

XXIII NAUČNI SKUP



# EMPIRIJSKA ISTRAŽIVANJA U PSIHOLOGIJI

24 – 26. MART, 2017.

FILOZOFSKI FAKULTET, UNIVERZITET U BEOGRADU

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INSTITUT ZA PSIHOLOGIJU  
LABORATORIJA ZA EKSPERIMENTALNU PSIHOLOGIJU  
FILOZOFSKI FAKULTET, UNIVERZITET U BEOGRADU

This research was supported by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia, Grants No. 179018.

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## PUBLIC FIGURES AS ADOLESCENT'S ROLE MODELS: PREFERENCES AND REASONS

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There is no absolute agreement on public figures' effects on youth development. However, authors warn that youth's growing interest in media, where idols frequently appear, must have some impact on their identity formation and value system. Our goal is to discover which role model types are preferred and to identify potential new ones. We also investigated adolescents' reasons and connected them with specific idol preferences. The sample included 1404 adolescents from primary and secondary schools in 5 Serbian towns. Idols are classified according to a previously used classification: show business, sport, science and art, politics, fiction. The reasons were codified as well: intelligence, strong personality, humanity, good communication skills, desirable profession, fame, physical appearance, social power, wealth, professional success. The relationship between idol types and various reasons was tested by GLM MANOVA and Logistic regression for each role model type with reasons as predictors. Entrepreneurs are new public figures that adolescents admire, while youtubers and bloggers are new subcategories within show business. The effect of the role model type is statistically significant (Wilks' Lambda=0.556,  $p<0.001$ ) and group differences are found in intelligence ( $F=10.585$ ,  $p<0.001$ ), physical appearance ( $F=8.368$ ,  $p<0.001$ ), professional success ( $F=16.79$ ,  $p<0.001$ ) and social power ( $F=23.831$ ,  $p<0.001$ ). Intelligence is dominantly attributed to scientists and artists. Adolescents admire show business celebrities and occasionally fictional characters for their physical appearance. Professional success is associated with sports and social power with politics. Logistic regression ( $\chi^2(10)=85.259$ ,  $p<0.001$ ) shows that actors and singers are perceived as attractive but not professionally successful (negative beta coefficient). Sportsmen are admired because of professional results and humanity while beauty and intelligence are not their traits ( $\chi^2(10)=111.781$ ,  $p<0.001$ ). Intelligence

is the only reason predicting the choice of scientists and artists ( $\chi^2(10)=27.026$ ,  $p<0.01$ ), while politicians and rulers are seen as powerful but not successful ( $\chi^2(10)=41.42$ ,  $p<0.001$ ). New role model categories obviously accompany new media trends. Relations between idol preferences and associated reasons reveal that adolescents attribute and value different characteristics in various role model types.

*Keywords:* adolescents, public figures, role models, reasons

This research was supported by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia, Grants No. 179018.

## PERCEPCIJA SOCIO-EMOCIONALNE RESPONZIVNOSTI I UTICAJA DETETA SA TEŠKOĆAMA IZ AUTISTIČNOG SPEKTRA NA PORODICU KAO ČINIOCI RODITELJSKOG STRESA

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Roditeljski stres podrazumeva stanje iscrpljenosti koje proističe iz zahteva povezanih sa ulogom roditeljstva. Istraživanja ukazuju da je nivo roditeljskog stresa viši u porodicama dece sa teškoćama u razvoju, usled usložnjavanja zahteva koji se pred njih postavljaju. U ovom istraživanju smo se usmerili na ispitivanje nivoa i korelata roditeljskog stresa u porodicama dece sa autizmom. Kao jedan od korelata odabrana je opažena socio-emocionalna responzivnost deteta s obzirom da su ispoljavanje emocija i socijalna komunikacija oblasti funkcionisanja u kojima najčešće dolazi do teškoća kod osoba sa autizmom. Opažena socio-emocionalna responzivnost je merena skalom konstuisanom u svrhe ovog istraživanja ( $\alpha=0.90$ ). Kako izazovi koji dolaze posle saznanja o dijagnozi mogu uzdrmati ne samo roditelje, već i porodicu kao celinu, ispitana je i povezanost roditeljskog stresa i uticaja deteta sa autizmom na porodicu, opaženog od strane roditelja. Ispitan je uticaj deteta na različite aspekte porodice: pozitivna i negativna osećanja u vezi sa roditeljstvom, socijalni život roditelja, brak, finansije i uticaj na braću/sestre. Pretpostavka je da će roditeljska percepcija niže socio-emocionalne responzivnosti deteta i snažnijeg uticaja deteta na porodicu biti povezana sa višim nivoima stresa. U istraživanju su učestvovali 44 majki dece sa autizmom, članice Saveza udruženja Srbije za pomoć osobama sa autizmom, kojima su poslata četiri upitnika u elektronskoj formi: Upitnik o socio-demografskim varijablama, Indeks roditeljskog stresa – skraćena verzija ( $\alpha=0.95$ ), konstruisani Upitnik o socio-emocionalnoj responzivnosti dece sa

Podrška realizaciji skupa



CIP - Katalogizacija u publikaciji

Narodna biblioteka Srbije, Beograd

NAUČNI skup Empirijska istraživanja u psihologiji (23; 2017; Beograd)

[Knjiga rezimea] / XXIII naučni skup Empirijska istraživanja u psihologiji,

24-26. mart 2017, Filozofski fakultet, Univerzitet u Beogradu; [organizatori]

Institut za psihologiju i Laboratorija za eksperimentalnu psihologiju. - 1. izd. -

Beograd : Filozofski fakultet, 2017. - 200 str.

Kor. nasl. - Rezimei na srp. i engl. jeziku – elektronsko izdanje.

ISBN 978-86-6427-048-9

1. Institut za psihologiju (Beograd)

2. Laboratorija za eksperimentalnu psihologiju (Beograd)

a) Psihologija - Empirijska istraživanja - Apstrakti