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# Implicit Theories of Intelligence, Morality, and the World in a Sample of Russian Perfectionists\*

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The main goal of the current study is to examine differences across perfectionists' profiles regarding implicit theories of intelligence, morality, and the world. The sample included 202 Russian students, age-range 18-24 ( $M=19.62,\,SD=1.15$ ), 40% male. Short Almost Perfect Scale and Implicit Theories of Intelligence, Morality, and the World Questionnaire was used for data collection. Correlation and regression analysis, latent profile analysis, and the Student's t-test were conducted. The study results show that adaptive perfectionists tend to hold the entity theory about the world and the incremental theory of intelligence. The world for them is a structured place with fixed rules in which they can improve their cognitive skills, correct mistakes and grow up in experiences. Maladaptive perfectionists tend to hold only the entity theory of morality, so they believe in rigid moral principles. Non-perfectionists tend to hold the entity theory of intelligence and incremental theory of morality and the world. They believe that intelligence has limits, the world is a chaotic and unexpected place and morality is fluid and unstable. The findings are presented in the context of defining the differences between three types of perfectionists in terms of their views on the ability to modify cognitive capabilities, moral principles, and the world in general.

Keywords: implicit theories, adaptive perfectionists, maladaptive perfectionists, non-perfectionists

#### Highlights:

- Adaptive perfectionists believe in developing skills and in fixed rules.
- Maladaptive perfectionists have a rigorous system of moral principles.

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- Non-perfectionists believe in intelligence limits, the chaotic world and fluid morality.
- Mitigating rigid moral judgments is necessary for reducing maladaptive perfectionism.

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## Conservatism as a General Factor of Social Attitudes\*

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Previous studies showed the existence of general factors in cognitive abilities, personality traits, and psychopathology symptoms. We hypothesized a similar factor on the apex of social attitudes' hierarchy; furthermore, we assumed that this factor reflects a conservatismliberalism dimension. This hypothesis is tested by factorizing the space of "isms" - a broad and comprehensive model of social attitudes obtained by the lexical paradigm, in an online study (N = 380;  $M_{age} = 32.34[SD = 11.74]$ ; 66.8% females; participants were of Serbian nationality). A General factor is obtained and it was positively loaded by Traditionoriented Religiousness (.76), Unmitigated Self-Interest (.76), and Subjective Spirituality (.34), with negative loadings of Communal Rationalism (-.53) and Inequality Aversion (-.46). Afterwards, we explored the nomological network of this factor: it correlated positively with the Social Dominance Orientation measure of Social Domination, Social Conservatism, Conservation Values, and Binding Moral Foundations; it also had negative associations with the Social Dominance Orientation measure of Egalitarianism, Selftranscendence Values, Individualizing Moral Foundations, Openness to Experience, Support for EU Integrations, Kosovo Independence, and Immigrants' Integration. The obtained nomological network is congruent with the interpretation of the General factor as conservatism. The data suggest that lay people have a singular core attitudinal dimension

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Acknowledgments. The idea of a General Factor of Social Attitudes was conceived in numerous talks the author had with his friend and colleague Boban Petrović. Author would also like to express his gratitude to his students who participated in this research as initial disseminators of the survey.

Data Availability Statement. Data used in the analyses for this manuscript can be found on this link: https://mfr.osf.io/render?url=https%3A%2F%2Fosf.io%2Fv75a4%2Fdownload Conflict of interest. The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

Ethical Approval. All procedures performed in studies involving human participants were in accordance with the ethical standards of the institutional and/or national research committee and with the 1964 Helsinki Declaration and its later amendments or comparable ethical standards.

Informed Consent. Informed consent was obtained from all individual participants included in the study.

\* Please cite as: Međedović, J. (2023). Conservatism as a General Factor of Social Attitudes. *Psihologija*. 56(1), 15–29. https://doi.org/10.2298/PSI210512012M which they use to interpret and make sense of societal events and this fundamental dimension is conservatism-liberalism.

Keywords: social attitudes, general factor, isms, conservatism, personality

- We hypothesized the existence of the General factor of social attitudes (GFA).
- GFA is extracted from the space of lexical social attitudes (isms).
- Loadings of attitudes on GFA suggested that it reflects conservative attitudes.
- This is further confirmed by its relations with other attitudinal and personality variables.

## Cross-Cultural Validity of the Psycho-Social Aspects of Facebook Use (PSAFU) Scale\*

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The Psycho-Social Aspects of Facebook Use (PSAFU) scale was developed by Bodroža and Jovanović (2016) to comprehensively measure psychological and social aspects of the users' Facebook (FB) experiences i.e. compensatory use of FB, self-presentation on FB, socializing, and seeking sexual partners through FB, FB addiction, and FB profile as the virtual self. The scale was previously validated on two Serbian samples. The aim of this study was to examine the validity of the PSAFU scale across multiple cultures, i.e. develop a version of the scale that would be suitable for the cross-cultural study of FB behaviors. The sample consisted of 1.632 respondents from Croatia, Italy, Iran, Serbia, and the UK. Administered questionnaires consisted of the PSAFU scale (Bodroža & Jovanović, 2016), the Big Five Inventory (BFI; John et al., 1991), the Narcissistic Personality Inventory 16 (NPI-16; Ames et al., 2006), socio-demographic, and FB use questions (e.g., time spent on FB on a daily basis, frequency of posting, and number of FB friends). After some modifications and exclusion of the Virtual Self scale, the results of multigroup confirmatory factor analysis show that the PSAFU scale is cross-culturally invariant for the cultures included in this study and suitable for use in them. The remaining dimensions of revised PSAFU scale (PSAFU-R) have statistically significant

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## CROSS-CULTURAL VALIDITY OF THE PSYCHO-SOCIAL ASPECTS OF FACEBOOK USE (PSAFU) SCALE

relationships with measured personality traits and with indicators of FB use, although considerable cross-cultural variations were obtained.

Keywords: PSAFU scale, FB use, personality traits, cross-cultural context

- PSAFU-R scale could be used in the researched cultures with certain modifications.
- PSAFU-R dimensions have meaningful relations with measured personality traits.
- Indicators of FB use correlate significantly with PSAFU-R dimensions.
- Considerable cross-cultural similarities were obtained.

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# The Relationship between Self-consciousness and Career Decision-making Self-efficacy in Disabled and Non-disabled People: Two Moderated Mediation Models\*

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A growing number of studies have focused on psychological factors involved in the career decisions made by individuals with disabilities. This study primarily investigated task-oriented psychological capital as the mediator of the relationship between private/public self-consciousness and career decision-making self-efficacy. Disability status was tested as a moderator of this mediational pathway. By recruiting 257 individuals with disabilities and 258 individuals without disabilities, we found that task-oriented psychological capital mediated the relationship between private/public self-consciousness and career decision-making self-efficacy; however, these two indirect links were weaker for individuals with disabilities than individuals without disabilities, suggesting a moderating effect of disability status. Results are discussed in terms of the potential synergy between private/public self-consciousness and task-oriented psychological capital in the development of career decision-making self-efficacy among individuals with disabilities and individuals without disabilities.

Keywords: self-consciousness, psychological capital, career decision-making self-efficacy, disability status, social cognitive career theory model

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#### THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SELF-CONSCIOUSNESS AND CAREER DECISION-64 MAKING SELF-EFFICACY IN DISABLED AND NON-DISABLED PEOPLE

- Private/public SC was positively associated with CDMSE.
- Task-oriented PsyCap mediated the relation between private/public SC on CDMSE.
- Disability status did moderate the mediation model.

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## A Validation Study of the Self-Compassion Scale-Short Form (SCS-SF) with Ant Colony Optimization in a Turkish Sample\*

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The general purpose of this study is to validate the Turkish version of the short form of Self-Compassion Scale (SCS) by Ant Colony Optimization (ACO). For this purpose, data were collected from two different samples. Sample-1 (n=398) and Sample-2 (n=233) consist of young and middle-aged adults. Short forms were created by selecting the most suitable items for unidimensional, two-factor correlated, six-factor correlated, six-factor higher-order, bifactor-CFA and bifactor-ESEM factor structures using ACO over Sample-1, and the best short form was determined using model-data fit indices. After the determination of the bifactor-ESEM with Sample-1 as the best factor structure, the model data fits and reliability indices of the relevant factor structure were cross-validated on Sample-2. Strict measurement invariance was established between age groups. The results indicate that the SCS-SF developed in this study is a valid and reliable measurement tool with a bifactor-ESEM structure with 12 items, 6 specific factors, and a general factor.

Keywords: self-compassion, SCS-SF, ant colony optimization, short-form selection, confirmatory factor analysis

- The best psychometric findings of SCS-SF were obtained from the bifactor-ESEM model.
- SCS-SF was cross-validated with two samples.
- Strict measurement invariance was established between age groups.
- SCS-SF developed in this study is a valid and reliable measurement tool with 12 items, a general factor, and 6 specific factors.

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# "It was the Best of Times, it was the Worst of Times" – a Tale of Motivational-affective Aspects of Teaching During the 2020–2021 COVID-19 Pandemic in Serbia\*

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In order to shed light on the intrapersonal mechanisms that underlie the teaching in the blended learning environment, which implies the integration of complementary face-to-face and online approaches, we focused on the relationship between teachers' self-efficacy and motivation for teaching, with reference to the mediating role of teachers' emotional experiences. The sample included 341 subject teachers from Serbian primary schools, who use the blended learning model in teaching (84% female; average age 43.97 years). The Teachers' Sense of Efficacy Scale, Emotions in Teaching Inventory – Revised, and Autonomous Motivation for Teaching Scale were used to examine the variables of interest. The overall fit of the mediated model to the data was adequate, confirming the mediating role of teachers' emotions in the relationship between the studied motivational constructs. The results indicate that the motivation for teaching in a blended learning environment relies on self-efficacy in instructional strategies and self-efficacy in classroom management, which partially act through the emotions concerning the experience of tension.

Keywords: teachers' self-efficacy, academic emotions, motivation for teaching, blended learning

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- Teaching that combines face-to-face instruction with computer mediated instruction represents the broader context of the research problem.
- Efficacy in instructional strategies has direct effect on motivation for teaching.
- Tension partially mediates the relations between teachers' self-efficacy and motivation.
- Teaching within blended learning is mostly autonomously regulated.