

The Affect of Ethnic Minority People: A Prediction by Gender and Marital Status

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Abstract : The study aimed to investigate whether the affect (experience of feeling or emotion) of ethnic minority people can be predicted by gender and marital status. Toward this end, positive affect and negative affect of 103 adult indigenous persons were measured. Analysis of data in multiple regressions demonstrated that both gender and marital status are significantly associated with positive affect (Gender: $\beta=.318$, $p < .001$; Marital status: $\beta=.201$, $p < .05$), but not with negative affect. Results indicated that the indigenous males have 0.32 standard deviations increased positive affect as compared to the indigenous females and that married individuals have 0.20 standard deviations increased positive affect as compared to their unmarried counterparts. These findings advance our understanding that gender and marital status inequalities in the experience of emotion are not specific to the mainstream society; rather it is a generalized picture of all societies. In general, men possess more positive affect than females; married persons possess more positive affect than the unmarried persons.

Keywords : positive affect, negative affect, ethnic minority, gender, marital status

Conference Title : ICPBS 2014 : International Conference on Psychology and Behavioral Sciences

Conference Location : Miami, United States

Conference Dates : March 10-11, 2014