

Investigating the Effect of Social Consensus on Social Health

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Abstract: *Each society has a social health definition based on its characteristics. One of the important and influential factors on social health is the level of social consensus in society. This research was conducted to investigate the effect of social consensus on social health. The statistical population of the study is all citizens living in Tehran. The sampling method was multi-stage cluster sampling. Social consensus variables were measured based on indicators, basic trust, social trust, symbolic unity, opposition, and mental participation. The social health of the community was measured based on indicators of social cohesion, social acceptance, social participation, social adaptation, social flourishing. The reliability of the questionnaire was tested by Cronbach's alpha test. The result showed that the instrument has a desirable reliability. Analysis was performed by Lisrel software and the RMSEA coefficient showed that the observed results can be generalized to the entire statistical society. There is also a strong correlation between independent and dependent variables.*

Keywords: *Social health, social consensus, structural equation modeling.*

Introduction

Consensus theory is a social theory that holds that a particular political or economic system is a fair system, and that social change should take place within the social institutions provided by it. Consensus theory contrasts sharply with conflict theory, which holds that social change is only achieved through conflict. Under consensus theory the absence of conflict is seen as the equilibrium state of society and that there is a general or widespread agreement among all members of a particular society about norms, values, rules and regulations. Consensus theory is concerned with the maintenance or continuation of social order in society. The consensus theory serves as a sociological argument for the furtherance and preservation of the status quo. It is antagonistic to the conflict theory, which, serves as a sociological argument for modifying the status quo or for its total reversal. In consensus theory, the rules are seen as integrative, and whoever doesn't respect them is a deviant person. Under conflict theory, the rules are seen as coercive, and who transgresses them is considered oppressive and wrong.

Today, social health as a dimension of health, along with physical, psychological, spiritual, has a significant role and significance. So that health is no longer just a lack of physical and psychological illnesses, but how human performance in social relationships and how it is thought of as a community is also considered as criteria for assessing the health of the individual at the macro level of society. (Sam Aram, 1388: 10). Larson (1996) and Kees (Keyes, 2004) define social health as the person's inference of the quality of his relationships with other people, his close relatives and the social groups he is a

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member of. They believe that the social health scale measures part of the individual's health and emotional responses (feelings, thoughts, and behaviors) that indicate satisfaction or lack of satisfaction from one's life and social environment. In fact, public health after the health of attention to the social dimension of human life will be examined. One of the important components of healthy society is the existence of consensus among members of the community. Consensus is an agreement on a set of values and beliefs that results in the creation of emotional energy. And this is the emotional energy that can form the basis of a positive social life. Early studies show that social solidarity, especially in metropolises, is currently falling, and this is the subject of most countries and communities. Early observations also indicate a weakness in the value and ethics of the society. Social consensus is an effective way to deal with this weakness. In fact, the social consensus is the promise of trust in conventional behavior. The trust that enables individuals can expand their work. The breadth of the behavior, that is, the complex interaction, which will surely be more useful and productive, is at least more useful and productive than societies which, in place of consensus, constitute the basis of their state of affairs.

The social consensus is a collective agreement over a set of social principles and rules that are acquired in a field of social interaction and which is a source of emotional energy. The above definition is twofold: Part I introduces the signs of the sharing of values: a collective agreement over a set of social principles and rules that generate emotional energy. Emotion is measured through a composite index consisting of generalism, ethics, creativity, and acquisition value. The combination of emphasis on two dimensions of universalism and ethics is a general idea that is different from one another. Generalism and morality, which is a comprehensive concept of ideas. Universalism, in an interaction judging and evaluation is no longer based on agreed criteria (Akbar Nik Khalq, 1991). A generalist judges about a physical or social object based on general criteria that can be generalized to a set of objects.

In other words, it extends its sense of commitment to non-members of the group and focuses on individual identities and personal differences, and in general on shared principles. Ethics is any nonprofit activity that is in accordance with non-personal and generalizable principles. Morality, due to this generalizability, is centered on social consensus. If the society is moral authority, the individual surrenders to society, because society regards it as a matter of respect. The source of any moral activity is the pursuit of private interests of the public interest, which entails the spirit of sacrifice and self-sacrifice (Durkheim, 1980, 20-19). Socialization is a process by which respect for the laws, social orders of prohibitions and tasks where social life is impossible without them, plays a role in human existence (Aaron, 1991, 403).

Solidarity means the sense of mutual responsibility between several or more groups; they are aware of and will. This sense of responsibility can include human links between humans in general, even with the interdependence of life and the benefits between them. Social health is one of the concepts that provides a precise definition of that difficult task. The variety of definitions in this field creates different perspectives that cannot be clearly identified as true or false. There is no official definition of social health in existing texts "(Rarani, Mousavi and Rafiee, 2011: 216). For the first time Mirengov and his colleagues from the University of Fordham Institute for Social Policy in 1978 published the Social Health Index. This index consists of a combination of 16 markers that are measured annually and reported as a digit (Sajadi and Sadr Sadat, 2005: 6). However, it should be noted that social health does not depend solely on the social and social status of the citizen, but also reflects the position of the citizens in the context or social context (Amir Khani et al., 2008: 25). Accordingly, we seek to answer the following question: What is the relationship between social harmony and social well-being?

Literature Review

Keys defines social health and recognizes the individual's ability to function in the community and the quality of his relationships with other people, relatives and social groups that he or she is a member of. Accordingly, he proposes a five-factor model in which five factors of cohesion, acceptance, prosperity, participation, and social adaptation are health indicators (Johnson, 1984, 34).

Keys sees mental and social health as a sign of positive action: if a person has two aspects of emotional health (good feeling and life satisfaction) and then a positive attitude, he or she has mental health. He calls this situation a boost. The elderly have a good life and are active and constructive in relation to others and in society. Keynesian lack of mental health calls wilt. Deaf people do not have a good life and their psychological and social function is difficult. These people are desperate and destitute and see their lives empty. This situation is different from depression. In a large-scale analysis, Keys showed that mental health has emotional, psychological, and social dimensions. He provided social health with a five-part model. According to this theory, a healthy person is socially productive when he has a good social understanding as a meaningful, understandable, and capable environment for growth. One must feel that he is a member of his social groups and that he is part of his community and development. The content of his social health scale is a positive spectrum of individual assessments of experiences in society. This new scale differs from interpersonal social health (eg, aggression) and social (eg, social status) poverty.

Table (1): Levels of analysis

| social | Interpersonal | personal | Continuum |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Poverty, suicide and crime | Aggression and unfamiliarity with civil laws | Alienation and social anomalies | Negative |
| Social capital and social efficiency | Exchange of types of trust and social support | Dimensions of social health | positive |

Social health indicators according to the levels of analysis and continuity of measurement (Keyes, 2004)

According to Keys, the most important issue in the history of health studies is answering this question. Is it possible to assess the quality of life and personal performance of individuals regardless of social criteria? According to Keys, health studies focusing on the private aspect of health emphasize the use of biological models, but people are within social and communication structures and the quality of life and performance in life is greater than mental health. And homework and social challenges are also crucial. Keys conceptualized social health in 1998 by providing a more comprehensive, social and environmental dimension to the individual's life. Keys on that scale and the subsequent research, it assumes that people evaluate their quality of life and their personal performance with their social criteria in this way, social health includes components and components that together make it clear whether a person has a decent quality of life? And how much?

Social Health Indicators

Social Actualization

Knowing and believing that society is growing in a positive way. Thinking that society has the potential for growth to be positive. It is the idea that the community realizes its potential in a real way. Social flourishing, that is, the belief that the community has its own destiny and controls its evolutionary path through its potential.

Social Coherence

Believing that the community is understandable, reasonable and predictable. Knowing and being interested in the community and its implications. Healthy and social people are careful about community-based disorder and they feel they can understand what's happening around them. Solidarity or social adaptation is comparable to meaningless in life. And includes an individual's assessment of the community in a comprehensible, predictable and perceptible manner, and, in fact, an understanding of the quality, organization, and management of the social world around them.

Social Integration

Feeling part of society, thinking that the person belongs to the community. The sense of supporting and sharing the community. Therefore, coherence is the degree to which people feel that there is a shared thing between them and those who make them social reality. (Like neighborhood)

Social Acceptance

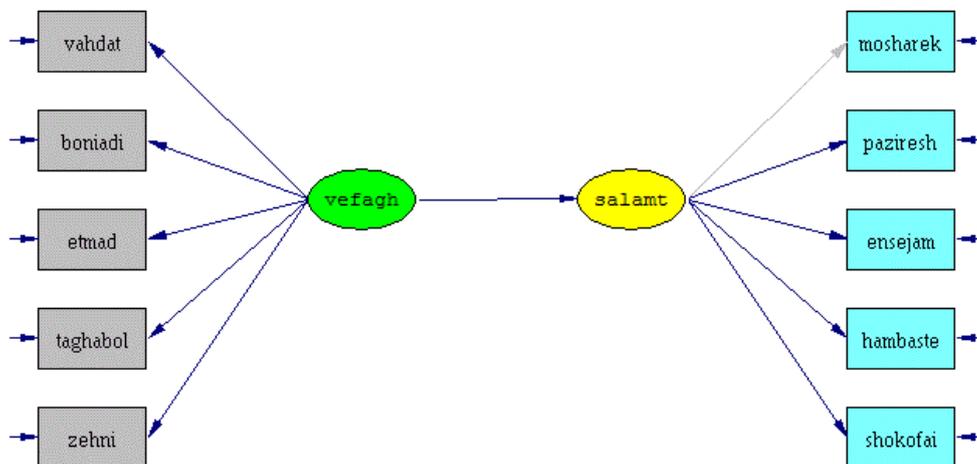
Having positive attitudes toward people, acknowledging others, and generally accepting people, despite some of their confusing and complicated behavior. Social acceptance is the social case of self-admission (one of the dimensions of mental health). In accepting a person, he has a positive attitude and a good feeling about himself and his past life, and despite his weaknesses and disabilities, he accepts all his aspects. In the social acceptance of the individual, the community and its people accept and accept it with all the defects and the positive and negative aspects.

Social Contribution

The feeling that people have valuable things to offer to the community. This is the thought that their everyday activities are valued by society. In fact, social participation is one in which a person considers himself to be a vital member of the community and thinks he is a worthwhile proposition for the world. These people are trying to feel like they are in a world that is merely because of being human. They are worthy to share. According to early studies, the most important factors affecting social health are the issue of social consensus. Solidarity has a moral meaning as a duty or a two-way requirement. In sociological terms, solidarity brings together a phenomenon based on which one group or society, the members are mutually dependent and mutually dependent on one another. In this way, group solidarity also means that the group maintains its unity and conforms to its unifying elements of self. Health is a phenomenon that in each society somewhat resembles the common sense and the way people look in health; several definitions have been made for health in various societies and groups (Sajjadi and Sadr Sadat, 2004: 244). Social health, along with physical and mental health, is one of the three pillars of the general health of the community. Once a person has a social health status that can perform his or her social activities and roles in an orderly manner, in humans, they can have full activity to feel both healthy and their community healthy (Vdadjir et al., 2005, p. 174).

Trust and consensus is the most important part of social life, which, on many occasions, works better than medical facilities and provides a ground for promoting the health of the community. Mistrust is the source of many disasters and disorders that threaten the social health of individuals. There is a kind of interaction between social trust and health .Along with social trust, concepts such as honesty, cooperation, hope and grudge are raised. These features in people indicate their health. In a society where there is trust, there is a kind of solidarity, empathy, consensus, and association. This empathy increases the calm and ultimately improves the social health of the community (Afshani and Shirani Mohammadabad, 2015: 8). Therefore, consensus and social trust are one of the basic prerequisites for social development (Azad Ermaki and others, 2013: 15) .And there is a deep link between social consensus and the social health of the community. Understanding the factors associated with social participation and social consensus in promoting and reinforcing health can play an important role in the development of social development. (Homan, 2007). Therefore, in this context, the concept of social consensus must ultimately lead to social health.

Theoretical Model

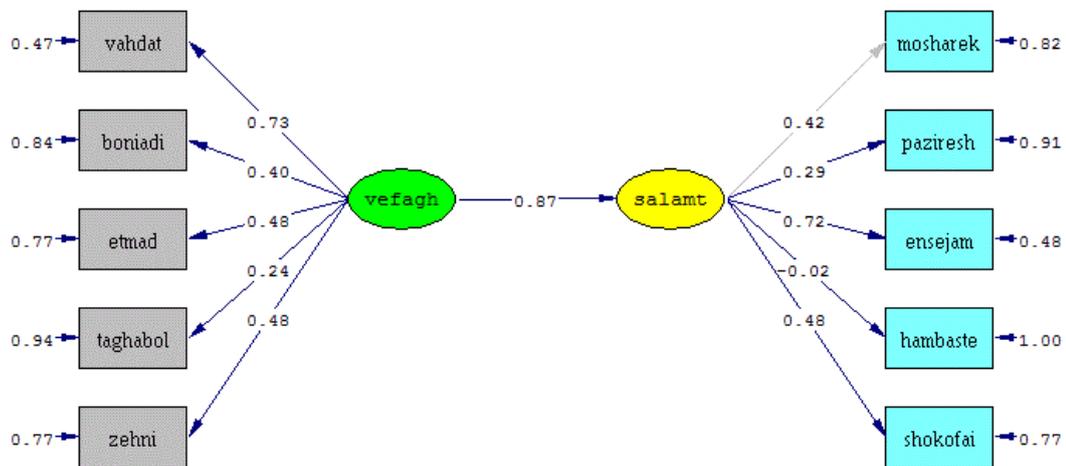


Research Methodology

Based on this theoretical model, social partnership is based on social partnership, social trust, mental partnership, basic trust and mental unity. The social health variable is also based on the indicators of the theoretical literature section. A questionnaire was used to collect data and information about the subjects studied (variables). The total reliability of the questionnaire was based on the alpha test (0.910). The figure obtained shows that the instrument has a good reliability. The statistical population of the study is all citizens living in Tehran. Random sampling is a simple multi-stage cluster sampling method. For sampling, Tehran was divided into 5 main parts: North, South, East, West and Central. Then, randomly, regions of each section were selected by lot, and each area was selected by random lot. The sample size of the research is 400 people. Structural equations modeling was used to test the hypotheses. This method simultaneously calculates the validity of the instrument and determines the level of causal relationships between the variables. Statistical calculations were performed by Lisrel software.

Testing the main Hypothesis

There is a relationship between social consensus and social health.



Chi-Square=93.35, df=27, P-value=0.00000, RMSEA=0.058

The output obtained from the LISREL software shows that social cohesion variables have a positive and strong correlation with social health. The observed values of t value also indicate that the observed load factors are significant. The observed rmsea index also shows that the observed empirical model can be generalized to the entire statistical society, the main hypothesis of this research is that the relationship between social consensus and social health is confirmed. The observed intensity is $r^2 = .324$.

Table (2): beta value of variables

| Sig. | t | Standardized Coefficients | Model |
|------|---------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| | | Beta | |
| .000 | 185849047.368 | .324 | Social Actualization |
| .000 | 160711050.072 | .258 | Social Coherence |
| .000 | 158226030.557 | .286 | Social Integration |
| .000 | 237830130.701 | .365 | Social Acceptance |
| .000 | 242364629.367 | .399 | Social Contribution |

The observed beta values show that the highest correlation is the effect of social participation on social health.

Investigating the effect of gender and marriage on research variables

Based on independent t-test, the gender-based significance level does not affect social health.

Table (3): group statistic

| gender | N | Mean | Std. Deviation | Std. Error Mean |
|--------|-----|---------|----------------|-----------------|
| man | 318 | 65.9654 | 7.95068 | .44585 |
| women | 407 | 65.9165 | 8.74363 | .43341 |

Table (4): Independent Samples Test

| | Levene's Test for Equality of Variances | | t-test for Equality of Means | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|------|------------------------------|---------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|---|---------|
| | F | Sig. | t | df | Sig. (2-tailed) | Mean Difference | Std. Error Difference | 95% Confidence Interval of the Difference | |
| | | | | | | | | Lower | Upper |
| Equal variances assumed | 6.411 | .012 | .078 | 723 | .938 | .04895 | .62908 | -1.18609 | 1.28399 |
| Equal variances not assumed | | | .079 | 706.555 | .937 | .04895 | .62179 | -1.17183 | 1.26973 |

Based on independent t-test, the gender-based significance level does not affect social health. Social flourishing and social participation vary between men and women. Social fluctuations in men are more than women and social participation in women is more than men. Based on independent T-test, the rate of social consensus in women is higher than that of men. Independent T-test showed that "confrontation" among women is more than men.

Conclusion

According to theoretical literature, the rate of social cohesion has strong correlation with social well-being in society. Based on the empirical findings of the research, the rate of social cohesion affects social health. The magnitude and intensity of the observed relationship showed that the social cohesion variable had a strong and severe effect on social health. Also, gender does not affect social health. The social flourishing in men is more than women and women's social participation is more than men. This relationship is probably due to the fact that men have more social opportunities to offer their abilities in society, and women are more likely to be more willing to participate in society because they have more free time than men. Also, in the independent variable of research, the degree of contrast between women and men differs, and the opposition among women is more than men. Attention to social health is essential to achieving a healthy society. There are numerous and numerous factors affecting the social health of the community. As the findings of this study showed, the level of social consensus in the community has a huge impact on the social health of the community. It is important that a variety of factors and the impact on social cohesion in society that need to be considered simultaneously.

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