



Surveying of the factors that influence the social alienation among university students themselves, with emphasis on religiosity (case study, Guilan-e-Gharb PNU)

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ABSTRACT

The term alienation which Raymond Williams calls it as one of the most difficult vocabulary words, and as one of the main concepts in sociology, psychology and social psychology have been introduced, Is widely used in social science to explain the forms and types of actions and reactions to events, facts, psychological and social pressures and is hardly associated with people's life. Regarding to the importance of the topic in this research by using field method, techniques and survey questionnaire sought answers to this question "what are the social factors affecting student alienation?" The study sample is Guilan-e-Gharb PNU students which about 382 persons of them have been surveyed as the sample of the study. In order to answer the main question of this study, the relationship between variables such as social trust, social participation, social cohesion, devoutness and economic-social base as independent variables and its relationship with the students' alienation as the dependent variable was analyzed. The results indicate that among all the independent variables with the dependent variable, there was a direct and significant relationship. The relationship of these variables is moderate.

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Introduction

The term alienation which Raymond Williams calls it as one of the most difficult vocabulary words, and has been introduced as one of the main concepts in sociology, psychology and social psychology (Mohseni tabrizi, 1993: 25). is widely used in humanity sciences to explain the forms and types of actions and reactions to events, facts, psychological and social pressures (Sotoodeh,2010: 244) and is hardly associated with nowadays social life.

The phenomenon of alienation unlike Marx's limited mean, is not merely of the economic structure, but is of subjective and objective orientation which had ambushed for the man and economic structure is the only part of it. Surveying of the alienation of Iranian society as a society in transition, is a sociological issue.

In the past decades, especially in the fifties that rapid social changes undermined the traditional values and customs in dealing with modernity and traditionalism concepts without being able to create a new cultural identity, a dual status in the community has been created that the result can be considered as social alienation (Iman and Qaedi, 1383: 80).

In overall, concept and theory of alienation due to social conditions have been commensurate with the intellectual needs, but the key element common to all theories is the explanation of the situation and undesirable and pathological conditions in humans.

As far as it is related to the sociological theory of alienation, characteristics by which alienation is defined, is concerned to humans and social order.

So this must be a part the efforts of sociologists to survey and clarify the inconsistency involved in governing the relationship between the individual and society, application of social institutions and ethical rules to identify the important and obvious consequences of unsuccessful socialization and social level of the undesirable and inefficient level of social institutions-the social and cultural alienation - which is used as a synonym for anomaly represented as a suspension of belief systems, values, norms and patterns of action, objectives, cultural and social expectations(Zaki, 2009: 26).

So regarding to the unique aspect of alienation and its dimensions as powerlessness, meaninglessness, normlessness, isolation, Cultural estrangement and Self estrangement as a social phenomenon, which in most cultures is known as a social problem, is an inevitable and important thing.

Theoretical basics

The sense of alienation was entered to sociology from German idealist philosophy, especially by Hegel and the Young Hegelians. Perhaps the most important concept that has been the subject of alienation, is Marx's theory. Marx believed that workers are alienated from the product of the production process and know that it has an independent and objective existence. In fact, he believes that during the production process, our workers are referred to as product development and production of products for which they have become attached entity .To Marx, the alienation of man is that he do not see himself as the agent to act based on their perception of the world, but the nature of these factors and others are alien to him and see himself facing to these factors, while they can be a vehicle for his creativity

(Koser and Rozenburg, 2008: 401, retrieved from Fathi and Mohammadi, 2011: 160-161).

Lukacs, of the Frankfurt School theorists, by studying the convergence of Marx's ideas about the commodification of human relationships through the money market and the influence of Weber's theory of rationality started to combine them. Borrowing from Marx's analysis of "commodity fetishism", he used the conception of reification instead of alienation. Lukacs follows the result of reification subjectively and objectively.

Of the concrete aspect, commodification is to fall into reification or secondary nature which forms the capitalist society and hide the real relationships.

Of the objective aspect, reification means the alienation of human of self and to passive and confine in the secondary nature.

Adorno and Horkheimer, were very suspect about Lukacs's Hegelian solution about meaning of object of reification and wisdom.

They asserted that "the realistic mind" developed by rational human being is limited. In this process, a double integration of the worlds of mental and material phenomena are caused by the fact that critical theory should be double-oriented and analyze how the human spirit and intellect means causes alienation (Turner, 1998: 555-554).

Marcuse believes that civilized societies have brought comfort to everyone. Sometimes it may seem unnecessary by the media that is a real need for humans to become worthless which turns human to alienation (Marcuse, 1962: 45 Retrieved from Iman and Ghaedi, 1383: 84). Other critical theorists, Habermas, in his Theory of Communicative Action, two of the environment and the system will be facing (Piouzi, 2000: 147-142). In his view, both the rational (bureaucratic rationality and instrumental rationality), is a very powerful technique, and even more has absorbed and eliminated the communication process which is resulted in the emergence of consciousness and instrumental culture. In this case, the rational inter-subjective understanding and communication is undermined, and thus the public arena is dwindling and the rationality of communication systems is dominated. The result is world environmental domination and technical superiority over other aspects of scientific rationality and reduction in objectively rational means to instrumentally rational means which is resulted in the loss of meaning, insecurity in collective identity and ultimate alienation in society (Holab, 1999: 6-5).

Erich Fromm looks at this issue from a different perspective. He finds estrangement in which person see himself in strange feeling of being alienated. In this situation, man do not see himself at the center of the universe and creator of his actions, but he missed practices and the result is death. He does not obey them, or even praise. To him, causes of alienation should be searched in social institutions - including corporate bureaucracy, property, etc. - (Marcus, 1964).

Durkheim and Merton seek causes of alienation in social - cultural structures, but to each, there is their own point of view on this issue.

According to Durkheim, this means that the relationship is between the individual and society, and raises the question of uncertainty which increases during the cohesion of social - mechanical to organic cohesion and undermine the values (Papnham, 1959). The consequences of this could be the moral development of the individual rather than collective morality

and ultimately leads to alienation. The focus in this perspective, is the evaluation of function in order to maintain and extend the institutions of social stability and order. This means that any crisis could cause serious problems in the balance of system (Rani, 1988).

Merton defines diversion as a form of alienation. Initial attempts to explain the alienation and main Merton discovery was the fact that how some social structures exert pressure upon certain persons in the society so that they can get deviant behavior (Merton, 1968: 186). For Merton, the social de-organization is considered as a social functions abuse that specifically includes four sources:

1. Conflict between the interests and values
2. Conflict between the obligations of the base
3. Incomplete socialization.
4. Social communication is incomplete (Grdrz, 1981 102 Taken from Iman and Ghaedi, 1383: 83).

According to Pierre Bourdieu's, sense of alienation is exclusion of the power of self-actors.

Bourdieu sees culture as the sole mechanism and its related entities, such as universities and government says it plays a role in two related areas.

1. Domain of cognitive structures and values : belief and value imposed cognitive structures or units similar to "logical conformity" and "moral conformity" leads.
2. Cognitive and behavioral domains: a common format to conform immediately perceiving and thinking and modeling cognitive behavior of buildings or similar causes (sotoodeh, 2008: 100-96).

There are two practical solutions to this role.

1. The unification of the cultural market: assimilation of the rules of law, languages, computing, communications, and government bureaucracy, including guidelines, manuals and training programs.
2. Classification: Classification of individual actors in terms of parameters such as sex, age, genetic predisposition, and features already built into the processes of education, training, and administrative law are written (Kalabrs, 1990: 154-148).

Thus, Bourdieu considers the processes at university as both functional and non-functional alienation and declares the mechanism of alienation of universities as follows:

1. Regardless of tastes and preferences of the actors, universities started to simulation and removed through degeneracy, resulting in a steady increase in the original difference between actors. In this sense, the selected students will be able to identify cost-conscious and to act according to reason, but they will be based on causes of action.
2. Priority to the universities is "social and cultural reproduction", thus suppressed opposition movements and changes in mental structures derived from new and different students are engaged. Highly specialized training, on the other hand, to train the young wolves are given in bold free movement.
3. Universities which should select the student in the process of merit selection based on their individual talents and capabilities has become a system which the secret connection between academic intelligence and genetic characteristics of democratic government is leading to aristocracy (Bourdieu, 1381; derived from the famed 2008: 100-96).

Seaman has examined five main areas in which the concept of alienation is used. The five areas are:

Feelings of powerlessness, a sense of meaninglessness, a sense of anomie, a sense of social isolation and feelings alienation (with their own alienation) (Haji Meymand, 2009:

149-147; Zaki, 2009: 30; Hassani, 2010: 141-140 , Mostafavi Rad et al, 2010: 48);

Satsvl believes that alienation among younger age is more, no matter how well the people of this community are more pessimistic about politics; alienation matters more than it is (Satsvl, 2003: 101).

The research hypotheses

- There is a relationship between social trust and the level of student alienation.
- The level of community involvement and the alienation of students are related.
- There is a relationship between social cohesion and levels of student alienation.
- There is a religiosity and levels of student alienation.
- There is a relationship between economic-family base and the student alienation.

Materials and Methods

The present study based on collected and analyzed data, is a quantitative research examined the issue of dealing with and entering to through field study. The technique used in this research is survey. In the field study, a questionnaire was used to collect the required information. Prior to the survey, the initial questionnaire was first tested and by using the results obtained, the final questionnaire was drafted and defects were resolved.

Population and sample population:

The population of this study, is all the students of Guilan-e-Gharb PNU. Since there is no natural way to study the views of all students, the method of "sampling" is used to explain the views of the subjects based on the number of patients (n = 382) were diagnosed as a representative population sample studied.

In this study, sampling and quota sampling method is simple random sampling. After data collection, the analysis was performed using SPSS statistical software for testing hypotheses in this regard, appropriate statistical tests were used for each hypothesis.

To ensure the reliability required in relation to efficient credit, benefit from masters and relevant experts and Cronbach's alpha test for reliability is attempted.

Inferential statistics

Testing Hypothesis 1: There is a relationship between social trust and the level of student alienation.

Table 1: Pearson Test of social trust and alienation

Level of significance between the two domains	Extent of correlation	Pearson
.027	.289	Social trust-alienation

The Pearson test is performed at a confidence level of .99 and the probability of error .01.

The sig value is calculated between the two slopes equal to .027 since this number is smaller than 0.05, thus there is a significant correlation between the two variables of social trust and alienation .Our results also correlated with the intensity equal to .289, so this is a moderate and direct correlation between the two variables of social trust and alienation and our hypothesis is confirmed.

Testing Hypothesis 2: There is a relationship between social participation and levels of student alienation.

Table 2: Pearson Test of community involvement and alienation

Level of significance between the two domains	Extent of correlation	pearson
.000	.325	Community involvement-alienation

The Pearson test is performed at a confidence level of .99 and the probability of error .01.

The sig value is calculated between the two domains, which equals 000. Since this number is smaller than 0.05, there is a significant correlation between the two variables, community involvement and alienation.

Our results also correlated with the intensity equal to 325. Therefore, there is a moderate correlation between the two variables, community involvement and student alienation, so our hypothesis is confirmed.

Testing Hypothesis 3: There is a relationship between social cohesion in the family and the alienation of students.

Table 3: Pearson Test of social cohesion and alienation

Level of significance between the two domains	Extent of correlation	pearson
.000	.456	Social cohesion-alienation

The Pearson test is performed at a confidence level of .99 and the probability of error .01.

The sig value is calculated between the two domains, which equals 000. Since this number is smaller than 0.05, so there is a significant correlation between social cohesion and alienation. Our results also correlated with the intensity equal to 456.

There is a moderate correlation between the two variables, social integration and student alienation, so our hypothesis is confirmed.

Testing Hypothesis 4: There is a relationship between religiosity and levels of student alienation.

Table 4: Pearson Test of religiosity and alienation

Level of significance between the two domains	Extent of correlation	pearson
.000	.252	religiosity-alienation

The Pearson test is performed at a confidence level of .99 and the probability of error .01.

The sig value is calculated between the two domains, which equals 000. Since this number is smaller than 0.05, so there is a significant correlation between religiosity and alienation. Our results also correlated with the intensity equal to 252. Thus there is a moderate correlation between the two variables, religiosity and student alienation, so our hypothesis is confirmed.

Testing Hypothesis 5: There is a significant relationship between family economic-social basic with student alienation.

Table 5: Pearson Test of family economic-social base with student alienation

Level of significance between the two domains	Extent of correlation	pearson
.005	.469	family economic-social basic-alienation

The Pearson test is performed at a confidence level of .99 and the probability of error .01.

The sig value is calculated between the two domains, which equals.005 Since this number is smaller than 0.05, so there is a significant correlation between family economic-social base and alienation. Our results also correlated with the intensity equal to .469 Thus there is a moderate correlation between the two variables, family economic-social base and student alienation, so our hypothesis is confirmed.

Conclusion

As we have mentioned, concepts and theories of alienation due to social conditions have been commensurate with the intellectual needs, but the key element common to all theories explains the situation and undesirable and pathological conditions in humans; As far as it is concerned to the sociological theory of alienation, characteristics by which alienation is defined, is related to humans and social order.

Regarding to the importance of social factors that influence the self-alienation of the students in this study, the relationship between variables such as social trust, social participation, social cohesion, religiosity and economic-social base as independent variables and its relationship with the students' alienation as the dependent variable was analyzed. The result of the research is as follow:

- There is a significant correlation between the two variables social and alienation. Our results also correlated with the intensity equal to 289. Thus this is a moderate correlation between the two variables of social trust and alienation. So our hypothesis is confirmed.

- There is a significant Correlation between two variables, community involvement and alienation. Our results also correlated with the intensity equal to 325. Therefore, there is a moderate correlation between the two variables of social participation and alienation of students. So our hypothesis 2 is confirmed.

- Correlation between the two variables of social cohesion and alienation is significant. Our results also correlated with the intensity equal to 456. Therefore, there is a moderate correlation between the two variables of social cohesion and alienation of students. There is a confirmation of our hypothesis 3.

- There is a significant correlation between the two variables, religiosity and alienation. Our results also correlated with the intensity equal to 252. Therefore, there is a moderate correlation between the two variables, religiosity and alienation. So our hypothesis 4 is confirmed.

- There is a significant correlation between family economic-social basic with student alienation. Our results also correlated with the intensity equal to 469. It is a moderate correlation between the two variables of social class and student alienation. There is confirmation of our hypothesis (5).

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