

Probing Psychological and Cultural Shades in the Content of “Homeland”: A Case Study of Georgian Immigrants in Italy

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ABSTRACT

This article delves into the specifics of linguistic consciousness among Georgian immigrants residing in Italy. The investigation involves a multifaceted approach, combining both qualitative and quantitative methodologies. Qualitative analysis is conducted through non-narrative content analysis of structured interviews, providing rich insights into the subjective experiences and perceptions of the participants. Quantitative methods are employed to complement the qualitative findings, offering a broader perspective on the phenomenon under investigation.

Furthermore, the study employs the technique of the free associative experiment, which reveals participants' spontaneous associations and reactions to the stimulus word "homeland." These associates-reactions offer a glimpse into the respondents' subconscious thoughts, emotions, and perceptions related to the concept of homeland.

Through the analysis of the interviews and reactions to the stimulus word "homeland," the study uncovers some psychological and cultural shades in the meaning of the concept. By juxtaposing the data gathered from the research conducted in Italy in 2023, the study identifies both similarities and differences in how the word “homeland” is documented in dictionaries and internalized within the linguistic consciousness of Georgian immigrants.

Overall, this research contributes significantly to our understanding of the specifics of the linguistic consciousness among Georgian immigrants, offering valuable insights into the intricate interplay between language, culture, and immigrant experience.

Keywords: The Concept of “Homeland”, Linguistic Consciousness, Georgian immigrants, Qualitative and Quantitative Methodologies, Free Associative Experiment, Psychological and Cultural Shades