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TEST-QUESTIONNAIRE OF THE QUALITATIVE COMPONENTS OF CYNICALNESS (CIN-1): APPROBATION RESULTS

The report presents the results of approbation of «Test-questionnaire of the qualitative components of cynicalness» (CIN-1). Cynicism is considered as rather stable personality trait that reflects contemptuous attitude towards other people, commonly accepted ethical, moral norms and values, which are manifested through emotions (irritation, disgust, anger, aggressiveness, etc.); specific thoughts and reflections (distrust of others, rejection of other viewpoints); the corresponding behaviour (impudent attitude to another person, intemperance, unscrupulousness, immorality, arrogance, scepticism, etc.). Theoretical and methodological analysis of the literature on the development of macrostructure (model) of cynicism is performed as well. Basing on continual-hierarchical approach, the theoretical construct of the original study of psychodiagnostic procedure for the investigation of cynicalness components is elaborated. The components of cynicalness are explicated and described. The special emphasis is laid on the components, which reflect the peculiarities of psychic activity of man, manifested in emotional, intellectual, motive aspects (qualitative cynicalness indices: CiUsts – adjusting cynicalness component, CiEks – emotional (affective) component, CiKks – cognitive component, CiKos – conative (behavioural) component). Each component is a bipolar continuum, the poles of which demonstrate the highest possible (positive pole) and the lowest (negative pole) cynicalness displays. The value of indicators for each of the individual parameters shows the individual specificity of cynicalness of a person, its qualitative peculiarity. The approbation of the original psychodiagnostic tooling, grounding on the psychometrical requirements, and the results of justifying validity and reliability of the method are presented in the article.

Key words: cynicalness, the continual-hierarchical approach, structure of cynicalness, reliability, validity.

Statement of the problem. The rapid and complicated changes that occur on the all levels of society functioning are one of the main features of the life of a contemporary person. It is frequently noticed, that the result of these alternations is the emergence of openly arrogant attitude towards others, manifested in the cynical behavior. Cynicism can take both characters: mass (characteristic of psychological features of people in the community) and individual character (display of psychological traits of a concrete person – the propensity to cynical behavior).

The concept of «cynicism» is derived from the names of ancient Greek philosophical school of Cynics (cynics), whose members (Antisthenes, Diogenes of Sinope, Crates) preached disparaging views on generally accepted moral standards and values that, in their view, were out of the appropriateness. Subsequently cynicism as a term was used to call the personal position that denied the importance of public opinion and shame [3]. Cynicism is typical for people who achieve their goals, even acting in immoral way. K. Lorenz while explaining the phenomenon of cynicalness of an individual as personal phenomenal occurrence, noted, that on the foreground of the given problem raised the question of the destructive tendencies in the development of the individual [4]. In the works of S. Rubinstein cynicalness as the phenomenon is referred to the moral, ethical component of personality and is laid in the one line with qualities such as deceit, rudeness, selfishness, immorality, envy, lack of principle [9]. P. Sloterdijk believes that cynicism is found in the

extreme displays of selfishness, neglecting of duties, anti-social behaviour, immorality, etc. [12].

Nevertheless, despite the urgency of the problem, it should be noted that the shortage of studies, specially aimed at the investigation of the cynicalness, including its nature, structure, features and etc., inhibits researchers from the further elaboration of the given topic. Available scanty works in modern psychology do not allow to form a holistic view of cynicalness, as they reflect only some peculiar individual aspects of this phenomenon. In psychological science and practice emerges an urgent need for studying this phenomenon, component-to-component composition of its indices, psychological factors, etc. The result of this deficiency is the lack of special psychodiagnostic instruments directed at studying the cynicalness, its structural components and displays. The information about the cynicism that can be obtained, using known and widely spread methods, does not provide a complete understanding of cynicalness (tendency to cynicalness) as a multilevel trait of a personality.

Thus, the purpose of this report is to explain the results of the elaboration and approbation of the psychodiagnostic tool, which is oriented on the working-out of the category and individual psychological characteristics of cynicalness.

In the given scientific research, cynicalness is considered as rather stable personality trait that reflects contempt to other people, common ethical, moral norms and values, displaying in emotions (irritation, disgust, anger, aggressiveness, etc.); in specific thoughts and reflections (distrust of others, rejection of other opinions); in shameless behaviour (defiant attitude to

another person, intemperance, lack of principle, immorality, arrogance, scepticism, etc.).

It is well known, that each individual may face peculiar situations, which at certain moments provoke the emergence of the so-called "situational cynicalness" (it should be noted, that the «dose» of such «provocative» situations for each person is very individual). However, there are people whose behavior and cynical thoughts and emotions, that indicate it, often occur in different situations. In the situation, e.g. of communication, that person reacts with the form of behaviour, similar to the behaviour of a cynical person. Consequently, the tendency to cynicalness (tendency to cynicism) can be shown as a stable personality trait.

Considering cynicalness as an integral complex personality property, it is possible to present it as a multilevel holistic formation, that includes levels, which correspond to continual-hierarchical structure of personality traits [10; 11]. Among the levels of cynicalness the following parameters are allotted: formally dynamic; content-personal; socially imperative.

1. ..Formally dynamic level of cynicalness includes parameters, characterizing the need for cynical manifestations, creativity, ease of occurrence, breadth of cynicalness, the severity of cynical displays, spontaneity, stability, etc. Thus, cynicalness is expressed by the dynamic characteristics, explaining the peculiarities of origin and course of cynicalness and the form of its implementation. Crossing zone (section) is a substructure of cynicalness qualitative characteristics, that carry information about the emotional, cognitive, conative, control and regulatory components.

2. Content-personal level. The components of cynicalness on this level reflect events and situations, which are of particular significance to the subject. These characteristics are closely related to the pivotal personality traits. On a content-personal level cynicalness is found in characteristics related to personality orientation, need and motivational sphere, values, ideals, beliefs, methods and programs of behaviour that determined by the particularities of the orientation of a person (stable system of motives).

3. Socially imperative (normative) level describes the features of cynical personality, which are formed by the social, moral and cultural knowledge. Namely, these take into account the requirements of society, group to-

wards the content and displays of cynical behavior; propensity to cynicalness; guidelines on the cynical behavior; strength and stability of the motivation to express the cynical behavior.

According to one of the authors of this article, if we consider the specific psychological characteristics through the prism of these coordinates (structural levels), the information about each property and its multilevel parameters cannot be represented equally on all levels. It is noteworthy to admit, that it is connected not only with the weakness of scientific elaborations of the relevant topic (problem), but also with the complexity, uniqueness of every psychological phenomenon under the discussion. Regarding cynicalness, the author believes that the "core" of this property is located on the content level of continual-hierarchical structure of the individual, but it turns out on the all levels of the designated structure. In our opinion, this approach to understanding of cynicalness may explain its connection of the parameters with the moral qualities of an individual. However, in this paper we study mainly indicators of cynicalness of formally dynamic and qualitative levels [11].

This work aims at studying those indicators of cynicalness, which reflect the peculiarities of psychic activity of a person, manifested in emotional, intellectual, motive aspects (qualitative cynicalness indices: CiUsts – adjusting cynicalness component, CiEks – emotional (affective) component, CiKks – cognitive component, CiKos – conative (behavioural) component). The mentioned components as meta-characteristics of individuality are regarded and analyzed in the works of O. P. Sannikova [10; 11]. It should be noted, that each of the options is a bipolar continuum, the poles of which are the highest possible (positive pole) and lowest (negative pole) displays of cynicalness. The value of indicators for each of the individual parameters reflect the individual specificity of a cynical personality, qualitative features. Basing on the description of parameters, the scales of test-questionnaire are worked out.

Thus, summing up these works and theoretical data about the cynical, the scheme of qualitative structure of cynicalness as a stable personality trait is presented in image 1.

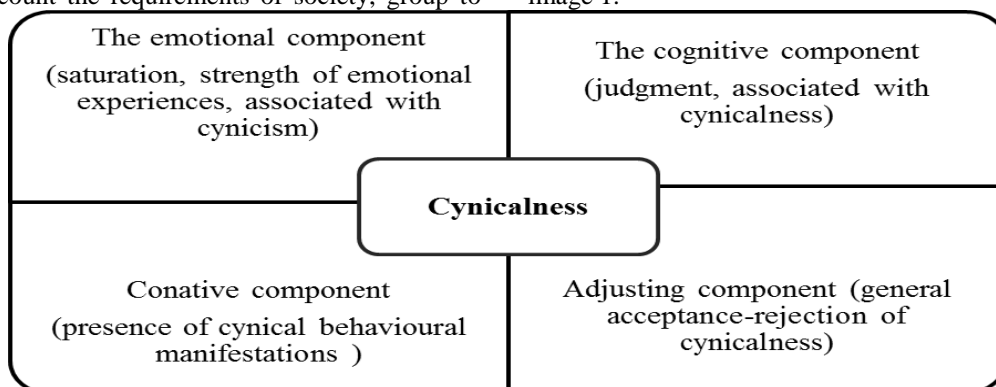


Image 1. Qualitative indicators of cynicalness

The stages of the original «Test-questionnaire of qualitative components of cynicalness» (CIN-1).

The given test-questionnaire was elaborated according to the psychometrical requirements [1; 2; 5; 7], which contributed to the solution of such traditional tasks, as the following: based on continual-hierarchical approach to design the constructs of the original psychodiagnostic method, directed to the studying cynical displays; to develop testing procedures and working-out data; to prepare stimulus material; to collect empirical data involving the primary sample of standardization; to arrange the initial verification test of the content validity of the questionnaire, and in the case of necessity, to correct the formation of the unclear expressions; to carry out the factor analysis of indicators, to justify the theoretical construct of the given method, the structure of its indicators; to conduct an approbation of the original worked-out questionnaire, to collect data about the validity and reliability involving major sample of standardization; to constitute the characteristics of indices of test-questionnaire for the further interpretation of test data.

The given article presents the only results of final variant of method, especially: the grouping of the indicators into the factors (see table 1); the results of the testing final version on the reliability and validity (see table 2).

The analysis of the Table 1 shows that grouping of indicators of factors confirms the theoretical construct of the test-questionnaire CIN-1. Thus, the final material of the stimulus material of original «Test-questionnaire of qualitative components of cynicalness» (CIN-1) contains 40 questions (10 for each indicator). Structure of the given method includes: written instruction; list of items; designed form, which has four possible answers to each question; keys for processing the received data. Calculations of individual assessments for each of the indicators (components) concludes the summation of scores for each of the indicators. Maximum high score for each indicator is 40 points, minimum – 0 points. The average sum of scores for all scales forms a total range – a composite assessment of predisposition to cynicism (CIN): $CIN = (CiUs + CiEk + CiKk + CiKo) : 4$.

Table 1.

The results of the factor analysis (four factor model)

Grouping of the indicators of cynicalness

Factor 1		Factor 2		Factor 3		Factor 4	
Indicator	Fact. weight	Indicator	Fact. Weight	Indicator	Fact. weight	Indicator	Fact. weight
CiUst7	559	CiEk 9	504	CiKk 5	454	CiKo 8	678
CiUst 9	463	CiEk 5	502	CiKk 6	384	CiKo 2	583
CiUst 8	357	CiEk 1	434	CiKk 9	375	CiKo 7	582
CiUst 1	344	CiEk 8	431	CiKk 3	359	CiKo 4	461
CiUst 4	358	CiEk 2	417	CiKk 4	355	CiKo 5	252
CiUst 10	320	CiEk 6	394	CiKk 10	246	CiKo 10	351
CiUst 6	312	CiEk 3	374	CiKk 1	322	CiKo 6	436
CiUst 5	302	CiEk 10	309	CiKk 7	-225	CiKo 1	426
CiUst 3	299	CiEk 7	-308	CiKk 2	-362	CiKo 9	212
CiUst 2	281	CiEk 4	-334	CiKk 8	-445	CiKo 3	-407

Note. Hereinafter shortenings for the components of cynicalness: CiUsts – adjusting component, CiEks – emotional (affective) component, CiKks – cognitive component, CiKos – conative (behavioural) component.

For the justifying reliability and validity of the original test we chose: a) the reliability of the parts of the test (test measures internal consistency of the test content); b) test-retest reliability (method of repeated testing 3 months later – checking the stability of test results in time period); c) reliability of the parallel forms (consistency testing of responses to different tasks) [1; 2; 5; 7; 10].

As a parallel form we have chosen:

1) 16-PF R. Cattell questionnaire [6]. This technique is one of the most common methods for assessing the individual psychological characteristics of personality, both abroad and in our country, and is designed to describe a wide range of personality traits. We know that this test diagnoses 16 primary personality factors that combine in a wide range of characteristics of various types – from the properties of the temper of the mental level to the traits of an individual. Each factor is bipolar continuum, the opposite poles are represented by a number of more detailed characteristics. With the purpose of solving the particular problem (parallel test) we chose factor G («Expedient/Rule-Conscious»). Low score for this factor is to characterize the person as unprin-

ciplined, immoral, disorganized, irresponsible, low agencies in relation to social norms. These qualities can also be characteristic of cynical people.

2) Cynical Distrust Scale (technique authorized by Cook, Medley) [8]. This methodology is designed to study the three individual hostility diagnostic scales – cynicism, aggression and hostility. This technique as a parallel test we have chosen for the presence of scale cynicism. High scores on this scale indicate a tendency to neglect attitude to moral and ethical values of society, distrust of the ability of others to carry out highly-moral and altruistic deeds, doubts about the high level of their competence in all areas of activity, the tendency to explain the reasons for the behaviour of others, the presence of their negative traits or selfish intentions.

3) To test the original test for the validity of the questionnaire we used the author's version of the method «Self-assessment of the parameters of cynicalness» (CIN-2B). At this point it may be the most accurate means of identifying the level of cynicism. Choosing of the psychodiagnostic pro-

cedure is conditioned by the fact, that it is based on direct assessment of cynicism as a personal quality.

The study was conducted on the base of the South Ukrainian National Pedagogical University named after K. D. Ushinsky and the Odessa National I. I. Mechnikov

University. Standardization sample included 204 persons aged 23- 35 years. Table 2 presents the correlation coefficients between indicators of the same name of predisposition to the cynicalness, that were obtained by the use of methods outlined above.

Table 2

The values of correlation coefficients that obtained when testing the reliability and validity of «Test-questionnaire of qualitative components of cynicalness» (CIN-1) by the methods of parallel test and test-retest

Scales in test	Methods of testifying the reliability and validity of test-questionnaire			
	Test-retest reliability (x ₁ – x ₁₁), (n=180)	Reliability of parallel forms (n=204)		
		Cynical Distrust Scale (Cook, Medley)	G-factor of 16-PF R. Cattell questionnaire	Self-assessment of the parameters of cynicalness
CiUst	447**	367**	240**	450**
CiEk	560**	279**	345**	352**
CiKk	343**	334**	289**	234**
CiKo	445**	423**	368**	299**

Note: 1. Signs x l – xll indicate the value of correlation between the results of the first and second tests. 2. Zero and commas are omitted. 3. The level of correlation coefficient: * – r < 0,05; ** – r <0,01.

The comparison of test-retest-reliability (retest) and parallel forms with the results of the original test questionnaire (see table 2) suggests high enough validity and reliability items, presented by psychodiagnostic methods, elaborated for studying the individual psychological characteristics of cynicalness (stable disposition of the individual to cynicism). Thus, the results of proving the reliability

and validity of «Test-questionnaire of qualitative components of cynicalness» (CIN-1) indicate the possibility of its usage not only in the scientific research but also in practical use.

Generalizing the results in the table 3, the characteristic of original psychodiagnostic methods is given as well.

Table 3

Manual «Test-questionnaire of qualitative components of cynicalness» (CIN-1)

The system of main positions	The characteristics of the method
I. General information about the method	«Test-questionnaire of qualitative components of cynicalness» Authors: O. Sannikova, I. Topalova (2015).
II. Diagnostic purpose	Diagnoses of qualitative components of the propensity to cynicalness: Adjusting (CijUst), emotional (CiEk), cognitive (CiKk), conative (CiKo); general indicator of predisposition to the cynicalness (CIN).
III. Purpose	For differential diagnosis, for scientific research.
IV. Short description of the method (completeness)	Standard instruction for the respondents, including 40 questions (10 for each indicator; form for responses based on the principle of choosing of one of the four answers: «surely, yes», «possibly yes», «possibly not», «surely, not»). The result is calculated in points. Maximum value – 40 points for each scale. The overall index – a composite score. CIN = (CiUs + CiEk + CiKk + CiKo): 4
V. Standardization scales	Standardization was conducted on a sample of students from different universities of Odessa city (204 persons). Results of verification methods for validity and reliability higher (r<0.01).
VI. Requirements for users	Diagnostics can be arranged by a psychologist and researcher, practical psychologist, specialist worker, with appropriate training
VII. Sample	For adults 18 to 40 years. It is used strictly individually.
VIII. Characteristics of the study period	There are not strict limitations in time with the test-questionnaire (30-40 minutes). Not applicable in stressful conditions (exam situation, the emotiogenic events in the life of the respondents).
IX. Situation of the research	For practical purposes it is desired situation of the «client». For scientific purposes «expertise» is possible.
X. Availability of the Parallel texts	The modified author's method «Self-assessment of the parameters of cynicalness» (CIN-2B); Methods Cynical Distrust Scale (Cook, Medley); G-factor of 16-PF questionnaire (R. Cattell).
XI. Contribution of the co-authors	Development of the methodological principles and concepts, on which the theoretical construct is based, development of strategic objectives and management of the standardization process of the given technique belongs to O. P. Sannikova, Doctor of Psychological Sciences, Professor; setting intermediate objectives, participation in statistical processing of data, setting intermediate objectives, conducting empirical procedures, analysis of works, mathematical working-out of data on the all stages of the survey is carried out by the aspirant I. Topalova.

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ТЕСТ-ОПИТУВАЛЬНИК ЯКІСНИХ КОМПОНЕНТІВ ЦИНІЧНОСТІ (CIN-1): РЕЗУЛЬТАТИ АПРОБАЦІЇ

У повідомленні наведено результати апробації «Тест-опитувальника якісних компонентів цинічності» (CIN-1). Цинічність розглядається як досить усталена риса особистості, що відображує зневажливе ставлення

до інших людей, до загальноприйнятих етичних, моральних норм і цінностей, що виявляється у емоціях (роздратування, огида, гнів, агресивність тощо); у специфічних думках та міркуваннях (недовіра до інших, неприйняття позиції інших); у відповідній поведінці (зухвале ставлення до іншої людини, нестриманість, безпринципність, безсоромність, аморальність, нахабність, скептицизм тощо). Здійснено теоретико-методологічний аналіз літератури задля розробки макроструктури (моделі) цинічності. На основі континуально-ієрархічного підходу розроблено теоретичний конструкт оригінальної психодіагностичної процедури дослідження компонентів цинічності. Експліковано та описано компоненти цинічності, які відображають особливості психічної активності людини, що виявляється в емоційній, інтелектуальній, руховій сферах (якісні показники цинічності: CiUsts – настановний компонент цинічності, CiEks – емоційний (афективний) компонент, CiKks – когнітивний компонент, CiKos – конативний (поведінковий) компонент. Кожен з компонентів являє собою біполярний континуум, на полюсах якого розташовуються максимально високі (додатний полюс) і в край низькі (від’ємний полюс) прояви цинічності. Значення показників за кожним з параметрів відображають індивідуальну специфіку цинічності особистості, її якісну своєрідність. Здійснено апробацію оригінального психодіагностичного інструментарію за усіма вимогами психометрики та надано результати перевірки методик на надійність і валідність.

Ключові слова: цинічність, континуально-ієрархічний підхід, структура цинічності, надійність, валідність.

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ТЕСТ-ОПРОСНИК КАЧЕСТВЕННЫХ КОМПОНЕНТОВ ЦИНИЧНОСТИ (CIN-1): РЕЗУЛЬТАТЫ АПРОБАЦИИ

В сообщении приведены результаты апробации «Тест-опросника качественных компонентов циничности» (CIN-1). Циничность рассматривается как достаточно устойчивое свойство личности, которое отражает пренебрежительное отношение к другим людям, к общепринятым этическим, моральным нормам и ценностям, что проявляется в *эмоциях* (раздражение, отвращение, гнев, агрессивность и тому подобное); в *специфических мыслях и рассуждениях* (недоверие к другим, неприятие позиции других людей); в соответствующем *поведении* (дерзкое отношение к другому человеку, несдержанность, безпринципность, бесстыдство, аморальность, нахальность, скептицизм). Осуществлен теоретико-методологический анализ литературы для разработки макроструктуры (модели) циничности. На основе континуально-иєрархічного підходу розроблено теоретичний конструкт оригінальної психодіагностичної процедури дослідження компонентів цинічності. Експліковані та описані якісні показники цинічності: CiUsts – установочный компонент циничности, CiEks – эмоциональный (аффективный) компонент, CiKks – когнитивный компонент, CiKos – конативный (поведенческий) компонент. Каждый из компонентов представляет собой биополярный континуум, на полюсах которого располагаются максимально высокие (положительный полюс) и крайне низкие (отрицательный полюс) проявления циничности. Значения показателей по каждому из параметров отображают индивидуальную специфику циничности личности, ее качественное своеобразие. Осуществлена апробация оригінального психодіагностичного «Тест-опросника качественных компонентов циничности» (CIN-1) в соответствии с требованиями психометрики, представлены результаты проверки методики на надежность и валидность.

Ключевые слова: циничность, континуально-иєрархічний підхід, структура цинічності, надійність, валідність.

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