**Globalization, Culture, Religion, and Values: Comparing Consumption Patterns of Lebanese Muslims and Christians** 

Submitted: April 2010 Accepted: December 2010

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The authors gratefully acknowledge the research support provided by the Dancap Private Equity

Research Fund. The authors thank the reviewers for their comments.

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## Abstract

Understanding the differential impact of globalization on culture—the most profound shaper of consumption—is fundamentally important. This research examines the linkages of cultural globalization (acculturation to global consumer culture, AGCC), (Lebanese) ethnic identity (LEID), religiosity (REL), individual-level (Schwartz) and consumption-related values (materialism and consumer ethnocentrism, MAT/CET) and numerous consumption behaviors; contrasting coexisting religious groups. A negative AGCC-LEID relationship exists for Muslims, whereas for Christians the two cultural forces are independent. Common across groups, religiosity and CET positively associate with LEID, and MAT positively associates with AGCC. Other relationships are religious-specific. The AGCC-LEID relationship across different behaviors yields four distinctive acculturation patterns.

Keywords: Globalization, Culture, Religion, Values, Consumption

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## **1. Introduction**

Of the factors influencing consumer behavior, the most pervasive and thorny is culture. Individuals draw on consumer goods to express cultural groupings and principles, and to craft and carry on ideas and lifestyles (McCracken, 1986). Successful marketing strategies involve synchronizing product attributes and promotional appeals with those consumer attitudes fashioned by individual and cultural values. With globalization, the number of ethnically- or culturally- homogeneous nation-states dwindles. The pervasive exchanges of peoples and products across borders, coupled with the ever-accelerating interchange of technology and information bring about greater within-country cultural heterogeneity, even as similarities across countries also escalate (Merz, He and Alden, 2008). The world increasingly resembles a single market with similar needs populated by myriad cultures with different wants (i.e., ways of expressing/satisfying needs). International market segmentation requires careful consideration of similarities and differences. The research motivation is to provide insights for managers, in deciding when, where, and how marketing strategies should be standardized, adapted, or crafted anew—not just across but also within countries.

Applied to Muslim and Christian Lebanese consumers, this study investigates the differential sway of global and local cultural forces on religious subcultures' consumption patterns, across a spectrum of consumer behaviors. Ethnic identity (EID) and acculturation to global consumer culture (AGCC) denote local and global cultural forces, respectively. The research also examines how EID and AGCC link to ten individual-level values, materialism, consumer ethnocentrism, and religiosity.

## 2. Theoretical Background and Hypotheses

## 2.1. Ethnic Identity

Identity profoundly shapes consumer behavior. A person's solidarity with a group implies the degree to which that group shapes the individual's thoughts and behaviors (Markus and Kitayama, 1991; Alden, He and Chen, 2010). EID is subjective and multidimensional, relating to perceptions of communal ancestry, common socio-cultural experiences, as well as a sense of belongingness, appreciation, and dedication, towards a given ethnic group (Rotheran and Phinney, 1987). EID also reflects adherence to culturally-expected values and behaviors (Rosenthal and Feldman, 1992), participation in ethnic customs, speaking the vernacular language, and consuming ethnic media. Ethnic attachment varies among group members; so too does the practice of the various EID facets (Cleveland and Chang, 2009). The literature testifies to the pervasive role of EID across many consumer behaviors. Research also documents contextspecific effects, reflecting that EID is more or less salient and consequently, strongly or weakly connected to consumer outcomes (Stayman and Despandé, 1989; Oswald, 1999).

## 2.2. Acculturation to Global Consumer Culture

The escalating interconnections between peoples and cultures worldwide, and the concomitant emergence of cultures not geographically anchored in one place (Hannerz, 1990) bring about global consumer culture (GCC). AGCC "considers how individuals acquire the knowledge, skills, and behaviors that are characteristic of a nascent and deterritorialized global consumer culture" (Cleveland and Laroche, 2007, p. 252). The proposed drivers of GCC are manifold; these include attitudes towards the broader collective of humanity (Hannerz, 1990; Riefler and Diamontopoulos, 2009), the culture-shaping power of the global media and marketing systems (Alden, Steenkamp and Batra, 1999), and other transnational exchanges of

peoples, ideas, and ways of expression (Appadurai, 1990; Ger and Belk, 1996). Cleveland and Laroche's (2007) AGCC scale encompasses personal dispositions towards globalization and foreign cultures (cosmopolitanism, openness towards the lifestyles and consumption symbols of other countries, as well as an outright identity with GCC), the influences of media and marketing (specifically, global/foreign mass media exposure, and exposure to multinational marketing activities), foreign travelling attitudes/experiences, as well as English-language fluency and use.

# 2.3. Behavioral Outcomes

Berry (1980) articulates four acculturation patterns at the intersection of original and alternate cultures: assimilation (whereby alternative traits replace original ones), separation/segregation (invoked when the original is maintained while the alternate is spurned or resisted), integration (whereby aspects of the alternative supplement rather than supplant those of the original), and marginalization (evoked when neither original nor alternate facets are maintained or adopted). Mendoza and Martinez's (1981) acculturation typology describes two distinct forms of integration: cultural incorporation (customs exhibited from both original/alternative) and cultural transmutation (fusing native/alternate traits, creating a unique entity; i.e., creolization). This typology also includes culture shift (i.e., assimilation), cultural resistance (i.e., separation/segregation).

In line with Cleveland and Laroche (2007) and following context-specific nature of EID, these patterns should differentially manifest across product-category consumption behaviors. Generally, the older the product category the greater is the effect of local conventions on behavior. Space limitations preclude a detailed review; in general, EID should figure prominently within the culture-bound categories encompassing local foods and apparel, whereas AGCC should be more preponderant with products less cemented to local traditions, such as consumer electronics. The sway of local/global culture on behaviors associated with appliances, durables and luxuries is less clear-cut. These products carry symbolic attributes, and may dually serve as status symbols. The meanings underlying status symbols may be global or local in origin, or a combination thereof. The study examines the consistency of these culture-consumption patterns across religious subcultures.

## 2.4. Materialism (MAT) and Consumer Ethnocentrism (CET)

Particularly pertinent to the effects of globalization are the constructs of MAT and CET. Global cultural flows (especially, movements of meaning conveyed by global media, marketing activities, and tourism) account for the dissemination of materialistic values worldwide (Ger and Belk, 1996). MAT is "the importance ascribed to the ownership and acquisition of material goods in achieving major life goals or desired states" (Richins, 2004, p. 210). CET is ethnocentrism manifested in the marketplace. For some, foreign brands constitute economic and cultural threats. Biases towards locally-produced products signify resistance towards globalization (Steenkamp, Batra and Alden, 2003). EID and CET should concomitantly positively vary, as should AGCC-MAT. A strong local-culture affiliation affords greater immunity to global forces projecting consumption-laden values; these individuals should therefore be less materialistic. Negative relationships should emerge between AGCC-CET and EID-MAT.

### 2.5. Religion and Religiosity

Religion is an under-researched topic in marketing. Religiosity (REL) is distinct from religion. The latter is synonymous with a particular faith or creed (such as Christianity and Islam, or more specifically, e.g., Catholicism and Sunni), whereas the former portrays the focus of religion in directing a person's life in accordance with religious role expectations (Weaver and Agle, 2002). Defined as "the degree to which beliefs in specific religious values and ideals are held and practiced by an individual" (Swinyard, Kau and Phua, 2001, p. 17), REL is conceptualized as a continuum of commitment.

GCC is a secular force; therefore, the AGCC-REL relationship should be negative. Material passion is a form of self-promotion, and generally constitutes a moral transgression by most major religions, including the Abrahamic faiths (Judaism, Christianity, Islam). An inverse MAT-REL relationship should emerge. Religious beliefs are concordant with traditional values and norms—suggesting a positive REL-EID link.

# 2.6. Schwartz Values

Schwartz's (1992, 1994) value survey considers ten motivationally distinct individuallevel values (i.e., SVS-10) derived from the guiding principles of human life. Universally recognized within and across cultures, these values are relatively invariant across situations. The inclusion of the SVS stems from two objectives: to further pinpoint distinctions between the religious groups, and to assess SVS-10 relationships to AGCC and EID. Adherence to these values is the product of both the unique individual experiences and the normative sway of culture.

These values collate into a quasi-circumplex structure, along two continua. The first symbolizes relative openness to change (taking in stimulation, self-direction, hedonism) with conservation as the counterpoint (security, tradition, conformity). Adjusting to and embracing alternate cultures requires openness to change, whereas conservation emphasizes retaining and promoting the traditional way of doing things. The second continuum denotes the emphasis of self-enhancement (achievement, power), countered by self-transcendence (universalism, benevolence). The dimensions corresponding to self-transcendence involve surmounting personal biases in favor of an ecumenical appreciation for cultural diversity. The expected relationships for self-enhancement are mixed. Achievement suggests a predisposition to successfully navigating different cultural frameworks; power, however, implies dominion over other people and resources. Overall, AGCC should positively associate with the values underlying openness to change and self-transcendence, as well as achievement; whereas EID should positively relate to the values embedded within conservation, as well as power.

The focus is assessing the consistency of the relationships summarized in Figure 1 across religious subcultures.

# ---FIGURE 1 HERE----

### **3. Methodology**

#### 3.1. Research Context

Lebanon's strategic location on the eastern shore of the Mediterranean—at the crossroads of Africa, Asia Minor, and Arabia—combined with a history stretching back millennia, and diverse religious composition; make the country a suitable context to study the pull of traditional and global cultures. Lebanon's population unevenly distributes into several religious groups (US department of State, 2008); the largest consist of Shi'a Muslims (28% of the population) and Sunni Muslims (also 28%). Prominent Christian groups consist of Maronites (22%), Greek Orthodox (8%), and Greek Catholic (4%). Five percent of Lebanese are Druze. Spoken universally is the vernacular Arabic. Due to Lebanon's former status as a French mandate, many Lebanese also speak French. English is also widely taught and increasingly spoken.

# 3.2. The Sample

The survey data (1000 distributed) is from Lebanese consumers. Recruitment followed a street-intercept technique, combined with snowball sampling (through collaborating local HR

managers). Consenting individuals completed surveys in the language of their choosing (Arabic, French, or English, with 500, 150, and 350 distributed, respectively), collected after a short time interval. Half (52%) of the respondents live in and around Beirut, 38% live in Tripoli (the second city of Lebanon), and 11% reside in other cities (Sidon, Zahle, Batroun, Jbeil, Jounieh, Akkar).

Overall, 399 surveys (216 Arabic, 58 French, 125 English) are retained from 200 Muslims and 192 Christians (7 non-Muslim/Christians omit from all comparisons). The sample is 52% female, 92% native-born, and 51% employed full-time. Age ranges are as follows:  $\leq 18$ years (9%), 19-20 (34%), 25-29 (24%), 30-39 (21%), and  $\geq 40$  (12%). Annual family income (AFI: Lebanese pounds [£]; \$1US≈ £1500) ranges as follows (in millions):  $\leq £10.9$  (26%), £11-15.9 (6%), £16-25.9 (19%), £26-40.9 (16%), £41-60.9 (10%),  $\geq £61$  (23%). The sample is more educated than the Lebanese population: 30% high-school or less, 13% technical diploma, and 29/28% undergraduate/graduate degrees. Only for AFI ( $\chi^2_{(22)}=39.4$ , p=.013) does an interreligious demographic difference emerge.

# 3.3. The Survey

Adopting items validated in numerous cultural contexts, including Lebanese-Canadians (Cleveland et al., 2009), the 30 items measuring Lebanese EID (LEID) cover seven facets: self-identification/pride, desire to maintain Lebanese culture, traditional family structure and sex roles, customs/habits, Lebanese media usage/exposure, Lebanese language use, and interpersonal relationships. Drawing from Cleveland and Laroche (2007), AGCC consists of 53 items spanning six domains: cosmopolitanism, openness to GCC, global mass media exposure (with items distinguishing global media flowing from American-/European-/Asian- based sources), exposure to multinational marketing activities, attitudes towards and frequency of international travelling, and self-ascribed identification with GCC. Klein's (2002) short version of Shimp and

Sharma's (1987) CETSCALE and Richins' (2004) material values scale measure consumer ethnocentrism (CET) and materialism (MAT), respectively. Two scales measure religiosity (REL): the Santa-Clara strength of religious faith (Lewis, Shevlin, McGuckin and Navratil, 2001) and the religious commitment inventory (RC-10: Worthington, Wade, Hight and McCullough, 2003). Within primarily Christian contexts, studies utilizing the Santa-Clara scale report high levels of internal consistency and nomological validity (see Cleveland and Chang, 2009). Mokhlis (2006) validated the RC-10 scale among Malaysian Muslims. The survey includes seven items for each of the three languages (Arabic, French, English). All the aforementioned construct items (Appendix A) measure on 7-point Likert scales (1=strongly disagree, 7=strongly agree).

Following Schwartz (1992, 1994, 1999), the 56-item SVS measures ten individual-level values on 9-point scales (-1=opposed to my values, 0=not important, 3=important, 6=very important, 7=of supreme importance). Sixty-six items measure behaviors for product categories, following Cleveland (2007). These include 11 Lebanese foods, 11 global foods, 4 restaurant-type patronages, 6 fashions/apparel items, 4 hygiene items, 7 appliances/durables, 8 consumer electronics, 7 technology behaviors, and 8 luxuries. The relevant literature (e.g., Cleveland et al., 2009) guided the choice of the Lebanese-food items, consisting of staples and main dishes. These dependent measures are on 7-point scales; endpoints depend on the nature of the behavior (Appendix B). The survey also contains demographic measures.

Separate offices translated the English-language questionnaire into French and Arabic. Third and fourth translation offices performed back-translations into English. Although there were no major issues of equivalency, a few trivial vocabulary changes improved consistency.

# 4. Analyses and Results

## 4.1. Factor Analyses and Mean Differences

Exploratory factor analyses (Principal components, oblimin rotation), identifies unstable items and assesses the dimensionality of LEID, AGCC, REL, MAT, CET, and language measures. Both the KMO test of sampling adequacy and Bartlett's test of sphericity underscore the appropriateness of the data for factor analysis. Factor results (eigenvalues > 1) and retained items/loadings appear Appendix A. For each factor, reliabilities (Cronbach's alphas:  $\alpha$ ), and descriptives are calculated for the overall sample, for each language version, and for each religious subsample. For the most part, the results are satisfactory, with most  $\alpha$ 's exceeding .70. AGCC comprises 8 factors: English language usage (ELU), cosmopolitanism (COS), Americanbased and European-based global mass media (GMM<sub>USA</sub>, GMM<sub>EURO</sub>), openness to GCC (OPGCC), exposure to multinational marketing activities (EXM), travelling frequencies/attitudes (TRAV), and self-identification with GCC (GCIDT). LEID comprises 4 factors: pride and desire to maintain Lebanese EID (PDMLEID), Arabic-language use (ALU), Arabic-media usage (AMU), and ethnic customs (ECUS). Reliable factors for French-language use (FLU), materialism (MAT), and consumer ethnocentrism (CET) also emerge. Two factors emerge for Religiosity. The first (REL1) denotes the intensity of faith and religion as a guiding force in dayto-day life; the second (REL2), religious activities. The mean of the constituent items serves as the construct measure. Composite AGCC and LEID scores (averaging constituent factors) are also calculated.

Following Schwartz's (2007), the SVS-10 factors were calculated controlling response differences with the SVS. Individuals' mean ratings (MRAT: across 56 items) constitutes a covariate. MANCOVA (controlling for MRAT and AFI) and multiple discriminant analysis (MDA) assesses differences between the two religious groups on the ten Schwartz value dimensions. MANCOVA reveals a significant overall difference ( $\Lambda$ =.939, F<sub>10</sub>=2.46, p=.007) between Muslim (M) and Christian (C) means on the combination of SVS-10 dimensions. Significant univariate differences (Appendix A) appear on 6 facets: conformity (M>C), benevolence (M>C), stimulation (M<C), hedonism (M<C), power (M<C), and security (M>C). The MDA function correctly classifies 62% (i.e., 60/65% of Muslims/Christians) of cases into their original sample, exceeding Hair, Anderson and Tatham's (1987) cutoff. These results uphold the distinctiveness of the groups.

MANCOVA (controlling for AFI) identifies inter-religious mean differences on the remaining constructs (Table 1, Appendix A). Significant differences are found for the overall AGCC composite score (M<C), as well as for 5 of the 8 AGCC factors—upon all of which Christians outscore their Muslim counterparts: ELU, GMM<sub>USA</sub>, GMM<sub>EURO</sub>, OPGCC, and TRAV. For the LEID constructs, interreligious differences are not significant; neither on the LEID composite nor along any of the constituent factors. Interreligious differences on MAT, CET and REL1 are likewise not significant. Differences on REL2 and FLU are significant, with Christians outscoring their Muslim counterparts on both.

#### ---TABLE 1 HERE----

## 4.2. Correlation Analyses

Partial correlations (controlling AGI, and where necessary, MRAT) appear in Appendix C. For space considerations, the focus is on relationships with AGCC and LEID, identifying between-group similarities/differences. First, the inverse AGCC-LEID relationship is significant only for Muslims, implying that the acquisition of global culture is associated with a diminishment of traditional identity (alternatively, greater motivation to maintain LEID entails resistance to GCC). Among Christians, these cultural forces are independent. For religiosity, REL1 and REL2 both robustly positively associate with LEID. Only among Christians is AGCC-REL2 significant (+). The MAT-AGCC relationship is positively significant for both groups. Only among Christians is LEID-MAT significant (+). As expected, the LEID-CET link is robustly positive, however, the predicted negative AGCC-CET relationship exists only for Muslims. Concerning Schwartz's values, as expected and common across groups, conformity and tradition negatively relate to AGCC whereas stimulation and hedonism positively relate to AGCC. Unexpectedly, AGCC positively links to power. For EID, the only individual-level relationship common across groups is that for stimulation (-).Other significant relationships are religious-group-specific; all in the expected direction. For Muslims, these are LEID-tradition (+) and LEID-hedonism (-). For Christians, these are AGCC-self-direction (+), AGCC-security (-), LEID-conformity (+), LEID-self-direction (-), and LEID-security (+).

## 4.3. Regression Analyses

Stepwise multiple linear regression analyses (MLR) examine the relationships of LEID and AGCC to consumption, with AGCC, LEID and AGCCxLEID (interaction: A\*L) as predictors, and the behaviors as dependent variables. The stepwise procedure guards against multicollinearity, as predictors enter into the regression only if they uniquely explain additional dependent variable variance. Separate MLRs denote each of the 66 behaviors (Table 2). The valence/magnitude of the predictors is highly variable across products and categories. AGCC is significant for 28 behaviors, of which all but two (tea, traditional-fashions) are positivelyvalenced. A\*L is significant in 26 cases (only one negative: kebbe), while LEID is significantly predictive in 18 episodes (3 negative: European-fashions, CD-player, jewelry). In only 8 cases are LEID and AGCC jointly significant (e.g., watching-television). The magnitude of AGCC appears greatest for global foods and for communication/media behaviors, whereas LEID figures prominently for local foods. The interaction term is significant for at least one behavior, in all product categories. A positive interaction suggests integration/creolization.

## ---TABLE 2 HERE----

# ---FIGURES 2-3 HERE----

## 4.4. Patterns of Culture in Consumption

The next analyses contrast interreligious acculturation patterns, by running and comparing regressions (omitting the interaction) across the groups. The results appear in Figures 2-3, according to the magnitude/sign of the standardized beta coefficients for AGCC (vertical axis) and LEID (horizontal axis). The greater the distance a behavior appears from the zero intercept(s) the greater is the magnitude of the construct(s) relationship to that behavior. Behaviors on or near (i.e., coefficient roughly <  $|\pm 0.14|$ ) the intercept(s) are not significantly related to the corresponding construct(s). For example, among Muslims, LEID significantly positively predicts watching-television, whereas AGCC is not significant. Following Berry (1980), dichotomizing the 2 constructs yields four distinct acculturation patterns.

## ---TABLE 3 HERE---

Among Muslims, assimilation (culture shift) is the most common pattern (a significant positive AGCC slope, and a negative or non-significant LEID slope), with 26 assimilation-like behaviors compared to 18 for Christians (Table 3). Fourteen items are common to both groups, most pertaining to the consumption of foreign/global foodstuffs and fashions. The remaining assimilation episodes are religious-group specific. Assimilation evidences among Muslims for the ownership of several consumer electronics and most technology behaviors.

Among Christians, integration (cultural incorporation/creolization) is the most frequent pattern, represented in 19 cases compared to only 10 for Muslims. Here, AGCC and LEID slopes are both positively significant. Only one item is common: Lebanese-restaurant patronage. For Muslims, integration describes a substantial proportion of luxury good consumption, whereas for Christians, this pattern describes consumption for considerable number of hygiene products and appliances, as well as consumer electronics and associated technology behaviors.

Forms of cultural resistance appear when a positive coefficient for LEID is accompanied with either a non-significant (i.e., independent from AGCC, thus separation) or a negative (i.e., active resistance towards AGCC, implying segregation) coefficient for AGCC. Eleven (9) cases of separation appear for Muslims (Christians), along with 3 (Muslims) and 2 (Christians) cases of segregation. Five items imply separation for both groups (manakish, oriental-sweets, taboulleh/fattoush, TV-set, washing-machine), whereas Lebanese-fashion denotes segregation across both groups. The remaining items under separation/segregation are religious-group specific, yet for both groups the bulk pertain to local foods.

Marginalization behaviors entail a significant negative coefficient for LEID without corresponding replacement by AGCC. No such pattern evidenced for either group. Deculturation describes behaviors independent from either cultural influence (with both coefficients nonsignificant they are absent from Figures 2-3. Sixteen (18) behaviors corresponding to deculturation emerge for Muslims (Christians). Common across the groups are eight eclectic products: pizza, croissants, arak, shawarma, hair-shampoo, athletic-shoes, bicycle, and antiquefurniture. Other deculturation behaviors are religious-group specific.

## 5. Discussion and Conclusions

Verifying the underlying causes for these subgroup differences necessitates additional research, as cross-sectional data precludes definitive cause-and-effect relationships. This study nonetheless sheds considerable light on the linkages between culture, religion, values and

consumption, illustrating how globalization differentially affects these relationships across major coexisting subcultures. This research extends the scant empirical work on the effects of religion (and associated concepts like religiosity), underscoring the significance of religion for national and international segmentation purposes.

Consistently for Muslims and Christians, materialistic values run in lockstep to the acquisition of global consumer culture, whereas levels of consumer ethnocentrism and religiosity (both REL factors) both rise and fall with LEID. Uniformly across the religious groups are the Schwartz-value linkages of AGCC to conformity and tradition (-), stimulation and hedonism (+), and power (+); as well as LEID and stimulation (-). Despite these similarities, the results clearly show that globalization unevenly impacts subcultures within countries; represented here by different religious communities (clearly distinguished by MANCOVA and discriminant analysis). For example, an inverse AGCC-LEID relationship exists for Muslims (implying that acquiring aspects of the former leads to shedding facets of the latter), whereas the relationship was independent for Christians. For Muslims, MAT and LEID are independent from one another; for Christians, one reinforces the other. For Christians, the AGCC-CET link is not significant, whereas the association is strongly negative for Muslims. Other between-group differences are the associations between numerous SVS dimensions and AGCC/LEID.

In many instances the consumption patterns of the religious groups converge, with respect to the roles played by local/global cultural influences. The behaviors falling under assimilation (itself implying increasing across-cultural homogeneity) are the most preponderant in consistency, with 14 shared instances. However, with integration/creolization, very few behavioral similarities emerge, despite the fact that integration implies the complementary mixing of local and global cultural elements. With the other acculturation patterns, the

differences are more recurrent than the communalities. Consumption patterns corresponding to assimilation and segregation are more frequent for Muslims (vs. Christians), whereas integration/creolization and deculturation are more prevalent for Christians (vs. Muslims). These results reflect in part the historical legacy of the French mandate (1920-1946), whereby the (also Christian) French rulers favored Lebanese Christians, over Lebanese of other faiths. Very likely more Western in orientation than their Muslim counterparts, Lebanese-Christians are consequently more able to integrate local and global traits, as these cultural forces are less in conflict, when compared to Lebanese-Muslims. This conjecture flows from the SVS findings. Christian-Lebanese outscore their Muslim counterparts on stimulation, hedonism, and power values congruent with AGCC as evidenced by the correlations—whereas Muslims score higher on conformity and security, which negatively associate with AGCC. As expected, global-food consumption primarily reflects assimilation, whereas local-food consumption clusters under separation/segregation. The most striking between-group differences appear for integration/creolization, which describes the consumption of luxuries for Muslims, whereas for Christians this pattern applies to consumer electronics, appliances and technology behaviors. For Muslims, modern communication products and associated behaviors cluster under assimilation.

Together, these results cast doubt on the appropriateness of using the country as the primary basis for international market segmentation (Craig and Douglas, 2005). Despite close geographic proximity and living side-by-side for centuries, each group retains many distinctions, in terms of the relationships between constructs associated with globalization and culture, and the subsequent impact of these constructs on consumption behavior. These empirical results cannot generalize to different cultures; however, the findings of distinctiveness between subcultural groups are very likely to manifest in other national settings (e.g., French/English-

speaking Canadians, Walloon/Flemish Belgians, and immigrant subcultures coexisting within

mainstream cultures).

International marketing managers recognize that strategies often need to be adapted

across countries. Globalization encourages greater homogeneity among consumers worldwide

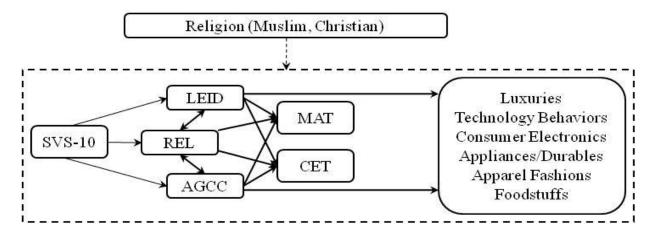
yet the results suggest that globalization simultaneously upholds differences among people

within national boundaries.

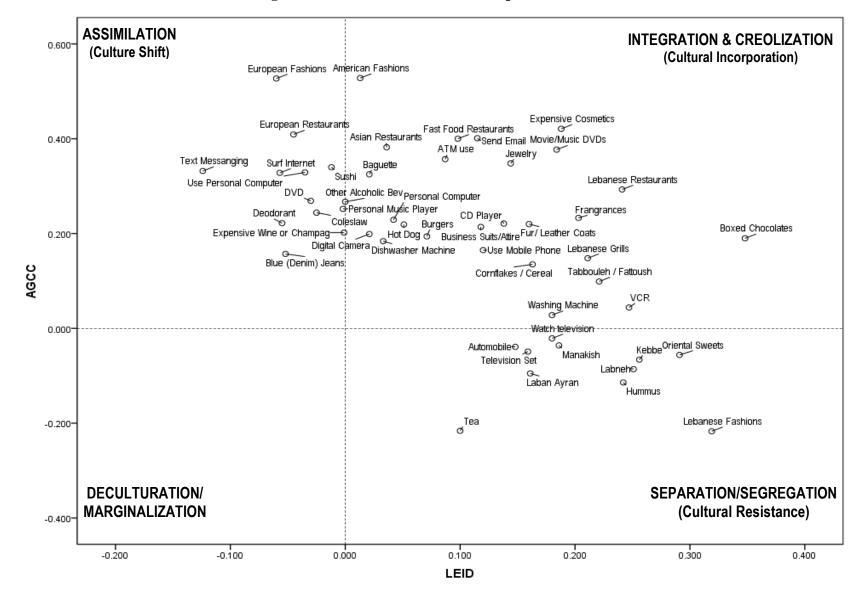
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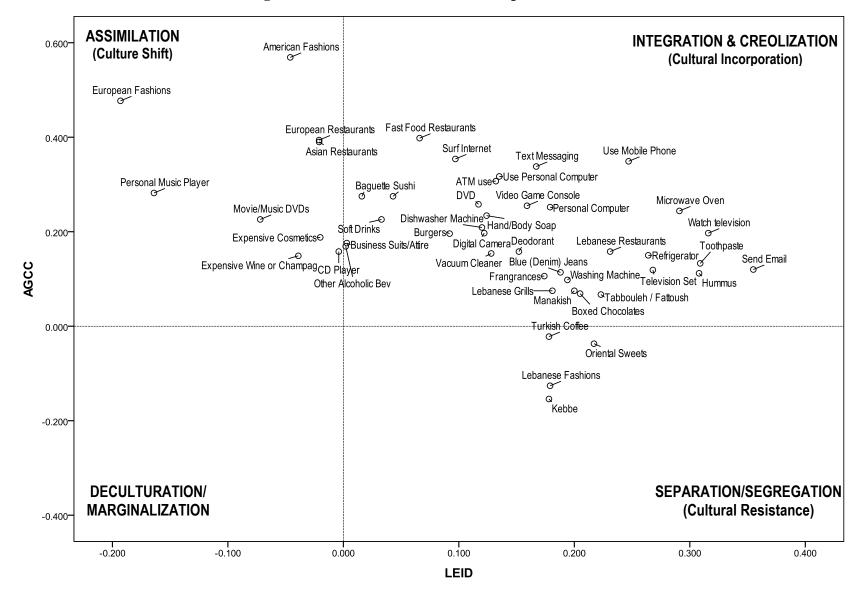
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# **Figure 1: Summary of Relationships**



**Figure 2: Lebanese-Muslim Consumption Patterns** 



**Figure 3: Lebanese-Christian Consumption Patterns** 

Construct	Finding
English-Language Use	M <c< td=""></c<>
Cosmopolitanism	M=C
Global Mass Media-USA	M <c< td=""></c<>
Global Mass Media-Europe	M <c< td=""></c<>
Openness to GCC	M <c< td=""></c<>
Exposure to Marketing Activities of MNC's	M=C
Travelling Frequencies/Attitudes	M <c< td=""></c<>
Self Identification with GCC	M=C
AGCC Composite	M <c< td=""></c<>
Pride and Desire to Maintain Lebanese Ethnic Identity	M=C
Arabic-Language Use	M=C
Arabic-Media Usage	M=C
Ethnic Customs	M=C
EID Composite	M=C
Materialism	M=C
Consumer Ethnocentrism	M=C
Religiosity Factor 1	M=C
Religiosity Factor 2	M=C
French-Language Usage	M <c< td=""></c<>
Conformity	M>C
Tradition	M=C
Benevolence	M>C
Universalism	M=C
Self-Direction	M=C
Stimulation	M <c< td=""></c<>
Hedonism	M <c< td=""></c<>
Achievement	M=C
Power	M <c< td=""></c<>
Security	M>C

**Table 1: Summary of Construct Findings** 

M=Muslim, C=Christian. </>significant (p<.05) differences; =non significant.

	AGCC	LEID	A*L	$\frac{100 \text{ m}}{\text{R}^2}$			AGCC	LEID	A*L	R <sup>2</sup>
Global Foods/Beverages					Сот	isumer Electronics				
1. Pizza			.156a	.024	37.	Personal-Stereo-Player	.270a			.073
2. Sushi§	.333a			.111	38.	Videogame-Console			.240a	.058
3. Hamburgers	.195a			.038	39.	VCR		.189a		.036
4. Croissants			.103b	.011	40.	DVD-player§	.285a			.081
5. Baguette	.300a			.090	41.		.211a			.044
6. Alcoholic-beverages§	.304a			.092	42.	TV-set			.203a	.041
7. Cold cereals			.149a	.022	43.	Personal-computer			.226a	.051
8. Tea§	156a			.024	44.	CD-player		120b	.264a	.051
9. Soft-drinks			.134a	.018	App	liances/Durables				
10. Coleslaw	.166a			.027	45.	Washing-machine		.183a		.034
11. Hotdog§	.201a			.040	46.	Refrigerator		.145a		.021
12. Asian-restaurants§	.409a			.167	47.	Microwave§			.200a	.040
13. European-restaurants§	.414a			.172	48.	Dishwasher§	.230a			.053
14. American fast-food-restaurants	.391a			.153	49.	Vacuum§			.148a	.022
Lebanese Foods/Beverages					50.	Bicycle			.123a	.015
15. Hummus		.272a		.074	51.	Automobile		.140a		.020
16. Arak§			.133a	.018	Con	nmunication//Media				
17. Shawarma			.138a	.019	52.	Watch television	.102b	.263a		.068
18. Manakish		.196a		.038	53.	Use cell/mobile-phone	.230a			.053
19. Labneh		.184a		.034	54.	Use personal-computer	.315a			.099
20. Turkish-coffee			.143a	.020	55.	Use/surf Internet	.342a			.117
21. Laban-ayran		.106b		.011	56.	Send emails§	.290a		.152a	.170
22. Kebbe		.283a	123b	.059	57.	Send text-messages	.313a			.098
23. Oriental-sweets		.254a		.064	58.	Use automated-banking-machines§	.210a		.192a	.138
24. Tabbouleh/fattoush		.221a		.049	59.	Purchase movie/music DVDs	.268a			.072
25. Lebanese-grills			.180a	.032	Lux	curies				
26. Traditional Lebanese-restaurants			.301a	.091	60.	Boxed-chocolates§		.247a		.061
Hygiene-Products					61.	Jewelry§		122b	.301a	.067
27. Hair-shampoo				Ø	62.	Expensive cosmetics	.276a			.076
28. Deodorants	.166a			.028	63.	Antique-furniture§				Ø
29. Toothpaste		.144a		.021	64.				.146a	.021
30. Hand/body-soap			.149a	.022	65.	Fragrances			.209a	.044
Apparel/Fashion					66.	Expensive wine/champagne§	.241a			.058
31. Blue-jeans			.136a	.019	*Si	gnificant standardized coefficients shown. $R^2 = sc$	uared multiple cor	relations (%	variance expla	ined by
32. Athletic-shoes			.103b	.011		CC, LEID, A*L).				
33. Business-attire	.197a			.039						
34. American-fashions	.544a			.296	8Si	gnificant consumption difference (p≤.05) betwee	n Muslims/Christiz	ns (t-tests)		
35. European-fashions	.5444	525a	.564a	.290		<.01, b:p<.05				
36. Traditional-Lebanese-fashions	197a	.248a	.5044	.121	a.p.	, o.p				
30. ITautuonai-Leoanese-tasiitons	19/a	.240d		.121						

 Table 2: Culture and Behavior\*

Assimilation (AGC	C+, LEID-/n.s.)	Integration/Creolization (AGCC+, LEID+)					
Muslims (26)	Christians (18)	Muslims (10)	Christians (19)				
	rants, American-fashion, European- c-player, DVD-player, surf-Internet,	(1) Lebane	se-restaurants				
shion, business-attire, personal-music-player, DVD-player, surf-Internet expensive-wine/champagne         12) coleslaw, hotdog, blue-jeans, deodorant, dishwasher, digital- amera, computer, mobile-phone, computer-use, send-email, text- messaging, ATM-usage       (4) Soft-drinks, CD-player, DVD- purchases, cosmetics.		(9) cereal, Lebanese-grills, CD- player, DVD-purchases, cosmetics, fragrances, boxed-chocolates, fur/leather-coats jewelry	<ul> <li>(18) Hummus, blue-jeans, deodoran toothpaste, soap, refrigerator, microwave, dishwasher, vacuum, videogame-console, digital-camera, computer, mobile-phone, text- messaging, ATM-usage, watch-TV, computer-use, send-email</li> </ul>				
Deculturation (LE) or Marginalization (A		Separation (AGCCn.s., LEID+) or Segregation (AGCC-, LEID+)					
Muslims (16)	Christians (18)	Muslims (14)	Christians(11)				
(8) pizza, croissants, arak, shawarma, ha antique-fu		(6) TV-set, washing-machine, manakish, oriental-sweets, taboulleh/fattoush Lebanese-fashion*					
(8) Turkish-coffee, soft-drinks,	(10) Labneh, cereal, tea, laban- ayran, coleslaw, hotdog, VCR, auto, jewelry, fur/leather-coats	(8) auto, VCR, watch-TV, labneh, laban-ayran, kebbe, hummus*, tea*	(5) Turkish-coffee, Lebanese-grills, boxed-chocolates, fragrances, kebbe*				

**Table 3: Acculturation Patterns Manifested in Consumption Behaviors** 

Commonalities italicized. Parentheses=pattern-frequency

Construct, Overall Reliability, Reliabilities for English-, French-, and Arabic-Language Versions (αο, αε, αf, αa)		Muslims (n=200)	Christians (n=192)	Contrast*
	Loading	Mean† (SE) Reliability (α)	Mean† (SE) Reliability (α)	Model F Religion F
English-Language Use (ELU), (αο=.889, αε=.801, αf=.866, αa=.877)		3.92 (.11)	4.53 (.11)	25.17 (p<.001)
-Many of my favorite television shows are in English.	.853	.904	.859	16.51 (p<.001)
-The songs I listen to are almost all in English.	.826			_
-I mostly carry on conversations in English every day.	.800			
-I prefer to watch English-language television over any other language I may speak.	.778			
-I speak English regularly.	.761			
-I feel very comfortable speaking in English.	.647			
Cosmopolitanism (COS), $(\alpha \circ =.714, \alpha \in =.733, \alpha f =.726, \alpha a =.691)$		5.49 (.08)	5.45 (.08)	2.62 (p=.074)
-I like to observe people from other cultures, to see what I can learn from them.	.761	.726	.706	.147 (p=.701)
-I enjoy exchanging ideas with people from other cultures or countries.	.745			<i>4</i> ,
-I am interested in learning more about people who live in other countries.	.677			
-I enjoy being with people from other countries to learn about their views and approaches.	.640			
Global Mass Media-USA (GMMUSA), ( $\alpha \circ = .827$ , $\alpha \in = .778$ , $\alpha f = .871$ , $\alpha a = .815$ )		4.85 (.10)	5.24 (.10)	12.94 (p<.001)
-I enjoy watching American films/movies.	.798	.858	.775	7.30 (p=.007)
-I often watch American television programs.	.738			
-Some of my favorite actors/actresses are from the United States.	.712			
Global Mass Media-Europe (GMMEURO), (αο=.882, αε=.868, αf=.915, αa=.881)		3.49 (.10)	4.06 (.11)	9.11 (p<.001)
-I like to read magazines that contain information about popular European celebrities.	.863	.905	.849	14.74 (p<.001)
-I enjoy watching European films.	.855	.905	.019	1 III (P (1001)
-Some of my favorite actors/actresses are from Europe.	.780			
-I enjoy reading magazines from European countries.	.729			
-I enjoy listening to music that is popular in European countries (e.g., House, Trance, Euro Dance, etc.).	.724			
<b>Openness to Global Consumer Culture (OPGCC),</b> (ασ=.619, αε=.574, αf=.449, αα=.669)	.724	3.34 (.11)	3.85 (.11)	5.43 (p=.005)
-I like the way people live in Europe.	.842	.623	.620	10.86 (p=.001)
-Globalization is generally a good thing.	.766	.025	.020	10.00 (p=.001)
Exposure to Marketing Activities of MNC's (EXM), (ac=.589, ac=.700, af=.803, aa=.383)	.700	4.32 (.08)	4.51 (.08)	2.75 (p=.065)
-When I read a newspaper, I come across many advertisements for foreign or global products.	.711	.618	.534	2.72 (p=.100)
-When I am watching TV, I often see advertising for products that are from outside of my country.	.698	.010	.554	2.72 (p=.100)
-When I am watching TV, it seems that the number of advertisements for foreign brands is quite high, when compared to	.070			
the number of advertisements for local brands.	.606			
<b>Travelling Frequencies/Attitudes (TRAV),</b> ( $\alpha 0=.684$ , $\alpha e=.530$ , $\alpha f=.674$ , $\alpha a=.700$ )	.000	4.52 (.08)	4.80 (.09)	17.46 (p<.001)
-I prefer spending my vacations outside of the country that I live in.	.751	.732	.551	4.68 (p=.031)
-While vacationing, I would prefer to stay in my home country, rather than visit another country ( <i>reversed</i> )	.666	.152	.551	4.00 (p=.031)
- Visiting foreign countries is one of my favorite things.	.633			
- I have travelled extensively outside my home country.	.631			
Self-Identification with Global Consumer Culture (GCIDT), (αο=.684, αε=.645, αf=.762, αa=.664)	.031	4.06 (.09)	4.23 (.09)	6.16 (p=.002)
-I pay attention to the fashions worn by people in my age-group that live in other countries.	.742	4.00 (.09)	4.23 (.09)	1.70 (p=.197)
-Advertising by foreign or global brands has a strong influence on my clothing choices.	.739	.0/1	.000	1.70 (p=.197)
- The way that I dress is influenced by the advertising activities of foreign or global companies.	.600			
AGCC Composite	.000	4.25 (.06)	4.58 (.06)	21.69 (p<.001)
				17.01 (p<.001)
Pride and Desire to Maintain Lebanese Ethnic Identity (PDMLEID), (αο=.857, αe=.853, αf=.909, αa=.842)		4.87 (.08)	4.93 (.08)	.349 (p=.706)
-If I was to live elsewhere, I would still want to retain the Lebanese culture.	.800	.867	.827	.284 (p=.594)
-I feel very much a part of the Lebanese culture.	.795			
-It is very important for me to remain close to the Lebanese culture.	.785			

# Appendix A: EFA Construct Measures

-I feel most comfortable in the Lebanese culture.	.714			
-I consider the Lebanese culture rich and precious.	.703			
-The Lebanese culture has the most positive impact on my life.	.687			
<b>Arabic-Language Use (ALU),</b> ( $\alpha$ o=.795, $\alpha$ e=.830, $\alpha$ f=.864, $\alpha$ a=.744)	.007	6.48 (.07)	6.35 (.07)	4.79 (p=.009)
-The songs I listen to are almost all in Arabic.	.833	.790	.784	1.93 (p=.165)
-Many of my favorite television shows are in Arabic.	.828	.770	.704	1.95 (p=.105)
-I mostly carry on conversations in Arabic every day.	.789			
-I speak Arabic regularly.	.652			
<b>Arabic-Media Usage (AMU),</b> (αο=.684, αε=.724, αf=.820, αα=.568)	.032	3.45 (.10)	3.33 (.10)	16.60 (m < 0.01)
	907	( )	· · ·	<b>16.69</b> (p<.001)
-The movies/videos that I watch are always in Arabic.	.896	.708	.637	.786 (p=.376)
-The newspapers that I read are always in Arabic.	.864			
-The television shows that I watch are always in Arabic.	.839	1 50 ( 00)	4.05 ( 00)	
Ethnic Customs (ECUS) (αο=.597, αε=.643, αf=.674, αa=.544)		4.79 (.09)	4.87 (.09)	4.53 (p=.011)
-I always celebrate Lebanese culture holidays.	.790	.614	.584	.409 (p=.523)
-I like to celebrate birthdays and weddings in the Lebanese cultural tradition.	.740			
-I like to cook Lebanese culture dishes/meals.	.632			
EID Composite		4.90 (.05)	4.87 (.06)	11.84 (p<001)
				.133 (p=.716)
<b>Materialism (MAT),</b> (ασ=.716, αε=.706, αf=.816, αα=.679)		4.48 (.08)	4.60 (.09)	3.08 (p=.047)
-5 items (adopted from Richins, 2004)		.704	.719	1.00 (p=.317)
<b>Consumer Ethnocentrism (CET),</b> $(\alpha \circ =.774, \alpha \in =.818, \alpha f =.828, \alpha a =.737)$		4.34 (.09)	4.57 (.10)	7.20 (p<.001)
-4 items (adopted from Klein, 2002)		.776	.759	2.80 (p=.095)
<b>Religiosity Factor 1 (REL1)</b> , $(\alpha \circ = 916, \alpha = 941, \alpha = 947, \alpha = 882)$		4.98 (.09)	4.80 (.09)	5.87 (p=.003)
-I consider myself active in my faith (I spend some time in church or mosque).	.845	.909	.909	1.99 (p=.159)
-My faith is an important part of who I am as a person.	.796			(T )
-I look to my faith as providing meaning and purpose in my life.	.789			
-My religious beliefs lie between my whole purpose in life.	.749			
-Religion is especially important to me because it answers many questions about the meaning of life.	.719			
-My religious faith is extremely important to me.	.700			
-It is important for me to spend periods of time in private religious thought and prayer.	.696			
-My religious beliefs influence many of my decisions and dealings in life.	.692			
-I pray every time I'm supposed to.	.648			
-I look to my faith as a source of comfort.	.645			
<b>Religiosity Factor 2 (REL2),</b> ( $\alpha \sigma$ =.764, $\alpha \epsilon$ =.825, $\alpha f$ =.820, $\alpha a$ =.720)	.045	3.60 (.11)	3.95 (.11)	3.10 (p=.046)
-I keep well informed about my local religious group and have influence in its decisions.	.803	.733	· · ·	
-I make financial contributions to my religious organization (Zakat).		./55	.783	5.36 (p=.021)
	.791			
-I enjoy participating in the activities of my religious organization.	.790	2.24 (11)	2.00 ( 12)	0 (5 ( 001)
<b>French-Language Usage (FLU),</b> (α0=.909, αε=.919, αf=.884, αa=.898)	0.62	3.26 (.11)	3.88 (.12)	8.67 (p<.001)
-Many of my favorite television shows are in French.	.862	.920	.887	15.01 (p<.001)
-I mostly carry on conversations in French every day.	.858			
-The songs I listen to are almost all in French.	.844			
-I prefer to watch French-language television over any other language I may speak.	.837			
-I feel very comfortable speaking in French.	.809			
-I always speak French with family members.	.758			
-I speak French regularly				
	.657			
Mean Rating Schwartz Values (MRAT)	.657	5.18 (.06)	5.16 (.06)	.011 (p=.989) .017 (p=.897)
	.657	5.18 (.06) 5.57 (.06)	5.16 (.06) 5.37 (.06)	
Mean Rating Schwartz Values (MRAT)	.657			.017 (p=.897)

-5 items	.552	.622	1.87 (p=.172)
<b>Benevolence</b> , (α0=.736, αε=.669, αf=.807, αa=.752)	5.55 (.05)	5.39 (.05)	257.65 (p<.001)
-5 items	.731	.753	5.89 (p=.016)
<b>Universalism</b> , ( $\alpha 0 = .756$ , $\alpha = .724$ , $\alpha f = .668$ , $\alpha a = .786$ )	5.29 (.04)	5.32 (.04)	365.66 (p<.001)
-8 items	.750	.767	.137 (p=.711)
<b>Self-Direction</b> , (αο=.632, αε=.631, αf=.426, αa=.666)	5.41 (.04)	5.47 (.05)	260.46 (p<.001)
-5 items	.530	.718	.851 (p=.357)
<b>Stimulation,</b> (α0=.545, αe=.728, αf=.511, αa=.488)	4.51 (.08)	4.86 (0.8)	91.06 (p<.001)
-3 items	.448	.633	9.72 (p=.002)
<b>Hedonism</b> , (αο=.606, αε=.520, αf=.612, αa=.575)	4.43 (.11)	4.84 (.11)	39.14 (p<.001)
- 2 items	.577	.632	6.70 (p=.009)
<b>Achievement,</b> ( $\alpha 0=.625$ , $\alpha e=.719$ , $\alpha f=.714$ , $\alpha a=.567$ )	5.42 (.05)	5.42 (.05)	230.49 (p<.001)
-4 items	.627	.628	.001 (p=.977)
<b>Power,</b> ( $\alpha o$ = .666, $\alpha e$ =.745, $\alpha f$ =.474, $\alpha a$ =.652)	3.43 (.11)	3.85 (.11)	31.01 (p<.001)
-3 items	.654	.648	7.08 (p=.008)
<b>Security</b> , $(\alpha \circ = .671, \alpha \in .492, \alpha = .746, \alpha = .727)$	5.93 (.05)	5.76 (.05)	162.54 (p<.001)
-5 items	.636	.679	6.01 (p=.015)

\*Overall sample loadings (n=399). English (125), French (58), Arabic (216) surveys. EFA retained items. †Adjusted means, covariates=income (3.78) and—where applicable— MRAT (5.17). SE=standard-error. \*Model-F (Regression), Religion-F (main effect).

## **Appendix B: Behavioral Measures**

On a scale of 1 to 7, how often do you...\*

[1=never, 7=daily]...\*consume?

pizza, hummus, sushi, hamburgers, croissants, baguette, arak, other alcoholic-beverages (wine, beer, vodka, etc.), shawarma, manakish, labneh, cornflakes/cereal, tea, Turkish-coffee, laban ayran, soft-drinks, kebbe, oriental-sweets (baklava, knafe, etc.), tabbouleh/fattoush, coleslaw, Lebanese-grills (kabab, shish-tawuk, etc.), hotdog

[1=never, 7=daily]...\*use/wear?

Hair-shampoo, blue (denim) jeans, deodorant, athletic/running-shoes, business-suits/attire, toothpaste, hand/body-soap

[1(7)=not at all (very) essential]... for you, how essential (important) are?

Personal-music-player (e.g., Walkman, iPod), washing-machine, dishwasher-machine, refrigerator, vacuum-cleaner, compact-disc-player, videogame-console, DVD (digital-video-disc) player, VCR (video-cassette-recorder), microwave-oven, television-set, digital-camera, personal (and/or laptop) computer, bicycle, automobile

[1=never, 7=daily]...\*

watch television, use a cell/mobile-phone, use a personal/laptop-computer, use/surf the Internet (world-wide-web), send email (electronic-mail), send text-messages, use an automatic-banking-machine (ATM)

[1=never, 7=several times per week]...\*

visit traditional-Lebanese restaurants (...restaurants that offer Asian [European, American-style fast-] food/meals, e.g.,...), wear traditional-Lebanese (American, Asian, European) fashions

[1=never, 7=at least once per month]...\* purchase...?

boxed-chocolates, cosmetics, fragrances (e.g., perfumes/colognes), music or movie DVDs

[1=never, 7=several times per year]... \*purchase...?

jewelry, antique-furniture, fur/leather coats, expensive wine/champagne

						Apper	ndix C:	Correla	ations <sup>ab</sup>							
	AGCC	LEID	REL-1	REL-2	MAT	CET	Conformity <sup>a</sup>	Tradition <sup>a</sup>	Benevolence <sup>a</sup>	Universalism <sup>a</sup>	Self-direction <sup>a</sup>	Stimulation <sup>a</sup>	Hedonism <sup>a</sup>	Achievement <sup>a</sup>	Power <sup>a</sup>	Security <sup>a</sup>
AGCC	1															
LEID	30*/03	1														
REL-1	06/.06	.33*/.48*	1													
REL-2	10/.27*	.28*/34*	.59*/.63*	1												
MAT	.16*/.45*	.06/32*	.21*/.16*	.15*/.26*	1											
CET	23*/07	.43*/.48*	.19*/.40*	.15*/.21*	.02/.19*	1										
Conformity <sup>a</sup>	21*/19*	.13/20*	.27*/.31*	.16*/.07	.06/12	.19*/.07	1									
Tradition <sup>a</sup>	-37*/-20*	.29*/.09	.35*/.30*	.37*/.22*	06/30*	.17*/.22*	.33*/.35*	1								
Benevolence <sup>a</sup>	05/05	.06/.10	.17*/.07	.18*/.03	15*/17*	04/15*	.10/.02	.10/.11	1							
Universalism <sup>a</sup>	.04/06	.06/.02	12/05	10/19*	15*/12	.18*/.02	04/10	20*/20*	18*/.12	1						
Self-direction <sup>a</sup>	.10/.20*	12/21*	17*/18*	25*/08	24*/01	16*/08	21*/32*	-28*/-37*	04/13	.09/.02	1					
Stimulation <sup>a</sup>	.20*/.19*	22*/28*	27*/29*	16*/20*	01/.01	27*/10	30*/37*	10/18*	18*/27*	21*/11	00/.08	1				
Hedonism <sup>a</sup>	.34*/29*	-31*/-13	12/16*	04/02	.10/.27*	21*/09	40*/42*	-31*/-51*	13/29*	21*/13	03/.28*	.25*/.27*	1			
Achievement <sup>a</sup>	08/.10	01/07	04/09	09/.01	09/01	02/25*	12/16*	15*/19*	.07/05	20*/17*	02/.10	06/.12	13/05	1		
Power <sup>a</sup>	.15*/.16*	02/03	09/03	01/.23*	.29*/.31*	.02/.06	29*/18*	25*/.02	49*/39*	20*/45*	13/18*	.05/.04	.20*/.14	03/04	1	
Security <sup>a</sup>	09/19*	04/.17*	05/.01	12/15*	.08/.10	06*/.09	.15*/.14	19*/23*	06/05	.09/.03	06/.01	26*/28*	22*/02	14*/16*	18*/26*	1

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<sup>a</sup>Partial correlation coefficients(ρ). <sup>b</sup>Muslims/Christians. \*p<.05 (two-tailed).