



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DELL'AQUILA



*DIPARTIMENTO DI MEDICINA CLINICA, SANITÀ PUBBLICA,
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Dr. Salvatore Settineri
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Editor-in-Chief
Mediterranean Journal of Clinical Psychology

Dear Dr. Salvatore Settineri,

We submit our manuscript entitled "Cross-cultural correlates of homophobia: comparison of Italian and Spanish attitudes towards homosexuals" to your consideration for publication as a regular article in the Mediterranean Journal of Clinical Psychology.

The article research it's of heuristic value presenting a new investigation paradigm to study cross-cultural factors affecting the homophobic attitudes in two large samples of subjects from Italy and Spain, Mediterranean countries related from a cultural and traditional background and for general acceptance of homosexuals. Nevertheless the stereotype conveyed by the mass media, becoming common thought, delineates Italy as a strongly homophobic country and Spain as extremely open to homosexual culture and way of life. Our hypothesis is that, despite general acceptance of homosexuals in Italy is increased on last decades, the homophobic attitude of Italian citizens towards homosexual minorities is greater than that shown by Spanish

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due also to stronger stereotypes of Italians, which seem to be increased and diffused in ideological right parties. It was therefore our interest to investigate which factors, whether cognitive and emotional or ideological and cultural, could be related to any difference in homophobic behavior in response to the presence of gays and lesbians beyond their general social acceptance.

Our study increases the knowledge of the psychological mechanisms of homophobic behaviors in association to national cultural stereotypes and prejudices diffused in two Mediterranean countries. For these reasons we believe this article is appropriate for publication in the Mediterranean Journal of Clinical Psychology.

The manuscript has 3 figures and 9 tables, and has not been published previously. All the authors meet the criteria for authorship of this work and have approved the contents of the final manuscript. Authors' information and contact numbers are listed below:

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Yours sincerely,

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