

Perceptions of discrimination and life satisfaction among first generation immigrants in Greece

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Prolegomena



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Theoretical Paradigms:

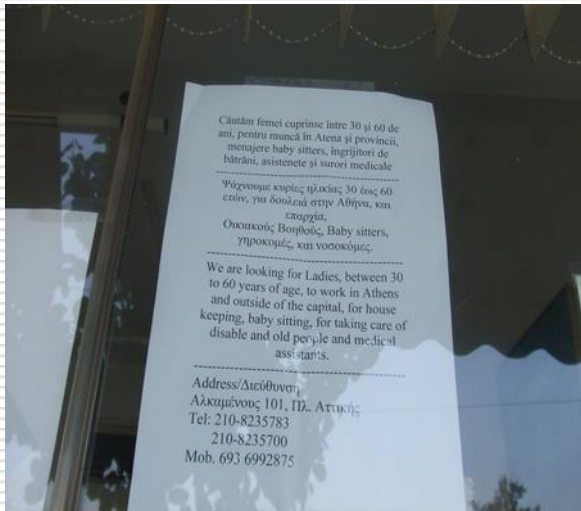
1. Berry eco-cultural model – acculturation
2. David Bourguignon, Eleonore Seron and Vincent Yzerbyt, 2006.
3. Life Satisfaction Scale (Diener, Emmons, Larsen, & Griffin, 1985).

-> acculturation strategies

-> perceived group discrimination (PGD) and perceived personal discrimination (PPD)
discrimination

-> psychological well-being and discrimination

How many??



- Greece – conversion from emigration to immigration
- In 2008 - 20,000 residence permits emitted for Romanians in Greece
~ 2,77 % total population



Hypothesis



H1: An optimal cohabitation between majority and minority members is assured by integration, as an acculturative option.

H2: High levels of discrimination among ethnic group lead to low rates of well-being

Participants

(N=630)

a. n= **432 Greeks** (39.8% males, 60.2% females)
Mean age = 23.31 years;
No job/work experience abroad - 70,1%);

b. N = **198** first-generation **Romanian** migrants

Romanian sample (n = 198)		(%)
Sex	masculine	40,4%
	feminine	59,6%
	NR	2,0%
education level	4 classes	4,7%
	pre - university	65,3%
	university	30,0%
Length of staying in Greece	Less then 1 year	7,7%
	2-5 years	30,6%
	6-10	39,3%
	11-15	20,4%
	16-20	2,0%
Settlement schedules	Return to Ro	32,5%
	Other migration	3,6%
	Remain in Greece	23,4%
	I do not know	39,6%
	NR	1,0%
Age (mean)		33

Instruments



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- *Preferred and perceived acculturation orientations* : adapted version of Zagefka and Brown (2002)
 - *Subjective Well-Being Scale (SWLS)* - Diener, Emmons, Larsen, and Griffin (1985)
 - *Demographics*
-

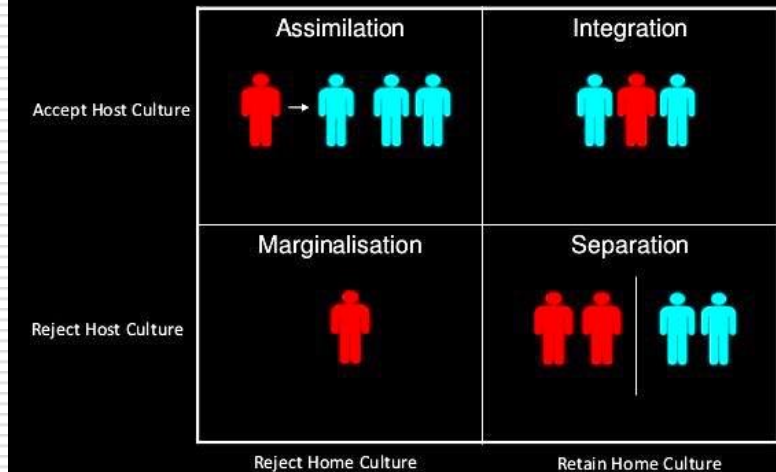
The matrix of acculturation (Berry , 2016)

BERRY'S ACCULTURATION MODEL

"Is it considered to be of value to develop relationships with the larger society?"	Yes	Assimilation	Integration
	No	Marginalization	Separation
		No	Yes

"Is it considered to be of value to maintain one's cultural heritage?"

Berry's Acculturation Model



The model of acculturation (H1)

	<u>Minority members</u> (Romanians)		<u>Majority members</u> (Greeks)	
	Own attitudes	Perceived attitudes	Own attitudes	Perceived attitudes
Integration	55,1	18,2	65,1	38,5
Separation	21,7	8,1	7,3	11,8
Marginalization	5,1	46,5	13,3	41,6
Assimilation	18,2	27,3	14,3	8,0

Well-being and Perceived Discrimination

PERCEIVED DISCRIMINATION (Means and SD)

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Sex	148	1	2	1,55	,499
Grup discrimination	147	1,75	5,00	3,7449	,69825
Personal discrimination	147	1,75	5,00	3,8180	,72301
Pozitive discrimination	148	1,00	5,00	2,5034	,78571
Valid N (listwise)	146				

H2

Corelations				
		Group Discrimination	Personal Discrimination	Subjective well-being
Group Discrimination	Pearson Correlation	1	,516**	-,417**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		,000	,000
	N	147	146	147
Personal Discrimination	Pearson Correlation	,516**	1	-,275**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,000		,001
	N	146	147	147
Subjective well-being	Pearson Correlation	-,417**	-,275**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,000	,001	
	N	147	147	148

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Instead of conclusions

- Cultural background and acculturative strategies with their imprints = internalized and affect psychological well-being;
 - **Integration** remain the most healthy acculturative preference among Romanians living and working in Greece
 - Romanian migrants in the Greek society are more likely to express themselves more satisfied with their life **once they perceive less self discrimination than** when being discriminated against as a group.
 - Studies including measures of both PPG and PPD converge on the findings that PPD has a stronger impact on immigrant youth's well-being than PGD (e.g., Motti-Stefanidi & Asendorpf, 2012). But, Romanian migrants in the Greek society are more likely to be more satisfied with their life once they perceive less discrimination than against their group. Other similar studies revealed the same direction, especially among youth, who internalised more depressive symptoms, stress and behavioural problems (Brody et al., 2006; Szalacha et al., 2003), low levels of self-esteem (Liebkind et al., 2012), and poor school adjustment (Liebkind, Jasinskaya-Lath, Inguglia & Musso, 2015).
 - Romanian cultural heritage maintenance in Greece is preferred more by immigrants and less by hosts.
 - ✓ Similarity versus attraction hypothesis - could reduce the symbolic or the symbolic, realistic, economic threat.
 - Practical utility
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***Thank you
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your attention!***
