FAMILY TIES AND FORMATION OF GENERALIZED TRUST



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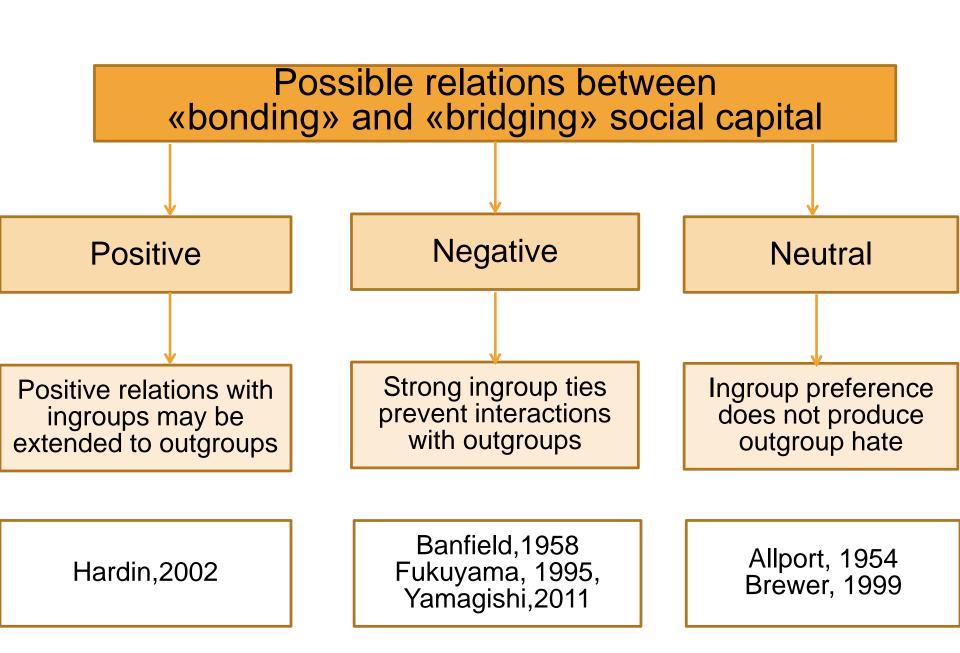
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According to Putnam et al. (1994) social capital «refers to features of social organization, such as trust, norms and networks, that can improve the efficiency of society by facilitating coordinated actions».

Putnam (Putnam, 2001, p. 22) draws a line between «bonding» and «bridging» social capital.

- «bonding» or exclusive social capital is «inward looking and tend to reinforce exclusive identities and homogeneous groups»
- «bridging» or inclusive social capital «outward looking and encompass people across diverse social cleavages»



«Bonding» ties and generalized trust

Authors	Sample	Bonding SC	Relations
Alesina and Giulino	Polled dataset of 6 WVS waves	Family values	Negative
Growiec and Growiec	WVS 4	Family values	Insignificant
Oorshot et al.	EVS 1999-2000	Socializing with family	Negative
Kääriäinen and Lehtonen	European	Socializing with parents, siblings, children and close friends	Insignificant
Oorshot et al.	EVS 1999-2000	Socializing with friends	Positive
Newton and Zmerli	WVS 5	Index of particularized trust (family, neighbors, known people)	Positive
Delhey and Welzel	WVS 5	Index of ingroup trust (family, neighbors, known people)	Positive

Possible explanations

- The mediation influence of social context (economic, institutional, cultural, ethnic etc.)
- Different sets of independent variables
- Different ways of measurement of «bonding» ties

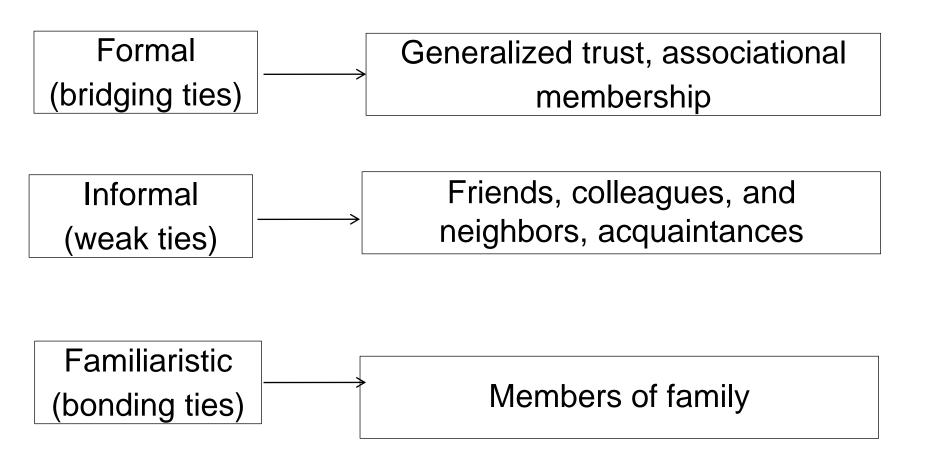
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Possible solutions

- Differentiate family from the circle of known people beyond family and treat this concepts separately
- Take into account the moderation effect of social context

Types of social capital (Pichler and Wallace, 2007)



Is influence of familiaristic social capital negative?

- Family is a primary ingroup. According to Allport (1954) and Brewer (1999) ingroup love does not necessarily produce outgroup hate.
- Hate may emerge under the conditions of:
 - Competition over scant resources;
 - Social cleavages
 - Collectivist culture (Brewer, 1999)

Hypothesis

- H1: In societies with low level of economic development the influence of family ties on generalized trust should be negative while in rich countries family ties has no impact on generalized trust.
- H2: In highly fragmented societies family ties has negative impact on generalized trust while in more homogeneous countries family does not affect generalized trust.
- H3: In collectivistic countries family ties decrease the level of generalized trust while in individualistic societies their impact is insignificant.

Indicators of social capital in WVS 5 & 6

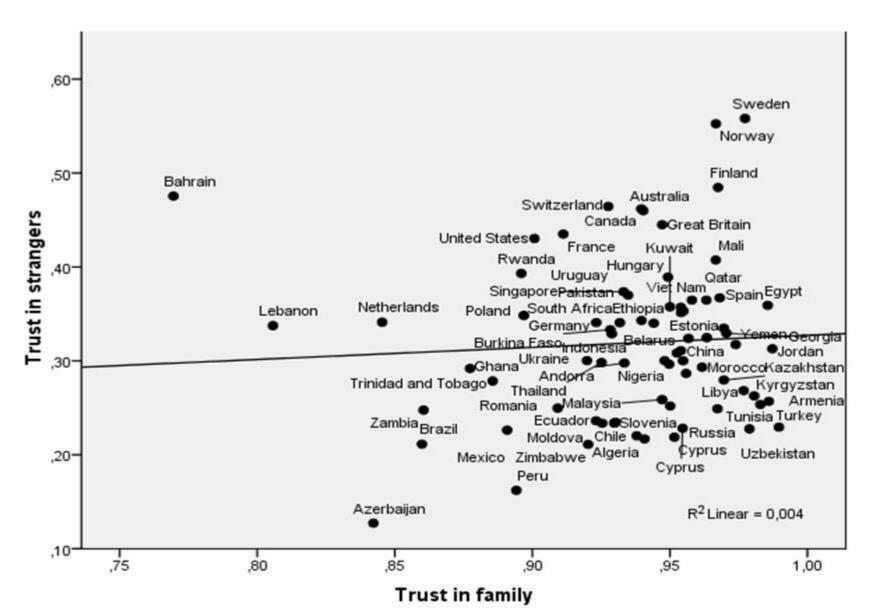
	Structural	Relational	Cognitive*
Definition	Connections between actors	Personal relations	Recourses providing shared representations and meanings
Familiaristic SC	Living with parents	Trust in family, Importance of family	-
Weak SC		Importance of friends, Trust in people known personally	_

^{*}Nahapiet & Ghoshtal, 1998

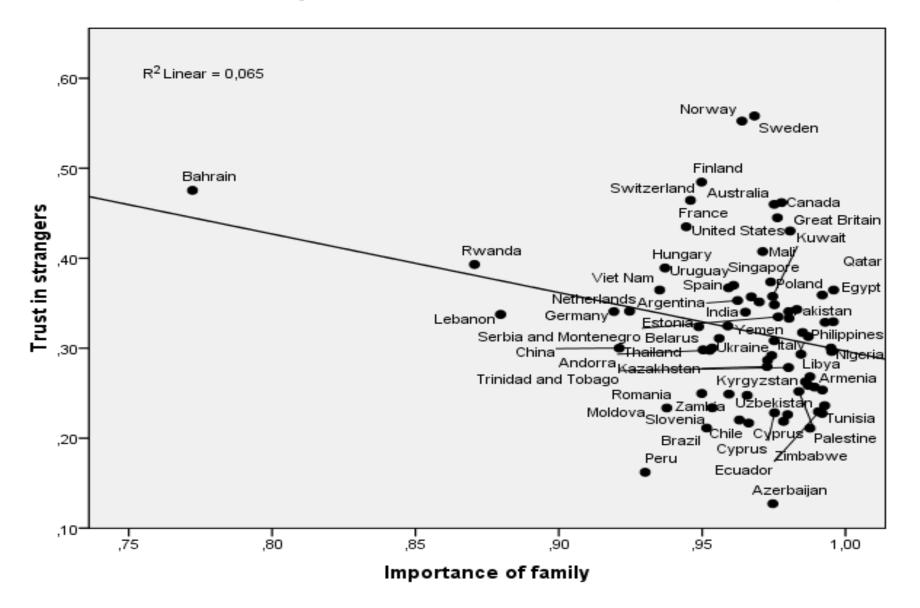
Methods and steps of analysis

- Data. The 5th and the 6th wave of the World Values Survey
- Main dependent variable: trust in people one meets for the first time
- Control variables: age, gender, education, subjective wellbeing, financial satisfaction, active membership in civic associations, emancipative values, confidence in different institutions
- Variables at the country-level: GDP PPP, Gini, ethnic fractionalization index (Alesina et al., 2003), emancipative values
- Method: multilevel regression modeling with interaction effects

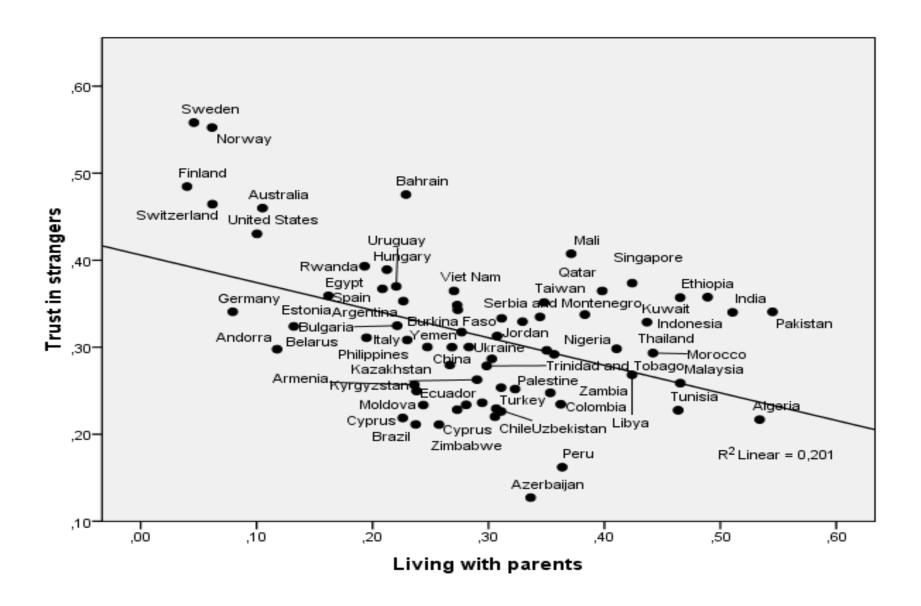
Trust in strangers and trust in family



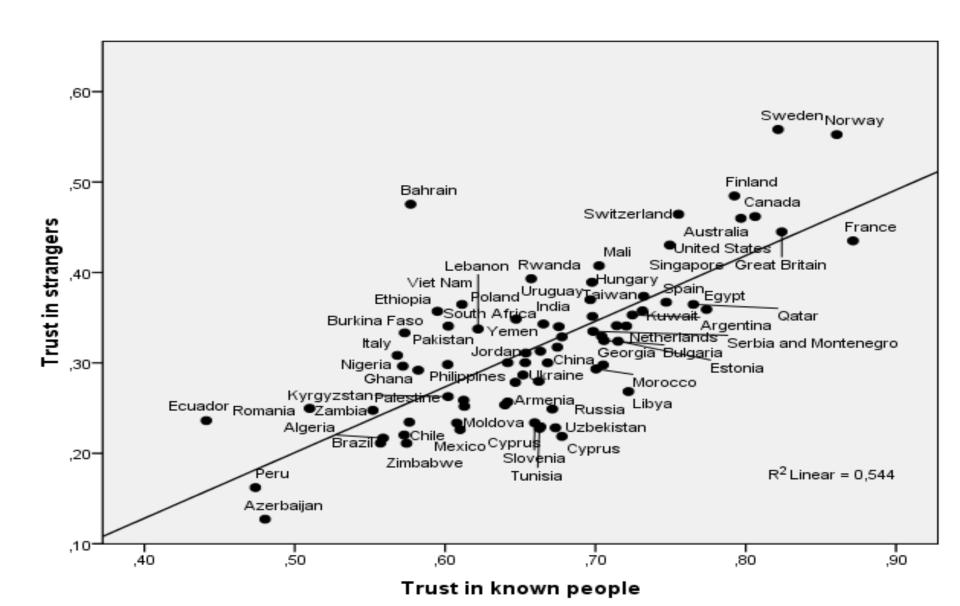
Trust in strangers and importance of family



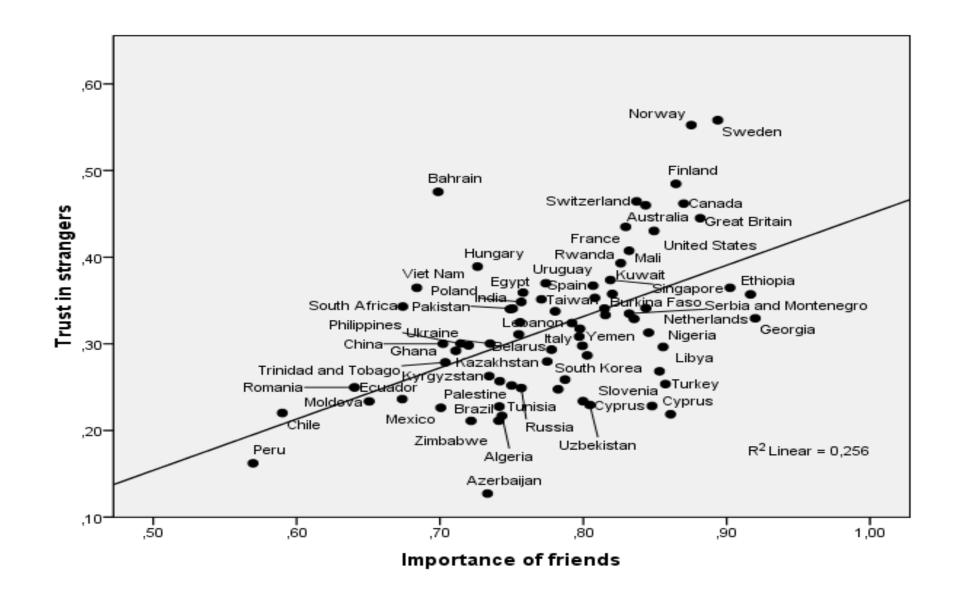
Trust in strangers and living with parents



Trust in strangers and trust in known people



Trust in strangers and importance of friends



Multilevel models without control variables

	Lowest level of GDP (Ethiopia)	Highest level of GDP (Qatar)
Trust in family	Positive	Insignificant
Importance of family	Insignificant	Insignificant
Living with parents	Insignificant	Negative
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Trust in known people	Positive	Positive
Importance of friends	Positive	Positive

Multilevel models with control variables

	Lowest level of GDP (Ethiopia	Highest level of GDP (Qatar)
Intercept	0.02	0.07
GDP	0.05	0.05
Trust in family		
Intercept	-0.04**	0.00
GDP	0.04	0.04
Importance of family		
Intercept	-0.05***	-0.13***
GDP	-0.07*	-0.07*
Living with parents		
Intercept	0.00	-0.03***
GDP	-0.04***	-0.04***
Trust in known		
Intercept	0.30***	0.32***
GDP	0.02	0.02
Importance of friends		
Intercept	0.04***	0.10***
GDP	0.06	0.06

Further steps

- Enrich literature review
- Use relative importance of the family (family_vs_friends)
- Test H2 and H2
- Find more perfect measures of cleavages (if necessary)
- Test these effects using "Life in Transition"

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http://lcsr.hse.ru/seminar m2015