

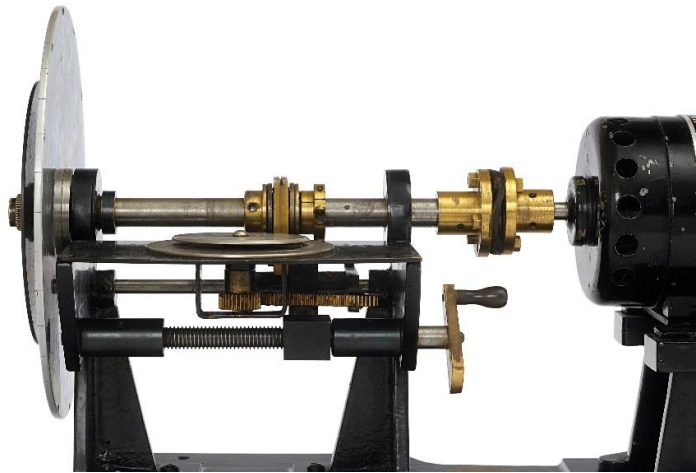
XXVI SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

# EMPIRICAL STUDIES IN PSYCHOLOGY

15 – 18<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2020.

FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY, UNIVERSITY OF BELGRADE

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INSTITUTE OF PSYCHOLOGY  
LABORATORY FOR EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY  
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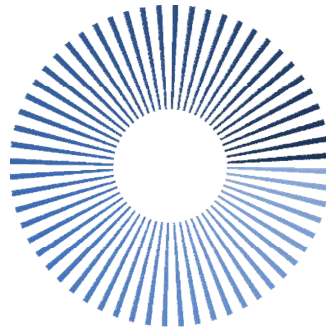
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BELGRADE, 2020

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postiću niže skorove na *E*, a povišene na *N*. Drugu klasu ( $N = 410$ ) karakterišu prosečni skorovi na svim dimenzijama, osim blagog sniženja na *N*. Među pripadnicima treće klase ( $N = 69$ ) je primetno blago povišenje na *E* i *S*, kao i sniženi skorovi na *NV*. Četvrtu klasu ( $N = 163$ ) karakteriše povišenje na dimenzijama *A* i *N* i sniženje na *E* i *S*. Peta klasa ( $N = 112$ ) poseduje najizrazitije varijacije u skorovima - povišenje na *E*, *S* i *O*; i snižene skorove na *A*, *N* i *NV*. Rezultati su kongruentni sa rezultatima prethodnih istraživanja o relacijama osobina ličnosti i (brze/spore) LHT. Primena tipološke paradigme se čini kao informativniji pristup jer mimo uvida u konstelaciju osobina unutar konkretnih klasa, naglašava važnost pojedinih dimenzija LHT za konkretne klase.

**Ključne reči:** analiza latentnih klasa, VP+2, K-SF-42, teorija životne istorije, LHT

#### TYPOLOGICAL PARADIGM IN THE LIGHT OF LIFE HISTORY THEORY: RELATIONS BETWEEN TYPES AND BASIC PERSONALITY TRAITS

The recently used framework in the field of psychology of individual differences is Life History Theory (LHT). Previous researches showed that LHT dimensions are associated with personality traits. This research aimed to examine latent classes in the context of LHT, but also their relations with basic personality traits. Results of the latent class analysis show that 5 classes should be identified based on K-SF-42 scores. Value of Bayesian information criterion ( $BIC = -18944.47$ ) suggested five-class solution to be optimal. All classes were significantly different on all personality traits, with exception of the Positive valence. Results are consistent with previous research on relations between personality traits and (fast/slow) LHT. On the other hand, the typological approach seems like a more informative solution, because it provides a better understanding of personality traits constellation within classes.

**Keywords:** latent class analysis, VP+2, K-SF-42, life history theory, LHT

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#### PSYCHOMETRIC EVALUATION OF THE MILITANT EXTREMIST MINDSET SCALE

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Due to its wider social impact, there is a growing interest in the study of radicalization and violent extremism. Radicalization and violent extremism can be operationalized through three-dimensional Militant-Extremist Mindset (MEM), including Pro-violence (PV) – acceptance, justification, and advocacy of the use of violence, Divine Power (DP) – beliefs in heaven and God, the role of martyrdom, and afterlife pleasures, and Vile World (VW) – the belief there is something wrong with the world we live in, and that the present-day world is vile and miserable. Despite the growing support of three-dimensional structure of the construct in adults, there is a lack of studies assessing the MEM among the youth, which may be particularly susceptible to radicalization and violent extremism. This study explored the

latent structure and psychometric properties of the MEM scale on a sample of 283 high school students from Belgrade and Sandžak aged between 15 and 18 ( $M = 16.30$ ,  $SD = 0.71$ ; 71.7% females). They completed a 24-item version of the MEM scale. The results of confirmatory factor analysis (Maximum Likelihood) of MEM demonstrated insufficiently good fit [ $\chi^2(249) = 543.06$ ,  $p < .001$ ,  $CFI = .86$ ,  $TLI = .83$ ,  $RMSEA = .06$ , 90%CI: .06 - .07] for initial three-factor model of correlated dimensions of PV, VW, and DP, with a single significant latent correlation of .32 between PV and VW factors. All three subscales [PV  $KMO = .96$ ,  $\alpha = .83$ ,  $H2 = .89$ ; VW  $KMO = .95$ ,  $\alpha = .84$ ,  $H2 = .90$ ; DP  $KMO = .92$ ,  $\alpha = .74$ ,  $H2 = .84$ ] exhibited high indices of item sample adequacy, internal consistency, and homogeneity. The model was modified by exclusion of three items from PV and two items from DP subscales from the final version due to their poor psychometric properties and low primary or relatively high secondary factor loadings. The resulting set of 19 items demonstrated a satisfactory fit to the three-factor model of MEM [ $\chi^2(151) = 302.11$ ,  $p < .001$ ,  $CFI = .92$ ,  $TLI = .90$ ,  $RMSEA = .06$ , 90%CI: .05 - .07]. Psychometric properties of the shorter versions of PV [ $KMO = .97$ ,  $\alpha = .86$ ,  $H2 = .95$ ] and VW scales [ $KMO = .94$ ,  $\alpha = .82$ ,  $H2 = .91$ ] proved to be markedly higher after the exclusion of the problematic items. Results on the MEM's latent structure are in line with studies using adult samples. Results indicate that the adapted, shorter version of MEM can be used for assessing radicalization and violent extremism among youth.

**Keywords:** Militant-Extremist Mindset (MEM), radicalization, violent extremism, latent structure, psychometric properties

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## INTEROCEPTIVE AWARENESS AND MINDFULNESS: CONSTRUCTS OVERLAP AND CONTRIBUTION TO WELLBEING

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Interoceptive awareness (IA) and mindfulness, although different constructs, are expected to partially overlap since both capture psychological processes related to attention and self-reflection. IA is defined as the conscious level of interoception (sensing, interpreting and integrating signals from the body), while mindfulness refers to focusing attention on experience (either interoception or exteroception) in the present moment in a nonjudgmental way. We aimed to conceptually replicate a study that explored the relationship between IA and mindfulness, revealing a partial overlap between them, but also their independent contribution to personal wellbeing (Hanleya, Mehling, & Garlanda, 2017). We used the same model of body awareness (MAIA, Mehling et al., 2012), but different models of mindfulness

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