EFFECT OF IMAGINED CONTACT ON RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN IDEOLOGICAL ATTITUDES, PERCEIVED THREAT, AND PREJUDICE TOWARDS SYRIANS: DUAL PROCESS MODEL PERSPECTIVE

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ABSTRACT

EFFECT OF IMAGINED CONTACT ON RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN IDEOLOGICAL ATTITUDES, PERCEIVED THREAT, AND PREJUDICE TOWARDS SYRIANS: DUAL PROCESS MODEL PERSPECTIVE

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Turkey has hosted millions of Syrians since 2011. Millions of Syrians came to the country in a short time. Hosts in Turkey were not prepared to face with this mass influx. Therefore, hosts generally reflect negative attitudes towards Syrians and this negativeness may result in conflict between these groups. To prevent violence and conflict between these groups, it is important to reveal antecedents of intergroup prejudice in Turkish context. According to Dual Process Model of prejudice, ideological attitudes (Social Dominance Orientation-SDO and Right-Wing Authoritarianism-RWA) predict prejudice through two independent paths. In this study, relationship between CJW (Competitive Jungle World), DWB (Dangerous World Belief), SDO, RWA, threat perception, and prejudice was investigated (Study 1). In Study 1, there were 246 participants. The results indicated that DWB did not predict RWA. However, CJW predicted prejudice through the mediation of SDO and realistic threat. Moreover, effect of imagined contact on that relationship was tried to

be revealed (Study 2). In Study 2, there were 453 participants. It was found that imagined contact decreased the prejudice depending on the prejudice measure. The results indicated that dual process model of prejudice partially works in Syrians context in Turkey and imagined contact decreases prejudice depending on prejudice measure.

Keywords*:* social dominance orientation, right-wing authoritarianism, threat perception, imagined contact, prejudice

ÖZ

HAYALİ TEMASIN SURİYELİLERE YÖNELİK İDEOLOJİK TUTUMLAR, ALGILANAN TEHDİT VE ÖNYARGI ARASINDAKİ İLİŞKİYE ETKİSİ: İKİLİ SÜREÇ MODELİ

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Türkiye 2011 yılından bu yana milyonlarca Suriyeliye ev sahipliği yapmaktadır. Milyonlarca Suriyeli Türkiye'ye çok kısa sürede girdi. Kısa sürede gerçekleşen bu durum nedeniyle Türkiye'deki vatandaşlar bu kitlesel akınla yüzleşmeye hazır değildi. Bu nedenle, vatandaşlar genellikle geçici koruma altındaki Suriyelilere yönelik olumsuz tutumlar geliştirmiştir ve bu olumsuzluk bu gruplar arasında çatışmalara neden olabilmektedir. Türkiye bağlamında gruplar arası önyargının öncüllerini ortaya çıkarmak, bu gruplar arasındaki şiddeti ve çatışmayı önlemek için önemlidir. İkili süreç önyargı modeline göre, ideolojik tutumlar (sosyal baskınlık yönelimi-SBY ve Sağ kanat yetkecilik-SKY) önyargıyı iki bağımsız yoldan yordamaktadır. Bu çalışmada, RDO (Rekabet dolu orman), TDİ (Tehlikeli dünya inancı), SBY, SKY, tehdit algısı ve önyargı arasındaki ilişki incelenmiştir (Çalışma 1). Birinci çalışmada 246 katılımcının verisi analiz edilmiştir. Sonuçlar, TDİ'nin SKY'yi yordamadığını

göstermektedir. Ancak RDO, SBY ve gerçekçi tehdit aracılığıyla önyargıyı açıklayan değişkenler olmuştur. Ayrıca hayali temasın bu ilişki üzerindeki etkisi ortaya konulmaya çalışılmıştır (Çalışma 2). İkinci çalışmada 453 katılımcı yer almıştır. Hayali temasın önyargı ölçüsüne bağlı olarak önyargıyı azalttığı tespit edilmiştir. Sonuçlar, ikili modelinin Türkiye'deki Suriyeliler bağlamında kısmen çalıştığını ve hayali temasın önyargı ölçüm yöntemine bağlı olarak önyargıyı azaltabildiğini göstermiştir.

Anahtar Kelimeler: sosyal baskınlık yönelimi, sağ kanat yetkecilik, tehdit algısı, hayali temas, önyargı

To those subjected to forced migration

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AMOS	Analysis of A Moment Structures
CFA	Confirmatory Factor Analysis
CJW	Competitive Jungle World Belief
DPM	Dual Process Model
DWB	Dangerous World Belief
EFA	Exploratory Factor Analysis
EU	European Union
ITT	Integrated Threat Theory
PMM	Presidency of Migration Management
RWA	Right-Wing Authoritarianism
SDO	Social Dominance Orientation
SEM	Structural Equation Modeling
SES	Socio-Economic Status
SPSS	Statistical Package for the Social Sciences
UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNHCR	United Nations Refugee Agency
ZEW	The Centre for European Economic Research

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

The number of international migrants is increasing year by year. In 2019, the number of international migrants was more than 272 million (UN DESA, 2019). According to the UN Refugee Agency data (UNHCR, 2019a), 70.8 million people are forced to flee their homes because of conflict, persecution, violence, or human rights violations. Nearly 30 million are internationally displaced (refugees and asylum seekers). The drastic increase in the number of these displaced people occurred between 2012 and 2017, especially because of the conflict in Syria (UNHCR, 2019a). Sixty-five percent of Syrians are under the protection of Turkey (UNHCR, 2019b), with a number of more than 3.710.000 (Presidency of Migration Management -PMM, 2021). However, refugees generally are not welcomed by the nationals, and they may be blamed for economic and social problems in the countries. They would be the targets of hate crimes because of conflicts and increased societal tension (Cagaptay, 2019; ZEW, 2019). Therefore, it is essential to decrease prejudice to improve intergroup relationships between refugees and hosts.

Intergroup prejudice is one of the most studied topics in social psychology. Crandall and Eshleman (2004) defined prejudice as a negative evaluation of a social group or an individual because of the individual's group membership. Immigrants are the groups at risk of prejudice and discrimination (Department of Economic and Social Affairs Social Inclusion, 2018). Turkey hosts the highest number of Syrians, resulting in different intergroup relationships (mostly negative) between hosts and Syrians. Therefore, revealing the underlying factors of prejudice towards Syrians in Turkish society is essential. In addition, revealing the factors that may reduce prejudice is crucial to achieving harmonization in society. Awarding factors reducing prejudice

may help develop appropriate policies and projects. That, in turn, plays an essential role in preventing conflict, inducing cooperation, and eliminating discrimination and racism.

Considering these issues, the current dissertation aims to investigate the role of ideological attitudes (right-wing authoritarianism and social dominance orientation) and perceived threat in understanding prejudice (Study 1), and the role of imagined contact (Study 2) on decreasing the prejudice level of Turkish people towards Syrians. While doing this, we used the framework of the dual process model (Altemeyer, 2004; Pratto et al., 1994; Stephan & Stephan, 1996) and the contact hypothesis (Allport, 1954). While ITT and DPM produced the variables that are used as the antecedents of prejudice towards Syrians in Turkey (Study 1), imagined contact was manipulated to alleviate the pathways to prejudice by reducing the relationship between prejudice and antecedents (Study 2). In literature, there are studies indicating the effect of contact and specifically the effects of extended contact and imagined contact on prejudice (e.g., Banas et al., 2020; Hodson et al., 2009; Lemmer & Wagner, 2015; Pettigrew & Tropp, 2008; Vezzali et al., 2012). I also want to examine the effect of imagined contact on prejudice. Therefore, I expect that imagined contact experience with outgroup members will influence the relationship between ideological attitudes, threat perception, and prejudice towards outgroups. For this purpose, the dual-process model (DPM) of prejudice and components of integrated threat theory are taken as antecedents of prejudice. Additionally, intergroup contact, especially imagined contact, will be taken as moderating factor in reducing prejudice among hosts in Turkey.

1.1. The Dual Process Model and Prejudice

The Dual Process Model of Prejudice developed by Duckitt claims that prejudice toward an outgroup can be explained with a model that consists of two paths. On one path, RWA is the antecedent of prejudice and attitude, and SDO is the antecedent of prejudice and attitude on the other path (Duckitt & Sibley, 2009).

According to Duckitt (2001), both RWA and SDO independently predict generalized prejudice and are related to different personality characteristics. Moreover, they together, account for a greater amount of variance in prejudice. Therefore, DPM was developed as consisting of two paths.

One path of DPM of prejudice rooted from SDO. It is one of the most studied phenomena in social and political psychological literature (Kteily et al., 2012). SDO is defined as an attitudinal orientation determining intergroup relations and reflecting preference related to intergroup relations as equal or hierarchical (Pratto et al., 1994). People high on SDO prefer intergroup hierarchy in society and are more prone to favor hierarchy-enhancing policies and legitimize societal inequalities (Pratto et al., 1994). In addition, people who are more social-dominance oriented evaluate their ingroup more positively than outgroups. That means high SDO results in ingroup bias (Sidanius et al., 2001). Like ingroup attitudes, behaviors and attitudes towards outgroups are also influenced by the social dominance orientation. SDO is related to a willingness to see ingroup better than outgroups and outgroup discrimination. Behaviors like stereotyping, negative attributions towards outgroups, discrimination, and violence against outgroups could be explained by high SDO (Sidanus et al., 2001). Racism, nationalism, ethnocentrism, sexism, militarism, ethnic prejudice, and negative attitudes toward immigration are also correlated with the level of SDO (Christie, 1993; Pratto et al., 1994).

It is now firmly established that SDO significantly predicts prejudice against different outgroups. That prejudice may result from race, ethnicity, gender, or sexual orientation (Sidanius et al., 2000). Group membership also affects the prejudice level. Individuals who are members of the high-status group generally have high SDO and tend to protect their high-status position. To protect the status quo, they have a more discriminative and aggressive attitude towards outgroups (Sidanius et al., 1994).

Similar to SDO, RWA was also significantly and independently correlated with racial and homosexual prejudice (Laythe et al., 2001; Sidanius et al., 1991). Although SDO and RWA were found to be highly related to prejudice, the relationship between these two variables was nonsignificant or weak (Altemeyer, 2004; Pratto et al., 1994). These predict social attitudes from two independent paths. The first path ranges on one end from authoritarianism, social conservatism, or traditionalism which are characteristics of high RWA, to openness, autonomy, liberalism, or personal freedom, which are characteristics of low RWA. Moreover, the other path ranges on one end from economic conservatism,

power, or belief in a hierarchy, characteristics of high SDO, to egalitarianism, humanitarianism, social welfare, or concern characteristics of low SDO (Duckitt, 2001).

SDO and RWA predict prejudice from different directions. The perception of danger precedes RWA, and SDO is preceded by the perception of competition (Duckitt & Sibley, 2007). These ideologies and perceptions result in prejudice in turn. They may result in similar consequences (prejudice in this context), but in a social context in which one of these ideological attitudes would be activated and their triggering factors may change. The dual-process model was widened by adding the socialization process, sociocultural values, and personality characteristics to the two dimensions, including RWA and SDO. High RWA is related to values of social control, security, and conformity rather than autonomy and individual freedom. According to Altemeyer (1996b), people high on RWA evaluate the world as dangerous and threatening. This dangerous and threatening world schema was taught to those individuals during socialization. These individuals are born and socialized in an environment that was taught as threatening. Punitive and strict parenting (rather than permissive and tolerant) makes children develop a dangerous worldview. Therefore, to protect themselves, motivational goals of maintaining social order and security are emerged and activated when people faced with a threatening situation. People who are high on RWA try to protect social order by conforming and obeying authority. Evidence showed that RWA (not SDO) is significantly related to social conformity. They also become more nationalist, ethnocentric, and sexist. Moreover, they develop negative attitudes towards outgroups (Duckitt, 2001).

SDO is another pathway to prejudice. SDO is triggered by the motivational goal of seeking power, superiority, and dominance over others than egalitarian and altruistic behaviors toward others. This kind of motivational goal and ideology of SDO results from a socialization process in which individuals are taught that the world is a competitive jungle. Unaffectionate parenting (rather than affectionate) results in children developing unfeeling and hard personalities related to a competitive worldview. This schema is characterized by a ruthless, amoral struggle for resources (Duckitt, 2001). According to people with high SDO, the world is a competitive jungle, and winning is related to being strong. In contrast, people with low SDO perceive the world as a place of cooperative harmony and give

importance to helping and sharing with other people (Duckitt & Sibley, 2010a). That characteristic is related to SDO (Pratto et al., 1994), which (not RWA) is also found to be correlated with tough-minded personality, which is a consequence of unaffectionate parenting (Duckitt, 2001).

As explained above, although RWA and SDO lead prejudice, their motivations and associated worldviews differ (Duckitt & Sibley, 2010b). The Dual Process Model focuses on these different pathways reaching similar results but being rooted in distinct worldviews and motivational schemas (Sibley & Duckitt, 2009). RWA and SDO more effectively predict prejudice towards different groups because of different motivations. RWA predicts negative attitudes towards groups that are perceived as threatening to societal order and security. In contrast, SDO more efficiently predicts attitudes towards groups that are perceived as threatening to social status. According to the model, threatening groups are classified into three. The first group is characterized as socially threatening but not subordinate (dangerous groups like drug dealers and terrorists). Prejudice towards dangerous groups is related to RWA, not SDO. The second group is characterized as low status and power and socially subordinate groups (derogated groups like immigrants, unemployed, unattractive). Prejudice towards them is related to SDO, not RWA. The third group is characterized as socially threatening and low-status groups (dissident groups such as protestors and feminists). RWA and SDO predict prejudice towards this third category (Duckitt & Sibley, 2007). In other words, the characteristics of the target groups, how the dominant majority perceives them, and context would influence which worldview and ideological attitude will more strongly predict prejudice. For instance, a meta-analysis (Cohrs & Stelzl, 2010) showed that different nations react differently to immigrants in their countries. In countries where immigrants were stereotyped as increasing crime rates and not contributing to the economy (such as Germany and Italy), RWA significantly predicted negative attitudes. That is probably because they were perceived as threatening social order and security. However, SDO significantly predicted negative attitudes in countries with high unemployment rates among immigrants (such as Belgium and Sweden). Hosts could evaluate the unemployment rates of immigrants as economic competition (Balaban, 2013). That showed that social contexts influence which ideology (RWA or SDO) would play a role in forming attitudes towards immigrants.

DPM explains the negative attitude and prejudice towards minorities. For example, vegetarians and vegans are minority groups in many countries. A study showed that a dangerous worldview predicted prejudice towards vegans and vegetarians, and this prediction was mediated by RWA (Judge & Wilson, 2019). Moreover, the worldview of the competitive jungle predicted prejudice towards these minorities, and the prediction was mediated by SDO, too. Researchers interpreted these predictions as participants who had the view that the world is a dangerous place and also had a negative attitude towards vegetarians and vegans (and mediated by RWA) because these minority groups were perceived as threatening to social and cultural norms. Similarly, participants who held a competitive jungle worldview also had a negative attitude towards vegetarians and vegans (and mediated by SDO) because vegetarians and vegans were perceived as threatening to the hierarchy (damaging the idea that humans dominate the other animals). These minority groups are perceived as deviant and dissident by a majority in New Zealand (Judge & Wilson, 2019).

DPM was measured to investigate the attitudes towards ethnic minorities in different countries, for instance, New Zealand. In the study, RWA and SDO predicted negative attitudes toward three different ethnic minority groups (Asian, Maori, and Pacific Islanders) listed in the study. Moreover, the participant's generalized anti-immigrant attitude was also predicted by RWA and SDO. However, it was stated that generalized negativity did not mean negativity to all outgroups. That means if people had a negative attitude towards an outgroup because they thought that the outgroup was dangerous to social order, they had a negative attitude towards other outgroups about which they thought outgroups were dangerous rather than threatening to power status. Similarly, if people had a negative attitude towards an outgroup because they thought that the group threatened their ingroup's group dominance, they had a negative attitude towards other groups about which they thought other groups were threatening their ingroup's high status rather than dangerous to the ingroup norms (Duckitt & Sibley, 2007).

Duckitt and Sibley (2010b) experimentally manipulated prejudice towards different hypothetical immigrant groups to reveal the predictive power of ideological attitudes of SDO and RWA from distinct directions. A hypothetical immigrant group named Sandrians

was presented to participants under different conditions. When the group was presented as economically competitive, both SDO and RWA predicted opposition towards them. Nevertheless, RWA predicted opposition towards the immigrant group, which is described as deviant that perceived as threatening to social order, whereas SDO did not. Moreover, SDO predicted opposition towards the immigrant group, demonstrating socio-economically disadvantaged. A different study (Thomsen et al., 2008) showed that the dual-process model of prejudice revealed that aggression towards immigrants was predicted by RWA, not SDO, when the immigrants would not assimilate. That could be interpreted as immigrants who would not assimilate having the potential to damage collective security and social cohesion. On the other hand, it was also found that aggression towards immigrants was predicted by SDO, not RWA when the immigrants would assimilate. That could also be interpreted as immigrants who would assimilate having the potential to disturb boundaries between the group and damage the powerful status of the superior group. Consistent with these findings, SDO and RWA would predict the prejudice towards Syrians in Turkey in different ways. It is, therefore, reasonable to apply the DPM model in this context. In the current dissertation, it was hypothesized that RWA and SDO will predict prejudice towards Syrians from different paths independently, dangerous world belief would predict prejudice indirectly through the mediation of RWA and competitive jungle world belief would predict prejudice indirectly through the mediation of SDO and realistic threat.

As mentioned above, prejudice may be explained by two independent ideologies; RWA and SDO. In addition, it was also mentioned that these two ideologies were preceded by two different beliefs of "a dangerous world" or "a competitive jungle" respectively. The literature showed that which worldview and ideology would be salient and activated was dependent on the social context. Because of worldviews and ideological attitudes and social context, individuals may perceive a threat from an outgroup, and in turn, their prejudice level may increase. Therefore, it is expected that the effects of ideologies on prejudice will be mediated by threat perception. Therefore, the integrated threat theory (Stephan & Stephan, 1996) and its relation with DPM will be reviewed next.

1.2. Integrated Threat Theory and DPM

Integrated Threat Theory (ITT) was developed by Stephan and Stephan (1996), and the theory claims that prejudice towards outgroups is related to threat perception triggered by the target group. The theory consists of four components (Stephan & Stephan, 2000). The first component is realistic threat, defined as the perception of a threat to in group's power, economy, existence, well-being, and resources. The second component is symbolic threat, defined as the perception of threat to an ingroup's norms, values, and beliefs. In other words, a symbolic threat is perceived threat to the way of life of the ingroup. People may think that outgroups would disturb their culture, so they may have prejudice toward that outgroups. The third component is intergroup anxiety, which is discomfort when contacting an outgroup member. The last component is negative stereotypes about outgroups (Stephan & Stephan, 1996). The theory was reduced, and this last version included two components (symbolic threat and realistic threat) (Stephan & Renfro, 2002) because studies related to ITT showed that negative stereotypes (Stephan et al., 2002) and intergroup anxiety (Stephan et al., 2009) are not independent predictors of prejudice.

Many studies showed the separate relationship between ideological attitudes (SDO and RWA) and threat perceptions (symbolic and realistic) (e.g., Caridati et al., 2016; Charles-Toussaint & Crowson, 2010; Rios, 2013; Russo et al., 2014). RWA, which is related to prejudice towards outgroups perceived as a threat to culture and social norms, was found to be more related to the symbolic threat described as the perception of a threat to an ingroup's norms, values, and beliefs. In addition, the relationship between RWA and prejudice towards outgroups was mediated by symbolic threat perception (Caridati et al., 2016; Rios, 2013; Russo et al., 2014). In the study, Charles-Toussaint, and Crowson (2010) found that in the U.S., symbolic threat (and to some extent realistic threat) mediated the relationship between RWA and prejudice towards international students. Likewise, SDO, which is related to prejudice towards outgroups that are perceived as a threat to social hierarchy, power, and status of ingroup, was found to be more related to the realistic threat that is described as the perception of threat to in group's power, economy, existence, well-being, and resources (Caricati et al., 2017). In addition, the relationship between SDO and prejudice towards outgroups was mediated by realistic threat perception (Morrison &

Ybarra, 2008). Consistent with these findings, a study in Germany found that SDO, mediated through symbolic and realistic threat perceptions, predicted Islamophobia. (Uenal, 2016). It was found that both symbolic and realistic threats mediated the effect of social dominance orientation.

Balaban (2013) studied the relationship between ideological attitudes (SDO and RWA), perceived threat, and prejudice towards Kurds. The results showed that SDO predicted prejudice through general threat perception (consisting of realistic threat items and five symbolic threat items). However, RWA did not significantly predict the prejudice towards Kurds in this context.

Karaoğlu (2015) studied the role of SDO, empathy, and perceived threat in predicting prejudice of Turkish citizens towards Syrian immigrants in Turkey. In that study, the relationship between the negative affect towards Syrians and SDO was found to be mediated by cultural threat (included four loading items of symbolic threat). The relationship between positive affect towards Syrian immigrants and SDO was found to be mediated by general threat perception (general threat includes items of both realistic threat and five items of symbolic threat). Although these studies showed that SDO's effect on prejudice was somehow mediated by threat perception, Yanbolluoğlu's (2018) findings did not replicate these. Yanbolluoğlu (2018) found that SDO's effect was mediated by intergroup anxiety but not threat.

These findings showed that threat perception triggered by the outgroups generally mediate the effects of ideological attitudes. Although the results are not entirely consistent and depend on context and the specific target group in question, the links of RWA to symbolic threat and SDO to realistic threat in predicting prejudice have been shown (Caricati et al., 2017). Hence, I aim to replicate this in the context of prejudice toward Syrians in Turkey. This dissertation examines prejudice towards Syrians in Turkey from the theoretical orientation of DPM and ITT. Hence, the competitive jungle and dangerous world beliefs, and the relevant ideological attitudes of SDO and RWA, along with the separate pathways of symbolic and realistic threat of ITT are explored as antecedents of prejudice. The current dissertation hypothesizes that RWA and SDO will independently predict prejudice from different paths. The relationship between RWA and prejudice will be mediated by symbolic

threat perception, and the relationship between SDO and prejudice will be mediated by realistic threat perception. Moreover, it is also hypothesized that dangerous world belief would predict prejudice indirectly through the mediation of RWA and symbolic threat, and competitive jungle world belief would predict outgroup attitude indirectly through the mediation of SDO and realistic threat. However, in addition to all these, the intergroup contact theory constitutes a theoretical background that cannot be ignored when it comes to prejudice.

Therefore, another aim of this dissertation is to reveal the influence of imagined contact on the relationship between ideological attitudes (RWA and SDO), perceived threat, and prejudice towards Syrians. Therefore, intergroup contact theories especially imagined contact and its relations with ideological attitudes, threat perception, and prejudice, will be explained in the following section.

1.3. Intergroup Contact Theories

One of the most studied social psychological theories that tried to explain intergroup relations and was preferred to explain mechanisms for decreasing prejudice is Intergroup Contact Theory developed by Allport (1954). He claimed that in certain conditions, contact with outgroup members decreases prejudice. According to him:

> Prejudice (unless deeply rooted in the individual's character structure) may be reduced by equal status contact between majority and minority groups in the pursuit of common goals. The effect is greatly enhanced if institutional supports sanction this contact (i.e., by law, custom, or local atmosphere), and provided it is of a sort that leads to the perception of common interests and shared humanity between members of the two groups (p.281).

In a meta-analysis, Pettigrew and Tropp (2008) showed how contact decreases intergroup prejudice. They analyzed 512 studies and found the mediator effects of three commonly studied variables. Knowledge about the outgroup did not affect prejudice level directly, but it mediated the effect of contact on decreased prejudice. The second mediator was anxiety reduction. The contact led to diminishing anxiety levels, and this decreased intergroup prejudice. Finally, a third factor was increased empathy and perspective-taking through contact, which helped decrease prejudice.

Stephan and Stephan (1996) examined the predictors of prejudice toward immigrant groups. They found that the prejudice level of Americans towards immigrants was influenced by the perception of a realistic threat, symbolic threat, and intergroup anxiety. However, intergroup contact decreases intergroup anxiety (Pettigrew & Tropp, 2008) and threat perception (Stephan & Stephan, 2000). People living in environments including high numbers of minority group members reported more threat perception but increased contact experience mediated the effects of high numbers of minority groups in the environment by decreasing threat perception and anxiety level and, in turn, resulted in a lower level of prejudice against immigrants (McLaren, 2003).

The effect of contact on decreasing prejudice has been established through multiple meta-analyses (Banas et al., 2020; Lemmer & Wagner, 2015; Pettigrew & Tropp, 2008). However, although studies showed a negative relation between positive contact experience and prejudice, some experiences may not reduce prejudice. Not every contact experience produces positive results because intergroup contact experience may not be positive. A study showed that positive intergroup relations are more common. However, negative intergroup experiences are more influential in shaping attitudes toward outgroups (Graf et al., 2014). Negative experiences with an outgroup decrease the willingness for future experience with that outgroup. Moreover, negative contacts also affect attitudes toward other outgroups and result in a decreased willingness for future contact with other outgroups, too (Meleady & Forder, 2018). Another limitation of intergroup contact is that high prejudice, anxiety, and threat perceptions may inhibit real contact (Binder et al., 2009; Corrigan, Watson, & Ottati, 2003; Stephan & Stephan, 2000). However, studies revealed that to reduce prejudice, face-to-face relations are not obligated. Indirect contact experiences are also practical in reducing prejudice (Bernardo et al., 2017).

1.4. Extended Contact and Vicarious Contact

The extended contact hypothesis was first proposed by Wright et al. (1997). In that study, it was claimed that knowing an ingroup member has positive close interaction with an outgroup member may decrease prejudice towards the outgroup. There is no need to have a direct relationship with an outgroup member. These findings expanded the contact studies by revealing that without direct contact experience, prejudice could also be diminished

(Turner & Crisp, 2010). Extended contact predicts prejudice level, but individual differences moderate this prediction effect. Extended contact worked better for individuals with high RWA than those with low RWA in decreasing prejudice toward immigrants (Hodson et al., 2009).

Like extended contact, vicarious contact also effectively reduces prejudice without real contact. Wright and his colleagues (1997) suggested that observing an ingroup member had contact with an outgroup member would decrease negative attitude towards the outgroup. Although extended contact requires real interaction between group members, vicarious group contact does not require real contact. Intergroup relations can be observed or be learned of from TV, radio programs, newspapers, films, the internet, and even books (Brown & Paterson, 2016). Vezzali et al. (2012) demonstrated how reading a book affects attitudes towards immigrants. Ninety-six secondary school children in Italy were included in the study. There were three groups. One group of students were asked to read a book including characters from different cultures interacting with individuals having a culture similar to the culture of the participant (vicarious contact condition). The second group read a book that did not include intercultural issues (control condition), and the last group was not asked to read a book (control condition). The results showed that students in vicarious contact condition had a more positive attitude towards immigrants and were more willing to engage in future contact.

1.5. Imagined Contact

Neither direct nor extended or vicarious forms are always readily available. That is especially true when groups are physically or socially separated, or people may not be willing to engage in contact. That makes direct contact impossible. In addition, people would not have an ingroup member who has contact with an outgroup member, or the content of vicarious contact may be harmful, so it would be ineffective in reducing prejudice. In those situations, another indirect contact method (imagined contact) would be more effective because it is easy to create positive attitudes. That method was defined as a "mental simulation of a social interaction with a member or members of an outgroup category" (Crisp & Turner, 2009). Although it is indirect, this contact method includes the 'self' as an imagined form (Dovidio et al., 2011). The imagination process eases the real

encounter by providing individuals a chance to rehearse and plan the actual events. That decreases anxiety and leads to improved real encounters with outgroup members (Marks, 1999). In the literature, studies showed that mental imagery could change perceptions, attitudes, and behaviors. Similarly, imagining contact with an outgroup member prepares individuals for a real contact situation (Crisp & Turner, 2009).

Studies showed that imagination and actual events result in similar emotional and motivational responses (Dadds et al., 1997). Moreover, perception, memory, and imagination activate the same neurological mechanisms in the brain (Kosslyn et al., 2001). Therefore, imagining a situation results in a similar response to experiencing an actual situation. Researchers compared imagined contact with actual contact to evaluate its effectiveness, and found participants' attitudes from both imagined and actual contact conditions improved significantly. In addition, the difference in improvement between the two conditions was not significant. That means imagined contact is also effective in improving attitude (Giacobbe et al., 2013). To be successful in imagined contact requires two conditions. As the first requirement, participants should imagine actively engaging in contact with outgroup members himself/herself. Secondly, one should imagine a positive experience (Crisp & Turner, 2009)

As explained above, implementation of the imagined contact procedure is easy and practical, and it does not require too much time (Stathi & Crisp, 2008) compared to other types of contacts. With little effort, prejudice could be diminished. At this point, it is essential to answer how long that prejudice reduction effect lasts. In a study, Italian students who would soon leave the country for a university exchange program were asked to imagine a relaxed and positive contact situation with a person from the host county. Nearly seven months after the imagination, attitude questionnaires were administered. Improved relations with natives in the host country, decreased anxiety, and increased self-disclosure towards natives were reported by exchange students who were in an imagination (experimental) condition (Vezzali et al., 2015). This study showed the long-lasting effect of imaginary contact. Moreover, different from previous results, which have revealed the imagination effect among the majority, this study also showed that imaginary contact was successful among the minority group.

1.6. Consequences of Imagined Contact

Literature showed that imagined contact decreases prejudice and improves attitudes, intentions, affect, and behavior towards outgroup members (Miles & Crisp, 2014). According to projection theory, people are inclined to see others as similar to themselves (Krueger, 2007). People generally attribute positive traits to ingroup members (Clement & Krueger, 2002). However, Stathi and Crisp (2008) showed that imagined contact increases social projection, and individuals project positive traits to outgroups as well. Moreover, when people evaluate outgroup members as similar to themselves (because of imagined contact and positive projection), they may have increased intention for positive interaction (Eller & Abrams, 2004). Imagined contact creates these positive outcomes by decreasing intergroup anxiety and perceived threat (for a review, see Crisp & Turner, 2009). Another consequence of imagined contact is that positive imagined contact leads to empathizing with the outgroup (Kuchenbrandt et al., 2013). This feeling is critical for enhancing intergroup relations in turn. It was found that empathy related to more motivation to engage in altruistic and prosocial behavior towards outgroups (Batson, 2010).

Imagined contact is a valuable procedure to improve intergroup relations. However, there are important conditions that should be fulfilled to obtain desirable outcomes. Those conditions will be explained in the following section.

1.7. How Does Imagined Contact Work?

It is said that the implementation of imagined contact is easier compared to other contact types. However, it is important to know how imagined contact works to obtain the most effective results. First, imagined contact should be positive and include active interaction (Crisp & Turner, 2009). At this point, it is critical to highlight that imagined contact differs from priming outgroup. It includes interaction with outgroup members and requires focusing on the interaction process rather than the outgroup (Turner et al., 2007).

One factor that improves the effectiveness of imagined contact is incorporating a conversation involving group-related issues rather than individual issues. It was found that when participants imagined conversations with outgroup members about group-related

issues rather than individual issues, they reported more improved attitudes and were more willing to engage in cooperative actions with outgroup members (Pagotto et al., 2012). Therefore, the researchers concluded that outgroup salience is more influential in changing attitudes.

Imagined contact instructions may also improve the effects of contact. In a study, the font of imagination instruction was manipulated. It was found that when the instruction was easy to read, participants showed more positive outgroup attitudes. In contrast, when the instruction was challenging to read, participants' attitudes did not change or even became more negative than the control condition (West & Bruckmüller, 2013). Moreover, related to instructions, it is also revealed that when participants were asked to imagine more detail (e.g., where, when) and close their eyes, they reported increased intentions to engage in future contact as a result of the increased vividness of imagination (Husnu & Crisp, 2010; Husnu & Crisp, 2011). As the detail of imagination increases, the effectiveness of imagined contact on attitude change enhances because details and vividness result in difficulty in false memory and source monitoring. Therefore, participants may not differentiate between imagination and reality, and in turn, they may evaluate an imagined scenario (e.g., a positive encounter with an outgroup member) as real (Frye et al., 2012).

For this dissertation, it is essential to review the relationship between ideological attitudes and imagined contact; therefore, in the following part, findings related to this relation will be mentioned.

1.8. Imagined Contact in Relation to Ideological Attitudes

The most frequently studied ideological predictor of intergroup prejudice is SDO. It also plays an essential role in preventing intergroup contact. People with high SDO are unwilling to engage in contact with outgroup members to protect their group status (Dhont et al., 2014). However, the ideological attitude of SDO is not stable and may be influenced by environmental conditions or intercultural experiences (Pratto et al., 2006). In other words, intergroup contact may alter SDO. Positive intercultural interaction of university students with a roommate from different nations showed decreases in SDO one year later (Laar et al., 2005). This relation may be explained by the fact that positive contact

experiences were characterized by equality and cooperation. Being exposed to cooperation condition, rather than a threatening and competitive context, changes individuals' views of "the world as a competitive jungle (CJW)" (the worldview related to SDO) (Dhont et al., 2014). Intergroup contact has been found to be related to RWA, too. Dhont and Van Hiel (2009) showed that participants who reported more contact experiences with immigrants had fewer RWA scores and more positive attitudes toward them.

Intergroup contact might reduce prejudice towards outgroups. The literature is limited in terms of how individual differences play a role in the effectiveness of intergroup contact. However, there is some evidence related to the moderation effects of SDO and RWA. Each ideological attitude moderates the effects of contact, but they are triggered by different motivations (Asbrock et al., 2012). Individuals with high RWA try to protect social order and have prejudice towards outgroups that are perceived as a threat to stability. However, high SDO individuals are motivated to protect the status quo and hierarchy. Therefore, they are prejudiced toward groups who are perceived as threatening social hierarchies and power status to maintain social dominance (Duckitt, 2001). A few studies investigated contact in relation to RWA and SDO. Asbrock et al. (2012) found the effect of contact on decreased prejudice to be moderated by RWA but not SDO. High RWA individuals perceive outgroups as threatening, and to protect social order, they maintain prejudice and prefer not to contact. However, when they have a chance to engage in positive contact, their threat level decreases, and in turn, they have more positive attitudes (Asbrock et al., 2012). In another recent study, participants were asked to report their contact experiences and completed prejudice, SDO, and RWA scales. The target groups were lesbians and gay men, people with schizophrenia, and Indigenous Australian (dissident, dangerous, and derogated outgroups). The results showed that contact predicted prejudice towards the dangerous group in individuals with a low level of both SDO and RWA. The researchers suggested that moderating roles of ideological attitudes in a contact-prejudice relationship was influenced by the threat perceived by the target group (Maunder et al., 2019). In the current study, when examining the effect of contact in the context of DPM and ITT, I would like to reveal whether imaginary contact affects the relationship between different threat perceptions and prejudice differently.

The studies that examined the moderating roles of SDO and RWA on contact-prejudice relationships typically worked with actual direct contact rather than imagined contact ("How often do you have any personal contact with foreigners living in your neighborhood?", "How often do you have personal contact with foreigners at your workplace?"," How many of your friends and close acquaintances are foreigners?) (Asbrock et al., 2012). However, in the literature, how imagined contact influences the relationship between ideological attitudes (SDO and RWA) and prejudice and the mediating effect of threat perception were not studied. In the current dissertation, it is expected that the effects of SDO and RWA on prejudice will be moderated by imagined contact. It is crucial to reveal the effect of imagined contact on the relationship between SDO, RWA, and prejudice because the application of imagined contact is more practical compared to direct contact and other forms of indirect contact experiences. Highly prejudiced people may not want to engage in real contact, it may not be possible to come together, or they may not have a chance to engage in real contact because of their living area. With the help of imagined contact, it is possible to decrease prejudice against people high on RWA and SDO. This method would be used in schools or focus groups when the real contact is difficult to engage, and in turn, prejudice towards Syrians would be decreased.

1.9. The Present Studies

Turkey is a multi-ethnic country that includes millions of asylum seekers, refugees under temporary protection, or people who live with a residence permit. Hosts in Turkey try to live together with more than 3.710.000 Syrians (DGMM, 2021) and more than 370,000 people under international protection, including nationals from Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, and similar countrie stricken with war and conflict (UNHCR, 2021). As the numbers increase, prejudice against minorities also increases (Semyonov et al., 2004). Because of these huge numbers in Turkey, hosts feel threatened and are seriously prejudiced toward Syrians (as well as other refugees). Turkish people and Syrians encounter, and there may be conflicts between them. Although hosts in Turkey want Syrians to go back to their country and have an expectation that Syrians will return to their own country, there is no certain date about

when Syrians under temporary protection will return to their own country. Therefore, it is essential to decrease prejudice against Syrians and tension hosts and Syrians.

According to Erdoğan and Semerci (2018), Turkish people have a negative attitude toward Syrians. They interviewed 2004 individuals. 71.4% of participants reported that Syrians are taking jobs away from people in Turkey, 67.4% agreed with the statement "Syrians are raising crime rates in Turkey" and 66.4% agreed with the statement "Moral values and traditions in Turkey are in danger because of the increasing Syrian population". Turkish people are also concerned that they may lose their job because Syrians offer a cheaper labor force (Erdoğan, 2014). Moreover, Turkish citizens think that Syrians are a burden on the national budget, damage the labor market, and increase rent prices (Kirişci, 2014). It can be said that Syrians in Turkey are perceived as dissidents because they are considered low-status, competing for jobs, and a threat to social norms.

In their examination of how prejudice towards Syrians may be reduced, one study showed more support, donations, and acceptance after a common ingroup (religious) frame (Lazarev & Sharma, 2015). Prejudice towards Syrians among Turkish samples was also decreased with imagined contact. 201 participants were asked to imagine a contact situation with a Syrian, and willingness to engage in contact in the future was measured. After imagination tasks, participants reported less prejudice and increased willingness to interact with Syrians (Yurtbakan, 2019).

Because of a limited number of job opportunities, economic concerns, and perception of cultural and security threats, tension, hate, and conflict between the local people and Syrians rises (BBC, 2021; Erdoğan & Semerci, 2018). To prevent conflicts and build harmony in society, that is essential to manage the situation appropriately in both social and political respects. Intervention programs that are developed considering related studies may improve prejudice, reduce negative attitudes, and prevent societal conflicts. This study contributes to individual differences (ideological attitudes and threat perception) in prejudice. Moreover, there will be a contribution related to the content of imagination. Differences in the content of the imagination between the groups should be studied in more detail. Considering possible differences in imagination content because of similar instruction may show that individuals may benefit from different interventions. That may

be helpful in improving the effectiveness of imagined contact interventions on prejudice reduction. Moreover, this result may explain why some studies could not find the effect of imagined contact on prejudice reduction. (Dermody et al., 2013; Lai et al., 2014; McDonald et al., 2014). In addition, these results may contribute to imagined contact studies in the future.

As explained above, prejudice is predicted from two paths that are influenced by different worldviews. One path was determined by the worldview of a dangerous world that was mediated by the ideological attitude of RWA. Similarly, the other path was determined by the worldview of competitive jungle that was mediated by the ideological attitude of SDO. This model (DPM) explains the roots of prejudice. Although many studies examine prejudice in Turkish social psychology literature, only a few used the DPM as a theoretical model. To the best of my knowledge, no study has combined this model with threat perceptions and intergroup contact (e.g., Balaban, 2013; Birdir et al., 2022; Sayılan et al., 2019). In a current study, the effect of intergroup contact was examined in the Syrian context in Turkey. In that study, it was found that group identification and content of contact (similarity-focused and difference focused) influence the advantaged group member's support for policies that reduce inequality (Çoksan, 2021). That study showed the effects of contact and identification level. However, it is not clear the effects of imagined contact on the relationship between ideological attitudes, threat perception, and prejudice in the Syrian context. Therefore, one of the current dissertation aims is to examine the power of DPM of prejudice toward Syrians. This aim will be tested in Study 1. In this study, the effect of predictors of prejudice are worldviews of 'world is a dangerous place' and 'world is a competitive jungle', ideological attitudes of RWA and SDO, and perceived threat (symbolic and realistic) on prejudice will be tested. The second aim of this study is to investigate the role of imagined contact on DPM. Depending on this aim, Study 2 was conducted to reveal whether imagined contact changes the relationship between ideological attitudes (RWA and SDO) and prejudice towards Syrians, whether this relationship will be mediated by threat perception towards Syrians and whether the content of the image will be different depending on the imagined group. In the study, half of the participants will be asked to imagine a contact experience with a Syrian. Then related scales will be applied to all participants. It is expected that participants of the experimental condition will report a

decreased level of threat perception and prejudice compared to the control group, and imagined contact will moderate the effects of ideological attitudes.

CHAPTER 2

STUDY 1: THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN IDEOLOGICAL ATTITUDES, THREAT PERCEPTION AND PREJUDICE

The aim of Study 1 is to establish the DPM of Prejudice in the context of Syrians in Turkey. This study was conducted to reveal whether the DPM of prejudice could explain prejudice towards Syrians in Turkey and whether threat perception mediates the relationships between the variables in the model.

A meta-analysis revealed that prejudice predictive power of SDO and RWA differs across different cultures. RWA more effectively predicts anti-immigrant attitudes in countries where immigrants are perceived as related to increased crime rates and economic burden (threat to social safety and security). In addition, SDO more effectively predicts prejudice towards immigrants in countries where the immigrants are perceived as economically disadvantaged (high immigrant unemployment rate) (Cohrs & Stelzl, 2010).

The relationship between ideological attitudes (SDO and RWA) and different types of threat perception (symbolic threat and realistic threat) was also revealed. RWA, which is related to prejudice towards outgroups that are perceived as a threat to culture and social norms, was found to be more related to the symbolic threat described as the perception of a threat to an ingroup's norms, values, and beliefs. That means the relationship between RWA and prejudice towards outgroups was mediated by symbolic threat perception (Caridati et al., 2017; Rios, 2013; Russo et al., 2014). Moreover, SDO that is related to prejudice towards outgroups that are perceived as a threat to social hierarchy, power, and status of ingroup was found to be more related to the realistic threat that is described as the perception of threat to in group's power,

economy, existence, well-being, and resources (Caricati et al., 2017). That means the relationship between SDO and prejudice towards outgroups was mediated by realistic threat perception (Morrison & Ybarra, 2008).

Balaban (2013) studied the relationship between ideological attitudes (SDO and RWA), perceived threat, and prejudice towards Kurds in Turkey. The results showed that SDO predicted prejudice through general threat perception (consisting of realistic threat items and 5 symbolic threat items). However, RWA did not significantly predict the prejudice towards Kurds in the Turkish context. However, in another study, in Turkey, DPM was tested, and prejudice toward different groups was measured. In that study, immigrants were categorized as derogated, and both RWA and SDO predicted prejudice toward them in Turkish culture (Birdir et al., 2022).

Uysal-Dinçol (2019) studied prejudice toward Syrians and the effects of empathy and threat perceptions in different contexts. Two studies were conducted. In the first study, participants were university students. There were three conditions. Participants read 1-page empathy enhancing text (empathy condition) about Syrians and threat (symbolic and realistic) enhancing text about Syrians (threat condition). The third group did not read a text. Then they were asked to answer a prejudice scale. The results showed that empathy-enhancing text decreased prejudice, but threat-enhancing text increased prejudice significantly. In the second study, participants were from different cities (Hatay, Gaziantep, Şanlıurfa -border cities and İstanbul, İzmir, and Ankara-large cities). Similar to Study 1, participants read the texts and were asked to answer RWA, SDO, and prejudice measurements. The results showed that RWA, but not SDO, significantly predicted the prejudice for the largest cities. However, neither RWA nor SDO significantly predicted the prejudice levels for border cities.

Syrians were seen related to increased rent prices, unemployment, increased crime rates, and damaged moral values and traditions, decreased social security (Erdoğan, 2014; Genç & Özdemirkiran, 2015; Kirişci, 2014) by hosts in Turkey (for detailed information see p.24). It can be said that Syrians in Turkey are perceived as dissidents because they are considered low-status, competing for jobs, and a threat to social norms and culture. In other words, Syrians have been evaluated as threats to values

that aere related to symbolic threat and realistic threat. Because of explained thoughts of Turkish people about Syrians, it can be said that Syrians are perceived as a threat to culture (symbolic threat), economy, and well-being (realistic threat). Therefore, it is expected that both RWA and SDO will predict prejudice towards Syrians, and these predictions will be mediated by threat perception.

Hypothesis 1 (H1): RWA and SDO will independently predict prejudice from different paths.

Hypothesis 1a (H1a): The relationship between RWA and prejudice will be mediated by symbolic threat perception.

Hypothesis 1b (H1b): Realistic threat perception will mediate the relationship between SDO and prejudice.

Hypothesis 2 (H2): Dangerous world belief would predict prejudice indirectly through the mediation of RWA and symbolic threat.

Hypothesis 3 (H3): Competitive jungle world belief would predict outgroup prejudice indirectly through the mediation of SDO and realistic threat.

The hypothesized model is presented in Figure 1.

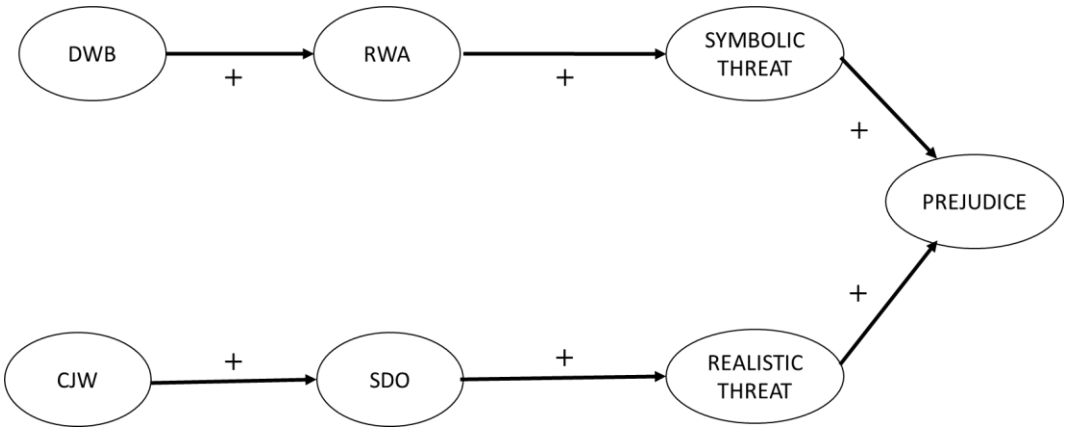
2.1. Method

2.1.1. Participants

Participants of this study were non-immigrant adults who were over 18 years old. Other than this, there was no restriction to being a participant. Participants were reached through the internet. The link of the questionnaires was shared on social media platforms (Facebook groups, Instagram stories, WhatsApp groups, and telegram groups). In Study 1, there were 352 participants. Seventy-seven participants were excluded because they did not respond to more than half of the scales.

Figure 1

Hypohesized Model for Study 1



Nineteen participants were excluded from the analysis because of their careless answers. There were no multivariate outliers. At the end of the data cleaning and exclusion process, analyzes were continued with data from 246 people. The analyzed data were answers of participants consisting of 146 female and 98 male participants. Their ages ranged from 18-65 (M = 28.91, SD = 11.04). When the participants were asked whether they know a person of Syrian origin, 27.6% of the participants answered 'yes' and 72 % of them answered 'no.'Detailed information related to answers to demographic questions was given in Table 1.

2.1.2. Procedure and Measures

In order to test the H1, H2 and H3, participants were informed about the study and asked for their approval for voluntary participation in the study. After their approval, participants were asked to complete questionnaires related to demographic information, DWB, CJW, RWA, SDO, threat, and prejudice sequentially.

2.1.2.1. Demographic Information

These questions were about participants' age, gender, income and education levels, and actual contact experiences. (see Appendix A).

Table 1

Demographic Profile of the Participants

(N = 246)	*Mean*	*SD*	Range
Age	28.91	11.048	18-65
Income	8939.765 (TL)		0-100000
	Frequency (n)		Percent (%)
Gender			
Female	146		59.3
Male	98		39.8
Education level			
None	0		0.0
Primary school	2		0.8
Secondary school	1		0.4
High school	136		55.3
Associate degree-Bachelor degree	82		33.3
Graduate	25		10.2
Level of income			
Low	8		3.3
Low-middle	35		14.2
Middle	134		54.5
Middle-high	64		26.0
High	5		2.0
Education level of mother			
None	18		7.3
Primary school	83		33.7
Secondary school	17		6.9
High school	43		17.5
Associate degree-Bachelor degree	80		32.5
Graduate	5		2,0
Education level of father			
None	1		0.4
Primary school	46		18.7
Secondary school	27		11.0
High school	57		23.2
Associate degree-Bachelor degree	98		38.8
Graduate	17		6.9
Frequency of encountering with Syrians in daily life			
Never	36		14.6
Rarely	100		40.7
Sometimes	71		28.9
Often	39		15.9
Existence of a Syrian acquaintance			
Yes	68		27.6
No	177		72.0

2.1.2.2. Belief in a Dangerous World (DWB) Scale

This scale was developed by Duckitt and his colleagues (Duckitt et al., 2002). It measures participants' beliefs about the world, whether it is a dangerous or safe place. It consists of 10 items rated on a Likert scale from 1 (Strongly Disagree) to 7 (Strongly Agree). An example item would be, "If a person takes a few sensible precautions, nothing bad is likely to happen to him or her; we do not live in a dangerous world." An example of a reversed item would be, "My knowledge and experience tells me that the social world we live in is basically a safe, stable, and secure place in which most people are fundamentally good.". The scale was adapted into Turkish by Sayılan (2018) (see Appendix B), and I used this version of the scale. Scores were computed by taking the mean scores for 10 items (4 of them reversed), and higher scores indicated stronger belief that the world is dangerous. The Cronbach alpha coefficient of internal consistency was .73 in this study.

2.1.2.3. Belief in a Competitive Jungle World (CJW) Scale

This scale was developed by Duckitt and his colleagues (Duckit et al., 2002). It measures participants' beliefs about the world, whether it is a competitive jungle or a cooperative place where people help each other. It consists of 20 items rated on a Likert scale from 1 (Strongly Disagree) to 7 (Strongly Agree). An example item would be, "All in all it is better to be humble and honest than important and dishonest. Honesty is the best policy in all cases." The scale was adapted into Turkish by Sayılan (2018) (see Appendix C), and I used this version of the scale. Scoring high on this measure indicates participants' tendency to believe that the world was a ruthless and competitive jungle. In contrast, low scores are related to participants' tendency to believe that the world was a cooperative and peaceful harmony where individuals helped and cared for one another. Scores were computed by taking the mean scores for 20 items (9 of them reversed), and higher scores indicated a stronger belief that the world is a competitive jungle. The Cronbach alpha coefficient of internal consistency was .84 in this study.

2.1.2.4. Right-Wing Authoritarianism

In order to measure participants' tendency to conform to social norms and authority (levels of right-wing authoritarianism), the Turkish adaptation (Güldü, 2011) of Altemeyer's (1996) Right-Wing Authoritarianism scale was used. An example item would be, "The established authorities generally turn out to be right about things, while the radicals and protestors are usually just "loud mouths" showing off their ignorance." It consists of 22 items rated on a Likert scale from 1 (Strongly Disagree) to 7 (Strongly Agree) (see Appendix D). Scores were computed by taking the mean scores for 22 items (9 of them reversed), and higher scores indicated a stronger belief that the world is dangerous. High scores indicated high RWA beliefs. The Cronbach alpha coefficient of internal consistency was .93 in this study.

2.1.2.5. Social Dominance Orientation

The scale was developed by Pratto et al. (1994) to measure the extent to which participants supported the social hierarchy and inequality in society. It consists of 16 items rated on a Likert scale from 1 (Strongly Disagree) to 7 (Strongly Agree) (see Appendix E) and adapted in Turkish by Akbaş (2010). I used this version of the scale. An example item would be, "We would have fewer problems if we treated different groups more equally." Scores were computed by taking the mean scores for 16 items (8 of them reversed), and higher scores indicate preferring group hierarchy. The Cronbach alpha coefficient of internal consistency was .89 in this study.

2.1.2.6. Threat Scale

In order to measure perceived symbolic and realistic threat scale developed by Demirdağ and Hasta (2017; see Appendix F) was used. It includes 8 items for realistic threat (e.g., "The economic burden caused by the Syrians reduces the welfare level of the people.") and 7 items that measure symbolic threat (e.g., "The culture of the Syrians and ours are not very similar to each other). It consists of 15 items rated on a Likert scale from 1 (Strongly Disagree) to 7 (Strongly Agree). Scores were computed by taking the mean scores for items. Scoring high on this measure indicates participants'

tendency to perceive outgroups as threatening. In this study, the Cronbach alpha coefficient of internal consistency was .97, .93, and .92. for threat scale, realistic threat, and symbolic threat, respectively.

2.1.2.7. Prejudice towards Syrians

Prejudice was measured with the social distance scale developed by Bogardus (1925). This scale was adapted to Turkish by Balaban (2013). There are six items on the scale that measure the extent to which the participants feel comfortable in various degrees of social closeness with target group members. These include relations such as being married to an outgroup member, having a boss from an outgroup member, and being a neighbor. It consists of 5 items rated on a Likert scale from 1 (I would not feel uncomfortable at all) to 7 (I would feel highly uncomfortable). (see Appendix G). Scoring high on this measure indicates participants' preference for distance from the target group. The Cronbach alpha coefficient of internal consistency was .95 in this study.

2.2. Results

2.2.1. Data Cleaning and Analysis Procedure

Data related to demographical questions and reliability analysis of the scales were analyzed using a program named IBM SPSS Statistics 23. Confirmatory factor analysis of scales and structural equation modeling analysis were completed with a program named IBM SPSS Amos 23.

Each item's extreme values were found separately using SPSS BoxPlot analysis (Parke, 2015). Outliers of each item were detected, and each value (191 value was found as outlier) was deleted from the data set. After the deletion of outliers, all missing values were replaced with mean values. In total, 325 values which were 1,5% of all values, were replaced with the mean. After that, before conducting further analysis, normality analysis was performed. Kline (2015) claimed that the value of Skewness between -3 and +3 is acceptable, and the value of Kurtosis between -10 and +10 is also acceptable for the normality assumption. Skewness values of the current

study were between -1.02 and 1.44, indicating acceptable values for normality. In addition, Kurtosis values in the current study were between -1.03 and 2.11, indicating acceptable values for normality. Considering these values, further parametric analyses were conducted.

2.2.2. Identifying Subscales of Threat Scale

The threat scale consisted of 15 items; some were related to realistic threat, and the remaining were related to symbolic threat. Both EFA and CFA were conducted for threat scale to identify the items of subscales of realistic threat and symbolic threat. CFA was employed with AMOS 23, using maximum likelihood for parameter estimation.

An exploratory factor analysis was conducted to reveal the threat scale's factor structure. During the analysis, Maximum likelihood extraction and direct oblimin rotation were used. KMO value showing the sampling adequacy for analysis was found as .94, and Bartlett's test of sphericity was significant ($p < .001$). Those results showed that data is appropriate for factor analysis. According to EFA, eigenvalues and pattern matrix showed that the scale consisted of two factors. Item 11 ("Syrians are disrupting the peace and order of the country by committing crimes such as murder, extortion, and theft.") and 9 ("Syrians make no effort to adapt to Turkey's socio-cultural rules and values.") were removed due to cross loading on both factors. The factor loadings and items may be found in Table 2. Explained variance of 2 factors was found to be 70%.

Following the EFA analysis, a CFA was conducted to test the structural validity. When the fit index values obtained for the measurement model are examined, it can be seen that χ^2/sd, GFI, AGFI, NNFI (TLI), NFI, and CFI values provided good fit (χ^2 (124.733), $p = .00$, $\chi^2/df = 1.949$, GFI = .931, AGFI =.902, NNFI (TLI) = .970, NFI = .950, CFI = .975) and RMSEA provided acceptable fit (RMSEA = .062). The results indicated that the model showed a good fit for the data (see Table 3).

Table 2

Pattern Matrix Table of Threat Scale

	Factors	
	Realistic threat	Symbolic threat
The economic burden caused by the Syrians reduces the welfare level of the people.(14)	.873	
If it continues like this, our country will become Arab one day because of the Syrians. (8)	.845	
Due to the expenditures made on Syrians, adequate social assistance cannot be provided to people in need in Turkey.(3)	.819	
Syrians cause unemployment rates to increase and labor wages to decrease. (1)	.816	
Syrians have the potential to damage the demographic and political balance of the country.(13)	.788	
Syrians cause distruption and decrease in quality of social services such as health, education and transportation.(2)	.783	
Due to the Syrians (for example, Arabic signs and speeches), the image of our country is becoming more like Arab countries day by day.(4)	.752	
Due to the Syrians, the amount of rent and the problem of finding housing for the people are increasing.(6)	.672	
Members of the terrorist organization coming as Syrians pose a great danger to the life safety of the people.(7)	.571	
Syrians are disrupting the peace and order of the country by committing crimes such as murder, extortion, and theft. (11) (removed)	.518	-.356
Syrians make no effort to adapt to Turkey's socio-cultural rules and values. (9)(removed)	.433	-.372
The culture of the Syrians and ours are not very similar to each other.(10)		-.948
Syrians' family values (such as child rearing and marriage) and ours are very different (12)		-.888
The way of life of Syrians and ours are not similar at all. (5)		-.874
It is difficult to reconcile the social and political values that the Syrians believe with the social and political values we believe in.(15)		-.761

Table 3

Calculated Goodness of Fit Indices and Acceptable Goodness of Fit Indices for Threat Scale

	Calculated Goodness of Fit Indices	Good Fit Indices	Acceptable Goodness of Fit Indices
χ^2/sd	1.949	≤3	4-5
GFI	0.931	≥ 0.90	(0.89-0.80)
AGFI	0.902	≥ 0.90	(0.89-0.80)
NFI	0.950	≥ 0.95	(0.94-0.80)
NNFI (TLI)	0.970	≥ 0.95	(0.94-0.80)
CFI	0.975	≥ 0.95	≥ 0.90
RMSEA	0.062	≤ 0.05	(0.06-0.08)

2.2.3. Reliability Test Results of the Scales

Before testing hypotheses with Structural Equation Modeling (SEM), analysis of the full model reliability of the scales was measured. The results showed that all the scales have high internal consistency between items and high-reliability values above .73 (see Table 4).

Table 4

The Results of Reliability Analysis of the Scales

	Number of Items	**Cronbach Alpha**
Belief in a Dangerous World Scale	10	0.732
Belief in a Competitive Jungle World Scale	20	0.848
Right Wing Authoritarianism	22	0.935
Social Dominance Orientation	16	0.891
Threat Scale	13	0.974
Realistic Threat Scale	9	0.931
Symbolic Threat Scale	4	0.922
Social Distance Scale	5	0.951

2.2.4. Correlations between the Variables

Before testing the hypotheses, to understand the relationship between the variables, correlation analyses were conducted. The results showed that the relationships between RWA and symbolic threat (r = .46), symbolic threat, and prejudice (r = .67) were positive and significant. However, the relationship between DWB and RWA was not significant. As expected, the relationship between CJW and SDO (r = .29), realistic threat and SDO (r = .31), and realistic threat and prejudice (r = .68) were positive and significant (see Table 5).

2.2.5. Exploratory Factor Analyses for Scales

As the number of variables increase, so does the measurement error. Measurement error is negatively related to model fit (Matsunaga, 2008). To decrease the number of items and, in turn, decrease the measurement error, item parceling was applied. I used parceling prior to testing the model through SEM. All the scales were subjected to EFA, and parcels were constructed using the factorial algorithm method (Matsunaga, 2008). For instance, if there are 12 items and we need to obtain three parcels, the first parcel consists of the items with the 1st, 6th, 7th, and 12th highest factor loading. The second parcel consists of the items with the 2nd, 5th, 8th, and 11th highest factor loading. The third parcel consists of the items with the 3rd, 4th, 9th, and 10th highest factor loading (Matsunaga, 2008). Parceling was applied to all scales to take placed in the model except for the prejudice scale.

2.2.5.1. Exploratory Factor Analysis and Parceling DWB Scale

An exploratory factor analysis was conducted to reveal the factor structure of the DWB scale. During the analysis, the Maximum likelihood extraction method was used. The scale was fixed to extract one factor. KMO value showing the adequacy of sampling for analysis was found as .81, and Bartlett's test of sphericity was significant (p < .001). The number of item was appropriate for 3 parcels. Based on factor loadings, parcel 1 consisted of items 1, 5, and 8; parcel 2 consisted of items 10, 6, and 4; and finally, parcel 3 consisted of items 7, 2, 3, and 9. Item loadings are presented in Table 6.

Table 5

Correlations between the Variables

Correlations

	Symbolic Threat	Realistic Threat	Prejudice	SDO	RWA	CJB	DWB
Symbolic Threat	1						
Realistic Threat	.738**	1					
Prejudice	.673**	.684**	1				
SDO	.345**	.311**	.410**	1			
RWA	.464**	.377**	.489**	.503**	1		
CJB	.022	.149*	.095	.292**	-,226**	1	
DWB	.062	.149*	.053	-,193**	-0,229	.032	1

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

Note. SDO stands for Social Dominance Orientation, RWA stands for Right Wing Authoritarianism, CJW stands for Belief in a Competitive Jungle World and DWB stands for Belief in a Dangerous World

Table 6

Factor Loadings of Belief in a Dangerous World Scale

	Loading
Although it may appear that things are constantly getting more dangerous and chaotic, it really isn't so. Every era has its problems, and a person's chances of living a safe, untroubled life are better today than ever before.(1)	.677
My knowledge and experience tells me that the social world we live in is basically a dangerous and unpredictable place, in which good, decent and moral people's values and way of life are threatened and disrupted by bad people.(10)	.582
My knowledge and experience tells me that the social world we live in is basically a safe, stable and secure place in which most people are fundamentally good.(7)	.581
Any day now chaos and anarchy could erupt around us. All the signs are pointing to it. (2)	.573
Every day as society become more lawless and bestial, a person's chances of being robbed, assaulted, and even murdered go up and up.(6)	.557
If a person takes a few sensible precautions, nothing bad is likely to happen to him or her; we do not live in a dangerous world. (5)	.549
It seems that every year there are fewer and fewer truly respectable people, and more and more persons with no morals at all who threaten everyone else.(8)	.537
Despite what one hears about "crime in the street," there probably isn't any more now than there ever has been.(4)	.534
There are many dangerous people in our society who will attack someone out of pure meanness, for no reason at all.(3)	.399
The "end" is not near. People who think that earthquakes, wars, and famines mean God might be about to destroy the world are being foolish. (9)	.154

2.2.5.2. Exploratory Factor Analysis and Parceling CJW Scale

To reveal the factor structure of the CJW scale, an exploratory factor analysis was conducted. During the analysis, the Maximum likelihood extraction method was used. The scale was fixed to extract one factor. KMO value showing the adequacy of sampling for analysis was found as .88, and Bartlett's test of sphericity was significant ($p < .001$). The results showed that data is appropriate for factor analysis. The scale consisted of 20 items, and the number of items was appropriate for 4 parcels. Based on factor loadings, parcel 1 consisted of items 1, 6, 11, 17, and 9; parcel 2 consisted of items 5, 14, 16, 1, and 18; parcel 3 consisted of items 3, 8, 7, 2 and 19 and finally, parcel 4 consisted of items 12, 15, 20, 10 and 13. Item loadings are presented in Table 7.

Table 7

Factor Loadings of Belief in a Competitive Jungle World Scale

	Loadings
If it's necessary to be cold blooded and vengeful to reach one's goals, then one should do it. (4)	.728
Life is not governed by the "survival of the fittest." We should let compassion and moral laws be our guide.(5)	.631
If one has power in a situation, one should use it however one has to in order to get one's way.(3)	.614
All in all it is better to be humble and honest than important and dishonest.(12)	.602
There is really no such thing as "right" and "wrong." It all boils down to what you can get away with.(15)	.575
It is much more important in life to have integrity in your dealings with others than to have money and power.(8)	.550
Honesty is the best policy in all cases.(14)	.536
Money, wealth and luxury are what really count in life.(6)	.523
You know that most people are out to "screw" you, so you have to get them first when you get the chance. (11)	.523
Do unto to others as you would have them do unto you, and never do anything unfair to someone else.(16)	.513
It is better to he loved than to be feared. (7)	.511
We can make a society based on unselfish cooperation, sharing and people generously helping each other, and NOT on competition and acquisitiveness.(20)	.504
Charity (i.e., giving somebody something for nothing) is admirable not stupid.(10)	.479
The best way to lead a group under one's supervision is to show them kindness, consideration, and treat them as fellow workers, not as inferiors.(2)	.449
Winning is not the first thing; it's the only thing.(1)	.444
One of the most useful skills a person should develop is how to look someone straight in the eye and lie convincingly.(17)	.416
It's a dog-eat-dog world where you have to be ruthless at times.(9)	.388
Basically, people are objects to be quietly and coolly manipulated for one's own benefit. (18)	.346
One should give others the benefit of the doubt. Most people are trustworthy if you have faith in them. (19)	.266
My knowledge and experience tells me that the social world we live in is basically a competitive "jungle" in which the fittest survive and succeed, in which power, wealth, and winning are everything, and might is right.(13)	.183

2.2.5.3. Exploratory Factor Analysis and Parceling RWA Scale

To reveal the factor structure of the RWA scale, an exploratory factor analysis was conducted. During the analysis, the Maximum likelihood extraction method was used. The scale was fixed to extract one factor. KMO value showing the adequacy of sampling for analysis was found as .94 and Bartlett's test of sphericity was significant ($p < .001$).. Explained variance of the scale was found 46%. The scale consisted of 22 items, the number of items was appropriate for 4 parcels. Based on factor loadings, parcel 1 consisted of items 4, 11, 22, 18 and 9; parcel 2 consisted of items 16, 8, 19, 7 and 13; parcel 3 consisted of items 5, 10, 6, 2, 3 and 14 and finally, parcel 4 consisted of items 21, 12, 1, 17, 15 and 20. Item loadings are presented in Table 8.

2.2.5.4. Exploratory Factor Analysis and Parceling SDO Scale

To reveal the factor structure of the SDO scale, an exploratory factor analysis was conducted. During the analysis, the Maximum likelihood extraction method was used. The scale was fixed to extract one factor. KMO value showing the adequacy of sampling for analysis was found as .91, and Bartlett's test of sphericity was significant ($p < .001$). Explained variance of the scale was found 41%. The scale consisted of 16 items. Based on factor loadings, parcel 1 consisted of items 6, 14, 1, 5, and 4; parcel 2 consisted of items 13, 11, 10, 8, and 2 and finally, parcel 3 consisted of items 12, 9, 7, 16, 3 and 15. Item loadings are presented in Table 9.

2.2.5.5. Exploratory Factor Analysis and Parceling Realistic Threat Scale

To reveal the factor structure of the realistic threat scale, an exploratory factor analysis was conducted. During the analysis, the Maximum likelihood extraction method was used. The scale was fixed to extract one factor. KMO value showing the adequacy of sampling for analysis was found as .93, and Bartlett's test of sphericity was significant ($p < .001$). The results showed that data is appropriate for factor analysis. Explained variance of the scale was found to be 65%. The scale consisted of 9 items, and the number of items was appropriate for 3 parcels. Based on factor loadings, parcel 1

consisted of items 14, 3, and 4; parcel 2 consisted of items 6, 1, and 7; and finally, parcel 3 consisted of items 2, 13, and 8. Item loadings are presented in Table 10.

2.2.5.6. Testing the Model

After parceling the scales, the model estimates were calculated with an appropriate number of parcels for each scale. When the fit index values obtained for the measurement model are examined, it can be seen that χ^2/sd, NNFI (TLI), and CFI RMSEA value provided good fit (χ^2 (504.853), p = .00, χ^2/df = 1.759, NNFI(TLI) = .953, CFI = .959, RMSEA = .056) and GFI, AGFI and NFI provided acceptable fit (GFI = .861, AGFI = .830, NFI = .910). The results indicated that the model showed an acceptable fit to the data (see Table 11). An examination of standardized path coefficients showed that all of the proposed relationships were significant (p < .001) except for the relationship between DWB and RWA, the direct effect of SDO on prejudice, and covariance between DWB and CJW (See Figure 2 for an overview of the results for the model).

For the first path of the model (DWB-RWA-ST-Prejudice), RWA had a positive effect on symbolic threat perception (β = .37, p < .001). Symbolic threat perception positively affected prejudice (β = .22, p < .001). Moreover, the direct effect of RWA on prejudice was significant (β = .19, p < .001). Related to other path consisting of CJW, SDO, realistic threat perception, and prejudice (CJW-SDO-RT-Prejudice), all relations were also significant (p < .001). CJW had a positive effect on SDO (β = .48, p < .001), SDO had a positive effect on realistic threat perception (β = .29, p < .001), and realistic threat perception had a positive effect on prejudice (β = .48, p < .001). Due to the high correlation between these two threat variables, their error terms were allowed to covary, which resulted in a .76 coefficient. Similarly, due to their high correlations, the error terms between SDO and RWA were also estimated, and it revealed a high coefficient of .73.

Table 8

Factor Loadings of Right Wing Authoritarianism Scale

	Loadings
Gays and lesbians are just as healthy and moral as anybody else.(4)	.886
God's laws about abortion, pornography and marriage must be strictly followed before it is too late, and those who break them must be strongly punished (16)	.855
It is always better to trust the judgment of the proper authorities in government and religion than to listen to the noisy rabble-rousers in our society who are trying to create doubt in people's minds.(5)	.806
Homosexuals and feminists should be praised for being brave enough to defy "traditional family values.(21)	.791
The "old-fashioned ways" and the "old-fashioned values" still show the best way to live.(12)	.773
Our country will be destroyed someday if we do not smash the perversions eating away at our moral fiber and traditional beliefs.(10)	.772
There is absolutely nothing wrong with nudist camps.(8)	.769
Everyone should have their own lifestyle, religious beliefs, and sexual preferences, even if it makes them different from everyone else. (11)	.739
This country would work a lot better if certain groups of troublemakers would just shut up and accept their group's traditional place in society.(22)	.726
Our country will be great if we honor the ways of our forefathers, do what the authorities tell us to do, and get rid of the "rotten apples" who are ruining everything.(19)	.721
Atheists and others who have rebelled against the established religions are no doubt every bit as good and virtuous as those who attend church regularly (6)	.681
The established authorities generally turn out to be right about things, while the radicals and protestors are usually just "loud mouths" showing off their ignorance.(1)	.679
There are many radical, immoral people in our country today, who are trying to ruin it for their own godless purposes, whom the authorities should put out of action.(17)	.677
Women should have to promise to obey their husbands when they get married.(2)	.670
The only way our country can get through the crisis ahead is to get back to our traditional values, put some tough leaders in power, and silence the troublemakers spreading bad ideas.(7)	.635
A "woman's place" should be wherever she wants to be. The days when women are submissive to their husbands and social conventions belong strictly in the past.(18)	.628
Our country needs free thinkers who have the courage to defy traditional ways, even if this upsets many people.(9)	.599
You have to admire those who challenged the law and the majority's view by protesting for women's abortion rights, for animal rights, or to abolish school prayer. (13)	.563
Our country desperately needs a mighty leader who will do what has to be done to destroy the radical new ways and sinfulness that are ruining us.(3)	.536
Some of the best people in our country are those who are challenging our government, criticizing religion, and ignoring the "normal way things are supposed to be done". (15)	.493
There is no "ONE right way" to live life; everybody has to create their own way.(20)	.441
What our country really needs is a strong, determined leader who will crush evil, and take us back to our true path.(14)	.283

Table 9

Factor Loadings of Social Dominance Orientation Scale

	Loading
It's probably a good thing that certain groups are at the top and other groups are at the bottom. (6)	.759
Increased social equality. (13)	.736
We should do what we can to equalize conditions for different groups.(12)	.710
It would be good if all groups could be equal.(9)	.702
All groups should be given an equal chance in life.(11)	.698
We would have fewer problems if we treated different groups more equally.(14)	.690
Some groups of people are just more worthy than others.(1)	.664
Group equality should be our ideal.(10)	.647
Inferior groups should stay in their place.(7)	.644
No one group should dominate in society.(16)	.634
Sometimes other groups must be kept in their place.(8)	.576
If certain groups of people stayed in their place, we would have fewer problems.(5)	.571
To get ahead in life, it is sometimes necessary to step on other groups.(4)	.554
In getting what your group wants, it is sometimes necessary to use force against other groups.(2)	.531
Superior groups should dominate inferior groups (3)	.500
We should strive to make incomes more equal. (15)	.452

The results also showed a significant indirect effect of CJW on prejudice via the mediators of SDO and realistic threat (β = .11, 95% CI [.04, .19], p <.05). Similarly, RWA had a significant indirect effect on prejudice via symbolic threat (β = .07, 95% CI [.01, .15], p <.01) and SDO had a significant indirect effect on prejudice via realistic threat (β = .13, 95% CI [.07, .22], p <.001).

The results indicated that the model explained 22% of the variance in SDO, 13% of the variance in symbolic threat, 26% of the variance in realistic threat, and, finally, 76% of the variance in prejudice.

The total effects of CJW, SDO, RWA, realistic threat, and symbolic threat on prejudice were all significant at .05 level (β = .30; β = .43; β = .37; β = .52; β =22 respectively).

Table 10

Factor Loadings of Realistic Threat Scale

	Loadings
The economic burden caused by the Syrians reduces the welfare level of the people.(14)	.906
Due to the Syrians, the amount of rent and the problem of finding housing for the people are increasing.(6)	.812
Syrians cause distruption and decrease in quality of social services such as health, education and transportation.(2)	.810
Syrians have the potential to damage the demographic and political balance of the country.(13)	.810
Syrians cause unemployment rates to increase and labor wages to decrease. (1)	.797
Due to the expenditures made on Syrians, adequate social assistance cannot be provided to people in need in Turkey.(3)	.777
Due to the Syrians (for example, Arabic signs and speeches), the image of our country is becoming more like Arab countries day by day.(4)	.722
Members of the terrorist organization coming as Syrians pose a great danger to the life safety of the people.(7)	.705
If it continues like this, our country will become Arab one day because of the Syrians. (8)	.651

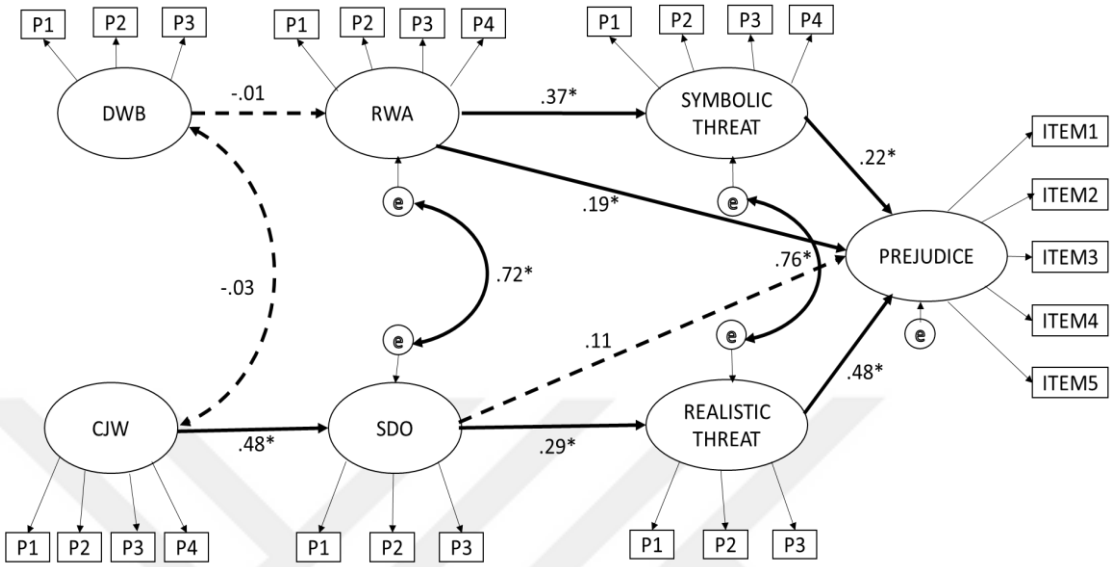
Table 11

Calculated Goodness of Fit Indices and Acceptable Goodness of Fit Indices for Full Model

	Calculated Goodness of Fit Indices	Good Fit Indices	Acceptable Goodness of Fit Indices
χ^2/sd	1.759	≤3	4-5
GFI	.861	≥ 0.90	(0.89-0.80)
AGFI	.830	≥ 0.90	(0.89-0.80)
NFI	.910	≥ 0.95	(0.94-0.80)
NNFI (TLI)	.953	≥ 0.95	(0.94-0.80)
CFI	.959	≥ 0.95	≥ 0.90
RMSEA	.056	≤ 0.05	(0.06-0.08)

Figure 2

SEM of the Full Model



*Note***.** Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) was applied to reveal relationships between variables

2.3. Discussion

Study 1 applied the dual process model of prejudice to the Syrian context in Turkey. This study was conducted to reveal whether the DPM of prejudice could explain prejudice towards Syrians in Turkey and whether threat perception mediates the relationships between the variables in the model. It is expected that the worldviews of DWB would predict prejudice indirectly through the mediation of RWA and symbolic threat, and CJW would predict prejudice indirectly through the mediation of SDO and realistic threat perception.

The results showed that Hypothesis 1 (RWA and SDO will predict prejudice from different paths independently), Hypothesis 1a (Relationship between RWA and prejudice will be mediated by symbolic threat perception), Hypothesis 1b (Relationship between SDO and prejudice will be mediated by realistic threat

perception), and Hypothesis 3 (Competitive jungle world belief would predict outgroup prejudice indirectly through the mediation of SDO and realistic threat) were supported. However, Hypothesis 2 (Dangerous world belief would predict prejudice indirectly through the mediation of RWA and symbolic threat) was not supported.

The results were consistent with the literature; CJW predicted SDO, SDO predicted realistic threat perception, and in turn, realistic threat predicted prejudice toward Syrians. In this study, the results confirmed that people high on CJW were also high on SDO. These participants have taken high scores on the scale consisting of items related to realistic threat like "The economic burden caused by the Syrians reduces the welfare level of the people". These showed that those high on these factors felt competition and perceived threat to their power, status, and economy, and consequently, this predicted their prejudice toward Syrians in Turkey. CJW indirectly predicted prejudice through the mediation of SDO and realistic threat perception. The CJW-SDO-realistic threat path explained more variance in prejudice compared to the DWB-RWA-symbolic threat path. It can be said that hosts in Turkey perceive more threat from Syrians to social status and economy rather than threat to their social norms and culture.

DWB did not predict prejudice via the mediation of RWA and symbolic threat. The results were partially consistent with the literature; RWA predicted symbolic threat perception and symbolic threat predicted prejudice toward Syrians. Moreover, RWA also directly predicted prejudice. In this study, the results confirmed that people who were high on RWA had high scores on the scale of items related to symbolic threat like "The culture of the Syrians and ours are not very similar to each other.". These showed that those high on these factors perceived a threat to their culture, norms, and values. Therefore, they had prejudice toward Syrians in Turkey. However, one result in this study is partially inconsistent with the literature. The relationship between the DWB and RWA was not significant. Prejudice toward Syrians did not relate to the worldview that the "World is a dangerous place". Clifton and Kerry (2022) claimed that the DWB scale overestimates some kind of dangers. Therefore, it fails to differentiate groups with different ideologies. In their study, DWB failed to explain

substantial variance in these conservative ideologies. Therefore, the relationship between ideological attitudes and dangerous world belief may be studied to make more clear the relationships.

CHAPTER 3

STUDY 2: MODERATING EFFECTS OF IMAGINED CONTACT ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN IDEOLOGICAL ATTITUDES, THREAT PERCEPTION, AND PREJUDICE

In the previous study, how the DPM model works in Syrian contexts in Turkey was revealed. In the second study, the effect of imagined contact on this model will be examined. It is expected that imagined contact would decrease the strength of the relationship between ideological attitudes, threat perception, and social distance.

The relationship between social contact and the dual-process model of prejudice was demonstrated in a study. Intergroup contact has the potential to change the SDO level. Positive intercultural interaction of university students with roommates from different nations demonstrated decreased SDO (Laar et al., 2005). Consistent with that, contact with different races reduced prejudice and SDO level (Dhont et al., 2014). Contact experiences were also found related to collective action considering immigrants' rights. Positive contact experiences with EU immigrants resulted in decreased SDO levels and British nationals' support of EU immigrants' rights during the Brexit process (Meleady & Vermue, 2019). Likewise, a recent study revealed the moderation effects of imagined contact on the relationship between SDO and support for multiculturism (Visintin et al., 2019). In that study, results indicated that the negative relationship between SDO and support for multiculturism decreased after imagined contact experiences with an immigrant. In other words, the detrimental effect of ideological attitudes (SDO) on multiculturalism support was decreased among participants who have real contact with immigrants and among participants imagining a positive encounter with an immigrant.

Contact experience also influences RWA and its associated outcomes, similar to those reported with SDO levels. Participants who reported more contact experiences with immigrants had less RWA scores and more positive attitudes toward them (Dhont & Van Hiel, 2009). Contact could change attitudes towards outgroup members among prejudice-prone individuals (individuals with high RWA). The relationship between RWA and prejudice was weakened by positive contact experiences or indirect contact experiences (Hodson et al., 2009). These studies showed that contact with outgroups decreases prejudice, RWA, and SDO levels. In the current study, it is expected that imagined contact would moderate the relationship between ideological attitudes and social distance toward Syrians. This expectation is supported by previous studies, which revealed that the contact experience buffers the effect of antecedents of prejudice. For instance, it was found that participants who live in ethnically diverse neighborhoods had more negative interethnic attitudes. However, this effect was observed only among individuals who did not have interethnic contact. The increased ethnic diversity of the neighborhood did not influence individuals with interethnic contact experience. Therefore, it can be said that contact moderates the negative effect of neighborhood diversity on attitude (Laurance, 2014).

Research on imagined contact scenarios showed that adding friendship potential to the imagination instruction increased trust toward outgroup members. For example, in a study in the Turkish context (Bağcı et al., 2018a), participants were instructed to imagine a scenario in which they meet a Syrian neighbor, make a pleasant conversation with this new neighbor, and after the conversation, you would like to contact with that person again. The same study also showed that after participants were instructed to like that imagined contact experience was related to a decreased negative attitude, increased trust, and reduced perceived threat towards immigrants (Bağcı et al., 2018a).

Imagined contact was also related to decreased intergroup anxiety and improved perceived positive attitudes from outgroup members (Bağcı et al., 2018b). Contact experiences with outgroup members lead to improved empathy and trust. Moreover, individuals more prone to outgroup prejudice reported decreased threat perception and anxiety after contact experiences (Hodson, 2011). I believe that while threat mediates

the association between ideological attitudes and prejudice, imagined contact will moderate these mediated effects.

Related to the effect of contact on antecedents of prejudice, a study that examined extended contact found that those high in authoritarianism benefited the most, especially through decreased threat perception and increased outgroup trust (Dhont & Van Heil, 2011). RWA is an ideological attitude highly related to threat perception (Caridati et al., 2016; Charles-Toussaint & Crowson, 2010; Rios, 2013; Russo et al., 2014).

Extended contact decreases the threat perception (Pettigrew et al., 2007) and decreases the prejudice resulting from RWA by reducing threat perception (Dhont & Van Heil, 2011). The effect of contact changed depending on the RWA level was initially shown by Hodson et al. (2009). They found that the amount of contact was negatively related to the negative attitude towards the target group, especially among individuals with high RWA. Moreover, among individuals with high RWA, the effect of contact on attitude was mediated by an increased perception that homosexuals promote society's values rather than being a threat to society.

In a study related to social norms and prejudice, it was found that contact with outgroup members decreased the strength of the relationship between intolerant social norms and prejudice. That means the predictive power of intolerant social norms on prejudice decreases for individuals with contact experience with outgroup members. In addition, it was also found that threat perception mediated the interaction between social norms and contact experiences on prejudice toward outgroup members (Visintin et al., 2020). Intolerance towards immigrants is related to ideological attitudes. SDO and RWA are two predictors of intolerance towards outgroups (Pratto et al., 1994; Oyamot et al., 2012). Consistent with the literature, I expect imagined contact to decrease SDO and RWA through different pathways, similar to actual and extended contact. In other words, imagined contact would moderate the relationship between ideological attitudes and prejudice.

While previous researches have examined ideological attitudes, threat perception, and intergroup contact as predictors of prejudice, there needs to be more research on their interplay in shaping intergroup relations. Hence, this study aims to shed light on the interaction between these variables. It is expected that imagined contact would decrease the strength of the relationship between ideological attitudes, threat perception, and prejudice toward Syrians. In other words, the link between ideological attitudes and prejudice would be mediated by threat perception. In addition, this mediated relation would be moderated by imagined contact. According to DPM, ideological attitudes result from different motivational goals, and therefore ideological attitudes predict prejudice more depending on how the target group is perceived. The ideological attitude of RWA predicts prejudice towards outgroups perceived as socially threatening. In contrast, prejudice towards outgroups that are perceived as competitive or low in social status is predicted by the ideological attitude of SDO. High RWA individuals perceive outgroups as threatening, and to protect social order, they maintain prejudice and prefer not to contact. However, when they have a chance to engage in positive contact, their threat level decreases, and in turn, they have more positive attitudes. Similarly, high SDO individuals perceive outgroups as threatening, and to protect social hierarchy, they maintain prejudice and prefer not to contact. However, when they have a chance to engage in positive contact, their threat level decreases, and in turn, they have more positive attitudes. (for a detailed explanation, see Asbrock et al., 2012). In Turkey, Syrians are perceived as having low status, competing for jobs, and threatening social norms (Erdoğan, 2014; Kirişçi, 2014). The results of Study 1 were consistent with these findings and confirmed that perception. In addition, the mediation effect of the threat perception was also shown in Study 1. Contact experiences decrease anxiety and threat perception (Hodson, 2011). Contact experience would be expected to moderate the mediated relationship found in Study 1. Imagined contact would buffer the relationship between ideological attitudes (RWA and SDO) and threat perception (symbolic threat and realistic threat); and the relationship between threat perception and prejudice towards Syrians.

Research question: Does imagined contact experience change the relationship between ideological attitudes (RWA and SDO), threat perception (symbolic threat and realistic threat), and prejudice towards Syrians? (for the expected model, see Figure 3).

Hypothesis 4 (H4): Imagined contact will moderate the link between RWA and symbolic threat as well as symbolic threat and prejudice.

Hypothesis 4a (H4a): Imagined contact experience would decrease the strength of the relationship between RWA and symbolic threat perception.

Hypothesis 4b (H4b): Imagined contact experience would decrease the strength of the relationship between symbolic threat perception and prejudice.

Hypothesis 5 (H5): Imagined contact will moderate the link between SDO and realistic threat as well as realistic threat and prejudice.

Hypothesis 5a (H5a): Imagined contact experience would decrease the strength of the relationship between SDO and realistic threat perception.

Hypothesis 5b (H5b): Imagined contact experience would decrease the strength of the relationship between realistic threat perception and prejudice.

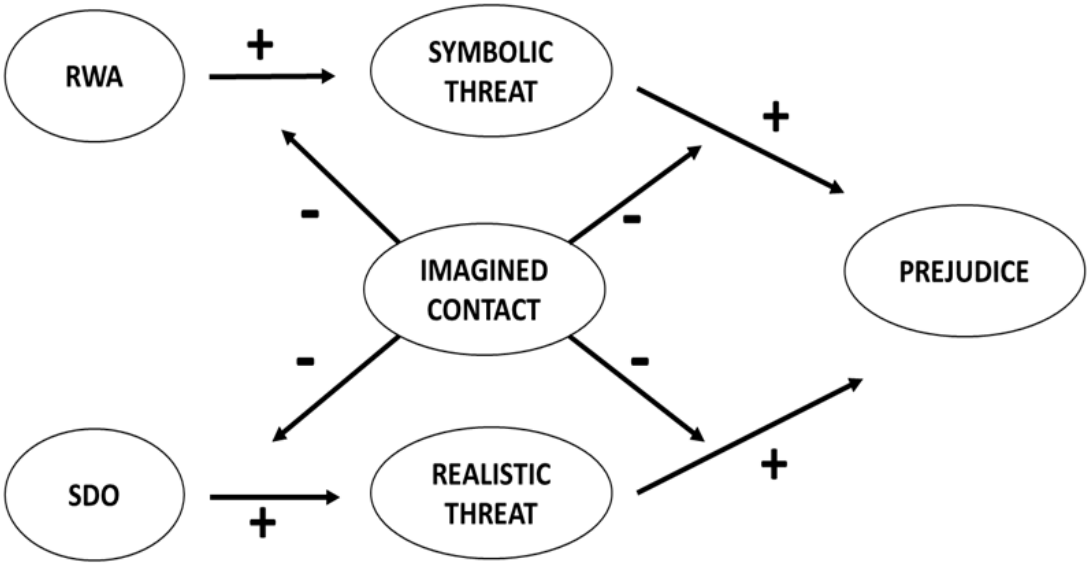
3.1. Method

3.1.1. Participants

The participant selection procedure was the same as in Study 1. Participants of this study were non-immigrant adults who were over 18 years old. Other than this, there was no restriction to being a participant. Participants were reached through the internet. The link of the questionnaires was shared on social media platforms (Facebook groups, Instagram stories, WhatsApp groups, and telegram groups)

Figure 3

Expected Model



Exploratory Research Question: Are there differences between imagined contact contents? (e.g., Differences in social status, contact positivity, etc.) If so, in what ways?

Analyses were started with 675 participants. Four participants were excluded because they did not fill at least three scales (RWA, SDO, Threat Scale). Moreover, 5 participants were removed from the study as they answered the questions carelessly (responding the same, including the reverse coding items). Two more cases were removed due to multivariate outlier status (Mahalanobis distance criteria), and 211 participants were excluded because of incorrect answers to the manipulation check question. The remaining 453 cases were used for testing the models of this study. Their ages ranged between 17 and 69 (M = 35.03, SD = 11.29). One hundred and seventy-four participants were in the control group, and the remaining 279 were in the experimental group. The reason for the differences between the number of participants in the experimental group and the control group was the exclusion of participants. There were 190 females, 261 males, and 1 non-binary participant. (see Table 12).

3.1.2. Procedure and Measures

Participants were informed about the study, and their consent was taken. First, they filled out questions related to demographic information. Then they engaged in the imagined contact task (detailed below), where they were instructed to imagine a one-minute conversation with a stranger (control group) or with a Syrian stranger (experimental group). Approximately half of the participants were randomly assigned to the control condition, and the other half were assigned to the experimental condition. Following the experimental manipulation, some questions asking the participants to detail their imagined contact experiences were given. After these, they sequentially filled out RWA, SDO, threat, and prejudice scales. In order to measure the different aspects of prejudice, the social distance scale and negative outgroup affect scale were used. Items of each scale were asked in randomized order. Then, participants filled out a manipulation check question. Finally, they were thanked and fully debriefed.

3.1.2.1. Demographic Information

These questions asked about participants' age, gender, income and education levels, and actual contact experiences (see Appendix A).

3.1.2.2. Imagination Task

For the control condition, participants were instructed as follows "We would like you to take a minute to imagine that you are asked to engage in a conversation with a stranger."For the positive contact condition, participants were instructed as follows:

"We would like you to take a minute to imagine that you are asked to engage in a conversation with a Syrian stranger. Imagine that the interaction is relaxed, positive, and comfortable." This instruction was adapted from the study conducted by Crisp et al. (2009) and Stathi et al. (2011) (see Appendix H).

Table 12

Demographic Profile of the Participants

(N = 453)	*Mean*		*SD*	Range
Age	35,03		11,29	17-69
Income	13.198 (TL)		10,563	70.000
	Frequency (n)		Percent (%)	
	Experimental	Control	Experimental	Control
Gender				
Female	148	113	53.0	64.0
Male	129	61	46.2	36.0
Education level				
Primary school	2	0	0.7	0
Secondary school	2	1	0.7	0.6
High school	43	31	15.4	17.4
Associate degree-Bachelor degree	160	101	57.3	56.7
Graduate	72	45	25.8	25.3
Level of income				
Low	18	8	6.5	4.5
Low-middle	53	44	19.0	24.7
Middle	125	71	44.8	39.9
Middle-high	72	51	25.8	28.7
High	11	4	3.9	2.2
Education level of mother				
None	42	9	15.1	5.1
Primary school	129	47	46.2	26.4
Secondary school	32	23	11.5	12.9
High school	44	38	15.8	21.3
Associate degree-Bachelor degree	29	50	10.4	28.1
Graduate	2	11	0.7	6.2
Education level of father				
None	4	24	1.4	13.5
Primary school	100	65	35.8	36.5
Secondary school	34	23	12.2	12.9
High school	56	28	20.1	15.7
Associate degree-Bachelor degree	69	33	24.7	18.5
Graduate	14	5	5.0	2.8
Frequency of encountering with Syrians in daily life				
Never	20	10	7.2	5.6
Rarely	80	51	28.7	28.7
Sometimes	104	67	37.3	37.6
Often	75	50	26.9	28.1
Existence of a Syrian acquaintance				
Yes	107	64	38.5	36.0
No	171	114	61.5	64.0

3.1.2.3. Imagination Content

Participants were asked to answer eight open-ended questions related to their imagination. For example, they were asked, "how did you feel during the conversation?" (see Appendix I). The imagination's content was analyzed to reveal whether imagination content changes depending on the imagined person.

3.1.2.4. Right-Wing Authoritarianism Scale

Zakrisson reduced the items of the Right Wing Authoritarianism Scale (20 items), which were previously developed by Altemeyer (1981) and was shortened by Zakrisson (2005) and named as Right-Wing Authoritarianism Short Form. It was adapted by Toy Kaplan (2021). I used this version of the scale. It consists of 12 items rated on a Likert scale from 1 (Strongly Disagree) to 7 (Strongly Agree) (see Appendix J). An example item would be, "Our forefathers ought to be honored more for the way they have built our society, at the same time, we ought to put an end to those forces destroying it." Higher scores indicate stronger right-wing authoritarianism. The Cronbach alpha coefficient of internal consistency was .87 in this study (see Table 13).

3.1.2.5. Social Dominance Orientation Scale

The New Social Dominance Orientation Scale, created by Ho et al. (2015), measures the "dominance" and "opposition to equality" "dimensions of social dominance orientation.". Kaynak, Malatyalı, and Hasta (2021) carried out the Turkish adaptation of the scale. I used this version of the scale. It consists of 16 items rated on a Likert scale from 1 (Strongly Disagree) to 7 (Strongly Agree) (see Appendix K). An example item would be "No matter how much effort it takes, we ought to strive to ensure that all groups have the same chance in life." High scores indicate preferring group hierarchy. The Cronbach alpha coefficient of internal consistency was .82 in this study (see Table 13).

3.1.2.6. Threat Scale

In Study 2, to measure symbolic and realistic threat perception of the participants the same scale used in Study 1 was used (see Appendix F).

3.1.2.7. Social Distance Scale

In Study 2, to measure prejudice of the participants towards Syrians in terms of preference of distance, the same scale used in Study 1 was used (see Appendix G).

3.1.2.8. Negative Out-Group Affect Scale

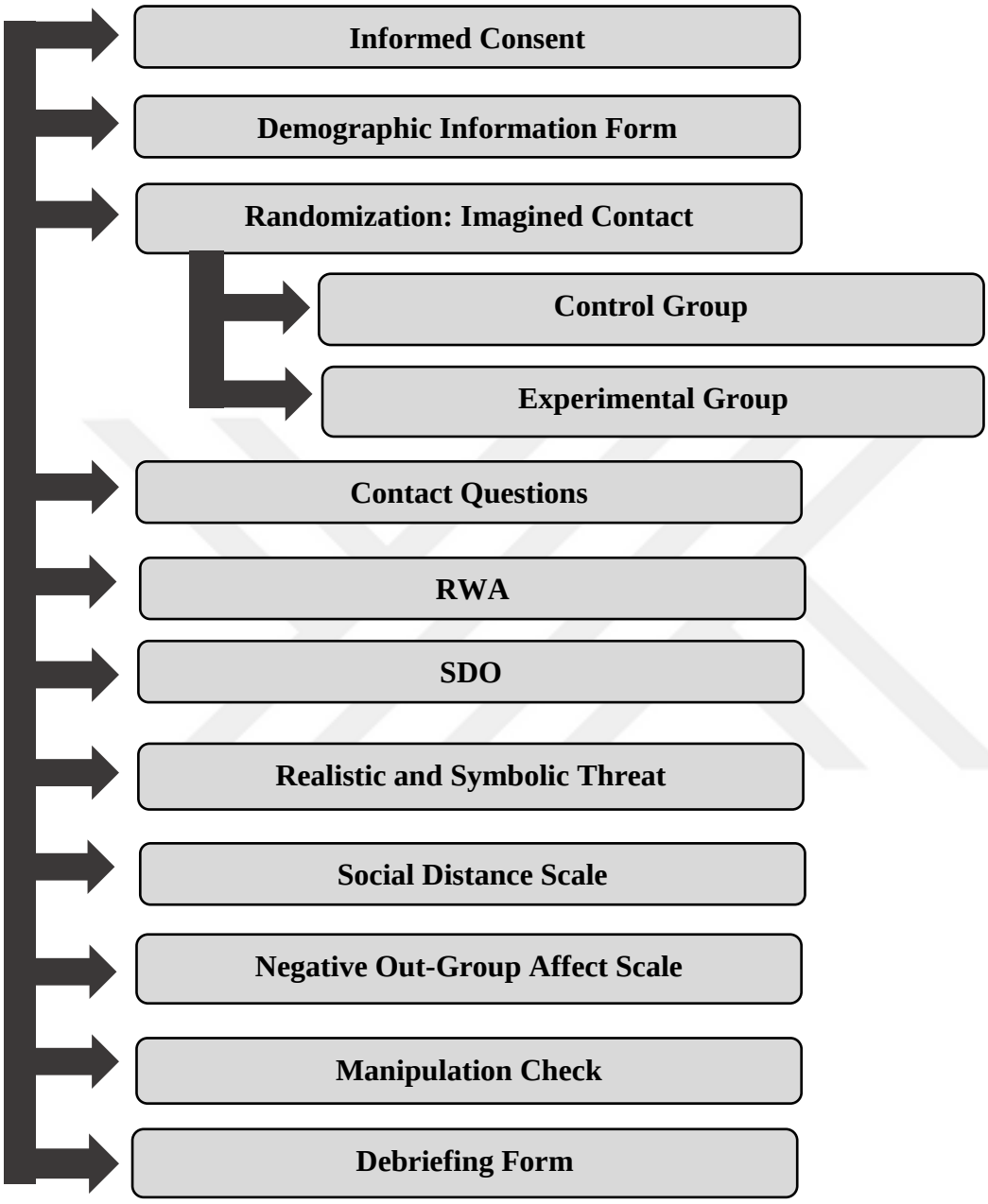
The negative outgroup affect scale developed by Stephan et al. (1998) was used to measure prejudice towards Syrians. The scale was revised by Balaban (2013); I used the revised version of the scale. The scale consists of 12 evaluative or emotional reactions: hostility, admiration, dislike, acceptance, superiority, affection, disdain, approval, hatred, sympathy, rejection, and warmth. Half of the reactions measured negative, and half of them were positive (see Appendix L). Items were rated on a Likert scale from 1 (it does not reflect my feelings towards the outgroup at all) to 5 (it completely reflects my feelings towards the outgroup). High scores on positive reactions indicate positive feelings, and high scores on negative reactions indicate negative feelings towards the outgroup. In this study, the Cronbach alpha coefficient of internal consistency was .87 for the subscale of negative affect and .88 for the subscale of positive affect (see Table 13).

3.1.2.9. Manipulation Check

In order to check whether participants read the instruction related to the imagination task carefully, the manipulation check question, "you are asked to imagine a conversation with a Syrian," was applied at the end of all the measurements. They were asked to select one of the two options, Yes/No. (see Appendix M). Participants who chose "yes" although they were in the control group and participants who chose "no" although they were in the experimental group were excluded (211 participants).

Figure 4

Survey Flow in Qualtrics



3.2. Results

3.2.1. Data Cleaning and Analysis Procedure

Data related to demographical questions, reliability analysis of the scales, t-tests, and relationships between the variables were analyzed by IBM SPSS Statistics 23.

Before further analysis, a missing value analysis was conducted, and it was seen that the missing values did not distribute systematically (EM .103). Sixty values were replaced with the mean. For each item in the study, the percentage of replaced values was below 1.1%

3.2.2. Reliability Test Results of the Scales

Before testing hypotheses with path analyses with SPSS reliability of the scales was measured. The results showed that all the scales have high internal consistency between items and high-reliability values, above .82 (see Table 13).

Table 13

The Results of Reliability Analysis of the Scales

	Number of Items	**Cronbach Alpha**
Right Wing Authoritarianism	12	0.878
Social Dominance Orientation	16	0.827
Threat Scale	14	0.974
Realistic Threat Scale	10	0.945
Symbolic Threat Scale	4	0.917
Social Distance Scale	5	0.945
Negative Out-Group Affect Scale		
Negative Affect	6	0.872
Positive Affect	6	0.889

3.2.3. T-test Results

An independent-samples t-test was conducted to determine whether there is a difference in RWA, SDO, symbolic threat, realistic threat, social distance, negative

affect and positive affect levels between the groups. There was no significant difference for RWA, $t(451) = 1.57$, $p = .11$, despite experimental group ($M = 3.38$, $SD = 1.28$) taking higher scores than control group ($M = 3.20$, $SD = 1.22$). The results indicate a not significant difference in SDO between experimental group ($M = 2.69$, $SD = 1.01$) and control group ($M = 2.70$, $SD = 1.22$), [$t(451) = -.04$, $p = .96 > .05$]. Similarly, there was no significant difference for realistic threat [$t(451) = -1.91$, $p > .05$] and symbolic threat [$t(451) = -1.27$, $p = .20$] between experimental group ($M = 5.00$, $SD = 1.58$; $M = 5.10$, $SD = 1.49$ repectively) and control group ($M = 5.28$, $SD = 1.39$; $M = 5.36$, $SD = 1.35$ respectively). In addition, the results indicate a not significant difference in social distance between experimental group ($M = 3.61$, $SD = 1.78$) and control group ($M = 3.79$, $SD = 1.81$), [$t(451) = -.97$, $p = .32$]. There was another not significant difference in negative affect between experimental group ($M = 2.14$, $SD = .95$) and control group ($M = 2.17$, $SD = .93$), [$t(451) = -.38$, $p = .70$]. The participants who imagined a conversation with a Syrian stranger ($M = 2.60$, $SD = .91$) reported significantly lower positive affect compared to the participants who imagined a conversation with a stranger ($M = 2.27$, $SD = .88$), [$t(451) = 3.80$, $p = .00$] (see Table 14).

3.2.4. Correlations between the Variables

Before testing the hypotheses, to understand the relationship between the variables, correlation analyses were examined. For the experimental group, the results showed that relationship between SDO and symbolic threat ($r = .19$), symbolic threat and SDO ($r = .16$), SDO and social distance ($r = .27$), SDO and negative affect ($r = .30$) were positive and significant. The relationship between SDO and positive affect was negative ($r = -.24$). Moreover, there were positive correlations between realistic threat and symbolic threat ($r = .77$), realistic threat and social distance ($r = .69$), realistic threat and negative affect ($r = .53$), symbolic threat and social distance ($r = .60$), symbolic threat and negative affect ($r = .45$). The relationship between realistic threat and positive affects; symbolic threat and positive affects were negative respectively ($r = -.61$, $r = -.54$) (see Table 15).

Table 14

T-test Results of the Groups

	Experimental Group (*N* = 279)			Control Group (*N* = 174)				
	M	*SD*	Std. Error Mean	*M*	*SD*	Std. Error Mean	*t*(451)	Sig (2-tailed)
RWA	3.38	1.28	.07	3.20	1.22	.09	1.57	.11
SDO	2.69	1.01	.06	2.70	.99	.07	-.04	.96
Symbolic Threat	5.18	1.49	.08	5.36	1.35	.10	-1.27	.20
Realistic Threat	5.00	1.58	.09	5.28	1.39	.10	-1.91	.05
Social Distance	3.61	1.78	.10	3.79	1.81	.13	-.97	.32
Negative Affect	2.14	.95	.05	2.17	.93	.07	-.38	.70
Positive Affect	2.60	.91	.05	2.27	.88	.06	3.80	.00

For the control group, the results showed that relationships between RWA and prejudice (r = .18), RWA and negative affect (r = .15), SDO and social distance (r = .22), SDO and negative affect (r = .26), realistic threat and symbolic threat (r = .66), realistic threat and prejudice (r = .72), realistic threat and negative affect (r = .52), symbolic threat and social distance (r = .60), symbolic threat and negative affect (r = .46) were positive and significant. However, positive affect was negatively correlated with SDO, realistic threat, and symbolic threat (r = -.24; r = -.61; r = -.54 respectively) (see Table 15).

3.2.5. Testing the Models

To test the hypotheses, moderated mediation analyses using the PROCESS Macro version 4.1 Model 58 (Hayes, 2018) with 95% confidence intervals (CIs) and 5000 bootstrapped samples were conducted separately for each measure of prejudice. Hence, three models were tested for social distance, positive affect, and negative affect. The criteria for statistical significance were determined with p values and CIs. The corresponding coefficient value was accepted as statistically significant if a CI did not contain zero. Moreover, the unstandardized coefficients for both direct and indirect effects were reported.

As mentioned above, according to the model, prejudice towards Syrians is predicted through two independent paths. Predictors of the upper-level path consisted of RWA and symbolic threat (see Figure 5). Similarly, predictors of the lower-level path were SDO and realistic threat (see Figure 6). During the analysis, these two independent paths were analyzed separately. That means the relationships between RWA as a predictor, the symbolic threat as a mediator, imagined contact experience as a moderator, and prejudice as the outcome variable (RWA-ST-Prejudice Path) were examined for each prejudice measure (social distance, negative affect, and positive affect). Secondly, the relationships between SDO as a predictor, realistic threat as a mediator, imagined contact experience as a moderator, and prejudice as outcome variable (SDO-RT-Prejudice-Path) were examined for each prejudice measure (social distance, negative affect, and positive affect) separately.

Table 15

Correlations between the Variables for Groups

		Correlations						
Experimental		RWA	SDO	Realistic Threat	Symbolic Threat	Social Distance	Negative Affect	Positive Affect
	RWA	-						
	SDO	.073	-					
	Realistic Threat	.056	.198**	-				
	Symbolic Threat	.078	.167**	.774**	-			
	Social Distance	.100	.276**	.693**	.609**	-		
	Negative Affect	.068	.300**	.534**	.451**	.672**	-	
	Positive Affect	.072	-.240**	-.615**	-.547**	-.597**	-.521**	-
Control								
	RWA	-						
	SDO	.115	-					
	Realistic Threat	-.020	.014	-				
	Symbolic Threat	.083	.000	.664**	-			
	Social Distance	.180*	.223**	.726**	.608**	-		
	Negative Affect	.159*	.267**	.524**	.460**	.659**	-	
	Positive Affect	.000	-.089	-.584**	-.454**	-.533**	-.444**	-

*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Figure 5

RWA-ST-Prejudice Path of the DPM

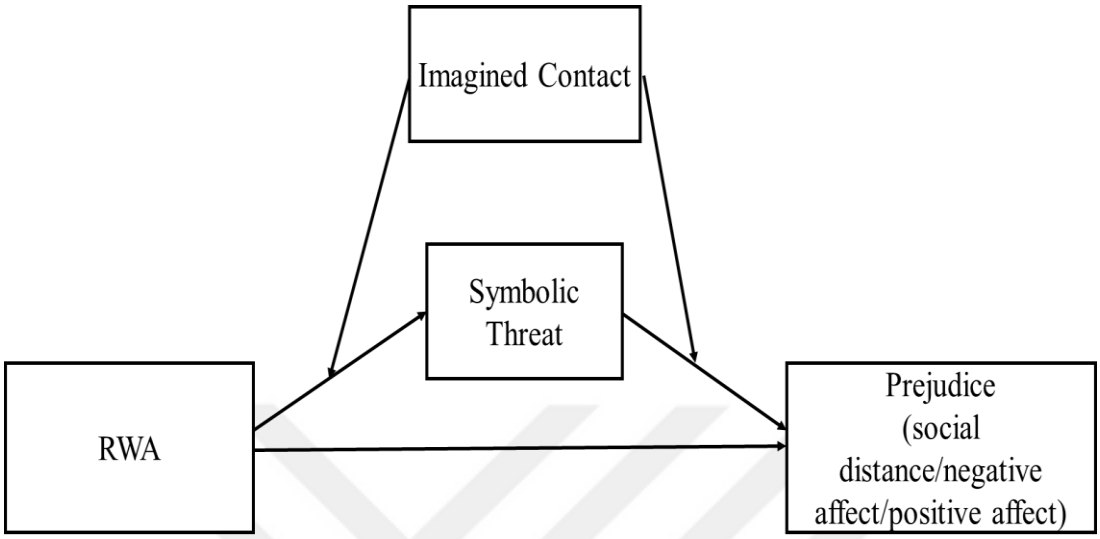
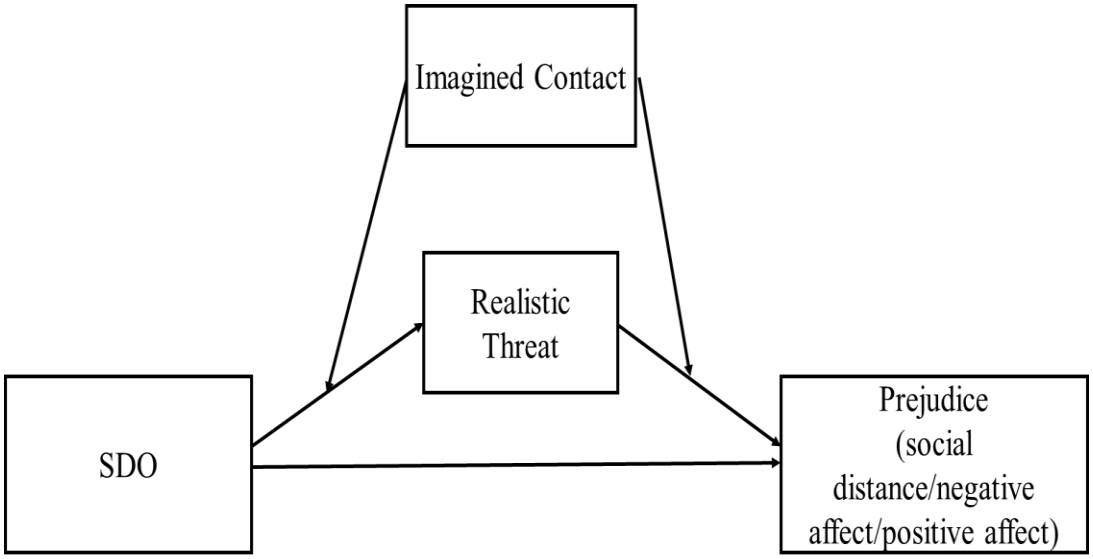


Figure 6

SDO-RT-Prejudice Path of the DPM



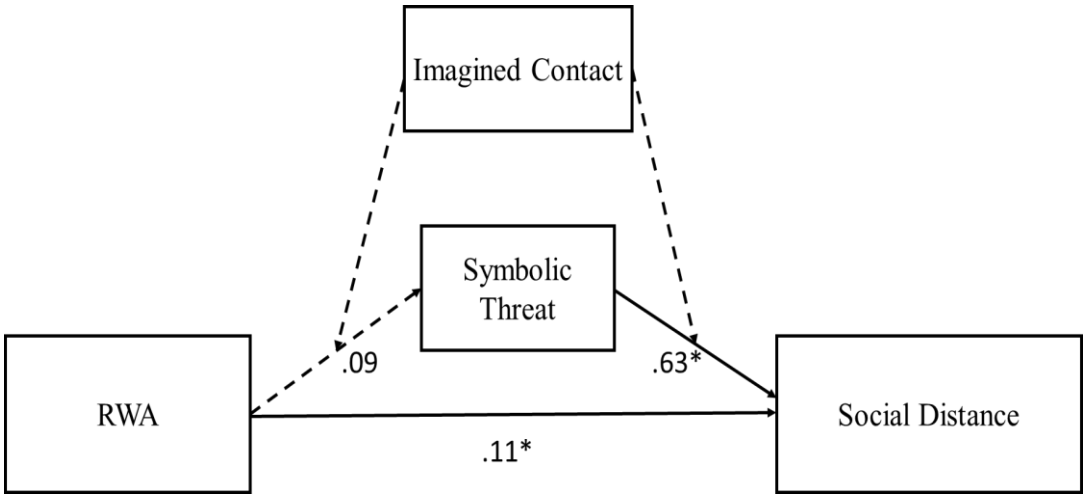
3.2.5.1. The Results for the RWA-ST-Prejudice Path

In the analysis of the RWA-ST-Prejudice path, RWA was the independent variable, the symbolic threat was the mediator variable, imagined contact experience was the moderator variable and prejudice was the outcome variable. The analysis was repeated for each measure of dependent variable social distance, negative affect, and positive affect, respectively.

When prejudice was measured with social distance scale the results indicated that the model explained % 37 variance in prejudice: R^2 = .37, $F(4, 448) = 68.33$, MSE =2.01, $p < .001$. The relationship between RWA and symbolic threat was not significant. The indirect effect of RWA on social distance was not statistically significant. RWA had a small direct effect on the outcome (B = .11, SE = .05, $p < .05$, 95% CI [.0022, .2216]). Moreover, symbolic threat was positively associated with social distance (B = .63, SE = .13, $p < .001$, 95% CI [.3597, .9062]). The results indicated that imagined contact did not moderate the relationship between the variables (see Figure 7).

Figure 7

RWA-ST-Prejudice Path with Social Distance Scale



When the outcome measure was taken as negative affect, the model explained less variance, R^2 = .21, F(4, 448) = 29.97, MSE =.70, p < .001. The relationship between RWA and symbolic threat was not significant. The indirect effect of RWA on negative affect was not statistically significant. RWA did not have direct effect on the outcome. The only significant path was between symbolic threat and negative affect (B = .25, SE = .08, p < .05, 95% CI [.0897, .4124]). Once again, imagined contact did not moderate the path between RWA and symbolic threat, or the one between symbolic threat and negative affect (see Figure 8).

Finally, as the opposite of prejudice, the positive affect scale was taken as the outcome variable and the explained variance was 29%: R^2 = .29, F(4, 448) = 46.83, MSE =.60, p < .001. The indirect effect of RWA on positive affect was not statistically significant. RWA had a small direct effect on the outcome (B = .06, SE = .02, p < .05, 95% CI [.0054, .1199]). Moreover, symbolic threat negatively predicted positive affect (B = -.37, SE = .07, p < .001, 95% CI [-.5276, -.2278]). The results indicated that imagined contact did not moderate the relationship between the variables (see Figure 9).

Figure 8

RWA-ST-Prejudice Path with Negative Affect Scale

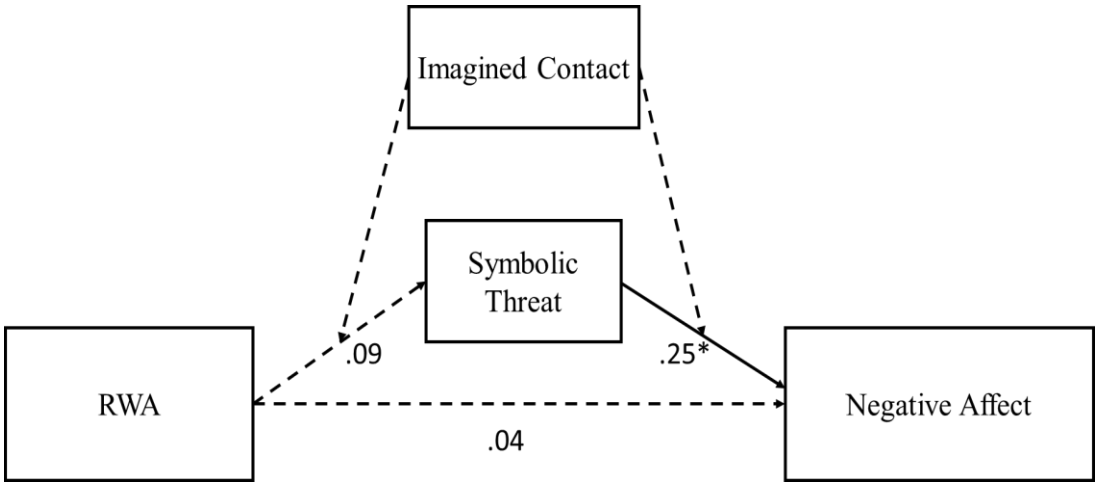
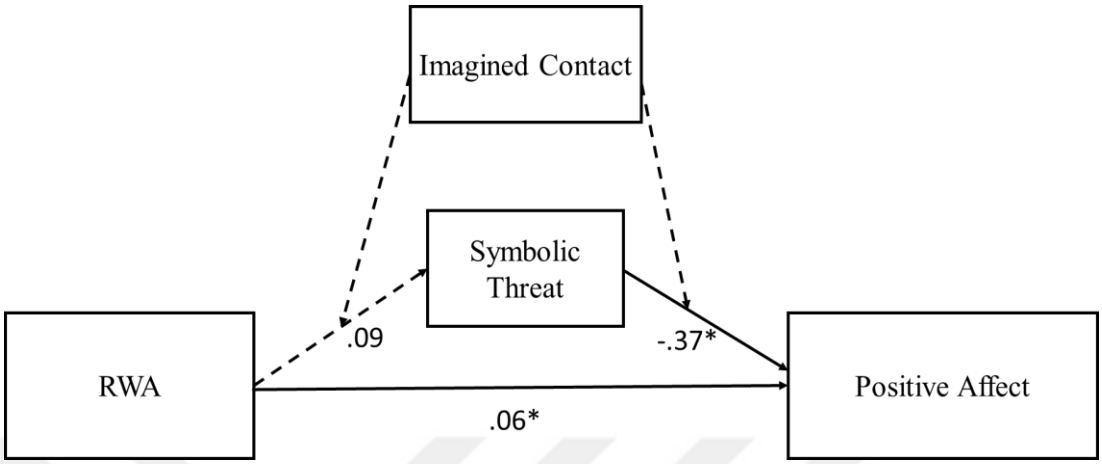


Figure 9

RWA-ST-Prejudice with Positive Affect Scale



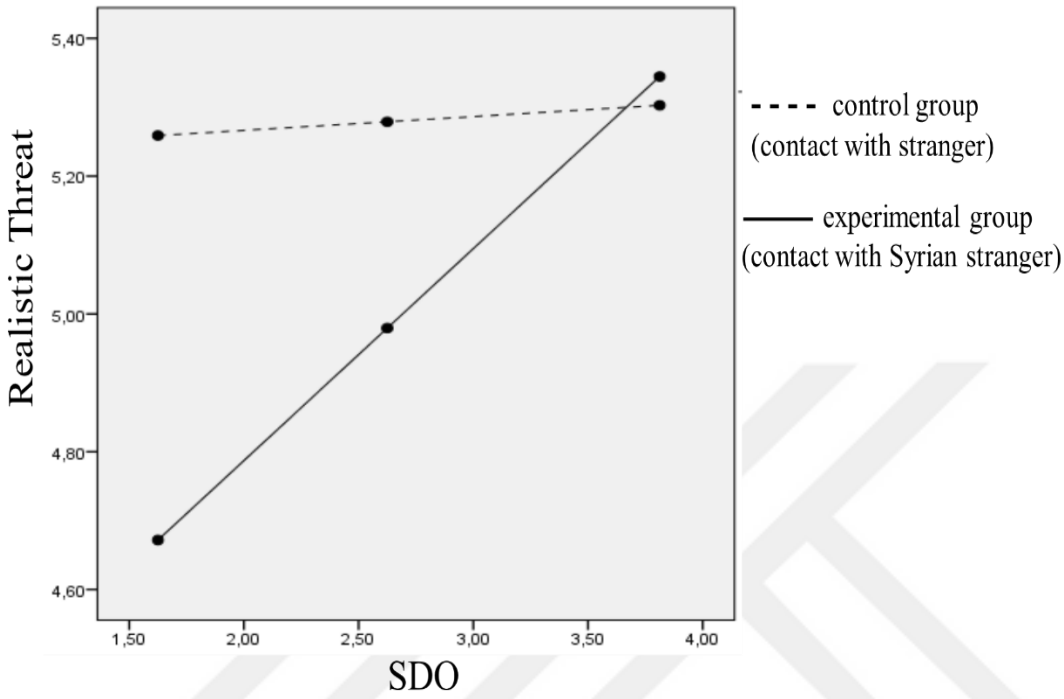
3.2.5.2. The Results for the SDO-RT-Prejudice Path

In the analysis of the SDO-RT-Prejudice path, SDO was the independent variable, the realistic threat was the mediator variable, imagined contact experience was the moderator variable and prejudice was the outcome variable. The analysis was repeated for each measure of prejudice: social distance, negative affect, and positive affect, respectively.

This pathway explains a stronger portion of the variance in prejudice in general. The explained variance in social distance was 52%: R^2 = .52, F(4, 448) = 125.223, *MSE* =1.53, p < .001. SDO predicted realistic threat significantly (B = .59, SE = .21, p < .05, 95% CI [.1809, 1.0091). Moreover, imagined contact moderated the relationship between SDO and realistic threat (B = -.28, SE = .14, p < .05, 95% CI [-.5733, -.0016, R^2 = .008, F(1, 449) = 3.90). The association between SDO and the realistic threat was insignificant in the control group. However, in the experimental group, stronger SDO levels predicted a more realistic threat. In other words, for participants with low SDO, the experimental group perceived a less realistic threat from Syrians than the control group. However, this gap closed when participants had higher levels of SDO. (see Figure 10).

Figure 10

Moderation Effect of Imagined Contact on Relationship between SDO and Realistic Threat



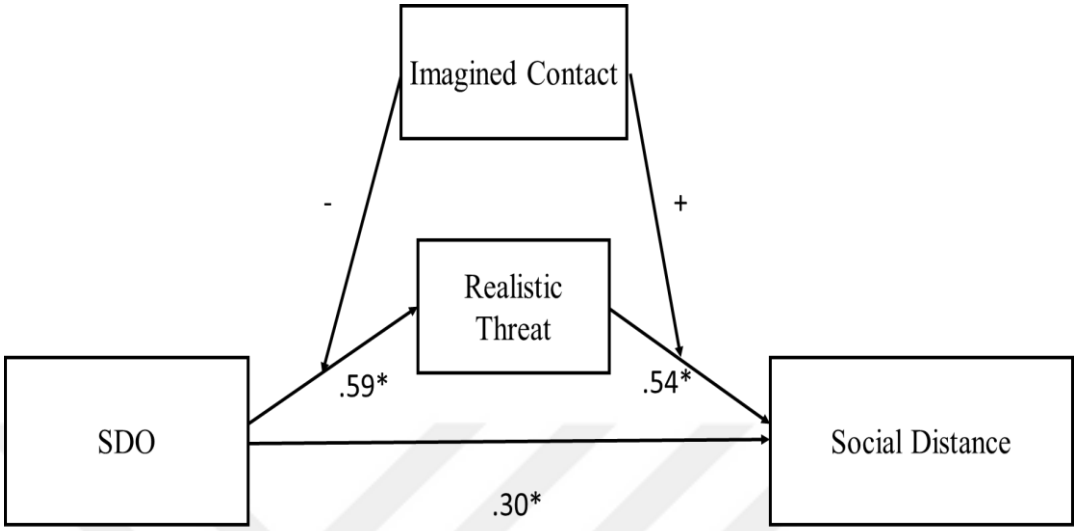
Note. The control group imagined a conversation with a stranger; the experimental group imagined a conversation with a Syrian stranger.

The indirect effect of SDO on social distance was statistically significant for the experimental group (B = .22, SE = .07, p < .05, 95% CI [.0864, .3763]) but not control group. SDO had direct effect on the outcome (B = .30, SE = .05, p < .001, 95% CI [.1901, .4208]). Moreover, realistic threat was positively associated with social distance (B = .54, SE = .11, p < .001, 95% CI [.3168, .7746]). (see Figure 11).

Moreover, imagined contact moderated the relationship between realistic threat and social distance (B = .19, SE = .08, p < .05, 95% CI [0342, .3581, R^2 = .006, F(1, 448) = 5.66).

Figure 11

SDO-RT-Prejudice Path with Social Distance Scale

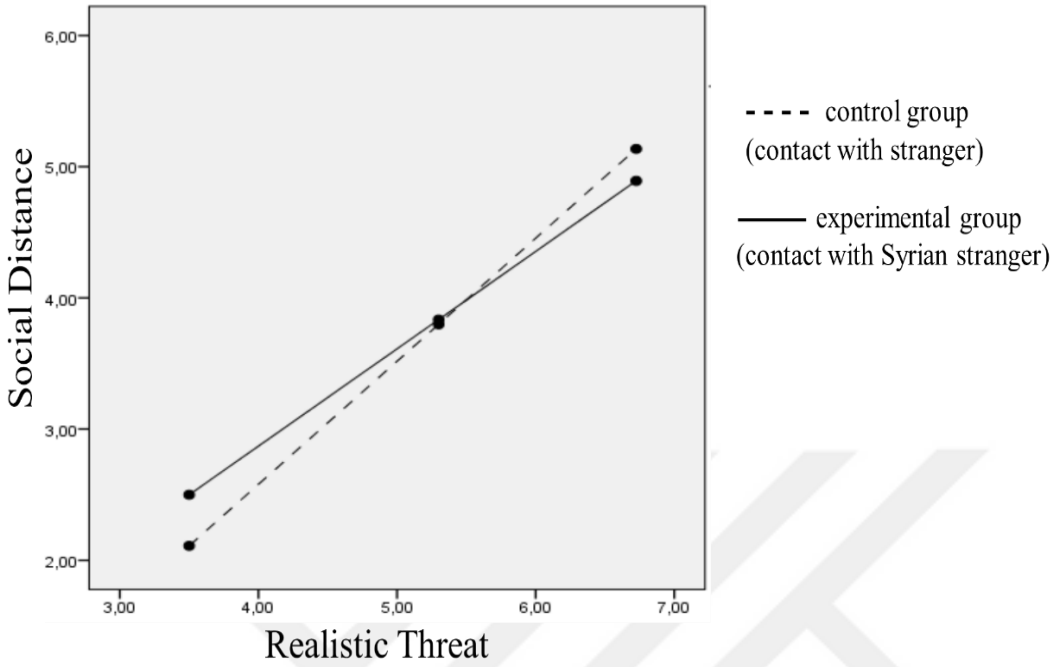


Participants with low levels of realistic threat reported a higher level of social distance in the experimental group compared to participants in the control group. As the level of realistic threat perception increased among participants, imagining a conversation with a Syrian decreased prejudice (regarding social distance) towards Syrian (see Figure 12). As realistic threats increased, prejudice (regarding social distance) also increased for both groups. However, the slope was greater for the control group than for the experimental group. In other words, for lower perceived realistic threat, the experimental group was more prejudiced, but as realistic threat increased, imagined contact dampened the effect on prejudice by buffering threat. For high levels of the realistic threat, the control group scored higher in the social distance toward Syrians.

When prejudice was measured with the negative affect scale, the results indicated that the model explained 33% variance in prejudice: R^2 = .33, $F(4, 448) = 55.31$, MSE=.59, $p < .001$. Moreover, imagined contact moderated the relationship between SDO and realistic threat (B = -.28, SE = .14, $p < .05$, 95% CI [-.5733, -.0016, R^2 = .008, $F(1, 449) = 3.90$). The relationship between SDO, realistic threat, and imagined contact's moderation effect was explained above (see Figure 10 and related explanations).

Figure 12

Moderation Effect of Imagined Contact on Relationship between Realistic Threat and Social Distance



Note. Control group imagined a conversation with a stranger, experimental group imagined a conversation with a Syrian stranger.

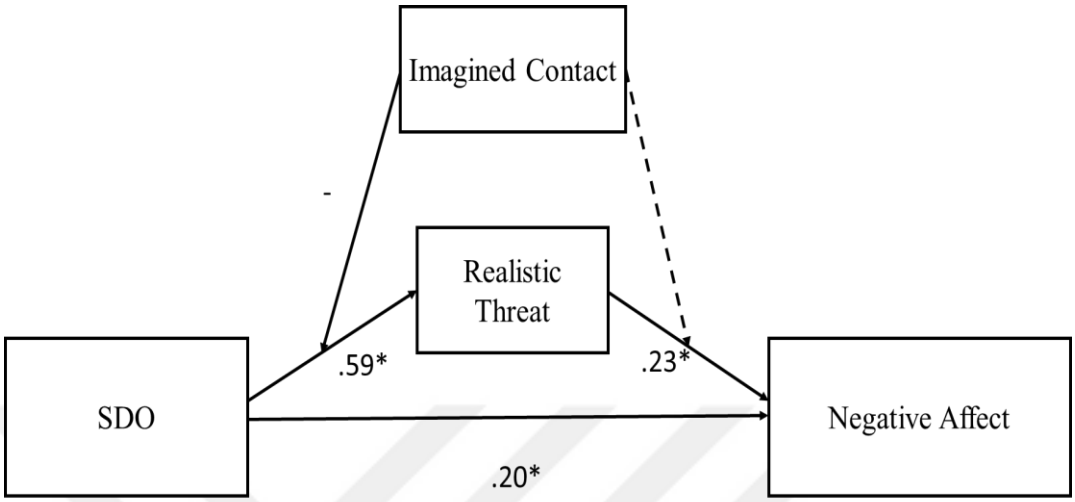
The indirect effect of SDO on negative affect was statistically significant for the experimental group (B = .09, SE = .03, p < .05, 95% CI [.0331, .1522]). SDO had direct effect on the outcome (B = .20, SE = .03, p < .001, 95% CI [.1378, .2818]). Moreover, realistic threat was positively associated with negative affect (B = .23, SE = .07, p < .001, 95% CI [.0945, .3801]). (see Figure 13).

However, in this model, when prejudice was measured through negative affect towards Syrians, imagined contact did not moderate the link between realistic threat and prejudice.

In the last model, the outcome variable was replaced with positive affect. Once again, explained variance was 39%: R^2 = .39, F(4, 448) = 73.122, MSE =.5169, p < .001. The first part of the model, namely the link between SDO and realistic threat and the moderating effect of imagined contact, was the same as the previous two models.

Figure 13

SDO-RT-Prejudice Path with Negative Affect Scale



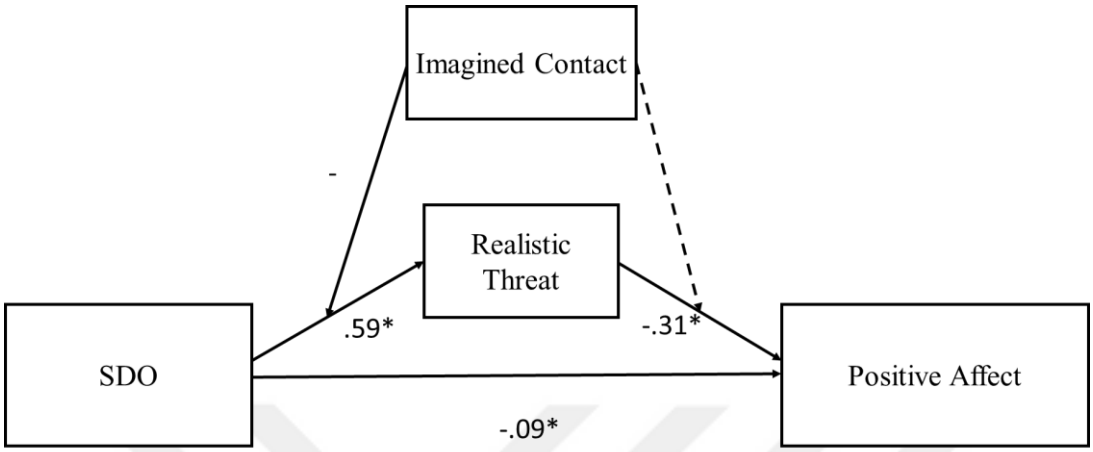
SDO had a direct and indirect effect on positive affect. SDO predicted realistic threat significantly (B = .59, SE = .21, p < .05, 95% CI [.1809, 1.0091). Moreover, imagined contact experience moderated the relationship between SDO and realistic threat (B = -.28, SE = .14, p < .05, 95% CI [-.5733, -.0016, R^2 = .008, F(1, 449) = 3.90). The relationship between SDO, realistic threat, and the moderation effect of imagined contact was explained above (see Figure 10 and related explanations).

The indirect effect of SDO on positive affect was statistically significant for the experimental group (B = -.10, SE = .03, p < .05, 95% CI [-.1788, -.0389]). SDO had direct effect on the outcome (B = -.09, SE = .03, p < .05, 95% CI [-.1639, -.0298]). Moreover, realistic threat was negatively associated with positive affect (B = -.31, SE = .06, p < .001, 95% CI [-.4518, -.1859]) (see Figure 14).

Moreover, imagined contact did not moderate the relationship between realistic threat and positive affect.

Figure 14

SDO-RT-Prejudice Path with Positive Affect



3.2.6. Imagination Content

In Study 2, the question "Are there differences between imagined contact conditions? (e.g., Differences in social status, contact positivity, etc.)? If so, in what ways?" was also examined. After imagining a conversation with a stranger (versus a Syrian), participants were asked the following questions. The content of what was written in response is described in general terms below.

"*What was the gender of the person you had a conversation with*?"

Twelve participants did not answer the question. When the answers were examined, I noticed that the majority of both experimental (72%) and control groups (68%) imagined a person of the same sex.

"*How old was the person you had a conversation with?*"

Sizteen participants did not answer the question. In the experimental condition, 6,4% of the participants imagined a person whose age was the same as their age, 37% of participants imagined a person who was up to 5 years older or up to 5 years younger than them. 13% of participants imagined a person at least 6 years older than them. 41%

of participants imagined a person who was at least 6 years younger than them. On the other hand, in the control condition, 8% of the participants imagined a person whose age was the same as their own age, nearly 48% of participants imagined a person who was up to 5 years older or up to 5 years younger than them. 13% of participants imagined a person who was at least 6 years older than them. 28% of participants imagined a person who was at least 6 years younger than them. Participants in the experimental condition were more inclined to imagine a younger person than they were compared to participants in the control condition (see Table 16).

Table 16

Age of Imagined Partner

		Age of imagined partner				
		Same as theirs	Difference lower than 5 years	At least 6 years older	At least 6 years younger	Total
experimental	n	19	110	39	123	297
	percentage	6.4	37.0	13.1	41.4	100
control	n	31	181	46	105	373
	percentage	7.5	43.4	12.7	34.0	100

"*How was the appearance of the person you had a conversation with? What are the differences and similarities between the person you had a conversation with and your style?*"

Nineteen participants did not answer this question. In the experimental group, some participants imagined a person wearing chadri, and all of these participants thought their style differed. All participants who imagined a female Syrian reported that their imagined partner was in hijab and reported that their wearing style was different from their style. Some participants who imagined a male Syrian reported that their imagined partner was bearded and they were in shalwar. There were 297 participants in the experimental condition, 27% of them reported that their imagined partner's clothing was careless, dirty, old, and bad, whereas 13% of the participants in the experimental condition reported that they imagined their conversation partner to be stylish and well-groomed. Moreover, 25% of participants reported that the wearing style of their

imagined partner was similar to their own, and 43% of participants reported that their imagined partner's clothing style was different from theirs. In the control group, there were 373 participants. Among them, 25% of participants reported that their imagined partner's clothes were stylish and well-groomed, whereas 8% of the participants in the control condition reported that their imagined partner's clothing was careless, dirty, old, and bad. Moreover, 45% of participants reported that the clothing style of their imagined partner was similar to their own, and 21% of participants reported that their imagined partner's clothing style was different from theirs (see Table 17). Participants in the experimental group tended to imagine a partner who had a clothing style different from theirs, and they described their partner's appearance with more negative adjectives. On the other hand, participants in the control group were inclined to imagine a partner with a clothing style similar to theirs, and they described their partner's appearance with more positive adjectives.

"*If you had to guess from their appearance, what would be their income level? What job would the person you had a conversation with be doing? Was there a difference between the incomes of the person you had a conversation with and yours, or do you think you have a similar income?"*

Nineteen participants did not answer this question. In the experimental group, participants reported that the jobs of their imagined partners would be grocer, waiter, Arabic teacher, cleaner, interpreter, apprentice, paper collector, garbage collector, beggar, shopkeeper, factory worker, construction worker, porter, scrap dealer, marketer, industrial worker, textile worker, etc. In addition, On the other hand, in the control group, participants reported that the jobs of their imagined partners would be academician, lawyer, grocer, banker, engineer, interpreter, doctor, tradesman, waiter, nurse, and software developer. When the answers were examined, it can be said that in the experimental condition, participants imagined their imagined partner as mostly unskilled workers compared to participants in the control group, who mostly imagined their conversation partner as an engineer, nurse, doctor, lawyer, or software developer. In addition, in the experimental group, 63% of respondents reported that their imaginary partner had a lower income level than theirs, 26% of them reported that they

had a similar income level, and 10% of respondents reported that their imaginary partner had a higher income level than theirs. On the other hand, in the control group, 30% of respondents reported that their imaginary partner had a lower income level than theirs, 42% of them reported that they had a similar income level, and 28% of respondents reported that their imaginary partner had a higher income level than theirs. It can be concluded that there were differences between the two groups. Imagined partners in the control group were more educated and skilled and had a higher income level than imagined partners in the experimental group.

Table 17

Answers about the Appearance of Imagined Partner

		Appearance of imagined partner			
		Same	Different	Positive	Negative
experimental	n	74	127	38	80
	percentage	25	43	13	27
control	n	167	78	93	30
	percentage	45	21	25	8

Note. Positive means that describing the appearance with positive adjectives such as stylish and well-groomed; Positive means that describing the appearance with positive adjectives such as careless, dirty, old, and bad.

"*How do you think about the education level of the person you had a conversation with? Was it close to yours or different from yours? In what way was it different if you think it was different?"*

Nineteen participants did not answer this question. In the experimental group, nearly 26% of participants reported that their imagined partner had the same education level as theirs. 55 % of them reported that the education level of their imagined partner was lower than theirs, and only 2% of participants reported that the education level of their imagined partner was higher than theirs. On the other hand, in the control group, nearly 47% of participants reported that their imagined partner had the same education level as theirs. 31% of them reported that the education level of their imagined partner was lower than theirs, and only 9% of participants reported that the education level of their

imagined partner was higher than theirs. It can be said that participants in the experimental group are inclined to imagine a partner whose education level is lower; however, most of the participants in the control group are inclined to imagine a partner whose education level is the same as theirs.

"*What kind of environment did you imagine you had a conversation in?"*

Twenty participants did not answer this question. Participants in both groups reported that they imagined a conversation at home, in the park, at work, at a cafe, at the station, on public transport, or the street. There were some differences, such that in the experimental group, most participants imagined a conversation with a paper collector, garbage collector, beggar, etc., and they did not define the imagined person as a friend. They reported that the conversation was on the street. In contrast, in the control group, most participants reported that they imagined a conversation at a café and met as friends.

"*What was the topic of your conversation? What did they tell you, what did you tell them? Please give as many details as you can."*

Twenty-nine participants did not answer this question. In the experimental group, participants generally imagine a conversation about children, the economy, migration, the situation of their country, whether or not they plan to return to their country, war (Syrian war, conflict...), politics, daily issues, whether or not they miss their country. On the other hand, participants in the control group reported that generally, they imagine a conversation about the economy, children, and daily issues. Moreover, in the control group, participants also reported that they talked about migration (cultural issues), war (In Ukraine), and whether they plan to return to their country; however, the details differed from the experimental condition.

Regarding migration, the first group focused on forced migration and its difficulties, and the second group focused on voluntary migration for reasons such as tourism or education. In addition, related to whether they plan to return to their country, while many participants in the experimental group (37%) imagined a conversation in which

they wanted the imagined partner to go back to their countries, many participants in the control group (56%) imagined a speech such as "do you like our country, do you want to stay, or will you come back?"

"*How did you feel during the conversation? Please write in detail."*

Twenty-nine participants did not answer this question. Most participants imagining a conversation with a Syrian stranger reported negative feelings such as discomfort, distance, nervousness, sadness, compassion, bad, boredom, grudge, anger, reluctance, anxiety, fear, gratitude, pity, and helplessness. However, a few participants reported that some positive feelings, such as getting to know someone new and being able to help them, were associated with positive feelings such as excitement, curiosity, happiness, good, positive, satisfaction, and relief. On the other hand, participants in the control group reported that during the imagination, they mostly felt happiness, excitement, enjoyment, good, positivity, satisfaction, and envy. In addition, some participants reported feeling sad because of the topic they talked about, like economic difficulties. As a result, the variety of emotions was more comprehensive for the experimental condition, and participants imagined a conversation with a Syrian inclined to report more negative emotions. In contrast, participants in the control group tend to report more positive emotions.

3.3. Discussion

Study 2 investigated the role of imagined contact on the pathways of the DPM. The hypothesis was that imagined contact would moderate the mediated effect of RWA and SDO (ideological attitudes) on prejudice through realistic and symbolic conflict, respectively. It was also expected that the imagination contents of the two groups (the experimental group who imagined a conversation with a Syrian stranger and the control group who imagined a conversation with a stranger) would be different. The results partially supported this hypothesis; although the moderation effect was limited, the SDO pathway was influenced by imagined contact, and some differences in the imagination content were noticed.

In the second study, prejudice toward Syrians was measured in three ways. To be able to measure prejudice in different respects. The first way was measuring prejudice with the social distance scale, which was the same as in Study 1. This scale measured whether or not the participants preferred to become close with a Syrian. The second way was measuring prejudice with the positive affect scale. This scale measured how much the participants had positive effects toward Syrian. The last way was measuring prejudice with the negative affect scale. This scale measured how much the participants had negative emotions toward Syrian.

The results showed that Hypothesis 4 (Imagined contact will moderate the link between RWA and symbolic threat as well as symbolic threat and prejudice), Hypothesis 4a (Imagined contact experience would decrease the strength of the relationship between RWA and symbolic threat perception), Hypothesis 4b (Imagined contact experience would decrease the strength of the relationship between symbolic threat perception and prejudice) were not supported. The results related to SDO-RT-prejudice path showed that Hypothesis 5 (Imagined contact will moderate the link between SDO and realistic threat as well as realistic threat and prejudice) was partially supported. Hypothesis 5a (Imagined contact experience would decrease the strength of the relationship between SDO and realistic threat perception) was not supported. Contrary to expectations, as the SDO increased, participants reported increased realistic threat after imagining a conversation with a Syrian stranger. Finally, Hypothesis 5b (Imagined contact experience would decrease the strength of the relationship between realistic threat perception and prejudice) was partially supported. Imagined contact moderated the expected relationship when prejudice was measured with the social distance scale. The results were discussed in follows.

When the prejudice was measured with the social distance scale, consistent with the literature (Duckitt, 2001), RWA predicted prejudice toward immigrants indirectly via the partial mediation of symbolic threat perception. That means high RWA participants, who are inclined to perceive outgroups as threat to social order (Duckitt, 2006), felt prejudice toward Syrians in Turkey. In addition, participants who reported more perceived symbolic threat from Syrians also reported prejudice towards Syrians.

Similarly, consistent with the literature ((Duckitt, 2006; Duckitt, 2001), SDO predicted prejudice toward immigrants indirectly via the mediation of realistic threat perception. High SDO participants, who were inclined to perceive outgroups as threat to their status, perceived Syrians as a threat to their economy and power (realistic threat). In turn, they felt prejudice toward Syrians in Turkey. These results were also consistent with Study 1, showing the mediation effect of symbolic threat and realistic threat on the relationship between ideological attitudes (RWA and SDO, respectively) and prejudice measured by the social distance scale.

When prejudice was measured with the positive affect scale, the results were partially consistent with the literature. RWA predicted prejudice through the mediation of symbolic threat. As the level of symbolic threat increased, participants became less likely to report positive feelings toward Syrians. However, contrary to the literature, participants with high RWA endorsed more positive feelings toward Syrians in Turkey. There may be some confounding effects resulting in this unexpected result. In Gorska et al.'s study (2022), the relationship between social norms, antecedents of prejudice, and prejudice was explained in detail. Prejudice was related to conformity (Allport, 1954), and according to Group Norm Theory (Sheriff and Sheriff, 1953), similar to conformity, group norms shape people's opinions and attitudes toward outgroups (as cited in Gorska et al., 2022). Moreover, intolerant social norms rather than tolerant social norms were more related to prejudice. Individuals' tolerance towards outgroups differs in the different parts of the U.S., although their RWA levels are similar (Gorska et al., 2002). This difference was explained by differences in social norms in different regions. In addition, the relationship between RWA and prejudice may be reversed, and people high on RWA may support multiculturalism and banning hate speech towards outgroups in some contexts. When the government supports multiculturalism and the social norm support anti discriminatory policies towards outgroups, the relationship between RWA and prejudice may be reversed (Bilewicz, 2015; Gorska et al., 2022; Roets, 2015,). That can be explained by the inclination of individuals high on RWA to conform to authority and social norms (Gorska et al., 2022). In Turkey, the majority of individuals who support remaining authority were found to be more benevolent about the presence or reception of Syrians (Bandur,

2020). The negative relationship between RWA and positive affect may result from government policies supporting Syrians (conforming the authority) in Turkey and social norms of hospitality. In addition, contact experiences may increase empathy and perspective-taking and, in turn, decreases prejudice (Pettigrew & Tropp, 2008). Similarly, when the social norms did not support discrimination, perceived similarity decreases prejudice (Gaborrot et al., 2009). In Turkey, social norms support helping people in need and hospitality. Empathy, social norms, perceived similarity (common religion), and conforming authority may influence the relationship between RWA and prejudice.

The results were partially replicated when prejudice was measured with the negative affect scale. That means, for the RWA-ST-Prejudice path, symbolic threat did not predict negative affect. The possible reasons may be the conformity to authority and social norms similar to the reversed relationship between RWA and positive affect. That means as the RWA level increases, the conformity to authority that support the presence of Syrians also increases, and in turn, the negative affect toward Syrians decreases.

For the SDO-RT-Prejudice path, consistent with the literature, SDO predicted prejudice indirectly through the mediation of realistic threat (Duckitt, 2001). Participants with high SDO perceived realistic threat from Syrians. In turn, they endorsed more negative feelings toward Syrians in Turkey and less positive feelings they have toward the target group. Moreover, there is also a direct effect of SDO on negative affect. The higher the level of ideological attitudes they have, the more negative feelings they have toward the target group. Similarly, SDO directly predicts positive affect directly.

The main purpose of Study 2 was to reveal whether imagined contact changes the relationship between those factors. For the RWA-ST-Prejudice path, when the prejudice was measured with the social distance scale, positive emotion scale, and negative emotion scale, the results indicated that imagined contact did not change the strength of the relationship between the variables. That means prejudice of participants imagining a conversation with a Syrian stranger and the prejudice of participants

imagining a conversation with a stranger did not differentiate from each other significantly. Imagined contact may not reduce prejudice in every context, especially when there is high tension between the groups and when the participants have real negative encounter experiences (Bağcı et al., 2018b). In Turkey, there are millions of Syrians, and there are lots of news about Syrians, so people may have direct or extended negative contact experiences that might buffer the effect of imagined contact.

However, for the SDO-RT-Prejudice path, when the prejudice was measured with the social distance scale, positive emotion scale, and negative emotion scale, the results indicated that imagined contact with a Syrian had a negative effect on the relationship between SDO and realistic threat. There is some literature evidence for the negative effect of imagined contact. For obtaining positive results, imagination content should be positive (Stathi & Crisp, 2008), however, when the imagination content was examined, it was realized some participants failed to imagine a positive contact, and failing to imagine a positive scenario resulted in increased anxiety and threat (West et al., 2011). When prejudice was measured with the social distance scale, imagined contact with a Syrian showed a positive effect on the relationship between realistic threat and social distance scale consistent with the literature (Hu & Takai, 2018). However, there was no moderation effect of imagined contact when the prejudice was measured with positive and negative affect scales.

CHAPTER 4

GENERAL DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Study 1 was conducted to examine DPM in the Syrian context. It was expected that two independent paths would predict the prejudice towards Syrians in Turkey. In the first path, the worldview of DWB would indirectly predict prejudice toward Syrians via the mediation of RWA and symbolic threat perception. In the second path, the worldview of CJW would indirectly predict prejudice toward Syrians via the mediation of SDO and realistic threat perception.

The findings showed that RWA and SDO predicted prejudice from different paths independently. The finding is consistent with the literature (Duckit & Sibley, 2010b). Similar to the results of Matthews and Levin (2012), who revealed the mediating effect of threat perception in DPM, perceived threats mediated the relationships between variables in the current study. The symbolic threat perception mediated the path from RWA to prejudice, whereas the realistic threat perception mediated the path from SDO to prejudice. The results are also consistent with the findings of Caricati et al. (2017), who revealed the mediating effects of realistic threat and symbolic threat in the relationship between ideological attitudes (SDO and RWA) and prejudice against immigrants. The positive relations between the variables meant that the increased level of RWA and SDO was related to the increased threat perception and prejudice toward Syrians among hosts in Turkey. Sayılan (2018) revealed a moderate and positive relationship between CJW and SDO. Moreover, it was found that CJW predicts prejudice indirectly by the mediation of SDO (Duckitt, 2001). Consistent with the literature, results also revealed that CJW predicted prejudice indirectly through the mediation of SDO and realistic threat perception in this study. That means as the CJW increases, realistic threat perception increases, in turn, increases prejudice level.

According to Duckitt (2001), DWB predicts prejudice indirectly through the mediation of RWA and symbolic threat. In this study, the effect of DWB cannot be found. The relationship between DWB and RWA was not significant. In the study in which the DWB scale was adopted into Turkish, the relationship between DWB and RWA was small but significant (Sayılan, 2018). However, in this study, the relationship between DWB and RWA was not significant. This may be because of the fact that personality traits would influence RWA and DWA. Among people high on openness, DWA affects RWA level, whereas it does not among people low on openness (Dallago & Roccato, 2010). In addition, in another study investigating the DPM in Turkey, the relationship between DWB and RWA is not expected manner. The relationship between DWB and RWA was not significant, meaning that DWB did not predict the RWA. In that study, the unexpected results explained with cultural and socio-political context of Turkey (Birdir et al., 2022). In that study, it was claimed that people high on RWA did not feel danger to themselves or their way of life because the authority and their political wives were in the same direction. These results show that different factors may change the strength or direction of the relationship between the variables. Therefore, a moderating factor may influence the strength of the relationship between the DWB and RWA. The results indicated that the hypotheses for Study 1 were supported except for the relationship between DWB and RWA. Considering the inconsistent results in literature related to these variables, the reasons for obtaining correlations with different strength and direction between DWB and RWA may be studied in future studies to examine the underlying factors that may be conforming political authority or overestimation of danger in the scale resulting in failing to explain variance in ideological attitudes as discussed above.

Generally, it can be said that among Turkish people, variables of CJW, SDO, RWA, realistic threat perception, and symbolic threat perception predict prejudice towards Syrians. Both studies supported the mediating effects of threat perception on the relationship between ideological attitudes and prejudice.

Study 2 examined the effects of imagined contact on the relationship between ideological attitudes, perceived threat, and prejudice. It was hypothesized that

imagined contact would decrease the strength of the relationship between the variables. However, the hypotheses were partially supported. The nature of the relationship between the ideological attitudes, threat perception, and prejudice was similar for both groups of participants (participants who imagine a conversation with a Syrian and participants who imagine a conversation with a stranger) when it comes to variables of RWA, symbolic threat and prejudice measures (social distance, negative affect, positive affect).

When the model was examined with the variables of SDO and realistic threat the effect of imagination changed depending on the prejudice measure. Consistent with the literature (Giacobbe et al., 2013), the results indicated that people who imagined a positive conversation with a stranger reported more preference for social distance (prejudice) than participants who imagined a positive conversation with a Syrian stranger.

However, when prejudice was measured with the positive affect scale and negative affect scale, imagined contact experience did not change the prejudice level. Although participants who imagined a conversation with a Syrian stranger reported less preference for distance, meaning that for those participants having a Syrian neighbor or working with a Syrian at the same place was less problematic, their emotions towards Syrians did not change. Imagination may not work because of the previous level of prejudice, previous contact experience, imagination instructions, etc. Moreover, changing emotions is more difficult than creating a future intention to contact (for a review, see Fırat & Ataca, 2020; Crisp et al., 2010).

The results also indicated that when the model was examined with SDO and realistic threat variables contrary to expectation, imagining a conversation with a Syrian stranger increased realistic threat perception among high SDO participants. That results may be the result of refugee context and related news in Turkey during the data collecting process. During data collection, there were so many news about thousands of refugees entering Turkey from Afghanistan and Iran. These news and related videos resulted in anxiety and feeling threats. In this atmosphere, when participants imagined a conversation with a Syrian stranger, their threat perception might be increased, and

as a result of the positive conversation, their preference for social distance decreased. Moreover, participants in the experimental group reported that their imagined partner's socioeconomic status and education level were lower than theirs. Imagining a contact scenario containing equal status and a common goal may also increase the effect of imagined contact.

The relationships between RWA and symbolic threat were different in both studies. RWA was measured with different measures. In Study 2, the newer version of RWA did not explain symbolic threat. In literature, there is an alternative model in that realistic and symbolic threat perceptions preceded the SDO and RWA, respectively (Caricati et al., 2017). Although possible reasons for these findings were explained, the alternative models should be compared.

The possible reasons for unexpected results were discussed. First, in the study, there was no pre-test related to variables. Imagined contact is more effective for people with more prejudice than people with lower prejudice levels toward outgroups (West et al., 2017). Therefore, people may have a low level of RWA, SDO, threat perception, and prejudice at the beginning of the study, so they may not be influenced by imagined contact.

Second, there may be a confounding variable, like difficulty reading the instructions. When the instructions of the imagination section were difficult because of the font size, it was found that the participants' prejudice level was higher than the control group (West & Bruckmüller, 2013). That findings show that font size, light, or even screen size may change the imagination effect. Data were obtained via the internet, and I do not know the condition in which the participants answered the questions. Therefore, as explained, some factors, such as difficulty in reading, may inhibit the positive effect of imagination.

Third, when I examined the content of the imagination process, I saw that some participants did not imagine a conversation in a positive and relaxed manner as instructed. They reported that they felt angry, furious, and sad during the conversation.

Therefore, their imagination interventions may not work. The findings are in line with the literature; not ensuring a positive imagination may result in unintended results (West et al., 2011).

Fourth, people in imagination conditions who imagine a high-status Syrian stranger are inclined to report more positive intentions related to Syrians (Yurtbakan, 2019). We did not restrict the participants regarding what they were supposed to imagine for the contact scenario. The imagined person may be a high-status or low-status. If the participants imagined a high-status Syrian, their prejudice level might be improved. However, if the participants imagined a low-status Syrian, this might be the reason for failing imagined contact. Imagination content analysis showed that participants in the experimental group were inclined to imagine a low-status partner.

Fifth, during the data collecting process, participants were asked whether they knew a Syrian and, if so, they were asked how often they met. Asking about the existence of Syrian acquaintances might have a priming effect on both groups. Individuals in the control condition were primed because they were also asked questions related to Syrian at the beginning of the study. In addition, this might have primed negative real contact experiences with Syrians for both groups, and people recalled negative contact experiences. Because of this effect of imagined contact may be blocked. These demographic information questions should have been asked after applying other scales.

There was another aim of the current study. That was revealing whether or not there is any difference between the imagination content of the control group, in which participants imagined a conversation with a stranger, and the experimental group, in which participants imagined a conversation with a Syrian stranger. For future studies, we wanted to extract information on stereotypes and types of interactions people imagined. It was found that participants in the experimental condition were more inclined to imagine a person younger than they were compared to participants in the control condition. Participants in the experimental group generally reported that they imagined a Syrian who was a paper collector, garbage collector, beggar, shopkeeper,

factory worker, or construction worker and less educated compared to themselves and a Syrian whose income level was less than theirs. However, the imagined partners in the control group were more educated and skilled and had a higher income level than the imagined partners in the experimental group. Participants in the experimental group imagined a partner with a clothing style different from theirs, and they described their partner's appearance with more negative adjectives.

On the other hand, participants in the control group imagined a partner who wore a similar style and described their partner's appearance with more positive adjectives. In addition, participants imagining a conversation with a Syrian felt more negative emotions, while most participants in the control group felt more positive emotions during the conversation. These findings showed that there is prejudice toward Syrians in Turkey.

This study contributes to the literature in some respects. Firstly, this study is a preliminary study focusing on imagination content. Focusing on imagination content gives a chance to understand people's thoughts and feelings. This study showed that most people describe Syrians as less educated and unskilled. Moreover, participants reported that Syrians' status and income levels were lower than theirs. In this respect, this research will make a valuable contribution to the imagined contact literature. The effect of ideological attitudes and threat perception on these contents can be studied in the future.

Secondly, most of the studies collected data from university students. In this study, I collected data from participants with various educational and income levels and different age groups. I reached a sample with different age groups, education levels, and socioeconomic statuses as much as possible.

Thirdly, although this study failed to support all of the hypotheses, this study showed that DPM partially fits Syrian context in Turkey. The findings inconsistent with the literature call for a theoretical refinement of the DPM and emphasize the need for further research to advance our understanding of when imagined contact works.

There are some limitations in the current study. Firstly, I reached out to participants via the internet. The only participation criteria were being a Turkish citizen and being over the age of 18. However, the number of immigrants who obtained Turkish citizenship is not ignorable (about three hundred thousand). Therefore, they might participate in this study, there was no question related to this situation, and it cannot be controlled. In addition, participants may be second or third-generation immigrants, or they may have a Syrian relative. These situations may confound the results. Therefore, it is suggested to have related questions for future studies.

The second limitation is that I used a post-test measurement to measure ideological attitudes, threat perception, and prejudice level. There were different participants in different conditions. That means the analysis of this study consisted of comparing scores taken from different participants in different conditions. However, to measure an application's effectiveness (imagined contact), pre test-post test may be a more effective method of detecting the change in each individual. Therefore, a study in which the pre-tests were performed first, then the imaginary contact was applied, and post-tests were lastly applied would be more appropriate.

Thirdly, there are millions of refugees in Turkey, and people have direct or extended contact experiences with Syrians. They are exposed to generally negative news on social media almost every day. Therefore, one-minute positive imagination may not be effective enough to reverse this hostile atmosphere. Negative news in the media increases the negative attitudes toward the minority. However, positive and close contact experiences with outgroup members decrease the effect of negative news on negative attitudes (Fuochi, 2019). Repetitive positive imagined contact exposure may decrease the strength of the relationship between ideological attitudes, threat perception, and prejudice. Moreover, detailed and vivid imagination also increases the effectiveness of imagination, so future studies may examine the effects of vivid, detailed, and repetitive imagined contact experiences on prejudice reduction in the context, including repetitive negative news.

All in all, the studies showed that prejudice towards Syrians could be explained with the DPM model of prejudice and Integrated Threat Theory. Imagined contact may decrease prejudice and threat perception (realistic threat perception among people with low SDO). In addition, authority figures and social norms play an essential role in shaping prejudice. Authority figures, politicians, and policy makers can use these findings.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION FORM

1. Cinsiyetiniz: Erkek ☐ Kadın ☐

2. Yaşınız: _____

3. Eğitim Düzeyiniz:

İlköğretim: ☐ Lise: ☐ Üniversite: ☐ Lisansüstü: ☐

4. Çevrenizle karşılaştırdığınızda sosyoekonomik düzeyinizi nasıl değerlendirirsiniz?

Düşük ☐ Düşük – Orta ☐ Orta ☐ Orta-Yüksek ☐ Yüksek ☐

5. Suriyeliler ile olan ilişkinizi düşündüğünüzde, günlük hayatınızda ne sıklıkla Suriyelilerle temas kurmaktasınız?

Hiç 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Günde birden fazla

6. Suriyeli tanıdığınız var mı?

Evet ☐ Hayır ☐

7. Suriyeli tanıdığınız/tanıdıklarınız var ise sayısını yazınız:_____

APPENDIX B: BELIEF IN A DANGEROUS WORLD SCALE

1. Dünya gittikçe daha tehlikeli ve karmaşık bir hale geliyormuş gibi görünse de, işin aslı öyle değil. Her dönemin kendine has sorunları vardır, hatta insanların bugün güvenli ve sorunsuz bir hayat yaşama olasılığı her zamankinden daha da fazladır.

2. Bugün yarın çevremizde kaos ve anarşi patlak verecek gibi; bütün işaretler bunu gösteriyor.

3. Toplumumuzda, sırf kötülük olsun diye, hiç yoktan birine saldırabilecek pek çok tehlikeli insan var.

4. Sokaktaki suçun arttığına dair ne denirse densin, muhtemelen şu anki suç oranları eskisinden daha fazla değildir.

5. Eğer insan birkaç makul önlem alırsa, başına muhtemelen hiçbir kötülük gelmez; o kadar da tehlikeli bir dünyada yaşamıyoruz.

6. Toplum her geçen gün hukuk tanımaz ve daha vahşi hale geldikçe, insanın soyulma, saldırıya uğrama ve hatta öldürülme olasılığı da artıyor.

7. Bilgilerim ve tecrübelerim bana, içinde yaşadığımız dünyanın aslında sağlam, istikrarlı ve güvenli bir yer, insanların da özünde iyi olduğunu söylüyor.

8. Öyle görünüyor ki, her geçen yıl, saygıdeğer insanların sayısı azalırken, herkesi tehdit eden ahlak yoksunu insanların sayısı artıyor.

9. Dünyanın sonu yakın değil; depremleri, savaşları ve kıtlıkları Allah'ın dünyayı yok etmek üzere olduğunun işareti olarak görenler saçmalıyorlar.

10. Bilgilerim ve tecrübelerim bana, içinde yaşadığımız dünyanın iyi, düzgün ve ahlaklı insanların değerlerinin ve yaşam biçimlerinin kötüler tarafından alt üst edildiği, tehlikeli ve öngörülemez bir yer olduğunu söylüyor.

APPENDIX C: BELIEF IN A COMPETITIVE JUNGLE SCALE WORLD

1. Kazanmak en önemli şey değil, her şeydir.
2. Sorumlu olduğunuz bir grubu yönetmenin en iyi yolu, onlara nezaket ve duyarlılık göstermek ve onlara astlarınız gibi değil, çalışma arkadaşlarınız gibi davranmaktır.
3. Gücü elinde bulunduran kişi, istediğini elde etmek için gücünü gereken her şekilde kullanmalıdır.
4. Eğer bir insanın hedeflerine ulaşması için acımasız ve kindar olması gerekiyorsa, öyle olmalıdır.
5. Yaşam "en güçlünün hayatta kalması" ilkesiyle yürümez; rehberimiz merhamet ve ahlaki değerler olmalıdır.
6. Hayatta en önemli şeyler, para, varlık ve lükstür.
7. Sevilmek korkulmaktan daha iyidir.
8. Yaşamda, diğer insanlarla ilişkilerinizde erdemli davranmak, para ve güç sahibi olmaktan çok daha önemlidir.
9. Dünya, bazen acımasız olmayı gerektiren bir kurtlar sofrasıdır.
10. Birine karşılıksız bir şey vermek gibi hayır işleri aptalca değil, özenilecek hareketlerdir.
11. Pek çok insanın, seni kazıklamak için hazır beklediğini biliyorsun; o yüzden fırsatını yakaladığın an ilk davranan sen olmalısın.
12. Nüfuzlu ve hilekâr olmaktansa, mütevazı ve dürüst olmak daha iyidir.
13. Bilgilerim ve tecrübelerim bana, içinde yaşadığımız dünyanın sadece en güçlünün hayatta kaldığı ve gücün, zenginliğin ve kazanmanın her şey olduğu, rekabetçi, vahşi bir “orman” olduğunu söylüyor.
14. Dürüstlük, her durumda en iyi yoldur.

15. “Doğru” ya da “yanlış” diye bir şey yoktur; sonuçta önemli olan paçayı kurtarabilmektir.

16. Kendine yapılmasını istemediğini başkasına yapma ve asla bir başkasına haksızlık etme.

17. İnsanın geliştirmesi gereken en faydalı beceri, birinin gözünün içine baka baka ikna edebilmektir.

18. Aslında insanlar, kişinin çıkarı doğrultusunda sessiz ve sakince yönlendirilebileceği nesnelerdir.

19. Başkalarına iyi niyetli yaklaşmak gerek. Çoğu insan, eğer onlara inanırsan, güvenilirdir.

20. Rekabete ve açgözlülüğe değil, bencilce olmayan iş birliğine ve paylaşıma dayalı; insanların birbirine cömertçe yardım ettiği bir toplum oluşturabiliriz.

APPENDIX D: RIGHT WING AUTHORITARIANISM SCALE

1. Mevcut otorite, genel olarak pek çok şeyde haklı çıkarken, radikaller ve her şeye karşı çıkanlar cehaletlerini sergileyen boşboğazlardır.

2. Kadınlar, evlendiklerinde eşlerine itaat edeceklerine dair söz vermelidirler.

3. Ülkemizin, bütünlüğümüze kasteden radikal yönelimleri ve kötülükleri ortadan kaldırmak için ne gerekiyorsa yapabilecek güçlü bir lidere ihtiyacı var.

4. Eşcinseller ve lezbiyenler, herhangi biri kadar sağlıklı ve ahlaklıdır.*

5. Yönetimdeki saygın otoritelere ve dini yargılara güvenmek, toplumuzda zihin karıştırmaya uğraşan "gürültücü ayak takımını" dinlemekten daima daha iyidir.

6. Hiç kuşkusuz, mevcut dinsel öğretilere isyan edenler ve ateistler düzenli olarak camiye gidenler kadar iyi ve erdemlidirler.*

7. Ülkemizi krizlerden kurtarmak için, geleneksel değerlerimize dönmek, sert liderleri iş başına getirmek ve kötü fikirleri yayanları susturmak gerekmektedir.

8. Çıplaklar kampının olmasında yanlış bir şey yoktur.*

9. Birçok kişiyi tedirgin etse bile ülkemizin, geleneksel uygulamalara karşı çıkma cesareti gösterebilen özgür düşünceli bireylere ihtiyacı var.*

10. İnançlarımızı ve ahlaki yapımızı yiyip bitiren geleneksel olmayan değerleri zamanında yok etmezsek, günün birinde ülkemiz yıkılacak.

11. Kendilerini herkesten farklı kılacak olsa bile bireyler, yaşam tarzlarını, dini inançlarını ve cinsel yönelimlerini kendileri belirlemelidir.*

12. Eski moda adetler ve değerler hala en iyi yaşama biçimini gösteriyor.

13. Kadınların siyasi, sosyal ve ekonomik alanlarda daha aktif rollere sahip olması, okullarda din derslerinin isteğe bağlı olması ve hayvan hakları için yeni düzenlemeler yapılmasını talep ederek mevcut yasalara ve çoğunluğun görüşlerine karşı çıkanlara hayranlık duymalısınız.*

14. Ülkemiz, kötülükleri yok ederek bizi doğru yola getirecek güçlü ve kararlı bir lidere ihtiyaç duymaktadır.

15. Ülkemizin en iyi bireyleri hükümete karşı çıkan, dini eleştiren ve doğal kabul edilen şeyleri göz ardı edebilenlerdir.*

16. Kürtaj, pornografi ve evlilik konusunda Allah'ın koyduğu yasalar çok geç olmadan titizlikle uygulanmalı ve bu yasaları ihlal edenler şiddetle cezalandırılmalıdır.

17. Bugün ülkemizde dini değerlerden yoksun, kendi amaçları için ülkeyi yıkmaya çalışan ve otorite tarafından mutlaka etkisizleştirilmeleri gereken radikal ve ahlaksız birçok kişi var.

18. Atalarımızın yaptıklarıyla onur duyarsak, otoritenin yapmamızı istediklerini yaparsak ve her şeyi berbat eden çürük elmaları ayıklarsak ülkemiz müthiş olur.

19. Yaşamak için bir tek doğru yol yoktur; herkes kendi yolunu kendi çizmelidir.

20. Feministler ve homoseksüeller, geleneksel aile değerlerine karşı koyabilecek kadar cesur oldukları için takdir edilmelidirler.*

21. Bu ülkede işler, sorun çıkaran gruplar seslerini keser ve kendi gruplarının toplumdaki geleneksel yerini kabullenirlerse, biraz daha iyiye gidecektir.

APPENDIX E: SOCIAL DOMINANCE ORIENTATION SCALE

1. Bazı gruplar diğerlerinden daha üstündür.
2. İstediğinizi elde etmek için bazen diğer gruplara karşı güç kullanmak gerekir.
3. Bazı grupların hayatta diğerlerinden daha fazla şansa sahip olması kabul edilebilir bir şeydir.
4. Hayatta öne geçmek için, bazen diğer grupların üstüne basmak gereklidir.
5. Eğer belirli gruplar yerlerini bilselerdi, daha az sorunumuz olurdu.
6. Belirli grupların üstte, diğer grupların ise altta olması muhtemelen iyi bir şeydir.
7.Daha alttaki gruplar yerlerini bilmelidir.
8. Bazen diğer gruplara hadleri bildirilmelidir.
9.Tüm gruplar eşit olabilseydi, iyi olurdu.*
10. Grupların eşitliği idealimiz olmalıdır.*
11. Tüm gruplara hayatta eşit şans verilmelidir.*
12. Farklı grupların koşullarını eşitlemek için elimizden geleni yapmalıyız.*
13. Toplumda gruplar arası eşitliği arttırmalıyız.*
14. Eğer farklı gruplara daha eşit davransaydık daha az sorunumuz olurdu.*
15. Gelirleri olabildiğince eşit hale getirmek için çabalamalıyız.*
16. Toplumda hiçbir grup baskın olmamalıdır.*

APPENDIX F: REALISTIC AND SYMBOLIC THREAT SCALE

1. Suriyeliler işsizlik oranlarının artmasına ve işçilik ücretlerinin düşmesine neden olmaktadır. *
2. Suriyeliler sağlık, eğitim ve ulaşım gibi sosyal hizmetlerin aksamasına ve kalitesinin düşmesine yol açmaktadır.*
3. Suriyelilere yapılan harcamalardan dolayı Türkiye'deki ihtiyaç sahibi insanlara yeterli düzeyde sosyal yardım yapılamamaktadır..*
4. Suriyelilerden dolayı (örneğin Arapça tabelalar, araç plakaları ve konuşmalar) ülkemizin görüntüsü gün geçtikçe Arap ülkelerine benzemektedir. **
5. Suriyelilerin yaşam tarzı ile bizim yaşam tarzımız birbirine hiç benzemiyor..**
6. Suriyelilerden dolayı kiralar ve halkın konut bulma sorunu artmaktadır.*
7. Suriyelilerin içine karışan terör örgütü üyeleri halkın can güvenliği için büyük bir tehlike oluşturmaktadır.*
8. Böyle devam ederse Suriyelilerden dolayı ülkemiz bir gün Araplaşacak. **
9. Suriyeliler Türkiye'nin sosyo-kültürel kural ve değerlerine uyum sağlamak için hiç çaba harcamamaktadır.**
10. Suriyelilerin kültürü ile bizim kültürümüz birbirine pek benzemiyor. **
11. Suriyeliler cinayet, gasp ve hırsızlık gibi suçlar işleyerek ülkenin asayiş ve huzurunu bozmaktadırlar.*
12. Suriyelilerin aile değerleri (örneğin çocuk yetiştirme ve evlilik gibi) ile bizim aile değerlerimiz çok farklı.**
13. Suriyeliler ülkenin nüfus ve politik dengesini bozma potansiyeli taşımaktadır.*
14. Suriyelilerin neden olduğu ekonomik yük halkın refah düzeyini düşürmektedir.*
15. Suriyelilerin inandığı sosyal ve politik değerler ile bizim inandığımız sosyal ve politik değerlerin uyuşması zordur.**

*gerçekçi tehdit
**sembolik tehdit

APPENDIX G: SOCIAL DISTANCE SCALE

1. Suriyeli biri ile evlenseniz
2. Suriyeli bir yakın arkadaşınız olsa
3. Suriyeli bir kapı komşunuz olsa
4. Suriyeli biri ile aynı sokakta yaşıyor olsanız
5. Suriyeli biri ile aynı yerde çalışıyor olsanız
6. Suriyeli bir patronunuz olsa

APPENDIX H: IMAGINATION INSTRUCTIONS

Control Condition: Lütfen aşağıdaki ifadeyi dikkatlice okuyun.

Şimdi sizden bir dakika boyunca bir yabancıyla sohbet ettiğinizi hayal etmenizi istiyoruz. Diyaloğun keyifli, rahat ve olumlu geçtiğini hayal ediniz.

Positive Contact Condition: Şimdi sizden bir dakika boyunca Suriyeli bir yabancıyla sohbet ettiğinizi hayal etmenizi istiyoruz. Diyaloğun keyifli, rahat ve olumlu geçtiğini hayal ediniz.

APPENDIX I: IMAGINATION CONTENT

1- Sohbet ettiğiniz kişinin cinsiyeti nedir?

2- Sohbet ettiğiniz kişi yaklaşık kaç yaşlarındadır?

3- Sohbet ettiğiniz kişinin görünüşünü tarif eder misiniz? Sizinle benzerlikleri ve farklılıkları nelerdir?

4- Hayal ettiğiniz kişinin görünüşüne göre tahminde bulunsanız, gelir seviyesinin ne olabileceğini düşünüyorsunuz? Konuştuğunuz kişi ne iş yapıyor olabilir? Görüştüğünüz kişinin geliri ile sizinki arasında bir fark var mıydı veya benzer bir geliriniz olduğunu düşünüyor musunuz?

5- Sohbet ettiğini kişinin eğitim durumu ne olabilir? Sizin eğitim durumunuza benzer mi farklı mı olduğunu düşünüyorsunuz?

6- Nasıl bir ortamda sohbet ettiğinizi hayal ettiniz?

7- Hangi konuda sohbet ettiniz (sohbet ettiğiniz kişi size ne dedi, siz ona ne dediniz olabildiğince ayrıntılı bir şekilde yazınız)

8- Sohbet ederken ne hissettiniz?

APPENDIX J: RIGHT WING AUTHORITARIANISM SCALE (SHORT)

1. Ülkemizin, günümüz toplumuna hâkim olan radikal ve ahlaksız akımları yok etmek için güçlü bir lidere ihtiyacı var.
2. Çoğu insanı rahatsız etse bile ülkemizin, geleneksel şeylere karşı çıkma cesareti gösterebilecek özgür düşünen bireylere ihtiyacı var.
3. "Modası geçmiş şeyler" ve "modası geçmiş değerler" yaşam için hala en iyi rehberdir.
4. Kürtaj, pornografi ve evlilik konusunda Allah'ın koyduğu yasalar çok geç olmadan katı bir
5. Dünya o kadar da kötü ve tehlikeli bir yer değil; toplumun güçlü bir lidere değil farklı düşünen insanlara kulak vermeye ihtiyacı var.
6. Gazeteler/sosyal medya sansürlenseydi en iyisi olurdu, böylece insanlar zararlı ve iğrenç içeriklerin etkisi altında kalamazdı.
7. Atalarımız toplumumuzu inşa etme şekilleri nedeniyle daha fazla onurlandırılmalıdır. Aynı zamanda onların inşa ettiği bu toplumu yok eden güçleri durdurmalıyız.
8. İnsanlar kutsal kitaplara ve dine daha az önem verip onların yerine kendi ahlaki standartlarını geliştirmelidir.
9. Bir şeyleri mahvetmeye çalışan pek çok radikal ve ahlak yoksunu insan var; toplum onları durdurmalıdır.
10. Kötü edebiyata katlanmak onu sansürlemekten daha iyidir.
11. Gerçekler gösteriyor ki kanun ve düzeni sağlamak için suça ve cinsel ahlaksızlığa karşı daha sert olmalıyız.
12. Eğer toplum öyle istiyorsa, ülkemizi içeriden zehirleyen kötülüğü ortadan kaldırmaya yardım etmek her gerçek yurttaşın görevidir.

APPENDIX K: SOCIAL DOMINANCE ORIENTATION SCALE (SHORT)

1. Grupların eşitliği öncelikli hedefimiz olmamalıdır.
2. Bütün grupların eşit yaşam koşullarına sahip olmasını güvence altına almaya çabalamamalıyız.
3. Grupları eşit hale getirmeye çalışmak adaletli bir şey değildir.
4. Grupların eşit olması için uğraşmamalıyız.
5. Ne kadar çaba gerektirirse gerektirsin, tüm grupların hayatta eşit şansa sahip olmasını sağlamak için mücadele etmeliyiz.
6. Grupların eşitliği idealimiz olmalıdır.
7. Tüm gruplara başarılı olmaları konusunda eşit şans vermek için çalışmalıyız.
8. Farklı grupların koşullarını eşitlemek için elimizden ne geliyorsa yapmalıyız.
9. Bazı insan grupları elbette diğer gruplardan daha aşağı konumdadır.
10. Bazı insan grupları bulundukları yerde tutulmalıdır.
11. İdeal bir toplum, bazı grupların en üstte diğer grupların ise en altta olmasını gerektirir.
12. Belirli grupların en üstte diğerlerinin en altta olması belki iyi bir şeydir.
13. En alttaki gruplar bulundukları yerde kalmak zorunda olmamalıdır.
14. Toplumda hiçbir grup baskın olmamalıdır.
15. Grup baskınlığı kötü bir şeydir.
16. En alttaki gruplar da tıpkı en üsttekiler kadar değerlidir.

APPENDIX L: NEGATIVE OUT-GROUP AFFECT SCALE

Düşmanlık

Hayranlık

Antipati

Benimseme

Üstünlük

Sevgi

Hor görme

Onaylama

Nefret

Şefkat

Dışlama

Sıcaklık

APPENDIX M: MANIPULATION CHECK

Sizden Suriyeli bir yabancı ile sohbet ettiğinizi hayal etmeniz istendi**.**

Doğru ☐

Yanlış ☐

APPENDIX N: APPROVAL OF THE METU HUMAN SUBJECTS ETHICS COMMITTEE

.

UYGULAMALI ETİK ARAŞTIRMA MERKEZİ
APPLIED ETHICS RESEARCH CENTER

ORTA DOĞU TEKNİK ÜNİVERSİTESİ
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29 OCAK 2021

Konu : Değerlendirme Sonucu

Gönderen: ODTÜ İnsan Araştırmaları Etik Kurulu (İAEK)

İlgi : İnsan Araştırmaları Etik Kurulu Başvurusu

Sayın Banu Cingöz ULU

Danışmanlığını yaptığınız Büşra Gül AKSOY'un "Hayali temasın ideolojik tutumlar, algılanan tehdit ve Suriyelilere yönelik tutum arasındaki ilişkiye etkisi: ikili süreç modeli" başlıklı araştırması İnsan Araştırmaları Etik Kurulu tarafından uygun görülmüş ve **011-ODTU-2021** protokol numarası ile onaylanmıştır.

Saygılarımızla bilgilerinize sunarız.

[redacted]

Prof. Dr. Mine MISIRLISOY
İAEK Başkanı

APPENDIX O: CURRICULUM VITAE

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Surname, Name: Gül Aksoy, Büşra
Nationality: [redacted]
Date and Place of Birth: [redacted]
Marital Status: [redacted]
Phone: [redacted]
email: [redacted]

EDUCATION

Degree	Institution	Year of Graduation
MS	METU Family Psychology	2014
BS	METU Psychology	2012
High School	Milli Piyango Anadolu High School, Isparta	2007

FELLOWSHIPS AND CERTIFICATES

2008-2014	Certificate of high honour, METU
2007-2012	TUBITAK Domestic Undergraduate Fellowship

TALKS AND SEMINARS

5.2016-7.2016	Gül Aksoy, B., & C.ngöz-Ulu, B. (2016). Gruplarda norm çatışması: norma karşı düşünceleri ifade etmeyi etkileyen faktörler. 19. Ulusal Psikoloji Kongresi, İzmir, Türkiye.

13.2016-16.2016	Çuvaş, B., Gül, B., & Doğan, G. (2016). Do Turks accept different races as neighbors? Predictors: ideological attitudes, trust different races, national identity. 39th International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP), Annual Meeting, Warsaw, Poland.
07.2011-08.2011	Misirlisoy, M., Alayli, A., Bayram, H., Dundar, C., Gul, B., Kurdoglu, P., Temizel, S., Torenli, Z., & Yurekli, O. (2011). Individual differences in susceptibility to memory illusions in the DRM Paradigm. 5th International Conference on Memory (ICOM5), York, England.

WORK EXPERIENCES

03.2014-Present	Ministry of Interior Directorate General of Migration Position: Migration Expert
11.2012-05.2013	Galaksi Conseling Center Position: Psycholog
08.2012-10.2012	Ak Psychotechnic Measurement Center Pozisyon: Psikolog

SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

2017	Gül, B. (2017). International Migration and Family Relations. Unpublished Institutional Thesis
2014	Gül, B. (2014). MS Term Project-Effects of Migration on Family Dynamics

APPENDIX P: TURKISH SUMMARY / TÜRKÇE ÖZET

Pek çok ülkeye sığınan Suriyelilerin %65'i (UNHCR, 2019b) yani 3.710.000'den fazla Suriyeli (Göç İdaresi Başkanlığı -PMM, 2021) Türkiye'de geçici koruma altındadır. Ancak mülteciler genellikle vatandaşlar tarafından hoş karşılanmamakta ve ülkelerdeki ekonomik ve sosyal sorunlardan sorumlu tutulabilmektedir. Bunun sonucunda mülteciler toplumlardaki çatışmalar ve artan gerilim nedeniyle nefret suçlarının hedefi haline gelebilmektedirler (Cagaptay, 2019; ZEW, 2019). Bu nedenle, mülteciler ve yerel halk arasındaki, gruplar arası ilişkileri geliştirmek için önyargıyı azaltmak önemlidir.

Crandall ve Eshleman (2004) önyargıyı basitçe, grup üyeliğinden dolayı bir sosyal grubun veya bireyin olumsuz değerlendirilmesi olarak tanımlamıştır. Türkiye, en fazla sayıda Suriyeliye ev sahipliği yapan ülkedir ve bu durum, ülke vatandaşları ile Suriyeliler arasında farklı türlerde (çoğunlukla olumsuz) gruplar arası ilişkilere yol açmaktadır. Bu nedenle, yerel halkın Suriyelilere karşı önyargılı olup olmadığını ve eğer önyargılı ise, Türk toplumundaki önyargının altında yatan faktörlerin neler olduğunu ortaya çıkarmak önemlidir. Ayrıca önyargıyı azaltabilecek faktörlerin ortaya çıkarılması toplumdaki çatışmaların önlenmesi açısından da önemlidir.

Bu tez çalışması, ideolojik tutumların (sağcı kanat yetkecilik ve sosyal baskınlık yönelimi), algılanan tehdit ve hayali temasın Türk halkının önyargı düzeyini anlama (Çalışma 1) ve azaltma (Çalışma 2) üzerindeki rolünü araştırmayı amaçlamaktadır. Ayrıca bu çalışmada, hayali temasın Suriyelilere yönelik önyargı üzerindeki etkisi de incelenecektir. Dış grup üyeleriyle hayali temas deneyiminin, dış gruplara yönelik ideolojik tutumlar, tehdit algısı ve önyargı arasındaki ilişkiyi etkileyeceği değerlendirilmektedir. Bu amaçla, önyargının İkili Süreç Modeli (İSM) ve Bütünleşik Tehdit teorisinin bileşenleri önyargının öncülleri olarak alınmıştır. Ek olarak hayali temasın, önyargıya eğilimli bireylerin önyargı düzeyini azaltmada düzenleyici değişken olarak etki edip etmediği incelenecektir.

Önyargı düzeyi, gruplar arası ilişkilerden, çevresel faktörlerden, sosyal kimlikten, grup üyeliğinden ve ayrıca bireysel farklılıklardan etkilenir (Allport, 1954; Brown, 2010; Ekehammar & Akrami, 2003; Guimond, Dambrun, Michinov & Duarte, 2003). Önyargının yaygın olarak incelenen iki yordayıcısı Sağ Kanat Yetkecilik (SKY; Altemeyer, 2004) ve Sosyal Baskınlık Yönelimi (SBY; Pratto, Sidanius, Stallworth & Malle, 1994) dir. Duckitt tarafından geliştirilen İkili Süreç Modeli, bir dış gruba yönelik önyargının iki ayrı yoldan oluşan bir modelle açıklanabileceğini iddia eder. Bu iki yolun ilkinde, SKY önyargı ve tutumun yordayıcısıdır ve SBY de diğer yolun yordayıcısıdır (Duckitt & Sibley, 2009). Duckitt'e (2001) göre, hem SKY hem de SBY bağımsız iki ayrı yoldan dış gruba yönelik önyargıyı yordamaktadır ve söz konusu bu iki değişken farklı kişilik özellikleri ile ilişkilidir.

SBY, gruplar arası ilişkileri belirleyen ve gruplar arası ilişkiler hakkında grupların eşit veya hiyerarşik ilişkilere sahip olması ile ilgili tercihi yansıtan ideolojik bir tutum olarak tanımlanmaktadır (Pratto vd., 1994). SBY düzeyi yüksek olan kişiler toplumdaki gruplar arası hiyerarşiyi tercih ederler ve hiyerarşiyi artıran politikaları desteklemeye ve toplumdaki eşitsizlikleri meşrulaştırmaya daha yatkındırlar (Pratto vd., 1994). Basmakalıplaştırma, dış gruplara yönelik olumsuz tutumlar, ayrımcılık ve dış gruplara yönelik şiddet gibi davranışlar yüksek SBY ile açıklanabilir (Sidanus vd., 2001).

SBY'ye benzer şekilde, SKY'nin de hem ırkçılıkla ilişkili ön yargı hem de eşcinselliğe yönelik önyargı ile anlamlı bir şekilde ilişkili olduğu bulundu (Laythe, Finkel ve Kirkpatrick, 2001; Sidanius, Pratto ve Stallworth, 1991). SBY ve SKY'nin önyargı ile yüksek oranda ilişkili bulunmasına rağmen, bu iki değişken arasındaki ilişki anlamsız veya zayıftır (Altemeyer, 2004; Pratto vd., 1994). SKY, tehlike algısı ile ilişkili iken SBY rekabet algısı ile ilişkilidir (Duckitt & Sibley, 2007). Bu ideolojik tutumler ve algılar önyargılara yol açmaktadır. Altemeyer'e (1996b) göre, SKY düzeyi yüksek olan bireyler dünyayı tehlikeli ve tehdit edici olarak değerlendirmektedir. SKY düzeyi yüksek olan insanlar, otoriteye uyarak ve itaat ederek sosyal düzeni korumaya çalışırlar. Hem SKY hem de SBY önyargıya yol açsa da, motivasyonları ve ilişkili dünya görüşleri farklıdır (Duckitt & Sibley, 2010b). İkili Süreç Modeli, benzer sonuçlara ulaşan ancak farklı dünya görüşlerine ve motivasyonel şemalara dayanan bu

farklı yollara odaklanır (Sibley & Duckitt, 2009). Yukarıda bahsedildiği gibi önyargı birbirinden bağımsız iki ideoloji ile açıklanabilir; SKY ve SBY. Bu iki ideoloji sırasıyla "tehlikeli bir dünya" veya "rekabetçi bir orman" gibi iki farklı dünya görüşü ile ilişkilendirilmektedir. Alanyazındaki çalışmalar, hangi dünya görüşünün ve ideolojinin öne çıkacağının ve tetikleneceğinin sosyal bağlama bağlı olduğunu göstermektedir. Bireyler sahip oldukları dünya görüşleri, ideolojik tutumlar ve sosyal bağlam nedeniyle bir dış gruptan tehdit algılayabilir ve buna bağlı olarak önyargı düzeyleri artabilir. Bu ilişkiden dolayı, ideolojilerin önyargı üzerindeki etkilerine tehdit algısının aracılık etmesi beklenmektedir. Bu nedenle, Bütünleşik Tehdit Teorisi (Stephan & Stephan, 1996) ve bunun İSM ile ilişkisi aşağıda incelenecektir.

Bütünleşik Tehdit Teorisi ve İSM

Bütünleşik Tehdit Teorisi (BTT), Stephan ve Stephan (1996) tarafından geliştirilmiştir. Teori, dış gruplara yönelik önyargının hedef grup tarafından tetiklenen tehdit algısıyla ilişkili olduğunu iddia etmektedir. Birçok çalışma ideolojik tutumlar (SBY ve SKY) ile tehdit algıları (sembolik tehdit ve gerçekçi tehdit) arasındaki ilişkiyi göstermiştir (örneğin Caridati vd., 2016; Charles-Toussaint & Crowson, 2010; Rios, 2013; Russo, Mirisola & Roccato, 2014). Kültüre ve sosyal normlara tehdit olarak algılanan dış gruplara yönelik önyargılarla ilişkili olan SKY'nin, bir iç grubun normlarına, değerlerine ve inançlarına yönelik tehdit algısı olarak tanımlanan sembolik tehditle daha fazla ilişkili olduğu bulunmuştur. Ek olarak, SKY ile dış gruplara yönelik önyargı arasındaki ilişkiye sembolik tehdit algısı aracılık etmiştir (Caridati, 2017; Rios, 2013; Russo, Mirisola & Roccato, 2014).

Benzer şekilde, sosyal hiyerarşiye, güce ve grup içi statüye tehdit olarak algılanan dış gruplara yönelik önyargıyla ilişkili olan SBY'nin**;** grubun gücüne, ekonomisine, varlığına ve kaynaklarına yönelik tehdit algısı olarak tanımlanan gerçekçi tehditle daha fazla ilişkili olduğu bulunmuştur (Caricati vd., 2017). Ek olarak, SBY ile dış gruplara yönelik önyargı arasındaki ilişkiye gerçekçi tehdit algısı aracılık etmiştir (Morrison & Ybarra, 2008).

Gruplar Arası Temas Teorileri

Gruplar Arası Temas Teorisi, Allport (1954) tarafından geliştirilen gruplar arası ilişkileri ve önyargıyı azaltan faktörleri açıklamak en çok çalışılan sosyal psikoloji teorilerden biridir. Gruplar arası temas teorisine göre belirli koşullar altında dış grup üyeleriyle temas önyargıyı azaltmaktadır.

Temasın gruplar arası önyargıyı azalttığı meta-analiz çalışmasında Pettigrew ve Tropp (2008) tarafından gösterildi. Söz konusu çalışmada 512 çalışma analiz edildi ve yaygın olarak çalışılan üç değişkenin aracı etkisi bulunmuştur. Dış grup hakkında bilgi sahibi olmanın önyargı düzeyini doğrudan etkilememiştir, ancak dış grup hakkında bilgi sahibi olmak, temasın önyargının azalması üzerindeki etkisi üzerinde aracı etkisi bulunmuştur. Kaygı düzeyinde azalmanın da ikinci aracı değişken olduğu belirtilmiştir. Söz konusu çalışmaya göre, gruplar arası temas, kaygı düzeylerinin azalmasını sağladı ve kaygı düzeyindeki azalma da gruplar arası önyargının azalmasını sağlamıştır. Son olarak, temas yoluyla artan empatinin de önyargıyı azaltmaya yardımcı olan üçüncü aracı değişken olarak bulunduğu belirtilmiştir. Göçmen gruplara yönelik önyargının yordayıcıları Stephan ve Stephan (1996) tarafından da incelenmiştir. Yapılan çalışmada, Amerikalıların göçmenlere yönelik önyargı düzeyinin gerçekçi tehdit, sembolik tehdit ve gruplar arası kaygı düzeyinden etkilendiği bulunmuştur. Bununla birlikte, gruplar arası temasın, gruplar arası kaygıyı (Pettigrew & Tropp, 2008) ve tehdit algısını azalttığı da bulgular arasında yer almıştır (Stephan & Stephan, 2000).

Temasın önyargıyı azaltma üzerindeki etkisi, meta-analiz çalışmalarında gösterilmiştir (Banas vd., 2020; Lemmer & Wagner, 2015; Pettigrew & Tropp, 2008). Bununla birlikte, çalışmalar olumlu temas deneyimi ile önyargı arasında olumsuz bir ilişki göstermesine rağmen, bazı deneyimler önyargının azalmasını engelleyebilmektedir. Gruplar arası iletişim deneyimi olumlu olmayabileceğinden, her iletişim deneyimi olumlu sonuçlar vermez. Bir dış grupla ilgili olumsuz deneyimler, bu dış grupla gelecekte olması muhtemel etkileşime olan istekliliği azaltabilmektedir (Meleady & Forder, 2018). Gruplar arası temasın bir diğer sınırlılığı ise yüksek önyargı, kaygı ve algılanan tehdit düzeylerinin gerçek teması engelleyebilmesidir (Binder vd., 2009,

Corrigan vd., 2003, Stephan & Stephan, 2000). Ancak yapılan araştırmalar önyargıyı azaltmak için yüz yüze ilişkilerin zorunlu olmadığını, dolaylı temas deneyimlerinin de önyargıyı azaltmada etkili olduğunu ortaya koymuştur (Bernardo vd., 2017).

Hayali Temas

Hayali temas, "bir dış grup kategorisinin bir üyesi veya üyeleriyle sosyal etkileşimin zihinsel simülasyonu" olarak tanımlanmaktadır (Crisp & Turner, 2009). Hayali temas, bireylere gerçek olayları prova etme ve planlama şansı vererek gerçek karşılaşmayı kolaylaştırır. Bu durum, kaygı düzeyini azaltır ve dış grup üyeleriyle gerçek karşılaşmanın daha olumlu olmasına imkanı sağlamaktadır (Marks, 1999). Bir durumu hayal etmek, gerçek bir durumun yaşanmasıyla benzer bir tepkiyle sonuçlanmaktadır (Giacobbe vd., 2013). Alanyazında, hayali temasın önyargıyı azalttığını ve dış grup üyelerine yönelik tutumları, niyetleri ve davranışları iyileştirdiğini gösteren çalışmalar mevcuttur (Miles & Crisp, 2014).

Bu çalışmada, ideolojik tutumlar ile hayali temas arasındaki ilişkinin gözden geçirilmesi önemlidir. Bu nedenle ilerleyen bölümde bu ilişkiye dair bulgulardan bahsedilecektir. Gruplar arası iletişim SBY düzeyini değiştirebilmektedir. Benzer şekilde, gruplar arası temasın SKY ile ilişkili olduğunu da gösteren çalışmalar literatürde vardır. Örneğin, Dhont ve Van Hiel (2009), göçmenlerle daha fazla temas deneyimi bildiren katılımcıların daha az RWA puanına ve onlara karşı daha olumlu tutumlara sahip olduğunu göstermiştir.

Gruplar arası temas, gruplara yönelik önyargıyı azaltabilmektedir. Literatür, bireysel farklılıkların gruplar arası temasın etkinliğinde nasıl bir rol oynadığını gösteren çalışmalar açısından sınırlıdır. Ancak, SBY ve SKY'nin düzenleyici etkileriyle ilgili bazı bulgular vardır. Bahsedilen ideolojik tutumlar, temasın etkisini hafifletmektedir, ancak söz konusu ideolojik tutumlardan hangisinin düzenleyici etkisinin olacağı dış gruptaki farklı özelliklerden etkilenir (Asbrock vd.,, 2012). Yüksek SKY düzeyine sahip bireyler, sosyal düzeni korumaya çalışır ve istikrara tehdit olarak algıladıkları dış gruplara karşı önyargıları vardır. Bununla birlikte, yüksek SBY düzeyine sahip bireyler statükoyu ve hiyerarşiyi korumayı amaçlarlar.

Yüksek SKY düzeyine sahip bireyler olumlu temas kurma şansına sahip olduklarında tehdit seviyeleri azalır ve buna karşılık daha olumlu tutumlara sahip olurlar (Asbrock vd., 2012). Yakın tarihli bir başka çalışmada, katılımcılardan dış grupla iletişim deneyimleri hakkında bilgi alınarak önyargı, SBY ve SKY ölçeklerindeki soruları cevaplamaları istendi. Sonuçlar, gruplararası temasın; hem SBY hem de SKY düzeyi düşük bireylerde tehdit olarak algılanan gruba yönelik önyargıyı yordadığını gösterdi. Araştırmacılar, temas-önyargı ilişkisinde ideolojik tutumların düzenleyici rollerinin hedef grup tarafından algılanan tehditten etkilendiğini öne sürdüler (Maunder vd., 2019). Literatürdeki bilgiler dorultusunda, bu çalışmada, temasın İSM ve BTT ilişkisindeki etkisini incelerken, hayali temasın farklı tehdit algıları ile önyargı arasındaki ilişkiyi farklı şekilde etkileyip etkilemediğini ortaya koymak istiyorum. Hayali temasın, SBY ve SKY'nın önyargı üzerindeki etkilerini düzenleyici bir etki etmesi beklenmektedir

Çalışma 1

Birinci çalışmanın amacı, İSM'nin Türkiye'deki Suriyeliler bağlamında incelenmeisdir. Bu çalışma, Türkiye'deki Suriyelilere yönelik önyargının İSM ile açıklanıp açıklanamayacağını ve tehdit algısının modeldeki değişkenler arasındaki ilişkilere aracılık edip etmediğini ortaya koymak amacıyla yapılmıştır. Türk halkının Suriyeliler hakkındaki düşünceleri incelendiğinde, Suriyelilerin kültüre (sembolik tehdit), ekonomiye ve esenliğe (gerçekçi tehdit) yönelik bir tehdit olarak algılandığı söylenebilir. Bu nedenle, hem SKY hem de SBY'nin Suriyelilere yönelik önyargıyı iki ayrı yoldan açıklaması ve bu ilişkiye tehdit algısının aracılık etmesi beklenmektedir.

Hipotez 1 (H1): SKY ve SBY, önyargıyı farklı yollardan ve birbirlerinden bağımsız olarak açıklayacaklardır.

Hipotez 1a (H1a): SKY ile önyargı arasındaki ilişkiye sembolik tehdit algısı aracılık edecektir.

Hipotez 1b (H1b): SBY ile önyargı arasındaki ilişkiye gerçekçi tehdit algısı aracılık edecektir.

Hipotez 2 (H2): Tehlikeli dünya inancı, SKY'nin ve sembolik tehdit algısı değişkenlerinin aracılık etkisiyle dolaylı olarak önyargıyı yordayacaktır.

Hipotez 3 (H3): Rekabet dolu orman inancı, SBY'nin ve gerçekçi tehdit algısı değişkenlerinin aracılık etkisiyle dolaylı olarak önyargıyı yordayacaktır.

Yöntem

Çalışmanın verileri çeşitli sosyal medya kanalları aracılığı ile ulaşılan ve web tabanlı çalışmaya gönüllülük esasına dayalı olarak katılan 352 yetişkinden toplanmıştır. Çalışma kapsamında kullanılan ölçekler aşağıdaki gibidir:

Demografik Bilgiler: Katılımcıların aşı, cinsiyeti, gelir durumu, eğitim seviyesi ve Suriyelilerle temas deneyimleri ile ilgili bilgiler bu form ile toplanmıştır (Bkz. Ek A).

Tehlikeli Dünya İnanışı (TDİ) Ölçeği. Bu ölçek Duckitt ve arkadaşları tarafından geliştirilmiştir (Duckitt ve ark. 2002). 1 (Kesinlikle Katılmıyor0um) ile 7 (Kesinlikle Katılıyorum) arasında puanlanan 10 adet Likert tipi maddeden oluşmaktadır. Ölçek Türkçe'ye Sayılan (2018) tarafından uyarlanmıştır (Bkz. Ek B). Bu çalışmada iç tutarlılık katsayısı .73 bulunmuştur.

Rekabet Dolu Orman İnanışı (RDO) Ölçeği. Bu ölçek Duckitt ve arkadaşları tarafından geliştirilmiştir (Duckit ve ark. 2002). 1 (Kesinlikle Katılmıyorum) ile 7 (Kesinlikle Katılıyorum) arasında puanlanan 20 Likert tipi maddeden oluşur. Ölçek Türkçe'ye Sayılan (2018) tarafından uyarlanmıştır (Bkz. Ek C).

Sağ Kanat Yetkecilik. Katılımcıların toplumsal normlara ve otoriteye uyma eğilimlerini (sağ kanat yetkecilik düzeylerini) ölçmek için Altemeyer'in (1996) 22 maddelik Likert tipi ölçeğinin Türkçe uyarlaması (Güldü, 2011) kullanılmıştır. Maddeler, 1 (Kesinlikle Katılmıyorum) ile 7 (Kesinlikle Katılıyorum) arasında puanlanmıştır (Bkz. Ek D). Ölçeğin iç tutarlılık katsayısı .93 olarak bulunmuştur.

Sosyal Bakınlık Yönelimi. Ölçek katılımcıların toplumdaki sosyal hiyerarşiyi ve eşitsizliği ne ölçüde desteklediğini ölçmek için Pratto ve arkadaşları tarafından geliştirilmiştir (1994). 16 Likert tipi maddeden oluşan bu ölçek Akbaş (2010) tarafından Türkçe'ye uyarlanmıştır. Katılımcılar maddeleri 1 (Kesinlikle Katılmıyorum) ile 7 (Kesinlikle Katılıyorum) arasında değişen bir ölçekte uygun olan değeri seçerek cevaplamışlardır (Bkz. Ek E). Ölçeğin iç tutarlılık katsayısı .89 olarak bulunmuştur.

Tehdit Ölçeği. Algılanan sembolik ve gerçekçi tehdidi ölçmek için Demirdağ ve Hasta'nın (2017; Bkz. Ek F) geliştirdiği 15 maddelik Likert tipi tehdit ölçeği kullanılmıştır. Ölçek 15 madde içermektedir. Katılımcılar, maddeleri 1 (Kesinlikle Katılmıyorum) ile 7 (Kesinlikle Katılıyorum) arasında derecelendirmiştir.

Suriyelilere Yönelik Önyargı: Katılımcıların önyargı düzeyi Bogardus (1925) tarafından geliştirilen Sosyal Mesafe Ölçeği ile ölçülmüştür. Bu ölçek Balaban (2013) tarafından Türkçe'ye uyarlanmıştır. Ölçekte, katılımcıların dış grup üyeleriyle sosyal ilişkilerinde kendilerini ne kadar rahat hissettiklerini ölçen 6 madde bulunmaktadır (Bkz. Ek G).

Bulgular

Analizlere 352 katılımcı ile başlanmıştır. Veri temizleme işlemi sonunda 246 kişinin verileri ile analizlere devam edilmiştir. Analiz edilen kişilerin 146'sı kadın ve 98'i erkektir.

Açıklayıcı Faktör Analizleri

Değişken sayısı arttıkça ölçme hatası da artar. Madde sayısını ve hatayı azaltmak için parselleme yapılmıştır (Matsunaga, 2008). Tüm ölçekler için AFA yapılmış ve parseller faktöriyel algoritma yöntemi kullanılarak oluşturulmuştur (Matsunaga, 2008). Her bir ölçek için faktör yapısını ortaya çıkarmak için açıklayıcı faktör analizi yapılmıştır. Ölçekler tek faktörlü olacak şekilde analiz yapılmış ve madde yükleri dikkate alınarak TDİ, SBY ve gerçekçi tehdit ölçekleri 3'er faktör; RDO ve SKY ölçekleri 4'er faktör oluşturulmuştur.

Ölçeklerin Güvenilirlik Testleri

Yapısal Eşitlik Modellemesi (YEM) ile hipotezlerin test edilmesinden önce ölçeklerin güvenilirliği ölçülmüştür. Sonuçlar, tüm ölçeklerin yüksek iç tutarlılığa ve .73'ün üzerinde yüksek güvenilirlik değerlerine sahip olduğu görülmüştür (Bkz. Tablo 12).

Modelin Test Edilmesi

Ölçüm modeli için elde edilen uyum indeksileri incelendiğinde χ^2/sd, NNFI (TLI) ve CFI RMSEA değerinin iyi uyum sağladığı görülmektedir (χ^2 (504.853), p = .00, χ^2/df = 1.759) , NNFI(TLI)= .953, CFI= .959, RMSEA = .056) ve GFI, AGFI ve NFI değerleri kabul edilebilir aralıktadır (GFI= .861, AGFI = .830, NFI.= .910). Sonuçlar, modelin verilere kabul edilebilir düzeyde uyum gösterdiğini göstermektedir (Bkz. Tablo 11). Standartlaştırılmış yol katsayıları incelendiğinde, TDİ ile SKY arasındaki ilişki; SBY'nİn önyargı üzerindeki doğrudan etkisi ve TDİ ile RDO arasındaki kovaryans dışında varsayılan tüm ilişkilerin anlamlı olduğu (p < .001) görülmüştür (Bkz. Şekil 2).

Sonuçlar incelendiğinde değişkenler arasındaki ilişkiler anlamlı bulunmuştır. SKY ve sembolik tehdit algısı arasında pozitif bir ilişki vardır (β = .37, p < .001). Sembolik tehdit algısı ve önyargı arasındaki ilişki anlamlı ve pozitiftir (β = .22, p < .001). Ayrıca, SKY'nin önyargı üzerindeki doğrudan etkisi de anlamlıdır (β = .19, p < .001). RDO, SBY ve gerçekçi tehdit algısı ve önyargıdan oluşan diğer yola ilişkin tüm ilişkiler de anlamlı bulunmuştur (p < .001). RDO ve SBY arasındaki ilişki (β = .48), SBY ve gerçekçi tehdit algısı arasındaki ilişki (β = .29) ve gerçekçi tehdit algısı ve önyargı arasındaki ilişki (β = .48) pozitif ve anlamlıdır..

Sonuçlar ayrıca RDO'nun SBY ve gerçekçi tehdit değişkenlerinin aracılık etkisiyle önyargı üzerinde önemli bir dolaylı etkisi olduğunu göstermiştir (β = .11, %95 GA [.04, .19], p <.05). Benzer şekilde, SKY'nin sembolik tehdidin aracılık etkisiyle önyargı üzerinde önemli bir dolaylı etkisi bulunmuştur (β = .07, %95 CI [.01, .15], p <.01) ve SBY'nin gerçekçi tehdidin aracılık etkisiyle önyargı üzerinde önemli bir dolaylı etkisi bulunmuştur (β = .13, %95 GA [.07, .22], p <.001).

Sonuçlar, modelin SBY'deki varyansın %22'sini, sembolik tehditteki varyansın %13'ünü, gerçekçi tehditteki varyansın %26'sını ve son olarak önyargıdaki varyansın %76'sını açıkladığını gösterdi.

RDO, SBY, SKY, gerçekçi tehdit ve sembolik tehdidin önyargı üzerindeki toplam etkilerinin .05 düzeyinde anlamlı olduğu görülmüştür (sırasıyla $\beta = .30$; $\beta = .43$; $\beta = .37$; $\beta = .52$; $\beta =22$).

Çalışma 2

Hayali temasın, Suriyelilere yönelik ideolojik tutumlar, tehdit algısı ve önyargı arasındaki ilişkinin gücünü azaltması beklenmektedir (beklenen model için bkz. Şekil 2).

Hipotez 4 (H4): Hayali temas, SKY ve sembolik tehdit ile sembolik tehdit ve önyargı arasındaki ilişkiyi zayıflatacaktır.

Hipotez 4a (H4a): Hayali temas deneyimi, SKY ile sembolik tehdit algısı arasındaki ilişkinin gücünü azaltacaktır.

Hipotez 4b (H4b): Hayali temas deneyimi, sembolik tehdit algısı ile önyargı arasındaki ilişkinin gücünü azaltacaktır.

Hipotez 5 (H5): Hayali temas, SBY ve gerçekçi tehdit ile gerçekçi tehdit ve önyargı arasındaki ilişkiyi zayıflatacaktır.

Hipotez 5a (H5a): Hayali temas deneyimi, SBY ve gerçekçi tehdit algısı arasındaki ilişkinin gücünü azaltacaktır.

Hipotez 5b (H5b): Hayali temas deneyimi, gerçekçi tehdit algısı ile önyargı arasındaki ilişkinin gücünü azaltacaktır.

Açıklayıcı araştırma sorusu: Suriyeli bir yabancı ile sohbet ettiğini hayal eden gruptaki hayali temas içeriği ile bir yabancı ile sohbet ettiğini hayal eden gruptaki hayali temasın içeriği birbirinden farklı mıdır?

Yöntem

Çalışmada 675 kişiden veri toplanmıştır. Veri temizleme işlemi sonunda 453 kişinin verileri ile analizlere devam edilmiştir. Kontrol grubunda 174, deney grubunda ise 279 katılımcı bulunmaktadır. Çalışma sırasında demografik bilgilerin yer aldığı form sonrasında Hayali temas uygulaması gerçekleştirilmiştir. Katılımcıların yarısından bir dakika boyunca (deney grubu) Suriyeli bir yabancı ile sohbet ettiklerini hayal etmeleri ve bu hayalin pozitif olması istenirken, katılımcıların yarısından (kontrol grubu) bir dakika boyunda bir yabancı ile sohbet ettiklerini ve bu sohbetin pozitif geçtiğini hayal etmeleri istenmiştir. Hayali temas sonrası aşağıdaki ölçekler uygulanmıştır.

Sağ Kanat Yetkecilik Ölçeği: Daha önce Altemeyer (1981) tarafından geliştirilen ve Zakrisson (2005) tarafından kısaltılan ve Sağ Kanat Yetkecilik Kısa Formu olarak adlandırılan Toy Kaplan (2021) tarafından Türkçe'ye uyarlanan 20 maddelik Likert tipi ölçek kullanılmıştır. Maddeler 1 (Kesinlikle Katılmıyorum) ile 7 (Kesinlikle Katılıyorum) arasında derecelendirilmiştir (Bkz. Ek J).

Sosyal Baskınlık Yönelim Ölçeği: Yeni Sosyal Baskınlık Yönelim Ölçeği, Ho ve arkadaşları (2015) tarafından geliştirilmiş ve Kaynak, Malatyalı ve Hasta (2021) tarafından uyarlanmıştır. 16 maddelik 7'li Likert tipi bu ölçek 1 (Kesinlikle Katılmıyorum) ile 7 (Kesinlikle Katılıyorum) arasında puanlanmaktadır (Bkz. Ek K).

Tehdit Ölçeği. Birinci çalışmada kullanılan ölçek kullanılmıltır (Bkz. Ek F).

Sosyal Mesafe Ölçeği. Birinci çalışmada kullanılan ölçek kullanılmıltır (Bkz. Ek G).

Dış Gruba Yöenelik Olumsuz Duygular Ölçeği. Stephan ve arkadaşları tarafından geliştirilen ölçek (1998), Balaban (2013) tarafından revize edilmiştir. Ölçek 12 duygusal tepkiden oluşmaktadır. Tepkilerin yarısı negatif, yarısı pozitif duyguyu ölçmektedir (Bkz. Ek L).

Bulgular

Demografik sorulara ilişkin veriler, ölçeklerin güvenilirlik analizleri, t-testleri ve değişkenler arasındaki ilişkiler IBM SPSS Statistics 23 ile analiz edilmiştir.

Analize başlarken kayıp veri analizi yapılmış ve kayıp verilerin sistematik olarak dağılmadığı görülmüştür (EM .103). Altmış kayıp veri yerine ortalama değer girilerek analiz yapılmıştır.

Değişkenler Arasındaki Korelasyonlar

Değişkenler arası korelasyonlar iki grup için ayrı ayrı jesaplanmıştır. Deney grubu için sonuçlar incelendiğinde, SBY ile sembolik tehdit (r = .19), sembolik tehdit ile SBY (r = .16), SBY ile sosyal mesafe (r = .27), SBY ile olumsuz duygu (r = .30) arasındakilerin pozitif ve anlamlı olduğu görülmüştür. SBY ile olumlu duygu arasındaki ilişki ise negatiftir (r = -.24). Ayrıca gerçekçi tehdit ile sembolik tehdit (r = .77), gerçekçi tehdit ile sosyal mesafe (r = .69), gerçekçi tehdit ile olumsuz duygu (r = .53), sembolik tehdit ve sosyal mesafe (r = .60), sembolik tehdit ve olumsuz etki (r = .45) arasında pozitif korelasyonlar bulunmuştur. Gerçekçi tehdit ve olumlu duygu arasındaki ilişki ile sembolik tehdit ve olumlu duygu arasında ise negatif korrelasyon bulunmuştur (r = -.61, r = -.54) (Bkz. Tablo 15).

Kontrol grubunda ise; SKY ve önyargı (r = .18), SKY ve negatif duygu (r = .15), SBY ve sosyal mesafe (r = .22), SBY ve negatif duygu (r = .26), gerçekçi tehdit ve sembolik tehdit (r = .66), gerçekçi tehdit ve önyargı (r = .72), gerçekçi tehdit ve olumsuz etki (r = .52), sembolik tehdit ve sosyal mesafe (r = .60) , sembolik tehdit ve olumsuz etki (r = .46) arasındaki ilişkilerin pozitif ve anlamlı olduğu görülmüştür. Bununla birlikte, pozitif duygu, SBY, gerçekçi tehdit ve sembolik tehdit ile negatif korelasyon göstermiştir (sırasıyla r = -.24; r = -.61; r = -.54) (Bkz. Tablo 15).

Modellerin Test Edilmesi

Hipotezleri test etmek için PROCESS Macro 4.1 Model 58 (Hayes, 2018) kullanılmıştır. Her önyargı ölçümü için (sosyal mesafe, olumsuz duygu ve olumlu duygu) ayrı ayrı analiz gerçekleştirildi.

Önyargıyı yordayan iki bağımsız yoldan ilki SKY ve sembolik tehditten oluşuyordu (SKY-ST-Önyargı Yolu) (Bkz. Şekil 5), benzer şekilde diğer yolun yordayıcıları ise SBYve gerçekçi tehditti (SBY-GT-Önyargu Yolu) (Bkz. Şekil 6). Analiz sırasında bu iki bağımsız yol ayrı ayrı analiz edilmiştir.

SKY-ST-Önyargı Yolu Analizinin Bulguları

Önyargı sosyal mesafe ölçeği ile ölçüldüğünde, modelin önyargıdaki dağılımı (varyance) %37 oranında açıkladığı görülmüştür: R^2 = .37, F(4, 448) = 68.33, MSE =2.01, p < .001. SKY ile sembolik tehdit arasındaki ilişki anlamlı çıkmamıştır. SKY'nin sosyal mesafe üzerindeki dolaylı etkisi de istatistiksel olarak anlamlı değildir. SKY'nin sonuç üzerinde doğrudan etkisi vardır (*B* = .11, *SE* = .05, *p* < .05, 95% CI [.0022, .2216]). Ayrıca, sembolik tehdidin, sosyal mesafe ile pozitif ilişki gösterdiği görülmektedir (*B* = .63, *SE* = .13, *p* < .001, 95% CI [.3597, .9062]). Sonuçlar, hayali temasın değişkenler arasındaki ilişki üzerinde düzenleyici etkisinin olmadığını göstermiştir (Bkz. Şekil 7).

Önyargı negatif duygu ölçeği ile ölçüldüğünde, model daha az dağılım açıklamıştır, R^2 = .21, *F*(4, 448) = 29.97, *MSE* =.70, *p* < .001. SKY ile sembolik tehdit arasındaki ilişki anlamlı değildir. Tek anlamlı yol, sembolik tehdit ile olumsuz duygu arasında bulunmuştur (*B* = .25, *SE* = .08, *p* < .05, 95% CI [.0897, .4124]) (Bkz. Şekil 8). Önyargı pozitif duygu ölçeği ile ölçündüğünde ise açıklanan dağılım %29'dur: R^2 = .29, *F*(4, 448) = 46.83, *MSE* =.60, *p* < .001. SKY'nin sonuç üzerinde doğrudan etkisi vardır (*B* = .06, *SE* = .02, *p* < .05, 95% CI [.0054, .1199]). Dahası, sembolik tehdit algısı ile pozitif duygu arasındaki ilişki negatif bulunmuştur (*B* = -.37, *SE* = .07, *p* < .001, 95% CI [-.5276, -.2278]) (Bkz. Şekil 9).

SBY-GT-Önyargı Yolu Analizinin Bulguları

SBY, gerçekçi tehdit ve önyargı değişkenlerinden oluşan bu yol, genel olarak önyargıdaki dağılımın fazla bölümünü açıklamış görünmektedir. Önyargı sosyal mesafe ölçeği ile ölçüldüğünde, açıklanan dağılım %52 idi: R^2 = .52, F(4, 448) = 125.223, MSE =1.53, p < .001. SBY, gerçekçi tehdidi önemli ölçüde yordamıştır (B = .59, SE = .21, p < .05, 95% CI [.1809, 1.0091). Ayrıca, hayali temas, SBY ile gerçekçi tehdit arasındaki ilişki üzerinde düzenleyici etkiye sahiptir (B = -.28, SE = .14, p < .05, 95% CI [-.5733, -.0016, R^2 = .008, F(1, 449) = 3.90). Düşük SBY düzeyine sahip katılımcılar için, deney grubu, kontrol grubuna kıyasla Suriyelilerden daha az gerçekçi tehdit algıladı, ancak bu fark, katılımcılar daha yüksek SDO seviyelerine sahip olduğunda kapandı (Bkz. Şekil 10).

SBY'nin sosyal mesafe üzerindeki dolaylı etkisi, deney grubu için istatistiksel olarak anlamlı bulunurken (B = .22, SE = .07, p < .05, 95% CI [.0864, .3763]), bu etki kontrol grubu için anlamlı değildir. SBY'nin önyargu üzerinde doğrudan etkisi bulunmuştır (B = .30, SE = .05, p < .001, 95% CI [.1901, .4208]). Ayrıca, gerçekçi tehdit ve sosyal mesafe arasındaki ilişki de pozitiftir (B = .54, SE = .11, p < .001, 95% CI [.3168, .7746]) (Bkz. Şekil 11).

Ayrıca, hayali temas, gerçekçi tehdit ile sosyal mesafe arasındaki ilişkiyi zayıflatmıştır (B = .19, SE = .08, p < .05, 95% CI [0342, .3581, R^2 = .006, F(1, 448) = 5.66). Gerçekçi tehdit düzeyi düşükken, kontrol grubundaki katılımcılara kıyasla deney grubunda daha yüksek düzeyde sosyal mesafe tercih etmektedir. Katılımcılar arasında gerçekçi tehdit algısı arttıkça, Suriyeli biri ile sohbet ettiğini hayal etmek, Suriyelilere yönelik önyargının (sosyal mesafe açısından) azalmasını sağlamıştır (Bkz. Şekil 12). Gerçekçi tehdit arttıkça her iki grup için de önyargı (sosyal mesafe açısından) arttı.

Önyargı, olumsuz duygu ölçeği ile ölçüldüğünde, model önyargıdaki dağılımın%33'ünü açıklamıştır: R^2 = .33, F(4, 448) = 55.31, MSE=.59, p < .001. SBY'nin olumsuz duygu üzerindeki dolaylı etkisi, deney grubu için istatistiksel olarak anlamlı bulunmuştur (B = .09, SE = .03, p < .05, 95% CI [.0331, .1522]). SBY'nin önyargı üzerinde doğrudan etkisi de pozitiftir (B = .20, SE = .03, p < .001, 95% CI

[.1378, .2818]). Ayrıca, gerçekçi tehdit, Suriyelilere yönelik olumsuz duygular ile pozitif olarak ilişkilidir B = .23, SE = .07, p < .001, 95% CI [.0945, .3801]).

Son modelde sonuç değişkeni pozitif duygu ölçeği ile değiştirilmiştir. Yine açıklanan varyans %39'dur: R^2 = .39, F(4, 448) = 73.122, MSE =.5169, p < .001. SBY, Suriyelilere yönelik olumlu duyguyu doğrudan ve dolaylı olarak yordamıştır. Ayrıca, SBY ve gerçekçi tehdit arasındaki ilişki de anlamlıdır (B = .59, SE = .21, p < .05, 95% CI [.1809, 1.0091).

SBY'nin olumlu duygu üzerindeki dolaylı etkisi de, deney grubu için istatistiksel olarak anlamlıdır (B = -.10, SE = .03, p < .05, 95% CI [-.1788, -.0389]). SBY ile önyargı arasındaki doğrudan ilişki negatif ve anlamlıdır (B = -.09, SE = .03, p < .05, 95% CI [-.1639, -.0298]). Ayrıca, gerçekçi tehdit de pozitif duygu ile negatif ilişkilidir (B = -.31, SE = .06, p < .001, 95% CI [-.4518, -.1859]) (Bkz. Şekil 14).

Hayal İçeriği

Çalışma 2'de "Hayali temas içerikleri arasında farklılıklar var mı? (örneğin, sosyal statüdeki farklılıklar, temas pozitifliği vb.) Eğer varsa ne gibi farklar var?" sorularına da cevap aranmıştır. Bir yabancıyla (ya da Suriyeli ile) sohbet hayal ettikten sonra katılımcılara aşağıdaki açık uçlu sorular soruldu. Katıımcılardan gelen cevaplar aşağıda genel hatlarıyla açıklanmıştır.

"Sohbet ettiğiniz kişinin cinsiyeti nedir?"

Cevaplar incelendiğinde hem deney (%72) hem de kontrol grubunun (%68) çoğunluğunun aynı cinsiyetten biri ile sohbet ettiğini hayal ettiği görülmüştür.

"Sohbet ettiğini kişi yaklaşık kaç yaşlarındadır?"

Deney grubunda, katılımcıların %6,4'ü kendileri ile aynı yaşta, %37'sinin hayal ettiği kişi kendilerinden en fazla 5 yaş büyük veya en fazla 5 yaş küçüktür. Katılımcıların %13'ü kendilerinden en az 6 yaş büyük birini hayal ederken, katılımcıların %41'i kendilerinden en az 6 yaş küçük birini hayal ettiği görülmüştür. Kontrol grubunda ise katılımcıların %8'i kendiisiyle aynı yaşta, yaklaşık %48'i kendisinden en fazla 5 yaş

büyük veya en fazla 5 yaş küçük birini hayal etmiştir. Katılımcıların %13'ü kendilerinden en az 6 yaş büyük birini hayal etderken, %28'i kendilerinden en az 6 yaş küçük birini hayal etmiştir (Bkz. Tablo 16). Sonuç olarak, deney koşulundaki katılımcıların, kontrol koşulundaki katılımcılara göre kendilerinden daha genç bir kişiyi hayal etme eğiliminde oldukları söylenebilir.

"Sohbet ettiğiniz kişinin görünüşünü tarif eder misiniz? Sizinle benzerlikleri ve farklılıkları nelerdir?"

Deney grubundaki katılımcılar, kendilerinden farklı bir giyim tarzına sahip bir partner hayal etme eğiliminde olmuşlar ve partnerlerinin dış görünüşünü daha olumsuz sıfatlarla tanımlamışlardır. Kontrol grubundaki katılımcılar ise kendilerine benzer giyim tarzına sahip bir partneri hayal etme eğiliminde olup partnerlerinin dış görünüşünü daha olumlu sıfatlarla tanımlamışlardır.

"Hayal ettiğiniz kişinin görünüşüne göre tahminde bulunsanız, gelir seviyesinin ne olabileceğini düşünüyorsunuz? Konuştuğunuz kişi ne iş yapıyor olabilir?"

Deney grubundaki katılımcılar, hayal ettikleri partnerlerinin garson, berber, Arapça öğretmeni, temizlikçi, tercüman, çırak, kağıtçı toplayıcı, dilenci, esnaf, fabrika işçisi, inşaat işçisi, hamal, hurdacı olabileceğini belirtmişlerdir. Kontrol grubundaki kişiler hayal ettikleri kişilerin akademisyen, avukat, bankacı, mühendis, tercüman, doktor, hemşire, yazılımcı olabileceğini belirtmişlerdir.

"Sohbet ettiğini kişinin eğitim durumu ne olabilir? Sizin eğitim durumunuza benzer mi farklı mı olduğunu düşünüyorsunuz?"

Deney grubunda, katılımcıların yaklaşık %26'sı hayali partnerlerinin kendileriyle aynı eğitim düzeyine sahip olduğunu bildirmiştir. Katılımcıların %55'i hayali partnerinin eğitim seviyesinin kendilerinden düşük olduğunu ve sadece %2'si hayali partnerinin eğitim seviyesinin kendilerinden yüksek olduğunu belirtmiştir. Öte yandan, kontrol grubundaki katılımcıların yaklaşık %47'si hayali partnerlerinin kendileriyle aynı eğitim düzeyine sahip olduğunu, %31'i hayali partnerinin eğitim seviyesinin kendilerinden düşük olduğunu ve sadece %9'u hayali partnerinin eğitim seviyesinin

kendilerinden yüksek olduğunu belirtmişlerdir. Deney grubundaki katılımcıların eğitim düzeyi daha düşük olan bir partneri hayal etme eğiliminde oldukları, ancak kontrol grubundaki katılımcıların çoğunluğunun kendi eğitim seviyelerine sahip bir partneri hayal etme eğiliminde oldukları söylenebilir.

"Nasıl bir ortamda sohbet ettiğinizi hayal ettiniz?"

Her iki gruptaki katılımcılar hayal ettikleri sohbetin evde, parkta, işte, kafede, istasyonda, toplu taşıma araçlarında ya da sokakta olduğunu belirtmiştir. Deney grubundaki katılımcıların pek çoğu sokakta bir kağıt toplayıcı, çöpçü, dilenci vb. ile bir sohbet hayal ederken, kontrol grubundaki katılımcıların çoğunluğu bir kafede arkadaş olabilecekleri bir kişi ile sohbet ettiklerini hayal etmişlerdir.

"Hangi konuda sohbet ettiniz? (sohbet ettiğiniz kişi size ne dedi, siz ona ne dediniz olabildiğince ayrıntılı bir şekilde yazınız"

Deney grubundaki katılımcılar genellikle çocukları, ekonomi, göç, ülkelerinin durumu, ülkelerine dönmeyi planlayıp planlamadıkları, savaş (Suriye savaşı, çatışma...), siyaset, günlük konular hakkında bir konuşma hayal ederken, kontrol grubundaki katılımcılar ise genel olarak ekonomi, çocuklar ve günlük konular hakkında bir sohbeti hayal ettiklerini belirtmişlerdir.

"Sohbet ederken ne hissettiniz?"

Deney grubundaki katılımcıların büyük çoğunluğu hayali temas sırasında kendilerini rahatsız, mesafeli, gergin, üzün, şefkatli, kötü, canı sıkılmış, öfkeli, isteksiz veya kaygılı hissettiklerini belirtmişlerdir. Kontrol grubundaki katılımcılar ise hayali temas sırasında kendileirni mutlu, heyecanlı, keyifli, olumlu ve Karşısındaki kişiye imrenmiş hissettiklerini belirtmişlerdir. Sonuç olarak, Suriyeli bir yabancı ile sohbet hayali kuran katılımcıların büyük çoğunluğunun olumsuz duyguları daha fazla hissettikleri, kontrol grubundaki katılımcıların ise daha olumlu duygular hissetmeye meyilli oldukları söylenebilir.

Tartırma ve Sonuç

İlk çalışma İSM'yi Suriyeliler bağlamında incelemek için gerçekleştirilmiştir. Bulgular, SKY ve SBY'nin önyargıyı farklı yollardan bağımsız olarak yordadığını gösterdi. Bu sonuç literatürle uyumludur (Duckit ve Sibley, 2010b). İSM'de tehdit algısının aracı etkisini ortaya koyan Matthews ve Levin'in (2012) sonuçlarına benzer şekilde, bu çalışmada da algılanan tehditler değişkenler arasındaki ilişkilere aracılık etmektedir. SKY'den önyargıya giden yolda sembolik tehdit algısı aracılık ederken, SBY'den önyargıya giden yolda gerçekçi tehdit algısı aracılık etmiştir. Sonuçlar ayrıca Caricati ve arkadaşlarının (2016), ideolojik tutumlar (SBY ve SBY) ile göçmenlere yönelik önyargı arasındaki ilişkide gerçekçi tehdit ve sembolik tehdidin aracı etkilerini ortaya koyduğu çalışma ile de tutarlıdır. Değişkenler arasındaki pozitif ilişkiler, Türk vatandaşlarında artan SKY ve SBY düzeylerinin, artan tehdit algısı ve artan tehdit algısı ile de Suriyelilere yönelik artan önyargı düzeyi ile ilişkili olduğu anlamına gelmektedir. Sayılan (2018), RDO ile SBY arasında orta düzeyde ve pozitif bir ilişki olduğunu ortaya koymuştur. Ayrıca, RDO'nun önyargıyı SBY aracılığıyla dolaylı olarak yordadığı da bulunmuştur (Duckitt, 2001). Literatür sonuçlarıyla tutarlı olarak, bu çalışmada RDO'nun SDO ve gerçekçi tehdit algısı aracılığıyla önyargıyı dolaylı olarak yordadığıbulunmuştur.

İlk çalışmada, TDİ ve SKY arasındaki ilişki anlamlı bulunmamıştır. Suriyelilere yönelik önyargı, "Dünya tehlikeli bir yerdir" şeklindeki dünya görüşü ile açıklanamamıştır. Ayrıca Türkiye'de İSM'nin çalışıldığı başka bir araştırmada da, TDİ ile SKY arasındaki ilişki beklendiği gibi çıkmamıştır. TDİ ve SKY arasındaki ilişki anlamlı bulunmamıştır. Söz konusu çalışmada beklenmedik sonuçlar, Türkiye'nin kültürel ve sosyo-politik bağlamı ile açıklanmıştır (Birdir ve diğerleri, 2022). Clifton ve Kerry (2022), TDİ ölçeğinin bazı tür tehlikeleri olduğundan fazla abartılmış şekilde ele aldığını, bu nedenle farklı ideolojilere sahip grupları ayırt edemediğini iddia etmiştir. TDİ, çalışmalarda ideolojilerdeki önemli farklılıkları açıklayamamıştır. Bu nedenle, ideolojik tutumlar ile tehlikeli dünya inancı arasındaki ilişki incelenerek ilişkiler daha net hale getirilebilir. Bu, farklı faktörlerin değişkenler arasındaki ilişkinin gücünü veya yönünü değiştirebileceğini göstermektedir. Bu nedenle, TDİ ve

SKY arasındaki ilişkinin gücünü etkileyen sosyo-politik ya da kültürel düzenleyici bir faktör olabilir. Sonraki çalışmalarda muhtemel faktörler ve ilişkinin neden beklenilen gibi çıkmadığı daha detaylı incelenebilir.

İkinci çalışmada, algılanan tehdit, ideolojik tutumlar ve önyargı arasındaki ilişkide hayali temasın etkileri incelenmiştir. Hayali temasın değişkenler arasındaki ilişkinin gücünü azaltacağı varsayılmıştır. Ancak hipotezler kısmen desteklenmiştir. Hayali temas, gerçekçi tehdit ile sosyal mesafe arasındaki ilişkinin gücünü azaltmıştır. Bununla birlikte, hayali temas, SKY ile sembolik tehdit arasındaki ilişkiyi değiştirmemiştir. Önyargı, sosyal mesafe ölçeği ile ölçüldüğünde, beklendiği gibi, SKY, önyargıyı sembolik tehdidin kısmi aracılığı ile açıklamaktadır. Ayrıca sembolik tehdit ve önyargı arasındaki ilişkiler anlamlı ve beklendiği yöndedir. Ancak, SKY ile olumlu duygu arasındaki ilişki beklentinin tersi olmuştur. SKY ve negatif duygu arasındaki ilişki anlamlı değildir. Bu beklenmedik sonuca yol açan karıştırıcı değişkenler olabilir. Gorska ve arkadaşlarının (2022) çalışmasında, sosyal normlar, önyargı öncülleri ve önyargı arasındaki ilişki ayrıntılı olarak açıklanmıştır. Önyargının uyumla (conformity) ilişkili olduğu (Allport, 1954) ve Grup Norm Teorisine göre (Sheriff & Sheriff, 1953), uyuma benzer şekilde grup normlarının, insanların dış gruplara yönelik görüşlerini ve tutumlarını şekillendirdiği iddia edilmektedir (aktaran Gorska vd., 2022). Dahası, hoşgörülü sosyal normlardan ziyade hoşgörüsüz sosyal normlar önyargıyla daha fazla ilişkilidir. Bireyin dış gruplara karşı hoşgörüsü, SKY seviyeleri benzer olmasına rağmen ABD'nin farklı bölgelerinde farklılık göstermektedir (Gorska vd., 2002). Dış gruba yönelik hoşgörüdeki bu fark, farklı bölgelerdeki sosyal normlardaki farklılıklarla açıklanmıştır. Ek olarak, SKY ile önyargı arasındaki ilişki bazı durumlarda tersine dönebilir ve SKY düzeyleri yüksek olan insanlar, çok kültürlülüğü ve dış gruplara yönelik nefret söyleminin yasaklanmasını destekleyebilir. Hükümet çok kültürlülüğü desteklediğinde ve sosyal norm dış gruplara yönelik ayrımcılığa karşı politikaları desteklediğinde, SKY ile önyargı arasındaki ilişki tersine dönebilir (Bilewicz, 2015; Gorska vd., 2022; Roets, 2015). Bu, SKY düzeyi yüksek olan bireylerin otoriteye ve sosyal normlara uyma eğilimi ile açıklanabilir (Gorska vd., 2022). SKY ile pozitif duygu arasındaki negatif ilişki, SKY düzeyi yüksek kişilerin, Suriyelilerin varlığını destekleyen hükümet

politikalarına (otoriteye uymak) ve misafirperverliği destekleyen sosyal normlara uyma eğilimlerinin bir sonucu olabilir.

SDO, gerçekçi tehdit ve önyargı arasındaki ilişkinin tümü beklentilerle tutarlıydı. Hayali temas, gerçekçi tehdit ile sosyal mesafe arasındaki ilişkiyi beklenildiği şekilde etkiledi. Bununla birlikte, önyargı pozitif ne negatif duygu ölçekleriyle ölçüldüğünde; hayali temas, gerçekçi tehdit ile önyargı arasındaki ilişkiyi etkilemedi. Bu bulgunun olası açıklaması, duyguyu değiştirmenin, gelecekteki temas niyetini oluşturmaktan daha zor olması olabilir (inceleme için bkz. Fırat & Ataca, 2020; Crisp ve diğerleri, 2010).

Beklenmeyen sonuçların bazı nedenleri olabilir. Birincisi, çalışmada değişkenlere ilişkin ön test yapılmamıştır. Hayali temasın, dış gruplara yönelik önyargı düzeyi düşük olan kişilere kıyasla, daha fazla önyargı düzeyine sahip kişiler için daha etkili olduğu tespit edilmiştir (West vd., 2017). Bu nedenle, insanlar çalışmanın başında düşük düzeyde RWA, SDO, tehdit algısı ve önyargıya sahip olabilir ve bu nedenle hayali temastan etkilenmeyebilirler.

İkincisi, hayali temas karıştırıcı değişkenlerin etkisinde kalmış olabilir. Örneğin, hayali temas yönergelerinin yazı boyutu nedeniyle zor okunmasının bile katılımcıların ön yargı düzeylerinin artmasına neden olduğu bulunmultur (West & Bruckmüller, 2013). Online olarak toplanan veride katılımcıların nasıl şartlar altında çalışmaya katıldıkları bilinememktedir. Telefonlardan ya da bilgisayardan girmiş olabilirler, çalışmaya katıldıkları cihazın ışık ayarı ya da ekran boyutu okumayı zorlaştırarak hayali temasın olumlu etkisinin ortaya çıkmasını engellemiş olabilir.

Üçüncüsü, hayal içerikleri incelendiğinde, bazı katılımcıların yönergede belirtildiği halde olumlu ve rahat bir sobet hayal etmedikleri görülmüştür. Deney grubundaki katılımcıların bir kısmı sohbet sırasında öfke, kızgınlık, üzüntü hissettiklerini bildirmişlerdir. Bu nedenle, hayali temasın beklenen olumlu etkisi görülmemiş olabilir. Bu durum literatürle de uyumludur, olumlu hayali temasın sağlanamaması istenilen sonuçlara ulaşılamamasına yol açabilir (West vd., 2011).

Dördüncüsü, yüksek statülü bir Suriyeli yabancı hayal eden kişilerin, Suriyelilerle ilerideki muhtemel temas konusuna daha olumlu bakma eğiliminde oldukları bulunmuştur (Yurtbakan, 2019). Bu çalışmada katılımcıların hayali temas kuracakları kişlerin statüsü ile ilgili herhangi bir sınırlama yoktur, katılımcılara Suriyeli bir yabancıyı hayal etmeleri söylendiğinde akıllarına ne geliyorsa onu hayal etmişlerdir. Hayal edilen kişi yüksek statülü veya düşük statülü olabilir. Hayal içerikleri incelendiğinde katılımcıların kendilerinden daha düşük statüde biri ile sohbet etme eğiliminde oldukları görülmüştür. Dolayısıyla bu, hayali temasın olumlu olabilecek etkisini baskılayablir.

Beşinci olarak, veri toplama sürecinde katılımcılara Suriyeli birini tanıyıp tanımadıkları, tanıyorlarsa ne sıklıkta görüştükleri sorulmuştur. Bunun her iki grup için de bir ön hazırlama (priming) etkisi olabilir. Kontrol durumunda olan bireyler de bu nedenle etkilenmiş olabilir. Ayrıca bu, her iki grup için de Suriyelilerle olan olumsuz temas deneyimleirni hatırlatma ihtğimalini ortaya çıkarmıştır. Bu etki nedeniyle hayali temasın olumlu olabilecek etkisi engellenmiş olabilir. Bu soruların, hayali temas ve ilgli tüm ölçekler uygulandıktan sonra çalışmanın sonunda sorulması daha uygun olurdu.

Mevcut çalışmanın bir diğer amacı da, katılımcıların bir yabancıyla sohbet ettiklerini hayal ettikleri kontrol grubu ile Suriyeli bir yabancıyla sohbet ettiklerini hayal ettikleri deney grubunun hayali temas içerikleri arasında bir fark olup olmadığını ortaya çıkarmaktı. İçerik analizi sonucunda, deney grubundaki katılımcıların, kontrol grubundaki katılımcılara kıyasla kendilerinden daha genç bir kişiyi hayal etme eğiliminde oldukları söylenebilir. Deney grubundaki katılımcılar genellikle kağıt toplayıcı, çöp toplayıcı, dilenci, esnaf, fabrika işçisi veya inşaat işçisi olabileceğini düşündükleri, kendilerine göre daha az eğitimli gelir düzeyi kendilerinden daha düşük bir Suriyeli hayal ettiklerini belirtmişlerdir. Ancak kontrol grubundaki katılımcılar hayali partnerlerini, deney grubundaki hayali partnerlere göre daha eğitimli, yetenekli ve daha yüksek gelir düzeyine sahip olarak tanımlama eğilimindedirler. Deney grubundaki katılımcılar, kendilerinden farklı bir giyim tarzına sahip birini hayal etmişler ve hayali partnerleirnin dış görünüşünü daha olumsuz sıfatlarla

betimlemişlerdir. Kontrol grubundaki katılımcılar ise kendilerine benzer giyim tarzına sahip bir hayali partner hayal edip, hayali partnererinin dış görünüşünü daha olumlu sıfatlarla tanımlamışlardır. Ayrıca, bir Suriyeli ile sohbet ettiğini hayal eden katılımcılar daha olumsuz duygular yaşarken, kontrol grubundaki katılımcıların çoğunluğu sohbet sırasında daha olumlu duygular hissetmiştir. Bu bulgular, Türkiye'de Suriyelilere yönelik bir ön yargı olduğunu göstermiştir.

Bu çalışma bazı açılardan literatüre katkı sağlamaktadır. Birincisi, bu çalışmahayali temas içeriğine odaklanan ilk çalışmadır. Hayal içeriğine odaklanmak, insanların düşünce ve duygularını daha detaylı anlama imkanı vermektedir. İnsanların Suriyelileri daha az eğitimli ve vasıfsız olarak tanımlama eğiliminde olduklarını göstermektedir. Ayrıca katılımcılar, Suriyelilerin sosyoekonomik statüsünün ve gelir düzeyinin kendilerinden daha düşük olduğunu bildirmiştir. Bu açıdan bu araştırmanın hayali temas literatürüne değerli bir katkı sağlayacağını düşünüyorum. İdeolojik tutumların ve tehdit algısının bu içerikler üzerindeki etkisinin incelenmesi de bulguları daha da zenginleştirebilir.

İkincisi, alanyazındaki çalışmaların çoğu üniversite öğrencilerinden veri toplamıştır. Bu çalışmada çeşitli eğitim düzeyi, gelir düzeyi ve farklı yaş gruplarından katılımcılardan veri topladım. Mümkün olduğunca farklı grubu kapsayan bir örnekleme ulaşmaya çalıştım.

Üçüncüsü, tüm hipotezler desteklenmese de, bu çalışma İSM'nin Türkiye'deki Suriyeler bağlamını açıklayan bir model olduğunu gösterdi. Literatürle tutarsız olan bulgular, İSM'ne teorik bir iyileştirme gerekebileceğini göstermiştir. Ayrıca, sonuçlar hayali temasın ne zaman, hangi koşullarda işe yaradığını daha detaylı ortaya koymak amacıyla daha fazla araştırmaya duyulan ihtiyacı göstermiştir.

Mevcut çalışmada bazı sınırlılıklar da vardır. Öncelikle çalışmada, katılımcılara internet üzerinden ulaşılmıştır. Tek katılım kriteri Türk vatandaşı olmak ve 18 yaşından büyük olmaktı. Ancak azımsanmayacak sayıda Suriyeli, Türk vatandaşlığını kazanmıştır (yaklaşık yarım milyon). Bu nedenle bu çalışmaya katılma şartlarını taşıdıkları için katılmış olabilirler ama bu durumla ilgili herhangi bir soru sorulmadığı

için bu katılımcılar tespit edilememektedir. Bahsedildiği gibi sonradan vatandaşlık kazanan göçmenler çalışmada var ise çalışmanın sonuçları etkilenmiş olabilir. Sonraki çalışmalarda daha kapsamlı demografik soru sorulması yerinde olacaktır.

Çalışmadaki ikinci sınırlılık ise ideolojik tutumları, tehdit algısını ve önyargı düzeyini ölçmek için bir son test ölçümü kullanılmasıdır. Farklı koşullarda farklı katılımcılar yer almıştır. Yani, bu çalışmanın analizi, farklı katılımcılar tarafından farklı koşullarda alınan puanların karşılaştırılmasından oluşuyordu. Ancak bir uygulamanın (hayali temas) etkinliğini ölçmek için her bireydeki değişimi tespit etmek daha etkili bir yöntem olabilir. Bu nedenle, önce ön testlerin, ardından hayali temasın, son olarak da son testlerin uygulandığı bir çalışma ile hayalin temasın etkisi tekrar değerlendirilebilir.

Üçüncü sınırlılık kontrol edilemeyen faktörlerdir. Türkiye'de milyonlarca mülteci var ve insanların Suriyelilerle doğrudan veya dolaylı temas deneyimleri bulunmaktadır. Hemen hemen her gün sosyal medyada ya da televizyonda genel olarak olumsuz haberlere maruz kalmaktadırlar. Dolayısıyla bir dakikalık olumlu hayali temas uygulaması bu olumsuz maruziyeti tersine çevirmek için yeterince etkili olamayabilir. Medyada yer alan olumsuz haberler, azınlığa yönelik olumsuz tutumları artırmaktadır. Ancak dış grup üyeleriyle olumlu ve yakın temas deneyimleri, olumsuz haberlerin olumsuz tutumlar üzerindeki etkisini azaltmaktadır (Fuochi, 2019). Tekrarlanan pozitif hayali temas, ideolojik tutumlar, tehdit algısı ve önyargı arasındaki ilişkinin gücünü azaltabilir. Ayrıca, hayali temasın ayrıntılı ve canlı olması da etkinliği artırmaktadır. Bu nedenle, daha canlı, ayrıntılı, eşit statüden bir yabancı ile temasın hayal edildiği yönergelerle ve tekrarlı hayali temas uygulamalarının olduğu çalışmalar hayali temasın etkisini artıran faktörlerin de incelenmesi açısından önemli olacaktır.

Sonuç olarak, çalışmalar, Suriyelilere yönelik önyargının İSM ve BTT ile açıklanabileceğini göstermiştir. Hayali temas, önyargıyı ve tehdit algısını azaltabilir. (düşük SDO'lu kişilerde gerçekçi tehdit algısı). Ayrıca otorite figürleri ve sosyal normlar önyargının şekillenmesinde önemli bir rol oynamaktadır. Otorite figürleri, politikacılar ve politika yapıcılar için bulgular yol gösterici olabilir.

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