

偏狭なのは誰？

Parochial altruism, well-being, and attitudes toward immigrants

影山純二

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Parochial altruism, i.e., in-group love and out-group hostility, relates to well-being. For example, our measure of national parochialism negatively correlates with national average happiness among European countries ($N = 34$, $r = -.363$, 95%CI [-.624, -.028]). However, no study has scrutinized this relationship. This is at least partially due to the lack of appropriate data for measuring parochialism. To fill this gap, the present study develops a measure of national parochialism using questionnaire items in the World and European Integrated Values Survey (WVS/EVS) and assesses the relevance and applicability of our measure.

For this purpose, we use the questionnaire items “the emotional closeness to the country” and “the closeness to the world.” Using these two variables, we calculate how much respondents put an emotional premium on the country over the world, which is equivalent to the perceived social discount rate for the world relative to the country.

Applying this measure, we obtain the following results. First, our measure of national parochialism is consistent with those obtained in previous experimental studies. In particular, the results show that the cross-country variations in our measure correlates with the ones obtained in Romano et al. (2021) ($N = 36$, $r = .411$, 95%CI [.096, .652]). This demonstrates the relevance of our measures and allows us to quantify national parochialism in the WVS/EVS data set.

Second, we regress national parochialism on socioeconomic and demographic factors and find that age, education level, and parents' education levels have significant impacts on national parochialism. Individuals who are older, less educated, and have parents without college-level education are more parochial. On the other hand, sex, which is found significant in previous studies, has no impact on national parochialism.

Third, we apply our measure of national parochialism to explain the attitudes toward immigrants and find that national parochialism, controlling for socioeconomic and demographic factors, has a significant impact on the attitudes toward immigrants. As expected, parochial people are less open to immigrants. This indicates that, in countries with strong national parochialism, the ongoing globalization has ambivalent effects on the subjective well-being of native people. In such cases, taming parochialism would become a key policy target.

References

Romano, A., Sutter, M., Liu, J. H., & Balliet, D. (2021). Political ideology, cooperation and national parochialism across 42 nations. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London. Series B, Biological Sciences*, 376(1822).