

YOUTH SAFETY AND WELL-BEING: A CROSS-COUNTRY MEASUREMENT

University students suffering from anxiety, depression, substance abuse, and disordered eating (Browning et al., 2021; Bubnovskaia, 2023) are characterized by the lack of sense of safety, engagement in deviant behavior, and significant health-related problems with financial burdens (Hess, Copeland, 2001; Chapman 2005; Fedushko et al., 2013; Morizot 2015; Marijana et al. 2020; Chamberlain 2021; Rivard et al., 2022). It harms the quality of life and mental health of young people, affecting personal development, fueling unrest and stifling economic opportunity (Sukhova, Selezneva, Mikhailova 2011; Bezverbny 2017).

At the same time, along with socio-economic predictors, it is necessary to take into account psychological factors that enhance or mitigate the potential impact of an unfavorable environment (Pabayo et al., 2014; Fursova, Maslova, 2021; Bubnovskaia, Yakubenko, 2024). Special attention should be paid to personality characteristics, including propensity and attitude to risk, which may contribute to the choice of deviant behaviors (Rivard G. et al, 2022).

For treatment and development support the purpose of this study is to examine the relationship between perceptions of safety, well-being, and deviations, controlling personality variables (for example, attitudes to risk in different life areas, DOSPERT). We explored the results of "Safety Box" (a cross-sectional survey, $n=3100$), using several existing questionnaires (FDC, 1997; MacArthur SSS Scale, 2000; TIPI, 2003; BIT, 2014; GRIPS, 2018), and validated adapted versions. The application of the Cronbach's alpha criterion and the analysis of intercorrelations showed a high consistency of the applied techniques.

For data processing and analysis descriptive statistics, methods of content analysis (Atlas.ti), correlation, comparative, factor, and regression analyses in Python, R Studio and SPSS were employed.

The link among perceptions of safety and well-being outcomes were also compared across countries (2024: Russia, $n=650$; US, $n=1279$; China, $n=855$; 2023: Russia, $n=166$; US, $n=150$), taking into account the indicators of well-being, safety and security in global reports and international ratings.

According to the results human safety scores were lower in crisis ($\lambda=2.367$, $p\leq 0.001$), especially for female ($\lambda=1.362$, $p\leq 0.05$), vulnerability of people relying on external factors was greater ($\varphi=4.016$, $p\leq 0.01$), health, family, and community support were important for ensuring safety globally.

In general, personality, regional and country specifics in connection with socio-economic factors was discovered. For Russian students all subscales of risk propensity can be considered as factors of involvement in deviant behavior, which was confirmed by PCA and SEM. Testing revealed positive effects with the best consent criteria for assessing the frequency of deviant behavior (MLR, $\beta=0.4-0.5$, RMSEA=0.455), the recognition of its normality (MLR, $\beta=0.3-0.5$, RMSEA=0.469), and pleasantness (MLR, $\beta=0.4-0.6$, RMSEA=0.453, RF, $R^2=0.306$, MAE=0.648, MSE=0.924, RMSE=0.961).

Analysis of statistical and research data indicates that the level and forms of youth deviant behavior, well-being, safety and security indicators vary depending on the place of residence. For example, Russian regions where the main religion is Islam, despite the low level of financial well-being, show a low level of deviations. However, for other regions, involvement in deviations increases with a decrease in per capita income. Therefore, to develop effective strategies and methods of improving youth well-being, it is important to take into account a cross-country context of the socio-economic development and youth protest.

The system for monitoring indicators of development and deviations in the context of the well-being and safety of students, developed on the basis of the results, will be presented.

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