, 40.6 were average and 12% were reported as weak.

Table (2): referees' opinions

Different parts of the study	Good	average	weak
Generalities of the study	68.2	21.4	10.4
Theoretical basics of the study	78%	12%	10%
Research methodology	50	40	10
Research results	49%	39%	12%
Research guidelines	47.4	40.6	12%

Conclusion and guidelines related to the social harms

This section mostly addresses the society, educational institutes, media, youths, and families that can have a fundamental role in the guidelines of the social harms and cooperate.

- Youths build the future of the society and the planned cultural attack of the enemy have targeted this group and so a serious attention to their life styles including their behaviors, preferences, attitudes and motivations is a necessity and inevitable need. Youths should be considered important, since some of the cultural features expressed by them is the necessity of their age and will be left after a while, but a part of it is the cultural features that might develop in the society in future. So one of the best contexts for the growth and cultural changes is the study of youth cultures.
- One of the best tools for the creation of interaction and balance in the society and its preservation is the programs of mass media such as radio and TV, this very important tool is important from two dimension.
- In this way with a comprehensive planning the sense of responsibility can be promoted and the valued dimensions of the culture can be established in the society.
- Information has become an effective component in all of the dimensions of the human life so it is not surprising that is has become effective beside other rare social resources such as power

and wealth in the domain of social inequalities. From this point of view the conditions of different social groups should be paid attention to in relation with the category of information in the new society as a fundamental issue.

- As some of the suggestions for the reduction of digital gap and planning for the reduction of the increasing information gap in the society, some policies and actions can be established such as equipping the educational centers in different levels to the computer and computer equipments, planning for the development of learning the English language, reduction of the internet costs, IT educational courses, helping increase the public knowledge about the advantages of Internet, public introduction of reliable sites.
- Among the critical factors in the fight against harms and social deviations, the governments plays the most important role. In the idea of Imam Ali (peace be upon him) among the duties of the government is the intellectual, religious and general education of people (Nahjul Balagha, Sermon 34). And if this artistic duty be accompanied by the growth of faith and intellectuality many of the social abnormalities such as racism and prejudices and urbanism will be replaced by unity and unification.
- The realization of the causes and deviation contexts play the key role in the fight against the deviations and social harms. Through wiping out the causes, the effects will be terminated. Some of the factors helping deal with deviations are providing new job opportunities, recreational facilities, providing the beds for healthy entertainments, promoting the living conditions and economic conditions of people, justice and its development in all of the areas.

Some of the harms and deviations that threaten the cultural and social arena of the country is a result of the popularity of satellite programs and internet that are the products of the contemporary world and they have no solutions, the culture of using the satellite programs and internet should be educated to people and people should be equipped with the weapon of faith and knowledge and they should be vaccinated against the microbe of miseducation.

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