



## Comparative Psychological Studies in Sierra Leonean Contexts,

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### Abstract

Comparative psychological studies have been conducted in various African regions to understand cultural, social, and community dynamics. Sierra Leonean contexts provide a unique lens for examining these phenomena due to their rich history of colonialism and post-independence development. Qualitative methods were employed, including semi-structured interviews with participants from urban and rural areas, focus group discussions, and document analysis of existing psychological research on Sierra Leone. Data was triangulated to enhance validity and reliability. A significant finding revealed that despite economic disparities, there is a shared sense of community resilience across different regions, particularly evident in coping mechanisms during natural disasters. The qualitative data supports the hypothesis that social cohesion acts as a protective factor against psychological distress in Sierra Leonean communities. Future research should explore these findings further to inform policy and practice. Policy makers should prioritise community-based interventions to enhance resilience, especially in areas with high levels of socio-economic inequality. Community leaders are encouraged to foster intergenerational dialogue to promote understanding and cooperation. Sierra Leone, comparative psychology, resilience, social cohesion, qualitative research

**Keywords:** *Cultural assimilation, Ethnicity, Identity formation, Migration studies, Social stratification, Community psychology, Qualitative methodology*

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