COGNITIVE MAPPING OF THE CONTEMPORARY GERMAN MATRIMONIAL CONFRONTATIONAL DISCOURSE

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Abstract: The article presents a method of cognitive mapping using an example of reconstruction of conceptual system of contemporary German matrimonial confrontational discourse that reproduces collective cognitive space of German matrimonial couples. The basic principle of the proposed methodology allows following up a holistic mental representation of this segment of family discourse in a statistically verified conceptual structure and the system of correlations between its elements.

Key words: discourse practice, family discourse, matrimonial discourse, confrontational communication, conceptual system, cognitive space, collective cognitive space, linguoquantitative method.

1. Introduction

Present-day linguistic studies are focused on systemic organization of the individual's thinking. As Prihodko and Prykhodchenko claim, "cognitive processes in our mind are usually connected with our vision and understanding of outer world in general and our place in it in particular" (2018: 164). Mental background of any activity is reconstructed by researchers as both separate concepts containing specified knowledge, conceptual spheres, and fields united by common logical-semantic or substantive content, and conceptual systems as discursive-relevant formations of concepts representing certain relevant spaces of an individual. In this case, we agree

with Halych, who states that "different mental structures that are realized by a language are formed as a result of studying the world and experiencing it" (2018: 39).

According to Starzyńska and Budziszewska (2018: 291), discourse "authoritatively decides on whether to include or exclude particular contents from archives of social knowledge". Modern variety of interpretations of the phenomenon of discourse generally allows us to determine our position as a socially linguistic one within the functional approach, the methodological principle of functionalism, the anthropocentric principle of language that "is integral in the communication of social realities" (Radzi et al. 2018: 38) as well as speech consideration. Therefore, we treat *discourse* as a functional ethno-cultural space of a particular society, represented by a certain verbalized practice in a certain socio-communicative sphere. In this research, we define *discourse* using a strictly linguistic meaning of the term, as a linguistic unit of communication, which reflects differentiated diversity of the world's picture and includes typical situations of social interaction, participants, social norms and conventions, and cultural representations.

Since one of the social constructs significantly influencing the behavior of a person is the whole family and marital relationship as an element of it in particular, then, on the background of the research direction explicitly declared in the title, the notion of a collective cognitive family/marital space as a particularly structured set of knowledge and representations that all the individual family/marital social group (as a discursive community) members possess. Family/marital collective cognitive space is an integral part of the individual cognitive space, and *family discourse* (FD) in general and *matrimonial discourse* (MD) as its component, in particular, the sphere of interaction of the individual and the social-collective.

Typical ideas of marital relationships turn into representation of stereotypical interaction situations in the family as a small social group, modeled in the memory as objects of the MD concept space, the basis of which is specific configuration of its

autochthons – the concept system – "interfield formation, where a certain set of concepts is situationally arranged according to the principle of logical activity and, as a result, is included in the system of the highest order, an ensemble of nationally marked mental units of linguoculture – the concept sphere" (Приходько 2008: 237).

The above mentioned may be considered appropriate for realization of cognitive bases of the mechanism of forming and functioning family/marital cognitive collective space that is a mental basis of *family discourse* – interactive mental and verbal activity of the family members as a small group of German ethnocultural society performed daily to ensure vital activity of people through implementation of practical tasks in social reproductive process.

Accordingly, the **relevance** of the study is determined by orientation of modern linguistic studies within the cognitive-discursive paradigm on objective determination of complementarities of mental and verbal resources of discursive practices, which enables to describe their mental conditionality. Cognitive-discursive approach to the study of family/marital discourse practice allows presenting its information archive and reveal the basics of German national mentality, by comparing its cognitive representation, verbal reproduction, and discursive realization.

The mental resource of a certain discursive practice is represented by a specific conceptual system that can be modeled using the *technique of cognitive mapping*. Its application on the background of FD variations may result in cognitive maps – of matrimonial (communication between husband/partner and wife/partner) and parental (intercourse of communicants with the status roles of father/mother and son/daughter), and siblings discourse (communication between brothers/sisters). These layouts of statuses and roles are conducive to strategically variable interactions that change due to their communicative intention and, in turn, their scenarios become fixed and consolidated in the form of experience to be put into practice again by virtue of special verbal manifestations in typical situations. Acknowledging the fact that the relation

between cooperation (harmony) and conflict (disharmony) stems from two intrinsic constituent parts of life in general as well as the entire system of social relations, it is pertinent to regard them as the principal vectors of the FD assuming the existence of diverse participants with potentially different intentions and purposes and the thematization of various aspects of reality. However, it is absolutely clear that the functions of communicative activity are in evidence in every case of the FD, they do not exist in an isolated form, and their part is rather dominant. Communicative activity includes such functions as atmosphere maintenance, information transfer, prompting a partner, clarifying a current state of affairs, contradicting a current state of affairs. Respectively, the dominant communicative function generated through cognitive process of understanding a certain situation from a global perspective can acquire the status of the classification constant, which is the global strategy of a communicative event within the scope of the mutual activity of an addressee and an addresser. The elucidated material enables us to categorize cooperative and confrontational FD as mode types of German FD. Cooperative FD can be characterized by consistency or neutrality of communicants' intentions that are inextricably linked by actions and aimed at accomplishment of mutual purposes and the realization of a common aim, which includes cooperation, help, support, and protection. Confrontational FD can be characterized by divergence between initial intentions of communicants, open or implicit clash between the parties and/or can be aimed at verbalization of any conflict of interests or values. Global cooperation and confrontation strategies provide modern perspective and insight into pragmatics of a family as a community and are developed within the framework so as to ensure that intersubjective interaction enables communicants to achieve their mutual purposes formed against the backdrop of the family institution that is actualized in a particular type of discourse.

Mental grounds of MD presented in one of our articles (Osovska 2015), validated the fact that the formation of the so-called We-position is the pre-requisite for cooperation of a couple, as a result of which communicative spaces of subjects are installed in the interactive We-space based on the ability to acknowledge the individual's personal

concerns and simultaneously align their behavior with personal concerns as well as the ones belonging to the individual's partner. The research confirmed the importance of observing social conventions and values, the possibility of fulfilling daily living needs, financial needs as well as the existent feelings and emotions that maintain cooperative atmosphere within the framework "marriage – partnership".

The **aim** of this research follows from the information mentioned above and intends to determine the structure of the collective cognitive space of modern German matrimonial group members, relevant for confrontative communication, as well as reproduction of this structure in the cognitive map of contemporary German matrimonial confrontational discourse (CGMCD) – a specific discursive conceptual configuration.

The research materials can be defined as a wide and multi-faceted array of ways, in which German family communication is implemented integrating private and intimate aspects of a person's life. It is pertinent to note that this communication turns out to be the most problematic when it comes to its recording. Although the corpus of the basic research materials consists of oral exchanges, film, and TV shows scripts, it is worth mentioning that the transcripts of oral real life communication are definitely deemed to be the most objective empirical materials, since they make up for the drawbacks of imitation, predictability, the conceptual idea, and rhythmical recurrence of the text as well as the simulation of characters' speech. However, it is virtually impossible to collate the samples of real life communication within a family due to the distinct ethical or legal aspects (owing to the fact that the German society puts a strong emphasis on discretion and attaches importance to the protection of people's personal space from any kind of invasion), temporal prolongation, and "an observer's paradox", which can be paraphrased as devaluation of speaker's authenticity from the moment of acquiring the roles of informants. The perception of transcribed versions of oral discourse can prove rather challenging, since the focal point shifts from content to form. This condition is the uppermost reason for turning the collated fragments of oral discourse

into written texts without confining them to any rigid transcription framework, although meeting all the literary requirements in terms of spelling and grammar. Basically, the study presents the method of visual and audio observation followed by verbal recording of uttered facts aiming at their subsequent analysis. The scope of the above mentioned approach encompasses about 20 hours of impromptu exchanges and interaction of three married couples (dealing with the matrimonial and parental types of the cooperative and confrontational modes of the FD); the couples represent different age groups, namely H. (between 25-30 years of age – Frankfurt upon the Main), R. (between 45-55 years of age – Braunschweig), and L. (between 75-80 years of age – Göttingen). Their friendly relationship with the authors of the article enabled them to witness and record maximally natural behavior of the participants. All the couples consented to the condition that required their communication to be recorded. The bulk of the corpus of the research materials is comprised of the situations taken from contemporary German films and TV shows, the story lines of which coincide with the theme of our research and amount to 120 hours in total length. Taking into account the entire production procedure, which encompasses processing the text-transcript recorded by the authors together with the team of highly qualified and competent native speakers, reproducing the text with the help of actors' performance, where each actor's approach revives the static text, bringing in a multitude of situationally pertinent components that turn the text into a certain discourse element, the elucidated materials can be regarded as relevant samples of the MD.

The situations that are described as conflicts include communicative events that usually consist of one or several thematically completed sequences. The contemporary German MD reflects prevalence of interactions comprised of several remarks (turns) of communicants that function as independent communicative events and, as the rule, have some kind of situational attachment to a con-situation, thus being tightly interwoven. The overall amount of analyzed materials is comprised of 253 communicative events of real life exchanges and 1523 communicative events retrieved

from the scripts of films and TV shows. The average duration of each communicative event is 5 minutes.

2. Methodology: The technique of cognitive mapping

The process of communication investigation gives a person a unique opportunity of self-consciousness structure cognition (Желтухина & Доброниченко 2015: 173). Taking this into consideration, the main target of cognitive linguistics is to "help revealing not only what is universal about the language lying at the core of a plethora of interpretations, but also what is particular about its construal grounded in the socio-cultural interaction" (Sharapkova et al. 2019: 179). The attempts of scientists to represent complex mental processes are reflected in the suggestion of various types of structures, such as interpretation frames and cognitive maps (Минский 1979; Осовська 2013; Приходько 2008; Ращупкина 2009; Axelrod 1986; Goffman 1983). The latter, though differently understood by the researchers, but being aimed mainly at representing the global picture of the communicants' programs, represent the mental frames of discursive practices of the linguistic-cultural community and reveal the established way of comprehending a certain segment of its members' activities (Tametyan et al. 2018; Volskaya et al. 2018).

Creation of complete presentation of the CGMCD concept system, reflected in the cognitive map, requires the determination of its "skeleton" – the autochthon concepts and the partial outline of the corpus of CGMCD allochthons as discursive variables. At that, the adequate methodological approach was to define the synthesis of ***conceptual analysis***, corpus linguistics techniques, and ***linguoquantitative methods***. This enables to observe complete mental representation of CGMCD as a conceptual system in a statistically verifiable conceptual structure and a system of correlations among its elements.

Modeling a CGMCD cognitive map includes several stages: 1) defining basic situational markers that outline the communicative frame as a CGMCD situational

"skeleton"; 2) determining the CGMCD allochthons as a general complex of possible information elements; 3) determining autochthons as regular elements of the CGMCD through the procedures of statistical verification of actuals; 4) finding quantitatively significant dependencies (subordination, consequence, causation, and interconnection) of autochthons, that show interconcept correlation within the CGMCD; 5) formulation of the so-called CGMCD integrators – its uniting presupposition elements (Осовська 2013: 97-108).

Stage 1 is substantiated by the fact that the actualization of the CGMCD semantic space is provided with an adequate situational framework in all types of interactions. On the other hand, due to anthropocentricity, deictic characteristics of dialogue discourse and understanding of the action transformations as a continuum of "causal chains", from which consciousness of the interpreter "pulls out separate links" (Croft 1991: 159), this situational framework can be outlined in basic coordinates that present its participants, namely family members, global strategic purposes, as well as localization of space and time of a certain communicative event within the FD. The latter is localized due to common household and can be temporarily defined based on the repetitive periods of a person's lifestyle (leisure) as well as a set of social and cultural traditions (weekdays, holidays, vacations at work/school). All these factors lay the foundation for situational predictability of the FD.

Stage 2 requires additional explanation. Regarding the lexical semantic space as combination of means used for verbal interpretation of a particular conceptual space, it is possible to figure out all the regular and occasional concepts represented in the FD. The proviso for such an undertaking is that the core component of the conceptual space in question is compared to a verbal unit that is evocative of this concept and can activate the concept in a native speaker's mind. This aim can be attainable on condition that all the objectivators of the concept are collated. Regularly recurring concepts form framework of a particular conceptual system.

Conceptual analysis of CGMCD enables to define it as an open discourse, which has a high ability to borrow concepts that characterize other discourses (business discourse, service industry discourse, medical, legal youth, and academic discourse, etc.). This feature of the open discourse can obviously be explained not only by specification of different types of knowledge of different perspectives of human and linguistic existence of personality in it, but also by virtue of "boundless flexibility of communicative space of social culture, in which a creative linguistic personality tends to go beyond the norms, conventions and, conditions, using different strategies and tactics of verbal arrangement of mental information in his communicative creativity" (Приходько 2008: 242).

The holistic theory as a methodological basis of modern cognitive linguistics combines formats of presentation of the semantic and the conceptual, considering language as the main means of categorization and conceptualization of the world, an open cognitive system that interacts with general mental capabilities. Cognitive structures are deep thought-based entities, discovery of which can only be done through the study of meanings of language units (Тукаева 2009: 862), because "a lexical meaning is a concept activated by the word in thought" (Жаботинская 2013: 76). Raczaszek-Leonardi mentions that "being physically present in interactions, as utterances in dialogues, language is a part of co-action" (2018: 282).

Without questioning the statement that concepts are segmented by conceptual, figurative, and value cognitive features, we believe that fragments of colloquial language and film scripts within the CGMCD gives an opportunity to examine, first of all, the conceptual side, in which fixedness of concepts is determined by certain verbal means, the set of which forms concepts expression plan. Any mental formation is constantly in relations and dependences, and therefore determination of the algorithm for the exteriorization of concepts in the space of the text (meaning all the samples of the analysed material) enables not only to implement their profile, but also to construct the concept system of the CGMCD.

Verbal representation of concepts leads to the need of identifying their agents (known as objectivators, explicators, nominants, verbalizators, conceptual qualifiers, etc.) – the latter appear to be verbal units that provide the conceptual basis of the CGMCD, despite the fact that communicative and pragmatic parameters for defining qualifying senses of the lingual units are quite subjective both from the side of the communicants, and from the perspective of the investigator. Agents of concepts can be presented explicitly or implicitly, and "any particular agent of the concept – a word, a phraseological unit, a syntagma, etc., – is not an isolated unit, but a part of general system of agents, which can be represented in the form of an associative semantic field" (Бобкова 2007: 8). Explication of concepts in the form of a system of agents is performed by a speaker (husband/wife), who builds a chain of proposals, objectifying the concept.

The laws of logic and causal links lose their explanatory power, as soon as weak implicational structures occur in the text that is inevitably used for verbal recording of discourse – for example, metaphorical nominations containing a significant emotional component. The solution of the problem of implicit meanings categorization, if there is no alternative, requires ***introspective analysis*** (Комарова 2013: 332; Talmy 2007), which enables to distinguish discursively significant meanings of certain language means (Sie: *Jetzt sehe ich schwarz für unsere Zukunft* – [She: *Now I do not believe in our future*]; Er: *Ich habe die Nase voll von Geschrei*) – [He: *Constant quarrels drive me up the wall*]). Consequently, in order to isolate the constants of the CGMCD concept system, an inventory of the CGMCD texts was made, the objectivators of concepts (nouns, verbs, and adjectives) were fixed, the classification of which into semantic domains allowed defining a matrix of concepts as the basic (a cluster of meanings) within the CGMCD.

As long as the frequency of particular verbals can indicate a certain relevance and regularity of certain conceptual configurations, elements of statistical analysis were used enabling to determine the statistical significance of a) domain presentation in the CGMCD text, and b) certain concepts in the selected domains at Stage 3 of the study

to give the status of autochthons to certain concepts from other fields (medical, law, youth, business, academic, service sector and so on). Selected lexemes represent elementary meanings in consciousness; the names of domains formed – generalized concepts that semantically combine all the elements of a group that, "through their presentation in the family interaction, indicate the points of meanings condensation" (Осовська 2016: 58).

The need to distinguish between natural and random phenomena causes applying quantitative analysis. Verification of data using the techniques of calculating the χ^2-criterion and contingency coefficient K allows us to select the main meaning dominants, categorial units of the basis of its concept system from the set of fixed allochthons – conceptual variables presenting atypical knowledge quanta, regular autochthons of CGMCD concept system – by determining the correspondences between the frequency distributions of concept agents of a certain domain in the CGMCD texts and specific concepts in statistically significant domains.

Traditional study of fullness of conceptual structures is based, as a rule, on the definition of frequency of lexemes that designate certain elements or nominal characteristics of a concept. However, quantitative techniques, in particular, one of the basic methods for verifying hypotheses in linguistics – the chi-square (χ^2) criterion, enable to determine existence of correspondences or discrepancies between distributions of frequencies of quantities under observation (Левицкий 2012: 156), actually verifying their regularity of this discursive environment.

Relation between the features is confirmed by the χ^2 index, which is larger than the critical value, and its degree is determined by Chuprov mutual contingency coefficient K (ibid., 160). Exceeding the value of χ^2 testifies to the prevalence of empirical use of the domain over the theoretical expectations, confirming its selective character and, consequently, its importance for the CGMCD.

A similar procedure determines the value of χ^2 for all allochthons agents within each of the distinguished domains. As a result of such calculations, the most significant concepts for each of the predefined statistically significant domains are determined in the CGMCD text. The detected concepts are autochthons of CGMCD.

However, this result is not the final stage of the study of the CGMCD conceptual structure, since only "the analysis of the concepts connectivity, <...> enables to construct the picture of the world that is characteristic of everyday consciousness" (Чернейко 2001: 59). Before starting this phase of the study (Stage 4), some explanation should be provided. Thinking of the connectivity motivation by semantic properties, cognitivity of relations between the objects of reality and the closeness of the words related in their meaning placed in the text (Вдовиченко 2008: 15), lead to the assumption that consideration of their co-occurrence, "neighbourhood" in the CGMCD text may reproduce a fragment of linguistic picture of the world, on the background of which the concept space of CGMCD is realized. Determining the pairs of autochthons, among which there is a statistically verified relation, proves to be relevant and logical for this representation. This relation can be detected using the ***correlation analysis***, which states correlation (statistical) dependence characteristic of linguistic phenomena and, in our case, allows detecting the FD autochthons in the text fragments, the agents of which are observed in co-occurrence.

The simple linear Pearson correlation (r) assumes that, as the values of some feature increase, the value of another one either increases or decreases in a certain order. If the values of both features are characterized by the increase, then a positive correlation is stated, but if it is characterized by a reverse relationship, there is a negative correlation (Осовська 2019: 214). Correlation coefficient values can range from +1 to -1, indicating the degree of relation between the phenomena: the closer the value approaches zero, the lower the dependence; the sign in this case denotes the nature of the relation (Тулдава 1987: 82-84).

Statistically significant pairs of autochthons (**PENDELN ≡ STRESS** ('**SWING ≡ STRESS**'), **SCHLAMPIGKEIT ≡ NORMVERLETZUNG** ('**UNTIDINESS ≡ RULEBREAKING**'), **ENTFREMDUNG ≡ VERWANDTE** ('**ALIENATION ≡ RELATIVES**')) indicate certain dependencies in the mental space of the German married/cohabiting couple, but do not explain it. Having detected the conceptual correlation, we turn to the qualitative *logical semantic analysis* and to the phenomenon of cognitive inference (Johnson-Laird 1983; Levinson 1983) – cognitive operations for obtaining deductive knowledge (Грайс 1985: 221), which enable to explain it.

The analysis of speech fragments, performed according to the above defined principles, enables to assert that the palette of inter-concept correlation is confined to four main types of relations – inclusion, consequence, causation, and mutual exclusion. These relations are based on the logical regularities symbolically designated by the schemes "X includes/implies Y" (≡), "Y follows X" (→), "X causes Y" (=>), "X or Y" (↔) (Осовська 2013; Приходько 2008).

The presented types of relations show all the statistically verified inter-conceptive correlations stated in the CGMCD texts. On Stage 5 of the research, the set of them allows formulating relevant for CGMCD integrators – presuppositions, discursive unifying representations, which essentially are cognitive foundations of communicative activity of an individual as a member of the family group within a certain linguoculture. The CGMCD integrators (the term seems to be apt due to its sense of a unifying rule) known as the elements of cognitive basis, fundamental stereotypical core of knowledge, or common cognitive foundation formulate basic discourse adequate mental elements, indicator of similarity of their world picture, subconsciously available in the CGMCD communicants-participants (Tametyan et al. 2019).

According to the contents principle, integrators can be differentiated into contextual integrators, integrators-problems, integrators-causes, and integrators-solutions.

Contextual integrators characterize the presupposition, the general married-life atmosphere; integrators-problems denote problem areas, spheres of discrepancies in the ideas of communicants; integrators-causes point to concrete actions or events that may cause a change in the communicative-discursive modus; integrators-solutions designate the views on the variants of solutions to problems (Осовська 2013: 282-290).

Including the social intragroup structure of thinking of the married group members on the basis of texts produced by them in the described method, it is possible to identify common elements integrating the CGMCD within the network – concepts as cementing elements in national consciousness that influence the process of linear strategic deployment of the communicative event, and their correlations – in the structure of thinking. All information obtained results in the cognitive map – a schematically presented information archive.

3. Results and discussion. Cognitive mapping of CGMCD

Our previous FD investigations state that "family as one of the standard elements of environment gaining the most meaningful and emotional value as a result of the historical and cultural development became one of the symbols of human consciousness" (Osovska 2018: 3). The basic structure of a modern German family can be represented by two dichotomous structural systems: **filiation/parental relations** (relations between parents and children) and **conjugal/matrimonial relations** (relations between partners), typical of any modern family in general as well as a German family, in particular. Let us briefly focus on linguocultural analysis of the latter.

Before using the above-mentioned methodological guidelines and focusing on the objective determination of the mental grounds for the CGMCD, it is obviously pertinent to flesh out general social perception of a modern German couple.

Having passed the stages of the 17th century individualism (development of freedom in relations, growth of marriage age, duration of marriage, exogamy, neolocalism, relatively equal management of one's owned money or the earned money), the 18th century sentimentalism (identification of love and marriage, ethnicity and identity; subjectivity; self-identification), German romanticism at the turn of the 20th century (marriage for love, psychic and erotic "interdependence" of partners), marriage for love acquires the status of the basis of the universal marriage model.

Love and partnership are the main regulatory concepts for the coexistence of individuals. Furthermore, "love, friendship, and family are eternal values, which are reflected in different cultures and religions in a specific way" (Panasenko et al 2018: 63). Still the concept **PARTNERSCHAFT ('PARTNERSHIP')**, is now becoming particularly relevant to modern German linguistic space. The concept in question requires certain number of communicative competences, namely authenticity, openness, sincerity, communicative abilities, verbalization of expectations, desires and dissatisfaction listening to instead of categorical attempt to realize their rights, sincerity instead of social closure, freedom for one's own development, responsibility for relationships. Partnership is a unity of two rational subjects capable of compromising (Burkart 2001: 431). Socially symmetrical, in most cases, relationship of the conjugal (from Latin *conjiugare* – to connect) couple only symptomatically show an asymmetric status in a couple with a difference in social background and age, as democratic social background has ultimately replaced stereotypical ideas about dependence of a woman and a dominant position of a man with ideas about parity and equality. Nowadays the social roles of spouses in the German society "vary depending on age and family stage" (Lee 2017: 85).

Relationships of a couple are both private and personal, and socially normalized – with certain institutionalized structures, rules, and norms. According to the conclusions that can be drawn from Gern's research on the shift in the gender roles of men and women, representing the German society of the 20th century, men and women who adhere to a

particular set of rules and standards of the German society should be regarded as representatives of different domains of life. Men are usually "preoccupied with activities happening within the scope of public domain but during evening time they take active part in private life domain, whereas women represent exclusively the domain of family life" (Gern 1992: 18). In stark contrast to Gern's theory, Willi (1978) and John (2017: 22) do not tend to demarcate confines of the roles of men and women in marriage, on the contrary, they view a family as "a unique type of co-evolution, which bears resemblance to a kind of art demonstrating common growth". It is pertinent to note that such scholars as Klein (2018), Knop (2019), and Alemann (2017) also dedicate their scientific work to investigation and elucidation of Germans' perception of a family as a social institution and a small social group, its functions, roles of spouses in the diachronic aspect, and the status of a family within the structure of modern German society.

Numerous sociological studies provide new and deeper insights into the forms of family relations in German society and prove the diversity in these relations. (Helfferich 2017: 27). German society demonstrates **heterogamous** (*Lebensgemeinschaft von Mann und Frau* ('heterosexual marriage')) and **homogamous** (*gleichgeschlechtliche Lebensgemeinschaft/Partnerschaft* ('same-sex marriage')*, homosexuelles (lesbisches, schwules) Paar* ('homosexual couple (lesbian, gay)')*, Homoehe* ('gay marriage')) types of partners (examples hereinafter are in the authors' translation). Tendency toward homogamy, not sexual, but age and educational one, is emphatically confirmed (Burkart 2008: 179; Hill & Kopp 2013; Lexikon zur Soziologie, s.a.). This, however, does not apply to nationality: globalization processes contribute to unceasing increase in the number of bicultural couples (BMFSFJ, *s.a.*). First of all, it can be attributed to increase in the trend towards the so-called sham marriage in Germany, especially one particular type of false marriage aimed at acquisition of a legal living permit by a partner who wants to reside on the territory of Germany but represents a nation that is not part of the EU (*aufenthaltsrechtliche*

Scheinehe) (Kern-Eimann: 2003; Vorwurf "Scheinehe". Die Kehrseite des Rechts auf Familiennachzug, s.a.).

Civil marriages (*nichteheliche Lebensgemeinschaft* ('extramarital union')*, "wilde Ehe"* ('civil marriage')*, Kohabitation* ('sexual relation')*, Konkubinat(spaar)* ('cohabitation')*, Konsensualpaar* ('cohabitation on mutual agreement')), being a premarital phase, or an alternative to marriage are quite adequately perceived by society. The decision on civil marriage has different reasons; there are different types of couples: those who did not manage to marry (*verhinderte Paare* ('partners, who were not destined to be together')), divorced couples (*Scheidungsfamilie* ('officially divorced family')*, Trennungsfamilie* ('family, members of which broke up')*, Teilfamilie* ('incomplete family')), for whom civil marriage is only a biographical transient phase (*geschiedene, "gebrannte Kinder"* ('divorced, "children, who got burned"')), classical free marriages, in which partners wittingly refuse to register their relationship (*freie Ehe* ('open marriage')), free relationships, in which partners try to avoid marriage-like structures (*freie Partnerschaft* ('open relationship')), unmarried couples, for whom living together is a trial (*Versuchsehe* ('experimental marriage')). There are willful opponents (*Ehe-Gegner* ('those, who do not believe in marriage')) and investigators (*Ehe-Tester* ('tester of marital relationship')). Un-marriage can be a moratorium, expectation of readiness, or a conscious position in the process of achieving certain material well-being.

It is illustrative of modern Germany that there is observed an increase of a number of unisexual relationships, tolerantly accepted by the society, that are officially allowed since 2001 and have the same legal provision like heterogamous ones (Mathias-Bleck 2006: 242). However, it should be noted that a particular kind of relationship between partners should be regarded as a principal factor that determines the attitude of the representatives of German society to the types of interpersonal relationships in general (Schneider 2015: 75).

As we can see, the problem zone of a German couple is not in the plane of institutional fixation, since alternative and traditional forms gradually become legally equal. One can only talk about the loss of institutional validity of marriage, and therefore, the problem already revolves within the rational choice theory – practical solution: as soon as marriage provides benefits, activation of this process will begin. Even in this sphere, German society demonstrates a deep rational analysis of contributions and benefits (Осовська 2013: 36).

The application of the above-described cognitive mapping method allows stating such features of the CGMCD cognitive background. CGMCD, as a cognitive-communicative activity and a territory of meeting and interaction of individuals in certain social and psychological conditions (Томнюк 2017: 75), is situationally highlighted by the participants with the status roles Ehemann/Partner – Ehefrau/Partnerin ('man/partner – woman/partner'), a global confrontation strategy, chronotropic characteristics of free time and family residence.

In the conceptual space of the CGMCD 123 concepts that form domains are recorded, 7 of them demonstrate statistical significance (see Table 1).

Table 1. Statistical significance of the domains in the CGMCD

Domains	Nouns		Verbs		Adjectives		Total
	χ^2	K	χ^2	K	χ^2	K	χ^2
Animated life					1,16		*1,16*
Character traits	**27,66**	**0,01**	**---**		**15,09**	**0,01**	*42,75*
Family affiliation	**4,85**	**0,01**	**8,69**	**0,02**	**4,89**	**0,01**	*18,43*
Feelings and emotions	**5,59**	**0,02**	**27,03**	**0,03**	**5,98**	**0,02**	*38,60*
Financial and operational Activities	3,39		0,26				*3,65*
Inanimate nature, Supernatural	3,70						*3,70*
Locality	2,43						*2,43*
Mental activity	5,76	0,03	0,30	0,03	5,92	0,03	*11,98*
Physical activity	**10,36**	**0,02**	**29,89**	**0,02**	**16,36**	**0,02**	*56,61*
Physiology and physiological Needs	2,13						*2,13*
Politico-economical, legal and social conditions	1,37						*1,37*

Professional activity	**9,80**	**0,02**	**6,23**	**0,02**	**8,68**	**0,02**	*24,71*
Rest and leisure			0,99				*0,99*
Service industry			0,13				*0,13*
Sexual relationship						0,01	*0,01*
Social activities and Cooperation	**12,24**	**0,02**	**7,54**	**0,02**	**6,23**	**0,02**	*26,01*
Substances			0,05				*0,05*
Temporality					1,24		*1,24*
Universal meanings	0,93		---		2,43		*3,36*
Values and conventions	**44,45**	**0,04**	**4,48**	**0,01**	**5,25**	**0,01**	*54,18*
Verbal activity			0,04				*0,04*
Total	*134,66*		*85,63*		*73,23*		*293,52*

Contingency coefficient χ^2 = 293,52; K = 0,13

In the specified domain, 27 statistically significant concepts are determined. In human's thoughts, a complex of these concepts represents the world as a conceptual system, while discourse is a peculiar platform for their implementation (Томнюк 2018a: 5). They form the basis of the CGMCD, influence the process of its linear development and provide us with the image of its structure and interaction of system elements in its mental background (see Table 2).

Table 2. Statistical significance of concepts in the domains of the conceptual space of the CGMCD

Domain	The most significant concepts χ^2/K
Character traits	UNPÜNKTLICHKEIT ('LACK OF PUNCTUALITY') (44,27/0,07), VERSCHWENDUNG ('WASTEFULNESS') (31,24/0,06), UNZUVERLÄSSIGKEIT ('UNRELIABILITY') (30,19/0,06), UNZUFRIEDENHEIT ('DISSATISFACTION') (21,43/0,05), SCHLAMPIGKEIT ('UNTIDINESS') (11,34/0,03), UNDANKBARKEIT ('UNGRATEFULNESS') (11,01/0,03)
Physical activity	VERNICHTUNG ('DESTRUCTION') (5,68/0,02), GEWALT ('VIOLENCE') (5,44/0,02)
Professional activity	STRESS ('STRESS') (20,11/0,05), TERMIN ('MEETING') (12,12/0,03), PENDELN ('SWING') (11,14/0,03)
Values and conventions	NORMVERLETZUNG ('RULE BREAKING') (32,63/0,06), EIGENTUM ('PROPERTY') (20,44/0,05), UNGESUNDE LEBENSWEISE ('UNHEALTHY LIFESTYLE') (16,36/0,04), SCHEIDUNG ('DIVORCE') (11,16/0,03), UNORDNUNG/CHAOS ('MESS/CHAOS') (4,97/0,02)
Social activities and cooperation	STREIT/KONFRONTATION ('QUARREL/CONFRONTATION') (21,52/0,05), ENTFREMDUNG ('ALIENATION') (12,06/0,03), HINDERNIS ('OBSTACLE') (5,96/0,02)
Family affiliation	VERWANDTE ('RELATIVES') (6,31/0,02), PARTNER ('PARTNER') (5,49/0,02)
Feelings and emotions	ÄRGER/HASS ('FURY/HATRED') (21,63/0,05), BETRUG ('DECEIT') (16,48/0,04), SCHULD ('FAULT') (11,91/0,03), VERACHTUNG

('DISRESPECT') (11,21/0,03), ENTTÄUSCHUNG ('DISAPPOINTMENT') (5,63/0,02), VERLUST ('LOSS') (5,41/0,02)

The study shows that CGMCD is a complex many-leveled hierarchic system, the structure organization of which is represented as "network inside of network" (arranged on such levels as concept → domain → conceptual system). CGMCD is structured by seven domains: character traits, physical activity, professional activity, values and conventions, social activities and cooperation, family affiliation, feelings and emotions. Each of them includes a set of concepts-autochthons, which are the constants of collective cognitive space and represent knowledge and ideas of German people about the institution of family, in particular, interaction of members of a matrimonial group in a situation of confrontation. Seven domains are the spheres, which usually lead to a conflict situation, break harmony in relation of a German family. In the course of conducting the analysis of these domains, we tend to agree with Hass, namely with the conclusion she comes to in her research on the culture of conflicts and the reasons for conflict formation in German families and in society in general (2014: 19-86). The scientist concludes that the grounds for family conflicts are generated not only by such internal factors as the psychological discrepancies in partners' characters, but also by a number of external factors, such as the backdrop of the political, historical and cultural experience of the society that spouses live in (ibid., 12). Thus, studying these factors is one of the tasks of the research in confrontational family discourse. Table 2 illustrates that the factors, which lead German family to misunderstanding are some abstract notions of individuality-spirituality (feelings and emotions, family relations, personality traits). As Zheltukhina puts it, the key issue of communication is a mechanism, which transforms an individual process of information exchange and perception into significant social process of personal and mass influence (2014). Quite often (as proved by the frequency of actualization of the concept VERSCHWENDUNG (χ^2=31,24)), the subject of dispute between the members of CGMCD is a financial part of life, which is represented as a step-by-step process of self-fulfillment in society. This includes work, which determines individual's position

in society, social activity, and relations with other people, and as a result, financial reward for fulfillment of person's, couple's, or family's needs. Let us consider a conceptual side of each domain of CGMCD and items and issues of reality, which become the subjects of dispute in German marriage. They are:

– From the domain **"character traits"** the anti-concepts objectify the moral and the anthropomorphic plan of **UNDANKBARKEIT ('UNGRATEFULNESS')** (Sie: *Du verdammter Scheißkerl, du* **undankbarer** *<...>*) – [She: *You, damned dullard, you're* **ungrateful**! *<...>*], **SCHLAMPIGKEIT ('UNTIDINESS')** (Sie: *Nicht nur im Zimmer, in deiner Seele herrscht* **Unordnung**! *Wie kann man denn so* **schlampig** *sein*!) (Barbara) – [She: *Not only in your room, but also in your soul is a* **mess**! *How can you be so* **untidy!**]; **UNPÜNKTLICHKEIT ('LACK OF PUNCTUALITY')** (Er: *Ich muss leider deine* **Unpünktlichkeit** *betonen. Was? Wieder* **den Termin verpasst**?) (Was bleibt) – [He: *Unfortunately, I have to focus on your* **lack of punctuality.** *What? Have you* **missed the meeting** *again?*], **VERSCHWENDUNG ('WASTEFULNESS')** (Er: *Das war* **verschwenderisch**!) – [He: *It was* **wasteful!**], **UNZUVERLÄSSIGKEIT ('UNRELIABILITY')** (Sie: *Ich kann mit dir nie* **sicher** *sein! Ich kann mich nicht auf dich* **verlassen**!) – [She: *I can not be* **sure** *of you! I can not* **rely on** *you!*], **UNZUFRIEDENHEIT ('DISSATISFACTION')** (Er: **Nie** *bist du* **zufrieden**, *das ist schon zum Kotzen!*) – [He: *You are* **never satisfied**. *I'm already sick of it!*].

Judging from the afore-cited examples, we can conclude that the manner of behavior that generates conflicts stems from reluctance to accept such characteristic traits of a partner as ingratitude, messiness, unpunctuality, extravagant lifestyle, lack of reliability, which, in turn, provoke dissatisfaction.

– From the domain of **"physical activity"** the objectified concepts are **GEWALT ('VIOLENCE')** (Sie: *Der hat mich* **verprügelt**) – [She: *He* **beat** *me!*], **VERNICHTUNG ('DESTRUCTION')** (Er: *Ich werd dich* **vernichten**! *Ich werde dich* **zunichtemachen**!) (Die Brücke am Ibar) – [He: *I'll* **destroy** *you! I'll* **grind you to dust**!].

The examples verify that a conflict can be accompanied by violence.

– From the domain of **"professional activity"** the following concepts are objectified **TERMIN ('MEETING')** (Er: *Ich schufte für dich,* ich *plage mich mit diesen **Terminen** von morgens bis abends, und du <...>*) – [He: *I work like crazy for you! I am fed up with these **meetings** from morning till night, but you <...>*], **STRESS ('STRESS')** (Sie: *Der Tag war **anstrengend**, ich wurde hin und her **gerissen***) (Die fremde Familie) – [She: *The day was so **tense**! I was **busy as a beaver!***], **PENDELN ('SWING')** (Er: *Dieses **Pendlerleben** macht mich kaputt*) – [He: *This **life of a 'pendulum'** kills me*].

Obviously, negative emotions can also be stirred due to a person's professional responsibilities, namely tight meeting schedules, inevitability of long commutes to one's workplace, constant stress, and pressure at work.

– From the domain of **"values and conventions"** the concepts that are objectified include **NORMVERLETZUNG ('RULE BREAKING')** (Sie: *Man **macht** so was **nicht**! Man benimmt sich **anständig** in solcher hochkarätigen Gesellschaft! Was **erlaubst** du dir überhaupt! Ist das jetzt auch schon ein **Verbrechen**? Du bist der **Verbrecher**! Seit langem **vernachlässigst** du deine **Erziehungspflicht**, damit kann ich mich nicht zurechtfinden!*) (Vater, Mutter, Mörder) – [She: ***It doesn't work like that**! In such a high-class developed society, one should **behave decently**! **What do you think you're doing**? Is this a **crime** as well? You are a **criminal**! During long time you **neglect** your **duty** to **raise a child**, I can't bear it.*], **SCHEIDUNG ('DIVORCE')** (Er: *Dann bleibt nur eine Lösung – **die Scheidung***) (Gier) – [He: *So, **divorce** is the only solution.*], **UNORDNUNG/CHAOS ('MESS/CHAOS')** (Sie: *Alles unvorbereitet und unüberlegt! Ich kann nicht so **chaotisch** leben.*) – [She: *Everything is so thoughtless and unprepared! I can not live in such a **chaos***], **UNGESUNDE LEBENSWEISE ('UNHEALTHY LIFESTYLE')** (Er: *Wie viel kann man essen, du isst nicht mehr, du **frisst**! Trinker bist du, **Alkoholiker**! Ich hab dich gewarnt, diese **Trinkerrunde** bringt*

zu nichts!) (Kokowääh) – [He: *How can you eat so much? You* ***eat like a horse****! You are* ***drunkard, alcoholic****! I warned you that this* ***company of alcoholics*** *would do you wrong!*], **EIGENTUM ('PROPERTY')** (Er: *Du bist* ***Inhaberin****, die Verantwortung liegt auf dir, Deine Mutter, diese alte Kuh, hat ihm alles* ***vererbt****! Darum geht's überhaupt nicht, unser* ***Budget*** *wird es auf keinen Fall verkraften!*) (Oh boy) – [He: *You are the* ***owner****, so you are responsible for everything! Your mother, the black sheep of our family,* ***gave*** *him all her* ***inheritance****! In a nutshell, we are* ***as poor as a church mouse****!*].

The examples above prove that violation of a general set of social standards and conventions connected with people's lifestyle and observance of legal relations in German society can generate confrontation.

– From the domain of **"social activities and cooperation"** the objectified concepts comprise **ENTFREMDUNG/FEINDLICHKEIT ('ALIENATION/ENMITY')** (Sie: *Ich bin meiner Familie* ***entfremdet****; Du bist mir* ***fremd*** *geworden*) (Liebesjahre) – [She: *I become an* ***alien*** *to my family; You have become an* ***alien*** *to me*], **STREIT/KONFRONTATION ('QUARREL/CONFRONTATION')** (Sie: *Gemeinsam einsam – darunter leiden wir, unser* ***Krieg*** *zermürbte mich; Ewige* ***Streitigkeiten*** *ist das, was uns gelingt*) – [She: *Lonely together – that's what we suffer from, our* ***fight*** *has exhausted me! The eternal* ***quarrels*** *– all that we can do*], **HINDERNIS ('OBSTACLE')** (Sie: *Ich frage mich warum ich Möglichkeit der Teilhabe an Freizeit, Mobilität und Konsum durch euch* ***eingeschränkt*** *habe?*) – [She: *I ask myself why I have* ***limited*** *my free time, my mobility and consumption because of you?*].

Obviously, the confrontation between partners leads to alienation, animosity, and certain personal limitations.

– From the domain of **"family affiliation"** the objectification of the following concepts was observed **PARTNER ('PARTNER')** (Er: *Sag mal, so ohne **dich** – fehlt mir da denn etwas? **Du** ärgerst mich ununterbrochen*) – [He: *So, tell me, do I lack something without **you**? **You** are constantly annoying me!*], **VERWANDTE ('RELATIVES')** (Er: *Dein **Vater**, der alte Geck <…> Warum muss man immer die **Deinigen** überschätzen und die **Meinen** vernachlässigen?! Ich will, dass du mit deiner **Sippe** moglichst wenig zu tun hast; Ich war fertig, mit ihm und seiner ganzen albernen, selbstgefälligen **Sippschaft** einen halben Tag durchhecheln; Wenn du mit mir auf längere Zeit hättest glücklich werden mögen, solltest du noch damals Rücksicht auf mein **Familienerbe** nehmen!; Ich habe mit dieser Heirat gegen den **Sittenkodex** verstoßen! Ich wurde Versager, eine Schande für die ganze **Familie**, ein ewiger Schandfleck; Kein Mensch jubelt, wenn seine **Familie** ihn abgeschrieben hat!; Ich bin deinetwegen gegen die **Familienratentscheidung** getreten*) – [He: *Your **father**, who isn't the sharpest knife in the block. Why do we always have to pay more attention **to your relatives** and neglect **my own**? I want you to put **them** on the back burner. I was so tired to gossip with him and all his stupid, complacent **relatives**. If you were happy with me even then, you would accept my **family heritage**. By this marriage I violated **the code of ethics**! I became a loser and a shame for the whole **family**. No one is happy being forgotten by the **family**! For the sake of you I opposed the decision made by the **members of my family** <…>*].

This domain validates that in most cases confrontation involves not only a married couple but also their extended family circle.

– From the domain of **"feelings and emotions"** there is a palette of concepts with negative axiology **BETRUG ('DECEIT')** (Sie: *Ach, diese blöde Kuh! Du hast mich wieder **betrogen***) – [She: *You are sly as a fox, you **cheated** me again!*], **ENTTÄUSCHUNG ('DISAPPOINTMENT')** (Sie: *Du hast mich völlig **enttäuscht**, ich kriege es nicht mehr hin; Unsere Gutbürgerlichkeit ist **zum Kotzen**!*) (Wer, wenn nicht wir) – [She: *You finally **disappointed** me, I can't stand it anymore; I'm already*

sick of our conservatism!], **VERLUST ('LOSS')** (Sie: *Ich* **verpasste** *meine besten Jahre, ich habe sie einfach* **verloren**) – [She: *I* **missed** *the best years of my life, I just* **lost** *them*], **ÄRGER/HASS ('FURY/HATRED')** (Sie: *Dein Gefühl für Familienbeziehungen* **nervt** *mich. Du sprichst nie respektvoll von mir, du hast mich völlig vernachlässigt; Ich* **hasse** *dich, deine Eltern und alles, was mit dir verbunden ist!*) – [She: *Your attitude to family relationships* **irritates** *me. You never talk about me with such respect, you despise me; I* **hate** *you, your parents and everything connected with you!*], **VERACHTUNG ('DISRESPECT')** (Sie: *Bist du* **etwa der Prinz** *aus regierendem Hause? Ich bin die Firma. Ich bin der kreative Kopf. Ich mach aus Scheiße Gold! Na und, was kannst du denn? Wirst du mich* **etwa** *im Stich lassen?* **Echt stark**, *so baut man Vertrauen auf!*) – [She: *Are you* **Hamlet without the prince**? *I'm cool as a cucumber! I am creative. I go for the gold! And what can you do?* **Have you been** *keeping me out of trouble?* **Well, well** ... **Cool**. *I wouldn't trust you farther than I could throw you!*], **SCHULD ('FAULT')** (Er: *Verdammt, willst du mir jetzt die* **Schuld** *geben, dass er vom Dach gesprungen ist?*) – [He: *Dammit, do you want to* **accuse** *me of him jumping from the roof?*].

The examples clearly demonstrate that such feelings as deception, disappointment, loss, rage, hatred, contempt, and guilt actively emerge within the emotional field of a marital conflict.

On the basis of the statistical analysis it is possible to assume that knowledge about individual (reasoning and physical activity, character trains), interpersonal (feelings and emotions), group (family relations), out-of-group (social values and conventions, social and professional activity) is relevant to CGMCD.

Obvious spheres of *harmonious instability* of a German couple are socially condemned concepts, such as breaking norms, bad habits, and divorce. Ownership and substantive rights acquire particular significance in the CGMCD. In cohabitation, lack of punctuality, organization, wastefulness, unreliability, dissatisfaction, inaccuracy, and

ingratitude are treated unfavourably and become a cause of confrontation. Anger, adultery, contempt, disappointment, and loss are considered to be a sensual basis of emergence or result of a family conflict. According to the research on family structures and grounds for their alteration in German society conducted by Nave-Herz, difference in spouses' manners of behavior can also turn into a major source of conflicts welling up within modern German families, since German husbands usually follow the instrumental pattern of conduct, whereas German wives are typically expressive in their manner of behavior (2019: 14). Taking into consideration a range of human feelings verbalized in the family discourse, it should be noted that "not every evaluative judgment, formed in a person's mind, becomes transformed into an utterance (Bigunova 2019: 8)". It may also be a result of psychological gap between genders "as the sociocultural characteristics of natural differences between a man and a woman" (Petlyuchenko & Chernyakova 2019: 86) and difference in the spiritual worlds of the partners, as "people communicate by the means of language about the same world, but meanwhile different individual cognitive worlds are created" (Томнюк 2018b: 61).

Confrontation is connected with physical violence, aggression, and destruction. It should be noted that there is a certain difference between male and female aggression on a psychological level, the knowledge of which can help a husband and a wife avoid conflict situations, because "the emotional sphere of an individual, as well as the ways of its manifestation, is characterized by gender differentiation" (Nikonova & Boyko 2019: 49). Starzyńska and Budziszewska describe this differ ence (2018: 303):

Masculine aggression is not considered as an emotional reaction to the personal harms: It is a purely rational decision, helped by the natural vocation for the solitary fight, to accept the responsibility and fight back. The beneficiary of this decision is the whole society. <...> Female aggression, on the other hand, is always the result of emotional trauma, it is purely personal.

Professional factors, the most relevant of which are getting to work, business meetings, and professional stress in general are sufficient reasons for emergence of the conflict. A partner and relatives are important for communicants in social context.

Logicosemantic analysis of the contexts considering discursive realizations of significant concepts (calculated by the coefficient of Pearson simple linear correlation *r*) enables to state co-occurrence of the concepts, determined by the relations of subordination and implication:

a) stated on the basis of **hyper-hyponymic relations** in the domain: **UNDANKBARKEIT ('UNGRATEFULNESS')** ≡ **"character traits"** (Er: *Deine ganze **Sippe** ist ein Konglomerat von **Undankbaren** und Hochnäsigen!*) – [He: *All your **relatives** are **ungrateful** and arrogant!*], **VERSCHWENDUNG ('WASTEFULNESS')** ≡ **"character traits"** (Sie: *Wirfst du mir etwa **Geldverschwendung** vor?*) – [She: *Do you blame me for **extravagance**?*], **GEWALT ('VIOLENCE')** ≡ **"physical actions"** (Er: *Ich werde dich **umbringen**! Ich **geb** dir gleich einen!*) – [He: *I'll **kill** you! Now I **will punish** you!*], **ENTTÄUSCHUNG ('DISAPPOINTMENT')** ≡ **"feelings"** (Sie: *Das war unerwartet, **Enttäuschung** schlich in mein Herz*) – [She: *It was unexpected, **disappointment** broke my heart*], **PENDELN ('SWING')** ≡ **"professional activity"** (Er: *Es gibt keinen Ausweg, ich muss **pendeln**, ich kann keine **Arbeit** hier vor Ort finden*) – [He: *There's no way out, I have to **ride** here and there, I can not find a **job** here*], **STRESS ('STRESS')** ≡ **"professional activity"** (Er: *Und wenn ich das in diesem **Stress** nicht schaffe, wird mein **Vertrag** nicht weiter laufen*) – [He: *And if I'm not up to the job in this **stress**, my **contract** will be terminated.*], **STREIT ('QUARREL')** ≡ **"social activity and collaboration"** (Er: *Wenn das Bad bis Abend nicht in Ordnung ist, gibt's wieder **Streit***) – [He: *If by the evening the bathroom is not cleaned, we will have an **argument** again*], **SCHEIDUNG ('DIVORCE')** ≡ **"(anti)value"** (Er: *Hier **scheiden unsere Wege** und ich finde das klasse!*) – [He: *Here our ways of life **have different directions**, and I think, this is wonderful*], **UNGESUNDE LEBENSWEISE ('UNHEALTHY LIFESTYLE')** ≡ **"(anti)convention"** (Er: *Du kannst bald durch die Tür nicht mehr, du **fette** Sau!*) – [He: *You won't be able to go through the door soon, you're **fat as a beached whale***], etc.

The analyzed examples illustrate the fact that modern Germans equally adopt convergent attitudes towards certain one-domain notions such as violation of law and unhealthy lifestyle or stress and daily commutes to their workplace etc.

b) stated on the basis of **intradomain conceptual correlation**: **UNGESUNDE LEBENSWEISE ≡ NORMVERLETZUNG ('UNHEALTHY LIFESTYLE ≡ RULE BREAKING')** (Sie: *Du **trinkst**, du **rauchst**, du schreist mich an – ist es denn **nomal**?*) – [She: *You **drink alcohol**, you **smoke** and shout at me – is that **OK**?*], **PENDELN ≡ STRESS ('SWING ≡ STRESS')** (Er: *Wieder dasselbe – **Zugverspätung**, Chefgeschrei, keine Lust auf Arbeit, überall **Stress**, jetzt noch du mit deinen Vorwürfen!*) – [He: *Same again – the **train's delayed**, the chef's shouting, no desire to work, **stress** is everywhere, and you are still upbraiding me!*];

c) stated on the basis of **interdomain conceptual correlation**: **UNDANKBARKEIT ≡ NORMVERLETZUNG ('UNGRATEFULNESS ≡ RULE BREAKING')** (Sie: *In **Ordnung** wäre es wenn du **dankeschön** sagen würdest*) – [She: *Everything would be **fine** if you said **"Thank you!"***], **SCHLAMPIGKEIT ≡ NORMVERLETZUNG ('UNTIDINESS ≡ RULE BREAKING')** (Sie: *Deine **Schlampigkeit**, die macht mich einfach **sauer**, das ist einfach **nicht normal**!*) – [She: *Your **untidiness** just **banging** me, it's just **not normal**!*], **UNPÜNKTLICHKEIT ≡ NORMVERLETZUNG ('LACK OF PUNCTUALITY ≡ RULE BREAKING')** (Er: *Du solltest dich **anständiger benehmen** und **pünktlich** vor dem Haus stehen!*) – [He: *You should **behave more decently** and stand in front of the house **in time**!*], **VERSCHWENDUNG ≡ NORMVERLETZUNG ('WASTEFULNESS ≡ RULE BREAKING')** (Sie: *Das ist ja **unerhört**, so **viel Trinkgeld** zu geben, bist du etwa Milionär; Du kommst mit dem **Geld nicht zurecht**, du kriegst keinen Euro frei mehr!*) – [She: *It's just **unbelievable**, giving **so much tips**, are you a millionaire? You **do not know how to deal with money**, you will not get any euro anymore!*], **ENTFREMDUNG ≡ VERWANDTE ('ALIENATION ≡ RELATIVES')** (Sie: *Deine **Familie** ist mir **fremd**, sie wird mich auch nicht aufnehmen*) – [She: *Your **family is alien** to me, they will not accept me*],

NORMVERLETZUNG ≡ VERWANDTE ('RULE BREAKING ≡ RELATIVES') (Er: *Wenn dein **Vater** was **Blödes sagt**, muss ich wieder schweigen?!*) – [He: *If your **dad says something fool**, do I keep silent again?!*], **SCHULD ≡ PARTNER ('FAULT ≡ PARTNER')** (Sie: ***Du** bist selber **schuld!***) – [She: ***Blame yourself!***], **PARTNER ≡ UNZUFRIEDENHEIT ('PARTNER ≡ DISSATISFACTION')** (Sie: *Ich habe keine Arbeit, die Mutter im Krankenhaus, und da noch **dein** gemeiner **Betrug**, das war entgültige **Enttäuschung!***) – [She: *I do not have a job, mom is in the hospital, and **your** sly **lie**, it was a final **disappointment!***], **EIGENTUM ≡ PARTNER ('PROPERTY ≡ PARTNER')** (Er: *Das **Haus gehört mir!***) – [He: ***The house belongs to me***], **VERWANDTE ≡ UNZUFRIEDENHEIT ('RELATIVES ≡ DISSATISFACTION')** (Sie: *Dein **verrückter Vater** hat mich angefasst und <…>*) – [She: *Your **crazy dad** grabbed me and <…>*].

Besides, there can be observed a common way of viewing the notions that come from different domains, for instance, such character traits as ingratitude, messiness, unpunctuality, and extravagant lifestyle, which are regarded as violation of discrepancy in a certain standard (or a number of standards); relatives that fail to meet some standards usually provoke dissatisfaction and can even be condemned to the status of strangers; a partner is confronted with accusations; a premium is placed on the right of property ownership.

The material shows (though it is not confirmed by the statistical data) the quantitatively sufficient (enough) frequency of emphasis of intersection zones of the domain **"professional activity"** with the concepts of other domains, for example: **"feelings and emotions" (UNSICHERHEIT ('UNCERTAINTY'))** and **"temporality" (ZEITMANGEL ('LACK OF TIME'))**. This verity leads to the shift of corresponding negative attitude to the concept **(BERUF ('PROFESSION'))**, which, without demonstrating any negative connotation, reveals its indirect negative character.

The sequent conceptual dependencies are not found, obviously, because the CGMCD does not show any temporal conceptual priorities – neither subjective nor sensual ones.

Due to the cause-and-effect principle, there are such static verifiable dependencies in CGMCD: **PENDELN => UNPÜNKTLICHKEIT ('SWING => LACK OF PUNCTUALITY')** (Er: *Wieder **Zugverspätung**, Ärger, Beschuldigung – ich sei unerläßlich **unpünktlich**!*) – [He: ***Train's delayed** again, anger and accusation - I'm bound **to be late**!*], **NORMVERLETZUNG => ÄRGER ('RULE BREAKING => FURY')** (Er: *Du kannst **schreien** solange du willst, ich werde sowieso im Haus **rauchen***) – [He: *You can **shout** as much as you want, I will still be **smoking** in the house*], **STREIT/KONFRONTATION => SCHEIDUNG/TRENNUNG ('QUARREL/CONFRONTATION => DIVORCE/SEPARATION')** (Er: *Ständige **Streitereien** machen mich kaputt, wir brauchen Zeit. Ich kann nicht mehr, ich **ziehe aus**; Ich habe die Nase voll von **Geschrei**, mein nächster Schritt ist **Scheidung***) – [He: *Constant **quarrels** drive me up the wall, we need time. I can not stamd it anymore, **I'm moving**; I'm tired of **screaming**, **divorce** is my next step*], **STREIT/KONFRONTATION => GEWALT ('QUARREL/CONFRONTATION => VIOLENCE')** (Er: *Du blöde Ziege, ich wird dir **den Hals umdrehen**, wenn du so weiter **schreien** wirst!*) – [He: *You're play dumb, **I'll twist your neck** if you continue **to cry**!*], **UNGESUNDE LEBENSWEISE => GEWALT ('UNHEALTHY LIFESTYLE => VIOLENCE')** (Sie: *Du hast alles versaut, du **Alkoholiker**! Ich konnte dich **umbringen**!*) – [She: *You spoiled everything, you are **an alcoholic**! I could **kill** you!*], **ENTFREMDUNG => SCHEIDUNG/TRENNUNG ('ALIENATION => DIVORCE/SEPARATION')** (Sie: *Du bist mir **fremd** geworden, ich **haue ab***) – [She: *You became a **stranger** to me! I'm **leaving you**], **ENTFREMDUNG => BETRUG ('ALIENATION => DECEIT')** (Er: *Wir sind einander **fremd** geworden, da ist **sie** aufgetaucht*) – [He: *We became **strangers** to each other and here **she** appeared*], **HINDERNIS => GEWALT ('OBSTACLE => VIOLENCE')** (Er: *Du hast mir den Weg **gesperrt**, da hatte ich keinen Ausweg. Du hast diesen **Schlag** verdient*) – [He: *You **stood on my way**, I had no way out. You deserve this **blow**!*], **UNGESUNDE**

LEBENSWEISE => HINDERNIS/VERHINDERUNG ('UNHEALTHY LIFESTYLE => OBSTACLE/PREVENTION') (Sie: *Du darfst nicht so viel **rauchen**, du **kriegst** was Schlechtes letztendlich*) – [She: *You shouldn't **smoke** so much, you will **catch** something bad in the end*], **VERSCHWENDUNG => HINDERNIS/VERHINDERUNG ('WASTEFULNESS => OBSTACLE/ PREVENTION')** (Er: *Ich kann nicht mehr diese **Vergeudung** ertragen <…> Du **kriegst kein** Cent mehr!*) – [He: *I can't stand this **wastefulness** <...> You will **not receive a single cent anymore!** <...>*], **BETRUG => SCHEIDUNG/TRENNUNG ('DECEIT => DIVORCE/SEPARATION')** (Sie: *Du hast mich **betrogen**! Nach dem, was du gemacht hast, **scheiden** unsere Wege. Jetzt sehe ich schwarz für unsere Zukunft*) – [She: *You cheated me! After all you have done, our paths **diverge**. Now I do not believe in our future*], **BETRUG => ENTTÄUSCHUNG ('DECEIT => DISAPPOINTMENT')** (Sie: *Mit dieser **Beziehung** hast du mich endgültig **enttäuscht***) – [She: *By these **relationships** you finally **disappointed** me*], **BETRUG => VERACHTUNG ('DECEIT => DISRESPECT')** (Sie: *Ich schätze dich **gering**, nachdem du dich mit dieser **Schlampe** so kompromittiert hast*) – [She: *I **despise** you after you dishonored yourself with this **prostitute***]. Some of them form cause-and-effect chains (for example, **SCHLAMPIGKEIT => NORMVERLETZUNG => STREIT => TRENNUNG ('UNTIDINESS => RULE BREAKING => QUARREL => SEPARATION')),** because they are determined by compatibility in real life. Table 3 below illustrates the most significant concepts in the conceptual space of the CGMCD.

Table 3. Statistical significance of inter-conceptive correlations
in the conceptual space of the CGMCD

The most significant concepts	UNDANKBARKEIT ('UNGRATEFULNESS')	SCHLAMPIGKEIT ('UNTIDINESS')	UNPÜNKTLICHKEIT ('LACK OF PUNCTUALITY')	VERSCHWENDUNG ('WASTEFULNESS')	UNZUVERLÄSSIGKEIT ('UNRELIABILITY')	UNZUFRIEDENHEIT ('DISSATISFACTION')	GEWALT ('VIOLENCE')	VERNICHTUNG ('DESTRUCTION')	TERMIN ('MEETING')	STRESS ('STRESS')	PENDELN ('SWING')	NORMVERLETZUNG ('RULE BREAKING')	SCHEIDUNG ('DIVORCE')	UNORDNUNG/CHAOS ('MESS/CHAOS')	UNGESUNDE LEBENSWEISE ('UNHEALTHY LIFESTYLE')	EIGENTUM ('PROPERTY')	STREIT/KONFRONTATION ('QUARREL/CONFRONTATION')	HINDERNIS ('OBSTACLE')	ENTFREMDUNG ('ALIENATION')	PARTNER ('PARTNER')	VERWANDTE ('RELATIVES')	BETRUG ('DECEIT')	ENTTÄUSCHUNG ('DISAPPOINTMENT')	VERLUST ('LOSS')	ÄRGER/HASS ('FURY/HATRED')	VERACHTUNG ('DISRESPECT')	SCHULD ('FAULT')
UNDANKBARKEIT ('UNGRATEFULNESS')												0,97															
SCHLAMPIGKEIT ('UNTIDINESS')												0,96														0,86	
UNPÜNKTLICHKEIT ('LACK OF PUNCTUALITY')											0,91	0,99															
VERSCHWENDUNG ('WASTEFULNESS')												0,89						0,76								0,93	
UNZUVERLÄSSIGKEIT ('UNRELIABILITY')																											
UNZUFRIEDENHEIT ('DISSATISFACTION')																				0,67	0,87						
GEWALT ('VIOLENCE')													0,98		0,66		0,69	0,93	0,97							0,89	
VERNICHTUNG ('DESTRUCTION')																											
TERMIN ('MEETING')																											
STRESS ('STRESS')											0,94																
PENDELN ('SWING')																											
NORMVERLETZUNG ('RULE BREAKING')													0,56		0,90					0,91					0,87		
SCHEIDUNG ('DIVORCE')														0,98		0,84					0,79						
UNORDNUNG/CHAOS ('MESS/CHAOS')																											
UNGESUNDE LEBENSWEISE ('UNHEALTHY LIFESTYLE')																											
EIGENTUM ('PROPERTY')																											
STREIT/KONFRONTATION ('QUARREL/CONFRONTATION')																							0.93				
HINDERNIS ('OBSTACLE')																											
ENTFREMDUNG ('ALIENATION')																				0,90	0,99						
PARTNER ('PARTNER')																											0,84
VERWANDTE ('RELATIVES')																											
BETRUG ('DECEIT')																							0,96				
ENTTÄUSCHUNG ('DISAPPOINTMENT')																										0,69	
VERLUST ('LOSS')																											
ÄRGER/HASS ('FURY/HATRED')																											
VERACHTUNG ('DISRESPECT')																											
SCHULD ('FAULT')																											

df=25   P=0,01   r=0,49

Statistically significant pairs of concepts illustrate the fact that modern Germans attach great importance to disapproval of unhealthy lifestyle and violation of standards and, in turn, tend to be confrontational when the issues are brought up; they consider divorce to

be the logical consequence of alienation and disagreements and view rage as a normal response to violation of standards. Betrayal or cheating can usually evoke disappointment and contempt leading to divorce. Obstruction and confrontation can result in violence.

The statistical analysis testifies to the abstraction, absence of intersections of the domain **"professional activity"** with other ones, except **"character traits"**, where dependence between punctuality and the professional success is recorded. The domain **"character traits"** has no statistically significant intersections with the domain **"physical activity"** that indicates lack of apparent connections between certain features of character and relevant confrontation development of situation of a communicant's physical action, or understanding unconventionality of any violence.

Consequently, it can be assumed that some particular domains and their components of a similar status demonstrate the coordination relations: **KARRIEREFRAU ↔ KINDER ('CAREER WOMAN ↔ CHILDREN')** (Sie: *Nur wenn ich mich als **Frau gegen** ein **Kind** entscheide, dann bin ich **unnormal***?!) – [She: *If I am a **woman who is against a child**, does it mean that I am **abnormal**?*], **ZUSAMMENLEBEN ↔ STRESS ('COHABITATION ↔ STRESS')** (Er: *Innerhalb weniger Jahre haben wir **alles** auf einmal **vollstressig hingekriegt**: sich beruflich etabliert, einen Haushalt aufgebaut, die Kinder erzogen, für die Rente versorgt*) – [He: *For several years we **have been dealing with everything in entire stress**: carrying about career, starting a household, bringing up children, taking care of retirement*].

As we can observe, the issues of choosing between carving out a career and having children as well as opting for the stress of living together as a family are still topical.

Summarizing the above mentioned dependencies, in can be assumed that context integrators, outlining the CGMCD general background, state significance of breaking social norms, conventions and values, presence of negative feelings and emotions concerning the partner and other family members for family confrontation (see Fig. 1). In

other words, couple confrontation arises on the basis of breaking social norms by the partner (38%), causes negative sensations and emotions (33%), creates a conflict family atmosphere (9%), and destroys personal comfort (5%).
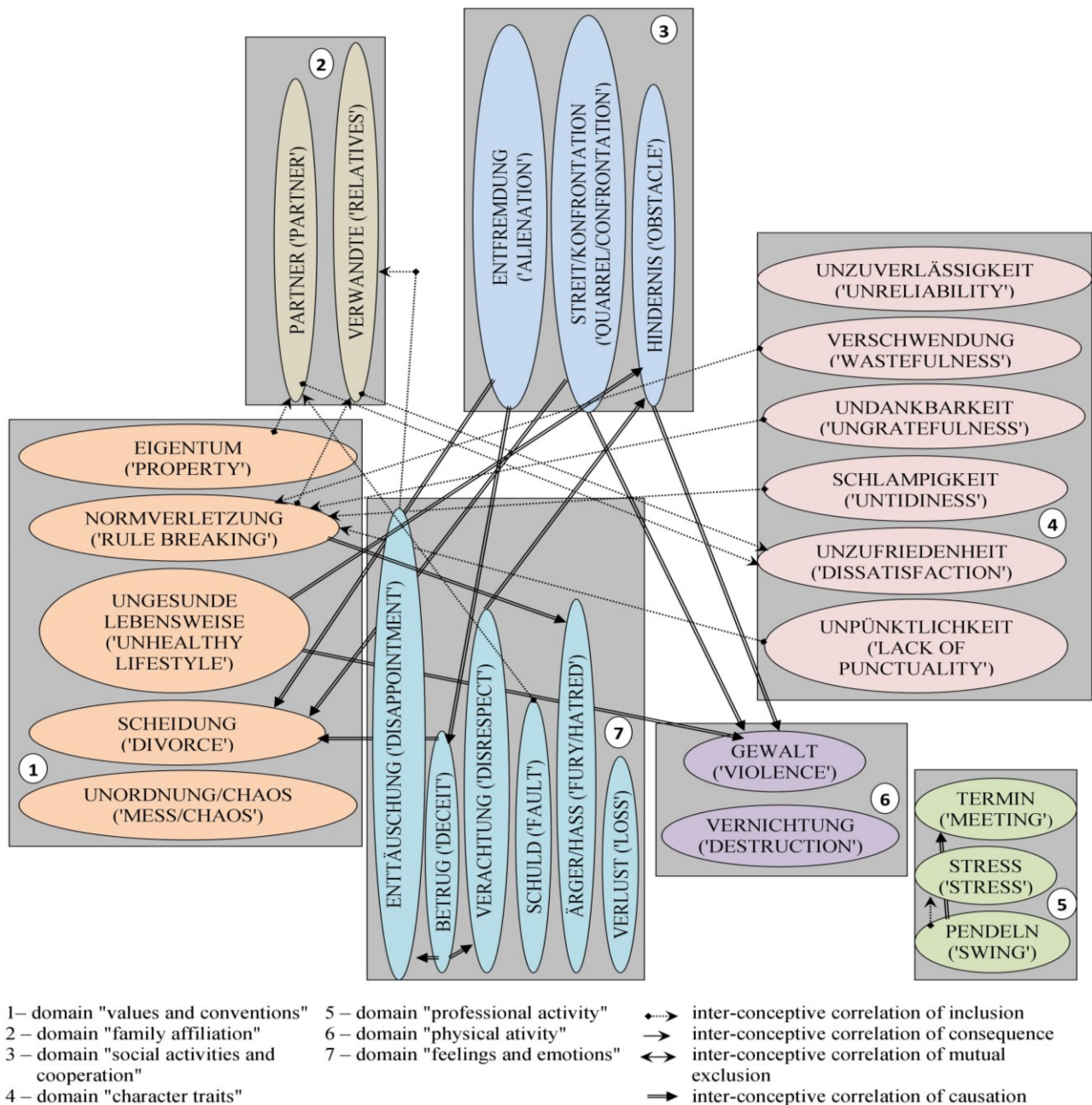

Figure 1. Cognitive mapping of CGMCD

Integrator-problems (ingratitude, inaccuracy, lack of punctuality, wastefulness, bad habits, irresponsibility concerning other family members, estrangement, hostility, dissatisfaction with the partner, contempt, disappointment caused by his/her faults,

adultery; dissatisfaction with other members of families) state stereotypical grounds for CGMCD. Integrator-reasons – preventing improper actions and inadequate behaviour of the partner, showing negative reactions to uncoordinated actions (expenditures, deeds, speech acts), resistance to violence and, as a result, estrangement, dissatisfaction, intention to divorce, and emotional experience – cause development and escalation of conflict.

Within them the strategic intragroup (sensual indifference, subjective blocks on the way to communicative balance restoration), tactical (unacceptability of the procedures of intentions realization, style and modus of the partner's communication), subjective out-of-group (outer influence of a human factor on the atmosphere in the family and family members personalities), and objective social (unfavourable social factors – economic crises as transformation of the strategies of development) are differentiated. It should be noted that simultaneous possession of assets and financial resources by the speakers with the Ehemann/Partner ('man/partner') or Ehefrau/Partnerin ('woman/partner') status does not gain the status of an integrator-problem due to the legally established principle of family property. These conclusions are based on the fact that although VERMÖGEN is an autochthon and couples put a premium on property rights, it is never used in combination with the autochthons related to the domains of "physical action" or "social activity". Thus, a spouse does not express any desire to change something in a current state of affairs.

Correspondingly, the CGMCD demonstrates a set of rational integrator-solutions, which, as a rule, presuppose both "dividends" and "expenditures" of each party: the work or dwelling change with more advantages (within the intra-family objective); innovations implementation, reforms of relationships in the aspect of the sensual and the household or its imitation due to diplomatic and milder speech acts, change of image, self-development as the means to rise one's own competitiveness (within the intra-family subjective) making, support or activation of relations with other relatives, search and attraction of the associates to one's way (within out-of-family subjective

integrators-solutions). Pressure and sanctions on the partner, which, due to convention of respect to the personality and consideration of his/her opinion, cause, as a rule, only escalation and deepening of a conflict, are typical for CGMCD.

In case of inability to reach a state of global or temporary consensus, the entire CGMCD space will be subject to a global transformation, since integrator-solutions will turn out irrelevant as well as the context integrators.

4. Conclusions

The research performed enables to assert that the CGMCD cognitive system is an indispensable part of individual cognitive space of a human being – a complex hierarchically structured self-regulating system of formation and development of human experience. The main conceptual constants of its varieties, determined by its strategic-role divergence (CGMCD being one of them), are segments of a specific concept system. Including the structure of thinking of the married group members in the confrontation situation on the basis of texts produced by them, we tried to identify the elements integrating the CGMCD in the structures of thinking – concepts-autochthons that create a matrix, a framework, affect the process of linear strategic development. CGMCD autochthons, like cores of a cognitive map, indicate apparent spheres of harmonious instability of a German couple primarily sensual (ingratitude, inaccuracy, lack of punctuality, unreliability, wastefulness, adultery), as well as professionally determined (stress, getting to work), and social (breaking the norms) ones, which may result in disappointment, contempt, hostility, and violence.

Cognitive maps are complemented with 30 significant autochthon configurations, fixing certain marital-relevant dependencies in consciousness of a representative of the German ethnospace. Schematically represented in the cognitive maps, they are reflected in the integrators – relevant prototypic presuppositions being cognitive factors of communicative activity. Integrators of the CGMCD confirm that confrontation within a married couple arises on the basis of breaking norms by the partner causes

negative personal feelings and emotions, brings about general conflict family atmosphere, destroying personal comforts.

The prospects of further research in this regard may be associated with an in-depth analysis of elements and structure of the conceptual space of both the varieties of FD and other discursive practices based on the proposed methodology, in comparative linguocultural dimension, in particular.

Abbreviations

CGMCD – Contemporary German matrimonial confrontational discourse

FD – Family discourse

MCD – Matrimonial confrontational discourse

MD – Matrimonial discourse

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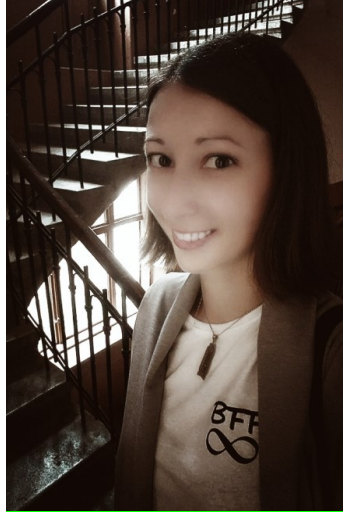
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Résumé

The notion of collective cognitive space of modern German lessons is in the focus of the study. The goal is to objectively establish its constants and structure that are relevant to the matrimonial confrontational discourse (MCD). The method of cognitive mapping is used: it allows us to observe complete mental representation of the MCD in a statistically verified conceptual structure and in the system of correlations between

its elements. We performed the following procedures: a) inventory of the text of the MCD, fixation and grouping to the semantic fields (domains) of the concepts' objective items; b) installation through linguistic statistic methods of significant domains, concepts of autochthons and their pairs; c) distribution of pairs by logical semantic analysis on the correlation of subordination, testing, causation and mutual exclusion; d) reproduction in the cognitive map of the MCD of the established nomenclature of concepts and their correlations. It is stated that the collective cognitive space of the modern German matrimonial pair involves 123 concepts, 27 of which are autochthons that form 30 significant interconceptual connections. They certify that knowledge of mental and physical activity, features of the character, feelings and emotions, family relationship, social values and affiliations, social and professional activities is relevant for the MCD. The obvious spheres of harmonious instability of German couples are violations of norms, destructive habits, and divorce. Self-realization and major rights of clients are particularly important. In common life, it is not likely to perceive and convince confidentiality of inaccuracy, non-sincerity, non-punctuality, mismanagement, bad habits, irresponsibility towards other members of a family; alienation, loyalty, dissatisfaction of partner, neglect, disappointment, clashes with one's interests, treason. The most significant basis of the couple's conflict considered to be evil, betrayal, contempt, annoyance, loss.

Key words: discourse practice, family discourse, matrimonial discourse, confrontational communication, conceptual system, cognitive space, collective cognitive space, linguoquantitative method.