

Original Research

Sociological review of the consequences of the social capital on social security in the city of Zahedan in 2016

Authors:

Mousa Akhondi¹ and Asghar Mohajeri².

Institution:

1. M.A. Student, Department of Sociology, Faculty of humanity, Islamic Azad university, Zahedan branch, Zahedan, Iran

2. Associate professor, Department of Sociology, Faculty of humanity, Islamic Azad university, Tehran branch, Tehran, Iran

Corresponding author:

Asghar Mohajeri

ABSTRACT:

The purpose of the present study was sociological review of the consequences of the social capital on social security in the city of Zahedan in 2016. The statistical community includes 112399 residents of the district - 2 of Zahedan municipality; sample size is based on Cochran formula and includes 382 persons who were selected through simple random sampling and to increase the accuracy of the results and the probability of incomplete questionnaires, and also to decrease the number of subjects, by calculating 15 percent more, the final number of the sample was 439 persons and data analysis was performed based on 430 questionnaires. The instrument used in this study is researcher made questionnaire based on Lickert scale. In data analysis section, the frequency distribution table was used in the descriptive analysis and Pearson correlation test was used in inferential analysis. The concluded results from Pearson correlation analysis among the research variables showed that there is a positive and significant relationship ($P < 0.05$) between social capital and social security and also there is a positive and significant relationship between social participation and social security; vertical social capital and social security, and in general these results showed that the increase in social capital will increase the social security increase. The findings showed that social capital has a direct influence on the social security.

Keywords:

Horizontal social capital, Social security, Zahedan city.

Email ID:

asgharmohajeri@yahoo.com

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Mousa Akhondi and Asghar Mohajeri

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INTRODUCTION

The term "Social capital" is a concept that has found its way into medical, economical and urban planning, etc. It is also into the fields of social sciences. In fact, the subject of social capital has entered into the topics of social planning with a quantitative and measurable approach toward social issues and intra-society relationships and a new dimension of the influence of this concept on other concepts is being discovered day by day. The social capital of a society includes its organizations, interactions, approaches and values, that dominate the interactions between individuals and contribute to their social and economical growth. In fact, social capital includes stipulations and common values about social behaviors that are available within personal interactions and also includes trust and common sense about civic responsibilities that turn the society into something more than just a set of individuals (Dahesh, 2013). Paying attention to the concept of social capital and its evaluation is an appropriate method for planners and managers to reflect upon the issues of the society and local issues and make more efficient decisions and also prevent from friction in effective capital and strengthen the solidarity of the society. Although the word "Capital" is applied primarily in economical field but as of over two decades ago, it has had an increasing acceptance in the social field and currently, it is accepted as one of the important factors in development (Purmusavi *et al.*, 2013).

Security with the meaning of "Getting rid of fear and danger" has been one of the primary needs of human beings from the beginning of their existence. Security with this meaning has a profound connection with economic, social and cultural structures. In objective concept, security is the measurement of lack of threat against values and alludes to the quantity of crimes, damages and social disorders that a change in their amount and rate can affect the security of the society. Security in this meaning is measurable based on

indicators such as; the amount and rate of social damages, the amount and rate of delinquency and crime commission, the amount and rate of social anomalies, the skill and power of the police in confronting these crimes, and the harmony of institutions and concerned organizations in controlling the damages and crimes. But security has a mental aspect as well, that is the feeling of safety. The feeling of safety means lack of fear from activities and assurance in normality of the environment. The feeling of safety is a psychological-social phenomenon that has various aspects resulting from the individuals' direct or indirect experiences about their surrounding environment and different people experience things in different forms (Dolatabadi and Chamani, 2014).

Despite the increase in the importance of security in communities, tools, methods and approaches toward creating and maintaining, it has suffered from surprising changes. In former communities, the power and control and monitoring of formal institutions were considered as the symbol of its power and security but in new era, the amount of social capital and obedience from social norms and values and moral virtues are considered as the primary element for its stability, order and security. Therefore, logical management of social security in society is subjected to creating public participation and increasing trust to institutions and government in all social levels.

Currently, the new perspectives about development management is based on the principle that we need social capital more than economical, physical and human capitals for development because if we lack social capital, other capitals will lose their effectiveness and going through the process of development and cultural and economical evolution becomes difficult. Hence, the subject of social capital is considered as a profound principle for achieving development (Purmusavi *et al.*, 2013).

Social development is the result of two

continuous feedbacks:

- 1) Failure of peremptory, government-based, economy based, technocratic development programs without people's participation especially target groups of the programs, negligence and sometimes rejection of national values, lack of attention to the necessity of maintaining multi-ethnic and multi-cultural feature of the societies, considering traditions as obsolete and inefficient and considering modernization as positive and necessary and an upturn.
- 2) Globalization from above and negative consequences of structural adjustment or adaptation policy and personalization without paying attention to the weakness of civic society and consequently increasing the schism between affluent and destitute class (Feqhi, 2013).

In general, social development is the combination of the complex concept of social capital. In the most general level, social capital represents the description of features of a society or a social group that increases the capacity for collective and volunteer organization for solving consequent problems or public issues (Tajbakhsh, 2010).

Given the importance of social capital in achieving comprehensive development especially in social and cultural dimensions, paying attention to the amount of social capital among different classes and perceiving its level for social policy making is necessary. Based on this, the effect of the concept of social capital on city's social capital has been investigated in various studies from mental and objective point of view and the entrance of the concept of social security to urban planning is subjected to understanding its effect on different aspects of urban and city planning, Zahedan city by possessing unique features such as being adjacent, the presence of relatively traditional structure and the special culture of its people and its security condition in comparison with other regions of the country, made us review the capital of the province, so

that most effective issues on security could be addressed and it could be used as a guideline for officials and planners who want to improve basic indicators in people's lives who live in the city of Zahedan.

In this study, in addition to identifying the variables of social capital and social security, we also answer the question of "Is there a significant relationship between the variables of social capital and the amount of residents' satisfaction of social security in the city of Zahedan?"

Background

Internal research

Lotfi *et al.* (2013) concluded that out of five components of social capital, only social participation is in favorable condition and four components such as trust, unity, social interactions and awareness are in higher than average condition and the results of Pearson correlation coefficient suggested that there is a significant correlation between the components of social capital and women's feeling of security and the component of social unity has the most high percentage of correlation of 0/309.

Purmusavi *et al.* (2013), concluded that all the aspects of social capital have a significant relationship with social welfare and through contextual variables of marital status and sex related to social welfare. Also there is a significant relationship between social capital and social welfare.

Tajbakhsh *et al.* (2013), concluded that more the amount of social capital, the more the feeling of social security. In the final research, social trust, social participation and social awareness had the most high correlation with the feeling of security and unity and social interaction had a significant relationship only with physical and financial security. Of individual factors, sex has been effective in amount of feeling of security.

Bayat (2011) concluded that there is a correlation between social capital of the police and public security tantamount to 0/17 ($r=0/17$). Of three dimensions of

social capital reviewed in this study, trusting police and cooperation with police have a positive and significant effect on social security. Along with that, awareness of the activities of the police affect public security and in general the amount of social capital of the police is effective on public security.

External research

Akçomak and Weel (2012) showed that societies with higher levels of social capital have a lower crime rate. Both geography and relationships may determine social capital and crime. Takaji (2012) reviewed that the contextual effect of generalized trust, perceived reciprocity, two types of variables social network and also two main members of social capital (derived from the above four variables) and found that generalized trust of neighborhood, reciprocity, supportive networks and two main elements of social capital; each were related reversely to crime victim and crime.

Yamamura (2009) concluded that police and social capital decrease crime rate and the effects of social capital which are lower than that of police, are reinforced by the present complementary relationship by the police.

Ball *et al.* (2010) showed that women who participated in local groups or events or women who lived less consistently in the vicinity of places that their residents trusted each other, were more probable to participate in physical activities in their free time.

Renaure (2007) showed that both formal control (especially social unity) and informal control (the effectiveness of police's reaction to crime and considering fear from police as an inhibitor) have a significant relationship with crime and insecurity. Different people have a different account of security and consider that the feeling of security is variable based on economical system, health system and personal experiences of insecurity and consider the resulted anxiety from the feeling of insecurity to be originated from objective and real layers of insecurity and crime occurrence.

Jackson and Gray (2007) has shown that respondents who have a more authoritarian perspective about law and order and also are concerned about the long-term diversion of the society probably understand irregularities in the environment more than others. Also, it is more probable that they would connect these physical signs to the problems of society and social unity and also to the decadent quality of social relations and informal social control.

The theoretical framework

The concept of social capital

The concept of social capital is one of the modern concepts that has been used in contemporary social science discourses and political circles (Table 1). In the most general level, social capital represents descriptive features of a community or social group that increase the capacity of collective and voluntary organization for solving mutual problems or public issues (Rabbani *et al.*, 2009).

The common definition of social capital exists in the mainstream of the American Sociology, especially in its pragmatic function that includes mutual relationships, interactions and networks that appear among human groups and the trust level that exists between group and specific community as the consequence of obligations and associated norms with social structure. On the other hand, European sociology uses this concept in reviewing the subject "How the movement of the links related to social networks reinforce social hierarchy and distinctive power?". In spite of these common points, these two perspectives are about the effectiveness of social capital in improving some features such as education, social mobility, economical growth, political superiority and the force of social life (Jajromi, 2005).

Social capital in comparison to human capital is inherent and because of this, there is no emphasis on formal education or skill but it is a common feeling toward the community participation that enables groups to access them to create forums and networks.

Table 1. Theoretical table of the study

Independent variable	Main hypothesis	Key concepts	Theorist	The name of the theory
Social participation	There is a relationship between social participation and social security in the city of Zahedan	Social organization, bilateral relationships, social development, religious beliefs, information, norms	James Coleman	
Social trust	There is a relationship between social trust and social security in the city of Zahedan	Social organization, sources of social capital, trust, norms of the transaction, horizontal networks, cultural forums	Robert putnam	Religious identity
Vertical social capital	There is a relationship between vertical social capital and social security in the city of Zahedan	The feeling of common identity and destination between the family, friends, neighbors, personal benefits	Volkak and Narayan	
Horizontal social capital	There is a relationship between horizontal social capital and social security in the city of Zahedan	People with value, cultural properties, common beliefs, human capital	Putnam	

The accumulation of social networks create social capital and portsmouth reminds that when nearness decreases, the importance of social capital becomes prominent.

Volkak and Narayan (2005) have introduced the concept of social capital in explaining the importance of participation in reinforcing the product of school and in its description include: A tangible thing that has the utmost effects on people's daily lives, good will, friendship, thinking alike and social interaction between persons and families which constitute social unit. If someone contacts his neighbor and his neighbor contacts his own neighbor, an amount of social capital will accumulate that may meet the social needs and may be the result of a potential social capacity that is enough for basic improvement of living condition of the entire society.

Social security

In Buzan's view, social security is some sort of relief and peace of mind that society creates for its own members and it is considered as a duty and objective for every society. In discussing social and moral security, we can point out the presence of a moral foundation that is considered as a power supply for citizens so that we could obtain cultural organization in social environment. Buzan believes that communities hold great importance

for identity. He argues that the key element in communities includes the group of beliefs and actions that introduces people as members of that specific community. Community, involve identity and self-esteem of groups and individuals who consider themselves as its members.

In Burzan's comments, an area of life is considered that people consider themselves a part of that area through the concept of "We" and feel a sense of obligation and commitment about it. Therefore, every factor and phenomenon that causes a disorder in the feeling of belonging and unity between the members of a group, actually jeopardizes the identity of that group and is considered as a threat to the social security.

Buzan and Youver (1999) have analyzed the different dimensions of security by inspiring from Locke's beliefs. In addition, Buzan divides threats into three categories: bodily or physical (pain, damage and death), economical threats (seizure or destruction of property), threats to rights along with threats to condition or situation (incarceration, obliteration of normal freedoms, demotion, humiliation in public) that represent four aforementioned dimension (Bahripoor *et al.*, 2013).

Social security is some sort of relief and peace of mind that is incumbent upon every society to provide for its members. In general, in traditional approach, social

security focuses on the survival of community members and that group of physical and mundane factors that threaten the survival of the society are considered a threat to social security and take action against them through imposing power. In modern approach, social security focuses somehow on the survival of community members and spiritual and cultural factors that damage different lifestyles are considered as a social threat.

Theories about social capital and security

Giddens theory

Giddens (2006) believed that the feeling of reliability of things and individuals that is very important for the concept of trust, has a fundamental importance to the feeling of existential security. That's why these two feelings have a close relationship from psychological point of view. He believed that trust is a general and vital phenomenon in developing the personality. Trust, is a protective cocoon that the individual needs in confronting daily realities. He argued that jeopardy and trust are intertwined and trust usually serves to decrease the jeopardies that specific types of human activities are dealing with. In other words, the tendency to trust in relation to specific situations, or even in a vaster level to individuals or systems is directly related to the security of individuals and groups (Hamane, 2011).

He also emphasized on this principle that some new conditions have been created in the new world that are not reassuring. Therefore trust, which originates from faith and is the link between faith and certainty will be the necessary component to obtain security, otherwise if this certainly does not grow fundamentally, its result will be permanent existential anxiety. In other words, the counterpoint of certainty in its deepest meaning is a mental state that its summary is existential anxiety or fear. Topics like social interactions, taking risks, existential anxiety, single systems and fundamental trust are variables through which we can explain security and feeling of security (Giddens, 2006).

Johnson's theory

Johnson (1974) believed that the individual must be able to create a climate of confidence to decrease fear of others' and self from rejection and promote the hope of acceptance and support and confirmation. Trust is not a fixed and unchangeable characteristic related to the personality. Trust is an aspect of interactions that is constantly changing (Kafi, 2006). There is a considerable evidence that warmth and love, accurate understanding and cooperative trends even in cases that there are insoluble conflicts between individuals, increase trust in a human interaction. Acceptance may be the first and deepest element in a relationship. Acceptance is the key to reduce anxiety and fears related to vulnerability. Defensive feelings of fear and uncertainty are normal obstacles to the performance of an individual or developing useful relationships (Kafi, 2006). So according to Johnson's theory, if social trust increases among the members of a society and community members have more tolerance for each other and tend to cooperate and understand each other, fears related to vulnerability including fear of insecurity and the feeling of insecurity will decrease. In Johnson's viewpoint, tolerance (trusting others) is the key to decrease anxiety and fear of insecurity.

Parsons theory

Parsons (1997) described four dimensions for social order which include, economic, political, social and cultural dimensions. In his viewpoint, political dimension included five main elements that are related to each other, Viz., force, security, emotional action, activities and compulsory relationship. In his view, since the security interest of actors is important, it obtained a political aspect as a result of their interaction. He considered four dimensions for security as an indicator of policy which include: physical security, financial security, intellectual security and collective security. Therefore, based on this analysis, it could be concluded that, if collective culture gets damaged specially by

another group, force relationship is created among its members and as a result of such a relationship, physical and financial and intellectual and collective security are threatened and in general, the rate of the feeling of social security decreases and consequently generalized trust decreases and this, in turn, would have a negative effect on the rate of social capital, because trust and generalized trust are one of the dimensions of social capital and they have a direct relationship with social participation which is another important dimension of social capital (Chalbi,1996).

Bourdieu's theory

Bourdieu (2005) considered social capital as the basis for other capitals and he is enthusiastic about reviewing mechanisms by addressing social capital and based on Neo-Marxist roots of his thinking, in which economical capital is combined with other forms of capital to create and recreate inequity and because of this, both social capital and cultural capital are indicators of accumulated manufacturing which should be exchanged in social area, even though the practice areas of these two are far away from each other and independent from other capitals. Therefore, by creating inequity, the foundation is laid for the advent of feeling of insecurity in the society (Bourdieu, 2005).

Putnam theory

Putnam (1995) believed that horizontal social capital provides an appropriate context for achieving other types of human and financial capital, horizontal social capital along with the social interactions outside of the closed environment of kith and kin can provide the necessary context for increasing individuals' efficacy in their educational level and social capital through increasing trust and reducing opportunism. Of course, it can be an effective factor in the growth and development of the human capital of a society (Putnam, 1995).

Research hypotheses

Main hypothesis

There is a relationship between social capital and

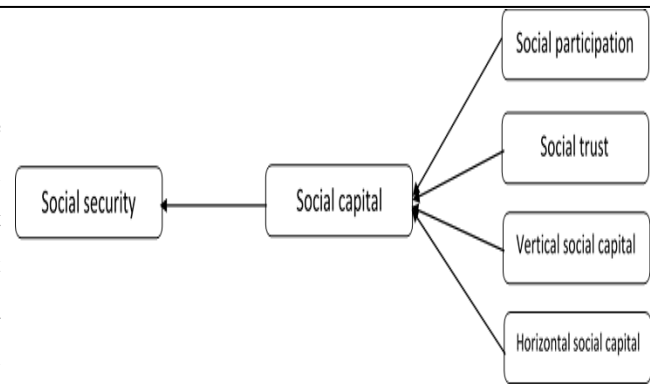


Figure 1. Conceptual model of the study

social security in the city of Zahedan.

Secondary hypotheses

There is a relationship between social participation and social security in the city of Zahedan. There is a relationship between social trust and social security in the city of Zahedan. There is a relationship between vertical social capital and social security in the city of Zahedan. There is a relationship between horizontal social capital and social security in the city of Zahedan (Figure 1).

Methodology

The research method is descriptive and exploratory. The statistical population of the present study includes all the residents of district - 2 of Zahedan municipality and according to the available statistics in 2015 at Zahedan municipality their total number is 112399. Given the fact that the sample size included 382 persons based on Cochran formula, researcher calculated 15% more in order to increase the stability of research tools. 439 persons were selected as the final sample size and after collecting information, some of the incomplete questionnaires were excluded and data analysis was performed based on 430 questionnaires. Sample finding in this research is done through simple random method.

After designing the questions of related varieties, the questionnaires were given to an expert (supervisor). The comments of these individuals regarding the evaluation of the questions of each variety, eventually led to the evaluation of appropriate questions for each

Table 2. Distribution of respondents based on personal characteristics

Percentage	Frequency	Articles	Variables
73	314	Male	Sex
27	116	Female	
20/9	90	Single	Marriage
79/1	340	Married	
18/6	80	20 to 30 years old	Age
46	198	31 to 40 years old	
17/2	74	41 to 50 years old	
18/1	78	More than 51 years old	
24/4	105	Diploma	Education
19/5	84	Associate degree	
30/9	133	B.A	
18/1	78	M.A	
7	30	P.H.D	

variety. In order to evaluate the validity of the questions, in addition to relying upon the theoretical foundations of the research, experts in Sociology were also used. In the present study, in addition to the library method to modify the matters related to theoretical foundations and research backgrounds and referring to scientific sources, researcher made questionnaire was used to measure and review the sociological consequences of social capital on social security in the city of Zahedan. The most important statistical methods applied in this study were Cronbach's alpha test which has been used to calculate the reliability coefficient of measurement tools and the result was 0/90 and also Pearson correlation coefficient was used to confirm or reject the hypotheses.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The table 2 showed that 314 persons (73 percent) of the respondents were male and 116 persons (27 percent) were woman and the majority of the respondents were men; 90 persons (20.9 percent) were single and 340 persons (79.1 percent) were married and the majority of the respondents were married persons; 80 persons of sample subjects (18.6 percent) were 20-30 years old, 198 (46 percent) were 31-40 years old, 74 (17.2 percent) were 41-50 years old, 78 (18.1 percent) persons were higher than 51 years old that most respondents were 31-40 years old; 105 persons (24.4 percent) of the sample subject had a Diploma degree, 84 persons (19.8 percent) had an associate degree, 133 persons (30.9 percent) had a B.A. degree and 78 persons (18.1 percent) had a M.A. degree and 30 persons (7 percent) had Ph.D degree and most respondents had B.A. degree.

Hypotheses testing

The main criteria for a hypothesis to be valuable is its testing ability and hypothesis testing in evaluating the accuracy of the claim presented by the researcher. Although a hypothesis can never be proved definitely, but it can be confirmed or rejected. So, one of the most important criteria of statistical decision making, is judging the research hypothesis (Mahdavi, 2004). In this section, we present an analytical review of research hypotheses through Pearson correlation coefficient test.

Table 3. Obtained results from pearson correlation coefficient

Type of relationship	Correlation intensity	Presence of a relationship	Sig	Correlation coefficient	N	Name of the variable	Criterion variable
Positive and direct	Moderate	Yes	0/000	0/427	430	Social capital	
Positive and direct	Moderate	Yes	0/000	0/451	430	Social participation	
Positive and direct	Slight	Yes	0/000	0/273	430	Social trust	Social
Positive and direct	Slight	Yes	0/000	0/381	430	Vertical social capital	security
Positive and direct	Slight	Yes	0/000	0/221	430	Horizontal social capital	

CONCLUSION

This study has been performed with the purpose of sociological review of the consequences of social capital on social security in the city of Zahedan 2016; the obtained results from data analysis showed that there is a positive and significant relationship ($P < 0.05$) between social capital and social security, also social participation had the highest correlation, and lowest correlation belonged to horizontal social capital, therefore social capital is a very effective factor to increase social security and by accumulating social capital over time, we can prevent many crimes in the city of Zahedan and reinforcing religious confidence builder norms can be considered as an effective factor in increasing social capital. Therefore, it seems that the best way to increase social capital is society and people's own efforts, that is, in producing and reinforcing social capital, non-governmental groups and cultural elements of the society are more effective than the government and political factors.

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