

Individual well-being: the role of rumination, optimism, resilience and ability to receive support

Bienestar subjetivo: el papel de la rumia, optimismo, resiliencia y capacidad de recibir apoyo

Bem-estar subjetivo: papel da ruminação, otimismo, resiliência e capacidade de receber apoio

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Abstract: Subjective well-being includes having positive / negative emotional experiences, prosperity and satisfaction with life. In addition, it depends on multiple psychosocial factors such as: rumination, optimism, resilience and the ability to receive support, which have been studied in particular and need to be examined together. Therefore, this study was set out to: 1) Identify the effect of the aforementioned variables on subjective well-being in adults, and 2) Explore their differences based on gender, age and schooling. There was a voluntary participation of 404 Mexican adults aged between 18 to 64 (M=37.56), with minimum secondary schooling. The findings show the significant role of some factors of optimism, resilience and rumination in the prediction of subjective well-being as well as differences in self-confidence, (optimism), negative emotional experience (well-being), the ability to receive support between genders, and the tendency to experience more optimism, resilience and well-being as the individual gets older and schooling is higher. These results show how the positive features and life experience were associated with other kind of positive experiences for the well-being of individual.

Keywords: well-being; rumination; optimism; resilience; support

Resumen: El bienestar subjetivo comprende experiencias emocionales positivas/negativas, prosperidad y satisfacción con la vida. Además, depende de múltiples factores psicosociales como: la rumia, el optimismo, la resiliencia y la capacidad para recibir apoyo, mismos que han sido estudiados en particular y necesitan ser examinados en conjunto. Por ello, este estudio se propuso: 1) identificar el efecto de las variables mencionadas en el bienestar subjetivo en adultos, y 2) explorar sus diferencias a partir del sexo, edad y escolaridad. Se contó con la participación voluntaria de 404 adultos mexicanos de entre 18 y 64 años (M=37.56), con escolaridad mínima de secundaria. Los resultados muestran el papel significativo de algunos factores del optimismo, resiliencia y rumia en la predicción del bienestar subjetivo, así como diferencias en auto-confianza (optimismo), experiencia emocional negativa (bienestar subjetivo) y capacidad de recibir apoyo entre sexos, y la tendencia a experimentar más optimismo, resiliencia y bienestar conforme se tiene más edad y escolaridad. Estos resultados muestran como los atributos positivos y la experiencia de vida se asocian con otras experiencias positivas en pro del bienestar del individuo.

Palabras clave: bienestar; rumia; optimismo; resiliencia; apoyo



Resumo: O bem-estar subjetivo abrange experiências emocionais positivas/negativas, prosperidade e satisfação com a vida. Além disso, depende de múltiplos fatores psicossociais, como: ruminação, otimismo, resiliência e capacidade de receber apoio, que foram estudados em particular e precisam ser examinados em conjunto. Para isso, este estudo se propôs a: 1) identificar o efeito das variáveis mencionadas no bem-estar subjetivo de adultos e 2) explorar suas diferenças a partir do sexo, idade e escolaridade. Contou-se com a participação voluntária de 404 adultos mexicanos entre 18 e 64 anos ($M = 37,56$), com escolaridade mínima de ensino médio. Os resultados mostram o papel significativo de alguns fatores de otimismo, resiliência e ruminação na predição do bem-estar subjetivo, bem como diferenças na autoconfiança (otimismo), experiência emocional negativa (bem-estar subjetivo) e capacidade de receber apoio entre os sexos, e tendência a experimentar mais otimismo, resiliência e bem-estar à medida que se tem mais idade e formação. Esses resultados mostram como os atributos positivos e a experiência de vida foram associados a outras experiências positivas para o bem-estar do indivíduo.

Palavras-chave: bem-estar; ruminação; otimismo; resiliência; apoio

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Health is conceived by the World Health Organization (WHO, 2006) as a complete state of physical, spiritual, psychological and social well-being. This definition lays the foundations for the importance that the construct of psychological or subjective well-being (SW-B) (Padrós Blázquez, Gutiérrez Hernández, & Medina Calvillo, 2015) has acquired over time, and it includes –according to Naci and Loannidiss (2015) and Kaufman (2016)– the choices and activities that help achieve physical vitality, mental readiness, social satisfaction, a sense of accomplishment, and personal fulfillment.

It should be noted that the SW-B in some way represents a cultural judgment from an internal perspective or belief of the people who belong to a group about whether they live correctly, enjoy life, what others think about how each one is living is important, as well as whether individuals have a sense of fulfillment. As can be seen, this notion implies, on the one hand, the fulfillment of their basic human needs, and on the other, the ethical and evaluative judgments of people about their lives. In other words, the SW-B reflects the degree to which people live according to their evolutionary imperatives and human needs in some way, but it also represents judgments based on the norms and values which are particular to their culture (Diener, 2009).

When it comes to identifying the components of SW-B, there is a particularly outstanding model proposed by Diener (2009). This approach is one of the most comprehensive and it includes: positive and negative affection (it has to do with the emotional or affective aspects experienced by people), prosperity (which evaluates self-perceived success in areas such as relationships, self-esteem, purposes in life and optimism) and satisfaction with life (a cognitive judgment regarding the evaluation that a person makes of the quality of their life on the basis of certain criteria such as the expectations that one has about it).

This research takes the vision of Diener (2009), on the grounds that his conceptual and operational work has been more fruitful and landed from a cultural perspective of the construct in Latin America (for example, Góngora, & Castro Solano, 2015; Padrós et al., 2015). So, SW-B is built on its emotional and cognitive components, which at the same time depend on the quality of a series of specific domains such as social contact, life events, discrepancy between aspirations and achievements, perception of self-efficacy, as well as negative or positive thoughts. This can be closely linked to variables such as rumination –that reflects discomfort– (Flórez Rodríguez & Sánchez Aragón, in press), their counterparts: Optimism –that reflects well-being– and resilience (Seligman, Steen, Park & Peterson, 2005) as the ability to take advantage of the discomfort to achieve well-being, as argued below.

Rumination has been defined as the tendency to continue thinking about something bad, painful or hopeless for a long period of time (Ito, Takenaka, Tomita, & Agari, 2006). It occurs when a person repeatedly and recurrently thinks about negative events or emotions, particularly from the past (Michael, Halligan, Clark, & Ehlers, 2007). In fact, it is considered as a poorly adaptive coping strategy that perpetuates stress by increasing negative cognitions, thus deteriorating problem solving and instrumental behavior, as well as reducing social support (Eisma & Stroebe, 2017). Rumination can exist as a trait or as a state and it is defined as a damaging psychological process characterized by persistent thinking about negative content that generates emotional discomfort (R. Sansone & L. Sansone, 2012). It should be noted that, although Watkins et al. (2011) agree with the harmful side of rumination, they also recognize that this can be a beneficial psychological process since there are times when rumination is specific, concrete and focused on the process, which allows its usefulness.

There are relevant data that indicate that women have a greater tendency to ruminate than men, which contributes to experiencing greater depression, more difficulty in solving problems effectively and performing instrumental behaviors, as well as greater ability to corrode social support (Johnson & Whisman, 2013; Nolen-Hoeksema, Larson, & Grayson 1999; Nolen-Hoeksema, Parker, & Larson, 1994). However, it should be noted that evidence on the magnitude of the difference between the sexes in rumination has varied from study to study (Rood, Roelofs, Bogels, Nolen-Hoeksema, & Schouten, 2009). In addition to these data, the literature indicates that there are contradictory pieces of information regarding the behavior of rumination when considering age. That is to say, authors such as Nolen-Hoeksema and Aldao (2011) and Sütterlin, Paap, Babic, Kübler and Vögele (2012), claim that ruminant thoughts decrease with older age because people have more cognitive and affective resources to solve problems; whereas J. Delgado Suárez, Herrera Jiménez and Y. Delgado Suárez (2008) and García Cruz, Valencia Ortiz, Hernández Martínez and Rocha Sánchez (2017), point out that as individuals become older, the recurrent ideas increase as part of the aging process, and it comes with more social isolation and fewer activities. It has been observed that the more schooling, the more diversity of rumination suppressive strategies (Delgado Suárez et al., 2008).

Regarding the relationship between rumination and SW-B, rumination has been observed to be a mediating element between stress and the ability to sleep (Berset, Elfering, Lüthy, Lüthi, & Semmer, 2011; Kompier, Taris, & Veldhoven 2012). Likewise, it has an important impact on the experience of greater psychological stress in victims of love break (Nolen-Hoeksema, McBride & Larson 1997). Other findings indicate that rumination and perceived stress have a negative relationship with the psychological well-being produced by mindfulness (e.g. Deyo, Wilson, Ong, & Koopman, 2009).

On the other hand, there are constructs such as optimism and resilience, which can be found in literature from positive psychology (Seligman et al., 2005). The first construct refers to positive expectations regarding the future –regardless of the means by which such results can occur– (Kleiman et al., 2017). It is related to greater professional success, better problem solving, good health and a longer life (Peterson, 2000). Optimism reduces pain and improves vitality (Zepeda

Goncen & Sánchez Aragón, 2019). Furthermore, it contributes to greater hope, self-efficacy, motivation, confidence and perseverance in situations of great adversity or stressors (Seligman, 1991; Snyder, 1994). In agreement with this, Nolen-Hoeksema and Davis (2002), Seligman (2002) and Tashiro and Frazier (2003) argue that resilience emerges from extremely difficult and highly stressful situations, it allows to find benefits and to generate new meanings that favor both personal growth and facing new challenges with greater security and efficiency. Therefore, resilience is the human capacity to face, overcome, be strengthened or transformed by unfavorable experiences (Grotberg, 2003).

When examining the effects of gender on these variables, several claims come on the scene; Puskar et al. (2010) found that male teenagers are more optimistic than female teenagers, while in a study by Webber and Smokowski (2018) the opposite effect was observed. On other side, Schwaba, Robins, Priyanka and Bleidorn (2019) show the similarity between both sexes concerning the variable. Regarding resilience, Consedine, Magai, and Krivoshekova (2005) found that men scored higher than women did; a result supported by Coppari, Barcelata, Bagnoli and Cudas (2018) but with very weak findings in just one single dimension with samples from Latin America. In Peru, the findings are in favor of women (Prado Álvarez & Águila Chávez, 2003), while in Mexico, González Arratia and Valdez Medina (2013) report that it is women who throughout their lives show more resilience compared to men.

Regarding age, Londoño Pérez, Velasco Salamanca, Alejo Castañeda, Botero Soto and Vanegas (2014) indicate that adults tend to be more optimistic than young people because they use more constructive and strategies oriented to wellness and success (Schwaba et al., 2019). Congruently, Gooding, Hust, Johnson and TARRIER (2012) indicate that adults were more resilient—particularly in the ability of emotional regulation and problem solving— than young people, while the young people showed more resilience regarding social support. And in terms of schooling, Giménez Hernández (2005) and Morales Rodríguez and Díaz Barajas (2011) reported that the more schooling, more they score in optimism and resilience (in its factors of strength, self-confidence, competence and social support) respectively. This can be explained from the fact that studying provides resources that give the person greater possibilities of being happy even at the cost of adversity. They can have more hope, a positive forecast of the future, be more cautious and deepen the analysis of the situation they face and thereby generate a better approach and solution (Gómez Azcarate et al., 2014).

Evidence shows that optimism and resilience are essential components for SW-B, since: 1) an optimistic person expects positive results even in difficult circumstances; this contributes to making people feel better, have less depression and stress and more resilience (Allison, Guichard, & Gilain, 2000); 2) this defines optimism and resilience as factors of resistance to negative emotional states, while 3) they serve as buffers for coping with difficult situations, as they provide tools in solving everyday problems, as well as viewing adversity as a challenge from which to learn and make the best of it. Therefore, both aspects have a direct impact on the SW-B itself, since this reflects the evaluation of one's resources, the optimal management of situations, which consequently affects self-esteem, self-efficacy and health (Chopik, Kim, & Smith, 2018).

But resilience as a personal resource to move forward can be combined with a high-value social resource in the individual's life: social support (Sullivan & Davila, 2010). It tends to improve psychological adjustment and health (Sarason et al., 1983), self-esteem (feeling accepted and valued), positive mood and a favorable outlook on life. Social Support predicts SW-B and it moderates the impact of stress on life (Procidano, 1992). In addition to the above, support is a protective factor that provides the psychological resources that are necessary to face stress (Chi et al., 2011) and to connect with significant others that can be of great help. However, it can be ruined if the individual himself does not have the ability to receive it (Sánchez Aragón, in press; Verhofstadt, Lemmens, & Buysse, 2013).

Thus, the objectives of this study were: 1) to identify the effect of rumination, optimism, resilience and the ability to receive support in SW-B in Mexican adults, and 2) to explore whether gender, age and schooling produce differences in the aforementioned variables.

Method

Participants

We worked with a non-probability sample (Hernández Sampieri, Fernández Collado, & Baptista Lucio, 2014) of 404 Mexican people (202 women and 202 men) aged between 18 and 64 ($M= 37.56$), with secondary schooling (18.6%), high school (31.9%) and undergraduate (48%) who had a time in the relationship with their partner between 5 months and 41 years ($M= 14.21$ years). The reported marital status was of free union (45.8%), married (54.2%) and regarding the number of children there was a variety from 0 to 5 (Mode = 2). It should be noted that in order to meet the second objective, it was necessary to create three age groups that were equivalent in terms of the number of participants. They had to be comparable and consistent with certain stages of the life process: 17 to 30 years (group a), 31 to 44 (group b) and 45 to 62 (group c).

Measures

Sociodemographic Data Questionnaire, which is made up of some questions that allow the description of the sample, as well their classification for statistical purposes. The questions included were gender, age, schooling, relationship time, marital status and number of children.

Rumination Scale (Flórez Rodríguez & Sánchez Aragón, in press). In its short version consisting of 10 items with a five-point Likert-type answer format indicating degrees of agreement and distributed in two factors: 1) discomfort (“I give considerable thought to my suffering”) ($\alpha=.89$) and 2) obsessive reflection (“I think all the time about all my deficiencies, shortcomings, defects and errors”) ($\alpha=.84$).

Optimism Scale (Sánchez Aragón, 2018). In its short version, it includes 20 items in a five-point Likert-type format that indicates degrees of agreement and. The items are organized into four factors: 1) positive attitude (“I am optimistic even though it seems that what is coming is going to be negative”) ($\alpha=.90$), 2) internal control (“I think if one works hard enough, anything is possible to achieve”) ($\alpha=.78$), 3) self-confidence (“No task it's too difficult for me”) ($\alpha=.81$) and 4) hope (“I think my future will be very good”) ($\alpha=.80$).

Resilience Scale (Palomar Lever & Gómez Valdez, 2010) with 25 items in Likert-type format (short version), made up of five factors: 1) strength and self-confidence (“What has happened to me in the past makes me feel confidence to face new challenges”) ($\alpha=.92$), 2) social competence (“It is easy for me to establish contact with other people”) ($\alpha=.87$), 3) family support (“I have a good relationship with my family”) ($\alpha=.87$), 4) social support (“I have some friends / family... who really care about me”) ($\alpha=.84$) and, 5) structure (“Rules and routine make my life easier”) ($\alpha=.79$).

Support Reception Scale (Sánchez Aragón, in press) consisting of 7 Likert items ($\alpha=.79$) in a single factor: “I share my feelings with other people to see if they help me”, “I let people who are close to me give me their support”, “I am willing to receive advice when I face a difficult situation”.

Subjective Well-being Scales (Diener, Emmons, Larsen, & Griffin, 1985; Diener, 2009; Granillo Velasco, Sánchez Aragón, & Zepeda Goncen, 2020):

1. *Emotional Experiences* with 12 Likert items in two factors: 1) positive (“Pleasure”, “Happiness”) ($\alpha=.85$) and, 2) negative (“Sadness”, “Bad”) ($\alpha=.81$).
2. *Prosperity* with 8 Likert items in one factor: “I am a good person and live a good life”, “I have a useful and significant life” ($\alpha=.89$).
3. *Life satisfaction* with 5 Likert items in one factor: “I am happy with my life”, “The circumstances of my life are good” ($\alpha=.84$).

Procedure

The application of approximately 20 minutes was carried out by qualified psychologists who went to places where they could find people with a current relationship and with at least one month of living together (shopping malls, houses, schools, offices, recreational and cultural centers, etc.), so that they would voluntarily and anonymously answer the scales (always sorted out in the same order). They were let know that their data was confidential, that they would not cause them harm and would only be used for scientific purposes. Likewise, participants' questions were immediately answered, and their personal results were made available to them.

Analysis of data

In order to respond to the objectives of this research, a Kolmogorov-Smirnov analysis was first performed to confirm that the variables had a normal distribution. Based on this, the decision was to perform a binary logistic regression to respond to the first objective. Later, the Mann Whitney U test and the Kruskal Wallis test were used to compare the groups. To do this, we worked with the SPSS (Statistical Program for Social Sciences) version 23.

Results

As previously mentioned, the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test was performed in order to identify if the variables are normally distributed. This condition was not met in any of the cases ($p \leq .041$), so the choice of statistical analyzes was based on these results.

In order to answer the first objective of this research, some linear regression analyzes were initially performed to test the assumptions of error independence and non-multicollinearity of the variables. Regarding the first assumption, it was found that Durbin-Watson scores between 1 and 3 were identified for the dependent variables, which meets the independence of errors (positive emotional experience= 1.933, negative= 1.888, prosperity= 1.906 and life satisfaction= 1.822).

Regarding the second assumption, coefficients were found that indicated multicollinearity, so the decision was to carry out a second-order factor analysis and thus be able to comply with this requirement. The factor groupings were as follows: factor 1 integrated all the optimism factors, factor 2 comprised of all the resilience factors together with the ability to receive support (named from this moment “resilience +”) and finally, factor 3 was formed with the two rumination factors. Having already carried out these analyzes, the logistic regressions were carried out and the dependent variables were positive emotional experience, negative emotional experience, prosperity and life satisfaction. The predictor variables were optimism, resilience+ and rumination.

Positive Emotional Experience. For the logistic regression analysis, the zero block indicates that there is an 89% probability of correctness in the result of the dependent variable, assuming that most people experience high positive emotions. For block one of the model the ROA

statistical efficiency score indicates that there is a significant improvement in the prediction of the probability of occurrence of the positive emotional experience ($X^2=44,649$; $df=3$; $p=.000$). Nagelkerke's R^2 indicates that the proposed model explains 23.7% of the variance of the concerned dependent variable (0.237). However, the Hosmer and Lemeshow test indicates that the variance explained by the model explains a non-significant percentage of variance (0.522).

For the logistic regression analysis, block one indicates that there is an 89.8% probability of correctness in the result of the dependent variable (positive emotional experience) when rumination, optimism and resilience have been integrated into the prediction. And it is observed that as the optimism score increases, the positive emotional experience increases more. The score for the tested model indicates that the optimism variable contributes significantly to the prediction of the dependent variable (positive emotional experience). The results obtained from this model can be generalized to the sample (see Table 1).

Table 1

Prediction of the Probability of Occurrence of the Positive Emotional Experience

	<i>B</i>	Standard Error	Wald	<i>df</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>Exp(B)</i>
Rumination	-0.405	0.221	3.343	1	.068	0.600
Optimism	1.636	0.464	12.436	1	.000	5.133
Resilience	0.513	0.430	1.426	1	.232	1.671
Constant	-5.156	1.910	7.284	1	.007	0.006

Negative Emotional Experience. For the logistic regression analysis, the zero block indicates that there is an 86% probability of correctness in the result of the dependent variable, assuming that most people feel high negative emotional experience. For block one of the model, the ROA statistical efficiency score indicates that there is a significant improvement in the prediction of the probability of occurrence of the negative emotional experience ($X^2=56,966$; $df = 3$; $p=.000$). Nagelkerke's R^2 indicates that the proposed model explains 20.7% of the variance of the dependent variable under study (.207). However, the Hosmer and Lemeshow test indicates that the variance explained by the model explains a non-significant percentage of variance (0.755). For the logistic regression analysis, block one indicates that there is an 86.6% probability of correctness in the result of the dependent variable (negative emotional experience) when rumination, optimism and resilience have been integrated into the prediction. It is also observed that, as the rumination score increases, the probability of negative emotional experience increases and with more optimism and resilience, this probability decreases. The score for the tested model indicates that the rumination, optimism and resilience variables contribute significantly to the prediction of the dependent variable (negative emotional experience). The results obtained from this model can be generalized to the sample (see Table 2).

Table 2

Prediction of the Probability of Occurrence of the Negative Emotional Experience

	<i>B</i>	Standard Error	Wald	<i>df</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>Exp(B)</i>
Rumination	0.928	0.214	18.897	1	.000	2.530
Optimism	-0.869	0.393	4.899	1	.027	0.419
Resilience	-0.779	0.390	3.998	1	.046	0.459
Constant	2.272	1.663	1.865	1	.172	9.694

Prosperity. For the logistic regression analysis, the zero block indicates that there is a 96.6% probability of correctness in the result of the dependent variable, assuming that most people feel high prosperity. For block one of the model, the ROA statistical efficiency score indicates that there is a significant improvement in the prediction of the probability of occurrence of prosperity ($X^2=35,386$; $df=3$; $p=.000$). Nagelkerke's R^2 indicates that the proposed model explains 37.0% of the variance of the prosperity variable (.370). However, the Hosmer and Lemeshow test indicates that the variance explained by the model explains a non-significant percentage of variance (0.816). For the logistic regression analysis, block one indicates that there is a 96.4% probability of correctness in the result of the dependent variable (prosperity) when rumination, optimism and resilience have been integrated into the prediction. And it is observed that as the rumination score increases, prosperity decreases and that, with more optimism and resilience, the probability of prosperity increases. The score for the tested model indicates that the rumination, optimism and resilience variables contribute significantly to the prediction of the dependent variable (prosperity). The results obtained from this model can be generalized to the sample (see Table 3).

Table 3

Prediction of the Probability of Occurrence of Prosperity

	<i>B</i>	Standard Error	Wald	<i>df</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>Exp(B)</i>
Rumination	-0.405	0.221	3.343	1	.068	0.600
Optimism	1.636	0.464	12.436	1	.000	5.133
Resilience	0.513	0.430	1.426	1	.232	1.671
Constant	-5.156	1.910	7.284	1	.007	0.006

Life satisfaction. For the logistic regression analysis, the zero block indicates that there is a 90.2% probability of correctness in the result of the dependent variable, assuming that most people feel high life satisfaction. For block one of the model, the ROA statistical efficiency score indicates that there is a significant improvement in the prediction of the probability of occurrence of life satisfaction ($X^2=56,458$; $df=3$; $p=.000$). Nagelkerke's R^2 indicates that the proposed model explains 30.9% of the variance of the life satisfaction variable (.309). However, the Hosmer and Lemeshow test indicates that the variance explained by the model explains a non-significant percentage of variance (0.440). For the logistic regression analysis, block one indicates that there

is a 90.5% probability of correctness in the result of the dependent variable (life satisfaction) when rumination, optimism and resilience have been integrated into the prediction. And it is observed that as the rumination score increases, life satisfaction decreases and, more optimism means a greater probability of feeling more life satisfaction. The score for the tested model indicates that the rumination and optimism variables contribute significantly to the prediction of the dependent variable. The results obtained from this model can be generalized to the sample (see Table 4).

Table 4

Prediction of the Probability of Occurrence of Life Satisfaction

	<i>B</i>	Standard Error	Wald	<i>df</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>Exp(B)</i>
Rumination	-0.511	0.238	4.603	1	.032	0.600
Optimism	2.213	0.544	16.532	1	.000	9.145
Resilience	0.361	0.484	0.558	1	.455	1.435
Constant	-6.261	2.147	8.505	1	.004	0.002

Regarding the second objective of this study, comparative analyzes were performed between groups based on gender, age, and education. For the first case, the Mann Whitney U test was performed, which indicates the supremacy of women with respect to negative experience (SW-B) and the ability to receive support, while men scored higher in self-confidence. In the other cases, no statistically significant differences were observed (see Table 5).

Table 5.
Differences between men and women

		Women	Men	<i>z</i>	<i>p</i>
Rumination	Discomfort	201.11	185.89	-1.344	.179
	Obsessive Reflection	201.51	183.49	-1.598	.110
Optimism	Positive Attitude	187.73	199.27	-1.023	.306
	Internal Control	185.54	200.42	-1.326	.185
	Self-confidence	181.04	203.84	-2.021	.043
	Hope	194.15	189.86	-.380	.704
Resilience	Strength	191.54	194.46	-.259	.796
	Competence	190.25	191.76	-.134	.893
	Family Support	190.88	194.09	-.286	.775
	Social Support	199.98	185.98	-1.267	.205
	Structure	193.60	188.36	-.466	.641
Well-being	Positive Experience	197.65	183.43	-1.269	.205
	Negative Experience	203.81	175.34	-2.540	.011
	Prosperity	189.66	195.28	-.498	.619
	Life satisfaction	194.47	191.54	-.259	.795
	Ability to Receive Support	204.39	171.70	-2.925	.003

Meanwhile, to examine the differences by age and by schooling, some Kruskal Wallis tests were performed. Based on age, some statistically significant differences were identified. They show that the group of 17 to 30 years old presented more rumination and negative experience (SW-B) compared to the other groups. The group of 31 to 44 years scored more in family support and structure (resilience) compared to the younger group, while the 45 to 62-year-old group had a more positive attitude and self-confidence (optimism), strength (resilience) as well as greater prosperity compared to the younger groups (see Table 6).

Table 6.

Differences by age

		17-30a	31-44b	45-62c	χ^2	<i>p</i>
Rumination	Discomfort	220.36	186.77	171.62	12.602	.002
	Obsessive Reflection	222.68	176.89	177.42	14.385	.001
Optimism	Positive Attitude	171.62	189.41	218.96	11.559	.003
	Internal Control	185.88	186.71	205.78	2.616	.270
	Self-confidence	164.98	195.10	216.23	13.513	.001
	Hope	195.30	175.73	205.54	4.930	.085
Resilience	Strength	173.52	194.78	209.51	6.621	.036
	Competence	177.55	197.31	196.33	2.611	.271
	Family Support	170.23	203.03	201.73	7.223	.027
	Social Support	190.90	201.07	184.30	1.597	.450
	Structure	167.83	200.97	202.08	7.913	.019
Well-being	Positive Experience	194.96	188.59	186.40	.407	.816
	Negative experience	222.59	176.98	167.29	18.151	.000
	Prosperity	175.65	188.50	213.05	7.265	.026
	Life satisfaction	185.50	186.91	206.27	2.718	.257
Ability to Receive Support		180.99	189.47	191.79	.672	.714

Finally, it was found that the secondary school sample scored more on obsessive reflection (rumination) compared to the undergraduates mainly. And these same participants (undergraduates) scored higher on all factors of resilience and optimism, prosperity and ability to receive support compared to those with secondary education (see Table 7).

Table 7

Differences by schooling

		Secondary	High School	Undergraduate	X ²	p
Rumination	Discomfort	206.19	189.93	184.80	1.988	.370
	Obsessive Reflection	215.89	192.91	177.12	6.698	.035
Optimism	Positive Attitude	158.77	184.44	208.08	11.301	.004
	Internal Control	156.08	187.85	204.71	10.478	.005
	Self-confidence	158.05	187.52	202.96	8.791	.012
	Hope	160.47	189.50	199.41	6.561	.038
Resilience	Strength	159.25	189.69	202.41	8.193	.017
	Competence	129.39	195.27	205.87	26.464	.000
	Family Support	164.09	179.97	205.62	8.995	.011
	Social Support	151.86	179.70	211.61	18.082	.000
	Structure	151.61	185.59	203.24	11.717	.003
Well-being	Positive Experience	203.32	192.57	177.95	3.243	.198
	Negative Experience	194.88	194.13	178.15	2.140	.343
	Prosperity	157.16	181.61	207.39	11.977	.003
	Life satisfaction	171.63	190.15	196.91	2.757	.252
	Ability to Receive Support	154.45	178.40	202.84	11.322	.003

Discussion

The objectives of this research were: 1) to identify the effect of rumination, optimism, resilience, and the ability to receive support in SW-B in Mexican adults, and 2) to explore whether gender, age, and schooling produce differences in the aforementioned variables.

To fulfill the first objective, some logistic regression analyzes were carried out that required the performance of a factor analysis of principal components (PCA) which unified the factors of each of the predictor variables (rumination, optimism and resilience) and added the ability to receive support the last one. These analyzes made it possible to identify –from the aforementioned

predictors– the probability of occurrence of each of the components of the subjective well-being model proposed by Diener (2009) which is extensively studied around the world. Thus, it was observed that the high positive emotional experience (such as pleasure, happiness or joy) in the participants is due to the contribution of optimism. This may be because satisfactory feelings –such as those mentioned above– are more feasible when there is a more positive disposition towards future events. It is considered that from their own actions, an individual can be well, feel self-confidence and hope of what can happen in the immediate and mediate (Seligman, 1991; Snyder, 1994). In agreement with this, in order to be able to predict an increase in the occurrence of the experience of negative emotions (such as fear, displeasure or sadness) an increase in rumination is necessary, as well as a decrease in optimism, resilience and the ability to receive support for. This can occur since both discomfort and obsessive reflection that one experiences, generates emotional malaise (R. Sansone & L. Sansone, 2012) that harms the person. In addition to this, being pessimistic and consequently having thoughts and emotions around disgust, annoyance, grief and suffering from the past, permeates the daily life, perpetuating stress and low psychosocial performance. This significantly undermines the necessary ability to move forward and the social support (Eisma & Stroebe, 2017), which contradicts Watkins et al. (2011) when he points out that rumination has a positive edge, which should be examined more carefully.

On the other hand, positive attitude, internal control, self-confidence and hope (optimism), predict the probability of a feeling of high prosperity in the participants. According to Diener (2009), prosperity is a feeling of personal success, of their personal relationships and purposes in life, which nurtures and is nurtured by other personal attributes that facilitate and direct life –such as optimism– and providing well-being psychological.

Life satisfaction can occur –according to the findings of this research– when there is a decrease in rumination, that is, obsessive thoughts that generate discomfort and an increase in optimism (e.g. being positive even though it seems that what is coming will be negative, believing that if you work hard enough you can achieve anything, believing that no task is too difficult and that the future is promising). This is evident since the global judgment of well-being lies in the evaluation that a person makes of the quality of life by virtue of certain criteria such as his expectations. Optimism is represented precisely by the hope that what comes next is surmountable and positive no matter what needs to be done (Kleiman et al., 2017), which automatically explains the role of rumination.

Regarding the second objective, the data shows that in terms of rumination, resilience, positive emotional experience, prosperity and life satisfaction, similarities were observed rather than differences. That is, both men and women tend to have –in equal measure– repetitive and recurrent thoughts about negative emotions experienced in the past (Ito et al., 2006; Michael et al., 2007) they tend to show ability to cope, overcome, be strengthened or transformed by unfavorable experiences (Grotberg, 2003), and have emotional experiences such as joy and happiness as well as feeling successful in life and feeling that their lives have been good. However, some statistically significant differences were observed, indicating that women showed a greater negative experience in the last month and more capacity to receive support; while men showed more self-confidence (optimism factor). This could be due to the fact that it is women who have been identified as more emotionally sensitive, encompassing negative emotions. That is, since they have developed more skills in this field, their experiences and expressions are more intense and expressive (e.g. Feldman-Barret, Lane, Sechrest, & Schwartz, 2000; López Usero, 2016). In addition to this, it has been observed that it is women who tend to establish closer personal relationships (Juárez Ramírez, Valdez Santiago, & Hernández Rosete, 2005) where they tend to share more of their lives and emotions, thus evidencing their willingness to receive help, advice, etc. (Matud, Ibañez, Bethencourt, Marrero, & Carballeira, 2003; Pettus-Davis, Veeh, Davis, & Tripodi, 2018).

When the possible differences in rumination, optimism, resilience, SW-B and ability for support by age were examined, some statistically significant differences were found that show that

the group of 17 to 30 years presents more rumination and negative experience (SW-B) compared to older groups. This could be because in youth, people tend to appreciate life in such a way that they feel the discomfort of their mistakes or emotions from the past that may have been generated by inexperience, unlike the older groups who can find the positive in the little ones. details of life (Reig, 2000). These results are consistent with what was indicated by Nolen-Hoeksema and Aldao (2011) and Sütterlin et al. (2012) who explain the phenomenon based on the idea that, as the years go by, people acquire more cognitive and affective resources to solve problems. Likewise, it was observed that the group of 31 to 44 years scored more in “family support” and “structure” compared to the younger group, which is logical –and related to the previous result– since as one gets older, more organization and order in life is acquired. This allows to keep busy and makes the situation more manageable in times of stress. This, together with the support networks that emerge through time, provide individuals with protection in times of need (Jiang, Drolet, & Kim, 2018). Lastly, the 45 to 62-year-old group has a more positive attitude, self-confidence and strength, as well as greater prosperity compared to the younger ones, which is supported by Londoño et al. (2014) and Schawaba et al. (2019) who claim that the older they are, the more optimistic they are; the more they value relationships with others, the more constructive and wellness-oriented strategies they count on, which allows them to obtain more achievements in different spheres of life. This brings about a feeling of a more prosperous and successful life.

Finally, there were two main findings when exploring possible differences in the variables under study by schooling. On the one hand, it was found that the secondary school sample scored more in obsessive reflection mainly compared to the undergraduates, which may be due to the fact that less education means being less able to suppress this type of thinking (Delgado Suárez et al., 2008), especially because they have probably experienced more difficult challenges to solve due to lack of experience and abilities. And, on the other hand, there is also the fact that those with undergraduate studies scored higher in all factors of optimism and resilience, prosperity and ability to receive support compared to those with secondary education. This is no surprise if we take into consideration that through education, studying provides resources that give the person greater possibilities of being happy even in spite of adversity. They can have more hope, a positive forecast of the future, be more cautious and deepen the analysis of the situation they face and thereby generate a better approach and solution (Giménez Hernández, 2005; Gómez Azcarate et al., 2014; Morales Rodríguez & Díaz Barajas, 2011). In the same way, more personal relationships are developed that sensitize the person so that he or she can reckon the need for others. All this together, leads to the idea that these resources provided by education provide both material and psychological prosperity (Carmona Valdés, 2009; García & Hoffman, 2002).

In conclusion, it can be said that SW-B is the product of some aspects mainly linked to optimism and ruminant thinking. In addition, age and schooling —more than gender— significantly affect the experience of these variables, which should be taken into account for future research. It is considered that this study managed to scrutinize the relationship as well as differences in the behavior of these variables from a broader angle and in a sample of 404 participants, resulting in a contribution to the understanding of them, of the constructs and this group.

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