

# The Humiliation, Dignity, and Political Ideologies Questionnaire

(Jordanger, 2007– first pilot study conducted in Norway October 2007)

Working Research Hypothesis (some preliminary thoughts):

Section on: responses to humiliation (question 12.1 -12.65)

1) It will be possible to **identify** the *types of situations in which humiliation occurs* - including what emotions are triggered in these cases

it will be possible to **identify** the *types of situations in which humiliation occurs on the behalf of close family members or close friends*- including what emotions are triggered in these cases

it will be possible to **identify** the *types of situations in which humiliation attempts are avoided* - including what emotions are triggered in these cases

it will be possible to **identify** the *types of situations in which humiliation occurs when the intention is to help* - including what emotions are triggered in these cases

2) a) on this basis it will be possible to study whether there are systematic differences between the types of situations in which these four forms of humiliation occurs, and

b) It will be possible to **compare the emotions experienced** in situations where a person: a) *is truly humiliated*, b) *avoids humiliation in a humiliation attempt*, and c) *is humiliated when the intention is to help*, and d) *is humiliated on the behalf of close family members or close friends*

It will be possible to **identify how people respond in situations in which they succeed in mobilising resistance and avoid humiliation attempts** (what strategies they use, in what types of situations)

We may test the following additional hypotheses:

- women experience more humiliation than men

- women are more successful/less successful than men in resisting humiliation attempts

- whether a high degree of experienced humiliation is associated with positive attitudes towards violence

- whether a high degree of experienced humiliation is likely to be relatively less positively associated with positive attitudes towards violence, for persons who a) reports a situation in which a humiliation attempt was avoided, and b) reports relatively high scores on empathy, feel a need to hide yourself from others, powerless?, and low scores on contempt, shameful?,

- whether a high degree of experienced humiliation is likely to be more associated with positive attitudes towards violence in young people, than in old people

- the degree of experienced humiliation is not expected to be associated with attitudes towards fundamentalist ideologies - Osama bin Laden and George W. Bush (excluding the violent action consequences of these ideologies)

- the degree of experienced humiliation is expected to be associated with violent action consequences of fundamentalist ideologies

- Mandela type responses to humiliation is expected to be associated with negative attitudes towards violence

- Hitler type responses to humiliation is expected to be associated with positive attitudes towards violence

**Criteria for identifying the "Mandela type" (people that it would be interesting to interview in more depth)**

-have personally experienced (or on the behalf of close significant others) relatively serious instances of

humiliation (the general measure on humiliation, Linda Hartling/the objective incident measure; have you experienced that your house has been searched? Etc)

-describes a situation in which he or she experiences that someone tried to humiliate them, but where this did not succeed (plus the responses to the sub questions)

- describes ways of dealing with potentially humiliating experiences that makes it easier to deal with such situations

- low scores on revenge feelings(?), and more importantly low scores on actual revenge attempts

- relatively low scores on depression and powerlessness

- scores on empathy (semantic differential, and direct question)

- relatively low scores on: money, living a comfortable life, social status, relatively higher scores on dignity, to be involved in the society, humour

- relatively low scores on attitudes to violence measures (may have relatively high scores on sabotage on physical structures seeking to minimise the loss of human lifes)

More ideas for the questionnaire:

temporal dimension, what is the dynamics of the emotional experience in connection with humiliation, first depression, and anger, then empathy? -microlevel

to what extent do the experience of humiliation produced scripts that create more long-term typical response patterns in humiliation situations? Macro level

(question? Have you developed ways of dealing with situations you feel are humiliating that makes it easier for you to experience such situations? Icon blindness Tschudi

grid format - all the situations of humiliation side by side, on one row, allows the subjects to score emotions and compare emotions between situations

see Finn Tschudi's study on Swedish accounting)