The sociological explanation of the tendency towards collective behavior among Iranian youth: The case of study; Fars province youth

AbdollahShahassani, Mansour Tabiei*, Mohammad TaghiIman, AsgharMirfardi

Abstract--- Researchers have explored an investigation into collective behaviors as a form of collective actions like other social realities and various theories have been proposed in this connection. The present study aimed to explain the tendency to collective behavior among the youth in the Fars province from a sociological perspective, emphasizing the Theory of Collective Behavior by Smelser. The number of 1875 young people in the Fars province including six cities of Shiraz, Abadeh, Fasa, Kazeroun, Lar and Mamasani were selected by multi-stage random sampling method. Its reliability was confirmed by Cronbach's alpha and its validity was evaluated by formal validity. Structural equations analysis indicated that the variable of relative deprivation had a significant positive impact on the youths' collective behavior such that direct effect was 0.218 and the indirect effect was 0.118. In addition, two variables of social participation and institutional trust were found to have a significant negative effect on the collective behavior and they had effects of equal to -0.264 and 0.119, respectively. In the meantime, the feeling of relative deprivation had a significant negative effect on three variables of social participation (-0.367), institutional trust (-0.139) and interpersonal trust (-0.136). The findings demonstrated that as feelings of deprivation increase, i.e., both economic and social feelings, the tendency towards collective behavior increases, so do social trust at both interpersonal and institutional levels, with the person not showing any tendency to participate in the society in various areas.

Keywords--- collective behavior, feeling of relative deprivation, social participation, social trust.

I. INTRODUCTION

Since the very first states took shape, collective behavior has long caused tension and unrest among human societies. The most important and oldest theories on tension and unrest date back to Greek thinkers. Political violence in ancient Greece mainly appeared in the form of riots and social tensions, generally referred to as revolt, as it was considered some kind of social ailment. An earlier theory on Collective Behavior goes to GustaveLeBon, who claimed that the society was being threatened by collective domination at the time of social disintegration (Iman&Pourjam, 2004: 81).

Accordingly, one of the issues that require thinking about today is the young people's collective behavior. Sociologists

maintain that many social issues today, such as formation of young criminal groups, increased moral promiscuity among urban youth, especially the upper strata of society, deviancy and violent sexual crimes among lower class youths, as well as strikes, riots, etc. are considered to be abnormal and unorganized behaviors among young people. Collective

behavior among young people can both stabilize and disrupt the situation. What is important is the way this behavior is directed and the paths they face (Moradi&Saeidipoor, 2010: 164).

On the other hand, the behavior that people do is the product of some social conditions under which one is compelled to live. If social institutions and organizations have undesirable and negative performance, individuals will also become abnormal following the institutions' undesirable performance. An abnormal behavior causes ailment and stagnation in the society, and for a society to get rid of ailment and to live a healthy life, it must avoid deviancy. Social life is ruled by norms, rules and regulations. If social laws do not bind members of a society, rules and norms outlining their behavior as appropriate or inappropriate, human activities, will cease or become chaotic (Ahmadi, 1998: 11).

Scholars have investigated and defined collective behavior from various angles: Dressler considers collective behavior to include interrelated and more or less spontaneous collective reactions by individuals to a stimulus (Dressler, 2009: 456). Dub considers collective behavior to be a social activity, which occurs under transient structure-less, and unstable conditions while lacking explicitly accepted norms (Haghighatian&Moradi, 2014). Other researchers working in the field of Collective Behavior, such as Turner, Killian, and Gosfield, have directed their attention on fast-changing situations in social structures and judgments by recourse to the principles of Chicago School. Turner and Killian posit that collective behaviors are phenomena standing between disperse individual behaviors and organized group behaviors based on rules or traditions such as parties (MohseniTabrizi, 2004: 155). Setoodeh defines collective behavior as the influx of people into the streets, without prior planning, organization and emotional and unpredictable reaction that more or less differs from normal and everyday behavior (Sotoudeh, 2008: 112).

According to the definitions, collective behavior can be defined as follows: Collective behavior refers to non-institutional, unstructured, self-motivated, emotional and unpredictable patterns of group behavior, which are suggestive of social unrest in many respects. Collective behaviors are usually followed by intense emotional stimuli, and intensify momentarily until they reach their peak while suddenly declining and disappearing. Collective behavior occurs when social conditions allow individuals to perform conducts without attention to the normal expectations of the society. Although the lack of a conventional structure of collective behavior is no excuse to study it can make this study difficult (Moradi&Afrooz, 2013: 134-135).

As a part of the population of any society, young people enjoy more power and maturity than other groups in the society, and are focused attention by social and political scholars in the field of collective behaviors; however, this attention is not always based on the idea that all young people form a force to create an active force and a changing collective behavior, rather in many cases this attention has been based upon the idea that young people are conservative groups, as it creates some kind of social cohesion for them, while barring them from unusual, fast and violent behaviors. For example, it is shown in the research done that finding a job, marriage status and other affairs help man refrain from violent behaviors to become more conservative (Furlong, 2000: 24).

Youth is a concept that refers to certain characteristics, capacities and wants synonymous with a certain period of each person's social life. The famous American anthropologist, Margaret Mead (1901-1978) defines youth as: "A period of youth characterized by two specific features, one being broader expectations on the one hand and the other deep failures on the other hand" (Scheffers, 2004: 25-26).

The concept of youth, in its general sense, refers to a transition stage from childhood to middle as it is divided into adolescence and youth in a special sense. Social sociologists and psychologists have provided various definitions of youth. Many of them have defined this concept based on age; this is while, by young people, it is meant those in the age group of 15 to 29 years, who may have formed a family and be married, or they may not have been married and are single yet, or they may have been married but experienced divorce and estrangement (National Youth Organization, 2003: 70-71).

Societies have always witnessed physical and psychological conflicts between different individuals and social groups, and this issue has led thinkers of various sciences, especially social psychologists, sociologists and political scholars, to thee question: What factors caused this phenomenon and led human beings to tend to be collective? There are various views and theories to answer this question. Yet, some thinkers like Durkheim and Marten, have regarded these behaviors as the product of the turmoil in the society (Momtaz, 2002: 56), while others such as Marx views it as arising from existence of conflicts in the heart of the society; with another group considering such behaviors as being a sign of human non-compliance with norms. Some scholars have always regarded this phenomenon because of lost social roles and positions; yet another group of scholars believes it is due to non-realization of socialization process leading to belligerent sub-cultures (Haghighatian&Moradi, 2014: 156). Accordingly, because factors affecting collective behavior are variable in the eyes of thinkers in this field, it was attempted in this study to investigate the impacts of social trust, social participation and relative deprivation on the collective behavior by young people. According to Smelser's Theory of Structuralism, the subject under investigation has been explained. Smelser is considered one of the most famous sociologists in the area of collective behaviors who described these behaviors in the form of a constructivist approach.

Young people are active forces in social change, but this activity can both pave the way for a dynamic society and lead to a disintegrated society. Only by adopting an appropriate approach based on a a comprehensive recognition of the youths' characteristics and capacities in the incidence of collective behaviors and suitable policy-making based on this inclusive recognition that one can prevent from the incidence of collective behaviors by young people in its destructive and productive forms. On the one hand, as a third world country, the Iranian society faces problematic features with multi-layered collective behaviors as different types of which involve own complexity; on the other hand, various social movements have showed up throughout the history, with many people having considered these movements as the same with collective behavior, which is completely wrong. Thus, we must make a conceptual distinction between social movement and social behavior. These collective behaviors, which are expanding, cause many injuries, deviance and anomalies as these issues change the fate and history of the country in this regard to a large extent. In this regard, the renowned theorist of collective behavior, Smelser has also addressed these issues and harms. Accordingly, the necessity to gain this knowledge and to observe various collective behaviors and the existence of informal and unstable systems, especially the unfolding of instantaneous emotions in a destructive form in different area of Fars province, led the researcher to investigate this issue of collective behavior among Fars youth, emphasizing scientific findings. Collective behavior is one of the social phenomena that has long challenged political systems, causing in many cases widespread and comprehensive political, social and economic transformations. An overview of the research literature in the area of collective behavior suggests scant researches. Some of these forms include fear, collective caprice, fashion, rumor, social epidemic, massive sudden migrations, uncontrolled demand for some types of goods, reform movements and religious movements, which were studied to some extent, but in relation to collective behavior, few researches have been performed. In our country, despite the researchers' interest in this issue, no coherent research on collective behavior in general and the young people's tendency to collective behavior in particular has been performed.

In the Iranian society, the role young people play and the interest for change and development as well as their enjoyment of the spirit of criticism and idealism are thought of their dominant intellectual characteristics, which are of importance for the peoples' political perceptions and attracting their views. Young people have a great impact in designing and defining the direction, intensity, prominence and compliance, which are the four features of public opinion. This is while, the incidence and development of any gap between their expectations and social realities result in the formation and aggravation of political crises. As the subject may be significant in this regard, the present study was aimed at examining

collective behavior. On the other hand, considering the importance of the position of youth in the community and their role in collective behavior, the collective role of 15-29-year youth of the Fars province was studied.

II.   Literature review

Ali Asgharpour et al. (2015) conducted a research entitled "Sociological investigation of the decision-making process in political behaviors with emphasis on the role of gender (Case study: City of Tabriz)". Findings demonstrated that social trust, social security, social anomaly, social powerlessness, social belonging, gender, age, employment and educational status as independent variables were significantly related with decision-making in the political behavior of Tabriz's citizens as the dependent variable. The findings indicated that social security, social trust, sense of powerlessness, sense of social belonging, employment and educational status were found to have the highest impact on decision-making in the political behavior of citizens living in Tabriz.

Haghighatian and Moradi (2014) did a study entitled "The impact of self-alienation on creating and forming collective protest behaviors: a case study of 19-35-year-old young people in Kermanshah" via a survey method. The number of 400 young people were selected from the statistical population in form of a systematic randomized study. Based on the research findings, a significant relationship was noted between various dimensions of self-alienation and collective behaviors among young people. The results suggested that the average collective behavior score was 14.38 in the dimension of conducive structural conditions, 20.18 in the dimension of structural pressures, 22.32 in the dimension of generalized beliefs, 17.83 in the dimension of precipitating factors or stressors, 16.61 in the dimension of mobilizing participants. Finally, this mean held 19.07 in the dimension of social control.

Moradi and Afrooz (2013) conducted a study entitled "The role of demographic and economic factors in creating young peoples' collective behavior: a case study of Bushehr". According to the research findings, a strong and significant relationship was noted between age (r = -0.11), respondents' income (0.10) and between relative deprivation (0.72) and young peoples' collective behavior. The results indicated that there was a strong and significant relationship between relative deprivation and collective behavior in young people. The results from the regression coefficient demonstrated that the variables of relative deprivation, marital status, gender, housing status and employment status entered the equation, respectively by their importance in explaining the dependent variable, thereby explaining 47% of the variance of the dependent variable.

Moradi and Saeedipoor (2010) did a research entitled "An investigation into the role of relative deprivation in creating collective behavior among young people in Kermanshah based on Blumer's Theory of Interactionism" via a survey method. According to the research results, relative deprivation can be considered an effective factor in creating and forming collective behaviors among young people. Such factors as value abilities and value expectations, on the one hand, have a role to play in the relative deprivation of young people and, in creating and forming collective behaviors, on the other hand. The findings from a logistic analysis suggested that the variables of relative deprivation, value abilities and value expectations managed to correctly predict 51.74 of the probability of youth being directed to collective behaviors.

Iman and Pourjam (2004) conducted a study entitled "An investigation into the factors affecting students' tendency to collective behavior: A Case Study of Islamic Azad University, Shiraz Branch". The findings indicated that the variables of age, parents' level of education, watching television, using computer, the Internet, satellite channels, gender, marital status, employment status, residence status, social origin and ethnicity of students were significantly related with their tendency to collective behavior. Multivariate regression analysis suggested that the use of the Internet, gender and watching TV, as the most important variables, could explain 15.1% of the variations in the dependent variable. In sum, the research findings illustrated that the Internet use was found to have the strongest positive relationship with the tendency to collective behavior, followed by watching television and age having an inverse relationship with collective behavior.

Pavan (2017) did a study entitled "Integrated mutual power of online virtual networks instead of protest: an investigation of using social media in the process of institutionalization". The study findings revealed that the advocates of the International Feminist Campaign "Take Back the Tech" had, in fact, made different uses of social media costs; gradually changing their communication strategies to shore up their campaign efforts inside and outside institutional arena. Thus, an investigation into the International Feminist Campaign provides evidence of the usefulness of the proposed method to reflect the different types of social media applied in different stages of mobilization and political arenas.

Fang et al. (2016) did a study entitled "Model of follower-leader for a social collective behavior-based simulation by the time of revolt". In this paper, a follower leader-based model was interpreted founding on local social interactions and collective behavior, with this information used to imitate three specific scenarios: against this process, lineup and collective mobility appeared. To meet this goal, a pedestrian agent can create non-financial and continuous relationships between the leader and followers while adjust his/her behavioral patterns corresponding to the conditions. Brunsma et al. (2016) did a study entitled "Collective behavior and social movements". In this research, social movements have been specified as a criterion for "the conditions under which humans can exercise freedom and liberty." As well, research on social movements are linked with the heart of human rights, with intellectual and political efforts for actors being directed at the academia and scientific arenas. In collaboration with political science clients, sociologists have long been studying collective behavior and social movements, seeking to clarify multifaceted conducts by social movement participants in their efforts to meet this social change.

Moral (2015) performed a study entitled "The Early Christian Church and the Vietnam Anti-War Movement at the University of Kent State: Using Burke's Sin Cycle Theory and Smelser's Theory of Collective Behavior". The findings indicated in this study that applying the Burke's sin cycle theory to the Neil Smelser's theory of collective behavior was quite appropriate to create a debate on the confrontation between the early Christian Church and the Vietnam Anti-War movement, especially at Kent State University. This argument revolved around the verbal actions and social movements progress, while considering the respective period of each movement in history.

Flesher Fuminaya (2011) conducted a study entitled "Collective identity in social movements: Concepts and axial debates". This article revolved on the use of concept in the literature of contemporary social movements while at the same time providing comprehensive theoretical theories. Key elements of collective identity are said to have been expanded in the social movement literature, with some key differences noted in interpretations. Finally, some of the contemporary debates on the usefulness and conceptual limitations of collective identity have been investigated, with particular emphasis on the challenges of using a concept to the movements introducing themselves in terms of heterogeneity, diversity, and comprehensiveness.

McDonald (2002) performed a research entitled "From solidarity to fluidity: Social movements beyond collective identity: Case of globalization controversy". This study has investigated the role of solidarity groups, the issue of agency, network culture, and ambiguity and narrative structure of action, considering fieldwork by direct groups in Australia and the United States. This study takes the debates in the framework of network societies concluding that the analysis of action processes and identity in contemporary social movements should transfer to "being philosophical" from "solidarity" and to one "public experience" from "collective identity".

Polletta and Jasper (2001) conducted a study entitled "Collective identity and social movements". They concluded that sociologists had debated collective identity to remove the gaps on the mobilization of political resources and case of emerging political trends, paths, and the impacts of social movements. Collective identity is considered an alternative to structural interests that claims to mobilize people, finds an alternative to selective motives to understand why people

participate, and provides a rational means to explain selective tactical actors, while introducing an alternative to institutional reform in evaluating movement impacts.

Various researches have bene carried out both inside and outside of the country about the inhabitants of a small town or community. The current study sought to investigate a large province, which has more than 35 cities, trying to sociologically explain the factors affecting the collective behavior of young people.

III.   Theoretical framework

Smelser argues that collective behavior, as we intend it, is a response to problems or pressures in systems aimed at modifying it. To the contrary, to him, the notion of collective behavior considers the pressure as a necessity and an immediate cause for protest in three areas. First, he argues that collective behavior and structural pressures are not necessarily unusual or deviant. An exploratory objective is the clarification of paths such that actual and real-time systems go through a shorter path to meet that exploratory objective. Second, structural pressures are relative, as Blumer puts it, while Smelser regards structural pressures as relative. Concerning subjective and inter-subjective expectations of agents and groups, pressures and problems can however indicate to what extent a system has been active in relation to a movable action. A pressure can also cause a kind of shock (Crossley, 2002: 43). Corresponding with this view, Smelser provided a caricature of collective behavior to investigate an experimental work. His theory cannot be refuted by referring to the studies revolving around the relationship between conflict and subjective factors because some studies evoke expectations of defining a subjective explanation. To investigate the Smelser's Theory, the status of the protest factors in relation to their expectations of the world, their sources, and preferences should be investigated. This is what Thomson and Jasper did about Slamser's Theory (Dastgheib, 2018: 158).

This is not the only important point of departure for Smelser concerning the cause-and-effect model. The third reason of him to justify his combination includes six factors. The Smelser's six-fold model is derived from Economics. This model indicates that various stages of the production process involve different things, affecting the final production and its added value. Raw materials must be extracted, melted, molded, and finally painted together. He considers six factors, which are deemed to influence collective behavior. These factors categorize collective behavior. These six factors are:

1.Structural cause: Social systems facilitate collective behaviors through pressure and action status. In addition, a specific form of pressure and position affects the way a collective action appears.

2. Structural pressure: Agents must experience the system as some problematic and stressful means.

3. Development of generalized ideas: Agents must identify means to cure. If they fail to diagnose the cure, they cannot shape collective behavior.

4. Precipitating agents.

5. Mobilizing participants for action.

6. Social control action: Social control agents including the police and the media, which play a role to create a barrier to a social movement, and the way they deal with a collective behavior all contribute to a decisive role in the future of the movement. Similarly, the media has a definite role in the process of the movement (ZahedZahedani, 2014: 69).

Each of these elements involves an analytical aspect for Smelser. Any action or event has more than one role. Sometimes the police may serve provocatively rather than help to control. Each element may be set in a specific order or help other elements. Put it differently, some generalized values or structural pressures can be interpreted and retrospected; as serve like a ready-to-shoot event. Hence, a pressure may remain hidden for years while its other elements may help it emerge.
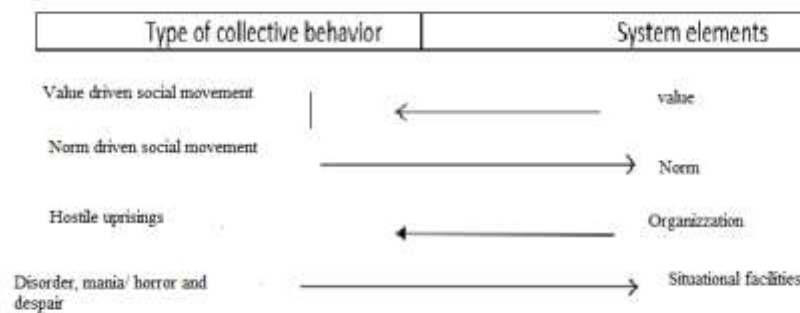
Figure 1.Smelser's model of collective behavior and its relation with elements of the system (Crossley, 2002: 44).

The cross-interaction of these six factors simply determine the collective behavior. As stated above, a cross-interaction may have a decisive impact on what types of collective behaviors could occur. Smelser maintains that the five-fold types of collective behavior in Figure 2.3 are in conjunction with the four basic social system components. Here are his five types:

1. **Horror:** meaning ceasing to work or to escape a stressful situation.

2. **Disorder**: Where the actor concentrates on a strict reaction and a solution for an immediate situation.

3. **Rebellion and hostility**: Individuals, groups or institutions are deemed as a source of stress as they seek to invade them.

4. **Norm-driven movement**: It seeks normative structural changes in the system via a normative strategy.

5. **Value-driven movement**: It seeks a value strategy trying to reduce pressure by questioning the values on which the system is founded.

Smelser argues that each of these collective behaviors seeks to resolve social pressure at a specific order of hierarchy (Crossley, 2002: 44).

Contrary to the theories looking into these issues from a purely economic perspective, while focusing only on the objective and real-time conditions of the societies, Ted Robert Gurr considers the increasing expectations by human beings to be an important cause of violence; i.e., the distance people feel they have with the values and desirable conditions they are seeking to achieve. These values are categorized in three forms of welfare values (material well-being and existing opportunities to use mental and material capacities), power-based values (humans' capacity to influence others and avoiding unwanted interference in their lives, actions and behaviors) and interpersonal values (mental satisfaction from social interactions). Of course, one can enter different demands and values in this analytical construct in accordance with the historical, social and cultural conditions of different societies, or to categorize them in other forms. Therefore, regardless of what of these values, the greater the gap between the "actors' value expectations" and their meeting of these demands, or in other words, "value capacities", the greater the likelihood of violence and incidence of events such as riots and revolution. Value expectations are an average of the situations to which actors justifiably deserve themselves, and value abilities are an average of the situations actors find themselves capable of achieving it. To add to the Robert Gurr's Theory, one can safely suggest that it tries to understand what is going on in the minds of the actors while not confining itself to what is actually happening. In other words, it does not just consider what is going on inside of the society and speaks of the "value expectations" that are established in people's minds, in addition to moving beyond a purely economic

perspective and including other factors into its model. On the other hand, it does not merely evaluate the fundamental potential and capabilities to achieve these demands; rather, via a more comprehensive view, it includes the mental image of actors or their perception in the probability of achieving their desires as an important variable (Gurr, 2009).

In the book Why Humans Rebel, Gurr addresses social deprivation and its relationship to social behavior. Robertger defines relative deprivation as: A precondition to violent civil strife is relative deprivation, which embodies itself in the sense of actors over the gap between value expectations and value capacities. Value expectations refer to those goods and living conditions that people consider themselves to deserve. Value capacities refer to the issues to be sought in a social and objective environment: they are conditions that determine people's chances of learning or maintaining certain values they expect to achieve (Ahmadvand, 2016: 7).

The theoretical model of this research is founded on Smelser's theories concerning collective behavior. According to Smelser, such dimensions as structural context, structural pressure, generalized beliefs, precipitating factors, mobilization, and social controls have evaluated collective behavior. The Gurr's perspective was used to determine the factors affecting collective behavior. According to the Gurr's view, it can be said that one of the variables affecting the types of collective behaviors is the extent deprivation, and actors do types of collective behavior based on the extent of deprivation or non-deprivation. It can also be argued that the sense of relative deprivation affects social capital and its dimensions such as social participation and social trust with the extent of social capital being highly affected by the sense of deprivation. According to the mentioned perspectives, one can consider a model in which some variables affect collective behavior directly or indirectly. The following analytical model has been designed according to Smelser and Gurr's views and in line with experimental studies.
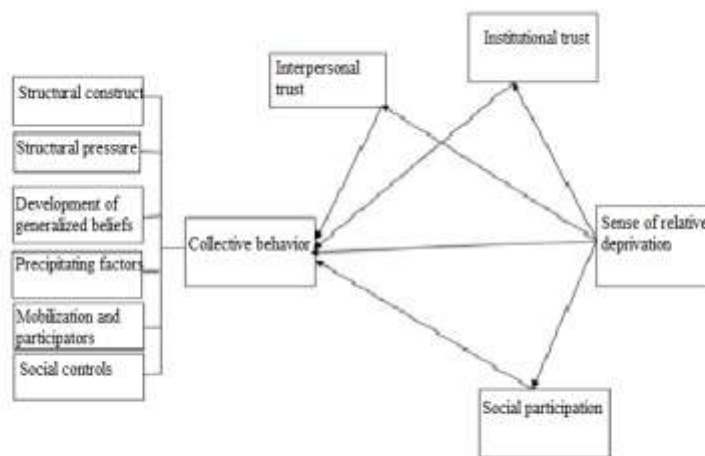
Figure 1. Theoretical model of research, relations between study variables

Hypotheses

1. The feeling of relative deprivation has a significant effect on the youths' collective behavior.
2. Interpersonal trust has a significant effect on the youths' collective behavior.
3. The feeling of relative deprivation has a significant effect on the youths' institutional trust.
4. The feeling of relative deprivation has a significant effect on the youths' interpersonal trust of young people.

IV. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research method was a survey and cross-sectional. The present study was performed on 15-29-year old in Fars province. To select the cities in the Fars province, a city from the south of Fars province, a city from the north of Fars province, a city from the east of Fars province, a city from the west of Fars province along with Shiraz city were randomly selected. Based on this, the cities of Abadeh, Fasa, Kazerun, Lar, and Mamasani were randomly selected as the statistical population of the present study. The sample size for each of the cities mentioned was separately determined using the Cochran's formula.

Sampling in the present study was done via a multi-stage random method. Multi-stage random sampling is used when the research population is large, thus, the most practical and desirable solution is usually multi-stage sampling. In multi-stage sampling, the population individuals are selected based on different types of hierarchical community units (from larger to smaller units). Accordingly, random sampling method was used in several stages in the present study.

In the first stage, cities were randomly selected from which samples were determined, meaning that in this stage, five other cities from Fars province, including Abadeh, Fasa, Kazeroun, Lar and Mamasani, were randomly selected, in addition to Shiraz. In the next step, from among all the districts of each of the selected cities, several districts were randomly selected clusters. In the next step, households and individuals in those households in each district were randomly selected and examined. In the meantime, to confirm the validity of this questionnaire, face validity and interviews with experts were conducted. In addition, the reliability of this questionnaire was assessed in two stages and in both stages; the Cronbach's alpha level was above 0.6. To analyze the data, SPSS 22 software was used while the structural equation test was used by Amos 22 software to determine the impacts of each of the independent and intermediate variables on the dependent variable. The results of the reliability test of research variables are listed in the table below.

Table 1. Cronbach's alpha level

Row	Variable	Items	Reliability coefficient (alpha)
1	Collective behavior	34	0.768
2	Feeling of relative deprivation	6	0.613
3	social participation	5	0.773
4	Interpersonal trust	5	0.691
5	Institutional trust	6	0.638

V. FINDINGS

A. Descriptive findings

The following table provides the underlying variables of the research. The results below indicate that most respondents were from Fasa city (20.27) and the least from Abadeh city (10.7). According to the Cochran's formula, the number of 2266 people had to be studied and questioned. However, because of the prevalence of Corona virus, 1875 people, or 82.75% of the sample population, were interviewed. Based on gender, 944 women (50.7%) and 918 men (49.3%) were included in the respondents. 69.7% of the subjects studied were single and 30.3% married. 90.9% of the respondents were living in the city, 8.3% in the village and 1.8% in the nomadic areas.

Table 2. Descriptive characteristics of the sample

Variable	Class	Fre.	Percentage
	Abadeh	201	10.7%
	Shiraz	351	18.7%

City	Fasa	368	20.2%
	Kazeroun	340	18.1%
	Lar	373	19.9%
	Mamasani	232	12.4%
	18-20 years old	210	9.4%
Gender	Male	918	49.3%
	Female	944	50.7%
Marriage status	Single	1286	69.7%
	Married	559	30.3%
Place of residence	City	1657	90.9%
	Village	153	8.3%
	Nomadic areas	32	1.8%

The respondents' attitudes toward collective behavior were measured by 34 items, with each item in the table being assigned value 1 (strongly disagree) to a maximum value of 5 (strongly agree). Therefore, the respondents' score of collective behavior could fluctuate from 34 to 175. The results indicated that the score received by the respondents in all 6 cities ranged from 53 to 169. The the respondents' average score of collective behavior was 127.74, which is more than the average score of the spectrum, i.e., 102. This average for Fasa city was 120.85 being less than that of all the cities under study. This is while the average for Kazerun was 134.37, being greater than that of other cities.

Table 3. Minimum, maximum, mean and standard deviation of the respondents' score in the collective behavior spectrum

City	Items	Min.	Max.	Mean	SD
Total	34	53	169	127.74	18.1
Abadeh	34	89	162	125.41	15.20
Shiraz	34	61	165	129.95	18.46
Fasa	34	60	162	120.85	16.05
Kazeroun	34	54	165	134.37	16.19
Lar	34	79	168	128.18	17.50
Mamasani	34	53	169	126.99	22.71

B. Inferential findings

Pearson r test was used to examine the level of correlation between independent and dependent variables given the level of variables. Table 4 suggests the correlation between the variables. As seen, there was a significant correlation between the independent variables of the research including the feeling of relative deprivation and social participation with collective behavior; however, two variables of interpersonal trust and institutional trust were not found to have a significant correlation with collective behavior. Feelings of relative deprivation were found to significantly correlate with social participation, interpersonal trust, and institutional trust. In addition, a significant correlation was noted between social participation and interpersonal trust and institutional trust. The results pertaining to this correlation are provided in the table below.

**Table 4. Correlation between research variables**

	Collective behavior	Feeling of relative deprivation	Social participation	Institutional trust	Interpersonal trust

Collective behavior	1	0.060**	-0.238**	0.017	0.020
Feeling of relative deprivation	0.060**	1	-0.217	-0.127**	-0.103**
social participation	-0.238**	-0.217**	1	0.204**	0.095**
Institutional trust	0.017	-0.127**	0.204**	1	0.412**
Interpersonal trust	0.020	-0103**	0.095**	0.412**	1

Research model test

The structural equation modeling was aimed to establish that a theory-based model has similarity with the sample data in terms of the difference between the sample and the predicted covariance matrix of the model (Dion, 2008: 355). The following is a conceptual model of the research with a structural model. The first step in modeling structural equations is to provide a graphic outline of the model in a software environment. The model is provided using AMOS software.

When Amos is instructed to execute the data, an output window opens, and in the model fit section you will receive a long list of indicators, with each involving a different version of the model fit. Appropriate quality and high fit of the model indicates the extent to which the specified model reproduces the covariance matrix among the observed index or variables. If the fit is found to be sufficient, the model indicates the probability of the assumed relations between the variables. If insufficient, resistance to such relations is rejected (Haier et al., 2006 and Bryan, 2001). To determine the fit of the research model, various fit indices are considered using the confirmatory factor analysis, which are provided in the following model. Each of the obtained indicators alone is not suggestive of the model being fit or unfit, as these indicators should be interpreted together. One of these indicators is RMSEA. Root Mean Square Error of Approximation (RMSEA) is based on model errors and, like the Chi-square index; it is a measure of the model's poor performance. According to McCallum, Brown, and Shogavara (1996), if the value of this index is smaller than 0.10, the fit of the model is very good. If it is between 0.10 and 0.50, the fit of the model is good and if it is between 0.50 and 0.80, the fit of the model is average; the rate of this index in this model is 0.068, so the model enjoys a high fit. In addition, one can refer to other indicators including CFI, NFI, etc. as in all these indicators, the fit rate was greater than 0.8. Therefore, one can state that the model has a high fit and the model is of good quality. Another indicator used to fit the model in this study is Normed Fit Index. Most values higher than 0.50 or 0.60 are considered appropriate (Albright, 2014; Abarshi&Hosseini, 2012). In this model, PCFI and PNFI were found to be greater than 0.50, being acceptable for model development.
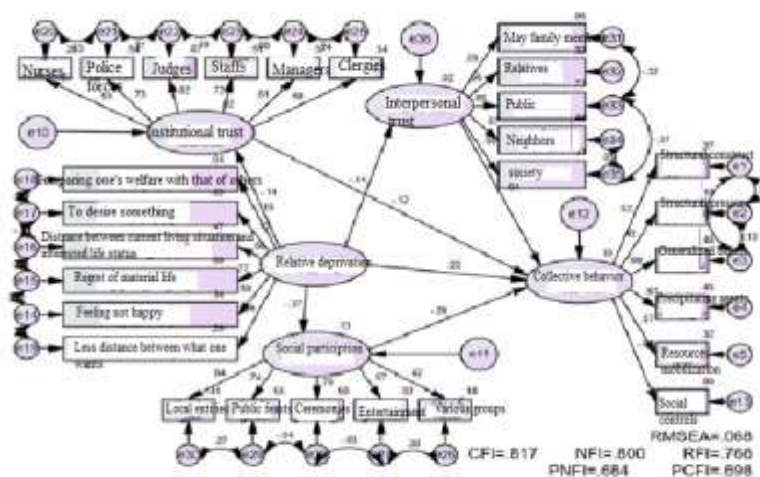
Model 2. Test results from the research conceptual model with standard coefficients and fit indicators of the model

In the Amos output section, another output section deals with the significance of these regression relationships, which is as follows. As seen from the table, a large number of direct impact cases and an indirect path are examined. The first direct path pertains to the direct impact of the feeling of relative deprivation on collective behavior. The level of direct effect equals to 0.218 and the direction of effect is positive. The second direct path pertains to the impact of the feeling of relative deprivation on institutional trust. The level of direct impact equals to -0.139 and the direction of impact is negative. The third direct path pertains to the impact of the feeling of relative deprivation on interpersonal trust. The level of direct impact equals to -0.136 and the direction of impact is negative. The fourth direct path pertains to the impact of the feeling of relative deprivation on social participation. The level of direct impact equals to -0.367 and the direction of impact is negative. The next direct path pertains to the impact of social participation on collective behavior. The level of direct effect equals -0.267 and the direction of the impact is also negative. Another direct path pertains to the direct impact of institutional trust on collective behavior. The level of direct impact equals to -0.119 and the direction of impact is negative. Another direct path pertains to the direct impact of interpersonal trust on collective behavior, which is the only path whose impact is not significant. Therefore, one may suggest that interpersonal trust does not have a significant impact on the youths' collective behavior. As seen, there is an indirect path in the model, which pertains to the indirect impacts of the feeling of relative deprivation and affects collective behavior through variables of social participation, institutional trust and interpersonal trust. This path is also significant and the level of indirect impact of the feeling of relative deprivation on collective behavior equals 0.118 with the path direction being also positive. Accordingly, one may argue that the feeling of relative deprivation has a direct significant effect on collective behavior and leaves an indirect significant on the youths' collective behavior via such variables as social participation, institutional trust and interpersonal trust.

Table 5. Direct and indirect effects of variables on the dependent variable

Paths	Direct effect	Indirect effect	Total effect	Sig.
Feeling of relative deprivation/ collective behavior	0.218	0.118	0.336	0.000
Feeling of relative deprivation/institutional trust	-0.139	-	-0.139	0.000
Feeling of relative deprivation/interpersonal trust	-0.136	-	-0.136	0.000
Feeling of relative deprivation/social participation	-0.367	-	-0.367	0.000
Social participation/collective behavior	-0.264	-	-0.264	0.000
Institutional trust/ collective behavior	-0.119	-	-0.113	0.000
interpersonal trust/collective behavior	-0.037	-	-0.037	0.272

VI. CONCLUSION

The results of this correlational study demonstrated that the two variables of relative deprivation and social participation had a significant correlation with the youths' collective behavior and the two variables of institutional trust and interpersonal trust had no significant relationship with collective behavior. At the correlation level, the findings also suggested that the feeling of relative deprivation had a significant inverse effect on social participation, institutional trust and interpersonal trust. These variables were simultaneously examined in structural equation modeling. The results from structural equation modeling suggested that the variable of relative deprivation had a significant positive impact on the youths ' collective behavior. Social participation and institutional trust were also found to have a significant impact on the youths' collective behavior. Only the interpersonal trust variable had no significant impact on collective behavior. The

results also demonstrated that the feeling of relative deprivation had a significant inverse impact on all three variables of social participation, institutional trust and interpersonal trust. The results of this study on the significant relationship between the feeling of relative deprivation and collective behavior were deemed to correspond to the findings provided by Moradi and Afrooz (2013), Moradi and Saeedipoor (2010) and Morrell's (2015) studies. Researches by Ali Asgharpour et al. (2015), Iman, and Pourjam (2004) concluded that there was a significant relationship between trust and the level of collective behavior. Also, the results by Fletcher Fuminaya (2011), noting a significant relationship between social participation and collective behavior, were in line with this study. Accordingly, in line with the research findings, one can argue that as feelings or experiences of deprivation increases compared to others, the young people's tendency to a variety of collective behaviors increases. Relative deprivation refers to a condition of incapacity that one perceives or feels when comparing one's economic situation with others; therefore, the feeling of relative deprivation is different from poverty and occurs when one compares him/herself with others. Therefore, social planners and policy makers should seek to reduce the deprivations and increase the satisfaction in the country with respect to various political, social, economic, cultural, etc. areas. As a result, providing equal pay and benefits for the affairs of the same status may greatly reduce the feeling of relative deprivation, which in turn causing various agents and groups less likely to engage in collective and protest behaviors, such January 2017 and November 2019 protests.

Thus, according to Smelser's Theory of Collective Behavior, one can argue that one of the structural constructs in which collective behaviors take shape and cause the collective behavior to form, is the feeling of relative deprivation by different agents and groups. When various agents and groups struggle with all kinds of relative deprivations, including economic and social issues, they feel a kind of structural pressure, and for Smelser, this structural pressure is yet another situation causing a variety of collective behaviors. One can suggest that ethnic activists and groups, when exposed to this situation, seek to find a way out of it, as Smelser's generalized beliefs can be referred to it.

A high level of feeling deprivation can be one of the precipitating factors of collective behavior. These conditions cause the agents to mobilize as the coordination by and mobilization of the activists is one of the main pillars for the collective behavior. This situation increases social trust and social participation in the agents and leaders of collective behavior, thus strengthening collective behavior.

To sum up, it is concluded that young people are always seen as the most effective and active forces of change and social movement in the society. This age group enjoys an immense force and has a world of knowledge and skills. From a theoretical relationship with the views and theories, the findings indicate a strong and rational link between the theoretical level of research and its experimental level. Part of the formation of collective behaviors pertains to the structural situation of the community, i.e., when people do not trust each other in the social environment, do not take responsibility for the society they live in, do not even trust social agents, and on the other hand do not participate in various areas, the ground will certainly be prepared for the incidence of collective behaviors. Accordingly, it is also concluded that unrest and disruptive behaviors, such as collective behaviors, are formed when, on the one hand, the feeling of deprivation, discrimination and inequality in the society are strengthened, and on the other hand, the distance between individual demands and responses and amenities received from institutions get increased, as his helps reduce the dominance of societal norms for surveillance and controlling of behaviors. These people are the most appropriate groups for any collective action and behavior. In this study, the feeling of relative deprivation was regarded as an influential variable in collective behaviors; this issue helps increase the speed of various collective behaviors, while reducing social trust and social participation in society.

The results indicated that to the extent that a person feels all kinds of deprivation, including economic and social, the tendency towards collective behavior increases and social trust in both interpersonal and institutional trust decreases with the person tending to participate in society.

According to the results, planning to optimize the living conditions of people in the community, especially young people and to use their enormous energy is key. Any action that reduces the scope of deprivation and strengthens social capital can produce a beneficial effect in reducing the youths' collective behavior of young people.

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