



The Psychological and Cultural Underpinnings of Under-Veiling Inclination among Women

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Abstract

This research intended to survey the psychological and cultural underpinnings of under-veiling inclination among women. The statistical population encompassed the all Isfahan province females. The sampling procedure was processed as purposive sampling with 27 participants via semi- structured interview. The research method was designed as a mixed of sequential exploratory one. To collect data a semi-structured interview protocol was developed based on the findings obtained by identifying several psychological and cultural underpinnings associated with under-veiling during reviewing the existing research on loose-veiling. To analyze the data quantitative-qualitative approach was implemented. The results indicated that 242 primary codes were obtained. One hundred eighty-seven basic themes were resulted by combining the primary codes. Then 13 organizing themes were formed through summarization of the basic themes on the next step. Finally, three basic categories were identified as inclination antecedent, action antecedent and attitude antecedent. The inclination antecedent embraced masculine identity orientation, fashion consciousness, variety seeking, desire for freedom, low self-esteem, and feelings and complex of inferiority. Action antecedent included life crises, lifestyle, and circumstances influence. The attitude antecedents enfolded maladaptive beliefs, lack of awareness of the philosophy of clothing, and weak religious knowledge. In general, antecedents are the basis for the creation of causal mechanisms that according to each antecedent, a separate mechanism is functioning in the individual. The most important part of shaping the consequences of mal-veiling in women are the mechanisms. It should be mentioned that religion provides the psychological and cultural background as the main factor determining the nuclear and causal mechanisms and plays an important role in explaining and correcting the attitude antecedents.



Extended abstract

Introduction: The issue of veiling (hijab) is the concern of many political, social, cultural and religious elites, and as a result, the need to solve it is felt more than ever. Hijab is one of the most controversial types of covering among western commentators. The issue of covering veil and hijab has a special place in today's debates in the process of globalization and postmodernity, so that it covers the cultural boundaries between East and West, Muslim and non-Muslim, and includes controversial topics and ideas. The obscenity of women and its behavioral consequences is a phenomenon that Iranian society has faced in recent years in different ways in some big cities and especially among some groups of society. Despite the fundamental changes that have occurred at various social and cultural levels, significant successes have been achieved in removing some manifestations of foreign culture, but the fact is that so far this social problem has not been solved as it should be and worthy of the Islamic society of the country. Findings from previous research suggested that the reasons behind under- veiling ('bad hijab') are multifaceted and influenced by a combination of individual, social, cultural, and psychological backgrounds. Recognizing the significance of this issue, this research intended to survey the psychological and cultural underpinnings of under-veiling inclination among women.

Method: The statistical population encompassed the all Isfahan province females. The sampling procedure was processed as purposive sampling with 27 participants via semi- structured interview. The research method was designed as a mixed of sequential exploratory one. To collect data a semi-structured interview protocol was developed based on the findings obtained by identifying several psychological and cultural underpinnings associated with mal-veiling during reviewing the existing research on mal-veiling. To analyze the data quantitative-qualitative approach was implemented.

Results: The results indicated that 242 primary codes were obtained. One hundred eighty-seven basic themes were resulted by combining the primary codes. Then 13 organizing themes were formed through summarization of the basic themes on the next step. Finally, three basic categories were identified as inclination antecedent, action antecedent and attitude antecedent. The inclination antecedent embraced masculine identity orientation, fashion consciousness, variety seeking, desire for freedom, low self-esteem, and feelings and complex of inferiority. Action antecedent included life crises, lifestyle, and circumstances influence. The attitude antecedents enfolded maladaptive beliefs, lack of awareness of the philosophy of clothing, and weak religious knowledge.

Conclusions: In general, antecedents are the basis for the creation of causal mechanisms that according to each antecedent, a separate mechanism is functioning in the individual. The most important part of shaping the consequences of mal-veiling in women are the mechanisms. antecedents. In many cases, many people have experienced the mentioned psychological antecedents, but due to the use of different causal mechanisms, they do not produce the consequences corresponding to the veiling. For example, the feeling of inferiority complex due to the deficiencies of childhood or adolescence has been experienced by many people, but the person did not use the "external valuing" mechanism to gain a sense of worth and did not engage in abnormal behavior. It should be mentioned that religion provides the psychological and cultural background as the main factor



determining the nuclear and causal mechanisms and plays an important role in explaining and correcting the attitude

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