May 29th, 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM

Ethnic Identity Among Arab Americans: An Examination of Contextual Influences and Psychological Well-Being

Rand R. Fakih  
*Wayne State University*

Barry Markman Ph.D.  
*Wayne State University*

Stephen B. Hillman Ph.D.  
*Wayne State University*

Francesca Pernice-Duca Ph.D.  
*Wayne State University*

Marjorie Beeghly Ph.D.  
*Wayne State University*

Follow this and additional works at: [https://scholar.uwindsor.ca/arabyouthsymp](https://scholar.uwindsor.ca/arabyouthsymp)

Part of the Psychology Commons

[https://scholar.uwindsor.ca/arabyouthsymp/conference_posters/conference_posters/5](https://scholar.uwindsor.ca/arabyouthsymp/conference_posters/conference_posters/5)

This Event is brought to you for free and open access by the Conferences and Conference Proceedings at Scholarship at UWindsor. It has been accepted for inclusion in International Symposium on Arab Youth by an authorized administrator of Scholarship at UWindsor. For more information, please contact [scholarship@uwindsor.ca](mailto:scholarship@uwindsor.ca).
High Discrimination

Discrimination Questionnaire, Multigroup Ethnic Identity Measure, Socialization Scale, Parental Authority Questionnaire, Perceived Ethnic demographic questionnaire, participants completed the Family Ethnic

A total of 323 participants (216 females, 107 males) were recruited for effects of discrimination and psychological well being.

'Ethnic Identity Among Arab Americans: An Examination of Contextual Influences and Psychological Well-Being'

Rand Ramadan Fakih, Ph.D. Candidate 1, Barry Markman, Ph.D. 1, Stephen B. Hillman, Ph.D. 1, Francesca Pernice-Duca, Ph.D. 1, Marjorie Beeghly, Ph.D. 2

1College of Education, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI, USA
2Department of Psychology, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI, USA

Contact Information:
Rand Fakih, Ph.D. Candidate, 5425 Gullen Mall, 3 North Detroit, MI 48202
Email: randfakih@wayne.edu

Discussion

Recent immigrants are more likely to socialize their children about their ethnic culture than those who have been for a longer time in the United States; in turn, those whose families socialize them more with regard to their ethnicity are likely to report higher ethnic identity.

Perceived discrimination is negatively associated with psychological well-being; as such, discrimination causes a threat to young adults' development. This finding is consistent with existing literature demonstrating the psychologically deleterious consequences of discrimination for African Americans adolescents (Sellers, Copeland-Linder, Martin, & Lewis, 2006) Latino youths (Tynes, Umana-Taylor, & Updegraff, 2007) and Asian American college students (Lee, 2003).

Consistent with past research (e.g., Greene Way, & Pahl, 2006), results indicated that ethnic identity mitigated the negative effects of discrimination on psychological well-being. The Social Identity theory (Tajfel, 1981) supports the stress-buffering effect of ethnic identity by highlighting that a positive sense of group membership helps bolster individuals' self-esteem. Also, individuals with a strong ethnic identity are able to dismiss rather than internalize negative stereotypes of their ethnic group (Spence, Fogley, & Harpalani, 2003).