

Determination of Tendencies of Secondary School Students to Tolerance and Variables Affecting their Tendencies to Tolerance

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ABSTRACT The purpose of this study is to investigate the tolerance tendency levels of secondary school students and determine variables affecting their tolerance tendency levels. Value, acceptance, and empathy levels were considered the sub-dimensions of tolerance. The study adopted a mixed research design. The relational survey model was used at the quantitative stage. A focus group interview was carried out in the quantitative method. In the relational survey model, the population of the study comprised students from secondary schools. Schools' socio-economic backgrounds (SEBG) were chosen as a criterion. Ultimately, 591 students participated in the study. A focus group interview was conducted at each school with low and high SEBGs. The interviews were administered to eight students from each school. A semi-structured interview form was used in the focus group interview and a tendency to tolerance scale was administered as a data collection tool. According to the survey results, the high level of tolerance obtained and its sub-dimensions signify that the present tolerance level is satisfactory. However, considering the concerns resulting from the focus group interviews, it is beneficial to take affecting variables (gender, family's monthly income, grade, SEBG) into account for the sustainability and amelioration of the present conditions of tolerance levels.