

Individual Differences in Attitudes Towards Uncertainty and Basic Motivation

Maria A. Chumakova

The empirical study investigated the linkage between individual differences in attitude to uncertainty and basic motivation on a sample of Russian undergraduate students (psychology majors). We hypothesized that individual differences in attitudes towards uncertainty are rooted in expectations regarding different sources of uncertainty (environment vs. personal relationships) and subjective evaluations of uncertainty. The results of structural equation modeling and latent profile analysis largely supported these hypotheses. Latent profile analysis identified four distinct profiles of attitudes towards uncertainty. Among these profiles, we found a general profile of the tolerant person and three distinct profiles of an intolerant person with respect to different sources of uncertainty. These four profiles significantly differed in profiles of basic motivation tendencies measured by Edwards Personal Preference Schedule. We found differences in Order, Autonomy and Abasement.