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Original Research

Identifying the Factors Influencing Lifestyle on Law Evasion Among Citizens (Noor County)

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The aim of this study is to identify the impact of lifestyle on law evasion among citizens in Noor County. The research method is descriptive and survey-based, falling under quantitative research, and it is applied in terms of its objectives. The statistical population of the study consists of 384 citizens from Noor County. Data collection was conducted through researcher-made questionnaires. Cronbach's alpha test was used to determine reliability, and the GFI test was employed to assess validity. Additionally, PLS software was used to test the research hypotheses. The results of the study indicate that lifestyle, through components such as individual factors, economic capital, economic and social status, cultural consumption, and social factors, influences the dimensions of law evasion, including political factors, legal factors, managerial factors, cultural factors, social factors, economic factors, and structural and external factors. Based on the results, it is recommended that lifestyle regulation be described as a political or social phenomenon to somewhat influence individual behavior.

Keywords: Lifestyle, Law Evasion, Social Factors, Citizens, Noor.

1. Introduction

Lifestyle is considered one of the crucial aspects of human life. The lifestyle one adopts is dependent on the perspective that an individual chooses based on a theoretical framework and applies in life (Karami & Mokhtari, 2011). A correct lifestyle constitutes the essence of a virtuous life, and this virtuous life is manifested in the material and spiritual achievements of human society in the form of lifestyle (Mir & Bazgir, 2022). Lifestyle is a unique pattern of characteristics, behaviors, and habits that each individual exhibits, and it is regarded as an indicator of physical health (Mohammadi Bigi et al., 2016).

Law evasion is a type of orientation towards the legal norms of society, leading to deviance or deviation from laws. In all societies, law evasion exists as a social issue. A comparison of social behaviors among different nations reveals that this phenomenon is severe in some nations and mild in others. In some societies, certain laws are so deeply ingrained in the habits and behaviors of people that violating or evading them is considered astonishing and foolish, while in other societies, strict adherence to the same set of laws is seen as futile and tedious (Hadian & Hadian, 2017).

Law evasion is synonymous with disorderliness, characterized by an individual's dissatisfaction with their rights, encroachment on the rights of others, failure to fulfill obligations, evasion of responsibility, and achieving goals by any means possible (Elmi, 2005). Various factors may influence individuals' adherence to or evasion of legal norms in society (Mirferdi & Faraji, 2016). The strength and cohesion of any society depend on attention to and adherence to laws, and law-abiding behavior in society signifies the acceptance of the logic of law. Law and lawfulness must be considered among the most essential and fundamental elements for constructing a framework as a lifestyle in modern human civilization. Moreover, the durability and stability of any society depend on its social order, which will not be achieved unless the defined norms and laws of society are respected by individuals. Whenever a group disregards the norms and official laws of a society, law evasion occurs, and to explain the reasons for law evasion, like any other social phenomenon, it must be examined from different perspectives. Given that law evasion is one of the biggest challenges to lifestyle, social order, and security (Pirayesh et al., 2015).

Lifestyle is influenced by various factors in society and is related to cultural and social factors. However, it should be noted that adherence to social laws and regulations has a significant impact, and it can be said that justice and the expansion of justice in society are social demands. Social order in any society is of great importance, as the survival of any society depends on maintaining its social order, and the defined norms of society must be respected by individuals. Whenever a group disregards the official norms of a society, law evasion occurs. When a large number of people in a society ignore the laws, law evasion becomes a social issue. Individuals' lifestyle impacts their level of acceptance of or evasion from the law. According to international statistics and domestic research, the level of law-abiding behavior in Iran is low. The country's officials also acknowledge that the extent of law evasion is excessive and consider it a significant problem. Law evasion is one of the social dilemmas that negatively affects the lives of individuals in society and disrupts social order. Individuals' lifestyle is derived from the culture of that society. Therefore, improving the living conditions of individuals is necessary, and the main objective of this article is to determine the impact of lifestyle on law evasion among citizens. Based on this,

the research question posed is: What is the impact of lifestyle on law evasion?

2. Literature Review

Various studies have been conducted on law evasion. Hamidi and colleagues (2023) in an article titled "A Sociological Study of the Relationship Between Family Social Support and Law Evasion Among Citizens Aged 18-30 in Sari" showed a negative and significant correlation between family social support, family experiences, perceptions from family, emotions from family, and law evasion among citizens aged 18 to 30 in Sari. The regression results showed that family experiences, with the highest beta value, were the best predictor of law evasion among citizens aged 18 to 30 in Sari. Additionally, the findings indicated a significant difference in the level of family social support and law evasion among citizens aged 18 to 30 in Sari (Hamidi et al., 2023).

Sarafraz and colleagues (2023), in an article titled "A Sociological Analysis of the Relationship Between Music Consumption and Law Evasion; Case Study: Youth Aged 18-35 in Bandar Abbas," demonstrated that the highest tendency is towards consuming popular music styles (traditional, folk, and pop). Inferential findings indicated a positive relationship between cultural capital and peer groups with the level of music consumption. There is an inverse statistical relationship between religiosity and the level of music consumption. According to the results, peer groups did not influence the music consumption styles of youth; however, there is an inverse relationship between religiosity and elite music style. The results also indicated a relationship between cultural capital and popular and elite music styles. Based on the research results, it can be said that the level and style of music consumption did not show any impact on the level of law evasion (Sarafraz et al., 2023).

Mir and Bazgir (2022) conducted a study titled "Identifying and Explaining a Model to Improve the Lifestyle of Public Sector Managers." The research is applied in terms of its objective and descriptive and qualitative in terms of its method. The results, considering causal conditions, intervening factors, contexts, the central phenomenon, and strategies, showed that attention to the lifestyle of managers in individual, organizational, and social dimensions, through strategies of education, culture-building, and

precise supervision, leads to outcomes such as worldly and divine rewards. Improving people's living conditions, societal health, reducing people's life problems, and divine proximity for public sector managers are among the other benefits of paying attention to managers' lifestyles to achieve the goals of a virtuous and true life (Mir & Bazgir, 2022).

Parchami and colleagues (2020) conducted a study on social lifestyle and its influencing factors (Case Study: Tehran). The research method was a survey, and data collection was done using a questionnaire. The results of the study show that among the components of social lifestyle, the performance of civic duties had the highest and social trust the lowest value among respondents. Also, social lifestyle is influenced by various factors such as gender, age, social class, religious adherence, and media use, which differ in each of its components (Parchami & Derakhshan, 2020).

Mirfardi and Faraji (2016) examined the level of law evasion and its relationship with social participation and social control. The research used a survey method and was conducted on residents aged 18-45 in Yasuj. Using Lin's table and stratified random sampling, 381 individuals were selected as the sample. Data collection was done using a researcher-made questionnaire, and to determine its validity, construct validity using factor analysis and internal consistency using Cronbach's alpha were employed. The research results showed an inverse and significant relationship between social participation and law evasion, while no significant relationship was found between social control and the dependent variable. A significant relationship exists between media use and law evasion. Additionally, men and single individuals had a higher tendency towards law evasion compared to women and married individuals. Overall, the research variables explained 23.4% of the variance in the dependent variable (Mirferdi & Faraji, 2016).

Babaie Fard and colleagues (2015) examined some factors affecting students' lifestyle. A social survey method was used. The statistical population consisted of students enrolled at Payame Noor University in Aran and Bidgol during the 2011-2012 academic year, of which 250 were selected as the sample using Cochran's formula. The results show a significant relationship between leisure activities, universalism, socio-economic status, and openness to new experiences with lifestyle. Additionally, the results of multivariate analysis and path analysis indicate the direct influence of leisure activities and socio-economic status on the lifestyle variable (Babaei Fard et al., 2015).

Nazari Lemer and colleagues (2014) investigated the social factors affecting the lifestyle of youth (Case Study: Talesh). The method used was a survey, and the desired data was obtained using a questionnaire, which was administered to 100 young people aged 18-29 living in the upper and lower parts of Talesh city. The results show a significant relationship between social class, age, gender, income, and education with youth lifestyle, but no significant relationship was found between marital status and lifestyle (Nazari Lemer et al., 2014).

Pirayesh and colleagues (2015) conducted a study on law evasion as a major challenge to lifestyle, order, and security. Whenever a group disregards the norms and official laws of a society, law evasion occurs, and to explain the reasons for law evasion, like any other social phenomenon, it must be examined from different perspectives. Given that law evasion is one of the biggest challenges to lifestyle, social order, and security, the aim is to review and identify the causes and directions of law evasion using existing books and articles (Pirayesh et al., 2015).

Jamadi and colleagues (2015) examined the causes of law evasion in Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad Province. The study, conducted using a survey method, selected 139 individuals through stratified random sampling, and a researcher-made questionnaire was completed by them. The data were analyzed using Spearman and Pearson correlation methods. The findings indicate no significant relationship between education level and law evasion, but a significant relationship exists between the type of occupation and law evasion, with non-governmental jobs showing higher levels of law evasion. Additionally, feelings of social alienation and experiences with rewards and punishments also have a relationship with law evasion (Jamadi et al., 2015).

Chenani and colleagues (2015) examined the causes and factors of law evasion in Iran. This study used a library research method to examine the factors influencing law evasion, such as contextual, social, cultural, economic, political, and religious factors (Chenani et al., 2015).

Zare and Fallah (2012) examined the lifestyle of youth in Tehran and the factors influencing its formation. Cluster sampling was used, and the sample size, estimated using Cochran's formula, was 400 people. According to

Pearson's correlation coefficient, a positive and significant relationship exists between social and cultural capital and different types of lifestyles. This significant relationship also confirms the relationship between economic capital and functionalist, hedonistic, and passive lifestyles. Using stepwise regression, the order of the variables' effects is as follows: economic capital, social capital, and cultural capital. Notably, economic capital plays a more significant role than other variables. The adjusted correlation coefficient of the three variables of economic, social, and cultural capital explains 19% of the variance in the dependent variable (Zare & Fallah, 2012).

Pratt (2016) presented the theory of "Life-Course Self-Control and Criminal Behavior." In this article, he attempts to link seemingly contradictory theories about criminal behavior by suggesting that: (a) self-control is seen as a dynamic process subject to considerable situational changes over time, and (b) self-control is viewed as a significant cause for choosing various important life events (positive and negative), which, in turn, affect the deviant and norm-violating individual (Pratt, 2016).

Zoutewelle-Terovan and colleagues (2014) examined family formation and criminal behavior in an article. In this study, the effects of family formation on the criminal behavior of 540 men and women with criminal and high-risk behaviors in the Netherlands were studied. Data analysis on men showed that marriage causes them to avoid serious crimes. Men also distance themselves from crimes more with fatherhood and having their first child. Families with complete cohesion avoid crimes more. Women with criminal behavioral patterns are not significantly influenced by marital status and motherhood to avoid criminal behaviors (Zoutewelle-Terovan et al., 2014).

Joanna and colleagues (2012), in a study, concluded that the lifestyle of rural youth differs from that of urban youth in terms of nutrition and physical activity, with rural youth being healthier than urban youth (Joanna et al., 2012). Fawole (2009) also examined the lifestyle of rural women and found that most of the rural women studied were single, middle-aged, had medium-sized families, low education, and low income. Additionally, it was shown that the choices and preferences of rural women differ in different areas (Fawole, 2009).

3. Methods and Materials

The research method used in this study is descriptive, and the objective is applied. To collect data, a systematic literature review technique was used to extract indicators from theoretical foundations, followed by a researcher-made questionnaire based on the Lawshe and Likert scales. After completing the three-stage Delphi survey, a conceptual model was extracted, and finally, with expert consultation, the indicators were placed in six predefined dimensions based on theoretical foundations in the form of lifestyle and law evasion dimensions. This model includes two main components: five lifestyle variables and seven law evasion variables, with 15 sub-variables for lifestyle and 36 sub-variables for law evasion. The researcher-made questionnaire, with standard components and a 1-5 Likert scale, was used for measurement. The research variables include two main and sub-variables. The independent variables (lifestyle) consist of (individual factors, economic capital, economic and social status, cultural consumption, social factors) and the dependent variables (political factors, legal factors, managerial factors, cultural factors, social factors, economic factors, structural and external factors). The research population and sample include university experts with a master's degree or higher and with over twenty years of work experience, as well as managerial experts with a master's degree or higher. A total of 25 people were considered as the sample. Reliability and validity in the present study were assessed using Cronbach's alpha, composite reliability, and Lawshe's method, and the average variance extracted (AVE) index was used to evaluate convergent validity. The SLR (systematic literature review) technique was used to determine validity. Statistical analysis techniques in this study included the SLR technique, structural equation modeling to determine relationships between variables and model comprehensiveness using PLS software, Cronbach's alpha test for reliability, and GFI test for validity.

4. Findings and Results

After collecting data using the systematic literature review (SLR) technique through the study of library sources and articles related to the topic, 81 indicators and 12 factors were identified as influencing lifestyle on law evasion. After eliminating duplicate factors, the

number of indicators was ultimately reduced to 55. All indicators were then subjected to expert review, and a Delphi method based on a researcher-made questionnaire was used to refine and select the indicators. Therefore, a questionnaire based on indicators derived from the theoretical foundations was prepared and distributed among experts. The results of each selection stage were redistributed among the experts, and this process was repeated three times to achieve sufficient comprehensiveness, as explained in the following research process.
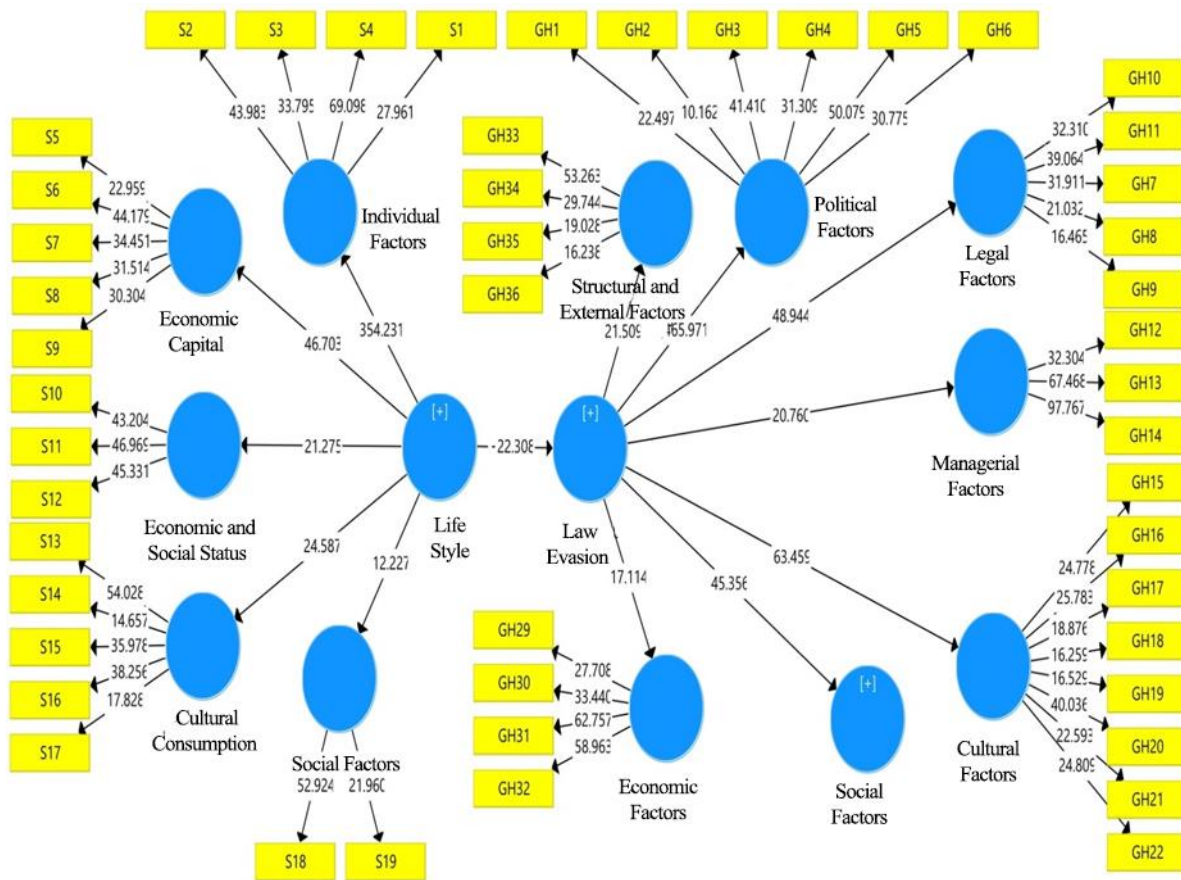
To determine the dimensions, through theoretical foundations and consultation with experts and professors, five dimensions of lifestyle and seven dimensions of law evasion were considered as the main dimensions. Initially, 220 indicators were identified through library studies and related books and articles.

After eliminating closely related and overlapping items, 81 indicators remained.

Through three rounds of Delphi, the number of indicators was reduced from approximately 81 to 55 final indicators. Subsequently, in the fourth round, with expert consultation, these 55 indicators were categorized into seven main dimensions of law evasion and five dimensions of lifestyle. The 12 components mentioned earlier in the literature review were defined in this stage, and the existing indicators in each dimension were clustered or grouped through exploratory factor analysis (EFA) to act as components. In the final stage, the researcher, considering the previous stages, focused on strengthening the concepts and components, which eventually resulted in five main lifestyle variables, seven main law evasion variables, and 55 sub-variables.

Figure 1

Structural Model of the Research in the Significance Coefficients Mode

In the structural model stage, considering the 12 main variables and 55 sub-variables extracted from the literature review, the structural equation model illustrating the impact of lifestyle on law evasion was presented as follows.

Figure 1 shows the significance coefficients, which must be greater than 1.96 for the relationships between variables to be significant at the 0.05 error level. The figure above represents the research model test (in the significance coefficients mode). This test allows us to determine the significance of the relationships between the research variables. In this mode, relationships will only be significant if the number on the relationship arrows falls outside the range of -1.96 to 1.96. This means that if the number falls within the range of -1.96 to 1.96, the relationship is meaningless, and consequently, the path coefficient for that relationship will also be meaningless. As shown in Figure 1, the T-values are greater than 1.96, indicating that all path coefficients in Figure 2 are significant at the 0.05 error level.

Figure 2

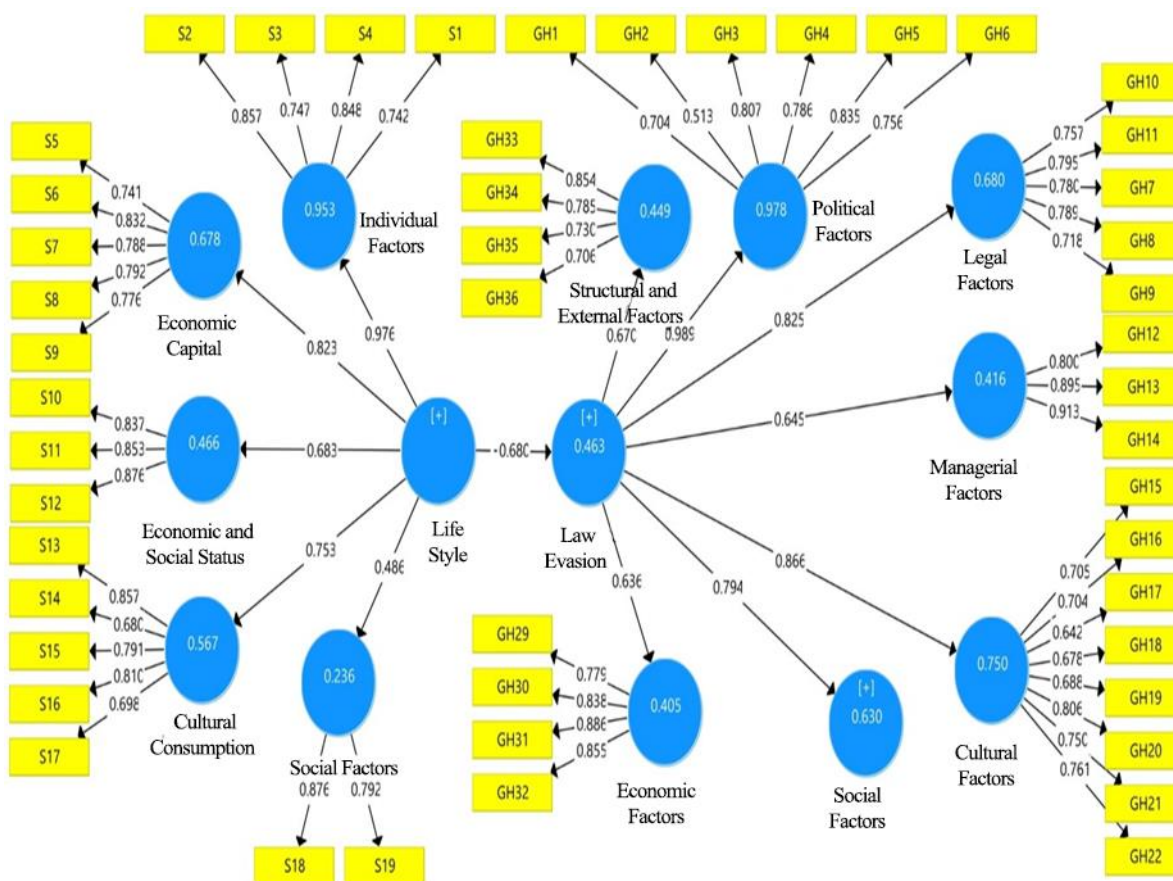*Structural Model of the Research in the Standard Path Coefficients Mode*

Figure 2 shows the research model in the standard estimation mode. In Figure 2, the standard path coefficients are shown, which fall within the range of -1 to 1, indicating the strength of the relationship between the variables. The threshold for appropriate path coefficients is 0.4. In the above diagram, the absolute values of the path coefficients are greater than 0.4, indicating that this criterion is appropriate. The numbers observed on the arrows in the figure are path coefficients, which indicate the strength and direction of the relationship between variables. The larger the path coefficient number, the stronger the relationship between the independent variable and the dependent variable. Therefore, it can be stated that if the path coefficient is positive, the relationship between the independent and dependent variables is direct, and with

an increase in the independent variable, the dependent variable also increases. Conversely, if the path coefficient is negative, the relationship between the independent and dependent variables is inverse, and with an increase in the independent variable, the dependent variable decreases. As mentioned earlier, the standard

coefficients test only examines the strength and direction of the relationship between the independent and dependent variables, and it does not assess the significance of the relationship. This is addressed in the significance coefficients test in the next section.

Table 1

Test of the Relationship Between Independent Variables and Law Evasion

Path	Significance Coefficient (T-value)	Path Coefficient	Result
Individual Factors → Law Evasion	0.973	354.231	Significant
Social Factors → Law Evasion	0.483	12.227	Significant
Cultural Consumption → Law Evasion	0.753	24.587	Significant
Economic Capital → Law Evasion	0.823	46.403	Significant
Economic and Social Status → Law Evasion	0.683	21.275	Significant

As shown in Table 1, the significance coefficients for the paths (Individual Factors, Social Factors, Cultural Consumption, Economic Capital, and Economic and Social Status) towards Law Evasion are greater than 1.96. Therefore, all paths are significant at the 0.05 error level. Additionally, the path coefficients for (Individual Factors → Law Evasion) 0.973, (Social Factors → Law Evasion) 0.483, (Cultural Consumption → Law Evasion) 0.753, (Economic Capital → Law Evasion) 0.823, and (Economic and Social Status → Law Evasion) 0.683 are observed. The highest path coefficient is related to the path (Individual Factors → Law Evasion), and the lowest path coefficient is related to the path (Social Factors → Law Evasion). This indicates that the Individual Factors dimension has the greatest impact on law evasion, while the Social Factors dimension has the least impact on law evasion.

5. Discussion and Conclusion

This research was conducted to present a comprehensive native model of the impact of lifestyle on law evasion among citizens (Noor County). The findings of this study identified that (Individual Factors, Social Factors, Cultural Consumption, Economic Capital, Economic and Social Status) were significant influences. Individual factors, through (marital status, social class, age, gender), social factors, through (employment status, parents' education), cultural consumption through (use of television, magazines, radio, internet and computers, newspapers), economic capital through (residential property, car, other properties), and economic and social

status through (income, occupation, education) affect law evasion.

The results of the present study are consistent with those of Jamadi et al. (2015), who found a significant relationship between the type of occupation and law evasion. The findings also align with Dehghani et al. (2015), who discovered a relationship between lifestyle and the culture of law observance (Jamadi et al., 2015). Similarly, Maleki et al. (2015) found a relationship between legislation, law evasion, and lifestyle. Pirayesh et al. (2015) also found a relationship between lifestyle and law, order, and security (Maleki et al., 2015). Danayi Fard et al. (2009) indicated that political, economic, legal, managerial, and socio-cultural factors influence law evasion in society (Danayi Fard et al., 2009). The findings also align with Dehghani Qanatestani (2018), who found a significant relationship between demographic variables such as age, marital status, and employment status with law evasion (Dehghani Qanatestani, 2018). Mirzayi et al. (2018) examined the impact of socio-cultural factors on law evasion and found that social and cultural factors affect law evasion (Mirzaei et al., 2018). Moreover, Chenani (2015) studied the causes and factors of law evasion in Iran and found that social, cultural, economic, political, and religious factors influence law evasion (Chenani et al., 2015).

Lifestyle and individual behavior in society are derived from certain factors that can influence our behaviors to some extent. Law evasion is not a phenomenon that can be easily overlooked; several factors impact our social behaviors, including law evasion. Among these factors

are individual factors, which include the unique characteristics of individuals in society, such as gender and marital status. The culture of the family and social class in which individuals have lived significantly impact citizens' social behaviors, including (law observance/law evasion). Therefore, it is recommended that relevant organizations and institutions focus on addressing the public's problems and providing opportunities for everyone to access appropriate public services; consider plans to address youth issues.

Another lifestyle factor influencing law evasion is social factors, including employment status and having suitable jobs for individuals in society. Unemployment is one of the fundamental problems in societies, particularly among young people, and neglecting it can cause serious harm to families and communities. Additionally, parents' education and their attitudes and interactions with young people can influence their attitudes towards the law. Therefore, it is recommended that society's stakeholders take positive steps to address economic problems such as unemployment and housing.

Another lifestyle dimension is cultural consumption, which includes aspects such as (use of television, magazines, radio, internet and computers, newspapers), and can impact legal behavior, law observance, and law evasion. To encourage people to follow certain laws in society, appropriate cultural foundations must be established to foster acceptance. Therefore, it is recommended to promote cultural development and extend common and mutual understanding of cultural and social symbols, such as laws and legal rules in society, in a wise and acceptable manner for everyone to strengthen positive feelings of commitment to legal norms.

Economic capital, through aspects such as (residential property, car, other properties), influences individuals' law evasion. It is recommended that society's stakeholders and institutions consider respect, impartiality in law enforcement, and justice in law implementation when enforcing the law. Plans to increase mental health in society, prevent the normalization of law-breaking, and focus on these issues are also recommended.

Authors' Contributions

Authors contributed equally to this article.

Declaration

Transparency Statement

Data are available for research purposes upon reasonable request to the corresponding author.

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Declaration of Interest

The authors report no conflict of interest.

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Ethical Considerations

In this research, ethical standards including obtaining informed consent, ensuring privacy and confidentiality were observed.

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