

***HOW PERSONALITY
INFLUENCES PERSONAL
VALUES AND POLITICAL
IDEOLOGY***

GRADO DE PSICOLOGÍA

TRABAJO DE FIN DE GRADO



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RESUMEN

La personalidad es un aspecto psicológico muy importante que influye en múltiples ámbitos de nuestra vida, entre ellos nuestras creencias y valores. Tradicionalmente, se ha estudiado de forma extensa la relación entre las dimensiones de personalidad y el autoritarismo de derechas, la dominancia social (Ekehammar et al., 2004), o los valores personales (Sandy et al., 2017). Sin embargo, la investigación en torno al autoritarismo de izquierdas es muy escasa. Por tanto, el presente trabajo pretende examinar cómo la personalidad se asocia con el desarrollo de valores personales y estos, a su vez, influyen en nuestras creencias políticas, incluyendo el autoritarismo de izquierdas.

Para ello, una muestra de conveniencia (41% de estudiantes; 75% mujeres) cumplimentó el MASK XXS (Madrid-Valero et al., 2021) para evaluar las dimensiones básicas de personalidad, el cuestionario TwIVI de valores individuales (Sandy et al., 2017), la escala ASC para evaluar autoritarismo de derechas (Dunwoody & Funke, 2016), la Left-Wing Authoritarianism Scale (Avendaño et al, 2021) y, finalmente, la escala de Dominancia Social (Ho et al., 2015).

De acuerdo con lo hipotetizado, las dimensiones de personalidad se relacionaron de forma elevada con los valores morales y estos, a su vez, se asociaron con las dimensiones ideológicas. Específicamente, la apertura a la experiencia se asoció con la apertura al cambio; la responsabilidad correlacionó con los valores de conservación y autotrascendencia; y la amabilidad se asoció con la autotrascendencia y con la baja promoción personal. A su vez, la conservación se asoció positivamente con el autoritarismo de derechas y negativamente con el de izquierdas, mientras que la trascendencia se relacionó con la baja dominancia social y con el autoritarismo de izquierdas.

En definitiva, el presente trabajo muestra cómo la personalidad es un factor relevante para explicar los valores morales y cómo éstos influyen notablemente en el desarrollo de creencias políticas.

Palabras clave: personalidad, valores individuales, ideología, autoritarismo de derechas, autoritarismo de izquierdas, dominancia social.

ABSTRACT

Personality is a psychological aspect that influences in multiple facets of our lives, such as personal values and ideology. Traditionally, researchers have been studying the relation between personality and right-wing authoritarianism, social dominance (Ekehammar et al., 2004) or personal values (Sandy et al., 2017). Nevertheless, no one has delved into the study of left-wing authoritarianism's relation with personality. This research pretends to investigate how personality is associated with the development of personal values, and how these values influence in our ideology believes, including left-wing authoritarianism

In this study a convenience sample is used (41% students; 75% women). They fill in the personality test Mask XXS (Madrid-Valero et al., 2021) which assess Big Five dimensions (E, N, O, A, C) and the personal values inventory TwIVI (Sandy et al., 2017). Moreover, to measure right-wing authoritarianism, the ASC scale (Dunwoody & Funke, 2016), just as the Left-Wing Authoritarianism Scale (Avendaño, Fasce, Costello & Ventura, 2021) and the Social Dominance Orientation Scale (Ho et al., 2015).

As expected, Big Five dimensions of personality were strongly associated with personal values that, in turn, showed important correlations with the ideology scales. Most specific, openness to experience had a positive association with openness to change value; conscientiousness correlated with self-transcendence and conservation; and agreeableness with self-transcendence and low self-enhancement. In addition, right-wing authoritarianism and conservatism had a positive association. On the contrary, conservation correlated negatively with left-wing authoritarianism. Moreover, self-transcendence was related with left-wing authoritarianism and low social dominance orientation.

In conclusion, these results show that personality traits contribute to the development of personal values, and that these values strongly influence ideology and political believes.

Key words: personality, personal values, political ideology, right-wing authoritarianism, left-wing authoritarianism, social dominance.

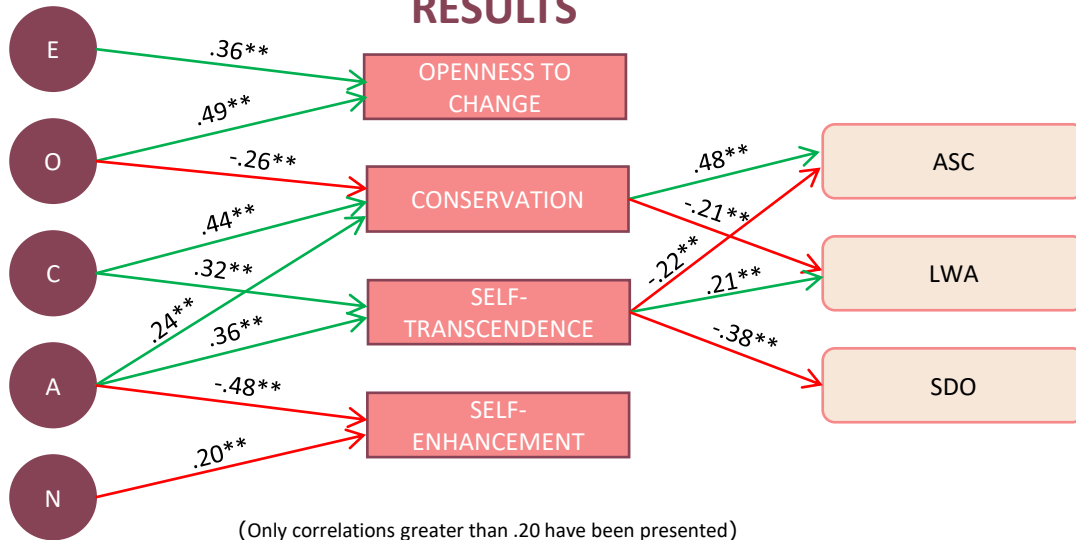
INTRODUCTION

Political preference is developed over the years and can change depending on the context. Nevertheless, researchers have pointed to the relevant role of personality on ideology. Thus, Fatke (2017) showed that some traits of the Big Five model presented a significant relation with left/right ideology. Specifically, conscientiousness was strongly associated with right position in contrast of openness to experience which has a positive correlation with left wing ideas. On the other hand, Ekehammar et al. (2004), conducted a study where they correlate personality, right-wing authoritarianism, social dominance and prejudice. The results showed that low agreeableness was mainly related to social dominance, whereas low openness was associated to right-wing authoritarianism. In addition, Sandy et al. (2017) explored the association between individual values and the Big Five model. They found that traits such as extraversion and openness correlated negatively with tradition value, conscientiousness and agreeableness correlated with conformity, and extraversion and low agreeableness correlated with power, among others.

The main aim of the present study is to explore the role of personality in individual values, and how these values, in turn, would be related to social dominance, right-wing authoritarianism (RWA) and left-wing authoritarianism (LWA). This last aim is especially relevant, because left-wing authoritarianism has been seldom studied, and the role of personality on it remains unexplored. Based on previous findings, we hypothesized that:

- **RWA will correlate with conservation personal value.**
- **Conservation will correlate with high conscientiousness and low openness.**
- **LWA will correlate with low conservation and high openness to change values.**
- **Openness to change will correlate with high openness to experience and extraversion.**
- **SDO will correlate with low self-transcendence.**
- **Last, self-transcendence will correlate positively with agreeableness.**

RESULTS



METHOD & SAMPLE

MASK-XXS PERSONALITY "BIG FIVE": (Madrid-Valero et al., 2021).

- Extraversion
- Neuroticism
- Openness
- Conscientiousness
- Agreeableness

TwIVI VALUES INVENTORY (Sandy et al., 2017).

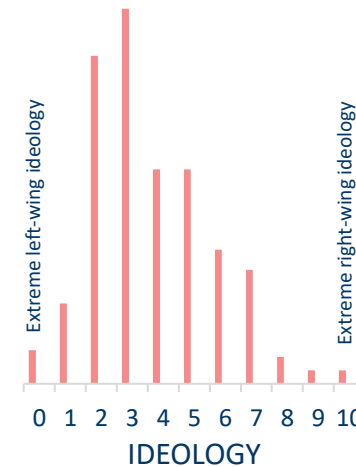
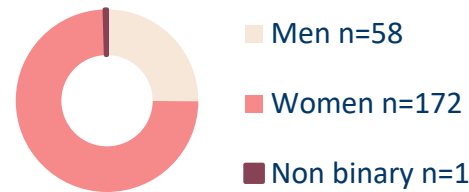
- Self-Transcendence
- Self-Enhancement
- Conservation
- Openness to change

RIGHT WING AUTHORITARIANISM: ASC SCALE
(Dunwoody & Funke, 2016).

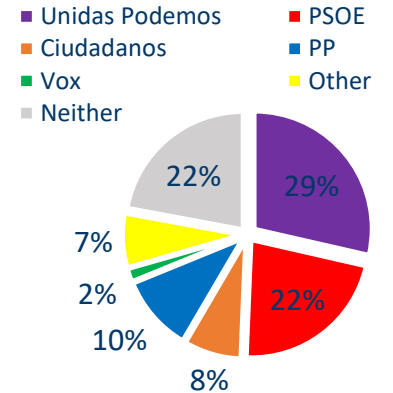
LEFT-WING AUTHORITARIANISM: LEFT-WING SCALE
(Avenidaño, Fasce, Costello & Ventura, 2021).

SOCIAL DOMINANCE: SDO 7
(Ho et al., 2015).

The sample is formed by **231 subjects**. The mean age was 28. It was collected through a questionnaire shared via social media (WhatsApp, Instagram,...).



POLITICAL PARTY



DISCUSSION

As it was expected Big Five dimensions of personality correlate with personal values, additionally those personal values correlate with the different ideology scales. Most hypotheses have been confirmed. Openness to experience and extraversion have a positive correlation with openness to change value as conscientiousness and agreeableness correlate with self-transcendence and conservation. Nevertheless, conservation also has a negative correlation with openness to experience. Surprisingly only conservation and self-transcendence values show correlation with ideology scales. The most relevant results are the correlation between conservation and right-wing authoritarianism and self-transcendence negative correlation with social dominance orientation. In opposite of the hypothesized left-wing authoritarianism and openness to change have not a significant correlation. These results proof that personality traits have an effect on the values that we develop over years. Furthermore, these values contribute to ideology and political beliefs. It is important to remember that the construction of ideology is a dynamic process that can change with time, events, and environmental situations. So, despite personality influences many features of our lives, like the main of this study, it is important to remember that this relation is not decisive. It is important to consider that this is a transversal study, what means that even though there is a correlation between variables it is not possible to claim the bidirectionality of those relations. To reinforce the results of this research it would be necessary to make a longitudinal study.

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