

Spiritual Needs and Life Satisfaction of Refugees as a Prerequisite for Social Stability

Results of a Study in Eichstätt

Object of Research

Refugees are faced with diverse challenges that are often accompanied by high levels of stress, uncertainty and risks to health.
(Joyce/Liamputtong 2017; Carlsson/Sonne 2018; Schick et al. 2018)

Support systems predominantly take socio-economic and health-related needs into account. Psychosocial and, in particular, spiritual/religious needs are often not given consideration.
(Cantekin 2018; Ley/Barrio 2019)

Numerous studies substantiate the relevance of needs-oriented and resource-focused approaches in inspiring adaptive behaviour and coping, but also the importance of religiosity and spirituality; religious coping has been identified among other factors as a predictor of subjective life satisfaction in random samples of refugees.
(Acquaye et al. 2018; Areba et al. 2018; Counted 2018)

Aims and Research Questions

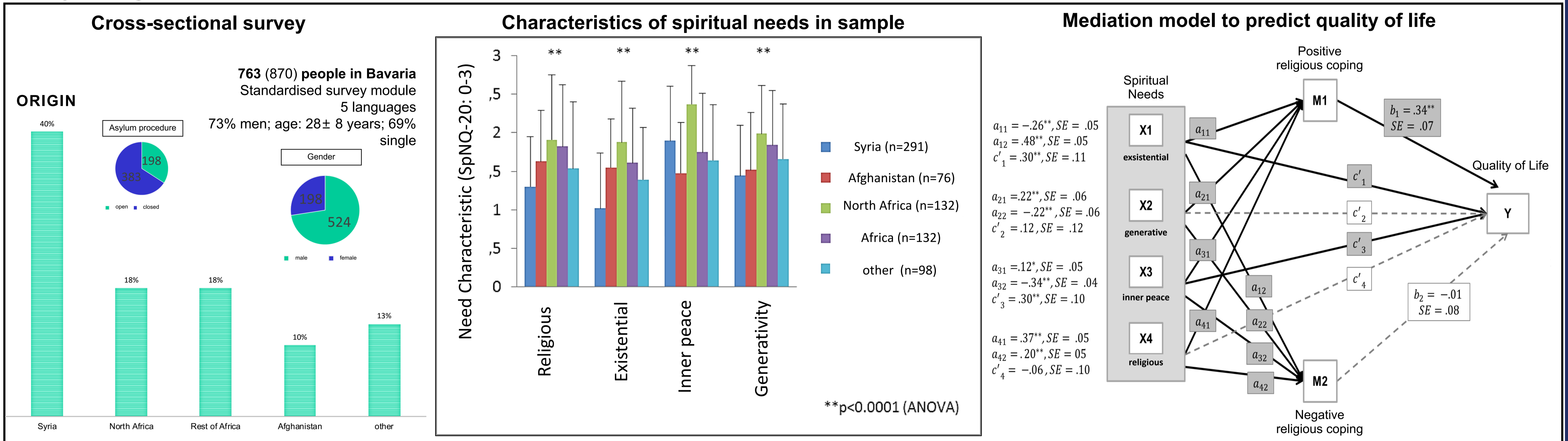
The empirical investigation addresses the question of to what extent refugees express religious/spiritual needs and how these needs contribute to their well-being.
F1: What existential and spiritual needs and resources do refugees express?
F2: How are spiritual/religious need structures and coping strategies relevant for approaches in areas of activity within psycho-pedagogical and social pastoral work with refugees?

Hypotheses

H1: It is assumed that spiritual needs not only directly influence forms of religious coping and therefore the life satisfaction of refugees, but do so primarily through associations.

H2: Furthermore, it is assumed that positive religious coping strategies increase subjective life satisfaction, while negative religious coping tends to diminish perceived life satisfaction.
(Pargament et al. 2013; Acquaye et al. 2018; Counted 2018)

Study Design



Implications for Practice



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