

Abstract Components

Perception of University Responsibility and Global Citizenship Identification

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Abstract

As students are often connected to a university for a number of years, the perception that the university is organizationally responsible may influence their own identity (Tajfel & Turner, 1979).

In the present study, we examined the influence of students' perception of the university's organizational responsibility on antecedents and outcomes of global citizenship identification.

Participants included students in their last semester at the university. As part of a survey regarding experiences while attending the university, participants also completed a measure of their perception of the university as environmentally and socially responsible, as well as measures tapping into the antecedents (i.e., normative environment, global awareness) and outcomes (i.e., intergroup empathy, valuing diversity, social justice, environmentalism, intergroup helping, felt responsibility to act for the betterment of the world) of global citizenship identification (Reysen & Katzarska-Miller, 2013).

Results show that the perception of the university as socially responsible indirectly predicted global citizenship identification through the two aforementioned antecedents. Furthermore, perceiving the university as environmentally and socially responsible also indirectly predicted the prosocial value outcomes through the antecedents and global citizenship identification. Together, the results highlight students' perceptions of the university as important for their degree of global citizenship identification and their endorsed values.

The results of the current study could assist in encouraging efforts towards fostering the development of socially responsible projects by colleges and universities.

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