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LABOUR MIGRATION INFLUENCE ON THE FUTURE FAMILY LIFE OF LABOUR MIGRANTS' CHILDREN

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Abstract. In the article peculiarities of ideas about future family life of children from labor migrants' families are studied and analyzed in comparison with ideas of children from complete functional families and orphan children. It is noted that the reason for differences in family ideas is the influence of family deprivation. The author emphasizes the differences of ideas about the future family life of children from labor migrants' families (functionally incomplete families) in which parents work abroad for a long time from the ideas of orphan children. The children aged 13-14 took part in the research. The survey was conducted in different regions of Ukraine. It is assumed, that children deprived of parental guardianship will have the lowest level of formation of future family ideas. Consequently children of labor migrants, who suffer from parents' absence less than orphan children, will take average positions between children from complete families and orphan children. The comparative characteristic of groups of teenagers was provided by the results of the research.

Keywords: labor migrants' children, concept of the future family, family deprivation, dysfunction of a parental family.

1. INTRODUCTION

Issues of migration have many aspects that influence both the society in general and the lives of individuals. Taking into account that about seven million Ukrainians work abroad, the magnitude of this phenomenon becomes clear. In our opinion the most vulnerable in this situation are children from labor migrants' families (it should be noted that only 5% of the employees have no children). Children from labor migrants' families remain without one or even both parents for a long time. Formally a family exists, but its educational and social potential is significantly weakened by the absence of parents.

Analysis of the recent researches. The research of the family and its impact on the identity of the child has been considered by domestic and foreign authors. Particularities of ideas of an individual about his future family depending on a type of a parental family were highlighted in the works by L. Argenton (2007), A. Berezhnaya (2007), O. Budnyk (2018), N. Mushkevich (2002), H. Mykhailyshyn (2018) and others [2; 3; 9; 10]. The impact of temporary absence of parents on the personality of the child were studied by N. Abdyukova (2000), G. Catholic (2006), N. Kubyak (2010), and others [1; 6; 8]. In particular the following aspects were investigated: characteristics of self-concept, psychological features of socialization of children in conditions of family deprivation, impact of family deprivation on

the personality of the child, including sex and gender identity, emotional sphere and behavior, as well – as features of socio-pedagogical and psychological work with children from distant families and methods of psychological help to functionally incomplete families.

At the same time an important aspect of psychic life of a child, who lives in a distant functionally incomplete family, remains uncovered, namely peculiarities of concept of the future family life. Absence of one or both parents is a deprivational situation in which children get. One of the consequences of absence of parents is a deformation and delay of development of concept of the future family. Underdevelopment of the family concept means the lack of psychological readiness to create a family. Thus, it will lead to many negative consequences in marital and parent – child relationship in the future and it is quite reasonable from a scientific point of view to consider possible problems in the future family life in the context of family deprivation. This hypothesis is supported by the studies of the effect of family deprivation in orphanages. Classic researches of the effect of family deprivation on personalities of children who are deprived of parental care by J. Bolby, D. Vinnicotte, I. Langmeyer, Z. Matejcek, V. Mukhina, G. Prikhozhan, N. Tolstykh, A. Freud, I. Furmanov, R. Shpitz, and works of contemporary scientists by J. Goshovsky, O. Kikinedzhi and others [5; 7] explain difficulties and instability of families formed by orphans by the influence of family deprivation.

2. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The purpose of the research is to define peculiarities of ideas about the future family of teenagers whose parents work abroad. *The object* of the research is ideas of a personality about future family life. *The subject* of the research is peculiarities of ideas about the future family life of labor migrants' children. The hypothesis of the research is that family concept of children from labor migrants' families differs from that of children from complete functional families and ideas of children deprived of parental guardianship because the factor of family deprivation affects them episodically. Children who grow up outside the family feel the impact of family deprivation most predictably. Unlike orphans, children from complete functional families are the category, which is outside the sphere of the influence of family deprivation. In other words, between the two poles there are children from labor migrants' families. At first, on formally complete but dysfunctional distant labor migrants' families deprivation begins to affect because of physical absence of parents, but gradually their members accumulate a lot of psychological problems, which are still unsolved for years and become a precondition for the loss of personal mutual understanding that deepens a negative effect of family deprivation. The unique situation of these families is underlined by the influence of not constant but, in most cases, episodic and partial (only a mother or a father works abroad) action of deprivation. When developing the program of empirical research of peculiarities of family concept of children from labor migrants' families the next aspects were taken into consideration:

- **Availability of a factor** of family deprivation in one of the samples priory and absence of this factor in another (comparative). Therefore, in addition to the respondents from labor migrants' families, teenagers from complete functional families (in which the factor of family deprivation is absent) also took part as well as children deprived of parental care (the factor of family deprivation influences constantly).

- **Age category** of the respondents is hypersensitive to the impact of family deprivation and is in the period of the family concept development. Taking it into account the optimal age group is adolescents because during the period of adolescence the individual is quite formed to have his own concept of the future family and, at the same time, this age is supersensitive to the lack of parental attention. An important feature of adolescence is a synthesis of ideas about the family, inherent at the preschool and early school age, and their transition to a new quality level. The feeling of adulthood is the main challenge of adolescence, the essence of which is precisely the moral and ethical norms of behavior, including family norms. An adolescent has a high rate of psychological development and a lot of needs are raised which can be satisfied only by socially intense, friendly to him environment.

– **A set of methods** and techniques is adequate to the task of revealing peculiarities of ideas of the individual about the future family life. We used an author questionnaire elaborated to obtain the necessary information to define a possible degree of family deprivation, such as the definition of a family type (complete, incomplete or distant) which of the parents leaves for work, what amount of time parents are absent or present in the native country, with whom the child remains; questionnaires “Preventive satisfaction with marriage” by S. Kovalev, “The measurement of a couple’s settings” by Y. E. Aleshin, a test “Your need in children”; projective methods of a composition-story “My future family” and a drawing “My future family”. While selecting psycho-diagnostic methods, their abilities to cover all aspects of family concepts were taken into account.

The empirical base of the study was the educational institutions: Kozlivska school of I-III stages, Ternopil region; Sokyrnytska school of I-III stages, Khust district of Zacarpathian region, Kherson school №32 of I-III stages and “Educational Complex by T.G Shevchenko of Kherson Region Council”. Into the total sample adolescents of 13-14 years in the number of 194 people get. The study has involved 88 labor migrants’ children, including 48 girls and 40 boys; children from complete families – 63 teenagers, including 38 girls and 25 boys; children without parental care - 43 children, including 25 girls and 18 boys. Thus the study has covered the areas where the phenomenon of migration has a long story, and those in which this phenomenon has emerged recently.

According to the results of the survey it was revealed that:

– firstly, more often a mother goes to work abroad or even both of parents together, that, for obvious reasons, is even a more destructive factor for raising a child than when only a father becomes a labor migrant. In 64 teenagers from labor migrants’ families, a father works abroad, but in a very large part of labor migrants families’, a mother is the labor migrant, or a father and a mother together (10 and 14 families respectively);

– secondly, the term of staying of migrants abroad is large and the time of staying in Ukraine is very short. This rhythm of family life has negative consequences for interacting with a child, understanding is gradually lost, the importance of parents decreases, short meetings can be filled with conflicts and misunderstanding. Typically, the terms of parents’ work the respondents define from two-four to six months.

Analysis of the test results “Preventive satisfaction in marriage” (by Student’s t-criterion) showed statistically significant differences between the averages results of preventive satisfaction with future marriage in the samples of children from complete and distant families (Table 1).

Sample	Average	Standard quadratic deviation (σ)	Student’s t- criterion	Level of significance
Children from migrants’ families	67	13,9	2,31	$P \leq 0,05$
Children from complete families	71,9	11,6		

Tab. 1. Significant differences of test rating by the method of “Preventive satisfaction with marriage” by S. Kovaleva.

There is a statistically significant difference ($t = 2,31$; $L \leq 0,05$) between the average level of preventive satisfaction with marriage of the children from migrants’ families and the children from families where parents work in their native country. Consequently, in comparison with the children from complete functional families, the labor migrants’ children have a significantly lower level of such an important aspect of the future family concept as the desirability of marriage and its positive perception. Also it should be noted the difference in the average quadratic deviation. The adolescents from migrants’ families answered less unanimously, that may indicate about a lower integrity of the future family concept in this category of children. As well, according to the φ -Fisher criterion, there is a

significant difference between the figures of high level of preventive satisfaction with marriage which the labor migrants' children have in comparison with the orphan children (Table 2).

Level of preventive satisfaction in marriage (%)	Children from migrants' families (n = 88)	Orphan children (n = 43)	Fisher Criterion	Level of significant
High level	61,4	44,2	1,86	$P \leq 0,05$

Tab. 2. Significant differences of test rating by the method of "Preventive satisfaction with marriage" by S. Kovaleva.

The data obtained indicate that the migrants' children in comparison with the orphan children perceive their future marriage more positively, that the influence of family deprivation affects the migrants' children imagination less destructive than in the case with the orphan children. The analysis of the results in the research by the method of "Your need in children" made it possible to define the peculiarities of family concepts of the labor migrants' children. The significant difference in the figures, revealed in this method, between the labor migrants' children and two other samples indicate that the children from migrants' families feel uncertainty about their parenting competence. The following table presents the results of a comparative analysis of ideas about future children of the adolescents with different levels of family deprivation (Table 3).

The child born is ...	Labor migrants' children (n= 88)	Children from complete families (n= 63)	Orphan children (n= 43)	Student t-criterion (labor migrants' children and children from complete families)	Student t-criterion (labor migrants' children and orphan children)
	Average				
the heir of all that is good in me	2,84	3,16	3,42	2,323*	3,928**
the ability to show educational abilities	2,91	3,48	3,79	4,089**	2,183*
the most grateful object for investments of all forces	2,86	3,37	3,53	3,451**	4,087**

Tab. 3. Significant difference of test ratings by the method of "Your desire to have children" of the labour migrants' children, the children from complete functional families and the orphan children.

The analysis of the results by the test of "Measurement of the couple's settings" by Y.E Alyoshina indicates the presence of statistically significant difference in the scale figures of this method obtained in the sample of the migrants' children and the children deprived of parental care (Table 4).

* - probability at the level $1 \leq 0,05$
 ** - probability at the level $1 \leq 0,01$

The scale of alternatives between a sense of duty and pleasure			
The sample	Average	Student t-criterion	Level of significance
Children from labor migrants' families (n=88)	2,73	2,41	P ≤0,05
Orphan children (n=43)	2,52		
The scale of positive attitude to people			
Children from labor migrants' families (n=88)	2,41	2,85	P ≤0,05
Orphan children (n=43)	2,69		

Tab. 4. Significant differences by the scale of "Positive attitude to people" and "Alternatives between a sense of duty and pleasure" between the indicators of the labour migrants' children and the orphan children.

Peculiarities of family concepts of the children from labor migrant's families have statistically significant differences in comparison with the orphan children by the scale of "positive attitude to people" ($t = 2,85$; $P \leq 0,01$) and by the scale of "alternatives between a sense of duty and pleasure" ($t = 2,41$; $P \leq 0,05$). The results by the scale of "positive attitude to people" reflect differences in the attitude to the future family, which is the testament of more real adequate ideas about people and human relations of orphan children. This conclusion is indirectly confirmed by the results of the scale of "alternatives between a sense of duty and pleasure" ($t = 2,41$; $P \leq 0,05$). Taking into account that this scale characterizes a component of interactions, it is advisable to assume that children of migrant families will behave unlike orphans, more responsible towards other members of the family and domestic duties. It was also found a statistically significant difference between the figures in the scale of "attitude toward divorce" by the high level ($\varphi = 2,86$; $P \leq 0,01$) and the average level ($\varphi = 2,81$; $P \leq 0,01$) between the samples of the migrants' children and the children from complete functional families that shows quite a harsh negative attitude to divorce of the significant part of adolescents with distant families. It is revealed the dependence between the importance of children in the family and their emotional perception. Taking into account that the role of children in the imagination of children from distant families is not determinative, future families of this category of the respondents may tend to reduce the number of descendants, and the problems related with the children nascence will be considered difficult to solve. Peculiarities of family concepts of the children from labor migrants' families have been also revealed by means of the projective technics. Comparing the obtained results between the samples of children from dysfunctional and functional families for the Student's t-test, it was revealed the statistically significant difference ($t = 1,980$; $P \leq 0,05$) by the average index score of "presence of both parents".

As a rule, in the drawing of labor migrants' children there is a married couple, that indicates the importance of family integrity and the rejection of divorce for this category. The necessary picture of both adult family members demonstrates the lack of parental presence in the family, the desire to have an ability to be with them all the time, not for short periods. If this criterion index of the children from complete families to be considered as the "standard", thus the extremely high result in the sample of the children from labor migrants' families is an indicator of hypersensitivity to the absence of parents. The differences revealed by the analysis of the composition "My future family" in the samples of the children from complete functional and dysfunctional families, point to the importance of children in the perception of the future family of the teenagers from migrants' families ($t = 2,552$; $P \leq 0,05$), but underdevelopment of practical components of interaction in the family (the criterion of "sharing of domestic responsibilities" ($t = 4,026$; $P \leq 0,001$)).

By the results of the comparative analysis the differences were revealed by the indexes of the projective techniques for the children from distant families and the children deprived of parental care

that is manifested in a more clear picture of the future family ("completeness of the picture, large variety of details" ($t = 2,899$; $P \leq 0,01$) and "presence of both parents" ($t = 2,552$; $P \leq 0,05$). The labor migrants' children have higher results by the both indicators. It is pointed the difference in the indexes of the orphan children and labor migrants' children due to the real situation of the last in the family. Emphasizing the importance of both parents for the future family is the result of a traumatic situation in the present time of this category of children. The picture of completeness seems to us as an indicator of a more clear real concept of the future family. The differences by the indicator of "the choice of a spouse not so much by the physical attractiveness, but by the personal characteristics" ($t = 2,749$; $P \leq 0,01$) indicates that the adolescents from labor migrants' families will be guided in choosing a future marriage partner not by his appearance but by the quality of character. The differences by the indicator of "the detailed composition" ($t = 4,548$; $P \leq 0,001$) shows that the labor migrants' children have a better formation and completeness of family ideas and the real vision of the future family image. In the emotional attitude to the family life the difference by the indicators of "having children" ($t = 3,650$; $P \leq 0,001$) shows a more desirability of children in the future family of the respondents from labor migrants' families. In the ideas about cooperation in the future family the differences by the indicators of "the responsible attitude to children" ($t = 2,506$; $P \leq 0,05$), "common vacation" ($t = 3,948$; $P \leq 0,001$), "sharing of domestic responsibilities" ($t = 2,479$; $P \leq 0,05$), "constructive ways of resolving conflicts" ($t = 4,900$; $P \leq 0,001$), show that the children from labor migrants' families, unlike the orphan children behave toward parental duties more responsible, are focused on constructive resolution of possible disputes in the family and they will perform household duties with other family members more often. The observed difference between the indices of average score (5.01 and 4.18 points for the labor migrants' children and orphan children respectively) by the picture method indicates the difference between the family concepts of the children from labor migrants' families and the children who are the pupils of the boarding school as a whole ($t = 2,266$; $P \leq 0,01$). The results indicate that the children from labor migrants' families have a better formation of the future family concept in comparison with the children, deprived of parental guardianship.

3. CONCLUSIONS

The comparative analysis of the empirical research of peculiarities of ideas about future family life of labor migrants' children and family ideas of children from complete functional families and children deprived of parental guardianship made it possible to detect significant differences. Primarily the differences are related to the perceptions of the future family in general. In comparison with the children from complete functional families, the future family concept of labor migrants' children is infantile, not complete and contradictory in the aspect of the attitude to nascence and childcare. Incongruence of representations is concerned the compulsory availability of the children in the family and, at the same time, the devaluation of their role importance. The attitude to the own future family is determined at the level of preventive satisfaction with the marriage. It was found out that there were contradictions between the desire of early marriage (in other word desirability of marriage) and relatively low preventive satisfaction with it. There is a significant part of labor migrants' children who have a negative attitude to divorces, especially in comparison with the attitude to divorces of children from complete functional families. The respondents from labor migrants' families have a peculiar opinion about education in the aspects of feasibility of investment of their power in the education and care of their children and the uncertainty in their parental potential.

The prospects for the further research are seen in the study of factors that affect the peculiarities of ideas of labor migrants' children about their future family life and development on this basis of psychological support of teenagers in this category.

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У статті обґрунтовано актуальність соціально-педагогічної проблеми виховання дітей із сімей трудових мігрантів. Автором представлено результати вивчення уявлень про майбутнє сімейне життя підлітків із родин трудових мігрантів у порівнянні з уявленнями їхній ровесників із повних функціональних родин, а також дітей, позбавлених батьківського піклування. Обґрунтовано комплекс психодіагностичних методик, які були використані у дослідженні. Охарактеризовано вибірку досліджуваних. Описано найбільш значущі відмінності у сімейних уявленнях респондентів. Доведено, що порівняно з дітьми із повних функціональних родин, образ майбутньої сім'ї у дітей трудових мігрантів інфантильний, нецільний і суперечливий. З'ясовано, що зазначена причина відмінностей у сімейних уявленнях – вплив родинної депривації.

Ключові слова: уявлення про майбутню сім'ю, діти трудових мігрантів, батьківська депривація.