

THE DIFFERENCES IN EGO IDENTITY STATUSES BETWEEN RELIGIOUS AND NON-RELIGIOUS ADOLESCENTS

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Abstract

Religion plays an important role in the creation of identity among adolescents. The influence of religion is also reflected in the phases of identity creation in adolescence. In the creation of adolescent's identity, family and the social environment have an important impact. Adolescent identity formed by the commitment and spending crisis, which means that the individual must create a structure around the thoughts and emotions of the professional field, political and religious commitments. Engaging in a religion has a strong influence in the creation of identity that makes the teenager involved and experience in overcoming crisis religious doctrines. The purpose of this study is the identification of identity differences among adolescents who are believers of a religion and those who are not religious. The methodology of this study is divided into 3 steps. In the first step we have identify the religious and non-religious adolescents through a pilot questionnaire. The sample contains 80 teens from the city of Shkodra, 40 males and 40 females. The second step is focused on measuring the identity statuses of adolescents who have agreed to continue testing for the purpose of the study (N 73). The third step of the study is focused in analyzing through SPSS 20, the differences of identity statuses between adolescents who are religious and those who are not. The analysis of differences is made from the test scores of Layne Bennion and Gerald Adams' Objective Measure of Ego Identity Status and according to the fourth identity's statuses of the test. The analyzed components are: identity achievement IA, identity diffusion ID, moratorium MO, foreclosure FO. It is found that are some differences in the Ego Identity statuses of Moratorium and Foreclosure, but these founds did not make big differences to the way of Identity achievement. The results of this study will bring productive discussions in the conference.

Keywords: *identity, religious adolescents, non-religious adolescents*