

Chapter 18

The Relationship Between Women's Perception of Social Gender and Misogyny

Hande Şahin

Kırıkkale University, Turkey

Nesrin Akca

Kırıkkale University, Turkey

Aygen Çakmak

Kırıkkale University, Turkey

ABSTRACT

This research aimed to determine the relationship between the social gender perception of women aged between 18-65 and misogyny. The study group of the research conducted using the correlational survey model comprised of 412 volunteer women between 18-65 years of age and living in Turkey. Data were further analyzed using descriptive statistics, One-Way ANOVA test, independent sample t-test, Pearson correlation analysis. The results of the research revealed that women's perceptions of social gender were high, the age variable causes a significant difference in social gender and misogyny scores, and that women between the ages of 18-24 have a high perception of social gender and a lower perception of misogyny. It was further determined that level of education caused a significant difference on the social gender perception scores, that university graduate women have higher gender perceptions, and that there is a moderate negative relationship between social gender perception and misogyny.

INTRODUCTION

Recently, there has been an increase in the number of cases of disproportionate social gender-based violence against women (Ging and Siapera, 2018). The term “misogyny” is derived from the Ancient Greek word “mīsoḡuniā”, meaning gynophobia (hatred towards women) and is defined as feeling hatred towards women on the basis of their female selves and being prejudiced against women. Misogyny

DOI: 10.4018/979-8-3693-6572-4.ch018

Copyright ©2025, IGI Global. Copying or distributing in print or electronic forms without written permission of IGI Global is prohibited.

manifests in various forms such as male privilege, patriarchy, gender discrimination, sexual harassment, humiliation addressing women, violence against women and sexual objectification (Srivastava et al., 2017).

It is known that there have been cases of gender inequality between men and women in every period of history due to various reasons. It is possible to further argue that these acts of inequality are most frequently directed against women and subsequently turn into a misogynistic movement by generating hate and hostile thoughts against women (Işık, 2022). Women who have lived under oppression for centuries have been considered as a member of the lower strata of society, their human rights have been disregarded and their roles are usually limited to housework and giving birth (Srivastava et al., 2017). Unfortunately, this situation has been transferred on to the next generation. Children socialized by being exposed to many misogynistic discourses, behaviors and attitudes in the patriarchal society during the socialization process have contributed to the cycle of violence against women through transmission and continuity of misogyny (Baydar, 2014).

Though misogyny is considered to be the enmity or hatred of men towards women, in fact, it emerges as an enmity or hatred towards the female sex or a social attitude “contempting” women, regardless of gender (Gilmore, 2001). Feminist social work sees women as individuals who are on equal footing with men, who strive for their own success and who need to be supported by men for their own success. Women and men are seen as a whole with the same advantages and disadvantages (Genç et al., 2019).

Misogyny is rather categorized as a sub-dimension of hatred and includes hostile discourses addressing women (Zeinert et al., 2021). Misogyny confronts women throughout their lives in different fields such as education, health, music, media, politics and business life (Stalker, 2001; Cunningham, 2012; Berberick, 2010; Greitemeyer et al., 2015; Tosone & Sotto, 2009; Wright, 2014; Willness, 2007).

Feminist social work is an approach advocating the rights of women and acting for the construction of a society based on the equality of men and women. Feminist approaches meet the needs of women as well as reveal the positive effects of women on the society and the state (Genç et al., 2019). Especially, within the feminist social work sphere, areas such as feminist community work reach a new dimension online. The new online interaction environments provide the “initiatives that emerge when a group or groups of women organise collectively around issues aimed specifically at tackling gender oppression with a range of possibilities beyond comparison with previous decades. Therefore, the internet provides such campaigns and networks an opportunity to thrive, seeing this medium as a space to meet, participate and develop. It also becomes an intervention space for social work as, among other reasons, the information from these networks can provide a new understanding of social problems on which to act upon. The internet also enables a raising of awareness about women’s discrimination and promotes empowering efforts, both at an individual and a collective level (Darias and Avila, 2016).

People in society tend to ignore the reasons that cause misogyny and normalize the situation by thinking that women deserve such behaviors. Hence, the views of individuals who exhibit hostile behavior towards women suggesting that they deserve it, are considered among the main reasons for the emergence of such negative thoughts and attitudes towards women in society (Baydar, 2013).

Bosson et al. (2015) stated that men's hostile attitudes towards women stem from the distrust, hostility and suspicion they feel towards them as well as their satisfaction due to having control or dominance over women. The hostility of women towards women, on the other hand, is explained by the effect of the patriarchal lifestyle in which they have lived after birth, objectifying themselves and indirectly accepting misogynistic attitudes and behaviors (Szymanski, 2009).

8 more pages are available in the full version of this document, which may be purchased using the "Add to Cart" button on the publisher's webpage:

www.igi-global.com/chapter/the-relationship-between-womens-perception-of-social-gender-and-misogyny/364763

Related Content

Large-Scale Computational Modeling for Environmental Impact Assessment

Ting Yu, Manfred Lenzen and Christopher Dey (2011). *Environmental Modeling for Sustainable Regional Development: System Approaches and Advanced Methods* (pp. 1-17).

www.irma-international.org/chapter/large-scale-computational-modeling-environmental/49313

Compromise Theory of Transnational Operation of Chinese Small and Medium Enterprises and Empirical Analysis Under Economic Globalization

Jing Sun (2012). *International Journal of Sustainable Economies Management* (pp. 41-48).

www.irma-international.org/article/compromise-theory-transnational-operation-chinese/69956

Resilience and Adaptation: Analysis of Asian Responses to Poverty Amid Global Shocks

Kalrav Krishna Tripathi and Kushal Srivastava (2026). *SDG Frameworks for Poverty Alleviation* (pp. 305-334).

www.irma-international.org/chapter/resilience-and-adaptation/406829

A Secure Information Discovery Using Mobile Agents in Wireless Industry 4.0 Networks

Veluru Lakshmi Pavani and D. Pradeep Kumar (2021). *International Journal of Social Ecology and Sustainable Development* (pp. 63-72).

www.irma-international.org/article/a-secure-information-discovery-using-mobile-agents-in-wireless-industry-40-networks/275254

The Importance of Intellectual Capital for the Sustainable Growth of Regions: Evidence From the Republic of Serbia

Tamara Raenovi and Bojan Krsti (2020). *Handbook of Research on Smart Territories and Entrepreneurial Ecosystems for Social Innovation and Sustainable Growth* (pp. 84-106).

www.irma-international.org/chapter/the-importance-of-intellectual-capital-for-the-sustainable-growth-of-regions/246529