ORAL COMMUNICATION:

EMOTIONAL UNCERTAINTY MEDIATES THE EFFECTS OF (SUBJECTIVE) SOCIAL CLASS ON SUBJECTIVE WELL-BEING AND PERCEIVED HEALTH

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ABSTRACT. Despite the fact that the association of social class membership and people's well-being has been studied extensively, the potential explanative variables are poorly known. Building on empirical evidence suggesting that lower class individuals' live in social environments characterized by the presence of more stressors, we propose that emotional uncertainty, that is, the feeling of anxiety experienced in the face of uncertain events, may be a possible explanative variable. Hence, the current research (N = 365; M_{age} = 38.53; SD_{age} = 13.96), in addition to analyzing the relationship between (objective and subjective) social class and various subjective well-being and health indicators, is also intended to test the potential mediating role of emotional uncertainty. Our results showed that only perceived social class rank was positively and significantly related to subjective well-being and perceived health. Additionally, we also found that the association between subjective social class and subjective well-being/perceived health was mediated by emotional uncertainty. In summary, this research replicates previous results and contributes to expanding the literature about social class and wellbeing by improving the understanding of the psychological mechanisms involved in such relationship.

KEYWORDS: Objective social class; subjective social class; subjective well-being; perceived health; emotional uncertainty.

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