Abstract

This study explored how an individual's religion relates to their time orientation. We tested the hypothesis that there is an 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 negative orientation, and secularism will correlate with past positive 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.

Method

Participants (n = 150) were undergraduate students at EKU, who completed an online questionnaire in exchange for course completion credit. The questionnaire assessed several variables:
- Religious Orientation
  - Intrinsic
  - Extrinsic
  - Quest
  - Secularism
- Time Orientation
  - Past Positive
  - Past Negative
  - Present Hedonistic
  - Present Fatalistic
  - Future Fatalistic

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

Results

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Orientation Variables</th>
<th>Religious Orientation Variables</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Intrinsic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past Negative</td>
<td>.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past Positive</td>
<td>.33***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Present Hedonistic</td>
<td>-.21*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Present Fatalistic</td>
<td>.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Future</td>
<td>-.13</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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

Implications

- Participants will likely be orthodox or extrinsically oriented. Those who are present hedonistic will more likely be extrinsic. Those who view their past negatively will likely be quest or secularist.

Conclusions

- The more positively one views their past, the more likely they are to be orthodox or intrinsically oriented.