Effect of culture on forgivingness: A Southern Asia–Western Europe comparison

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Received 22 March 2006; revised 26 June 2006; accepted 13 July 2006. Available online 10 October 2006.

Abstract

The study explored the factorial structure of forgivingness in an Indonesian sample, compared Indonesian and French students’ forgivingness scores, and assessed the relationship between forgivingness and emotional regulation among Indonesian participants. The same three-factor structure (lasting resentment, sensitivity to circumstances and willingness to forgive) that was evidenced in European samples was evidenced in the Indonesian sample. Sensitivity to circumstances and willingness to forgive scores were higher, and lasting resentment scores lower, among Indonesian students than among French students. Lasting resentment was negatively associated with reappraisal, and sensitivity to circumstances was positively associated with both reappraisal and suppression.

Keywords: Forgiveness; Resentment; Emotional regulation; Indonesia; France

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