

## Investigating the Effect of Social Values on the Political Participation of Behbahan Youth

Mohsen Mokhtari<sup>1</sup>  
Keramatullah Rasekh<sup>\*2</sup>  
Alireza Khodami<sup>3</sup>

Received 15 March 2020, Accepted 28 July 2020

### *Abstract*

Political participation is one of the important pillars of any country's development. The purpose of this study is to investigate the relationship between social values and political participation of Behbahan youth. For this purpose, the theories of Schwartz, Inglehart and Milbrath were used as a theoretical framework. The research method is survey. The sampling method is multi-stage cluster and the sample size according to Cochran's formula is 384 people. Data collection tool is a researcher-made questionnaire. Data were analyzed using Pearson correlation coefficient and regression analysis using SPSS software. Formal validity was used to measure validity and Cronbach's alpha coefficient (reliability) for the variable of social values is 0.722 and political participation is equal to 0.934, which is very high and its items have been able to have the necessary internal harmonization. The test results show that the average political participation among individuals is high and its average of 5 is equal to 3.58. There is a significant positive and direct relationship between the variables of social values and political participation. The more personal values there are, the more political participation there is. Pearson correlation coefficient is 0.428 and its significance level is zero. The dimensions of cosmopolitanism, benevolence, arousal and compliance are significantly associated with political participation. Regression analysis shows that 18.3% of changes in political participation depend on social values. In order to increase political participation in society, more attention should be paid to personal social values and raising its indicators and components, especially benevolence and traditionalism.

**Keywords:** Political participation, Social values, Participation, Value.

---

<sup>1</sup>. PhD student in Political Sociology, Jahrom Branch, Islamic Azad University, Jahrom, Iran, mosenmokhtari@yahoo.com

<sup>2\*</sup>. Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, Jahrom Branch, Islamic Azad University, Jahrom, Iran, Dr.rasekh@jia.ac.ir (Corresponding Author)

<sup>3</sup>. Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Jahrom Branch, Islamic Azad University, Jahrom, Iran, alirezakhoddamy@yahoo.com

## 1. Introduction

One of the studies in the field of political sociology is political participation. Due to the growing importance of democracy and democratic political systems in recent years, attention to the branch of political sociology has become particularly important. All tools are used in the country to enable the people to take an active part in power and politics. Therefore, the participatory behavior of individuals should be explained in terms of their membership in occupational, educational groups (SeyedEmami, 2007, p. 65). The main issue is the political participation of Behbahan citizens. The variable of personal and social values is an independent variable and political participation is a dependent variable. The researcher seeks to explain the sociology of political participation and in other words, the extent to which factors such as personal and social values affect the political participation of Behbahan youth.

Values are one of the most important components of the cultural system at the macro level and the personality system at the micro level. In one definition, personality can be considered as a special model of traits and an attribute of a continuous, relative and distinguishable way that is different from one person to another (Issazadegan, 2012, p. 80). Personal values are a set of values that are formed in a person's personality system and may accompany him until the end of a person's life. Schwartz believes that personal values form a spectrum of motivations that include a total of ten types of values (benevolence, traditionalism, conformity, security, power, motivation, pleasure, success, self-reliance, and salvation).

The mental dimension of participation is the type of perception a person has of participating in political activities that helps him or her to examine real or potential political situations before taking any action. Willingness to run in council elections, willing to run in presidential elections, willing to run in rallies, willing to join associations and political parties. Another aspect of participation is objective political participation, which is, engaging in activities that are defined as political participation and take the form of membership, oversight, implementation, and decision-making, such as participation in public rallies, voting, elections, and participation in parties. For this purpose, the researcher has used two types of formal and informal political participation to measure youth participation (Imam Jomehzadeh et al., 2010, p. 18).

The issue of participation in various social, cultural and political fields has been widely considered today. In today's world, the phenomenon of participation has become inevitable, and in third world countries that are in transition from tradition to modernity, this issue occurs more sensitively. National development in Third World countries depends more than anything on the active participation and effective social cohesion of members of society. The lack of this participation and social harmony provides the basis for conflicts and contradictions between the performance of different parts of the garment, and most of the scarce resources of this country are spent to deal with the adverse effects of these conflicts. Meanwhile, political participation in the field of governance has many manifestations (Nazari et al., 2013). According to many scholars, political participation is one of the most important components of democracy. If citizens are not able to participate in participatory processes and play their role, democracy will lose its meaning, and therefore citizens must be continuously involved in political processes in order to achieve political development (Ansari, 2017). Various factors and theories have been explained for the reasons of people's political participation; but most of them believe that the main reason for participation is personal interest and rational action (Van Dess, 2016). Values as one of the most fundamental elements in determining and constructing the ways of action, feelings and thoughts of human beings in the field of social life, play a key role and are in fact a reflection of human material and psychological needs and crystallization of the state of interaction and social relations. Which is defined in various meanings, including ingrained emotions and determining the part of behavior and a kind of ideal and desirability of the way of acting or being (Venter, 2012).

In fact, the idea of political participation is to involve the masses in political activity and determine their own destiny, and it is only through this that the grounds for stability and stability of the political system are realized (Khaniki and Rahbar, 2015). Both personality and value are expected to influence decision-making, motivation, attitude, and other behaviors (Pakizeh and Dashti, 2014). The survey of Iranian values and attitudes shows that political participation is important to the people. What is questionable is that political

participation seems to be at a low level even among the youth who are considered the most active part of society and should be more sensitive to the political affairs and issues of society (TahmasebiGanjoor, 2000: 45). At the level of Behbahan, according to studies, the level of political participation is low. It remains to be seen why political participation at the city level is low and what is the role of personal values (benevolence, traditionalism, conformity, security, power, motivation, pleasure, success, self-reliance, cosmopolitanism) in political participation? According to the main purpose of the research, this article is in response to the question of how many social values affect political participation among the youth of Behbahan?

## **2. Theoretical Foundations and Empirical Background**

To explain political participation and, in principle, any political behavior at the most general level, there are two competing perspectives: rational choice and the sociological school. In the school of rational choice, of which Anthony Downs is the most important theorist, any political behavior is the result of the individual decision of the actor to wisely choose from the various options in a particular situation the one that best suits him. The syntax meets his goals. In the four schools of choice, Anthony Downs offers a theoretical explanation of people's voting behavior that can be extended to some other form of political participation. Every potential voter acts on the basis of rational calculation and during the election campaign by evaluating the government in power and comparing it with the claims and plans of the opposition parties and taking into account the benefits expected from the victory of this or that party will be his personal income. Voters are wise voters who consider participating in elections as a means to secure their personal interests (SeyedEmami, 2007, p. 63). Olson argues that rational self-interest compels one to weigh the costs of group participation or collective action against its benefits. He sees rationality as a strong factor for political participation. Downs and Olson both emphasize rationality in political participation (Rush, 1998, p. 136).

In the sociological school, individual and group action is derived from the values and norms of society; Therefore, the analysis of political participation in the light of studying factors such as the conditions of political socialization of individuals, political culture, group systems and other conditions related to the

social environment is possible. One sociological theory is resource theory, which claims that certain social and economic resources, including education, employment, and income, influence individuals' political participation. Unequal access to such resources is effective in shaping people's lifestyles, social networks and motivations. Therefore, the participatory behavior of individuals should be explained in terms of their membership in occupational, educational, etc. groups (SeyedEmami, 2007, p. 65).

What leads to a decrease or increase in political and social participation; It is the beliefs, attitudes, and attitudes and thoughts that make up a person's personality. In other words, in these theories, different psychological characteristics of individuals are considered as a determining factor in people's participation in activities. This means that human beings have different personality and psychological characteristics, some of which make people prone and interested in political participation and others, make them passive and dissent from political participation (Maurice Duverger, 1982, p. 217). Based on the value theorem, George Humans believes that the more valuable a person's action is to him, the more interested he is in the continuation of that action. The change in value may be positive or negative. Thus, an increase in positive value or reward increases the likelihood that a person will perform a particular action. Therefore, increasing the negative value (punishment) reduces the probability of performing that action (Tavassoli, 1994, p. 394). According to this view, utilitarianism or expectation of reward is another personality trait that is involved in the political participation of individuals, which means that if political activity is accompanied by reward, this reward acts as a positive stimulus and increases political action.

To classify political values, Almond, Powell, and Mont (2002) consider three general levels: system level, process, and policy-making. According to them, systemic values are related to the regularity and predictability of the performance of political systems and the ability of systems to adapt to the challenges and changes of the environment. At the process level, they value values such as effective and satisfactory participation, which are chosen by individuals and citizens if they have the authority. In their view, this choice makes citizens look at their political system in a positive light. They also see

people as obedient in order to avoid fines and other punishments. Another value they speak of at the process level is justice. They mean justice at this level of equality of persons before the court, the deprivation of which causes severe damage to individuals and the system as a whole. At the policy level, they refer to the values of well-being and its quantity and quality, as well as individual and national security and the reasonable privacy of each individual's life from the interference of others. At this level, they mention freedom as a value and consider it to mean the independence of action of individuals and freedom from regulation and protection of private life (Almond, Powell and Mont, 2002: pp. 9-256).

From the point of Millbrath, the political actions influenced by groups that depended it (Hashemi et al., 2009, p. 207).

Researchers such as Schwartz and Seiji concluded in 2000 that accepting changes in values such as motivation and excitement, independence and self-direction, hedonism and self-transcendence such as universalism, philanthropy and benevolence are increasingly dependent on growth Economic and the spread of democracy in society. According to him, economic development strengthens the value consensus and the expansion of political democracy weakens the value consensus in society (Schwartz / Sagie 2000, p. 469).

Rookich considers the important function of values to determine or create criteria that serve as a guide to the behavior of individuals in society. They also form the basis of people's judgments about their behavior. Talcott Parsons believes that social order is based on shared and common values. These values are legitimate and binding, and as a means by which goals are selected. The connection between the individual system and the social system is achieved through the internalization of values through the process of socialization. Values cannot be reduced or explained by biological and class interests and needs.

According to Ronald Inglehart, transfigured people are those who had economic security before puberty and had needs such as self-actualization and love. But materialists have materialistic preferences due to economic insecurity during puberty (Inglehart et al., 2004, p. 11). This leads to very different orientations of materialists and trans-materialists on many social, political and economic issues and their attitudes towards many traditional gender norms

such as illicit sex, prostitution, abortion, divorce and Etc. is different. It can be stated that the Madians support traditional norms much more than the Faradays (Inglehart, 1973, pp. 222-220). Political behavior can also be attributed to Ronald Inglehart's values and theory of values, and it can be argued that people who have more transcendental values or other altruistic values also have higher political activities. Inglehart believes that the shift of society to the postmodern period has led to diversity and change in the values and style of social life. But its origin is more in the concept of accepting freedom of expression, strengthening self-expression and promoting individualism. He emphasizes the evolution of postmodern societies; that is, the changes that have taken place within industrialized countries. According to Inglehart, economic growth leads to the formation of a strong democracy in society. Of course, evidence of this can be found in the political culture and social structure of that society.

In order to explain the issue of political participation in this article, different theories of political and sociological thinkers have been used to explain this problem. The main hypothesis that states the relationship between social values and political participation is derived from the theories of Ronald Inglehart and Schwartz.

Various studies have been conducted at home and abroad on social values and political participation. Molaei (2015) determined the role of altruistic behaviors and religious tendencies in predicting social and political participation. The results showed that altruism and practical orientation towards religion have a significant correlation with social participation, while only altruism has a significant positive correlation with political participation. The results also showed that 21.8% of the variance related to social participation and 11.1% of the variance related to political participation are explained through altruistic behaviors and religious tendencies. Increasing the level of altruistic behaviors and strengthening religious tendencies can increase social and political participation. Masoudnia et al., (2014), Darabi (2015), Badsico et al. (2004), Basak (2013), Kirbiš (2013), Hashemi, Fooladian and Fatemi Amin (2009), SeyedEmami, Eftekhari and Abdullah (2006), Gerber And Rogers (2009), Masoudnia et al. (2012) and Ghanirad and Hosseini (2006) showed that some personal and social values affect social participation and

political participation. In general, the study of empirical backgrounds on the subject shows that sociologists have paid less attention to the issue of social values and political participation. Although the concept of political participation or independent variables has been studied separately and separately, the impact of social values on political participation has been less and rarely studied by sociologists. This is the most important gap in the subject matter and the researcher seeks to examine the effects of social and personal values on political participation from a sociological perspective.

**Table 1: Summary of Theory Framework**

Hypothesis	Theorist	Description of theory	previous research
Social and personal values affect political participation among the youth of Behbahan.	Inglehart and Schwartz	A variety of values, such as ultimate and instrumental values, the value of security, collectivism, the need for success and progress, etc., increase the likelihood of individuals participating in social and political activities.	Molaei (2015), Masoudnia et al. (2014), Darabi (2015), Hashemi, Fooladian and Fatemi Amin (2009), SeyedEmami, Eftekhari and Abdullah (2006), Masoudnia et al. (2012) and Ghanirad and Hosseini (2006)

### 3. Hypothesis of Research

Main Hypothesis: Personal and social values affect political participation among the youth of Behbahan.

#### Sub-hypotheses

- 1- Benevolence has an effect on political participation among the youth of Behbahan.
- 2- Traditionalism affects political participation among the youth of Behbahan.
- 3- Consistency affects political participation among the youth of Behbahan.
- 4- Seeking security has an effect on political participation among the youth of Behbahan.
- 5- Seeking power has an effect on political participation among the youth of Behbahan.
- 6- Arousal has an effect on political participation among the youth of Behbahan.
- 7- Hedonism has an impact on political participation among the youth of Behbahan.
- 8- Self-reliance and independence affect political participation among the

youth of Behbahan.

9- Progress is affecting political participation among the youth of Behbahan.

10- Globalism affects political participation among the youth of Behbahan.

#### **4. Research Methods**

The research method is survey and the main tool for collecting information is a "questionnaire". The statistical population includes all young people in Behbahan who are between 15 and 39 years old. According to the latest official statistics of the Statistics Center of Iran, the number of these people is equal to 22,500 people (Statistics Center of Iran, 2016). The sampling method is multi-stage cluster. In the first stage of sampling, the city of Behbahan and people aged 15 to 39 who have participated in the country's elections at least once were selected. To do this, first the city of Behbahan was divided into three central, northern and southern regions, and in the next stage, two main streets were selected from each region, and in the next stage, these streets were turned into more detailed areas and blocks. Sampling was obtained from the census blocks of 2016, which was obtained from the Statistics Center of Iran. For this purpose, 384 people from each constituency and statistical block in proportion to the population of each region were selected as the sample size.

A standard questionnaire was used to collect data related to the hypotheses. Schwartz (2006) Individual Value Assessment Questionnaire: The components of personal values (benevolence, traditionalism, conformity, security, power, arousal, pleasure, success, self-reliance, cosmopolitanism) are included in this questionnaire with 68 items. The variable questionnaire of political participation has two mental and objective dimensions. Pearson correlation coefficient and regression were used to test the relationships of variables at the distance measurement level. Also, formal validity is used and the measurement tool has the necessary reliability, and the alpha value of political participation is 0.934 and social values are 0.906.

#### **5. Defining Variables**

---

### **5.1. Political participation**

According to Milbrath, political participation is a political behavior that affects or intends to influence the results of the government (Musaffa, 1996, p. 21). For the political positions of the society, it has an effect on the formation and public programs and on the institutions and the political system of the society (Panahi, 2007, p. 88). Lester Milbrath also sees political participation as a set of activities and actions of citizens to influence government and support the political system. In this definition, the scope of action of the people in the matter of political participation includes: exerting pressure, competition and influence on the one hand and support on the other hand (Vosoughi, 2004, p. 110). Therefore, the definition used in the present study is in the framework of the definition of Millbrath and Panahi.

Practical definition: In this research, two objective and subjective dimensions have been considered for political participation.

Formal dimension of participation: Any voluntary action taken by members of society in order to support and influence the political system in a specific and determined framework that is formally and planned by the official organizations and institutions of the country. Participation in various elections, participation in demonstrations and political marches, etc (Imam Jomehzadeh et al., 2010, p. 18).

Informal dimension of participation: Any voluntary action taken by members of the community to support or influence the political system and currents and outside the formal and formal framework established by formal organizations and institutions. This type of participation includes any political activity that takes place in the interaction between individuals and in their relationship with the government and does not have a pre-determined and planned structure and form. In this regard, we can name measures such as attending demonstrations, writing letters, voting for individuals, signing petitions, online participation and such activities (Imam Jamezadeh et al., 2010, p. 18).

### **5.2. Personal and Social Values**

Personal values are a set of values that are formed in the personality system of individuals and may accompany a person until the end of his life. The term value scale implies that some values take precedence over another. An individual or group builds a value scale when it seeks to classify values based on the importance they place on some. He believes that he has come out in front of some others (Biro, 1987, p. 331). Schwartz believes that personal values form a motivational spectrum that includes a total of ten types of values. Practical definition: Schwartz's ten values are used to measure the variable of personal values. Therefore, 68 items were used to measure the ten values and these values in terms of definition and items are:

1. Progress: Personal success that is determined by competence in accordance with social criteria; including: ambition, intelligence, self-esteem, success, ability, and effectiveness.

2. Benevolence: Maintaining and improving the well-being of people who often have personal contact with him; these include: spiritual life, forgiveness, helping, honest, faithful, growing love, meaning in life, responsible, and true friendship.

3. Conformity: restraint in actions, inclinations and impulses that may lead to harm to others and violate social expectations or norms; including: obedience, politeness, self-control, and pride.

4. Hedonism: Pleasant satisfaction for oneself; Including: pleasant life, and pleasure.

5. Power: social status and reputation, control or domination of individuals and resources; these include: authority, preservation of public image, social power, social recognition, and wealth.

6. Security: safety, adaptation and social stability, stability in relationships and stability in self; these include: cleanliness, family security, health, national security, mutual support, a sense of belonging, and social order.

7. Self-reliance: independent thinking and choice of action, creating, discovering; these include: choice of personal goals, creativity, curiosity, and freedom of independence.

8. Arousal: Arousal, freshness and challenge in life; including a stimulating life, a changing life, and novelty.

9. Tradition: Respect, commitment and acceptance of customs and ideas provided by traditional culture or religion; These include: acceptance of the part in life, distance, religious / pious, humble, moderate, and respect for tradition.

10. Salvation of belief: understanding, perception, tolerance, protection of health and well-being for all people and for nature; including: a beautiful world, wide mind, environmental protection, social justice, union with nature, and wisdom (Faramarzi, 1999, pp. 25-116).

**Table 2: Operational and theoretical definition of variables**

Variable	Theoretical definition	Operational definition	Measurement
Political participation	A set of activities and actions of citizens to influence the government and support the political system	Political participation in both mental and objective dimensions	Measurement in Likert spectrum at the distance measurement level with 20 items
Social and personal values	Personal values are a set of values that are formed in a person's personality system and may accompany him until the end of his life.	Measurement based on Schwartz's ten values	Likert scale measurement at a distance level of 68 items

## 6. Findings

A review of the findings showed that about 13.8% consider the amount of personal values to be very low. About 20.3% consider it low, about 28.7% moderate, about 21.6% high, and about 15.6% consider personal values to be very high. The average of personal values among people is high and its average of 5 is equal to 3.05.

The values of authoritarianism with an average of 2.58 and independence with an average of 2.78 have the lowest value, and the values of cosmopolitanism with an average of 4.08 and the value of benevolence with an average of 3.14 have the highest values.

**Table 3. Distribution of respondents by amount of social and personal values**

Personality dimensions	Very	Low	average	High	Very	total	Average of
------------------------	------	-----	---------	------	------	-------	------------

		low			high			5
power	frequency	73	121	59	60	71	384	2.58
	Percentage	19	31.5	15.4	15.6	18.5	100	
Success	frequency	32	63	116	113	60	384	2.97
	Percentage	8.4	16.4	30.2	29.4	15.6	100	
Pleasure	frequency	61	71	118	75	59	384	3.01
	Percentage	15.9	18.5	30.7	19.5	15.4	100	
Arousal	frequency	39	130	118	58	39	384	2.86
	Percentage	10.2	33.8	30.7	15.1	10.2	100	
Independence	frequency	57	73	141	46	67	384	2.78
	Percentage	14.8	19	36.7	12	17.5	100	
Universalism	frequency	59	40	94	114	77	384	4.08
	Percentage	15.4	10.4	24.5	29.7	20	100	
Benevolence	frequency	77	70	92	85	60	384	3.14
	Percentage	20.1	18.2	24	22.1	15.6	100	
Tradition	frequency	39	77	156	54	58	384	3.02
	Percentage	10.2	20	40.6	14.1	15.1	100	
Compatibility	frequency	39	57	93	118	77	384	3.06
	Percentage	10.2	14.8	24.2	30.7	20.1	100	
Security	frequency	48	77	124	102	33	384	2.86
	Percentage	12.5	20	32.3	26.6	8.6	100	
total	frequency	53	78	110	83	60	384	3.05
	Percentage	13.8	20.3	28.7	21.6	15.6	100	

In total, about 13.5 percent consider the level of political participation to be very low. About 18.8% consider it low, about 29.7% moderate, about 25% high, and about 13% consider political participation to be very high. As can be seen in Table 4-10, the average political participation among individuals is high and the average of 5 is 3.58. The study of the mental dimension of political participation shows that the mental dimension of political participation is between 25.3% low, 29.2% moderate and 45.5% high, and the average mental dimension of political participation is 3.96 and very high.

An examination of the objective dimension of political participation shows that the objective dimension of political participation is between 39.3% low, 29.9% medium and 30.8% high, and the average objective dimension of political participation is 3.22. Although the average objective dimension of political participation is higher than the average of 3, but nevertheless has a lower value compared to the mental dimension of political participation.

**Table 4. Distribution of respondents by degree of political participation**

Dimension of political participation		Very low	Low	average	High	Very high	total	Average of 5
The mental dimension of participation	frequency	48	49	112	123	52	384	3.96
	Percentage	12.5	12.8	29.2	32	13.5	100	
The objective dimension of participation	frequency	57	94	115	69	49	384	3.22
	Percentage	14.8	24.5	29.9	18	12.8	100	
Political participation	frequency	52	72	114	96	50	384	3.58
	Percentage	13.5	18.8	29.7	25	13	100	

The result of Kolmogorov-Smirnov test can be seen in the table below, which presents the number of data, the value of Z statistic and the value of sig, respectively. In Kolmogorov-Smirnov test, the level of significance for the variables of political participation and personal values was more than 0.05. Therefore, their normality is confirmed in terms of this test. Therefore, parametric tests such as linear regression and Pearson correlation coefficient can be used to test the hypotheses.

**Table 5. Results of Kolmogorov-Smirnov (K.S) test of research variables**

Variables and statistical indicators	Social and personal values	political participation
count	384	384
Kolmogorov-Smirnov (z)	0.947	1.399
sig	0.344	0.094

Main Hypothesis: Personal values affect political participation among the youth of Behbahan.

Considering the normality and level of measurement of the variables of personal values and political participation, Pearson correlation coefficient was used. There is a positive and direct relationship between personal values and political participation. The higher the personal values, the higher the political participation, this positive correlation is significant with a probability of more than 99%.

**Table 6. Pearson correlation coefficient between personal values and political participation**

Variables	Pearson correlation coefficient	sig	Result
-----------	---------------------------------	-----	--------

political participation	0.428**	0.000	Positive and significant correlation
The mental dimension of	0.372**	0.000	Positive and significant correlation
The objective dimension	0.410**	0.000	Positive and significant correlation

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

Pearson's correlation coefficient between the level of personal values and political participation is 0.428 and its significance level is zero. The variable of political participation has two dimensions; the relationship of both of these dimensions with the independent variable of personal values is positive and significant. The objective dimension of political participation has the highest correlation coefficient with the variable of personal values and Pearson correlation coefficient between them is equal to 0.410. Also, the mental dimension of political participation has the lowest correlation (0.372) with personal values among the dimensions of political participation. However, the relationship between both dimensions of political participation with the independent variable of personal values is positive and significant and is moderately downward. The results of regression of social values and the level of political participation show that the value of multiple correlation coefficient is equal to 0.428 which indicates a low relationship between the variable of personal values and political participation. The value of the coefficient of determination is equal to 0.183. This figure tells us that 18.3% of changes in political participation depend on personal values. The values of regression coefficients show that personal values are significant at the level of more than 99%. For every unit of change in personal values, there is a change of about 0.428 units in the level of political participation.

**Table 7. Values of regression coefficients of political participation and personal values**

Variables	B	Beta	T	Sig
constant	23.34	...	4.411	0.000
Social and personal values	0.225	0.428	9.256	0.000
<b>R</b>	<b>R square</b>	<b>R adjusted</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Sig</b>
0.428	0.183	0.181	85.67	0.000

The following table examines and tests the ten hypotheses. This table shows the Pearson correlation coefficient between the dimensions of social values and political participation. The relationship between the dimensions of arousal,

cosmopolitanism, benevolence, art and tradition with political participation is positive and significant. And at the level of more than 99%, a significant relationship can be seen between them.

**Table 8. Pearson correlation between dimensions of social values and political participation**

variables	Pearson correlation coefficient	sig	result
power	0.008	0.883	Lack of meaningful relationship
Success	0.051	0.317	Lack of meaningful relationship
Pleasure	0.032	0.532	Lack of meaningful relationship
Arousal	-0.331 **	0.000	Negative and significant correlation
Independence	0.005	0.922	Lack of meaningful relationship
Universalism	0.441 **	0.000	Positive and significant correlation
Benevolence	0.404 **	0.000	Positive and significant correlation
Tradition	-0.512 **	0.000	Negative and significant correlation
Compatibility	0.265 **	0.000	Positive and significant correlation
Security	0.050-	0.325	Lack of meaningful relationship
Social and personal values	0.428 **	0.000	Positive and significant correlation

\*\* . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level

\* . Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level

For example, globalization affects political participation among the youth of Behbahan. The study of the relationship between the variables shows that there is a significant positive and direct correlation between the two variables. Pearson's correlation coefficient between the degree of globalization and political participation is 0.441 and its significance level is zero.

## 7. Discussion and Conclusion

The level of political participation indicates the importance and availability of the participation of individuals in society in political affairs. Many factors can affect the political participation of individuals in a society. Citizens' political participation is of particular importance for the political stability and dynamism of society. Therefore, it is necessary to achieve the political attitude of the

citizens and pay more attention to the social factors that contribute to the political participation of these people. One of the main results of the article is that there is a significant relationship between personal and social values and political participation. In fact, values may constitute personality-expressing behaviors. Value and personality also interact to predict behavior, and there is evidence to suggest that both of these constructs should be considered in terms of individual differences in behavior. Researchers such as Schwartz and Siji concluded in 2000 that accepting changes in values such as motivation and excitement, independence and self-direction, hedonism and self-transcendence such as populism, philanthropy and benevolence are increasingly It depends on economic growth and the spread of democracy in society. According to him, economic development strengthens the consensus of values and the expansion of political democracy weakens the consensus of values in society. In other words, values play a significant role in the growth of democracy and increased political participation.

In analyzing the actions of individuals, George Herbert Mead places special emphasis on his own concept and perception of facts. These perceptions are formed through interaction with others and are a variable and dynamic thing, so that it can be interpreted according to each situation (Abdollahi, 1999, p. 24). According to this view, the political and social participation of individuals and their cooperation with civic and political institutions is a function of the perception that they acquire in the process of socialization of themselves and other matters. They find the participation and expectations of others and their own plans.

Michele Rush believes that motives such as seeking a political-administrative position, membership in political and party organizations, participation in communities and political debate, economic and financial motives, cultural motives, etc. can be among the necessary reasons for active political participation. It is graded according to the political, social, economic and cultural conditions of a society and the prioritization of social needs.

Other theories related to values and political participation includes political effectiveness. Political effectiveness is an attitude in which a person feels that

his political participation influences and controls political processes and can satisfy his needs in this way.

SeyyedEmami, Eftekhari and Abdullah (SeyyedEmami et al., 2006) in a study entitled "Values, Attitudes and Political Behavior of Youth" scientifically evaluated various judgments in the political aspects of youth life. Findings of this study show that in all subscales used to measure the political values of young people, respondents have shown a good state of belief in core political values, which increases with the level of education. Respondents and their parents lose faith in political values and their attitudes toward domestic and foreign policy tend to be negative. Although the level of political trust of young people in general is high, but the results of the research indicate the weak trust of respondents in some institutions. Overall, the attitude towards the government in the year in question was more positive than the attitude towards other powers.

Inglehart also believes that a variety of values, such as ultimate and instrumental values, the value of security, collectivism, the need for success and progress, etc., increase the likelihood of individuals participating in social and political activities. The results obtained in this hypothesis with the findings of Molaei (2015), Masoudnia et al. (2014), Darabi (2015), Hashemi, Fooladian and Fatemi Amin (2009), SeyyedEmami, Eftekhari and Abdullah (2006) and Ghani Rad And Hosseini (2006) is harmonious.

The result is that the greater the level of personal and social values, the greater the level of political participation. Therefore, in order to increase political participation in society, more attention should be paid to personal social values and raising its indicators and components, especially benevolence and traditionalism. Paying more attention to the respect, commitment, acceptance of customs and ideas offered by traditional culture or religion, can play a significant and undeniable role in increasing political participation. In order to increase political participation, knowledge creation, social justice, equality, world in peace, world of beauty, unity with nature, preservation of the environment and finally the expansion of the value of globalism, special attention should be paid to the elements of social and personal values.

## References

- Abdollahi, M. (2008). *Women in the public sphere, factors, obstacles and strategies of Iranian women's civil participation*. Tehran: Tehran Municipality Office.
- Almond, B. & Robert, M. (2002). *Comparative politics*. Tehran: Public Management Training Center Publishing.
- Ansari, A. (2017). The impact of social capital on political participation (Youth 20-35) Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad in the first term of Rouhani's presidency. *Islamic Revolution Approach Quarterly*, 11, 145-167.
- Badescu, G. Sum, P. & Uslaner, E. (2009). Civil society development and democratic Values in Romania and moldova. *East European Politics and Societies*, 18, 341-376.
- Basak, N. (2013). *A study of social factors affecting the political participation of Iranian youth (Case Study of Shushtar Youth)*. Tehran: Payame Noor Center.
- Biro, Allen (1987). *Dictionary of social sciences*. Tehran: Tehran: Tehran University.
- Darabi, M. (2015). A study of social factors affecting women's political participation in Hamadan Province (Case Study: Nahavand City). *Quarterly Journal of Sociological Studies of Youth*, 4(17) 57-84.
- Dovarjeh, M. (1982). *Political sociology*. Tehran: University of Tehran.
- Gerber, A. S. and Rogers, T. (2009). Descriptive social norms and motivation to Vote. *Journal of Politics*, 71, 178-191.
- Hashemi, Z, & Fooladian, M. (2009). Study of social and psychological factors affecting the political participation of the people of Tehran. *Journal of Political Science*, 5(1), 226-199.
- Imam, .J. (2012). A study of the relationship between social capital and students' political participation in the University of Isfahan, *Journal of Political Science*, 7 (28), 34-37.
- Imam, S, J. (2010). A Survey of religiosity and political participation of Isfahan University Students, *Journal of Political Science*, 6(1), 34-37.
- Inglehart, R. (1994). *Cultural transformation in the advanced industrial society*. Tehran: Kavir Publication.
- Inglehart, R. (2004). *Human beliefs and values*. Argentina: Argentina Press.
- Issazadegan, A. (2012). Value system, personality and change. *Journal of Knowledge*, 21(179), pp. 79-93.
- Kirbiš, A. (2013). Political participation and democratic political culture in Western Europe, East-Central Europe and Post-Yugoslav Countries. *Democracy in Transition*, 2, 225-251.

- Masoudnia, H. & Marandi, Z., (2014). To study the relationship between alienation and students' political participation in Isfahan University. *National Studies Quarterly*, 15, (4), 116-195.
- Milbert, L. & Lil, G. (2007). *Political participation*. Tehran: Mizan Publishing.
- Nazari, Gh., & Jannati, S. (2013). Investigating the impact of political participation on political development (Case Study: Khalkhal Youth). *Social Development Studies*, 6, 146-137.
- Pakizeh, Y., & Behzadfar, M. (2016). Investigating the relationship between personality excellence and individual values in students. *Journal of Psychology*, 20(4), 452-440.
- Qaneirad, M. & Hosseini, F. (2005). Values, network of relationships and participation in non-governmental organizations (experimental study among the youth of Tehran). *Iranian Journal of Sociology*, 6 (3), 97-123.
- Rush, M. (1998). *Society and politics*. Tehran: Samat Publication.
- Schwartz, S. (2006). Basic human values: Theory, measurement, and applications. *Revue Française de Sociologie*, 47(4), 929-968.
- Schwartz, S. H. Sagiv, L. & Boehnke, K. (2000). Worries and values. *Journal of Personality*, 68, 309-346.
- Tahmasebi Ganjoor, T. (2000). *Assessing the attitude of female students towards political participation and the Factors affecting*.
- Van Deth, J. W. (2016). Political participation. *The International Encyclopedia of Political Communication*, 49(3), 349-367.
- Vosoughi, M. (2004). Villagers and political participation in Iran, *Journal of Humanities*, 41, 161-186.