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Introduction

Purpose

To examine the cross-cultural differences or similarities in the stress coping process between the United States and Nigeria.

Background

Much of our knowledge on coping is based on studies utilizing participants with European roots. The major stress and coping theories that have been developed (e.g., Lazarus & Folkman, 1984, Carpenter, 1992, Goldberger & Breznitz, 1982, etc.) likely have a Western bias because they have been empirically tested on populations primarily from Europe and North America (Sinha et al. 2000). As a result, these theories may be culturally contingent. To establish comprehensive theoretical approaches, their universality must be tested within a relevant cross-cultural context.

As a result, this study adopts the problem-focused versus emotion-focused coping model to examine the potential cultural variation in the relationship between perceptions of control over stressor and coping strategies adopted by two different cultural groups, Nigeria, and the United States.

Coping Strategies

Lazarus and Folkman (1984) proposed two types of coping strategies: problem-focused strategies, which directly modifies the situation that creates a threat or challenge, and emotion-focused techniques, which manage emotional responses to stressors.

Problem-focused coping is regarded to be effective when there's control over the situation and emotion-focused coping, when there's little or no control (Kim & Duda, 2003)

Hypotheses & Research Questions

H1: Control is positively correlated with Problem-focused coping strategies

H2: Control is negatively correlated with Emotion focused coping strategies.

RQ3a: Is individualism positively correlated with problem-focused coping?

RQ3b: Is high power distance positively correlated with problem-focused coping?

RQ3c: Is uncertainty avoidance positively correlated with emotion-focused coping?

RQ3d: Is masculinity positively correlated with problem-focused coping?

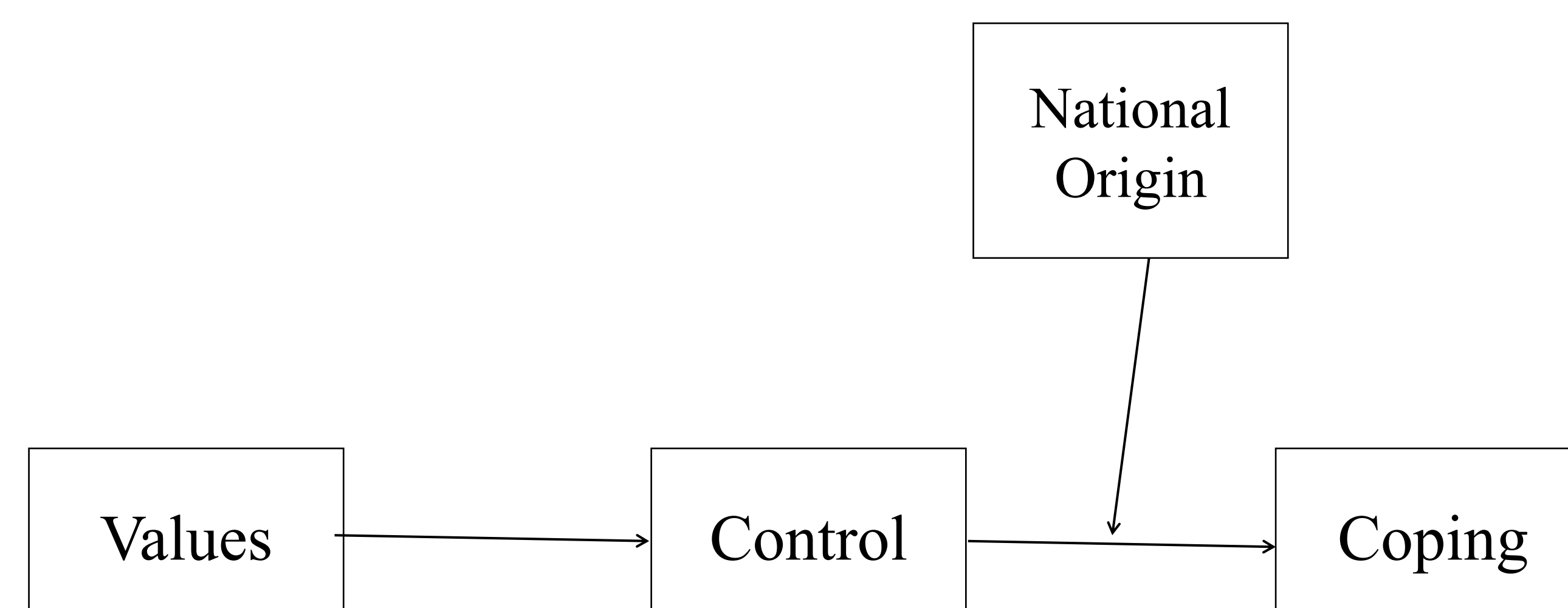
RQ3e: Is long term orientation positively correlated with emotion-focused coping?

RQ3f: Is indulgence positively correlated with emotion-focused coping?

H4: Control mediates each of the relationships between Values and Coping.

H5a: National origin moderates the relationship between Control and Coping such that the relationship between control and problem-focused coping strategy is stronger for Nigerians than Americans

H5b: National origin moderates the relationship between Control and Coping such that the relationship between control and emotion-focused coping strategy is stronger for Americans than Nigerians



Method

Participants

In order to accomplish this study, we will recruit participants from Nigeria and the United States. Participants will be required to have lived a minimum of 18 years in these countries to be able to participate in the study. Approximately 100 participants will be recruited from each country.

Materials and Procedures

Participants will complete an online survey on Qualtrics. Control will be measured using the Rotter's (1966) Locus of Control Scale Coping will be measured using the Brief-COPE scale developed by Carver (1997). Lastly, values will be measured using Hofstede's Values Survey Module (2013).

Results

To test the hypotheses and the research question, moderated mediation analysis will be conducted.

References

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