

SOCIOLOGICAL MODELS OF DECISION-MAKING STRUCTURING IN FEMALE GRAMMAR SCHOOL STUDENTS

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Abstract

The issue of this paper is to recognize a model of sociological structuring of female grammar school students, in order to obtain the necessary knowledge about the mindsets of people who may decide in the future. For the necessity of problem resolution, we used a sample of entity from 647 girls, from first to fourth year of Grammar school, described with 52 indicators from sociological stratification domain (Saksida & Petrovič, 1990). Data were gathered by survey, where each statement is marked with 5 modalities from "I do not agree at all" to "I agree, completely". After normalization of category data and basic statistics, factor analysis per sets of indicators is conducted (13 sets and 4 indicators) in order to obtain latent dimensions that better present treated subspace. This way we obtained 13 factors out of which 9 is from macro sociological (stratification) and 4 from micro sociological space (cliques). On such formed variables classic canonical correlation analysis was applied in order to determine linear combination between two sets of variables. Obtained results indicate presence of three significant canonical factors. Indicators of the first canonical factor are positively directed toward economical status and management tendencies; indicators of the second canonical factor are positively directed toward political status and functional cliques and negatively toward residential status and regulatory clique. The conclusion would be that the treated sample recognizes three models of sociological decision making structuring and that is; authority model connected with capital and with complete social power, then model of conservative decision making through politics by excluding system management and model of element acting with disappointment in environment.

Key words: female students, stratification, micro-sociology, analysis, values, decisions making

Introduction

In ancient times of primitive man, the world was dangerous but logically simple place. There was a wild planet Earth that, with its own development rose different creatures, including humans, and influencing them through its development enabled their own development. With his possibilities a man rose above other living beings mastering the planet's physics, even above the planet itself, assorting micro and macro social relations (Garcia-Olivares, 1993). A man's primary task at that time was survival. That is why all his possibilities, thoughts and ambitions, were instinctively aimed in that direction. But the world around him changed, becoming more and more complex, so the man himself had to change – by learning. He was discovering and developing while managing things and events around him, which initiated him and led him to higher and better levels (Bonacin Da, 2008). One of the basic things, even with that primitive management, was exactly the decision making, in other words, choosing direction, and choice of one or more possibilities (Bahtijarević-Šiber & Sikavica, 2001). However, each new cognition, offered new possibility, which made him to choose again and to choose new possibilities, where we lost primary simplicity of the world as mere survival. Now a man had a choice. For living he had to have a shelter, but he was able to choose a cave instead of leaf. Also he had to have food and water.

But he was able to choose whether he will eat entire animal he killed or save some for tomorrow, whether he will settle along the river, or go for water occasionally. He could live alone, or choose a community of a few people, but what he would have decided to do, would determine his future with clear consequences (Braithwaite, 2008). Besides that, after each choice he made, he acknowledged something, integrated this knowledge into existing and continued further (Bonacin Da, 2008). Same the world where a man lived was continuously developing offering countless possibilities. Today, as in the beginning of his existence, a man has to decide which possibility is the best for him. However the fact is inevitable, that decision making today, considering progressive growth of possibilities, actually became artistry. Decision making, out of all actions that rose from a man's existence, is the key one for quantity and especially quality of various positive consequences of his living and desired success. The importance of decision making is obvious regarding the fact it's actually choosing direction, procedure of selection between two or more possibilities, complexly structured of few segments: preparing decision, making decision, implementing decision and control of decision implementation (Bahtijarević-Šiber, Sikavica, 2001). Decision-making is the procedure that leads to some possible solutions within areal of selective situations.

A man, individual, is learning to make decisions since he is a child. All this is based on knowing: a) conditions that lead to decision making, and b) assumptions about possible consequences of certain decision. Obviously, the conditions that led to necessity of decision making are linked to the past, i.e. previous events, and possible consequences are linked to the future, i.e. potential events that will occur based on the decision. Certainly, on this time scale there is c) presence that is marked with recognizing what is important at the moment when the decision is being made, which presents short presence regarding the past and the future. From previously mentioned, it is clear relevant is education since the early age, in order to accumulate maximally possible effective cognitions based on which there is objective chance to choose the decision that has and could have desired consequences.

Problem and aim

As it is presented, the decision making is inevitable. Besides, because of series of possibilities, influence from surroundings and consequences that only later visible, the procedure of decision making doesn't have to be simple and it's often linked to a certain deadlines. Many today's authors from different domains, agree in fact that decision making is particularly hard for female population, especially in the areas where decision making is as crucial as the cognition of *ME* (ego) (Baert & de Schampheleire, 1988). Generally, women are less involved in decision making in bodies of politics, in large corporations, sports organizations etc. Considering the High school is the time when opinions and attitudes are being formed that are shaping men that will decide, it was interesting to observe how grammar school female students see the decision making as the basic management link, what made them a subject of this work. The issue of this paper is recognizing the model of sociological structuring of decision making in tested population of grammar school female students in order to gather necessary knowledge about way of thinking of person who might make decisions in future, which can be used for its eventual encouragement, guidance, and of course better and more adequate education.

Methods

For the requirements of this research the sample of 647 respondents was surveyed- Grammar school female students in Herzegovina described with 52 survey indicators from sociological stratification domain (Saksida & Petrovič, 1990). Data were gathered by survey (author Danijela Bonacin), where each statement was marked with 5 modalities from "I do not agree at all" to "I agree completely". After normalization of categorical data and basic statistic, we conducted factor analysis within subspace, 4 indicators, in order to obtain latent dimensions in a way that each indicator contributes to an actual extent. This way we obtained 13 factors that are further treated as variables (table 1).

Factors of indicators of macro sociological i.e. stratification area were identified and described as: *educational status* (learning and education), *place of birth* (all attributes), *creation of social networks* (many contacts), *professional status* (knowledge and professionalism), *political status* (essence of politics), *political orientation* (positive, active, activity), *economical status* (commitment to money), *life style* (fashion and fortune attributes), and *residential status* (good current position) and factors of macro sociological field are: *functional clique* (systematic decision making), *opposition clique* (aim toward personal activity), *regulative clique* (deliberate marginalization) and *management tendencies* (general ambition for management). With such prepared data, canonic correlation analysis was (Bonacin, 2004) with 9 logical predictors (stratification) and 4 criteria (micro sociological) for linear combinations between these two sets of variables.

Results

Results in table 2 indicate the existence of three significant pairs of canonical factors which contain both fields, macro sociological and micro sociological. Canonical correlations of significant factors are average (0.47) even low (0,26 and 0,17) but their significance is undoubted. Macro sociological (stratification) subgroup of the first canonical factor makes *economical status* (0,74), *professional status* (0,48), *creating social network* (0,44), *political orientation* (0,43), *life style* (0,36) *residential status* (0,33), and micro sociological (cliques) make *management tendencies* (0,86), *functional clique* (0,51), *regulative clique* (0,43) and *opposition clique* (0,33) (table 3). Macro sociological (stratification) subgroup of second canonical factor makes *political status* (0,55), *educational status* (0,42), *creating social network* (0,35) and *life style* (0,32), and micro sociological (stratification) subgroup of second factor makes *functional clique* (0,80) and *management tendencies* (-0,46) (table 3).

Macro sociological (stratification) subgroup of the third canonical factor makes *political orientation* (0,73), and *residential status* (-0,31), and micro sociological (stratification) subgroup of the third factor makes *regulative clique* (-0,85) (table 3). From the results obtained it is obvious that latent indicators of the first canonical factor positively directed toward economical status and management tendencies. Latent indicators of the second canonical factor are positively directed toward political status and functional cliques, and negatively toward management tendencies, while latent indicators of the third canonical factor positively directed toward political orientation and negatively toward residential status and regulatory clique. The conclusion would be that Grammar school female students show three models of decision making structuring and that is in a way those three models are significantly different and with different consequences in concrete sociological areal.

Table 1. Primary indicators and saturation of indicators in local factors

Latent space	Indicators	F
Stratification Socialization Education status	The level of education is less important today than before.	-0.27
	Everyone needs education regardless age, sex, religion...	0.51
Education status	Learning is an important education aspect in society value transfer.	0.79
	Better education provides better job.	0.63
Stratification Socialization Birth place	I love the place of my birth.	0.53
	My birth place defines characteristics of a man born there.	0.62
	Young people work on contribution of their birth place.	0.71
	Young people should stay in their birth place.	0.72
Stratification Socialization Creating social network	I love to be in contact with many and different people.	0.78
	Many people respect my opinion and attitudes.	0.76
	People should establish strong relations with small numb. of friends.	-0.20
	Creating relations today is a matter of interest.	0.09
Stratification Institutionalization Professional status	Most people are experts in what they do.	0.62
	Knowledge is used for general benefit.	0.74
	Professionalism replaced emotions at work.	0.24
	Professionalism guaranties success at work.	0.61
Stratification Institutionalization Political status	Politics is the most important segment of any society.	0.71
	Political status guarantees safety.	0.76
	Political position increases according to knowledge	0.64
	Political status is perpetual.	0.46
Stratification Institutionalization Political orientation	Decide to completely accept rules of certain politics.	0.75
	Be oriented politically means act positively.	0.78
	Political opinion should be changed according to status.	0.50
	I am active or will be actively included in political process.	0.51
Stratification Sanction Economic status	Each man has financially as much as he makes an effort.	0.18
	You are respected in a society when you have good income.	0.56
	All my life activities I will direct toward making money.	0.78
	Material goods are the most important part of man's status.	0.74
Stratification Sanction Life style	People today aim at excessively high standard.	0.19
	Each man has to have a house, pool, car, laptop, traveling	0.66
	Fashion is important part of social position.	0.78
	Each man has to build his own style.	0.51
Stratification Sanction Residual status	I live in a place I always dreamt of.	0.75
	Regulations of community I live in are great.	0.76
	Residence is not that important nowadays.	0.48
	The place I live in is well linked to the rest of the world.	0.69
Micro sociological Functional clique	The rules are always conditioned by the same decision makers.	0.38
	People that are setting rules are stable and independent.	0.65
	People who control institutions are politically very active.	0.70
	Decision makers are prone to arrangements.	0.68
Micro sociological Opposite clique	I think I would be a better leader in some institutions.	0.79
	One should put an effort in accepting part of decision making.	0.70
	It's easy to organize group that could better lead institutions people	0.44
	Opposition has bigger impact on people then authority.	0.22
Micro sociological Regulative clique	When deciding it's better not to get involved.	0.68
	When u r not in the centre of events you percept problems better.	0.32
	The real man is individual and doesn't have to put an effort in group.	0.69
	Many like me, if not all and that is the best.	0.41
Micro sociological Management tendencies	I set goals well in life and try to accomplish them.	0.24
	Each way is good if it leads you to your goal.	0.72
	Capable manager finds his interest in everything.	0.72
	We have to manage people, things and events around us.	0.67

(F = projections of indicators at certain local factors)

Table 2. Canonical factors – significance testing

Root	RO	HI	DF	W	p
1	0.47	225.69	36	0.70	0.000
2	0.26	69.74	24	0.90	0.000
3	0.17	25.21	14	0.96	0.034
4	0.10	6.24	6	0.99	0.398

(Root = extracted canonical factor, RO = canonical correlation HI = hi-quadrant test, DF = degrees of freedom, W = Wilks lambda, p = probability)

Table3. Canonical factors – factor structure

	KAN1	KAN2	KAN3
Education status	0.03	0.42	-0.03
Birth place	0.12	0.00	-0.13
Creation of soc. network	0.44	0.35	0.27
Professional status	0.48	-0.02	0.11
Political status	0.26	0.55	0.03
Political orientation	0.43	-0.04	0.73
Economical status	0.74	-0.28	-0.28
Life style	0.36	0.32	0.12
Residential status	0.33	0.21	-0.31
	KAN1	KAN2	KAN3
Functional clique	0.51	0.80	0.21
Opponent clique	0.33	0.25	-0.16
Regulation clique	0.43	-0.07	-0.85
Management tendencies	0.86	-0.46	0.19

Discussion and conclusion

Social stratification is a special form of social inequality, which means the presence of social groups that are ranked one above the other is usually based on power, prestige and wealth that members have (Haralambos & Heald, 1989). Socialization is man preparing for inclusion in these social groups, and for position status and prestige, which these groups provide, and learn roles they have to play in order to satisfy necessary criteria of certain (Fanuko et al., 1995). Success of that preparation depends on proper and timely made decisions. It is clear that during primary socialization in family, parents decide instead of a child while it's needed, but as soon as a child becomes independent and free, as soon as it begins to make its own decisions, the right ones, the sooner it will successfully fit in existing social system. Entire essence of the decision making process, no matter how complex or simple it might be, it is presented in the fact that the choice of possibility, or choosing direction is performing "now", and the consequences of this decision are visible after time, often years later as it is the case in sport. It would be understandable to make "the right" decisions at the right time. However, what this means to make the right decisions? How to estimate what is right and what is wrong? In normal course of events, with adequate development, right primary decision making arrives as a natural thing. The whole anthropological being simply reacts on natural laws that created it. In advanced stages of human development, where he develops and assorting the world he lives in, the man cannot rely only on instincts any longer. In order to make a decision he has to have certain knowledge and experience, depending on the current level he is on. That knowledge is generally bigger when the person is more mature, so the girl is choosing between a doll and a book, although she is letting a feeling to carry her that tells her what she wants and what she doesn't want, not even thinking about other things. She has to gather experience and knowledge that would decide her wishes.

Adults already have that experience and knowledge and they are applying it more or less successful and they are dealing with the consequences, sometimes learning harder about how to prevent negative consequences, i.e. how to decide correctly. High school is the time when the girls stop being girls and they are not anthropologically advanced to be a grown women, they are going thorough physical and psychological changes (development of sexual organs, sexual maturity, weight, height, physiological and motor changes ...) conditioned by genetic inheritance and sociological area they live in (Đorđević, 1978). That is the times where the opinions and attitudes are forming that form them as grown women. For the first year of high school they are still trying to be children and they are dragging sociological system they existed in before, but in second grade situation are changing. In second grade dynamic relations appear that permanently stay, which can be explained by self-realization or creation of own value system within sociological area (Bonacin Da. & Bonacin, 2010). That is the right time when we should monitor their development, support sociological models formed in different domains, to get the results that would help eventual influence and directing as well as quality education. Specifically, over this population many researches were conducted and the results indicate that the girls of this age recognize things in their own way. For example, it is possible with macro and micro sociological differentiation, based on management tendencies, define their current management status and open possibility of recognizing future management status of Grammar school girls in (Bonacin Da. et al., 2009). Further, they see the essence of education, as the value system with necessity of competent decisions making existence as the final goal (Bonacin Da. et al., 2010). The obvious conclusion follows that they are aware of the existence and importance of management and decision making, their impacts on society and especially the importance of education as an important condition for later managing actions.

Further the results of process research that we are all subject to, presented that individual (object), in this case this High school girl, during decision making can act in accordance with three vital reactions and their combinations 1) On-line acute solving problem (proportional regulation), 2) common including relations with other objects (derivation regulation) 3) Batch long-term accumulation cognitions and resources (integration regulation) (Bonacin & Bonacin Da., 2008). If we consider the results related to all areas of human life and connect them with political data (the top of decision making) Milbrath (according to Haralambos & Heald, 1989) which considers that in the West 30% of population is apolitical, 60% is on the level of observing activity and only 7-9% is involved in transitive activities that include party financing and meetings presence while 1-3% participates in political race, we will get interesting conclusions. This would mean the majority of people in the west is actually in on-line pattern when they are only instinctively deciding, solving only current problems without a plan. Only a small number of them includes relations with other objects which means their decisions depend on this objects so they have to prepare more strategically (have to think about them), while only a small part of them accumulated cognitions and resources so far that they can make crucial decisions that later future of the area they are taking part depends on. These data are significant for discussion about decision making because according to Dahl (according to Haralambos & Heald, 1989), a man will not get involved in political race if he thinks the possibility of his influence on the outcome is small. It is obvious the possibility of his influence on the results should be increased. What does this mean? He has to be educated in high school when there is enough knowledge to understand and enough will to learn. As the results of this research indicate, high school girls recognize three models of sociological decision making structuring. One side they recognize the authority connected with capital and complete social power (long term won power), recognize decision making based on politics with exclusion of system management (short term donated political authority) and instinctively with disappointment in environment (constant criticism). Hence, they have certain knowledge and attitude toward it. Maybe, just then, it's time to instruct and direct them. As we already mentioned Grammar school girls recognize three models of sociological decision structuring which alerts to three-dimensional sociological system, not always compatible with other researches (Bridgeforth, 2005). The first model, described by the first canonical factor is obviously product of current ways of living where the power is excessively glorified in all segments, especially when the general perception of that power articulates through few important attributes of social success where primarily attribute is the money. High professional status, densely interwoven social network of contacts and the maximum preference governance (people, events...) and is certainly an attempt to completely control surround.

Meaning, a micro sociological phenomenon in the local environment of the individual. This way, and linked to previously described decision making, it is clear that high school girls recognize certain way and position of individual that would be interpreted as **model of authority connected with capital and complete social power**, since the first canonical factor actually presents this. Most probably, we talk about highly educated authorities that dedicated their lives to securing power and role described, so we could say they worked hard for their status. This status should be viewed in completely new way as a composite of more actualizations (Carruthers, 1997). The second canonical factor is differently constituted. The domination of functional clique is noticed, with prominent political and educational status, and negative management tendency. If we assume, realistically, that in sport, management, politics, economy, education ..., we could successfully act without management, we should ask ourselves what the deal is. Highly prominent political status combined with prominent projection of functional clique and negative note of management, obviously describes **decision making based on politics and exclusion of system management measures**. Here we obviously talk about the way of forming decisions in order to try to enforce certain solutions and decisions in a short term and without system consideration. Such behavior is characteristic for the whole spectrum of high-ranking conservative authorities that their decisions are usually to satisfy a small number, mostly them and their closest associates, focused criteria, without any guarantee that the "move" pulling for the common good without thinking about cross-cultural relations (Schneider, 1999). It is likely that this is about positions that are generally temporary "donated" in some way from who knows what reason, so the decision is unstable and strictly focused on short-term (e.g. one mandate or two). Such behavior does not describe the long-term commitment to the processes of the overall status, but focus on the easy and rapid exploitation of the current position, without much thought to the consequences. Finally the third canonical factor is described dominantly with two opposite latent indicators, where on the positive side there is strong politically active action, and on the negative more intensive attribute of regulative clique. While the political engagement is clear, regulative clique should be explained a little (Momirović, 1984; Bonacin et al., 2008). Namely, it set of micro sociological actions with aim to change direction between actual responsible clique (functional) and the clique that has tendency to take responsibility (opposite). Regulative clique, with accepting and selecting solutions succeeds to act positively and synergic, maneuvering constructive suggestions and sometimes trading, and win stronger position then it realistically earns. From this it undoubtedly follows that the behavior in this way has its roots in an attempt to decide through other than that pushed in front. With the third canonical factor in this research we have situation of extremely negative position of such "regulation".

It is expressed with emphasized political activity. In this way this factor describes very specific activity where he maximized only political acting, without any other positive indicator included. When we add negative projection of residual status we obtain clear position of **political immoderacy with exclusion of compromise and dissatisfaction with current environment**, so we speak of instinctive acting where there is no sociological attributes of network formation, special life style, attributes of power, money etc. This factor shows energy of concentrated rural basis without serious including in this complexity of macro and micro sociological relations as well as aiming toward simplicity of cognitions in wide social field. Actually this factor presents "black-white" world concept with a lot of roaming and more uncontrolled discharge in profiling of sociological position. It seems it is possible to notice resemblance of the described Bonacin & Blažević (2006) canonic factor with three processes, but these theses should be additionally verified.

As we can see from this research, in high school girls recognize and maybe even reproduce sociological characteristics and perceptions of adults (from family, school, church and other institutions, underground levels, mass media etc, so the research brought clear mechanism of decision making structuring. It is possible that respondents in the following age, will continue their education or start to work, maybe even a family, so it is important to recognize their actual and already formed attitudes and value systems (de Guzman, 1997; Stepanić et al., 2005).

When it comes to decision making, they will have a change, according to their real sociological position, to act in one of above described ways, where we have to accept the fact that already as young women they will engage in family, social and business spheres of life (Modell, 2005). Which way will it be, or what combination of these methods, as can be clearly seen, is not all the same.

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MODELI SOCIOLOŠKOG STRUKTURIRANJA ODLUČIVANJA GIMNAZIJKI

Sažetak

Problem rada je prepoznavanje modela sociološkog strukturiranja odlučivanja gimnazijalki u cilju dobivanja potrebnih spoznaja o načinu razmišljanja osoba koje će možda odlučivati u budućnost. Za potrebe rješavanja problema korišten je uzorak entiteta od 647 djevojaka od prvog do četvrtog razreda gimnazije, opisan sa 52 indikatora iz prostora sociološke stratifikacije (Saksida & Petrović, 1990). Podaci su prikupljeni anketom, pri čemu je svaka tvrdnja označena sa 5 modaliteta od „uopće se ne slažem“ do „potpuno se slažem“. Nakon normalizacije kategorijalnih podataka i osnovne statistike sprovedena je faktorska analiza po skupovima indikatora (13 skupova po 4 indikatora) kako bi se dobile latentne dimenzije koje bolje prezentiraju tretirani podprostor. Na taj način dobiveno je 13 faktora od čega 9 iz makrosociološkog (stratifikacijskog) a 4 iz mikrosociološkog prostora (klike). Na tako formiranim varijablama primjenjena je klasična kanonička korelacijska analiza kako bi se utvrdile linearne kombinacije između dva skupa varijabli. Dobiveni rezultati pokazuju postojanje tri značajna kanonička faktora. Indikatori prvog kanoničkog faktora pozitivno su usmjereni ka ekonomskom statusu i upravljačkim tendencijama; indikatori drugog kanoničkog faktora pozitivno su usmjereni ka političkom statusu i funkcionalnim klikama a negativno ka upravljačkim tendencijama, dok su indikatori trećeg kanoničkog faktora pozitivno usmjereni ka političkoj orijentaciji a negativno ka rezidencijalnom statusu i regulatornoj kliku. Za zaključiti je da tretirani uzorak prepoznaje tri modela sociološkog strukturiranja odlučivanja i to model vlasti povezan s kapitalom i uz kompletnu socijalnu moć, zatim model konzervativnog odlučivanja temeljem politike uz isključenje sustavnog upravljanja, te model stihijskog djelovanja uz nezadovoljstvo sredinom.

Ključne riječi: gimnazijalke, stratifikacija, mikrosociologija, analiza, vrijednosti, odlučivanje

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