
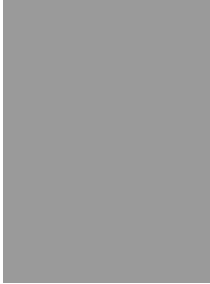




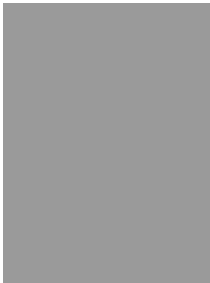





Does regional Identification lead to negative attitudes towards foreigners?

	The Puzzle		
	Theory		
	Empirical Test		
	Discussion		
	Dipl.- Soz. Michael Mäs		

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The Puzzle

Frequent Statement: People, who identify strongly with an in-group, evaluate members of out-groups negatively.

Examples: Nationalists hold negative attitudes towards foreigners.
Sociologists who strongly identify with members of their subject dislike researchers from other disciplines.

This hypothesis is usually “explained” with Social Identity Theory (SIT)

The Puzzle

Tajfel and Turner’s Social Identity Theory (SIT)

Proposition 1: „Individuals strive to achieve or to maintain positive social identity.”

„Social identity will be understood as the **part of an individual’s self-concept** which derives from his knowledge of his **membership of a social group** (or groups) together with the **value and emotional significance** attached to that membership”

Proposition 2: „Positive social identity is **based** to a large extent **on favourable comparisons** [Maes: “in terms of value-laden attributes and characteristics”] that can be made **between the in-group and some relevant out-groups**”

Proposition 3: „**When social identity is unsatisfactory**, individuals will strive either to **leave their existing group** and join some more positively distinct group and/or to **make their group more positively distinct.**”



The Puzzle

Action alternatives

Individual Mobility (exit)

Social Creativity (“redefining or altering the elements of the comparative situation.”)

Social Competition (conflicts)

And many many more in the literature



The Puzzle


Main problem of this theory is the small empirical content:




- makes only statements about a negative social Identity
- What is a “negative social Identity”?
- many action alternatives and no information about which one is chosen

It is not possible to deduce informative statements about reactions to a negative social identity.

Further problems:

- Statements are not logically deduced, although this is proposed
- Definition of the term social identity is unclear – How to measure?
- Why do these actions help to enhance one’s social identity?
- What about the rest of the self-concept?

	The Puzzle	
<p>What do I want to do?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">❶ Explicating SIT to increase it's empirical content. <p>Overcoming the most serious problems of SIT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">❷ Show that the proposed effect of in-group identification on out-group evaluation is not plausible and test that empirically with data from Saxony		

<p>Does regional Identification lead to negative attitudes towards foreigners?</p>		
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Theoretical Background

Theory of Rational Action

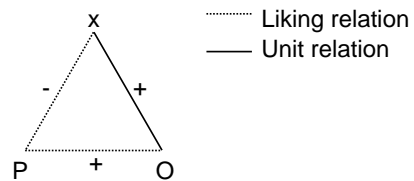
- ↳ Preferences
- ↳ Restrictions
- ↳ Decision rule

Fishbein's Attitude theory

$$A = \frac{1}{n} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n b_i \cdot e_i$$

Attitude can only be influenced by changing its determinants.

Heider's Balance theory



① Explicating SIT

The Preference:

→ SIT: People strive for a high self-image.

→ self-image =df.: person's attitude towards herself

$$\text{self-image} = \frac{1}{n} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n b_i \cdot e_i \quad (1)$$

→ The self-image consists of two parts: the social and the personal identity

$$\text{self-image} = \text{socID} + \text{persID} \quad (1b)$$

The social identity:

$$\text{socID} = \frac{1}{k} \cdot \sum_{j=1}^k b_j \cdot e_j^e \quad k \leq n \quad (2)$$

→ SIT: in-groups are compared with out-groups

$$\text{socID} = \frac{1}{k} \cdot \sum_{j=1}^k b_j \cdot (e_j^e - e_j^f) \quad k \leq n \quad (3)$$

→ explaining the attitudes towards the in and the out-groups

$$e_j^e = \frac{1}{h} \cdot \sum_{z=1}^h b_{jz}^e \cdot e_{jz} \quad (4) \quad e_j^f = \frac{1}{h} \cdot \sum_{z=1}^h b_{jz}^f \cdot e_{jz} \quad (5)$$

→ Replacing and simplifying, we obtain:

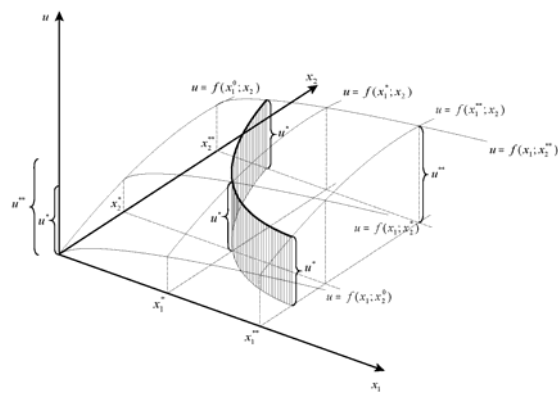
$$\text{socID} = \frac{1}{k} \cdot \sum_{j=1}^k \left(b_j \cdot \frac{1}{h} \cdot \sum_{z=1}^h (e_{jz} (b_{jz}^e - b_{jz}^f)) \right) \quad k \leq n \quad (6)$$

→ New assumption: diminishing marginal utility

$$u(\text{self-image}) = f(\text{socID}; \text{persID}) = \text{socID}^\lambda \cdot \text{persID}^\mu \quad (10)$$

$$0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$$

$$0 \leq \mu \leq 1$$



The Restrictions:

→ depend on perceived action alternatives.

$$\text{socID} = \frac{1}{k} \cdot \sum_{j=1}^k b_j \cdot (e_j^e - e_j^f) \quad k \leq n \quad (3)$$

$$\text{socID} = \frac{1}{k} \cdot \sum_{j=1}^k \left(b_j \cdot \frac{1}{h} \cdot \sum_{z=1}^h (e_{jz} (b_{jz}^e - b_{jz}^f)) \right) \quad k \leq n \quad (6)$$

→ restrictions of changing the attitude towards a out-group (e_j^f)

→ attitudes are changed by changing the beliefs they are based on ($b_{jz}^e; b_{jz}^f$)

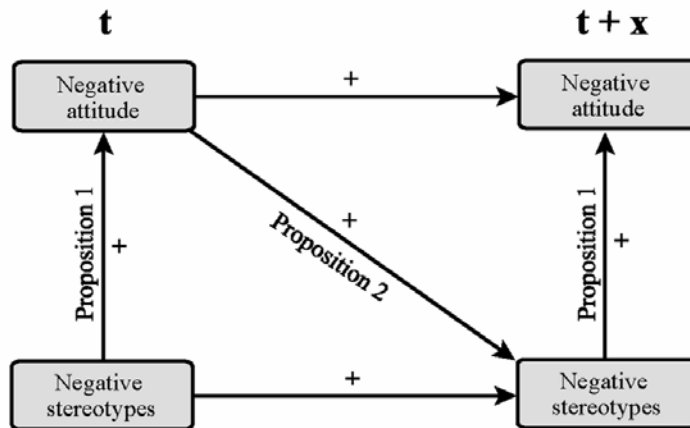
- ↳ psychic costs (energy, time)
- ↳ unbalanced states
- ↳ norms

The higher the change in beliefs are the higher the costs are.

② Effects of in-group identification on out-group attitude

Proposition 1: **Negative stereotypes** towards foreigners lead to **negative attitudes towards foreigners**. According to Fishbein I propose a simultaneous effect.

Proposition 2: **Negative attitudes towards foreigners** lead to **negative stereotypes** towards foreigners. I propose a lagged effect



Are effects of in-group identification on out-group evaluation plausible?

In other words: Do persons, who strongly identify with an in-group, have a stronger incentive to devalue out-groups?

$$\text{socID} = \frac{1}{k} \cdot \sum_{j=1}^k b_j \cdot (e_j^e - e_j^f) \quad k \leq n \quad (3)$$

In-group
identification

Out-group
evaluation

Are *indirect* effects of in-group identification on out-group evaluation plausible?

$$\text{socID} = (b_a(e_a - e_b) + b_c(e_c - e_d)) : 2 \quad (3a)$$

a and c: in-groups

b and d: out-groups

Two cases

The groups a and b

The groups a and d

The first case:
$$\text{socID} = (b_a(e_a - e_b) + b_c(e_c - e_d)) : 2 \quad (3a)$$

a : the Saxons

b : the foreigners

Proposition 3: The higher an actor's **regional identification** the higher is his **subjective extent of membership** in the regional in-group.

Proposition 4: The higher an actor's **subjective extent of membership** in the regional in-group is, the more **negative stereotypes** towards foreigners will the actor hold.

The second case: $\text{socID} = (b_a(e_a - e_b) + b_c(e_c - e_d)) : 2$ (3a)

a : the Saxons

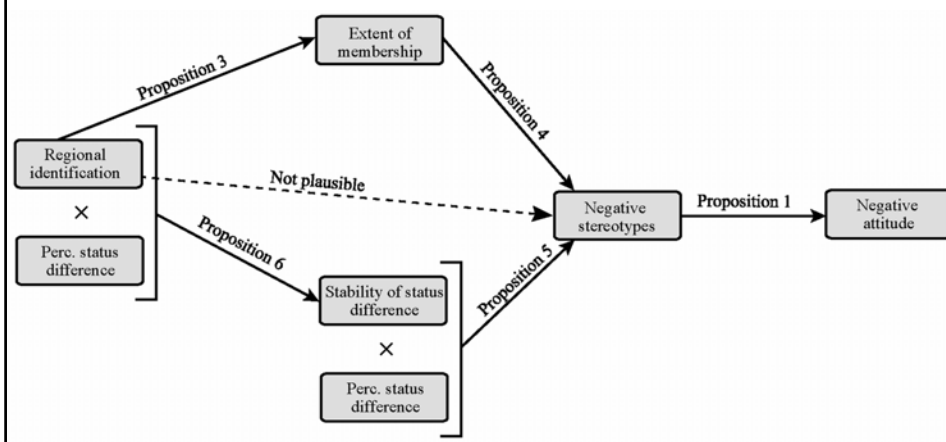
d : the foreigners

“West Germans are a highly **salient and relevant reference group** for East Germans. At the same time, for the latter, nearly every intergroup comparison with the former results in a **negative outcome** (e.g., economic situation or living standard). In an opinion poll conducted in 1990 [...], as well as follow-up polls [...], East Germans evaluated themselves as inferior to West Germans.”(Mummendey et al. 1999a: 230)

Proposition 5: A perceives status difference leads to the development of more negative stereotypes


This effect is moderated by the perceived stability of the status difference

Proposition 5: Subjects, who perceive a status difference to West Germans and who strongly identify with the Saxons, perceive the status difference as very stable.



Theory	
<p>Control variables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National identification Discontent with living conditions Self-efficacy Political efficacy Integration norm Age Area Gender 	

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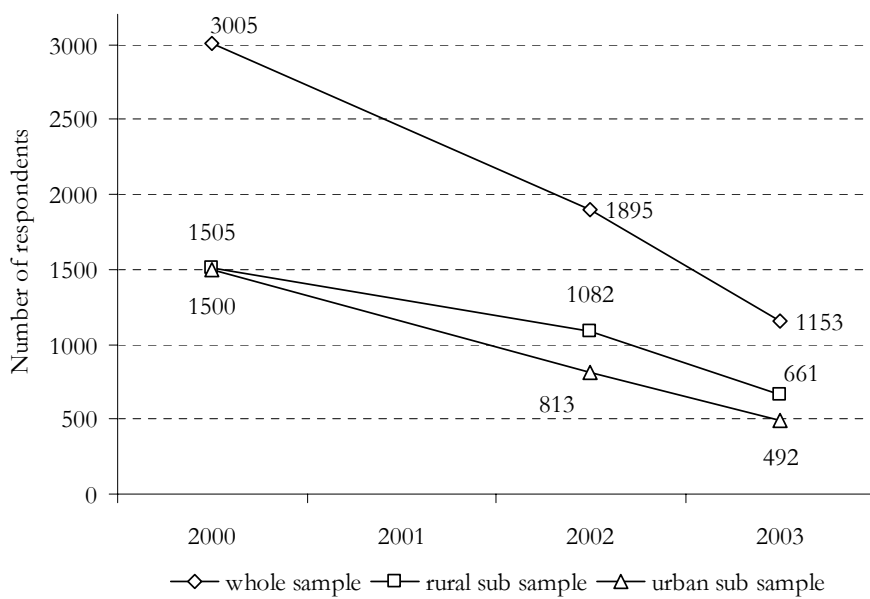
	The Puzzle	
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RuG

Empirical Test



Empirical Test





Empirical Test

Some measurements I

Negative attitude towards foreigners	"The foreigners living in Germany should choose their spouse among their own countrymen" "Businessmen who have to cut jobs should first release foreigners"
Negative stereotypes towards foreigners	"The foreigners living in Germany are burdening the social security system" "The presence of foreigners in Germany lead to problems on the housing market." "The foreigners living in Germany take away jobs" "Foreigners can never become fully accepted members of the German society"
Regional identification	"How strongly do you feel as a citizen of the Federal Republic of Germany, or Saxon?" (1: very strong, 2: strong, 3: medium, 4: weak, 5: very weak.); "How proud are you to be a citizen of the Federal Republic of Germany, or Saxon?" (1: very proud, 2: proud, 3: partly proud/partly not so proud, 4: less proud, 5: not at all proud)



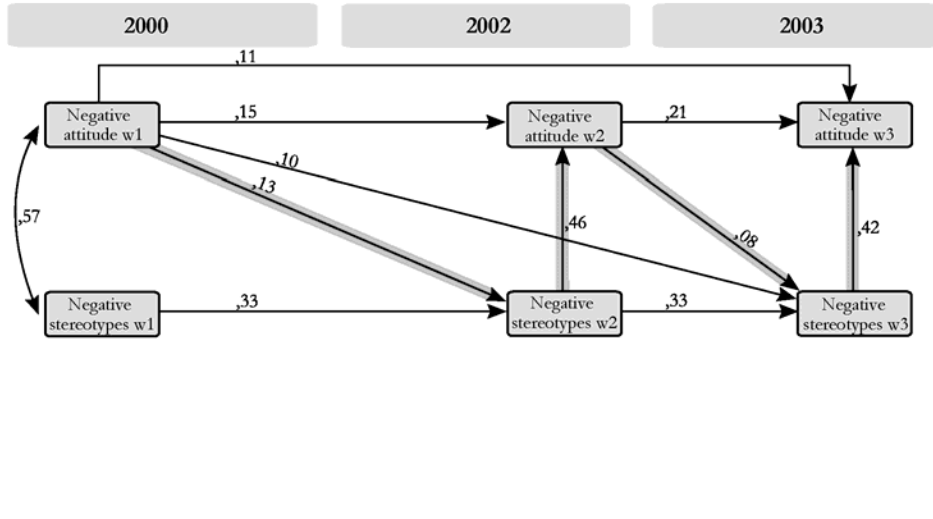
Empirical Test

Some measurements II

Subjective extent of membership in the region	"All things considered: Would You call yourself a typical Saxon?" (five categories from "by all means" to "by no means")
Perceived stability of the status difference between East and West Germany	"An East German can strain oneself as much as possible, he can never achieve the same as a West German" "Considering the way East Germans are treated: That was the last straw."

Empirical Test

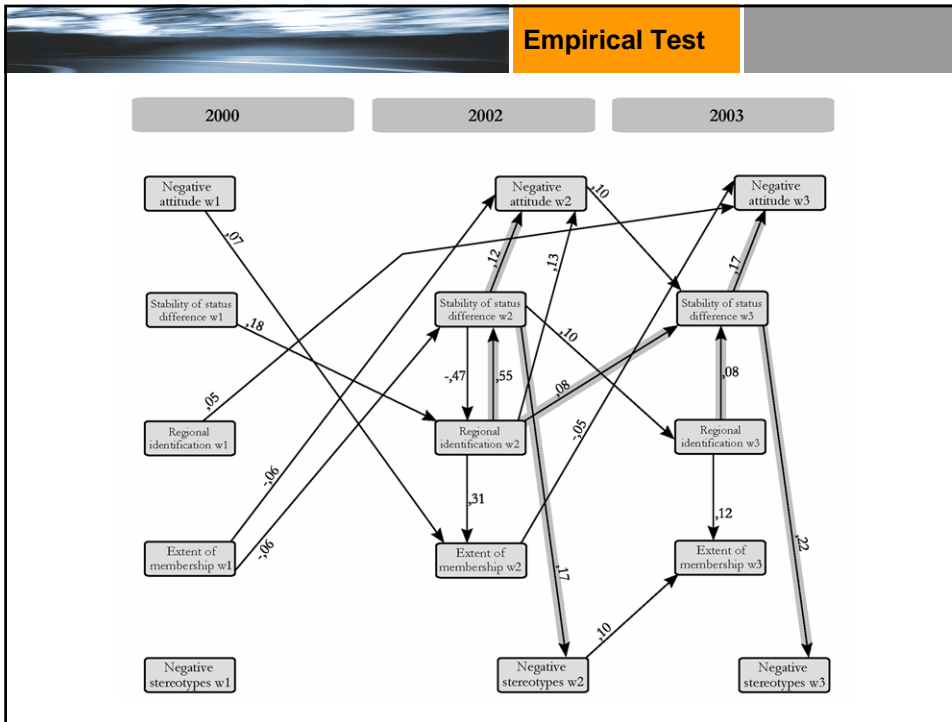
Results



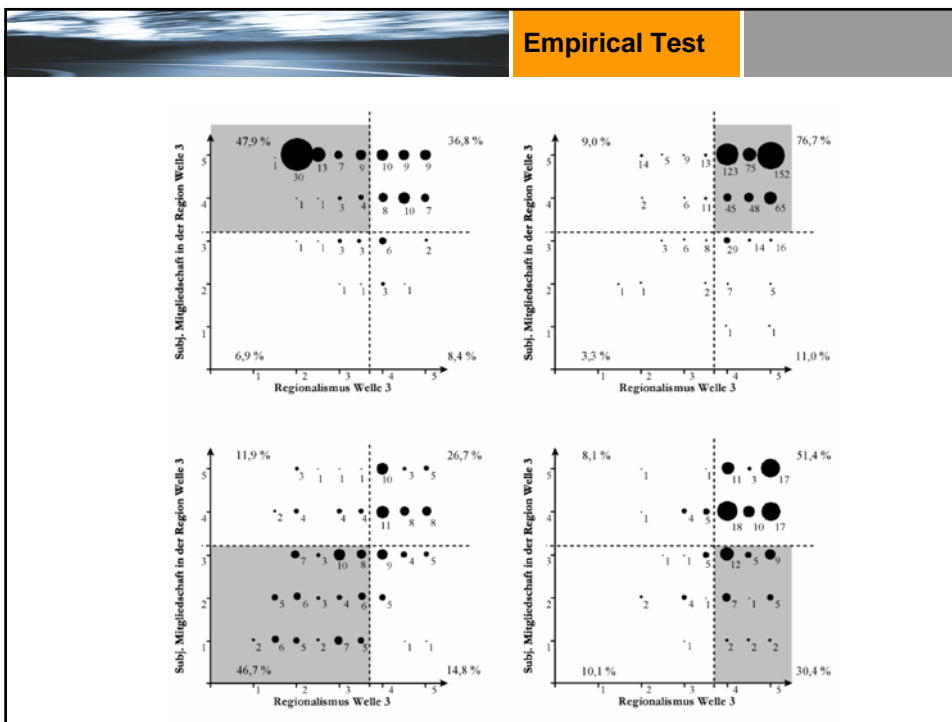
Empirical Test

Independent variables	Dependent Variables							
	Model 1		Model 2		Model 3		Model 4	
	Negative stereotypes w2	Negative attitude w3	Negative stereotypes w3	Negative attitude w2	Negative stereotypes w2	Negative attitude w3	Negative stereotypes w3	Negative attitude w2
Regional identification w1								
Regional identification w2	.15	.17	.18					
Regional identification w3								.07
Extent of membership in region w1				.08				
Extent of membership in region w2				.10	.09	.05	-.05	
Extent of membership in region w3								-.06
Stability of status difference w1								
Stability of status difference w2						.07		.07
Stability of status difference w3						.26	.23	.26
						.31	.18	.28
$\chi^2/df/PMSEA$	16,75/15/,33400/,010		10,87/11/,45392/,000		13,09/12/,36279/,009		68,78/53/,07136/,016	

Empirical Test



Empirical Test



Empirical Test

	Independent variables	Dependent Variables			
		Negative stereotypes		Negative attitude	
		wave 2	wave 3	wave 2	wave 3
wave 1	Regional identification				,050
	National identification				,054
	Stability of status difference				
	Extent of membership in region			-,064	
	Discontent with conditions	-,124	-,141		-,103
	Self-efficacy				
	Political efficacy		-,068		
wave 2	Integration norm				
	Regional identification				,128
	National identification		,103		
	Stability of status difference	,174		,116	
	Extent of membership in region				-,048
	Discontent with conditions	,131			
	Self-efficacy				
wave 3	Political efficacy	-,100	-,096	-,176	
	Integration norm				
	Regional identification				
	National identification		-,081		-,060
	Stability of status difference		,218		,166
	Extent of membership in region				
	Discontent with conditions		,153		
Age	Self-efficacy		-,081		
	Political efficacy				-,118
	Integration norm		-,084		
	Area		-,055	,058	
Gender					
	R ²	,325	,599	,528	,643

$$\chi^2 = 409,66$$

$$df = 284$$

$$P = ,00000$$

$$RMSEA = 0,020$$

Does regional Identification lead to negative attitudes towards foreigners?



The Puzzle

Theory

Empirical Test

Discussion

Discussion

Explicated SIT

Showed that existing proposition not plausible

Deduced contradicting hypothesis

Seems to hold better (but one effect remains sig)

Shortcomings of data: test of interaction effects (sample)

lag length

membership in nation

Shortcoming theory: too many equilibriums



Thank You !