SELF-CONSCIOUSNESS FOR PREDICTING MOTIVATION FOR SOLITUDE

Abstract

Self-consciousness, which refers to the consistent tendency of a person to direct

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attention inward or outward, has long been overlooked in the study of solitude. Given a lot of

time we are free to choose to go solitude by ourselves (we can choose either to be alone or with

others), the likelihood for an individual attending to their "self" should fundamentally affect

their motivation to go solitude. Because of this missing link in the study of solitude, this

research aimed to establish the relationship between self-consciousness and motivation for

solitude. After conducting two studies, this paper confirmed the two constructs are positively

related. In particular, the subscales of self-consciousness, private and public self-consciousness

were also found to be positively related to motivation for solitude. The findings suggested those

people who are more conscious about themselves, are more motivated to go solitude, whereas

in another way round, for people who are more motivated to go solitude because of various

reasons, they usually have a higher consciousness about themselves.

Keywords: Self-consciousness, Solitude, Self-determination Theory, Motivation