

What psychological traits determine if a person is liked? How does one build good relations with others? How does one make many friends? How to cooperate effectively? How does one counteract loneliness?

Our project makes important steps towards answering questions like the ones above. We will investigate the relationship patterns between people's psychological traits and the way in which they build their social relationships (which may be advantageous or disadvantageous for them). We will check if people who see the social world in black and white, so that for example people can only be either good or bad, find it easier or more difficult to build relationships with others. We will answer the question if self-confident people have more friends and acquaintances than people with low self-esteem. We will verify if an increase in self-esteem among the respondents may lead them to perceive themselves as more sociable and popular. We will learn if one can have too many friends and what this would mean. We will investigate if certain social relations may lead people to harm themselves e.g. by completely giving up on own goals in order to pursue objectives of the group, e.g., the family. In short, we will make our best to demonstrate the ways in which our social relations can affect us, consciously or not.

We will do our best to answer the question what are the relations between selected by us psychological traits and social networks and what mechanism is responsible for this. So far research rarely revealed mechanisms underlying these relationships. Only if we have a deeper understanding of them, we can understand the nature of relationships at stake. Due to advanced and innovative statistical methods our team can offer, we will try to answer the questions on relationships between psychological traits and social networks. These questions are important, albeit still unanswered. Moreover, our answers are potentially interesting not only for specialists in social sciences but also for all individuals who are interested in building better and more meaningful relationships with others.