

Research on Hispanic Psychology

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Editors

Volume 2



RESEARCH
ON HISPANIC
PSYCHOLOGY

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HISPANIC PSYCHOLOGY**

VOLUME 2

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HISPANIC PSYCHOLOGY**

VOLUME 2

**CIRILO HUMBERTO GARCÍA CADENA
AND
LAURA KARINA CASTRO SAUCEDO
EDITORS**



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PREFACE

This work is based on various research carried out from different contexts containing discussions from the national, family structure, staff, sexual, work, parenting styles, risk factors such as crime, among others, to demonstrate advances in psychological research of individuals who are part of a society, group, or community. This knowledge is intended to contribute to the development of new forms of intervention and social research that guarantee the timely attention to social phenomena through a legal, theoretical, and scientific framework that has been aroused throughout history in Latin America. This work emphasizes the importance of Latin American scientific psychology in the study, acquiring of knowledge about, and understanding of the progress of human behavior regarding reality, about the different situations that happen to it in fields such as politics, education and in improving the quality of life of people.

Chapter 1 - Posttraumatic growth is known as the perception of positive changes after being exposed to a highly stressful event. Its study allows obtaining a wider view of the consequences of a stressful event in people's life. Particularly, this chapter is focused on the learning that people obtain from these potentially traumatic experiences. In Chile, several studies, whose objectives have been to comprehend the posttraumatic growth phenomenon and recognize strategies and

conditions that make people's growth possible, have been carried out in order to enable the design of procedures and stimulate their development. This chapter shows findings related to posttraumatic growth worldwide and in Chile through studies that have been performed with people exposed to natural disasters, police brutality and work accidents, among other stressors. After reviewing the variables related to growth, intervention ideas deduced from findings are presented.

Chapter 2 - This study aimed to answer questions about the causal relationship between the independent variables optimism, subjective well-being, hope, and organizational social identity and the dependent variable of job efficiency. A total of 361 employees participated: 224 men and 137 women, with an average age of 17.9 years, $SD = 2.11$ and 1.75, respectively. Structural equation modeling was performed and identified a positive influence of the independent variables (except for optimism) on the dependent variable. Overall, the four independent variables account for 6% of job efficiency (small effect size; Cohen, 1988). An analysis of the variance (ANOVA) was performed and revealed a significant difference at .002 among the three levels of job efficiency in only one of the independent variables (organizational social identity). In conclusion, the evidence supports only the hypothesis of the causal relationship of the variable organizational social identity on job efficiency; organizational social identity was measured using an instrument designed by the first author, which proved valid and reliable.

Chapter 3 - In this chapter, the authors present the results of two studies involving a series of consecutive decisions in which subjects have the option to play a game or abstain from playing the game in order to maintain the *status quo*. Both studies are identical, but the second study incorporates the effort requirements to access risk options. According to the Prospect Theory, decisions are dependent on a reference value, and therefore, a subject's preference for risk depends on whether the subject is in the gain or loss domain with respect to how the game's outcome is perceived. However, in the case of concurrent decisions, the results obtained immediately prior could alter the relationship between the reference value and the subject's attitude towards risk, creating a shift in

the initial reference point. The results of the first study indicate that the initial endowment of the game is robust. Throughout the sequence of decisions, the endowment remains as a fixed reference point, which determines the risk preferences of the participants. However, in the second study, the effort requirements cause a change in the effect of the initial reference point. The authors interpret this effect as a change in the slope of the reference value curve.

Chapter 4 - The aims of this research were: 1) to study the concurrent validity of the internalized homonegativity scale (IHN), taking into account sociodemographic, psychosocial, social interaction, and sexual behavior variables; 2) to determine which version of the scale, be it with 16 items (IHN-16) or 14 items (IHN-14), has greater validity; and 3) to compare the results of the present study with the results of a previously performed research in which IHN-16 scale was used in a similar population. Through a non-probability sampling, a sample of 202 medical students from a private university in the city of Monterrey, Mexico, was recruited. The sample was composed of 98 women (48.5%), 95 men (47%) and 9 persons who did not report their gender (4.5%). The percentage of heterosexual participants was 95% while 5% of participants informed that they had a non-heterosexual orientation. A self-report instrument composed of a questionnaire about sociodemographic, psychosocial, social interaction, and sexual behavior information, the IHN-16 scale and a set composed of 17 multi-item scales, was administered to all participants. The total score of the IHN-16 scale showed convergent validity, with a moderate strength of association, with religious affiliation, having homosexual friends, attitude toward people living with HIV, gender role conflict, benevolent sexism, masculinity ideology in interpersonal relationships, attitude towards sexuality, neosexism, orientation toward homosexuality, frequency of attendance at religious services, and intrinsic religious orientation. Likewise, it showed convergent validity with a low strength of association, with sex (men or women), having homosexual relatives, machismo, right-wing authoritarianism, psychopathy, extrinsic-social religious orientation, extrinsic-personal religious orientation, and age. Alexithymia and

dispositional optimism were independent of the total score of IHN-16 scale, but these variables showed weak correlation with the rejection factor toward public manifestation of homosexuality. Self-esteem and number of sexual partners were also independent of the total score, but these variables showed a weak correlation with the factor related to the conceptualization of homosexual persons as incapable of intimacy. Having friends or relatives living with HIV and them having begun active sexual life were two variables that had no effect on internalized homonegativity. The IHN-16 scale showed greater concurrent validity than the IHN-14 scale. In addition, the level of internalized homonegativity was higher when assessed through the IHN-16 scale than when assessed through the IHN-14 scale. The results of the present study were equivalent to those obtained in the previous study conducted with the IHN-16 scale in a similar population. This equivalence gives more support to the conclusions, despite the non-probability sampling used in both investigations. It is concluded that the scale to assess internalized homonegativity has concurrent validity, showing the IHN-16 scale with greater validity than the IHN-14 scale. From the convergence of the present study with the previous one, it can be affirmed that having homosexual friends and religious affiliation have effects on the total score and the three factors of the IHNI-16 scale; self-defined sexual orientation has an effect on the total score of IHN-16 scale as well as on its factors related to rejection toward ones own homoerotic feelings and desires and the conceptualization of homosexual persons as incapable of intimacy; having friends living with HIV/AIDS has effects on the total score of IHN-16 scale and its factor related to rejection toward the public manifestation of homosexuality; sex has effects on the rejection factor toward the public manifestation of homosexuality; and the career that the participant is studying has effects on the rejection factor toward ones own homoerotic feelings and desires. Age, having begun sexually active life, and number of sexual partners are variables that do not have significant effects by themselves or their effects seem to be better explained by the presence of a third variable.

Chapter 5 - This research demonstrates the revision, based on the psychology of delinquency, of an instrument to measure individuals' inclination towards juvenile delinquency. The study considered the variables acceptance of criminal behavior, drug use, criminal friendships and previous extrajudicial regulations as determining factors in the structure of the construct of young people's willingness to commit crimes among individuals in conflict with the law or those at criminal risk. A measurement instrument was designed based on a previous qualitative study and a review of the IGI-J (in Spanish, *Inventario de Gestión e Intervención para Jóvenes*; Management and Intervention Inventory for Young People) to determine a set of items on a Likert scale that would contribute to measuring the willingness to commit crime. Validity and reliability were determined through exploratory factor analysis and confirmatory factor analysis using SPSS version 24 and AMOS version 24. The scale showed good results, with a favorable sampling adequacy (Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin, $KMO = .919$), adequately explained variation (48.40%), and an adequate Cronbach's alpha coefficient of reliability (.902). From the 20 initial reagents, 18 were accepted in the exploratory factor analysis and 17 in the confirmatory factor analysis (CFA). The CFA showed good fit indices (comparative fit index, $CFI = .961$; Tucker-Lewis Index, $TLI = .949$; incremental fit index, $IFI = .962$; normed fit index, $NFI = .936$; root mean square error of approximation, $RMSEA = .08$). Young men maintain higher score means in each variable (acceptance of criminal behavior, $t = 2.49^{**}$, drug use and criminal friendships, $t = 6.37^{**}$ and previous extrajudicial regulations, $t = 6.62^{**}$).

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Chapter 3

**RISK PREFERENCES IN SEQUENTIAL
GAMBLING DECISIONS: A STUDY WITH
BETTING GAMES WITH AND WITHOUT
REQUIREMENT OF PREVIOUS EFFORT**

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