THE EXPRESSION OF DISPOSITIONAL BEHAVIOR AND PSYCHOLOGICAL ATTITUDES IN THE CONTEXT OF SOCIAL RISK

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Abstract: The aim of the research is to reveal the distribution of psychological attitudes (preferences) of risk specialists according to the structural-operational components of the activity, to reveal the expression of social-psychological attitudes of self-confidence observed in specific situations with six-month changes, to review the connection among needs, situations and unconscious actions. Structural similarities of a person’s dispositional behaviour and psychological attitudes are considered by us in terms of requirement, situation and unconscious actions. In a given social situation, the content of a person’s specific requirements can be significantly different depending on the specific role of the person. The psychological attitudes of professionals are mostly expressed in official activities when a task arises to give preference to some structural-functional component (“motive-goal-action-result”). The analysis shows that changes in the social attitudes of professionals in the professional field related to the new situation and over time did not have a significant impact on the whole group. Meanwhile, the data of each participant has been changed to some extent.

Keywords: psychological attitudes, disposition, conscious or unconscious actions, activity, structural-operational components, confidence and self-confidence.

Introduction

The objective of the research is to reveal the distribution of psychological attitudes (preferences) of risky professionals according to the structural-operational components of the activity and to show the expression of socio-psychological attitudes of self-confidence observed during activities and manifested in specific situations, with 6-month changes, when the research participants no longer remember what they were asked 6 months ago when revealing self-confidence attitudes.

The selection of research methodology apparatus is based on the concept of activity within the concept of activity of dispositional behaviour (Allport, 1998; Yadov, 1975), social-psychological attitudes (Uznadze, 1958; Nadirashvili, 1974; Prangishvili, 1972) and on experimental research (Vygotsky, 1982; Leontiev, 1975). Statistical calculations of psychological attitudes based on the separation of structural-functional components of the activity (according to the Pearson formula) and then the study of socio-psychological atti-
tudes of self-confidence of the same individuals over a period of 6 months show a high correlation.

The sample of the research participants. The participants were divided into 3 groups of specialists, with a total number of 105 people (35 specialists in each group) who perform risky services. The group includes 1) drillers, 2) emergency specialists, and 3) doctors-surgeons with almost the same work experience, age, health condition, and marital status. Such segregation of the sample is more in line with the idea of forming equal groups.

The research data. Philosophical-psychological studies of socio-psychological attitudes in terms of visual-experimental research provide an opportunity to confirm the following judgments.

1. Structural similarities of a person’s dispositional behaviour and psychological attitudes can be considered in terms of requirement, situation and unconscious actions. In a given social situation, the content of a person’s specific requirements can be significantly different depending on the specific role of the person. In this case, the roles of the driller, the emergency worker, and the doctor-surgeon are, first of all, connected with professional activity.

2. Examining the peculiarities of the psychological attitudes of 3 groups of risky specialists (underground drillers, emergency rescuers and doctors-surgeons), it can be stated that:

2.1. In the process of selecting the structural-functional components of the activity, the underground drillers give preference to the specific operation (85%) and the conditions of the organization (80%). This means that they give preference to meeting the need for their own security.

2.2. The social attitudes of emergency workers first refer to the choice of methods and means (94%), then to “What do we do? or Whom do we rescue? (91%), that is, they give priority to rescuing as a goal, and finally, it is a choice of concrete actions. It seems that these people within the given role are oriented to satisfy the need to ensure the security of others. By rescuing their lives in emergency situations, in fact, they can be more secure in rescuing the lives of others.

3. In the role of a doctor-surgeon, doctors mostly prefer the operation to be performed (85%), then the priority is given to the existing purpose (71%), the organ to be operated as an object (51%). Here, ensuring the safety of the patient is a satisfaction of the doctor’s own needs.

Functional similarities of dispositional behaviour (Ananiev, 1968; Asmolov, 1979; Yadov, 1975) and psychological attitudes (Uznadze, 1958; Nadirashvili, 1974; Bzhalava, 1967), according to the fact of the conclusion of unconscious action, allow at the same time to consider the choice of conscious and unconscious actions. Based on the philosophical and psychological ideas of D. Uznadze and Sh. Nadirashvili’s attitudes, in 2014-2021, the issue of giving more frequent preference to the structural-functional components of the activity of risky specialists was studied experimentally. It turns out that the statistical connection between the psychological attitudes of emergency specialists and doctors-surgeons, according to Pearson, is higher (0.7911). As the action performer believes in his self-confidence, the self-confidence of 105 specialists as a social attitude was examined for an additional 6 months.

A high correlation was registered. Although new attitudes emerge in the new situation (time, place, mood, etc.), it turned out that a high correlation is expressed in points 1-12 concerning self-confidence. This demonstrates that although the social attitudes change at the individual level, the correlation between the psychological attitudes of self-confidence at the group level remains high (0.9754) when we compare the correlation between the previous and subsequent attitudes over a 6-month period.

Disposition, as a general concept, is used in various fields of modern science and in everyday human activities. In psychology, disposition is considered as a conscious preparation for a social situation and behaviour derived from previous experience. In the issue of revealing the dispositional behaviour of a person, V. Yadov (2013) views disposition as a hierarchical system in the form of a pyramid (p. 35), at the top of which are orientations directed to the interests and values of the individual, which with a stable, long-term and deepening motivation structure balance the expression of social attitudes (Allport, 1998).
At the intermediate level, they are general social attitudes, and at the lower level, they are situational social attitudes in terms of the performance and evaluation of specific actions. Both interests and value orientations are considered with the motivational system being built on the conceptual basis of activity and conscious action, although at the bottom of the pyramid, unconscious action is mentioned. As for attitudes as an unconscious psychological state, a predisposition to certain mental activity due to previous experience, we can show the possible transitions that lead to unconscious or conscious action.

Although the attitude is the result or consequence of the collision of specific human needs with the given situation, nevertheless, there is a transition to action. D. Uznadze demonstrates these transitions by a diagram (“Need-Situation-Attitude-Action”). In a certain new situation, a new attitude emerges with its role, giving appropriate direction to the behaviour. The psychological attitude does not disappear, despite the fact that the person maintains his integrity and their identity. According to Uznadze (2004), the created attitude is maintained by the subject as a double actualized readiness to repeat in the same conditions (p. 80). It can be concluded that if the previous attitude can be manifested under the same conditions, and the latter appears at different levels in dispositional behaviour, then it will once again prove the possibility of recurrence of the previous disposition. Significant similarities between dispositional behaviour and attitudes can hardly be found: 1) if we take into account that giving preference to something does not deny the existence of previously acquired knowledge and abilities, which may be implicitly accompanied by the manifestation of behaviour, 2) both disposition and attitudes end in action, which is the main focus of this research, because it is assumed that predisposition, a reality that leads to positive or negative consequences, as an unconscious action, will turn into a controllable, manageable individual experience in future, that is, a conscious action. Differences in the expression of attitudes in a particular situation, the other parameters (requirements, situations, etc.) included in the pyramid described above, and the choice of a specific unintentional action type (material, materialized, verbal or mental) are due to specific attitudes with their roles, with their radical changes in different situations. After all, the social role directly affects the changes in the behaviour and predisposition of the person emerging in the given situation. Even with everyday observations, it is possible to prove changes in attitudes and dispositional behaviour. The change of such a situation or the presence of someone naturally creates a new social situation and attitude, which leads to a new attitude. Disposition, in addition to the tendency to act or predisposition to act, also includes a sequence of actions because without defining possible causal relationships internally, a person can hardly trust the adequacy of his expectations. The causal links, in this case, refer to the compliance of the expectations with the action to be taken. In this context, this disposition (as accepted in psychology) is considered as a tendency to unconscious action. As for consciousness, it is the cause of the origin of individuality because it causes (initiates) and creates it in the world that exists independently from us (Uznadze, 2004, p. 41). The mechanisms of regulation of mental activity are mainly studied in terms of attitude theory and experimental work. D. Uznadze (2014) distinguishes 2 levels in the regulation of mental activity, and Sh. Nadirashvili (Nadirashvili, 1976) - 3 levels. Based on the purpose of this work, let us consider the levels of regulation of mental activity proposed by Sh. Nadirashvili. According to him, there are 3 main levels different from each other. In this context, there is a need to address those levels, which will make clear the possible manifestations of conscious and unconscious action. The first level of mental activity is the unconscious actions with the objects given at the sensory level, which are manifested by the influence of the moment as impulsive behaviour due to the satisfaction of the actualized need in the given situation. Level 2 is a more complex structure, and in the field of knowledge, it includes the general objects of reality. This is the objectification plan (D. Uznadze) when the satisfaction of current needs is delayed due to the constantly changing situation. What is important here is the mediation of consciousness, as the plan that is necessary to meet the current need is designed. Sh. Nadirashvili continues to discuss the mechanism of objectification at the expense of full disclosure of thinking and knowledge, as a result of which a specific act or action is revealed (Nadirashvili, 1974, p. 89). We also mean that the action “as a unit of any human activity” (Talyzi-
na, 1975, p. 54; Merlin, 1968) will make the intermediate and final results of the measurable activity. In addition, in managing his own behaviour, a person consciously or spontaneously acquires an experience of subjective perception of choosing actions, which is continuous, depending on many factors, including personal characteristics (“a person sees, hears what he wants to see or hear”), which to a greater or lesser extent restrict or turn into specific stereotypes of the choice of action. In the process of giving preference, a person may choose several actions at the same time. Experimental observation of the study of this issue shows that the choice of attitudes and in terms of dispositional behaviour, the selection of an operation depends on the situation (uncertainty, stress, alternative solutions, etc.) and social personality traits, depending on the preferred type of activity and personal type characteristics. Since the activity is related to the motive and the action to the goal (Leontiev, 1975), so it can be argued that in the case of both conscious and unconscious motives, the variety of ways of choosing the action and operation depends more on the direction of the fixed attitudes of the subject. Taking into account the preference for the priority selection of the components of the “Motive - Subject - Activity - Goal - Outcome” activities, it is expedient from the point of view of professionals working or serving in the risky field to determine their expression in more frequent and repetitive situations. Accordingly, let us choose 3 groups of specialists related to professional risky service activities and find out what they prefer in different situations when choosing their action in specific situations. When forming experimental groups, we paid attention to some essential features: work experience (5-7 years), almost the same level of education, interest in his field of work, marital status and presence of children. We have tried to form as equal groups as possible, according to the spheres. The selection of 35 specialists in each group is based on the logic of forming an equal group. The more similarities there are between group members, the more accurately the significant differences will be revealed. The work with the research group lasted for about 7 years (2014-2021); it was conducted in several stages. At first, the expression of attitudes according to the structural-operational components of the activity was revealed. The experimental work was conducted individually. We asked the respondents to take into account the specifics of their work and indicate which component they prefer at the beginning and end of the work. The table below shows which component of the permanent work specialists in the risky field prefer the most, following their past experience. This experimental work has been done several times to make the results of the survey as reliable as possible. The time was convenient for the participants, and the quiet environment was chosen. During the instruction, we avoided unnecessary explanations to ensure the reliability of the data. We asked the participants to refer to all the structural components (object-motive-action-methods-conditions). In processing the results, we have taken into account the fact that if any given group in the study varies within a certain range (suppose 34-37), then we should record only the inner threshold (low number).

Table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risky specialists</th>
<th>Total number of specialists</th>
<th>Structural and operational components of the activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Object or the preference direction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Underground drillers working in the group</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
According to Pearson’s formula, the correlation relations are expressed as follows:

1) The relationship between the psychological attitudes of the underground drillers working in groups 0.4243 is an average statistical relationship.

2) The relationship between the psychological attitudes of underground drillers and doctors-surgeons working in groups is 0.5951, which again records an average statistical relationship.

3) The correlation between the psychological attitudes of emergency specialists and doctors-surgeons is 0.7911, which is high in the range of 0-1.

Regardless of the nature of the action included in the activity, we usually differentiate consciousness by the person's material (tangible), materialized, verbal, and mental (Galperin, 1957, 1999), as well as social actions (Parsons, 2000). The characteristics of action, both in terms of dispositional behaviour and attitudes, are not particularly considered in terms of individual characteristics, information retrieval, processing, and communication. In addition, the method of action orientation, which is to give preference to the choice of action, takes precedence over various other actions during the adjustment of the structural components of the activity. Manifestations of choice or preference for action as dispositional behaviour or social attitudes are not yet interpreted in terms of having or not having confidence in a given phenomenon, which is why one raises the question of what action to take, how much he prefers to act in the context of his “inner convictions” when he applies or prefers any action. After all, regardless of preference, there is also probable thinking, with the various assumptions that the steps or actions we have taken may not be more appropriate and timely. Self-confidence in one’s own strengths, judgments, interpretation and conclusion of phenomena are real objective perceptions, which are combined with the components of probable thinking and push a person to choose a specific action. “Trust” is used as a category in various fields of science and in the daily activities of people. Due to their group interest and their status in social processes, people look for reliable partners who work together to inspire confidence in them, often without expectations. According to D. Gambetta (1988), trust is the expectation of favourable or at least non-negative behaviour when that behaviour is uncontrollable. Trust has
different definitions, but you can agree with I. Yu. Leonova (2015, p. 34) defines trust as a realized through action and behaviour, including the subject’s action as a way of expressing trust. Trust as an assumption that other people’s actions will be useful to him, at least will not harm the realization of his intentions and possible actions (Kupreychenko, 2008). Trust leads to various consequences, perhaps deception. When we enter into a trusting relationship, we naturally stop at the “Trust” character line.

The semantic perceptions of the term “trust” differ from each other, from the content to the functions, from the practical results of the socio-psychological training that brings people together to gain confidence in specific issues. Interpretation of trust at the level of a person is related to his/her effective personal and social orientation. In this sense, personal trust is not only the result of interpersonal relationships but also the group compatibility of specific people. From a broader point of view, we can refer to the famous German philosopher Herbert Marcuse (2003), who views personal relationships through the prism of a person included in society and discusses his condition in the era of modern civilization, which is not particularly contrary to his optimism for the future. If we move on to the “society-personality” connection, in the co-psychological sense, the individual will become a social individual (Yadov, 2013, p. 17), as the person becomes the real bearer of his activity, although his behaviour is conditioned by the social environment, in this sense. I. I. Rezvitsky (1973), when talking about the social environment, concludes that with his general ideas from society, a person builds his personal life, starting from his ideas and thoughts, attitudes, and interpersonal relationships: ending with concrete performance and actions (p. 57). The conscious or unconscious action of a person in meeting the needs of the present moment is aimed at expressing concrete expectations because even though presumably, the person trusts his choice. In all cases, the simplest perception of trust begins with sympathy, personal charm, and attractiveness, which are conditioned by initial psychological attitudes. Trust is the attitude of a person who represents unconditional faith and sometimes replaces it (Kondratyeva, 2006, p. 176; Bazarov, Gevorgyan, Karapetyan, Karieva, Kovalenko, & Dallakyan, 2021). It would not be wrong to say the opposite statement that if people do not sympathize with each other, they cannot trust each other. The fact that personal trust is an individual capital that can be put into action benefit from without serious willpower and use of material resources seems indisputable, at least at different stages of the relationship. Social capital as a social influence, common norms and beliefs, as expressions of trust, is unlikely to meet people’s needs if people’s expectations of each other are ignored. Trust must be predictable and tangible in human relations because trust is strengthened by concrete actions, their timely and appropriate choice. Regardless of the specific expression of trust, its real basis is the actions that give real content to the expectations. But a person’s confidence is first and foremost self-confidence in his inner world - the choice of his own actions, including his unconscious actions.

In order to consider self-confidence as a person’s attitude, studies were conducted with 175 specialists in different fields to find out what attitudes they have in the manifestations of their self-confidence. The study of the distribution of the listed attitudes was conducted twice (October 2018 and 6 months later, April 2019). Through them, many options for expressing self-confidence have been developed, each in terms of its own preferences. Table 2 below shows the so-called conditional indicators of self-confidence (as manifestitations). The figures in the columns show how many of the 175 people preferred (expressed attitudes) each of the 1-12 judgments by rating.

| Table 2. The Distribution of Attitudes in the Manifestations of Self-Confidence |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Self-confidence | Distribution of 105 participants’ attitudes according to 1-12 points. First-time survey attitude distribution (October 2018) | Distribution of 105 participants’ attitudes according to 1-12 points. Second time survey attitudes’ distribution (April 2019) |
| 1 Belief in their professional and personal | 171 | 169 |
sional experience as successful

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Situational manifestations of voluntary qualities (determination, restraint, persistence, etc.)</th>
<th>84</th>
<th>67</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Quickly orienting in any situation</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Unconditional acceptance of his accurate calculations and arguments</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Willingness to identify potential dangers and avoid them</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Responsibility and internal discipline on relying on yourself</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Quick orientation in the environment of strangers</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Willingness to find people with the same ideas</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Comprehensive study of any related activity related to himself</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Planning your own activities and making an algorithm of actions</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Promise keeping</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Willingness to follow the norms of moral and ethical behaviour</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The analysis shows that the initial attitude of 105 specialists has undergone some changes, although the correlation is significant (r = 0.9754).

Thus, changes in the social attitudes of professionals in the professional field related to the new situation and, over time, did not have a significant impact on the whole group. Meanwhile, the data of each participant has changed to some extent. The results show that in the case of group influences, social attitudes are fixed in specific situations. Risk-taking attitudes in serving activities are not significantly changed at the group level.

Conclusion

The psychological attitudes of professionals are mostly expressed in official activities when a task arises to give preference to some structural-functional component (“motive-goal-action-result”). The attitudes of surgeons and emergency specialists are aimed at performing a specific action, however, some correlation connections are seen between the psychological attitudes of surgeons and rescue teams involved in risky services. As for self-confidence, we can confirm that the effects of socio-psychological attitudes toward self-confidence in relation to the new situation and time have not changed significantly for the whole study group.

References


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