The Role of Security in Social Deviations

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Abstract: The aim of this study is to investigate the role of security in social deviations among women of Babol city. Descriptive survey research method was used and the unit of analysis is 15-29 year old women that 284 women are selected on the basis of Cochran formula and using multi-stage random cluster sampling. The results show that there is a weak significant relationship between the independent variables of security, social control, socioeconomic base and the dependent variable of social deviations. Also, there is not any correlation among variables of social support, social trust, sense of social security and deviations. The analysis of multi-variable regression reveals that independent variables determine 16% of social deviations changes and also in the analysis of social security, social control and socioeconomic base are more influential in deviations than other independent variables.

Keywords: Social security, social distortion, social deviations, security.

Introduction

Doubtlessly, one of the social elements which are necessary to be present in every community is the important issue of “security” which is required for people in order to have successful life. Security is the basis and source of all affairs and no individual or social activity can be done without it, whether in cultural or other fields such as industry, economics, art, politics … that is why all scientists recognize security as the first need of every community and recommended the governors to make and provide it. Along the past decades, the concept of security changed its initial state and physical aspects with the development of urbanization and the expansion of large cities and becoming more sophisticated of citizens’ social relations and included different economic, social, cultural and political aspects, so that today security in cities includes subjects such as poverty, unemployment, inflation, or the quality of public services, crime and betrayal, social anomalies and deviations. Security is recognized as the person and community’s needs and basic requirements which its loss or impairment leads to dangerous and worrying consequences and repercussions (Torabi and Goodarzi, 2004, p.32). Actually, civil humans need security and peace of mind in order to live together and achieve high levels of growth, while the growth of crime and social deviance, and development of security deviances in the community provides the most daunting (Sherafati pour, 2006, p.119).

In every community that social deviations violates the normal and assigned degree, creates concerns for officials and the pubic makes them into take specific measures. Today, the role and importance of security in the progress of every community is to the extent that is determined as the pre-requirement of every kind of development, specially, in the developing societies which are encountered with all kinds of crises and ongoing challenges of underdevelopment and instability of different political, economic, and social structures, security plays a determining and important role in providing various kinds of development (Chelbi, 1993, p.25).One of the factors that causes erosion of security and pathogenic for a safe community is the existence of crime and grounds for its formation. Social pathology is the study of social erratic, along with the causes and motives of their creation, and the study of pathological conditions to find preventive methods, since the main source of crime and social deviations should be searched in the whole social life and special kind of human relations. Generally, abnormal behavior is the behavior that is not accordance with the accepted norms of community and is unlike the norms (Rafi pour, 1999, p.78). In order to do this, social science experts should identify social microbes and then try to treat them. Regarding these issues, in this project it is tried to investigate social security and its role in the reduction of social deviations among female Babol residents in the range of 15-29 year old. In order to achieve this, it’s

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necessary to realize the necessity of social security and recognize the ways of reducing the deviations, so that we can prevent social insecurity and deviations and promote the human life level and meet their needs and necessities.

**Principles and Theoretical Framework**

In the internal researches, the following studies investigated the related subjects: Garooosi and et.al. (2006) the relationship between trust and sense of social security, Hejazi and Salehi (2006) impactful factors in the creation of social deviations, Kaldi and Rahmani Firoozjah (2007) factors on youth disorder, Mahdavi and Abbasi Asfajir (2007) the relationship between social-family links and the degree of juvenile delinquency, Nabavi and et.al. (2008), the impact of socioeconomic base and ethnic identity on the sense of social security, Hezajzaribi and Safari shali (2009) factors on committing crime, Shaterian and et.al. (2010) the relationship between the living location and social deviations, Abbasi Asfajir and Rahmani Firoozjah (2009) modern behavior and mild social deviations, Niazi and Farshadfar (2011) the relationship between the social trust and sense of social security.


Hirschi had stated the point of social link and claims that deviance will happen when the link between the person and the community is weakened. The person without any sense of dependence changes to a psychotic person (Sedigh Sarvestani, 2007, p.52). Hirschi believes that interest, commitment, involvement and belief are the four elements which relate people to each other, the community, and behavior controlling variables. Furthermore, he claims that whenever one of these elements have been weakened, it means that people would be indifferent to each other, accept the community’s goals less than others, involve and cooperate less in social activities, have weaker believes and finally they’re more probably subject to social deviations. Security need is one of the basic needs of the human which is investigated in Maslow’s theory. Maslow related meeting the given need to social-institutional arrangements and believed that human’s natural needs can only be fulfilled by other people, i.e. community. By the daily development of urbanism and reduction of emotions and family and social supports, social damages will increase and finally these privations and incertitude of the needs will lead to the increase of social deviances. Giddens calls security as existential security. He emphasizes this is fundamental trust which creates existential trust. This kind of trust is something that people resort to it while confronting daily life problems and the establishment of the fundamental trust is the basic requirement of the creation of personal identity. Danger and trust are mixed together and trust usually is at the service of reducing those dangers that human is confronted with. Giddens believes that community’ security and reduction of deviances can be emerged by people through three kinds of trust: trusting the individuals’ attitude towards him and the surrounding world, trusting the friends and the family, trusting towards the community massively and generally. Parsons believes deviation as a relative issue, since it’s possible that a community knows an action as a deviation but a group of young juvenile delinquents of a sector knows it right. Anyway, Parsons describes deviation as an individual or a group’s exiting of organizational and behavioral criteria of a set or inconsistency among organizational norms of two social groups (Tanhæi, 1992, p.107).

Parsons’ organized union gathers together the community’s members and enables them through this gathering to defend their common benefits in different stages (from conformity to the maintenance of the pattern) and to meet the needs, fulfill the goals and finally reduce the deviations. Regarding the sense of security and deviations reduction, attention should be towards four social subsystems (economy, politics, religion, social custom). If all these four subsystems do their duties truly, they can yield sense of security enhancement and deviations decrease. Respectively, if one of these subsystems doesn’t supervise their duties, they can yield a sense of insecurity and possibly an increase of chaos and deviations development among the individuals of the community.

Merton probes the source of social deviations in the break between the two basic elements of the cultural structure. The first element in Merton’s theory includes the goals and interests which are defined and assigned by the culture and is pointed as the legitimate requests, acceptable by the majority of the community, which are categorized in a valuable hierarchy and some of them (cultural goals) are related directly to the biological sources but are determined by them. The second element of the cultural structure determines monitors and administers the
methods, the ways and the legitimate norms needed in order to fulfill the cultural goals and each group should synchronize its cultural goals with the accepted and organized ways. Merton claims that continuing of the break between the cultural goals patterns and the norms or the organized ways yields the community’s instability which is actually “anomy” Kozier and Rosenberg, 1999, pp.433-435).

Merton believes the more one lives in a proper situation regarding the economical and welfare elements; the higher will be ones’ sense of security and the lower one’s deviations. The more one lives in an inappropriate situation regarding the economical and qualitative and quantitative needs, the more one feels vulnerable. In the view of Merton, in the process of socialization people learn how to recognize the important cultural goals and at the same time, select those culturally accepted and confirmed means in order to achieve their goals.

When there’s no possibility to fulfill those goals, people try to choose an alternative; respectively, an alternative behavior will lead to corruptive behavior. Merton discusses that people living in bereaved regions show more aggressive behaviors due to the kind of education and higher experience of failure. And due to the same reason, the rejoins in which lower level of social security is dominated, more deviated behaviors will be produced and people are more subject to quarrel and contest and confront with more dangers which lead to security decrease and security decease will lead to deviations increase. For the theoretical framework of the present research, theories of Hirschi, Maslow, Giddens, Parsons and Merton are applied but the most emphasis is on Merton’s Pressure theory.

Table (1): The Relationship between the Hypotheses and Theoretical Research Hypotheses Theoretical Support
1- There’s a relationship between the socio-economic base and social deviations. Merton’ Social Pressure
2- There’s a significant relationship between the social control and social deviations. Hirschi’ Social Link
3- The more social support, the lower social deviations. Maslow’ Needs Theory
4- There’s a relationship between the social trust and the extent of social deviations. Giddens Fundamental Trust
5- The more sense of social security, the lower corruptive behaviors. Parsons’ systematic theory
6- There’s a reverse and negative relationship between the social security and social deviations. Marton’s Social Pressure

Methodology

The research method is descriptive and documentary survey, an individual’s analysis unit and level is micro-level analysis and since we deal with a group of women, we can apply moderate analysis level, too. The statistical population of the study includes 15-29 year-old women living in Babol whose number is 41706, on the basis of the statistic done in 2006. They are selected through random and multi-stage cluster sampling in three parts of Babol and according to Cochran formula, sample’s number was 284. Nominal validity and Chronbach alpha are used respectively in order to determine the questionnaire’s validity and reliability. The value of alpha was in the acceptable range of 0.60 to 0.85. Also, the value of alpha, related to the dependent variable, which was extracted from Rahmani Firoozjah’s standard questions in the journal of social welfare, equals 0.83.

Variables Theoretical and Functional Definitions Social deviations

Actually, distant behaviors from the average level are those social behaviors which confront with non-penal social, corrective and therapeutic responses, in spite of social and moral undesirability. Although, this kind of behavior arouses social reprimand, they don’t exceed of the tolerance threshold and consequently, will not confront with formal and repressive reactions. Social deviations are measured by 20 items which are weak, tolerable and without reproach and are in fact called as weak and moderate deviation (Abbasi Asfajir, Rahmnai Firoozjah, 2009). Self-admission method had been used in order to measure abnormality.

Table (2): respondents according to social deviations Variables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SD</th>
<th>mean</th>
<th>Very low</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>high</th>
<th>Very high</th>
<th>social deviations Variables</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.26</td>
<td>3.44</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>13.4</td>
<td>25.7</td>
<td>26.4</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Late coming home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>3.69</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>15.1</td>
<td>17.6</td>
<td>29.9</td>
<td>32.4</td>
<td>Stealthy look to others</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hypotheses Testing Results

Since Spearman correlation coefficient between the socio-economic base and social deviations equals -0.17 and significance level is 0.003, it is revealed that there’s a reverse and negative relationship, it means that the higher level is the base, the lower will be the deviations and reversely. Also, the intensity of the relationship demonstrates a weak correlation. Pearson correlation coefficient shows that there’s a significant relationship between the social control and the deviations with a significance level of Zero. The intensity of the relationship, 0.23, reveals a weak correlation. It seems that the relationship of this correlation is a direct relationship and not a reverse one, it means that whatever we intensify the social control, the deviations will increase. Pearson correlation coefficient shows that there’s not a significant relationship between the social support and the deviations and the intensity of the correlation is weak. Since the significance level of this relationship is larger than 0.05, the hypothesis that there is a significant relationship between the social support and the deviations, will be rejected.

There’s not a significant relationship between the sense of social security and the deviations and Pearson correlation coefficient shows a weak correlation (0.02). Also the significance level equals 0.6. Pearson correlation coefficient reveals that there’s not a significance relationship between the social trust and the deviations and the intensity of the relationship shows a weak correlation. There’s a negative and reverse relationship between the social security and the deviations, it means that the more the social security increases, the more the social deviations decreases and conversely. Moreover, it’s a significant relationship with a correlation coefficient of -0.22, significance level of 0.00 and a maximum confidence level of 0.95.
In multi-variable regression analysis, socio-economic base as one the independent variables, with values of Beta=0.26 and Sig=0.000, has the most impact on the dependent variable and social support has the minimal impact factor on the dependent variable (social deviations), with values of Beta=0.007, t= -0.108 and sig= 0.9.

Moreover, variables of social security with a value of Beta= -0.19 and social control with a value of Beta=0.15 are in an acceptable significance level. Variables of sense of social security with a value of Beta=0.02, social trust with a value of Beta=0.07 and social support with a value of Beta=0.007 are the variables which have respectively the most impact on the changes determination and prediction of the degree of social deviations. Regarding linearity, social control and sense of social security, respectively, have the minimal degree, 0.951 and the maximum one 0.704. Regarding an alternative of linearity, all values are less than 2 and the pattern is correlated and acceptable.

### Table (4): Correlation Coefficients of the Research Variables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Correlation results</th>
<th>Significance level</th>
<th>Correlation coefficient</th>
<th>Research variables</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>There is a negative and significant relationship.</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>-0.17</td>
<td>Socio-economic base (Spearman)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is a direct and significant relationship.</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.23</td>
<td>Social control (Pearson)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is not a significant relationship.</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>Social support (Pearson)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is not a significant relationship.</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>Sense of social security (Pearson)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is not a significant relationship.</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.09</td>
<td>Social trust (Pearson)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is a negative and significant relationship.</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>-0.22</td>
<td>Social security (Pearson)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The extent of direct impact of the whole independent variables on the dependent variable, the degree of social deviations, among women living in Babol equals 0.22, the indirect impact equals 0.005 and the total of direct and indirect impacts equals 0.225. According to the results of the path analysis, it can be concluded that variables of social security with a total impact of -0.19, socioeconomic base with the impact of 0.27 and social control with a total impact of 0.15 play the major roles in the changes of the dependent variable.

Furthermore, the variable of social trust has the minimal impact on determining the dependent variable of the social deviations’ degree among women.

### Table (5): Coefficients of Multi-variable Regression

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VIF</th>
<th>Tolerance</th>
<th>Sig</th>
<th>T</th>
<th>Beta</th>
<th>Std.B</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>Variables</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.066</td>
<td>0.938</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>7.552</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>6.959</td>
<td>52.549</td>
<td>Fixed value (deviation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.086</td>
<td>0.921</td>
<td>0.001</td>
<td>-3.361</td>
<td>-0.19</td>
<td>0.098</td>
<td>-0.328</td>
<td>Social security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.420</td>
<td>0.704</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.468</td>
<td>0.027</td>
<td>0.184</td>
<td>0.086</td>
<td>Sense of social security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.347</td>
<td>0.743</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>-0.108</td>
<td>-0.007</td>
<td>0.149</td>
<td>-0.016</td>
<td>Social support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.051</td>
<td>0.951</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>2.413</td>
<td>0.153</td>
<td>0.172</td>
<td>0.415</td>
<td>Social control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.126</td>
<td>0.888</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>4.689</td>
<td>0.263</td>
<td>0.653</td>
<td>3.063</td>
<td>Socio-economic base</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.066</td>
<td>0.938</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>1.292</td>
<td>0.075</td>
<td>0.110</td>
<td>0.142</td>
<td>Social trust</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

R=0.41, R²=0.16, F=9.332, Sig=0.000
Discussions and Conclusion

Security phenomenon does not exist out of national boundaries or societies, however, factors leading to non-security should be searched in the societies and the plans of political, economic, social and cultural systems. Therefore, any factor which threats the people can create problems and issues that endanger the social security.

Social deviations, non-conforming behaviors with social values, are the obstacles of probing about one of the most basic goals of social security which is the protection of fundamental and life values of a cultural system of every community in which social deviations, based on the assumptions and social conditions of the community, are recognized as a threat or vulnerability or both of them. However, what is obvious, is that social deviations, as the denial of social security and reducer of the spiritual authority of the community, is affected by some internal and external social factors present in economic, political, social, and cultural arena such as normative disorder, rapid and accelerated modernization process, the process of globalization and the information revolution. Although, it’s impossible to create a community free from deviations and delinquents, it’s possible to create a community in which social deviations are controlled and restrained. Security and deviations are some issues which the main concerns of policy-makers and people in both regional and global level. The results of the present study are used in order to reinforce the applied theoretical fundamentals and to confirm the previous research findings. It means that, on the basis of Merton’s social pressure theory, whenever there’s disproportion between the accepted goals and the means needed in order to achieve them, and also the individual is not in an appropriate situation regarding the economical, welfare, and livelihoods, the individual takes step towards deviations in order to fulfill his unachievable dreams. According to Hirschi’ social control theory, if four elements of dependence, commitment, involvement and belief weakens, and the individual loses his interest to others and his commitment to them, and also he has no hobby which involves him, and loses his believes, obviously, he will draw towards social deviations.

On the basis of Maslow needs theory, if the emotions and social and family supports decreases, insecurity and social pathologies will increase; therefore, theses deprivations and lack of needs’ fulfillment lead to an increase of deviational behaviors.

According to Giddens’ fundamental trust theory, whenever the trust to the individual’s attitude towards himself and his surrounding world and towards the family and the friends, and also the trust in a generalized level towards the community fades, insecurity and deviations’ enhancement may occur. According to Parsons’ systematic theory, if four social subsystems don’t supervise their duties and when any of the individuals can’t adapt themselves with the environment, gather the sources needed in order to achieve the goals and create the internal harmony between the components, actually create the ways of dealing with the deviations, obviously, their emotions will be affected and be drawn towards the deviations. On the basis of Merton’s social pressure theory, when people in the process of socialization learn how to recognize the important cultural goals, at the same time, choose the culturally accepted
and confirmed means in order to achieve them. When there’s no possibility to fulfill the goals, people try to find an alternative which possibly its consequence will be deviated behavior, and the individuals turn to violent behaviors in order to compensate the failures.

Suggestions

1) Providing special facilities for the regions which are low in terms of socio-economic status.
2) Creating free classes for reinforcing women’s self-confidence.
3) Using Teaser, educational films for public awareness of the consequences of deviant behaviors.
4) Using trained and skilled forces in security agencies to reduce distortions.
5) Implementing social security plan with the approach of using effective and predictive strategies of crime commitment.
6) Providing classes for families in order to promote women’s social support.
7) Legislation to enhance security and reduce distortions in the community.

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