

Dimensions of Religiousness and Moral Foundation Variability

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INTRODUCTION

Morality has a complex relationship with religion and religiousness (McKay & Whitehouse, 2015; Yi & Tsang, 2020). This study proposes investigating religion as multidimensional. Specifically, the study will involve looking at the components of Believing, Bonding, Behaving, and Belonging (Saroglou et al., 2020; Saroglou, 2011). Additionally, a pluralistic view of morality will be integrated using Moral Foundations Theory (MFT) (Graham et al. 2013). This contrast with theories that emphasize a monolithic views of morality, which might emphasize one goal such as justice or virtue.

LITERATURE

Moral Foundations Theory

The foundations examined in MFT are Care/harm, Fairness/cheating, Loyalty/betrayal, Authority/subversion, and Sanctity/degradation (Graham et al. 2013). MFT works to measure how strongly people endorse the distinct foundations. Notably, this theory does not work to determine moral reasoning or other constructs. Past research investigating MFT and the multidimensionality of religion has shown significant relationships, prompting further investigation (McKay & Whitehouse, 2015; Yi & Tsang, 2020).

Multidimensionality of Religiousness

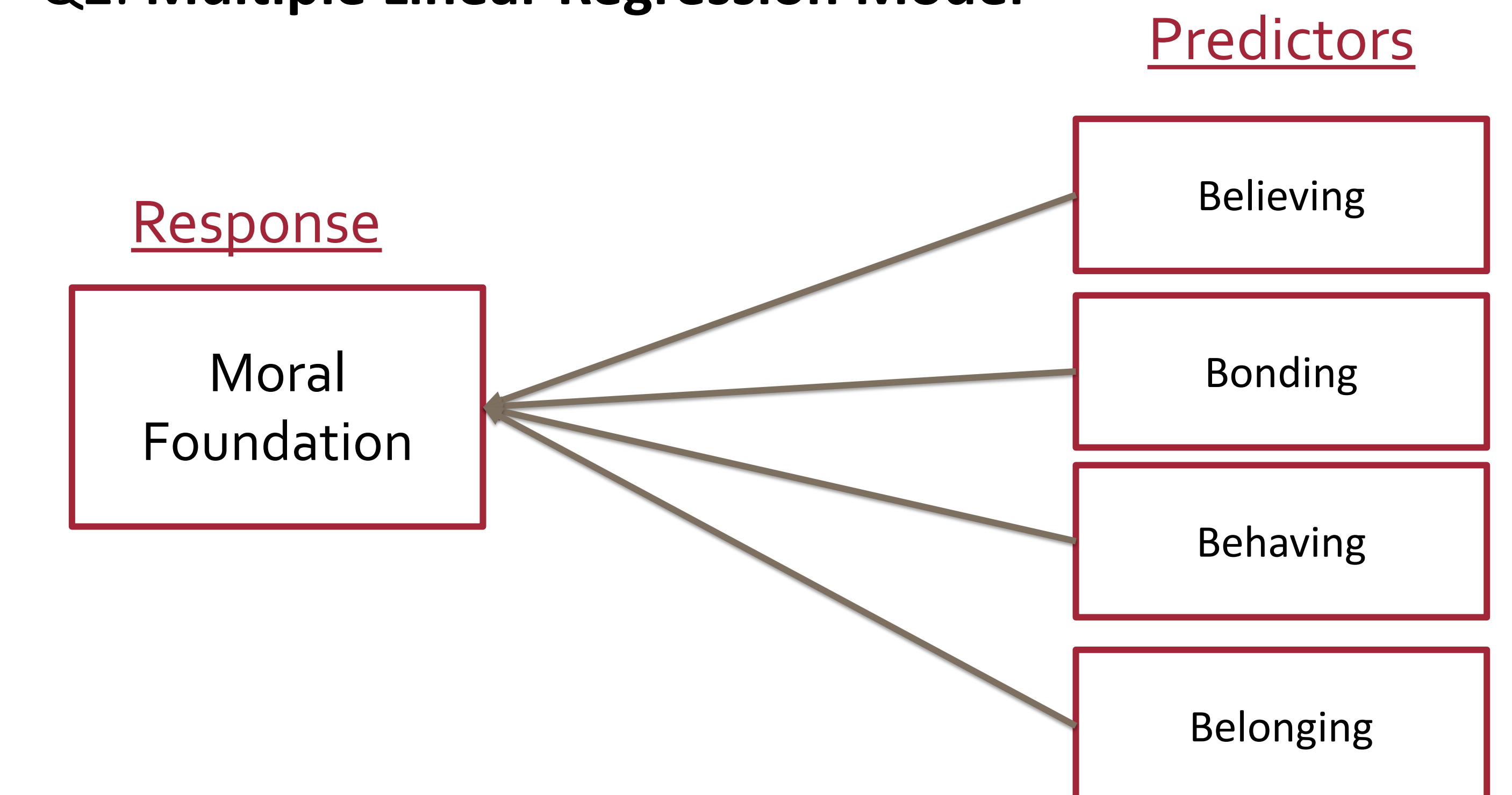
Saroglou (2011) proposed a multidimensional view of religiousness with four distinct dimensions of Believing, Bonding, Behaving, and Belonging, which are respectively aligned with cognitive, emotional, moral, and social psychological phenomena (Saroglou et al., 2020). The dimension of Behaving is related to morality but is concerned with how a person views morality in relation to religion and not a measure of individual moral character or reasoning. This scale has been demonstrated to be cross-culturally consistent and has been used in studies that include non-Abrahamic religions (Remizova et al., 2022; Saroglou et al., 2020).

ANALYSIS PLAN

Q1. Correlation Analysis

Correlation between strong/weak endorsement of Moral Foundations and alignments of the distinct dimensions of religiousness

Q2. Multiple Linear Regression Model



Analyses will be executed using R software

QUESTIONS

Q1. Is there a statistically significant relationship between religiousness and Moral Foundations?

Q2. Can the dimensions of religiousness be used to predict Moral Foundation endorsement?

METHODS

Estimated Minimum Sample Size: A G*Power Analysis suggests a minimum sample size of 129 participants.

Moral Foundations Questionnaire: Measuring strength of Moral Foundation endorsement using a 30 item 7-point Likert Scale across five distinct foundations.
Ex. Men and women each have different roles to play in society (Graham et al., 2011).

Four Basic Dimensions of Religiousness: Measuring the four dimensions of religiousness using a 12 item 7-point Likert scale.
Ex. I feel attached to religion because it helps me to have a purpose in my life (Saroglou et al., 2020)

Demographics: information on general demographic information as well as indicating participant religious affiliation.

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