

An Investigation on Employment Situation of Sociology Graduates and Effective Factors Influencing on It

S. Ahmadi¹

Abstract

One of the most important social problems in Iran is widespread unemployment of university graduates in all fields especially among the human sciences. The main goal of this research is to investigate employment status of sociology graduates and determination of its relationship with some socio- demographic variables. Research method is follow-up survey. Target population is all graduates of bachelor and master degrees of sociology department at Yasouj university during the years 2010, 2011 and 2012. Data were gathered through telephone contact with graduates and their academic report card. Based on the descriptive findings, a total of 53.7% of graduates were employed and 46.3% were jobless. Of the total employed, 51.7% were employed in non governmental sectors, 65.5% had part-time jobs and 38% were in jobs that were not directly related to their field of study. However, the analytical findings showed that; sex, academic course (unpaid or paid), participating in educational courses after graduating, living in urban or rural area, and average of theoretical lessons, are not associated with employment situation. But educational level (BA or MA degree), average of applied lessons, total average and research activities, are significantly associated with employment situation. Explanation of the employment status based on total of the independents variable using logistic regression showed that; degree (MA) and average of applied lessons, have significant effect on probability of employment and are able to explain about 38% of the variance of the employment chance.

Keywords: Employment, Unemployment, Grauates Jobless.

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Development as Dominance (A search into Edward Saeed's Views)

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Abstract

The logic of accumulation and increasing tendency towards profit forms the bases of capitalist productivity system. During the colonial moves of western states in Asia, Africa, and Latin America with the benevolent moto of "civilizing goal", also empirical and humanitarian scientists through the creation and reproduction of an inferior 'the other' provided the cultural and psychological background of the western dominance on the other communities. This article studies on the concept of development in the works of Edward Sae'ed, with special emphasis on his two books: Orientalism, Culture and Imperialism. The main issue is how the concept of development is reflected in the works and views of Edward Sae'ed. The methodology used is documentary and qualitative content analysis. Edward Sae'ed is among the first main post-colonial intellectuals who have criticized cultural hegemony of colonization and capitalism as 'deviating inference' of development and civilization. With analyzing the content of traveler's books, historiography, novels and written works of orientalist, he has made apparent their role in extolling the west's superior identity and holding in contempt the east's inferior identity; this is the main result of this paper.

Keywords: Dominance, Developent, Orientalism, Culture and Imperialism, Edward Sae'ed.

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Institutional Quality and Economic Growth: the Rule of Law or Democracy? (Case study: Islamic countries, 2002-2011)

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Abstract

In recent years, growth theories have gone beyond conventional determinants, aiming to include institutional factors. In this context, the main purpose of this paper is to test effective factors on economic growth with special focus on the institutional factors using 53 Islamic countries data from 2002 to 2011. The study used panel data approach and Generalized Method of Moments method. Institutional factors are used in two groups, the rule of law measured by, corruption and regulatory quality and democracy measured by political rights, civil liberties, autocracy and political regime type. The results show that the institutional quality measured by the rule of law has positive and statistically significant effect on the economic growth and democracy and civil liberties have also positive and significant effect on economic growth. These suggest that to achieve economic growth in light of institutional reforms both the rule of law and democracy should be considered simultaneously.

Keywords: Economy growth, Institutions, Rule of law, Democracy, Panel-GMM Approach.

JEL Classification: O43, O48, P48.

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A Study of Related Cultural Factors and Environmental Behaviors among Residents of Yazd

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Abstract

Environmental problem is one of the social problems of Yazd and if it is not controlled may become as a crisis and decrease the outcomes of developmental benefits. This problem is mainly caused by industrial development, geographical, climatic conditions and dehydration. This paper studies the socio-cultural issues: namely cultural capital, religiosity, life style, mass media, and environmental behaviours among citizens of Yazd. The target population consisted of citizen of Yazd, from which 384 individuals were selected through random cluster sampling. Data collection technique was a questionnaire that has suitable validity and reliability. The results showed that environmental behavior was significantly related to cultural capital and lifestyle. There is a significant difference between men and women in environmental behaviors, too. But age, marital status, mass media, religiosity, education and environmental behaviors, have not significant relationship. The results of regression analysis showed that the adjusted coefficient of determination for all the independent variables was equal to 0.278, meaning that all these variables could explain approximately to 28 percent of the variation of the dependent variable (environmental behaviors).

Keywords: Sustainable development, Environmental behaviors, Cultural capital, Mass media use, Religiosity.

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Sociological Analysis of Gender Differences of Environmental Attitudes in Iran (According to the Fifth Wave Data on World Values Survey, WVS)

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Abstract

This paper tries to analyze the effect of gender on environmental attitudes. Whether environmental attitudes between men and women are different or not is the main question of this research. Theoretical framework is ecofeminism perspective. Ecofeminists believe that there is strong and specific relationship between women and nature and they are more responsible for environmental problems in comparison with men. Ecofeminism describes movements and philosophies that link feminism with ecology. Ecofeminism connects the exploitation and domination of women with that of the environment, and argues that there is historical connection between women and nature. Ecofeminists believe that this connection is illustrated through the traditionally female values of reciprocity, nurturing and cooperation, which are present both among women and in nature. The main method of this article is secondary analysis using data of other institutions or researches. It is secondary analysis of fifth wave of World Values Survey (WVS) data. Findings show that there is not significant difference from environmental concern between two genders, but rather on the importance to environmental issues and attitudes indicating that there is significant difference between men and women in this regard.

Keywords: Environmental attitudes, Gender, Ecofeminism, World Values Survey, Secondary analysis.

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Study of Relationship between Social Capital and Total Factor Productivity in Iran

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Abstract

Given the complexity between production, distribution and consumption in our society, the concept of capital can not be limited to traditional forms such as buildings and equipment, financial capital and human capital. But given the importance of the structures, norms and social relations among people and its effects on economic, social and cultural aspects, capital must reach beyond the traditional concepts.

In this regard, the social capital is the newest concept of capital among the major issues of economic studies that have the impact on macroeconomic variables; particularly economic development and growth. The definitions social capital can be seen as a set of norms in social systems and permit the cooperation between members of the community, and decrease the costs of transactions and communications, it is expected that it cause positively the

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increase in labor productivity and total productivity in organizations and production systems.

In this study after presentation different definitions of social capital and the channels of influence on other social and economic variables, we used an complex social capital index and indicators that calculated by Iranian data during 1981-2010, to study the impact of this variable on labor productivity and total factor productivity using an ARDL approach. Short and long-term results of model estimations confirm the positive and significant impact of social capital on labor productivity and total factor productivity in Iran.

The results show that we can increase the productivity in production process in Iranian economy by increasing social capital concept, which, is the main principles of Islamic Republic of Iran

Keywords: Social capital, Productivity, Estimation.