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# Adultery understanding as a psychological problem by the representatives of different ethnic groups

Elena Akhmadeeva<sup>a</sup>\*, Svetlana Galyautdinova<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Faculty of Psychology, Bashkir State University, 32, Validy Str., 450076, Ufa, Russia

#### **Abstract**

Ethnopsychological research in the field of marriage and family are important at this stage of the development of marital relationships. The purpose of this study is to research the psychological understanding of the psychological problem of the family, which manifests itself in adultery within different ethnic groups. All couples, the representatives of ethnic groups which we studied, said that adultery as a psychological problem was a harbinger of divorce.

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#### 1. Introduction

Currently relevant is the direction of ethnopsycological research, especially in the field of marriage and family. However, research related to a social phenomenon such as adultery among representatives of different ethnic groups, is extremely small. Ethnicity, by definition, of Russian ethnographer Shirokogorov (2001), is the main form of existence of local groups of mankind, the main feature of which is the unity of origin, customs, language and way of life. According to some authors, the determinant of ethnic differences, is culture. Ethnic culture is a culture which is based on the value of belonging to a particular ethnic group. Sexual behavior is also organized and regulated by sexual culture, which by definition of Kon (2004) means "related to sexuality, sexually - erotic values and appropriate behavior" (p.13). Family - is the main social institution through which society organizes, directs and

\* Elena Akhmadeeva. Tel.: +7-917-341-4402. *E-mail address*: elena-ram@yandex.ru

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controls the natural sexual needs of the people. As the Golod (1998), says, despite of the presence of certain norms of marital fidelity, in some ethnic groups violation of these rules is easily forgiven. And sometimes the very norms of family allow a person to have sexual relations outside of marriage. That is, you can see the difference in norms of sexual relations (p.54). Systematic and episodic extramarital sexual relations, literature collectively called «adultery» is one of the main reasons leading to the destruction of family relationships. In some cases, betrayal is seen as a manifestation of sexual addiction of one of the partners (Galyautdinova & Akhmadeeva, 2013). According to the psychoanalytic approach the internal personal conflict of partners is considered to be a reason in long-term marriage, growing between toning down (permanently or temporarily) sensual desire, on the one hand, and growing over time, tender affection for your partner - on the other. Free sex, the clearest manifestation, which are due, lasting only an hour or overnight, differs from long-term sexual relationship by the absence of affection to the partner and interest in him (Reich, 1945). According to researchers, each person there has his own opinion concerning adultery. A married man can consider his passion for another woman and / or affinity with her not an adultery if he is not close to the woman. There are women who can give full freedom to the men: some of them do not consider to the physical infidelity of their husbands as an adultery; others allow their partners to have a love affair, but only one condition is that they will not know about these infidelities; others declare complete freedom of their husbands in the family in terms of the choice of sexual partners for themselves.

#### 2. Statement of the problem

Thus, each person perceives the phenomenon in his own way. In our opinion, an adultery is an indication of: a) the ending of the marital relationship and the establishment of the fact of marriage failure; b) playing of family scenarios, that is, the transfer of the experience of parents to their own family. At the same time it serves as a way to: a) attraction of the attention of a marriage partner to dissatisfaction with their basic needs; b) preservation of the marital relationship through the implementation of the missing requirements for marriage; c) compensation of inferiority and ego boost (Akhmadeeva, 2012).

Our research is aimed at understanding the study of such psychological problems as adultery of the couples in ethnically homogeneous family for example, representatives of the Russian, Tatar, Bashkir ethnic groups.

#### 3. Method

To achieve this goal a questionnaire by Akhmadeeva "My attitude toward adultery" was used, in which respondents were asked to give a definition of "adultery" and name the reasons for which an adultery takes place. Also, it uses a modified version of the method by Rokeach "Value orientations", which allows to determine the dominant values of couples from a number of terminal and instrumental values.

According to Rokeach terminal values include the belief that the ultimate goal of individual existence is to strive for it. They include values such as active life, life wisdom, health, etc. Instrumental values are beliefs that some way of action or property of the person is preferred in any situation. They include such values as punctuality, good manners, high vital questions, cheerfulness, etc. With the help of a questionnaire by Stolina satisfaction with marriage of couples from different ethnic groups was evinced. We studied 90 couples (the representatives of Tatar, Bashkir and Russian ethnos) aged 28-37 years, with higher education and with children. Matrimonial experience of the subjects ranged from two to ten years.

#### 4. Results of research

The results showed that none of the ethnic groups are entered in the category of completely disfunctional couples. The high level of satisfaction with their marriages defined in 25.3% of Russian families, 27.1% of Tatar families and 24.0% of respondents Bashkir families. The average level of satisfaction with marriage showed 43.5% of Russian families, 34.5% of Tatar families and 39.2% of Bashkir families. As can be seen from the analysis of the results of the investigation, the levels of satisfaction with marriage is distributed fairly evenly. The study of dominant values with the help of the method by Rokeach didn't reveal any pronounced differences in the choice of values among the

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