

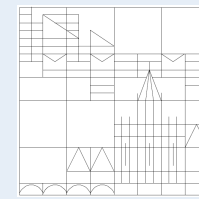
Multilevel Relations among Religiosity and Family Orientation in Adolescence: The Role of Cultural Change

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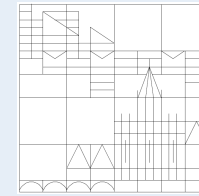
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Cultural Change and Its Impact on Religion and the Family

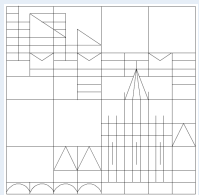
- > Secularization thesis: Religion and traditional values decline with economic prosperity (Norris & Inglehart, 2011)
- > Modernization theory: Impact of the rise of individualism/self-expression values on the family? (Georgas, 2006; Inglehart & Oyserman, 2004; Inkeles, 1998; Kagitcibasi, 2007)
- > Both processes fueled by economic development
 - What about the relation between religion/religiosity and family orientation?
 - Direction of influence? (Eberstadt, 2013)
- > Differential impact of cultural change on different aspects of adolescents' family orientation?
 - Traditional conservative values
 - Importance of family and children in the future



Multilevel Relations of Religiosity and Family Orientation

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- > Individual level: Beneficial effects of religiosity on well-being, mediated through social capital, e.g. the family (Sabatier, Mayer, Friedlmeier, Lubiewska, & Trommsdorff, 2011)
- > Normativity of religiosity (in a culture) related to stronger effects of religiosity (Gebauer, Sedikides, & Neberich, 2012)
- > The current study: Adolescents from 20 cultures in the VOC Study
 - Multilevel effects of personal religiosity and self-reported (relative) SES on different aspects of family orientation (traditional vs. future-oriented)
 - Extrapolation from multi-level cross-sectional model to effects of cultural change (more or less appropriate)
 - Indicators of cultural change (culture-level indicators):
 - Level of religiosity (measured by mean religiosity)
 - Level of affluence and human development (measured by HDI)
 - Level of secular-rational value orientation (World Value Survey)
 - Level of self-expression value orientation (World Value Survey)



Potential of Multilevel-Models in Cross-Cultural Research

Intrinsic or Aggregated

Culture-Level Variables

Individual-Level Variables

VI = Variance Component of Intercept
VS = Variance Component of Slope
CLI = Cross-Level Interaction
ICC = Intraclass-Correlation

Unpackage cultural differences

Unpackage functional differences (CLI)

Identify functional differences

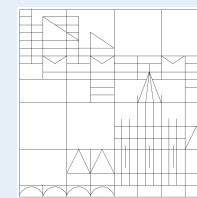
Identify cultural differences (ICC)

VI

VS

Outcome Variable

Identify average effects across cultures and conditional effects per culture



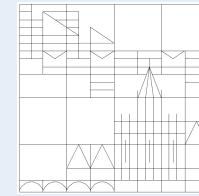
Sample & Individual-Level IVs: Adolescents from 20 cultures

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Culture	Males	Females	Total	Religiosity* Mean (SD)		SES** Mean (SD)	
China	129	177	306	2.36	(1.39)	2.68	(0.75)
Czech Republic	0	260	260	1.54	(1.14)	3.17	(0.67)
Estonia	147	151	298	1.38	(0.84)	2.66	(0.68)
France	90	110	200	2.38	(1.33)	3.47	(0.59)
Germany	137	174	311	2.29	(1.31)	3.22	(0.59)
India (Varanasi)	148	152	300	4.28	(0.90)	3.17	(1.00)
India (Pondicherry)	150	150	300	3.81	(1.02)	2.73	(0.72)
Indonesia	135	165	300	4.84	(0.41)	2.83	(0.73)
Italy	176	205	381	2.79	(1.17)	2.87	(0.65)
Jamaica	146	165	311	4.14	(1.09)	3.20	(0.97)
Japan	77	130	207	1.75	(1.07)	3.10	(0.80)
Israel	69	119	188	3.55	(1.17)	3.07	(0.72)
Palestinian Authority	78	98	176	4.44	(0.79)	3.26	(0.61)
Poland	130	197	327	3.91	(0.91)	3.06	(0.71)
Romania	48	52	100	4.16	(0.92)	3.31	(0.66)
Russia	152	181	333	2.92	(1.09)	2.76	(0.61)
South Africa	122	195	317	4.14	(1.06)	2.63	(0.87)
Switzerland	55	76	131	2.59	(1.35)	3.17	(0.69)
Turkey	144	162	306	3.93	(1.07)	3.13	(0.85)
USA	121	216	337	3.80	(1.33)	3.22	(0.70)
Total	2254	3135	5389	$F = 237.6, p < .001, \eta^2 = .46$		$F = 24.1, p < .001, \eta^2 = .09$	

*Religious beliefs 1 = not at all important – 5 = very important

**Economic status compared to others 1 = low – 5 = upper



Dependent Variables: Adolescents' Family Orientation

1. Traditional (Conservative) Family Values

- 5 items short scale derived from Georgas (2001)
- “We should honor and protect our family’s reputation” (sample item)
- Scale from 1 = “Not important at all” to 5 = “Very important”
- Cronbachs’ Alpha between .45 and .81

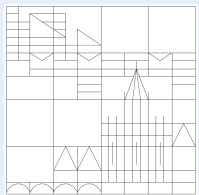
2. Value of Children (VOC)

- Utilitarian-normative VOC: Economic and social-normative reasons for having children
 - 8 items, e.g., “To have one more person to help your family economically” / “Because older relatives feel that you should have more children”
 - Cronbachs’ Alpha between .55 and .86
- Psychological VOC: Psychological/emotional reasons for having children
 - 7 items, e.g., “Because it is a joy to have a small baby”
 - Cronbachs’ Alpha between .72 and .89

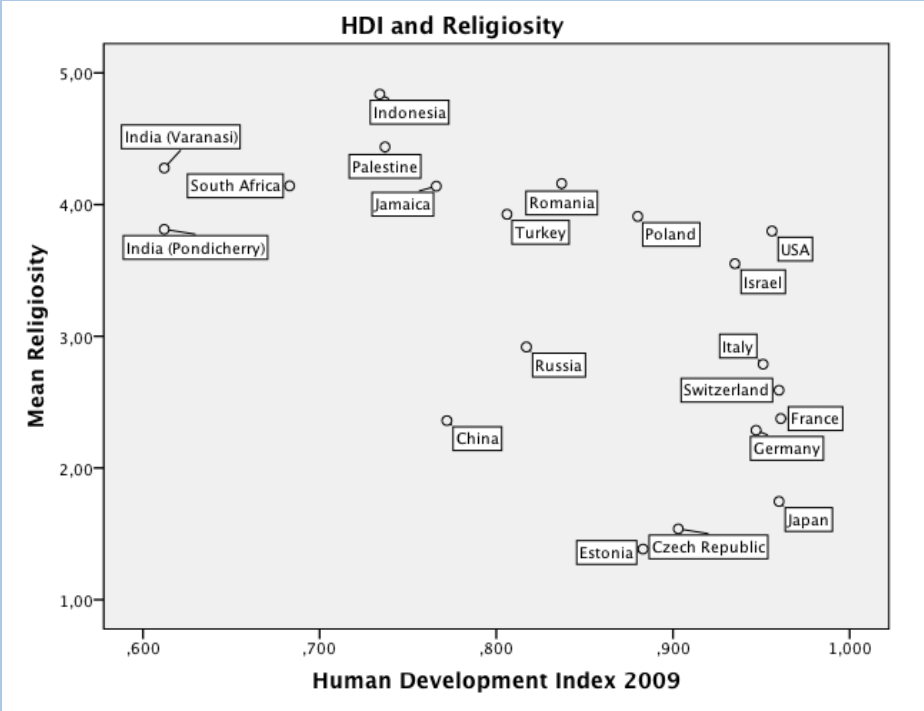
3. Family Future Orientation

- Single item: “Family will be the most important thing in my life; everything else will be less important.”
- Scale from 1 = “Not at all” to 5 = “Very much” (extent to which statement corresponds with your personal way of thinking)

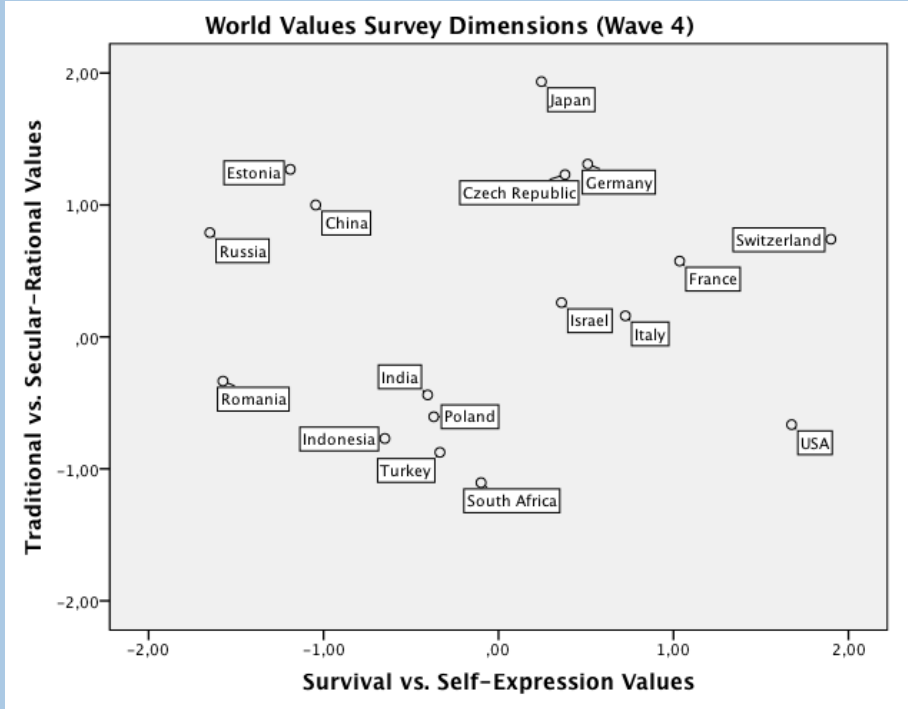
4. Intended number of children (future family)



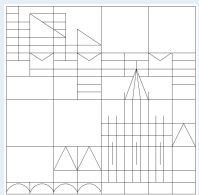
Correlations among Culture-Level IVs (1)



$r = -.60$

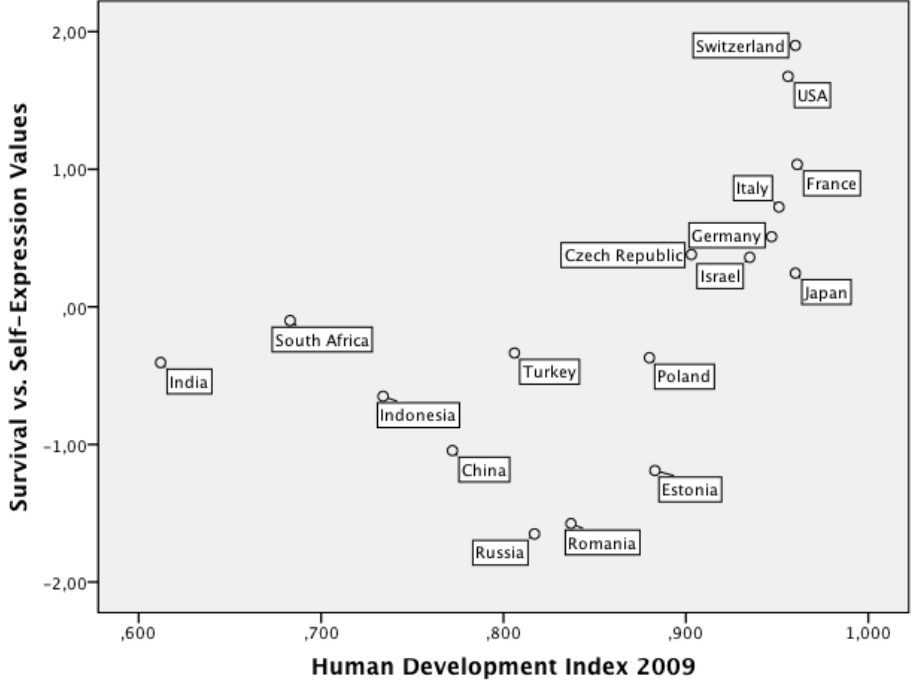


$r = -.07$



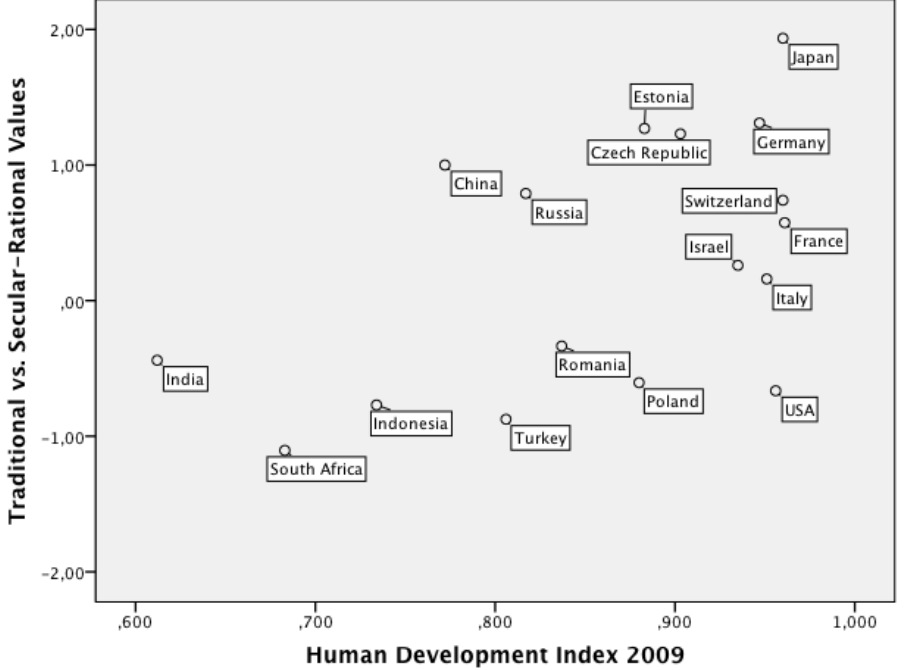
Correlations among Culture-Level IVs (2)

HDI and Self-Expression Values

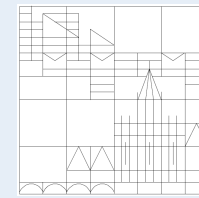


$r = .54$

HDI and Secular-Rational Values



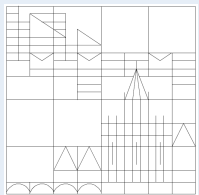
$r = .53$



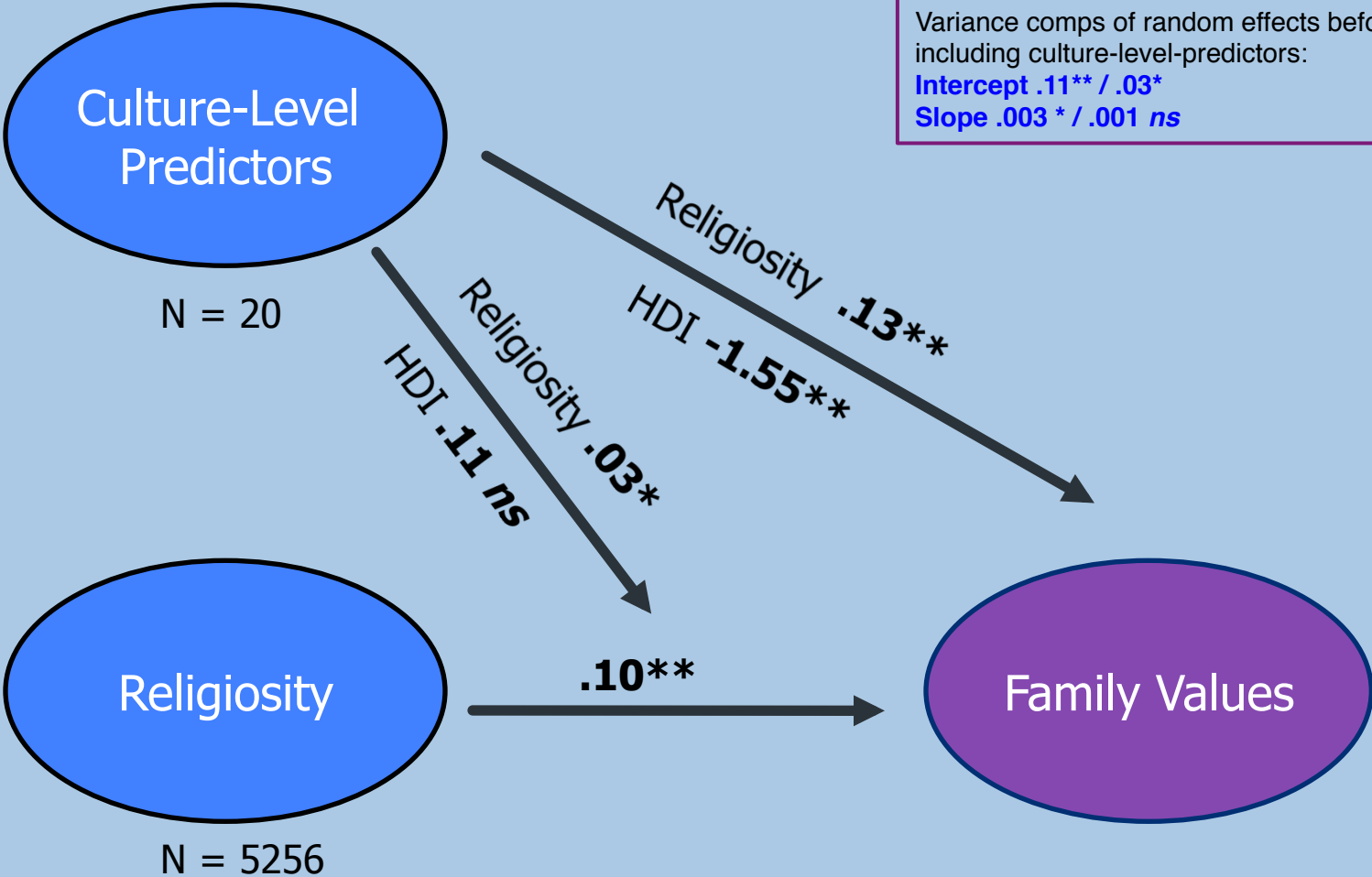
Correlations among Culture-Level IVs (3)

	Religiosity	Secular-Rational Values	Self-Expression Values
HDI	-.60**	.53*	.54*
Religiosity		-.92***	-.17
Secular-Rational Values			.07

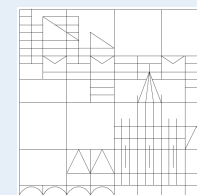
- Religiosity and secular-rational values measure almost perfectly polar opposites
- Religiosity and HDI substantially negatively related, but not collinear
- Religiosity and secular-rational values unrelated to self-expression values
- HDI ≈ .50 related to both secular-rational as well as self-expression values
- Strategy: include **HDI and religiosity** as well as **secular-rational values and self-expression values** together as predictors in separate multi-level models



Religiosity and Family Values: Culture-Level Effects of Religiosity and HDI



Variance comps of random effects before/after including culture-level-predictors:
Intercept .11 / .03***
Slope .003* / .001 ns

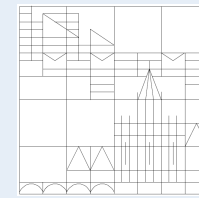


Summary of Results of ML-Analysis

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Dependent Variable	Individual-level		Culture-level (1)		Culture-level (2)	
	Religiosity	SES	Religiosity	HDI	Secular-Rational	Self-Expression
Family Values	.10**	.00	.13**	-1.55**	-.27***	-.09*
Utilitarian-normative VOC	.06**	-.03*	.15*	-4.27***	-.40**	-.28**
Psychological VOC	.07**	.03*	.12*	-.37	-.17**	-.02
Family Future Orientation	.11***	.00	.24**	.00	-.30*	-.01
Number of Children	.13**	.04+	.31*	2.75*	-.14	.22+

+ $p < .1$ * $p < .05$ ** $p < .01$ *** $p < .001$. Unstandardized regression coefficients.



Discussion

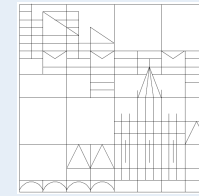
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- > Religiosity important individual-level aspect for family orientation. In cultures with low religiosity, the relation is less strong. Overall small effect, though.
- > At the cultural level, the more normative religiosity is, the higher adolescents' family orientation (traditional as well as future-oriented)
- > Individual-level SES hardly important for family orientation; culture-level affluence strong negative effect on traditional aspects, but no effect on future-oriented aspects (even positive on no. of children)

Economic development (+ syndromes of cultural individualism/independence) does not uniquely affect the importance of the family, but concomitant religious decline seems to lead to less overall family orientation.

Religiosity as part of cultural value systems

→ more consideration in psychological models of family change



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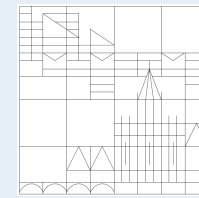
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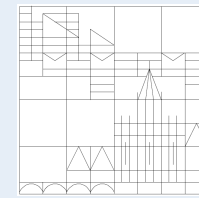
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Thank you!

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