

THE DISTRIBUTION of FAMILY ROLES IN TAJIK AND BELARUSIAN FAMILIES

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Abstract. *This article represents a research of distribution of family roles in Tajik and Belarusian families. Typical roles for men and women were studied. It was found that there were differences in most important roles for Tajik and Belarusian students.*

INTRODUCTION. Family roles are stable functions of the family system assigned to each of its members. The role structure of the family dictates to relatives what, how, when and in what sequence they should do, interacting with each other. In addition to actual behavior, the concept of "role" includes desires, goals, beliefs, feelings, social attitudes, values and actions that are expected or attributed to everyone [1].

Any family is always a complex system of relationships that develop between its members.

The modern family does not always follow traditional rules and norms, and the practice in each married couple is individual. It is important what patterns of family life, the distribution of responsibilities the spouses have taken from the parental home, what they observed in parental families. Often, developing their own family structure and the distribution of family responsibilities becomes a long and difficult process. The consistency of ideas about the functional role assignment and responsibilities of each of them depends only on the spouses themselves [2]. It will not be superfluous for them to know what is prescribed for each family role, because the stability and well-being of the marriage union largely depends on this.

MAIN PART. a role is a normatively approved model of behavior expected from a person holding a certain social position in interpersonal relations. The content of the role and its fulfillment are governed by the rules determined and adopted by the group, which should be followed to implement joint activities.

Family life presupposes the presence of many roles, the development of which are the key to family happiness and well-being [3].

There are rules, regulations regarding both the acceptance of roles and their performance. It is also important to control the fulfillment of the roles and sanctions, both external and internal, aimed at restoring the balance of family activities through a certain impact on a family member who does not fulfill his or her role. The degree of acceptance by a family member of his or her family role determines the effectiveness of its implementation and, as a consequence, the success of the functioning of the family structure as a whole. The role structure of the family includes:

- Conventional roles prescribed by the socio-cultural environment, they are standardized, define the permanent rights and obligations of family members, representing a list of forms of behavior and ways of their implementation, regulated by law, morality, traditions.

- Interpersonal roles are individualized, determined by the specific nature of interpersonal relationships in the family, crystallizing in themselves a unique experience of family interpersonal communication.

- The role structure of the family ensures its effective functioning and meeting the needs of all its members, taking into account the following requirements:

- Role consistency - the requirement for the consistency of roles that form a holistic system, both in relation to the roles performed by one person and the family as a whole;

- The performance of the role should ensure the satisfaction of the needs of the individual within the family;

- The accepted roles must correspond to the capabilities of the individual; "role overload" must not be allowed;

- Role fulfillment should ensure that the needs of all family members are met [4].

Conventional roles can be classified for various reasons:

a) in accordance with the status of family relations: the role of a husband, a wife, parents (a mother and a father), children (a son and a daughter), siblings (a brother and a sister), grandparents, etc.;

b) according to the functional principle: the "breadwinner" of the family, the owner (hostess) of the house, responsible for the care and upbringing of the baby, the educator of children, the sexual partner, the "family psychotherapist" responsible for maintaining family ties, the organizer of family leisure time, etc.

- Interpersonal roles determine the nature of interpersonal interaction, including the roles of patron, guardian, friend, etc. [1].

Family life is initially based on the distribution of responsibilities; therefore it is important to decide on the optimal division of them between spouses. Household responsibilities should be distributed in accordance with the desires and capabilities of each spouse, so that their fulfillment does not turn into a heavy burden.

In accordance with the most important functions of the family, a system of family roles is distinguished [3].

In our research, we supposed that the distribution of family roles in Belarusian and Tajik families differed. 19 students from Belarus and 15 Tajik students took part in our research; all of them were from ***Polotsk State University at the ages from 17 to 21. Our questionnaire was invented on the description of family roles made by Y.E. Alyoshina, L.Y. Gozman, E.M. Dubrovskaya, S.V. Kovalyov. The respondents were to choose a role, typical for men, typical for women, and 5 most important family roles in the questionnaire.***

The role of the "breadwinner" corresponds to the fulfillment of the function of ensuring the material well-being of the family. None of the Tajik students thought that this role might be typical for women. **10,5% of the Belarusian students** were sure that this role might belong to a woman.

The role of ***"an organizer of family subculture"*** is a kind of spiritual leader of the family, who determines its interests, cultural needs, hobbies, has arisen recently and ensures the cultural growth of family members. Typically, this role is assumed by the most competent and motivated family member. The role of organizer of family activities is often performed by one family member. According to our data **20% of the Tajik students** chose this role as typical for women, **80% thought that the role belonged to men, 74% of the Belarusian students assumed that it was women's typical role, and only 26% of them described it as a typical men's role. The level of statistical significance is $p = 0,00$ ($p < 0,05$).**

The role of "psychotherapist" ensures that the needs of family members for emotional understanding, support, security are met and the role is key in the modern family. Traditionally, it is assigned to a woman due to the recognition of her greater emotional sensitivity, but in reality this is not always the case. The husband in the role of the family "psychotherapist", as a rule, strengthens his leadership position and real leadership in the family. These roles are rather "internal" in nature and do not imply going outside the family.

According to our data, the role of the "psychotherapist" was chosen as typical for women by **84% of the Belarusian students and** typical for men – by 16 % of the students but the Tajik students thought that men and women could perform the role. **The level of statistical significance is $p = 0,02$ ($p < 0,05$).**

In our study, we asked the students to choose five most important roles for families from their point of view. For the Tajik students the role of the "psychotherapist" was the most important (73,3%). The second important role was ***"a supporter of strict discipline"*** (60%). Then comes the role ***"one who makes sacrifice for the sake of others"*** (53, 3%). 46,6% of the students thought that the role ***"a household manager" was of importance for families.*** And the last of important family roles was ***"one who is responsible for care of a baby"*** (40%).

As for the Belarusian students, they were similar to the Tajik students only according to the role "psychotherapist", it took as well the first place (48%). But the rest of the family roles were different. The most important roles for them were ***"an organizer of family subculture"*** (42%), ***"a household manager"*** (34%), ***"a joker"*** (26%).

Then we asked the students to describe their future families. The results you can see in the table 1.

Table 1. – Characteristics of future families by Tajik and Belarusian students

No	Characteristics of family	Tajik students	Belarusian students
1	Happy	47%	31,5%
2	Friendly	40%	58 %
3	Loving	53,3%	37%
4	Having a spouse and kids	80%	26,3%
5	Having parents nearby	33,3%	-
6	a big size of the family	73,3	5,2%
7	A family with 2 kids	33,3%	47,3%

CONCLUSION. *The purpose of our study was to compare the conception of distribution of family roles of Tajik and Belarusian students. We carried out the comparative analysis of the conception of distribution of family roles of students of different nationalities. It was found that some conception of distribution of family roles had significant distinctions.*

Today, the modern life has changed the family structure a lot and family roles have been diverting from the traditional responsibilities. Now young married couples should take decisions together, express opinions openly, criticize and encourage mutually and yet be independent and responsible.

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