

For ISCAR SU
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Family identity



What are we going to talk about?

- The phenomena of family identity
- Different approaches to the research of family identity
- Statuses and formation of family identity
- Methods of studying family identity

Identity

- Identity is a popular branch in modern psychology, a lot of scientists talk about the crisis of identity nowadays.
- Rapidly changing world defines the change of identity (personal identity, gender, cultural identity, professional identity, religious identity, family identity etc.)

The definition of identity

- E. Erikson defines identity as:
"Ego identity, then, in its subjective aspect, is the awareness of the fact that there is a self-sameness and continuity to the ego's synthesizing methods and a continuity of one's meaning for others" (1963).



3 ways of definition of identity

- After E. Erikson scientists defined identity in different ways. If we want to classify all of these approaches, we will talk about 3 main branches in definition of identity:
- Concerning to personal estimates,
- Concerning to social-role aspects of personality,
- Concerning to self-sameness, wholeness of personality.

Types of identity

- Defining identity is very complicated, so many scientists prefer classify different types of identity.
- The first type is personal identity,
- The second type is social identity.

Social identity

- National
- Cultural
- Ethnic
- Gender
- Professional
- Sexual
- Family
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- The first one who mentioned “family identity” was Nathan Ackerman. He understands family identity as “emotional and cognitive WE of the family”.
- Family identity means also the feeling of belonging to the family group.

Researches of family identity

- Paechter C. (2000)
- Cigoli V., Scabini E. (2006)
- Smart C. (2011)
- Mineeva O.A. (2011)
- Luk'janchenko N.V. (2012)
- Furrow J. L., Bradley B., Johnson S. M. (2013)
- ...

Structure of family identity

- Emotional component
- Cognitive component
- Behavioral component
- Estimative component



Statuses of family identity

(Following J. Marcia)

- Foreclosure

"The foreclosure status is when a commitment is made without exploring alternatives. Often these commitments are based on parental ideas and beliefs that are accepted without question"

- Diffusion

Identity Diffusion is the mark of those who have neither explored nor made commitments across life-defining areas. They may or may not have experienced an identity crisis, with some reporting having little interest in such matters and others reporting repeated indecision.

Statuses of family identity

- Moratorium

Marcia notes that "moratoriums...report experiencing more anxiety than do Ss in any other status...The world for them is not, currently, a highly predictable place; they are vitally engaged in a struggle to make it so"

- Achievement

Once a crisis has been experienced and worked through, Marcia considered, "a likely progression would be from diffusion through moratorium to identity achievement"

Methods

- Questioners
- Conversation
- Graphic and art-methods



Thank you for your attention!

