

The Structure of National Identity

—From an ISSP Survey—

ABSTRACT

The three general methods for analyzing the results of questionnaire surveys to measure people's attitude, opinion and behavior are, (1) descriptive analysis, (2) conditional analysis, and (3) structural analysis.

This paper is an interim report on a structural analysis in the experimental stage of an international comparative survey on "National Identity." The survey was carried out in 1995 by the International Social Survey Programme (ISSP), a research group for international comparative surveys.

Based on conceptualization of national identity and a hypothetical diagram, we have tried to analyze the structure of national identity using some techniques of data analysis, namely Factor Analysis, Correlation Matrix, Smallest Space Analysis, and Scale Analysis. From these analyses, we can conclude that the hypothetical diagram was confirmed by ISSP Data.

The reason these techniques were employed is that it is important in the first stage of data analysis to avoid the situation where one "cannot see the forest for the trees." As the overall structure of, and the relationship among, items were grasped in this report, we should point out the need for more detailed analysis with the focus on specific aspects of the data in the future.

Key words : Structural Analysis, Factor Analysis, Smallest Space Analysis