

INTRODUCTION

Emerging adulthood is a stage in the life cycle that elapses between late adolescence and the middle or late third decade of life (Arnett, 2000). During this stage, young people have traditionally played an important role as agents for social change, mainly during their time at university. Civic awareness and engagement is defined as "a set of individual and collective actions designed to identify and address issues of public interest (American Psychological Association, 2012) and are operationalized according to various explicit modalities, especially attitudes, skills and the feeling of efficacy (Zaff, Boyd, Li & Lerner, 2011). Inside this dimension we could found also the concept of social participation, which includes the creation of organizations and the development of actions aimed at improving the living conditions of the population (Morales, Domene & Puig, 2013). According to Plaza and Caro (2016), becoming a citizen with civic, political and social responsibility requires learning, which often comes from our closest models, from which we acquire and internalize our personal values. In this sense, family has a very important role in the social and civic education of its members (Plaza & Caro, 2016). There is a continuity between family life and social life. In our research we will study the relation between civic awareness and social participation with variables of the family context. Specifically we will use several measures of parenting style (behavioural control, psychological control and parents involvement) that significantly affects socialization (Kocayörük, Altıntaş, & İçbay, 2015). Gender has also a great influence in the way emerging adulthood express their social participation and civil awareness (Lizasso et. Al., 2018). We will adopt a gender perspective to analyze the differences between men and women in all the variables mentioned above.

METHOD

SAMPLE
1714 emerging adults university students (64,7% women, Mean age= 20.61, SD age= 2.49, Range age= 18-29).

MEASURES

- Demographic variables: All participants indicated their age, sex and education level.
- Civic Awareness: AD HOC (4 items) ($\alpha=.60$)
- Social Participation: AD HOC (11 items) ($\alpha=.76$)
- Perceived involvement of parents (POPS): Compilation of Grolnick, Deci & Ryan (1997). Subscales: Parent involvement ($\alpha=.83$); Parent autonomy support ($\alpha=.84$); Parent warmth ($\alpha=.86$);
- Parent Availability: AD HOC ($\alpha=.68$).
- Control subscale:
 - Behavioural control: Kerr & Stattin's Control Subscale. Kerr, M. & Stattin, H. (2000). ($\alpha=.79$)
 - Psychological control: Oliva, A., Parra, A., Sánchez-Queija, I. y López, F. (2007). ($\alpha=.89$)

PROCEDURE
All participants belonged to US and UPV/EHU universities in Spain so the research team contacted different faculties and asked permission to contact students. All participants were informed of the aim of the study and assurances were given that the survey was both anonymous and confidential. All students participated voluntarily. The process of filling out the questionnaire lasted approximately 30 minutes

RESULTS

1. Descriptive analysis
Emerging adults in the study had high levels of civic awareness (M=2.81; SD= .27; 1-3 scale), while levels of social participation were low (M=1.99; SD=.59; 1-5 scale).

- Emerging adult women had higher levels of civic awareness ($t=-6.71$; $p<.001$; Cohen's $d=-.34$) and social participation ($t=-4.15$; $p<.001$; Cohen's $d=-.21$) than their male counterparts (Figure 1 and 2)
- No differences were found between men and women in any of the family variables: Parent involvement ($t = -1.92$; $p = .054$), Parent autonomy support ($t = -0.77$; $p = .44$), Parent warmth ($t = .08$; $p = .93$), Availability ($t = .00$; $p = .25$), Psychological control ($t = -.91$; $p = .36$) and Behavioral control ($t = 1.53$; $p = .12$).

2. Correlations (Table 1):

Men

- Civic awareness positively correlated with Parent involvement, Parent autonomy support, Parent warmth and Parent Availability.
- Social participation did not correlate with any of the variables.

Women

- Civic awareness correlated positively with Parent involvement, Parent autonomy support, Parent warmth and Parent Availability and correlated negatively with Psychological and Behavioral Control.
- Participation was negatively correlated with Parent involvement, Parent autonomy support, Parent warmth and Parent Availability and positively correlated with Psychological control.

Figure 1: Mean scores of Civic awareness

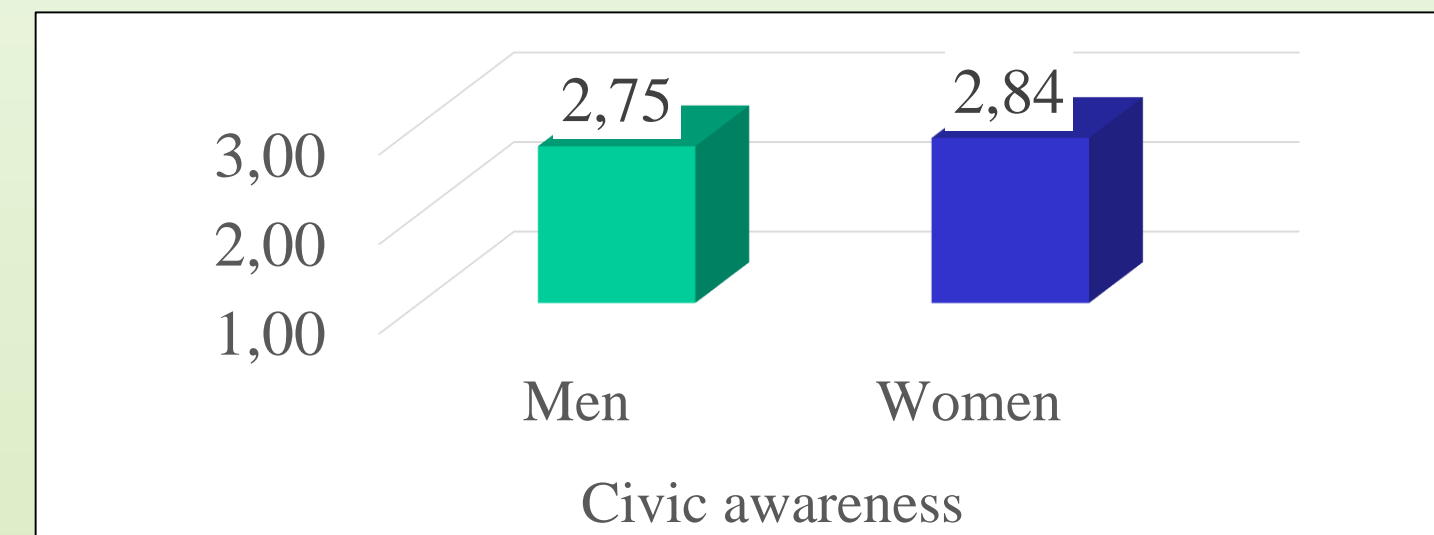


Figure 2: Mean scores of Social Participation

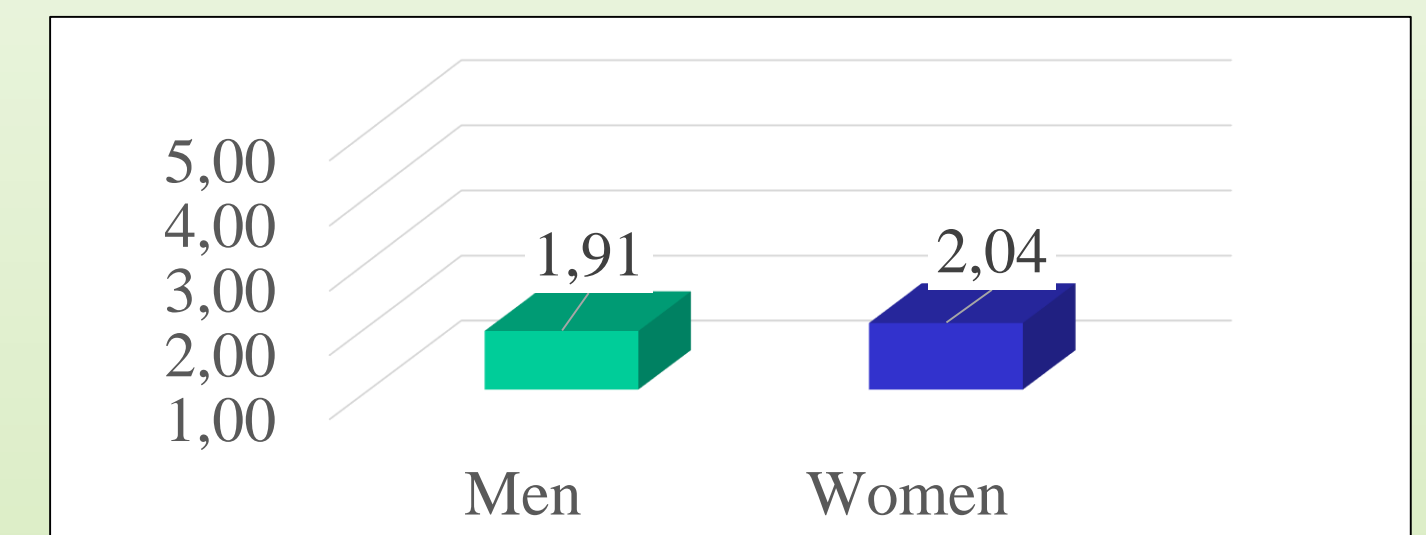


Table 1: Correlations between Civic Awareness and Social Participation with families variables for men and women separately

	2		3		4		5		6		7		8	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
1. Civic awareness	.12**	.07*	.13**	.15**	.15**	.15**	.18**	.16**	.12**	.14**	.04	-.08**	-.04	-.08**
2. Social participation			.00	-.05	.01	-.08**	.01	-.07*	-.02	-.10**	.07	.05	.02	.08**
3. Parent autonomy support					.64**	.75**	.75**	.83**	.57**	.66**	-.46**	-.54**	-.68**	-.74**
4. Parent involvement							.69**	.80**	.65**	.76**	-.13**	-.29**	-.44**	-.55**
5. Parent warmth									.59**	.70**	-.31**	-.40**	-.54**	-.65**
6. Parent availability											-.19**	-.29**	-.43**	-.51**
7. Behavioural control													.61**	.62**
8. Psychological control													-	-

CONCLUSIONS

- In our study, participants civic awareness is higher than social participation. Specifically, women show a higher average in both variables than their peers, men.
- Regarding family variables, we have not found gender differences.
- In the case of young men, a loving, warmth, affective, available relationship with family positively predisposed to higher score of civic awareness while, there are no relation between those variables and Social Participation.
- Sex moderate relationship between civic awareness and both psychological and behavioral control. Thus, control are negatively related with civic awareness in women but not in men.
- In contrast, in Social Participation we can observe in women that the scores are lower when there is a warm, available and supportive parental relationship. However, the scores rise if there is a higher degree of psychological control.
- There are gender differences in the way that men a women develop their Civic Awareness and Social Participation during the stage of emerging adulthood and these differences may be due to different family socialization strategies.