

Abstract

This study explored how an individual's religion relates to their time orientation. We tested the hypothesis that there is a link between religious orientation and time orientation. Specifically, we expect that intrinsic orientation will correlate with future orientation, quest orientation will correlate with future and present fatalistic, extrinsic orientation will correlate with present hedonistic, orthodox will correlate with past positive orientation, and secularism will correlate with past negative orientation. This study used a correlational design for this study, and utilized several self-report measures, including the Zimbardo Time Perspectives Inventory, to assess our variables. Participants ($n = 150$) completed an online self-report. The more positive a person views their past, they will be orthodox or intrinsic; those who are extrinsic, or who lie presently between past and future, will be present hedonistic; and those who view their past negatively will be quest and secularists.

Time Orientation and Religious Orientation

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Introduction

Religious orientation is not what religion a person is, but how one goes about practicing their faith. There are many pros and cons relating to religious orientation, such as well being and identity or depression and reckless behavior. These religious orientations are intrinsic, extrinsic, quest, orthodox, and secularism.

Considering there are such pros and cons to each religious orientation, it is vital to see what factors could be linked and help predict each orientation. Time orientation is one factor that has yet to be studied with religious orientation. The five time orientations focused on in this study is past positive, past negative, present hedonistic, present fatalistic, and future.

This study hypothesized that intrinsic orientation will positively correlate with future orientation; extrinsic orientation will positively correlate with present hedonistic orientation; quest orientation will positively correlate with orientations; secularists will positively correlate with past negative orientation and present fatalistic orientation; and orthodox orientation will positively correlate with past positive orientation.

Results

- All analyses were conducted via a simultaneous linear regression.
- Orthodox orientation and past positive orientation positively correlated.

Regression Analyses Examining How Time Orientation Predicts Religious Orientation

Time Orientation Variables	Religious Orientation Variables				
	Intrinsic	Extrinsic	Quest	Orthodox	Secularism
Past Negative	.02	.06	.21*	.04	.01
Past Positive	.33**	-.31**	-.24**	.43**	-.37**
Present Hedonistic	-.21*	.34**	.21*	-.13	.13
Present Fatalistic	.09	-.01	-.12	-.02	.16
Future	-.13	.17*	.02	-.15	.19*

Note. ** $p < .01$, * $p < .05$

Method

Participants ($n = 150$) were undergraduate students at ECU, who completed an online questionnaire in exchange for course completion credit. The questionnaire assessed several variables:

- Religious Orientation
 - Intrinsic
 - Extrinsic
 - Orthodox
 - Quest
 - Secularism
- Time Orientation
 - Past Positive
 - Past Negative
 - Present Hedonistic
 - Present Fatalistic
 - Future Orientation

Religious Orientation

(How one practices religion)



Time Orientation

(How one reflects on the past, present, and future)



Implications

- Participants ages mainly ranged between 18-24.
- Self Report.
- Christian dominated area.
- Not much diversity.

Conclusions

The more positively one views their past, the more likely they are to be orthodox or intrinsically oriented. Those who are present hedonistic will more likely be extrinsic. Those who view their past negatively will likely be quest or secularist.