

Sociological Explanation of the Effect of Social Capital on the Forms of Alienation among Adult Residents of Tehran

Seyede Masoomeh Ghafouri Kale¹

Ph.D. Student of Sociology, Central Tehran Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran

Alireza Mohseni Tabrizi²

Professor of Sociology, University of Tehran, Iran

Received 26 December 2017

Revised 19 January 2018

Accepted 23 February 2018

Abstract: *One of the variables that can be effective in reducing social problems, including alienation, is social capital. Because each of its components, such as trust, participation and group bounds, can lead to greater integration and, consequently, social order. Hence, due to the importance of the subject, the sociological explanation of the impact of social capital on forms of alienation has been discussed. The research method was survey and data collection technique was a questionnaire. The statistical population includes the adult residents of Tehran. Of this population, 384 persons have been selected. The alienation forms were adapted from Seaman's theory of alienation dimensions, namely, powerlessness, normlessness, meaninglessness, isolation and estrangement. In this study alienation forms through the theory of Seeman have been investigated in five dimensions: feeling of powerlessness, feeling of meaninglessness, feeling of normlessness, feeling of social isolation, and feeling of estrangement. Social capital was also studied in three dimensions of social trust, social participation and group bounds. The results of the research showed that among the components of social capital, the average of social trust was lower than other components. There was a significant and reverse correlation between social capital and all forms of alienation. And the greatest correlation between social capital and social isolation was shown. Also, there was a significant relationship between the contextual variables and economic activity, ethnicity and residential area and alienation forms.*

Keywords: *Alienation, Social Capital, Powerlessness, Meaninglessness, Isolation, Normlessness, Estrangement, Participation, Social bound, Trust.*

Introduction

Alienation, in its general concept, has been used by some sociologists and social psychologists in order to explain some forms of actions and reactions to social trends and peripheral realities, psychological pressures and external impositions as well as detachment of the individual from the system of values, beliefs, norms, and cultural purposes and also to make a mention of passivity, indifference and social-political disaffiliation and pathology of participation (Mohseni Tabrizi, 2004: 125). Alienation, in its various forms such as senses of powerlessness, social isolation, meaninglessness, normlessness and self-estrangement, has been for a long time, a subject of discussion among scientific and philosophic circles for a long time due its consequences, since every form of alienation has effectively contributed to diminish the individual's social solidarity and their tendency toward types of social problem. A socially isolated individual undoubtedly makes no contributions in social activities and in developing them as well. Besides, a sense of powerlessness and its subsequent belief that you do not have the capability needed to change any individual or social conditions, would be led to a debilitation of your constructive activities and your participation in various social issues. An alienated individual feels that the law is not (properly) enforced in society, considering success as a result of neglecting the law. Therefore, they grow a sense of normlessness and approve law breaking as a normal and desirable act. Due to their detachment from themselves and social system, they neither seek any conception or purpose in life nor believe in any personal aspirations or causes. Such a person, depending on their objective or subjective

¹ Email: ghafouri.masoomeh@gmail.com (Corresponding Author)

² Email: mohsenit@ut.ac.ir

situation, will grow a sense of self-estrangement over time. In case of spreading these forms of alienation out within a society, there will emerge some problems, at the individual or social levels that will make a serious threat against social life. When studying social problems, including alienation, various individual and social factors and variables should be considered. However, regarding the significance of social factors in explaining social issues, it has been dealt, in this paper, with social capital and its impact on various forms of alienation as an efficient variable in this field. According to Robert Putnam, social capital "of the defining features of social organization such as trust, norms and networks" that "improves the efficiency of society by facilitating mutual cooperation"(Chalabi and etal, 2006: 5). Diego Gambetta emphasizes that cooperation, by far, requires the trust and in the case of distrust within a society, cooperation among individuals will fail, resulting in social alienation (Gambetta, 2000: 220). Catherine Ross and her colleagues have found that low social trust is of factors in correlation with alienation (Ross and etal, 2001: 569).

Social participation is another component that can be effective on anomie. Social participation, within a community, is identified with formal and informal networks among people. Networks of civic engagement which encompass social networks, contribute to wider cooperation, thus all networks of social participation constitute a crucial part of stocks of social capital in any society. Interactions within resources of social capital, including trust, norms and participatory networks that are self-reinforcing and cumulative, define the civic community. Conversely, the absence of these traits in the uncivic community is also reinforcing. Defection, distrust, shirking, exploitation, isolation, disorder, and stagnation intensify one another in a suffocating miasma of vicious circles (Putnam, 2002: 285). Another component of social capital is social connections. Social connection is obviously an effective factor to social disorganization and the extent of deviation and crime (Kubrin & Weitzer, 2003: 375). From sociological perspective, social connections, through social contacts, are actually the constructive elements of social solidarity and sustainability among people (Hortolanus and etal, 2006: 16). Therefore, sociologists mainly focus on the way social integration or solidarity are emerged or how social relations are distorted as well as detachment and aggressive traits of an individual versus the society and its structure.

All these components of social capital have their effects on various forms of alienation. As an instance, social isolation is a factor that can threaten social relations to disturbance. Social isolation, as a component of alienation is a phenomena addressed by sociological pundits such as Marx, Durkheim, Weber, Simmel, Parsons, Mannheim and so on (Talebi & Barzegari Dahej, 2012:133). Social isolation obviously deprives the individual from formal and informal participations in the society, decreasing sustainable exchange of thoughts and feeling from the whole to an individual and vice versa and leads to debilitation of even breaking up the warm asymmetric exchanges and discourse relationships as well (Chalabi, 1996: 158). It also has both individuals and society being exposed to several mental and social damages that threatens the health of society. Normlessness is another form of alienation that is presented as anomie by Simenodine. As Durkheim put it, anomie is a situation in which norms of regulating individual behavior are breaking apart or have behavioral rules ineffective (Daeinro & Pisam, 2008). It is clear that the component of social trust might be proved effective in this situation. When trust and mutual commitments are ignored, the individual follow no rule or law, and thus the society is pervaded by antagonism and controversy. As Robert Morton said the rules extended and admitted by the society, in anomic conditions, are subject to being offended and violated by individuals and it will not possible to anticipate people's behavior based on common norms (Chalabi, 1996: 18). It is obvious that the components of social capital, such as social trust, social participation and collective association, could effect on social solidarity, enforcement of law and order and diminishing of anomalies and social problems due to their impact on both macro and micro levels. Therefore, given the significance of alienation and its negative effects on both individual and social levels as well as the influence that social capital has on it, in this paper, it has been attempted to study the impact of this variable and all its components (social participation, social trust and collective association) on forms of alienation among adult citizens of Tehran.

Research Background

In his research under title of “Impact that decline of social capital has on social anomie among female residents of Tehran”, Pak-Khesaal (2016) showed that there was a meaningful, inverse correlation between all dimensions of social capital and social anomie among women. In another case, with title of “A study of Connection between Social Capital and Social Anomie” by Abbas Zadeh, Mohammad and et al. (2011), impact of the component of social capital (institutional trust, social participation and social cohesion) on social anomie was proved. In his research with title of “Social Capital and Crime Prevention”, Ghaffari(2009) demonstrated that social capital could bring about positive attitude, in individuals, regarding the organization, especially because when the networks are strong and levels of normative solidarity are high, performances of regulatory organizations and other institutions proves to be more efficient (Ghaffari, 2009). Plus, Haatam, Naahid and etal (2012) addressed “Connection between social capital and a sense of anomie among female staff of two hospitals in Shiraz” during a descriptive-analytic research. According to them, as social capital increases, a sense of anomie among the staff diminishes, so it is necessary to develop and promote social capital at organizations. Salmi and Kivivari (2006), in their paper with title of “Correlation between Social Capital and Juvenile Offenses” (the role of individual and institutional indicators) conducted on a population sample of 5142 teens between 15-16, suggested that low support provided by parents and low level of mutual trust between people are correlated with criminal behavior. Moore & Ricker (2013) examined the relationship between social capital and its impact on the amount and type of crime. This research is in It has been noted that there has been a reduction in the amount of crime by increasing social capital, as well as an increase in social capital on types of crimes. Diller and Deller (2010) have investigated the relationship between urban crime and social capital. In this study, the registered data of each province was studied to examine the relationship between urban crime and social capital. The results of this research show that with increasing social capital, urban crime decreases .The study by Bonano et al. (2009) in Italy also showed that there is a relationship between continuity networks and civic values as some of the components of social capital and crime.The study of Messner et al. (2004) On the relationship between the dimensions of social capital and male criminal offenses showed that many forms of social capital are not related but social activism and social trust are related to killing.

Theoretical Background

Durkheim uses the term anomie as a synonym of alienation defined as a thinking mode of the individual that, due to it, people become confused when selecting norms, following behavioral rules while they feel lassitude and futility (Coser, 2010: 105). According to Durkheim, alienation, anomalies, social isolation, violence and features like these are seen in an extensive level in urban and industrial communities. In other words, urbanization destructs traditional society and brings about internal solidarity and alienation (Sheikhi, 2005: 126-7). According to Simmel, a society is consisted of the individual that are linked through mutual actions. To him, the dominant social relations in a modern society emerge as exchange. One of the most important conditions of exchange is trust without it the connections between individuals and the society will be broken up (Coser, 2010: 254). As Levine suggested, alienation is an intellectual reality through which, the individual feels that they are not a part of social and political process, and might be emerged as powerlessness, meaninglessness, alienation towards social activities and normlessness. As his studies showed, meaninglessness is more felt among the well-educated, while business persons and the rich feel more normlessness by far. The elder individuals are, the deeper they feel social alienation (Levine, 1972: 273, quoted from Mohseni Tabrizi, 1991).

According to Inglehart, the relatively lower levels of satisfaction and trust evince the individual not to accept the existing structure, making them develop feeling of anomie and social alienation. Indeed, all elements of life satisfaction, social satisfaction, open space of social relations, protection of social order and eventually mutual trust are affiliated with each other, constituting positive attitudes towards the world around (Inglehart, 1994, 88-120). Fukuyama implies that instead of assessing and measuring social capital as a relative value, we need to measure the lack of it or more concrete, social deviations such as crime rate, family collapse, drug abuse, suing and complaint rate, suicide, tax evasion and so on. It is assumed that since social capital represents behavioral norms based on collaboration, social

deviations actually reflect lack of social capital (Fukuyama, 2001: 38). According to Fukuyama, on one hand social distrust contributes to depletion of social capital, leading to isolation, atomization, breaking the associations apart and destroying networks of interpersonal relationships, while at the other hand, it encourage people to seek for alternatives, mainly through assuming illegal identities which, in turn, make them alienated (Sztompka, 2006: 122). James Samuel Coleman points out that social capital is part of social structure that allows the activist, by applying it, to find their resources. This aspect of social structure is consisted of assignments and expectations, information channels, norms and performance guarantees that either promotes particular types of behaviors or prohibit them (Coleman, 1988: quoted from Iranian Social Issues, 2005: 300-301). According to him, in the case of lack or shortage of material and economic capitals, this shortage could be compensated by the social capital resulting in expanding material capital. As physical and human capitals facilitate productive activities, social capital does the same. A group, for example, which members trust one another, would be able to do many more works than another group in which, the member is not trustworthy (Coleman, 1999: 465). Putnam believes that the connection between social capital and anomie is rooted in theory of Social Disorganization. Based on the theory, Putnam argues that social networks act as the infrastructures of social capital. These infrastructures, he says, make the exertion of positive behavioral criteria possible, providing the related behavioral guides, role models, educational sponsors and job opportunities. Besides, they do decline the social deviations and anomie by supplying financial and emotional support and arousing volunteers to join social institutions. Conversely, damaged networks, distrust, low participation and weakened solidarity leave people abandoned to direct themselves which, in turn, raises this possibility that they act based on fleeting, self-destructive impetus (Messner and etal, 2004: 884). According to Putnam, trust is a crucial component of social capital. He introduces the social capital as networks of voluntary and spontaneous communities developed by trust. He place emphasis on this point that without trust, most of our main routines would be impossible (Torgler, 2007: 4).

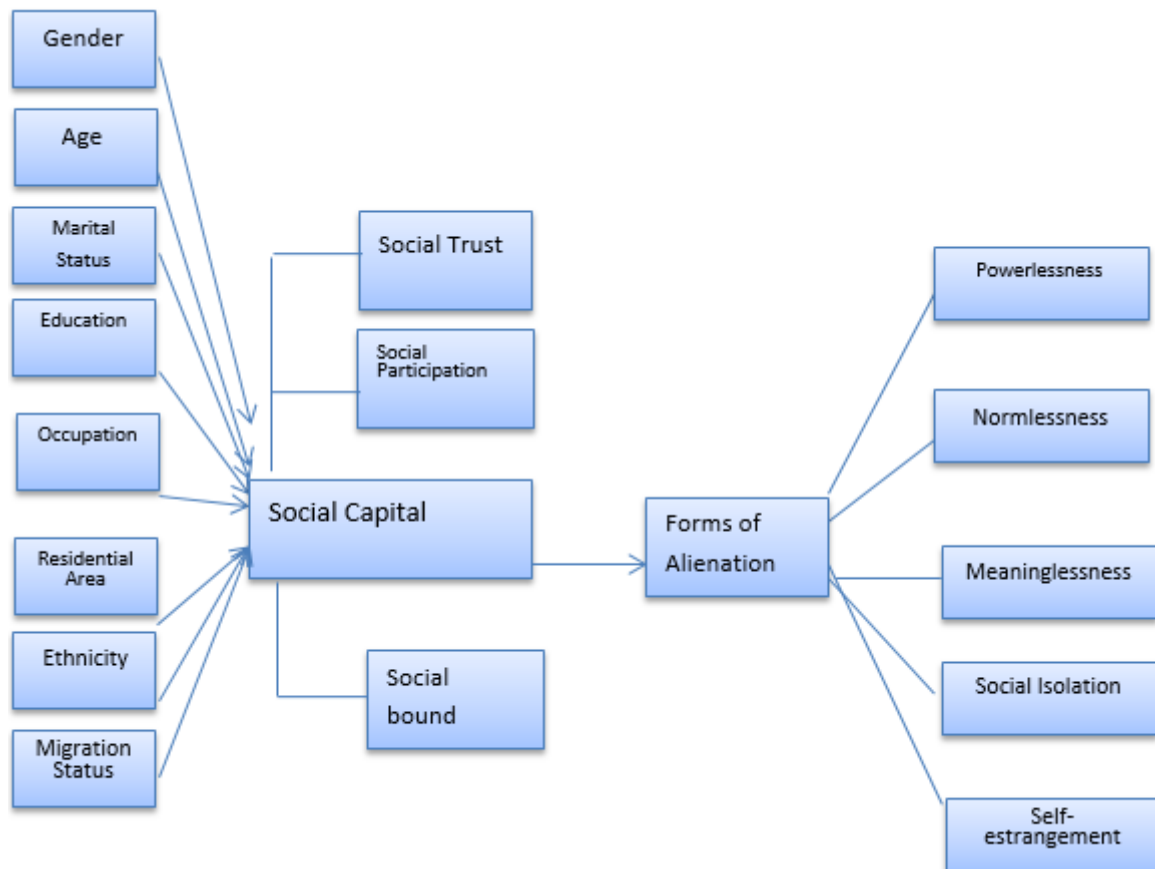
In his discussions about the conception of social capital, Pierre Bourdieu, a distinguished theorist in this field, implies that paths and movements of individuals, groups or institutions in social sphere is depended on changes in the volume and disposition of social capital during the time (Stones, 2001: 235). Bourdieu suggested that habitus is a 'structure' developed not by chance or accident but systematically. Habitus can be defined as a system of dispositions (lasting, acquired schemes of perception, thought and action). To bourdieu, the term 'disposition' is very essential in compiling structural imagery and individual tendencies. Explaining about habitus, he said, "It gets into mind a systematic action with concepts close to structure as well as the very existence (physical processes in particular) and determines an individual's talents, willingness, tendencies, preferences and inclinations (Bourdieu, 1977: quoted by Grenfell 2010). According to him, these dispositions or tendencies are durable. However they can be objectively adapted to maintain an individual's ability to encounter various realities. Therefore, habitus is developed based on the very existence whilst generate actions, beliefs, inclinations and emotions in accordance with its governing structure. Of course, it does not act alone, but, as bourdieu suggests, the individual's actions is a result of mutual association between their habitus and their situation in the field (Grenfell, 2010: 105-7). He believed that people's dispositions and actions were developed based on their capitals.

Melvin Seeman is among the first psychologists who attempted to define concept of alienation in a coherent, systemic framework with an approach of social psychology. He invalidated this notion that alienation was an effect for the same causes. According to him, nowadays the term 'alienation' enjoys such a common application that is frequently referred to when explaining almost everything (Mohseni Tabrizi, 1992: quoted by Bigdeli, 2001). Seeman defines social alienation as a perception or condition which is expressed, by an individual, regarding their own, others and the society. He has categorized types of alien behavior via five senses: powerlessness, normlessness, social isolation, meaninglessness and self-estrangement (Seeman, 1975: 784). According to all these theories, the distinguished theorists in the field of social capital, including Fukuyama, Bourdieu and Putnam, believe that all components of social capital have their own effect on an individual's attitude and action. The more social capital an individual has, the lesser tendency they have to social problems thanks to social engagement and their

trust on social structure. In this study, seeman’s theory has been used to measure alienation, while we apply bourdieu’s theory in order to measure social capital.

	Theorist	Theory	A summary of theory	Variables extracted from the theory	Scale of Measurement
1	Coleman Fukuyama Bourdieu putnam	Social Capital	All components of social capital have their own effect on an individual’s attitude and action. The more social capital an individual has, the lesser tendency they have to social problems thanks to social engagement and their trust on social structure	social participation social bounds social trust	Ordinal
2	Melvin Seeman	Alienation	He invalidated this notion that alienation was an effect for the same causes.He has categorized types of alien behavior via five senses: powerlessness, normlessness, social isolation, meaninglessness and self-estrangement	Feeling of Powerlessness Feeling of Normlessness Feeling of Meaninglessness Feeling of Social Isolation Feeling of Self-estrangement	Ordinal

Theoretical Model of Research



Research Hypotheses

- **Hypothesis 1**-It seems that when social capital increases, feeling of powerlessness among study population decreases.
- **Hypothesis 2**-It seems that when social capital increases, feeling of Normlessness among study population decreases.
- **Hypothesis 3**-It seems that when social capital increases, feeling of Meaninglessness among study population decreases.
- **Hypothesis 4**-It seems that when social capital increases, feeling of Social Isolation among study population decreases.
- **Hypothesis 5**-It seems that when social capital increases, feeling of Self-estrangement among study population decreases.
- **Hypothesis 6**- It -It seems that as social participation increases among the studied population, alienation rate, in its various forms, will decrease;
- **Hypothesis 7**- It -It seems that as social trust increases among the studied population, alienation rate, in its various forms, will decrease;
- **Hypothesis 8**- -It seems that as social bound increases among the studied population, alienation rate, in its various forms, will decrease.
- **Hypothesis 9**-Individual and underlying variables such as age, gender, marital status, education, occupation, residential area, migration status and ethnicity are in correlation with various forms of alienation.

Conceptual and Operational Definitions of Variables

Powerlessness:

Conceptual *definition*- The expectancy or probability held by the individual that their behavior cannot determine the occurrence of the outcomes, or reinforcements they seek (Seeman, 1975: 93-4)

Operational definition- Powerlessness has been measured through four statements: "I feel I do not have sufficient control over my life", "When encountering with problems, I almost feel inability", "I feel I lag behind others", and "I am not able to reach my desired goals in life".

Meaninglessness

Conceptual *definition*- Meaninglessness "is characterized by a low expectancy that satisfactory predictions about the future outcomes of behavior can be made" (Seeman, 1975: 93-4 quoted by Mohseni Tabrizi, 1992: 68).

Operational definition- Meaninglessness is measured through five statements: "Sometimes I feel the world around has no meaning to me", "In my current situation, I feel less daily", "Pursuing a cause or goal in life has no meaning to me", "My future is not clear and I am not sure about it", "I predict a dark future for the society".

Normlessness

Conceptual *definition*- This aspect refers to the inability to identify with the dominant values of society or rather, with what are perceived to be the dominant values of society (Seeman, 1959: 788 quoted by Mohseni Tabrizi 1992: 68).

Operational definition- Normlessness is measured through five statements: "Law must be enforced even in the case of unpleasant consequences", "In order to reach my personal goals, I can break the law and do everything", "I do not accept law and social code of conduct and I do not adhere to it", "Law is not enforced equally among people and officials", "In our society, everyone has their own rules".

Social isolation

Conceptual *definition*- Social isolation refers to "The feeling of being segregated from one's community". In other words, one is disfigured from the society and its dominant values (Seeman, 1975: 93-4, quoted by Mohseni Tabrizi, 1992: 68).

Operational definition- Social Isolation has been measured through five statements: “When I am often with others, I feel lonely”, “When I face a problem, for any reason, I can rely on others’ help”, “Most of the time, I’d rather to be alone”, “Among various people or communities, I prefer not to interact with others”, “I adhere, under any circumstances, to social norms and values”.

Self-estrangement

Conceptual definition- Self-estrangement can be defined as “the psychological state of denying one’s own interests – of seeking out extrinsically satisfying, rather than intrinsically satisfying activities...” (Seeman, 1975: 93-4).

Operational definition- Self-estrangement is measured through four statements: “I have not a positive attitude toward myself”, “Sometimes, I feel I do not like my current personality”, “I consider myself as a helpful guy”, “I do hate the conditions of my life”.

Social Capital

Conceptual definition- According to Coleman, social capital is created when the relations between people change in a way that contributes to facilitate the action. So, social capital is not a whole single object, but it is actually consisted of those different aspects of social structure that encourage individual and collective actions (Chalabi and Mobaraki, 2006: 21). Social capital, in this research, has been measured through three components: social participation, collective association and social trust.

Operational definition of social participation- Social participation has been measured through seven statements: “I participate in my neighborhood’s works and programs”, “I take part in programs designed by my neighbors”, “I do participate in professional or friendly affairs”, “I like the joint works that require cooperation”, “When emerging a problem for my city or country, I would collaboratively try to solve the problem”, “I take part in charities and voluntary affairs”, “I am a member of guilds, or sport, literal, partisan,... associations”.

Operational definition of collective associations- Social bounds and solidarity are measured through eight statements: “Most of the time, I have affectionate liaison with friends and acquaintances”, “When all family members or friends face a problem, I attempt to show my sympathy”, “I have not a constructive engagement with my colleagues or friends”, “Most of the time, I try to respect others’ rights”, “I like cooperation and interaction with others”, “I try to take part in family events”, “I take part in national or religious ceremonies most of the time”, “I like intimate, family relations with my colleagues and friend”.

Social Trust

The component of social trust was measured in three dimensions: Individual trust, extended trust and institutional trust.

Operational definition of individual trust- Individual trust has been measured through four statements: “I am confident about my family members’ help during emergency moments”, “I am sure that my acquaintances or friends do nothing against me”, “If necessary, I do guarantee my colleagues, because I trust them”, “My friends have appearances as fitting as their inner personality, They stand by me in sensitive occasions”.

Operational definition of extended trust- Extended trust has been measured through seven statements: “In our society, most of the people do honestly deal with one another”, “There are many ones who just think of themselves and care about no one but themselves”, “Many friends of mine are my friends just to seek my help when needed”, “I trust people under any circumstances”, “Our people feel responsible regarding each other”, “Our people have appearances as fitting as their inner personality”, “most of our people are honest citizens”.

Institutional trust

It has been measured through five statements: “I trust our officials’ commitment and performances”, “I believe policies and decisions made by our officials are mainly self-interested or partisan-driven”, “I trust the content provided by media”, “I think various social strata such as physicians or judges do their own duty efficiently”, “I believe that the income and facilities are fairly distributed among people”.

Research Methodology

Given the nature of the issue, the research has been conducted by surveying as its basic and prevalent method in social studies.

Statistical population

The statistical population of the research is consisted of all adult citizens (more than 15) of Tehran which, according to 1390 national census are 6,314,297.

Sample and its Size

A sample of 384 persons is selected among the statistical population by Cochran’s Test.

$$n = \frac{\frac{t^2 pq}{d^2}}{1 + \frac{1}{N} (\frac{t^2 pq}{d^2} - 1)} \quad n = \frac{(1.96)^2 (0.5 \times 0.5)}{(0.03)^2} = 384$$

$$1 + \frac{1}{6314297} (\frac{(0.5)^2 (0.5 \times 0.5)}{(0.03)^2} - 1)$$

Sampling Method

In this research, we have used multi-stage sampling; at first, Tehran was divided into five geographical regions: northern, southern, western, eastern and central parts (simple cluster sampling) and then, selecting a region and one or two blocks in it among all (volume-related cluster sampling), selecting a family among the selected block (systematic sampling), selecting an eligible guy in every family (simple random sampling).

Table (1): Numbers of samples divided from every region and area

Sample of regions	Volume sample of areas	Percentage of regions	Populations of regions	Selected regions	Statistical populations	Areas
35	35	9%	323374	1	575022	Northern
33	69	18%	229352	16	1130532	Southern
36			246270	18		
57	125	33%	666270	4	2062432	Eastern
27			312378	8		
42			498584	15		
41	85	22%	519784	2	1399162	Western
44			554909	5		
36	70	18%	207731	6	1147149	Central
34			198740	12		
384	384	100%	3577618	-	6314297	Sum up

Validity and reliability of the scales

Validity is of importance when we try to decide that what our measuring tool measure and to what extent it has been efficient. In order to check the validity, there are several criteria: 1. face validity 2. Criterion validity 3. Content validity and 4. Construct validity. In order to assess the face validity, we have relied upon the experts and pundits’ affirmation particularly. The next issue is reliability. A main approach to determine the reliability of our statements is Cronbach’s Alpha Test. Cronbach's alpha is the trivial name used for Tau-equivalent reliability as a (lower bound) estimate of the reliability of a psychometric test. During the initial test, reliability of the statements was determined through 30 questionnaires.

Table (2): Reliability Coefficients of Scales

Alpha	Level of Measurement	Number of statement	Variable
0.710	Ordinal	4	Powerlessness
0.637	Ordinal	5	Meaninglessness
0.783	Ordinal	5	Normlessness
0.621	Ordinal	5	Social Isolation
0.884	Ordinal	4	Self-estrangement
0.884	Ordinal	31	Social Capital

Data collection tools

In order to collect data, questionnaire designed by the researcher has been used as the main data collection tool in social studies conducted with surveying method. The questionnaire is consisted of 54 questions and statements in format of closed questions as Likert scale.

Research Findings

- a) Individual and demographic characteristics of respondents: Actually, 49.5% of the respondents are male while women constitute the rest. Besides, 35.9% are single while 55.7% of respondents are married, 3.6% divorced and the rest are widows. The most group of respondents, with a slight margin, are 41-53 years old with 27.3% of all. Plus, 59.7% hold university degrees, whilst 40.1% have only high school diploma or lower. Among the respondents, 63.8% are active, while the rest are inactive.
- b) Description of main variables: The data provided by Table (3) shows the average of powerlessness (2.54), meaninglessness (2.24), normlessness (2.16), social isolation (2.30) and self-estrangement (1.99), in respect. Indeed, it can be reasoned that, among all forms of alienation, powerlessness enjoys a higher level.

Table (3): Comparison of frequency percentage and average scales of forms of alienation

Average	Low	Medium	High	Variable
2.54	11.7	21.6	66.7	Powerlessness
2.24	13.5	48.4	38	Meaninglessness
2.16	13.8	56.3	29.9	Normlessness
2.30	10.4	48.4	41.1	Social Isolation
1.99	10.9	78.6	10.4	Self-estrangement

The data provided by Table (4) represent the average of social capital (2.00), social trust (1.70), social participation (2.06) and collective association (2.66). So, it can be reasoned that among all aspects of social capital, social trust is in the lowest level.

Table (4): Comparison of frequency percentage and Average scales of social capital and its components

Average	Low	Medium	High	variable
2.00	9.9	79.7	10.4	Social Capital
1.70	38.3	52.6	9.1	Social Trust
2.06	17.9	57.8	24.3	Social Participation
2.66	1.8	30.2	68	Collective Association

- c) Testing the hypotheses:

Hypothesis 1-It seems that when social capital increases, feeling of powerlessness among study population decreases.

Given the information provided by table 5, there is a reverse meaningful correlation between social capital and feeling of powerlessness. Simply put, the more social capital increases, the more powerlessness among the individual decreases. It can be concluded that the hypothesis 1, meaning the connection between social capital and powerlessness, is verified.

Table (5): Two-variable correlation between feelings of powerlessness and social capital

feeling of powerlessness	Correlations	
**-.0306	Pearson Correlation	Social Capital
0.000	Sig. (2-tailed)	

Hypothesis 2-It seems that when social capital increases, feeling of Normlessness among study population decreases.

Given the information provided by table 6, there is a reverse meaningful correlation between social capital and feeling of Normlessness. Simply put, the more social capital increases, the more feeling of Normlessness among the individual decreases. It can be concluded that the hypothesis 2, meaning the connection between social capital and feeling of Normlessness, is verified.

Table (6): Two-variable correlation between feeling of Normlessness and social capital

feeling of Normlessness	Correlations	
**-.0392	Pearson Correlation	Social Capital
0.000	Sig. (2-tailed)	

Hypothesis 3-It seems that when social capital increases, feeling of Meaninglessness among study population decreases.

Given the information provided by table 7, there is a reverse meaningful correlation between social capital and p feeling of Meaninglessness. Simply put, the more social capital increases, the more feeling of Meaninglessness among the individual decreases. It can be concluded that the hypothesis 3, meaning the connection between social capital and feeling of Meaninglessness, is verified.

Table (7): Two-variable correlation between feeling of Meaninglessness and social capital

feeling of Meaninglessness	Correlations	
**-.0327	Pearson Correlation	Social Capital
0.000	Sig. (2-tailed)	

Hypothesis 4-It seems that when social capital increases, feeling of Social Isolation among study population decreases.

Given the information provided by table 8, there is a reverse meaningful correlation between social capital and feeling of Social Isolation. Simply put, the more social capital increases, the more feeling of Social Isolation among the individual decreases. It can be concluded that the hypothesis 4, meaning the connection between social capital and feeling of Social Isolation, is verified. In another world, as social capital grows, social isolation among individuals declines.

Table (8): Two-variable correlation between feeling of Social Isolation and social capital

feeling of Social Isolation	Correlations	
**-.0450	Pearson Correlation	Social Capital
0.000	Sig. (2-tailed)	

Hypothesis 5-It seems that when social capital increases, feeling of Self-estrangement among study population decreases.

Given the information provided by table 9, there is a reverse meaningful correlation between social capital and feeling of Self-estrangement. Simply put, the more social capital increases, the more feeling of Self-estrangement among the individual decreases. It can be concluded that the hypothesis 5, meaning the connection between social capital and feeling of Self-estrangement, is verified.

Table (9): Two-variable correlation between feeling of Self-estrangement and social capital

feeling of Self-estrangement	Correlations	
**-.0412	Pearson Correlation	Social Capital
0.000	Sig. (2-tailed)	

Hypothesis 6- It is likely that the more social participation increases (among the studied population), the more levels of alienation decrease in its various forms.

Given the data provided by Table (10), based on a meaningful level between assumption and Pearson coefficients calculated for social participation and powerlessness, there are obviously a reverse meaningful correlation between social participation and powerlessness ($r=-0.272$), a reverse meaningful correlation between social participation and meaninglessness ($r=-0.300$), a reverse meaningful correlation between social participation and normlessness ($r=-0.172$), a reverse meaningful correlation between social participation and social isolation ($r=-0.289$) and a reverse meaningful correlation between social participation and self-estrangement ($r=-0.312$). Indeed, hypothesis 1, which implies that there is a correlation between the variable of social participation and various forms of alienation, is verified. In other words, the more social participation increases, the more alienation, in all its forms, decreases.

Table (10): Two-variable correlation between forms of alienation and social Participation

Forms of alienation					Correlations	
Self-estrangement	Social isolation	normlessness	meaning lessness	powerlessness	Pearson Correlation	Social Participation
*-0.312	** -0.289	** -0.172	** -0.300	** -0.272		
0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	Sig. (2-tailed)	

Hypothesis 7- It is likely that the more social trust increase among the studied population, the more levels of alienation decrease.

Plus, given the data provided by Table (11), based on a meaningful level between assumption and Pearson coefficients calculated for social trust and powerlessness, there are obviously a reverse meaningful correlation between social trust and powerlessness ($r=-0.227$), a reverse meaningful correlation between the component of social trust and meaninglessness ($r=-0.180$), a reverse meaningful correlation between social trust and normlessness ($r=-0.403$), a reverse meaningful correlation between social trust and social isolation ($r=-0.350$), and a reverse meaningful correlation between social trust and self-estrangement ($r=-0.254$). Indeed, the more social trust increases, the more alienation, in all its forms, decreases.

Table 11: Two-variable correlation between forms of alienation and social Trust

Forms of alienation					Correlations	
Self-estrangement	Social isolation	Normlessness	Meaninglessness	Powerlessness	Pearson Correlation	Social Trust
** -0.254	** -0.350	** -0.403	** -0.180	** -0.227		
0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	Sig. (2-tailed)	

Hypothesis 8- It is likely that the more social bound increases among the studied population, the more alienation in its various forms decreases.

Given the data provided by Table (12), based on a meaningful level between assumption and Pearson coefficients calculated for social bound and powerlessness, there are obviously a reverse meaningful correlation between social bound and powerlessness ($r=-0.232$), a reverse meaningful correlation between the component of social bound and meaninglessness ($r=-0.372$), a reverse meaningful correlation between collective association and normlessness ($r=-0.244$), a reverse meaningful correlation between social bound and social isolation ($r=-0.422$), and a reverse meaningful correlation between social bound and self-estrangement ($r=-0.481$). Indeed, hypothesis 1, which implies that there is a correlation between the variable of social bound and various forms of alienation, is verified. In other words, the more social bound increases, the more alienation, in all its forms, decreases.

Table (12): Two-variable correlation between forms of alienation and collective association

Forms of alienation					Correlations	
Self-estrangement	Social isolation	Normlessness	Meaninglessness	Powerlessness	Pearson Correlation	Social bound
** -0.481	** -0.423	** -0.244	** -0.373	** -0.233		
0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	Sig. (2-tailed)	

Hypothesis 9- Individual and underlying variables like age, gender, marital status, education, occupation, residential area, migration status, and ethnicity are in correlation with alienation in its various forms.

Gender: Given the data provided by Table (13), there is no meaningful correlation between gender of respondents and their social capital in a meaningful level (sig) of assumption. So, hypothesis H0 which implies that there is no correlation between the variable of gender and social capital is verified.

Table (13): Correlation between Social capital and gender

T test				Leven test for homogeneity of variances			Dependent variable	Independent variable
Average difference	Meaningfulness of two-variances	Degree of freedom	t	Meaningful Level	F		Social capital	Gender
2.339	0.157	382	1.416	0.017	5.796	Assuming homogeneity of variance		
2.339	0.158	371.920	1.414			Assuming heterogeneity of variance		

Age: Given the data provided by Table (14), with a reliable level of 99% and by using Pearson coefficient, there is no meaningful correlation between the variable of age and social capital.

Table (14): Two-variable correlation between social capital and age

Age	Correlations	Variable
0.015	Pearson Correlation	Social capital
0.774	Sig. (2-tailed)	

Marital status: As the data provided by Table (15) shows, based on results of the analysis of variance (F), there is no meaningful correlation between marital status and social capital. Thus, the assumption of H0 which implies that there is no correlation between the variables is verified.

Table (15): Analysis of variance of social capital and marital status

Meaningfulness level	F	Variance estimate	Degree of freedom	Sum of squares	Source of change	Variable
0.728	0.435	114.811 263.711	3 380 383	434.432 100210.3 100554.7	Intergroup Intra-group Total	Social capital and marital status

Education: According to the data provided by Table (16), based on results of the analysis of the variance (F), there is no meaningful correlation between education and social capital. Therefore, the assumption of H0 which implies that there is no correlation between the variables is verified.

Table (16): Analysis of variance of social capital and education

Meaningfulness level	F	Variance estimate	Degree of freedom	Sum of squares	Source of change	Variable
0.262	1.287	336.432 261.369	6 377 383	2018.594 98536.145 100554.7	Intergroup Intra-group Total	Social capital and education

Occupation: As the data in Table (17) display, and based on results of the analysis of variance (F), there is a meaningful correlation between occupation and social capital. As a result, the assumption of H1 which implies the differences between variables is verified.

Table (17): Analysis of variance of social capital and occupation

Meaningfulness level	F	Variance estimate	Degree of freedom	Sum of squares	Source of change	Variable
0.047	1.985	510.599 257.253	8 375 383	4084.792 96469.947 100554.7	Intergroup Intra-group Total	Social capital and occupation

Migration status: Given the data provided by Table (18), there is no meaningful correlation between the migration status and social capital. So, the assumption of H0 which implies that there is no correlation between the two variables is verified.

Table (18): Correlation between social capital and migration status

T test				Leven test for homogeneity of variances			Dependent variable	Independent variable
Average difference	Meaningfulness of two-variances	Degree of freedom	t	Meaningfulness level	F		Social capital	Migration status
1.21956	0.500	0.382	0.675	0.119	2.441	Assuming homogeneity of variance		
1.21956	0.474	248.086	0.717			Assuming heterogeneity of variance		

Residential area: As the data provided by Table (19) represents, according to results of the analysis of variance (F), there is no meaningful correlation between the variables of social capital and residential area. Thus, the assumption of H0 is verified.

Table (19): Analysis of variance of social capital and residential area

Meaningfulness level	F	Variance estimate	Degree of freedom	Sum of squares	Source of change	Variable
0.079	2.212	548.233 259.530	4 379 383	21923931 98361.809 100554.7	Intergroup Intra-group Total	Social capital and residential area

Ethnicity: Based on the data provided by Table (20), and regarding results of the analysis of variance (F), there is a meaningful correlation between ethnicity and social capital. So, assumption of H1 is verified. The differences between the averages display that the social capital is more among the Fars ethnicity than others.

Table (20): Analysis of variance of social capital and ethnicity

Meaningfulness level	F	Variance estimate	Degree of freedom	Sum of squares	Source of change	Variable
0.039	2.009	727.154 258.877	3 380 383	2181.463 98373.277 100554.7	Intergroup Intra-group Total	Social capital and ethnicity

Multiple regression

In order to explain collective effects and concurrency of the cause variable and the function cause, we have used multiple regression. Accordingly, the coefficient of determination, the cause variable (social capital) explain 27% of the changes in function variable (forms of alienation) (tables of 21 and 22).

Table (21): Ratio to predictive determination of forms of alienation

(R2) Rsquare	R	Model
0.273	0.522	1

Table (22): Test of meaningfulness of ratio of determination

Meaningfulness level	F	Average of squares	Degree of freedom	Sum of squares	Model	Variable
0.000	11.592	912.115 78.685	12 371 383	10945.380 29192.055 40317.35	Regression Remaining Sum	Forms of alienation

Path analysis

In order to study the direct, indirect and general effects of the cause variable on the function variable, we have used path analysis. As it is obvious, social participation, among all aspects of social capital, has the most impression on forms of alienation and its overall impact has been calculated 64/0.

Table (23): Calculation direct and indirect effects of path analysis of various forms of alienation

Overall effect	Indirect effect	Direct effect	Variable
0.64	0.78	-0.14	Social participation
0.16	0.39	-0.23	Social Trust
0.03	0.29	-0.26	Social bound
0.19	-	0.19	Education

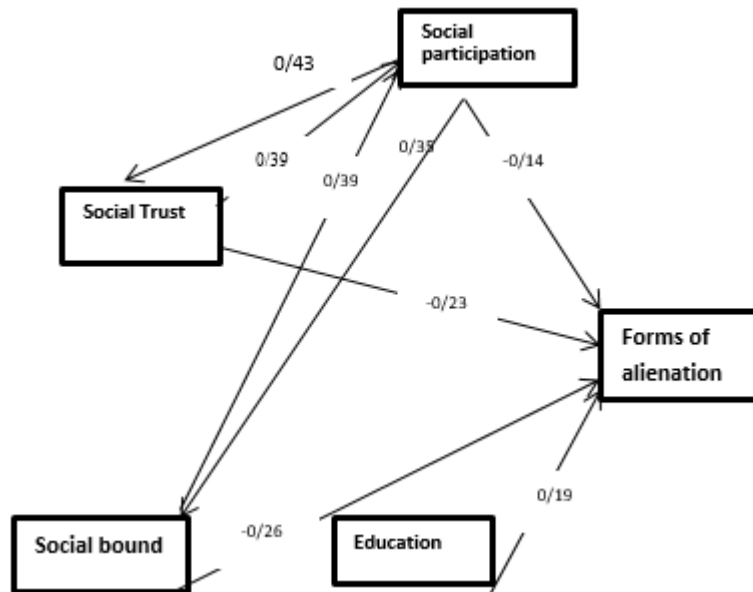


Figure (1): Cause-effect model of the path of alienation forms

Conclusions and proposals

Conclusion: Alienation, in its various forms, is a damage drawn a significant attention from many thinkers specially in the fields of sociology, psychology and social psychology, particularly in this modern era when societies have been subject to rapid far-reaching changes. Alienation, as detachment of the individual from the society, themselves, etc. causes the human capital of a society not to play their adequate role in implementing the goal and advancing social system as well as decreasing their solidarity with the social system. Such a detachment will bring about damages in both individual and social levels over time. Like other social issues, alienation in under influence of various variables. However, given that this research attempts to explain forms of alienation from a sociological viewpoint, it studies the effects of a social variable, social capital, on various forms of alienation. To measure social capital we

have used Bourdieu's theory, while we have applied Seeman's theory to measure alienation. Social capital was studied based on three components of social participation, social trust and collective association. Alienation was also pursued, according to Seeman's theory, through five levels of powerlessness, normlessness, meaninglessness, social isolation and self-estrangement. The results established that from various forms of alienation, feeling of powerlessness has been above all other forms among the studied population. The average of powerlessness has been 2/54, while the ones for meaninglessness, normlessness, social isolation and self-estrangement have respectively been 2.24, 2.16, 2.30 and 1.99. Plus, among components of social capital, the average of social trust (1.70) has been lower than the social participation (2.06) and collective association (2.66).

The results also suggested that there was a reverse meaningful correlation between social capital and forms of alienation. In other words, the more social capital increases the more various forms of alienation decrease. These results are in accordance to the results of previous researches launched by Pakkhesaal (2016), Abbas Zadeh, Mohammad and etal (2012), Nahid Haatam and etal (2013), Ghaffari, (2009), salmi and kivivari (2006). The highest level of correlation has been between social capital and social isolation ($r=-0.450$). About the correlation between the component of social participation and various forms of alienation, the highest level was between this component and self-estrangement ($r=-0.312$). In other words, the more social participation in social activities among individuals increases, the more self-estrangement decreases. Besides, social trust enjoys the highest level of correlation with normlessness ($r=-0.403$), while collective association has been more in correlation with self-estrangement ($r=-0.481$). No meaningful correlation was observed between variables like gender, age, marital status, education, and migration status with forms of alienation, however, meaningful correlations were observed between occupation, residential area and ethnicity with various forms of alienation.

About the forms of alienation, the ratio of R^2 shows that 0.27 of various forms of alienation could be explained by the independent variables imported into the analysis. Besides, the path analysis demonstrated that among components of social capital, social participation enjoyed the most overall influence (0.64) on forms of alienation. This finding matches the theories of Bourdieu, Fukuyama, and Putnam; since Bourdieu believes that action is result of the connection between the individual's tendencies (habitus) and their situations in the field (capital), so that the possibility of its emergence is provided in certain conditions. Moreover, both Fukuyama and Putnam put emphasis on the role of social capital, through forms of trust, participation and the individual's coherence with social structure as well as the impact of social capital on declining individuals' tendency towards social damages. In his "The End of Order", Fukuyama expressed, there is this assumption that as social capital reflects the behavioral norm based on cooperation, thus social deviations are reflections of lack of social capital. According to Fukuyama, distrust, on one side, contributes to devaluation of social capital, leading to isolation, atomization, breaking the links and destruction network of interpersonal relations; and on the other side, by provoking and stimulating the individual to search for the alternatives it alienates individuals through assuming illegal identities. Putnam believed that the connection between social capital and anomie was stemmed from theory of disorganization. He argued that social networks help decreasing the deviation and anomie by bringing financial and emotional support for individuals, providing political influence and power and encouraging volunteers to join social institutions. According to him, trust is a crucial and vital component of social capital. Given the acquired results, it can be said that every society enjoys various capitals that help it in the route to development that is, in turn, an important strategic capital. It is certain that by enhancing such a capital among the society the tendency towards social damages will diminish. The stronger social capital becomes, the more participation, more trust and more solidarity we will see, and as much as these components elevate, the rate of crime and social issues such as alienation will consequently fall, since the people neither feel indifferent to each other, nor they feel loneliness, isolation, disappointment and social backwardness.

In our current society, regarding problems and damages of recent years in political, economic, social and cultural fields – i.e. discrimination in distribution of facilities and incomes, bureaucratic corruption, lack of meritocracy, unemployment and so on, there has emerged a decline in social trust among citizens towards social structure subsequently led to their reluctance to participate in social activities. The

individual does not believe in their effectiveness in the social system. They actually feel separation and isolation. If the attempt to solve such problems be insufficient, the detachment of citizens from social structure will gradually escalate and the tendency towards social damages intensifies as well.

Proposals: The results showed that the indicator of social capital, especially through its aspect of social trust, has been the weakest among others. Given the effect of this indicator on creating or declining social problems, i.e. alienation, as manifested through theories of Catherine Ross, Gambetta, etc., executive officials should make the needed policies and programs in various levels in order to promote this indicator, social trust in particular. This approach can be consisted of collective programs in fields of science, sport, leisure, economy, politics and so on, designed for students, university students, various professional groups, the unemployed like the retired and households, as well as attempting to solve problems of the citizen and overseeing the law enforcement, adhering to meritocracy in various fields, contributing to elevating economic levels of lives among people and preparing for profitable investment, especially for the low-income. It is obvious that any action leading to more social participation of citizens in social system, enhancing trust and social solidarity in various levels, would encourage the citizen to develop more positive ideas and attitudes toward themselves and the society which, in turn, could be resulting in their advancement in various affairs. Preparing the requirements needed to grow and develop communications, associations, non-governmental ones particularly, among various demographic groups and encouraging people to join them, will inevitably enhance the social capital which, in turn, decrease the inclination toward social problems due to the support and communicative circles these institution provides for the individual. Regarding that this research has been more concentrated on quantities, it proposes that more researches, in addition to meta-analysis, be launched with more qualitative attitudes which make our knowledge richer in this case.

References

1. Abbas Zadeh, Mohammad and etal (2011), A study of Connection between Social Capital and Social Anomie, Iranian Quarterly Journal of Social Studies and researches, Period 1st, Number 1, p. 145-172.
2. Bourdieu, P. (1977) Cultural Reproduction and Social Reproduction. In: Karabel, J., & Halsey, A. H. (eds.) Power and Ideology in Education. Oxford University Press, New York, pp. 487-511.
3. Buonanno, P. Montolio, D. & Paolo V. (2009) "Does Social Capital Reduce Crime?" Journal of Law and Economics, 52: 145 – 170.
4. Bigdeli, Marefat Allah (2000), Studying the Causes and Consequences of Self-Alienation and Self-Esteem of Student, University of Isfahan, Faculty of Literature and Human Sciences.
5. Coleman, James (1999), Foundations of Social Theory, translated by Manoochehr Saburi, Nashr-e Ney, Tehran.
6. Coleman ,j.s.(1988) ,Social Capital in the Creation of human capital, American Journal of Sociology ; 94:95-120
7. Chalabi, Masoud and Mobarki, Mohammad (2006), An Analysis of Correlation of Social Capital and Crime in Micro and Macro Levels, Iranian Sociology Journal, Period 6th, Number 2.
8. Coser, Lewis A. (2010), Masters of Sociological Thoughts, translated by Mohsen Thalathi, Tehran, Enteshaaraat-e Elmi (publication).
9. Chalabi, Masoud (1996), "Sociology of Order: Description and Theoretical Analysis of Social Order", First Edition, Tehran, Nashr-e Nay (publication).
10. Diller, C. Steven & Deller, Mellisa, A. (2010) "Rural Crime and Social Capital", Growth and Change, 41: 221-275.

11. DiPietro, R. B and Pizam, A. (2008). Employee alienation in the quick service restaurant industry. *Journal of Hospitality & Tourism Research*. 32 (1):
12. 22-39.
13. Fukuyama, Francis (2001), *The End of Order*, translated by GholamAbbas Tavasoli, Nashr-e Jame-e Iran.
14. Gambetta, D (2000) *Can we Trust in Gambetta Diego Trust: Making and Breaking Cooperative Relations*, Electronic Edition, Department of Sociology, University of Oxford.
15. Grenfell, Michael (2010), *Pierre Bourdieu*, translated by Mohammad Mahdi Labibi, Nashr-e Afkar, Tehran.
16. Ghaffari, Gholam Reza (2009) *Social Capital and Crime Prevention*, Research essays in the First "Conference of Crime Prevention with a Sociological Approach", The Office for Applied Studies, Prevention Police of NAJA (Iranian Law Enforcement Agency), p.263-289.
17. Haatam, Naahid and etal (201۳), *Connection between Social Capital and a sense of anomie among female staff of two hospitals in Shiraz*, School of Medical Management and Notification, Medical University of Shiraz.
18. Hortulanus. R, Machielse. A., & Meeuwesen, L. (2006). *Social Isolation in Modern Society*. Published in the Taylor & Francis e-Library.
19. Inglehart, Ronald (1994), *Cultural Development in developed industrial societies*, Maryam Vattar, Tehran: Kavir Publication.
20. Iranian Sociology Association (2005), *Iranian Sociological Issues*, Agah, Tehran.
21. Kubrin, Charis E& Weitzer, Ronald (2003), 'New Directions in Social Disorganization Theory', *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency*, Vol. 40 No. 4, Pp: 374 –402.
22. Levin, murray. (1972). *Political Alienation in man Alone*, by Josephson, E and Josephson, M. N. y. Mcgrow Hill.
23. Mohseni Tabrizi, Ali Reza (1992), *Alienation*, *Research Journal of Sociological Sciences*, V 2nd, N.2.
24. Mohseni Tabrizi, Ali Reza (2004), *Pathology of Alienation; A sociologic, cultural Study of Valued Isolation at State Universities in Tehran*, *Quarterly Journal of Research and Programming in higher education*, Period 8th, Number , p. 119-182.
25. Messner, Steven F; Baumer, Eric p and Rosenfeld, Richard (2004), "Dimensions of Social capital and Rates of Criminal Homicide", *ASR*, Vol. 69, No. 6, Pp: 882-903.
26. Moore, D. Mathew & Reckler, L. Nicholas (2013) "Social Capital, Type of Crime and Social Control", *Criminology and Penology*, 112:143-173.
27. Putnam, Robert (2002), *Making Democracy Work: Civic Traditions in Modern Italy* (with Leonardi, Robert and Raffaella Nanetti, 1993), translated by Mohammad Taghi Delafrooz, The Office for Political Studies and Researches, Iranian Ministry of Interior, Tehran.
28. Paak-khesaal, A'zam (2016), *Impact that decline of social capital has on social anomie among female residents of Tehran*, *Research Journal of Madadkari Ejtemaei*, Period 1st, Number 4, summer of 2016, and P.36-65.
29. Ross, C and Etal(2001) *Neighborhood Disadvantage, Powerlessness and the Amplification of Threat : Disorder and Mistrust* , *American sociological of Review*, Vol. 66, pp: 568-591.
30. Sztompka, Piotr (2006), *Trust: a Sociological Theory* (1999), translated by Fatemeh Golabi, Nashr-e Sotudeh, Tehran.
31. Stones, Rob (2001); *Key Sociological Thinkers*, translated by Mir Damadi, Markaz Publication, Tehran.

32. Seeman, M. (1959). " On the Meaning of Alienation" ASR. 24: 783-791.
33. Seeman, M. (1975): "Alienation Studies", Annual Review of Sociology. pp: 91-123.
34. Salmi, Venla & Janne Kivivuori (2006) "The Association between Social Capital and Juvenile Crime the Role of Individual and Structural Factors", European Journal of Criminology, 3(2): 123-148.
35. Sheikhi, Mohammad Taghi (2005), Sociology of Urbanization, Tehran, Sherkat-e Sahami Enteshaar (publication).
36. Talebi, Abutorab, Barzegari Dahej, Razieh (2012), "A Study of Trust and Social Isolation among Students", 'Quarterly of Planning Welfare and Social Development', No 11, p 131-182.
37. Torgler, B. (2007). Trust in International Organization, Australia, and university of Technology.