De houding van Marokkaanse, Surinaamse en Turkse jongeren ten opzichte van sociale grenzen
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SUMMARY

The attitude of youths of Moroccan, Surinamese and Turkish heritage towards social limits.

This thesis concerns the third phase of the Reaction Pattern Research at the Institute of special pedagogics of the Groningen State University. The project Reaction Pattern Research (RPR) started in 1980. It is an attitude research about reactions and motivation of juveniles when confronted with social limits. We are not interested in actual reactions and motives. The differences between youngsters with and without behaviour problems beheld in the existence and non-existence of observable behaviour that may be identified as problematic. The problem then is how to explain the difference. In broad outline there are two kinds of explanation. First the explanation which state that the circumstances in which some people grow force them to the wrong. Second, explanations which assume that deviancy stems for a personality trait, which causes the person to reject and exceed social limits. In our opinion only a combination of these two notions can yield a satisfactory explanation of deviant behaviour. Therefore we approached the problem from both sides. First we tried to study the attitude of juveniles to social limits by asking them how they would react if they were confronted with social limits and why they would react in that certain way. Second reviewing the literature in point (cf. Rink et al., 1989), we considered the ecology of this attitude of equal importance. So we tried to determine how these juveniles valued their circumstances, basing on the assumption that the subjective perception has a greater influence on behaviour than the objective circumstances themselves.

In chapter 1 the inducements and the results of the first and second phase of the Reaction pattern research were presented. Then the objectives and the research questions of the third phase, directed at
the attitude of juveniles of Morrocan, Surinamese and Turkish heritage towards social limits were presented.

In the first phase of the project we attempted to establish an overall picture of the attitude of Dutch juveniles towards social limits. A picture which might function as a standard. We questioned 1294 pupils from 11 continuation schools all over Holland. We took care that the group in question formed an adequate representation of the population of "Dutch juveniles between 12 and 20 years of age, who cannot be explicitly be considered as problematic". (Rink, Vos, van Lokven & Slagveer 1989, p 153). This stage of the project has resulted in a vast amount of data which we can use as reference material for following stages of the project.

The second phase of the Reaction Pattern Research was three-aimed. First aim was to form an overall picture of detained juveniles towards social limits and of the way they appreciate their life circumstances. Second aim was the comparison of detained juveniles with Dutch juveniles in general (RPR-I). Third and final aim was formulating recommendations for preventive and treatment measures for youth care.

There are four objectives for the third phase of the Reaction Pattern Research. First objective was to form an overall picture of the RPR-III population concerning their attitude towards social limits and their appreciation of their life circumstances. Second objective was to establish the differences between the subpopulations and the third objective was the comparison between the population of RPR-III and RPR-I.

The final fourth objective was the forming of recommendations based on the results of this research for preventive and curative measures for youth care. The research questions were formulated in accordance with these objectives.

In the second chapter the research questions, the questionnaire, the completion of the questionnaire and the analysis and coding of the answers are presented and discussed. Respondents were
school-attending juveniles of Morrocan, Surinamese and Turkish heritage in the age of 12 to 20.

The questionnaire consisted of four parts. In part 1 the biographical information was gathered. Part 2 consisted of ten fictitious situations. For every situation respondents have to answer three questions, namely:

1. What could one do in such a situation?
2. What would you do in such a situation?
3. Why would you do that?

In this part of the questionnaire information is gathered about known reactions, chosen reactions and motivations. The questions in this part allowed for four reaction-types, namely:

1. Adjustment
2. Limit-overstepping
3. Change of the situation
4. retreat

and also four motivations, namely:

1. Selfdirected
2. Other-directed
3. Situation-directed
4. future-directed

The answers in this part were analyzed and coded following these typologies.

In part 3 respondents are asked how satisfied they are with thirteen different factors which may play an important role in their daily life. These factors stem from three kinds of sociological theories relative to the origin of deviant behaviour, namely, ecological, strain and
attachment factors. Ecological theories see deviant behaviour as a consequence of social disorganisation. Ecological factors in this research were: age distribution, ethnic composition of the population, and population number.

Strain theories see deviant behaviour as a consequence of discrepancy between aspirations, wishes, and needs on one hand, and the hope for legal fulfillment of the same on the other. Strain factors in this research were: financial position, status, employment, and material facilities.

Attachment theories see deviant behaviour as a consequence of the relation between an individual and his surroundings. This quality of relation is supposed to influence the attitude towards social limits. Attachment factors in this research were: persons of reference, groups of reference, lifestyle, social atmosphere, the way children and youth are dealt with, and the way problems are handled.

In this context we distinguished four living zones in the social environment (Snel, 1979), namely: (1) Home, (2) Neighbourhood, (3) Living District, and (4) Society.

In part four the above mentioned factors were submitted again, this time with the question how important respondents thought these factors to be for their own lives. Respondents had to complete the questionnaires by themselves, after a thorough instruction. Participation was strictly anonymous and voluntary.

The research questions had the aim of structuring the research in such a manner that the objectives of the research could be reached as completely as possible. The research questions referred to:
1. The frequency-distributions of the known and chosen reactions and motivations
2. The correlations between the chosen reactions and the motivations
3. The correlation between situation-types and known and chosen reactions
4. The valuation of the living-circumstances
5. The correlation between reactions and motivations on the one hand and the satisfaction on the other sides
6. The correlation between, on the one hand, the known and chosen reactions and the satisfaction and, on the other hand, twelve criteria which function in this research as independent variables, namely: gender, age, family size, level of employment of parents, religion, political choice.

In chapter 3 account was rendered of the research methods. A number of aspects of the research procedure were analysed. First the operationalisation of the research question. Second the representativity of the group under study. Third the completion of the questionnaires and the analysis of the answers. The overall conclusions was that the research procedure came up to reasonable expectations on all the before-mentioned points.

In the chapters 4 and 5 the research-population was described on the basis of an extensive study of the literature in point. In chapter four a theoretic illustration of the social-economic position of these juveniles in Dutch society, and a few theories about integration are reviewed. In chapter 5 the available literature concerning the RPR-III population and their attitude towards social limits is presented.

In chapter 6 and 7 of the total RPR-III population, the results are given of the general and specific research questions. Chapter 6 shows us that most juveniles of Moroccan, Surinamese and Turkish descent in most cases are willing to adjust (A) to the
social limit. Then they chose the reaction type limit-overstepping (B), next for the reaction type change of the situation (C) en as last for retreat (D). The RPR-III population knows the answers in combination adjustment (A) and limit-overstepping (B) best. The juveniles are more familiar with the reaction type retreat (D) then with the reaction type change of the situation (C). These juveniles motivate their answers concrete and ambiguously. Their motivations directed at on the situation (c) and at theirselves (a) are called more often then the more abstractive motivations: directed at the other (b) and directed on the future (d). The juveniles of Moroccan, Surinamese and Turkish descent are less satisfied when it comes to increasing the living zones. They are more satisfied about their family situation then about the society. The RPR-III population is not satisfied about the factors employment and aproach of problems. They do not attach much importance to the factors financial position and style of living. The attachment factors are of more importance to them: persons of reference, groups of reference, atmosphere, style of living, approach of problems, en the way children are dealt with.

The results show us a restricted connection between the measure of satisfaction and the chosen reactions. This connection consists of the more these juveniles are satisfied, the more they are willing to adjust theirselves to the situation (A) and to change the situation (C). They then chose in lesser extend for limit-overstepping (B) or for retreat (D). This counts in general, per factor and per living zone.

About the satisfaction we have to notice that the RPR-III juveniles that when the satisfaction increases, they in lesser extend are directed at theirselves (motivation type c) and more directed at the future (motivation type d).

Chapter 7 captures the connection between the results and some independant variables, namely: age, gender, family-size, level of employment, religion at home and political choice. In general the same trends as in chapter 6 are found. The most remarkable differences will be presented.
The oldest group of the RPR-III juveniles have chosen more often for the reactiontype adjustment (A) en less for limit-overstepping (B) then the group of the 15-16 years old, this is against the expectations. Concerning gender; the girls of this population are more willing to adjust and to change the situation then the boys of this population.

Juveniles belonging to the larger families are less willing to adjust to the situation (A) then juveniles belonging to smaller families. With increase of the level of employment of the parents, the more willing are they to adjust and change the situation.

Within the subcategory religion at home it is remarkable that the juveniles belonging to the Islam religion and the juveniles belonging to the non-religious group are more willing to change the situation (C) then to retreat from the situation (D), they also think the first reaction type better.

In chapter 8, we will present the results concerning the inter-ethnical comparison between the subpopulations and the comparison of the RPR-III and RPR-I juveniles. The youths of Morocco, Suriname and Turkey (as sub-populations) do not differ statistically from each other concerning their attitudes towards social limits. Among these subgroups only small differences are found.

The results of the comparison between the RPR-I and the RPR-III population show that there are no statistically significant differences between these populations as far it concerns the known and preferred reactions and motivations. The only differences that are statistically significant is the satisfaction. The RPR-III youths are far more satisfied with the factors in their surroundings than the RPR-I youth.

In chapter 9 we recapitulate on the discussion the remarkable fact that the youths from Morocco, Suriname and Turkey compared with each other not differ regarding their attitude towards social limits,
and that the total RPR-III population and the RPR-I population not differ. We started from the assumption to find differences because of the different ethnic backgrounds of the groups. Important culture-defining factors are ethnic descent, social-economic position, gender and the family situation. This research shows us that there is only a connection between the attitude toward social limits and the social-economic position. The factor ethnic descent has not resulted in relevant differences or any influence at all. We come to the conclusion that there is a similarity between this interethnic basic approach toward social limits and the liberal moral as introduced by Rawls (1993). The liberal moral gives people the opportunity to live like their own ideals as far as they are not contrary with the common rules and laws.

The picture of the population of their attitude towards social limits of the third phase of the Reaction Pattern Research shows a domination of the willingness to adjustment to the situation (A).

Chapter 9 ends with recommendations on a preventive and curative level concerning the political and clinical treatment of youths of Moroccan, Surinamese and Turkish descent.