Generational and Cultural Perspectives on the Concept Dynamics: A Cross-Generational and Cross-Cultural Analysis

Tsulukidze Lika, PhD Student

The University of Georgia

Tbilisi, Georgia

ORCID: 0009-0003-6400-8183

ABSTRACT

The research aims to provide a thorough analysis of the psychological aspects of the concept of "family". Initially, the study uses a comparative method across three different languages – Georgian, English, and American – to examine the concept of "family" from a linguistic and cultural standpoint.The thorough approach to the research involves a diverse methodological system that combines various linguistic techniques, including linguistic observation, which examines how people describe and use the concept of "family" in the process of communication, and associative experiments, which explore the semantic connections that the concept of "family" evokes among respondents. It also examines how gender and cultural factors impact how families are understood, focusing on the role of families in children's education and development, family norms, and generational values.

INTRODUCTION

One of the most important topics in modern linguistics is the problem of research methods. The foundation for the creation and evolution of linguistic frameworks is laid by research, which is the primary source of linguistic theory. Therefore, the methodological aspect is of significant importance while conducting linguistic research (Lazaraton, 2000).

The fact that research methodologies are vital parts of the linguistic research framework emphasizes their function. The mentioned techniques ensure the relevance of linguistic research in terms of getting reliable, accurate, and reproducible data.

Such an approach, in turn, contributes to the fair interpretation of research results and the strength of the evidence. As a result, the strength of the methodological approach and the correctness of the selection of linguistic research material determine how practical, empirically sound, and objective the research will be.

The research process must be consistent to comprehensively design and analyze the research question. This highlights the necessity of using and selecting a method that will be valid for the research problem (Riazi, 2016).

The approaches used in linguistic study are initially connected and create a systematic hierarchy. Each approach has a distinct place in the larger context of linguistic research methods. The idea of a system of linguistic research techniques suggests an ordered and intentional totality rather than a disorganized range of methods.

The wide range of linguistic research techniques suggests that they are not dispersed randomly; instead, each has a distinct place in the more extensive system. Each method's unique role within the system is reflected in its clearly defined place (Lorimer & Howitt, 1991).

Linguistic research methodologies create relationships of subordination and coordination through their interaction and interdependence.

Thus, linguistic research's success depends on the relevant organization of the technical methodology, where a crucial prerequisite for linguistic research is that the process must be rigorously methodical. A methodical and multidimensional approach to research procedures is achieved by applying what is essential for a thorough research problem analysis.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The concept of family is geographically defined in some cultures, with concepts such as "independence" or "support" that express different attitudes toward family ties.

Examining how different languages express family terms reveals cultural differences. For example, the expression of "family hierarchy" differs between English and Georgian, as Georgian is more respectful of older family members. At the same time, English is more general and does not consider the significance of age differences.

Psycholinguistics and ethnolinguistics also suggest that "family" is a dynamic concept that evolves with age, new experiences, and social norms. As changes in the family occur, so do linguistic priorities, which often shift in response to cultural and contemporary societal needs. For example, modern concepts of "family" often include diverse family structures, including same-sex couples, new models of exchange, or new traditions. In this process, language also reflects the positive and negative attitudes that exist in society.

Since family is a powerful socio-cultural concept constantly changing, its linguistic coverage can be interpreted not only in terms of interpretation, but also as a form of expression of various aspects of individual and collective life.

Research in these areas has paid particular attention to the psychological dimensions of language, which indicate the diverse ways members of different generations may perceive family-related concepts (Dillman, 2000). In addition, researchers are particularly interested in studying how gender, cultural background, and intergenerational inequalities influence the conceptualization of the concept of "family" (Merriam et al., 2016).

Using a thorough and methodical approach combining qualitative and quantitative research techniques, we can delve into the concept of "family" across generations and cultural contexts to broaden and deepen existing work. When linguistic research methods are coordinated, they tend to follow a "horizontal" dimension, which implies that each method has equal importance and weight in the research process (Mann, 2011). In contrast, the subordination of linguistic research methods suggests using a "vertical" dimension, where one method may be more important or prioritized in the research process than other methods (Prasad, 2015).

This study aims to conceptualize the idea of "family".

To accomplish this goal, the study must go through multiple phases and focus on particular objectives, including:

1. Identifying the strategies for perceiving the concept of "family";
2. Determining the semantic and associative boundaries of the concept;
3. Comparing and contrasting data from modern English and Georgian languages.

The goal outlined in the study is accomplished through a multifaceted methodology, employing a diverse set of research methods, which include associative experiments, analysis of lexical definitions, component analysis, linguistic observation, and generalization. It is this methodological diversity that ensures the reliability of the conclusions (Oppenheim, 1992).

The research material was derived from analyzing data obtained through interviews with English and Georgian speaking respondents and dictionary definitions.

The complex methodology for studying the concept of "family" is discussed in terms of the content and structural features of the questionnaire, the analysis of lexical definitions of the concept, the composition of the associative field, and the specifics of methods for data generalization and interpretation (Judd et al., 2017).

According to Dillman, the questionnaire is an essential research tool that can collect information in four main categories (2000). These categories include traits, behavior, attitudes, and beliefs:

1. Traits provide information about the respondents' characteristics, including linguistic variables, which provide a basis for studying the respondents' social status.

2. Behavioral information provides data about the respondents' actions, demonstrating their active participation in the process of communication or plans for specific actions.

3. Attitudes reflect the respondents' emotional positions or moods towards a particular issue, which confirms their subjective perception and attitude.

4. Beliefs include information about how the respondents evaluate a particular opinion, attitude, or belief as right or wrong, which shapes values and moral principles.

In addition, the respondents can answer open-ended questions, which encourages deeper self-expression and creativity.

METHODS

This study employs a mixed-method approach, combining qualitative and quantitative research methods to explore the concept of "family" across different generations and cultures. The primary data collection tool is a survey, including closed and open-ended questions designed to assess respondents' perceptions of the concept of "family". Participants from three different cultural backgrounds – Georgian, English, and American – are surveyed to ensure a broad representation of cultural perspectives.

The questions mainly focus on various aspects of the concept of "family", including its definition and role in child development as well as the associated values. To guarantee that participants from various age groups – younger, middle-aged, and elderly generations – are represented, a stratified sampling technique is employed. This makes it possible to compare how different generations view families.

The study employs lexical analysis in addition to the survey to look at the individuals' use of words describing the concept of "family". A review of dictionary definitions and an examination of the associative fields associated with the concept of "family" are part of the research. In order to find patterns in the provided responses and determine their importance in light of the research topics, the data is subsequently examined using descriptive statistics and thematic analysis.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The following research questions are included in this study:

1. What are the main differences in the definitions of "family" across generations, and

how are these changes reflected in the cultural and social context?

2. How is the meaning of family and its societal roles conceptualized in the target languages, especially regarding cultural background and traditions?

3. How are family values and their impact on the socio-emotional development of children perceived across age and cultural background, and what is the impact of this process on changes in the family context?

RESULTS

The data from the questionnaire reveals significant trends in how people from different groups perceive Family, its functions, and their values regarding family life.

1. Defining Family: *What is a family?*

The majority of the younger generation gave identical answers to this question. In their opinion, a family is a group of people united by kinship ties (78% out of 100%).

From the point of view of the middle and older generations, a family is a unit necessary for human happiness (76% out of 100%). The views differ in the responses of the younger, middle, and older generations. Similar opinions are observed in the analysis of the responses given by Georgian, English, and American respondents.

Thus, the difference in the responses of the younger, middle, and older generations indicates the determination of the respondents' responses by the age variable. The identity of the answers given by female and male respondents manifests the non-determination of the answers given by the respondents by the gender variable.

The identical answers, which are recorded in the responses of Georgian, English, and American respondents, indicate the non-determination of the perceptions of the respondents by the cultural variable.

2. The Word That Best Describes Family: *What word do you think best describes family?*

According to 53% of the younger generation, "friendship" best describes the concept of "family". In comparison, 37% believe that the word "love" is the most relevant about the concept of "family", and only 10% consider the word "loyalty" to be the best descriptor of the mentioned concept. The majority of the middle and older generations gave more or less identical answers to the question. In their opinion, the word "love" best describes the concept of "family". The answers given by female and male respondents are, in principle, identical.

The similarity is evident in the answers given by Georgian, English, and American respondents.

Thus, the difference in data evident in the answers of the younger, middle, and older generations indicates that the age variable determines the respondents' answers. The identical answers of the data in the responses given by female and male respondents indicate the non-determination of the responses given by the respondents by the gender variable.

3. The primary function of the family: *What is the main function of the family?*

Most of the representatives of the younger generation believe that the primary function of the family is reproduction (54 % out of 100 %). The majority of representatives of the middle and older generations (68 % out of 100 %) gave, in principle, the identical answers to the question posed. In their opinion, the primary function of the family is the upbringing of generations. The points of view are, in principle, identical in the answers given by female and male respondents. The identical positions are manifested in the answers given by Georgian, English, and American respondents.

Thus, the difference in points of view in the answers of representatives of the younger, middle, and older generations reflects the markedness of the respondents' answers by the age variable. The identical opinions in the answers given by female and male respondents indicate the unmarkedness of the respondents' answers by the gender variable.

The similarity of positions in the case of Georgian, English, and American respondents indicates that a cultural variable does not mark the respondents' responses.

4. Family Rules: *Do you agree or not with the following opinion: "Family rules are the foundation of a family"?*

According to the majority of the younger generation (94% of 100%), family rules are not the basis for the existence of a family.

The majority of the middle generation (75 % out of 100 %), reckon that rules are not the basis for the existence of a family, while the older generation (84 % out of 100 %) believe that family rules are the basis for the existence of a family.

The difference in opinions is evident in the responses of the younger, middle, and older generations. The opinions are identical in the responses given by female and male respondents.

Similar data are recorded in the analysis of the responses given by Georgian, English, and American respondents.

Thus, the difference in opinions in the responses of the younger, middle, and older generations indicates the influence of the age variable on the specificity of the respondents' responses. The identical data in the responses given by female and male respondents indicates the non-determination of the respondents' responses by the gender variable.

Similar data are recorded as a result of the analysis of the responses given by Georgian, English, and American respondents, which indicates the cultural variable's non-determination of the respondents' responses.

5. The role of the Family in education and development: *What role does the family have in the children's education and development?*

Most of the younger generation (54 % out of 100 %) believe that the family's role in children's education and development is more or less important. According to the majority of the middle and older generations (65 % out of 100 %), the family's role in children's edu-

cation and development is significant. The difference in opinions is evident in the responses of the younger, middle, and older generations. The opinions are identical in the responses given by female and male respondents.

Similar data are recorded due to the analysis of the responses given by Georgian, English, and American respondents.

Thus, the difference in the responses of the younger, middle, and older generations reveals the markedness of the respondents' responses by the age variable. The identical data in the responses given by female and male respondents demonstrates the unmarkedness of the respondents' responses by the gender variable.

6. Parental Involvement in Career and Marriage Decisions: *Should parents decide on their children's careers and whom they marry?*

Most of the younger generation (94 % out of 100 %) believe that parents should not participate in resolving their children's career and marriage issues. The same viewpoints were provided by the majority of the middle generation (56 % out of 100 %). The views are identical in the responses given by female and male respondents.

The difference in attitudes is recorded by analyzing the answers given by Georgian, English, and American respondents.

Thus, the difference between the answers of representatives of the young, middle, and older generations confirms the influence of the age variable on the specificity of the respondents' answers.

The difference in the answers given by Georgian, English, and American respondents expresses the determination of the respondents' answers by the cultural variable.

7. Resolving Conflicts in Family Life: *Everyone basically wants to have a stable family, a peaceful family life. However, in marriage and families, there are inevitably daily frictions and sometimes major conflicts, differences of opinion, and opposing ideas. How can these be overcome?*

There are some disagreements (88% out of 100%) in terms of conflicts in marriage and families, as well as the ways to resolve them. According to the majority of middle generation (75% out of 100%), a dialogue is the best way to resolve everyday disagreements and serious conflicts in marriage and families. Most of the older generation among English and American respondents (58% out of 100%) consider mutual respect the best way to resolve everyday disagreements and serious conflicts in marriage and families.

Only a minority of the older generation Georgian respondents (45% out of 100%) consider dialogue as a means to resolve everyday disagreements and serious conflicts in marriage and families. Most Georgian respondents of the older generation (55% out of 100%) consider patience the best way to resolve everyday disagreements and serious conflicts in marriage and families.

The views differ in the responses of the representatives of the younger, middle, and older generations. The responses from female and male respondents reveal similar opinions. The

positions differ in the responses given by Georgian, English, and American respondents.

Thus, the difference in the opinions in the responses of the representatives of the younger, middle, and older generations indicates the influence of the age variable on the specificity of the respondents' responses.

The variability of the answers given by Georgian, English, and American respondents expresses the cultural determinants of the respondents' answers.

8. Values Passed on to Children: *What values will you pass on to your children?*

According to a significant number of the younger generation (78% out of 100%), they would pass on a sense of respect for equality to their children. The majority of the middle generation (64% out of 100%) think that they would pass a sense of responsibility to their children. Most of the older generation English and American respondents (62% out of 100%) would pass on to their children respect for traditions.

Most of the older generation Georgian respondents (52% out of 100%) consider respect for parents to be a value they would pass on to their children. The views differ in the responses of the younger, middle, and older generations. The identical answers are confirmed in the responses given by female and male information respondents.

The difference in positions is confirmed by analyzing the responses given by Georgian, English, and American inform respondents.

Thus, the difference in the responses of the young, middle, and older generations indicates that the age variable determines the specificity of the respondents' responses.

The difference in points of view in the responses given by Georgian and American respondents expresses the cultural variable's determination of the respondents' responses.

DISCUSSION

The questionnaire results provide in-depth information on how people of different genders and cultural backgrounds view families and their values. While older respondents place greater emphasis on tradition, authority, and the importance of family rules, younger respondents are more likely to support freedom, open communication, and modern values such as equality. The findings also show that gender does not significantly influence people's perceptions of family life.

Cultural disparities were most apparent in the questions about parental people in their children's jobs, marital choices, and dispute resolution techniques. Because of the more conventional values shared by family children in Georgian society, Georgian respondents were more inclined to favor parental control and emphasize patience and respect.

The influence of Western individualism and liberal principles is highlighted by the fact that American and English respondents, on the other hand, supported more autonomy for kids in these areas. The results also highlight the fact that family structures and values are dynamic.

CONCLUSION

Data analysis illustrates that there are significant differences in values between generations. Young people are more likely to share the ideas of individualism, autonomy, and equality, while older generations value traditions and authority more. Gender equality and tolerance towards minorities are higher among young people.

When raising children, individualistic cultures emphasize independence and creativity, while collectivist cultures emphasize responsibility and guaranteeing personal desires for group goals. Economic well-being and the media contribute more to the development of individualism.

Young people attach greater importance to children's independence and purposefulness. The majority support the institution of the Family, although some children believe marriage is a waste of time.

In a post-modern society, where a family is no longer a necessary condition for survival, women and men have more freedom, and a family is given less importance. The post-modern worldview emphasizes autonomy and increased individual choice, which is reflected in less sympathy for collectivism and decreased support for mixed values.

Ethics Approval and Conflict of Interest

This study was conducted in accordance with relevant ethical standards. The authors declare that there are no financial, personal, professional, or institutional conflicts of interest that could have influenced the design, conduct, interpretation, or publication of this work.

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Declaration of competing interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have influenced the work reported in this paper**.**

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