

A Survey of Some Social and Individual Factors Influencing the Tendency to Aggression (Case Study: Deylam City's Youth)

Dariush Rezapour^{*1}
Eshagh Arjmand Siahpoush²
Bahareh Arjmand Siahpoush³

Received 28 June 2015; Accepted 25 March 2016

Abstract

Aggression is universal behavior that can be seen in all cultures and the most common behavioral problems in adolescence and young adulthood which can cause discomfort and distress of adolescents and young people and those around them. This research aim to survey of some social and individual factors influencing the tendency to aggression among youth in Deylam city. The methodology of this study was survey and used a questionnaire. Population of this study was all the youth in the city of Deylam and 400 persons determined as the sample group with using Lin table. The method of sampling was a multi-stage stratified random sampling. Validity and reliability were obtained using Cronbach's alpha and SPSS software for data analysis data were used. Stepwise regression analysis showed that socialization, alienation and frustration are the most influential factors on aggressiveness. Finally path analysis test showed that the effect of socialization and alienation variables, indirect as well as direct effect on the dependent variable.

Keywords: Aggression, Socialization, Alienation, Frustration, Deylam city.

1.* Department of Social Sciences, Payam Noor University, Tehran, Iran, rezapour@gmail.com (Corresponding author)
2. Department of Sociology, Andimeshk Branch, Islamic Azad University, Andimeshk, Iran
3. M.A of Management of Educational Planning, Lecturer of Payam Noor University, Dezful, Iran

1. Introduction

Human is a social beings, this means that through social situations and experiences that can manifest their potentials and be ready to accept social roles and to reflect his social roles forced to accept some social rules and instructions (whether formal or informal). Such a mechanism is constructed by society to individuals and by different ways (social and individuals institutions) will be ready for conformity with other human beings; but for various reasons, including environmental conditions and physiological characteristics and capacity of individual talent, everyone in an amount of not to accept the rules of society; for this reason, arises the rejection or violation of social norms. In such a case that the person fails to conform with these norms, the society, confront with social phenomenon called deviation or social pathology. Social pathologies are world and historical phenomena, because ups and downs of human history is always lots of pains and injuries suffered and they are always searching for reasons to find ways and methods to get rid of them. The type, scope and intensity deviations and social pathologies to the extent that in different societies don't have same attitude and this matter, addressing this issue is in trouble. However no society or class of addressing this social problem has not neglected and always is it considered and examined. In our era study and investigations related to social pathologies and social deviations were taken into consideration of scientists from different disciplines such as psychologists, social psychologists and sociologists. This matter itself shows the importance and complexity of the subject (Siegel, 1998).

Theorists of deviance sociology, considered social deviance as the treatment is contrary to the consensus of the society, and also it to be non-conformity to a norm or set of norms that are accepted by most members of a society (Ahmadi and Imani, 2006). Agression and aggressive behavior is one of the phenomena that study of it's concerned to social deviant and psychology. Aggression, is invasion and violent behavior with the aim of harm and suffering on other people, damage to objects or animals, or treated with contempt and insult. Aggressive, sometimes directed towards the person and the person, harm himself with behaviors, like patient dissatisfaction with the treatment process, to refrain from drug use (Ashraf, 2015).

Aggression as one of the important issues of life, could be make problems at work, interpersonal relationships and overall quality of life, causes and areas such as: genetic and inherited talents, disorganized family, delinquent and antisocial parents, communicate with delinquent peer and lack of religious beliefs, are factors that shaping the kind of aggressive behavior. Believe about human aggression is that

aggressive behavior is a personality trait and commonly aggressive people considered as those who have negative attitudes about themselves.

Meta-analysis showed that men usually have significantly higher scores than women on measures of aggressive behaviors (Bettencourt *et al.*, 2006).

Researches show in analysis of violent behavior must have mentioned three factors. The first is internal or motivation factors. These factors led to the formation of motivation the person and his tendency toward aggressive behavior. Second factors are the inhibiting factors, the presence of factors in personality of person are preventing violence. The third are circumstances or environmental factors it means the person's behavior affected by the condition or circumstance that person will be placed in it. Murray and Vayzying in their research showed violent behaviors, are related to type of personality, attitudes, and characteristics of the child or teen, gender and even peer rejection (Karimi, 2012). Busch in his research on aggressive behavior, concluded that the profile of violent behaviors in rejection and aggressive teens is different from other teenagers. Violent teens than non-violent teenagers had experience of rejection by their family (Bosch, 2007).

However due to issues raised, this study seeks to answer the question of social and individual factors influencing the tendency to aggression of Deylam city's youth?

2. Research Background

Golchin (2003) in research as "aggression in adolescents and the role of family" in the first to third cross-sectional study of 800 male and female high school student in Isfahan with random sampling method. The results showed that the tendency in most adolescents (40%) were moderate and Spearman correlation coefficient significant show inverse relation between the family and aggression. Moreover, the tendency in boys and girls adolescents was not found a significant relationship.

-Shafi'i and Saffarinia (2012), in their research as "Narcissistic, self-esteem and dimensions of aggression in adolescents" studied these matters between 258 adolescents (124 boys and 134 girls) 14-18 years. The results of this research show between narcissism and self-esteem and aggression variables were positive relationship and between self-esteem and aggression were significant inverse relationship. Multiple regression analysis showed that most of the predicted low self-esteem is responsible for aggression in adolescents.

-Pakaslahti and Jarvinen (1998) In the context of aggressive behavior in adolescents 14 years of aggressive and non-aggressive of 408 girls and 431 boys have been studied. The results showed that violent behavior in teens profile and aggressive

rejection is different from other teenagers. Adolescents request for violence, revealed more oppressive and harassment behaviors; While in adolescents non request for violent, most behaviors were indicated of contention and clashes. Generally, adolescents request for from adolescents non-request for violent have had experience rejection from family.

-Jina *et al.*, (2000) have been studied cognitive differences between aggressive children were rejected and aggressive not rejected. Children of the study from second to fourth academic years were selected. Their findings show that child violent suffering from cognitive–social problems; But differences also has been observed in the rejected violent children's behaviors by peers, and not rejected by the peers. So violent children not rejected compared with violent children rejected have shown greater self-efficacy.

3. Theoretical Framework

3.1. The theory of anomie

William Goode, in this view, uses the concept of anomie and it's extended to the family level. In his to view, family is the center of personality education and any disorder in it leads to crime and emerges deviant personality. Also" Goode", believes the family has some responsibilities toward their children, including:

- Fulfilling physical needs of children
- Self-identification and self-discovery
- Learning (through socialization)
- The role of the family as a source of growth (Mohseni, 2005).

Good believes, the family members (especially parents) cannot properly play its role very well, in this institution it comes anomie, the anomie conditions, due to various factors, such as:

- The lack of father and mother due to non-legitimacy of child, died, divorce, imprisonment, war or too occupation.
- There are various kinds of diseases including physically and mentally in parents so that are not able to fulfill its role (Goode, 1974).

3.2. Social Learning Theory

This theory is based on the principle of deviation and deviant behavior, action or behavior that is learned in the social process. Unlike scholars who believe that humans are born with the motivation and aggression deviation, Social learning theorists believe that a person learns of deviant behavior as other behaviors in society through

association with bad friends whereas it is an acquired phenomenon. Thinkers such as Bandura, Sutherland and Tard, developed the social learning theory. According to Bandura, a person can learn with help the process of modeling and observing others, either accidentally or deliberately. Learning model chosen by the person affected by many factors such as age, sex and social status. The modeling process is on focus of social learning theory that in which a person, learns others Social behavior by observing and imitating and Knowledge will be reinforced through rewards and punishments (Ahmadi, 2009).

3.3. Moser's Frustration Theory

One of the best known and most common theories about violence and aggression is frustration that considered frustration as aggressive tendencies. Frustration-aggression theory is based on a set of theoretical perspectives that considered aggression is mainly inspired from an external drive to harm others. According to Moser's view, the feeling of oppression, lack of success in work and destructive rebellion and protests are caused aggressive behaviors (Janoren, 1989).

3.4. Alienation Theory

Alienation in Marx's thinking means while people are feeling alienated from social life and of themselves, do not have control over their social life. The process of alienation associated with a sense of emptiness and aversion from others and self, powerlessness, mistrust of others, indifference, and so that eventually these feelings lead to aggressive behavior and criminal, in this condition people try to deny values and social norms and transform them. Marx's theory of alienation could well explain the relation between social alienation and aggressive behavior.

Table 1. Backing theoretical variables

Variables	Theory
Socialization	Anomi and family structure
Age and sex	Social learning
Frustration	Frustration
feeling of alienation	Alienation

4. Theoretical model and hypotheses

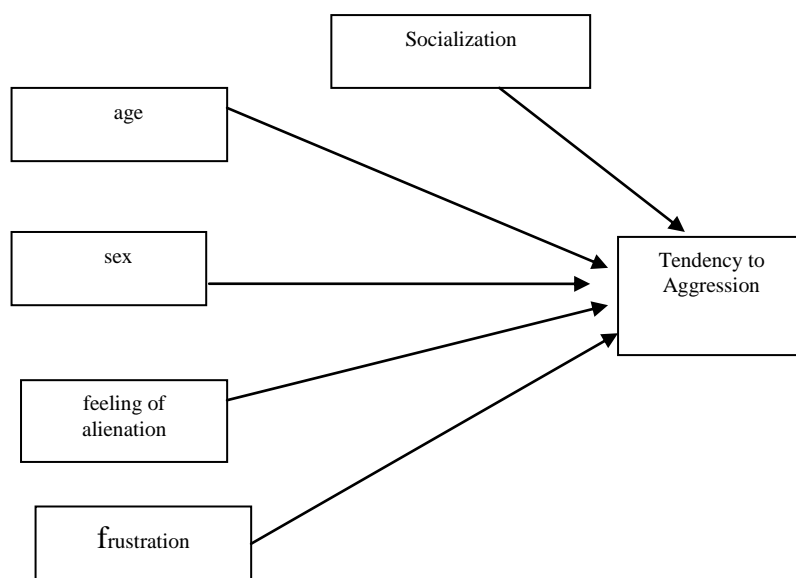


Figure 1. Theoretical model

Based on the statements mentioned above and research model, the assumptions in this article are as follows:

1-There seems to be a significant relationship between the youth's age and their tendency towards aggression.

2-There seems to be a significant relationship between the youth's sex and their tendency towards aggression.

3-There seems to be a significant relationship between the youth's socialization and their tendency towards aggression.

4-There seems to be a significant relationship between the youth's frustration and their tendency towards aggression.

5- There seems to be a significant relationship between the youth's feeling of alienation and their tendency towards aggression.

5. Methodology

The survey method used in this study. The advantage of this method is efficient and appropriate explanatory power characteristics of units of analysis. In this

descriptive – analytical research for data collection used questionnaire and in documents part, taking notes and using Internet resources. The population, are all youth in the city of Deylam boys and statistical unit is a one youth in this city. By using the estimated amount sample, Lin (Lin, 1976), for a population with an error level of 5% and 95%, a sample size of 384 is calculated, to ensure that most of the results obtained, the sample size is increased to 400. The method of sampling was a multi-stage stratified random sampling. Data analysis was performed by SPSS software.

Table 2. Cronbach's alpha coefficients

Variables	Cronbach's Alpha
Socialization	80%
Frustration	71%
feeling of alienation	78%

6. Data analysis

The results of the study indicate that in general, 28/2 percent higher tendency to aggression, 51/5 percent of average disposition to aggression and 20/3 percent of them have lower tendency to the aggression.

Table 3. Distribution of youth in terms of the tendency to aggression

The level of youth tendencie's to aggression	Percent
low tendency	%20/3
Medium tendency	%51/5
High tendency	%28/2
Result	400

First hypothesis: There seems to be a significant relationship between the youth's age and their tendency towards aggression.

The results of Pearson test between the ages of respondents with aggression did not show a significant relationship. In this case, the correlation coefficient is 0.0013 and the significance level is 0.076. Therefore age of respondents, did not have the tendency to aggression and there is no significant relationship between these two. This hypothesis is not confirmed statistically.

Table 4. Results of Pearson correlation between age and aggression

Statistical test	aggression /age
Pearson correlation coefficient	0/0013
significant level	0/076
Number of Respondents	400

Second hypothesis: There seems to be a significant relationship between the youth's sex and their tendency towards aggression.

Statistical analysis showed that the girl's tendency to aggression (equal to 15/24) with boys (equal to 17/23) is not much different. The results indicate that the t-statistic is equal to 1.3 and significance level achieved is equal to 0/092. Statistically, this hypothesis is not confirmed.

Table 5. result of T. test about the tendency to aggression based on sex

Aggression	Numbers	Mean	Standard deviation	Error mean	statistical test
girl	184	24/15	76/3	0/45	T=1/3
boy	216	23/17	23/5	0/47	Sig=0/092

Third hypothesis: There seems to be a significant relationship between the youth's socialization and their tendency towards aggression.

Since the variable of socialization is under the influence of indexes such as family, friends and peers and mass media, Pearson correlation between the process of socialization and aggression indicates a significant relationship. In this test correlation coefficient equal to -0/45 and its significance level is 0/000. Thus it can be concluded that the process of socialization and aggression are in inverse relationship to each other, in a way that whatever process of socialization the person to be more favorable manner, his tendency to aggression is reduced.

Table 6. Results of Pearson correlation between socialization and aggression

Statistical test	aggression / socialization
Pearson correlation coefficient	-0/45
significant level	0/000
Number of Respondents	400

Forth hypothesis: There seems to be a significant relationship between the youth's frustration and their tendency towards aggression.

The results of Pearson between frustration and aggression, shows a significant relationship. In this case, the correlation coefficient 0/341 and its significance level are 0.000. So, whatever the person is more frustration, his tendency to aggression increases.

Table 7. Results of Pearson correlation between frustration and aggression

Statistical test	aggression / frustration
Pearson correlation coefficient	0/341
significant level	0/000
Number of Respondents	400

Fifth hypothesis: There seems to be a significant relationship between the youth's feeling of alienation and their tendency towards aggression.

The results of Pearson between feeling of alienation and aggression, show a significant relationship. In this case, the correlation coefficient and its significance level are 0/523 and 0.000. Since this coefficient is positive, indicates that there is a direct relationship between these two variables. Statistically, this hypothesis is confirmed.

Table 8. Results of Pearson correlation between feeling of alienation and aggression

Statistical test	aggression /feeling of alienation
Pearson correlation coefficient	0/523
significant level	0/000
Number of Respondents	400

7. Regression Analysis

To investigate the effects of independent variables on the dependent variable, stepwise regression analysis was used. The results are in the table below:

Table 9. Results of regression analysis

Stages	Predictable variables	R	R ²	B	Beta	T	Sig.
First	Socialization	0/392	0/234	-2/51	-0/22	-4/35	0/000
Second	Frustration	0/430	0/253	2/01	0/23	5/03	0/000
Third	feeling of alienation	0/470	0/256	-0/79	-0/10	-2/34	0/018

According to Table 7, the first predictor variable of the aggression is socialization variable that explain about 23% of the variance in aggression behavior. Beta coefficient for this variable is (-0/22) which shows an inverse relation between socialization and tendency aggression. In other words, whatever the socialization is better, tendency to aggression is reduced.

In the Second stage, frustration variable was entered into the regression equation, and 25% of the dependent variable is explained. Beta coefficient for this variable

(0/23), which indicates a direct relationship between frustration and tendencies to aggression.

In the third stage, the feeling of alienation variable entered the regression equation, and 26% of the dependent variable is explained. Beta coefficient for this variable is (-0/10), which shows an inverse relationship between feeling of alienation and trend to aggression.

8. Path Analysis

Path analysis is a method to study the direct and indirect effects of independent variables on the dependent variable as causal mechanism. Although in the theoretical model of this study an intermediate variable is unpredictable, but for the effect of interference of some variables on the relationship between the independent and dependent variables are used path analysis.

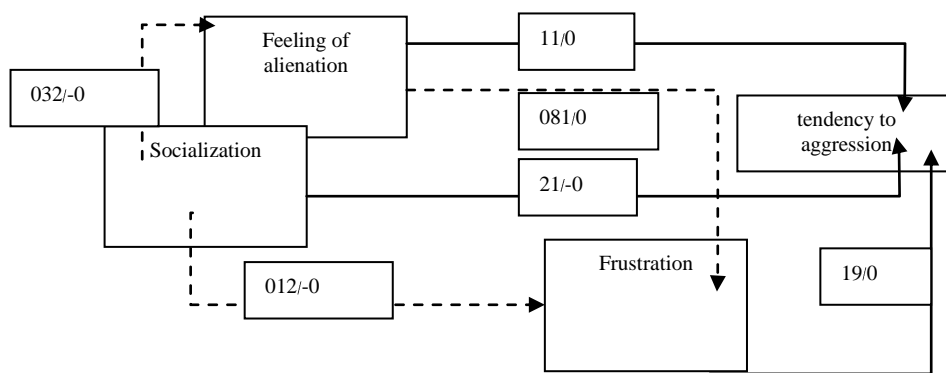


Figure 2. Analysis model of factors affecting the tendency to aggression

Table 10. Direct and indirect effects and effects all independent variables

Independent variables	kind of effect		Total
	indirect	Direct	
Socialization	044/-0	21/-0	-0/254
Frustration	-	19/0	0/19
feeling of alienation	081/0	11/0	0/191

9. Discussion and Conclusion

Aggressiveness is a universal behavior that can be seen in all cultures and the most common behavioral problems in adolescence and young adulthood, which can cause discomfort and distress of adolescents and young people and those around them. This research aims to survey of some social and individual factors influencing the tendency to aggression among youth in Deylam city. According to Anomie theory, there is a tendency to Aggressive behaviors due to incoherent family structure. When a person spent his adulthood with someone other than their parents and family, he was always involved in debate, more vulnerable and usually is possible to incompatibility and tendency to more deviate. This finding is consistent with researches results (Bosch 2007; Marsh *et al.*, 1996; Pakaslahti & Jarvinen,1998).

Mass media as other of socialization factors, have an important role to the tendency of people to aggression. In this regard, social learning theorists have emphasized the role of the mass media and according to Bandura and his colleagues, the effects of TV violence on aggression were recognized. Based on social learning the role of mass media in aggression can be realized.

Another factor that causes aggressive behavior in young people is frustration. When young people are faced with situations in life that cannot achieve their goals and aspirations face with frustration and at this case are more likely to engage in aggressive behavior. The youth have goals, ideals and desires that achieve to them through common mechanisms in society are not possible, so the rate of aggressive behavior increases.

References

1. Ahmadi, H. (2009). *Sociology of deviance*. Tehran: Samt Publication.
2. Ahmadi, H. & Mohammad, I. (2006). Poverty of culture, marginalization, and the tendency to criminal behavior among youth in Shiraz. *Journal of Isfahan*, 9(2), pp. 99.
3. Bettencourt, B., Talley, A., Benjamin, A., & Valentine, J. (2006). Personality and aggressive behavior under provoking and neutral conditions: A meta-analytic review. *Psychological Bulletin*, 132, 751–777.
4. Golchin. M. (2003). Aggression in adolescents and the role of family. *Journal of Qazvin University of Medical Sciences*, 21, pp. 41 to 36
5. Good, W. (1974). *Family and community*. Translated by Nasehi,V. Tehran: Book Publication.
6. Karimi, F. (2012). Study of verbal violence, *Journal of Law*, 2, pp. 102-85.
7. Kathy, B. (2007). *When words are used as weapons*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska.

-
8. Koozer, L. & Rosenberg, B. (2000). *Fundamental theories of sociology*. Tehran: Ney Publication.
 9. Laura P. & Liisa K. (1998). *Personality and individual differences*, 24 (6), 821-828.
 10. Lin N. (1976). *Foundation of social research*. New York: McGraw.
 11. Lopez, E. E. Perez, S. M. Ochoa, G. M. Ruiz, D. M. (2008). Adolescent aggression: effects of gender and family and school environments: *Journal of Adolescence*. 31, 433–450.
 12. Marsh, P. (1996). *Football violence In Europe*. Amsterdam: Amsterdam School for Social Issues Research Center.
 13. Mohseni, A. (2005). *Vandalism*. Tehran: Aon Publication.
 14. Shafi'i H. & Saffarinia, M. (2012). Narcissistic, self-esteem and dimensions of aggression in adolescents, *Journal of Counseling and Psychotherapy Culture*, 6, pp. 121-146.
 15. Siegel, L. (1998). *Criminology*. London: Wads Worth Publishing Company.