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OPEN PEER REVIEW

Development and Psychometrics of the Successful Marriage Factors Questionnaire in Youth

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1 Original submission

2 comments · 27 Mar 2020 – 10 Apr 2020

Elahe Khaksar Reviewer

MINOR REVISION 27 Mar 2020

1. Include explanations related to KMO in the methods section.
2. Explain more clearly how the cut off was calculated.

Associate Editor

MINOR REVISION 10 Apr 2020

Dear Authors

Please respond point by point to the reviewers' comments and to the comments on the PDF of your manuscript attached as Sucessful married questionnaire.

Thank you

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Revision 1

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

,The Respected Editor-in-Chief of the Journal

,With greetings and respect

and with thanks to the respected reviewers who took the trouble to read the manuscript (code 102084), the requested changes have been made; they are :presented below in order

:Items requested by the respected first reviewer -١

.The KMO explanations were moved to the Methods section -

Regarding the second request, we contacted the instrument- -
development consultant, whose opinion was that it is better to report the final score of the instrument as a percentage; this is presented below with a :reference and has been corrected

Finally successful marriage factors questionnaire with 62 items was ready. In this

between the highest and lowest raw score of the instrument or a dimension score (46).

Questionnaire maximum and minimum score were 310 and 62 respectively. This score is raw and to express it as percentage, linear transformation method was used.

$$\text{Transformed score} = \frac{\text{Actual raw sore-lowest possible raw score}}{\text{Possible raw score range}} \times 100$$

In this formula, Actual raw sore is the total raw score obtained from the questionnaire or even one dimension, and lowest possible raw score is the lowest raw score of the questionnaire or one dimension, and finally possible raw score range is the difference

Items requested by the respected second reviewer -2

- *In the background section (paragraph 3), the rate of divorce in the first marriage between Iran and the United States is not comparable due to cultural issues. Moreover, it also has nothing to do with the aims of the study.*
  In the background section (paragraph 3), authors should clarify more about the "necessity of marriage at a young age".

Nevertheless, such events as the low rate and rising age of marriage, changes in people's attitudes towards mate selection, misunderstandings between couples, and subsequent increase in divorce are always observed (14).

Increasing age at marriage is one of the most important challenges in Iran, which can be attributed to the rising level of social awareness, public literacy, and expectations, rapid and significant changes in socioeconomic conditions due to development and modernization, the collapse of extended family systems, the substitution of the commercial and industrial economy for the traditional agriculture-based economy, the complexity of the social division of labor, the expansion of public education, and women's greater participation in the economic and social activities outside of the home (15). Although delays in marriage provide a good opportunity for a person to continue his/her education, employment and promotion of social identity but have negative consequences (16).

Increasing age at marriage leads to population imbalance, lower fertility rate, behavioral abnormality, lack of responsibility, increased social harm, loss of opportunity, certain physical and psychological consequences in individuals (15), lower quality of family life (17), lower life satisfaction and greater psychological distress compared to early marriage (18) and greater involvement in high-risk sexual behaviors (16, 19).

On the other hand, it is emphasized on marriage in the first period of youth, which coincides with the completion of education and the transition from the stormy period of adolescence, intellectual and emotional stability, because marriage in this period is associated with flexibility, forgiveness and lower vitality, lower expectations, Less vulnerable, more compatible with the spouse and comfort (20).

Detailed results of the General Population and Housing Census showed an annual reduce in total growth population of Iran from 1.29 in 2006 to 1.24 on 2016 and increase the population over the age of 65 year. Continuation of this situation will increase the elderly and inactive population and reduce the young and active force in the coming years (21).

Therefore, in this situation, it is important to pay special attention to the marriage of young people and its stability and success, considering the changes in marital and cultural values that are effective for mate selection criteria (22, 23).

- *The history of similar questionnaires on successful marriage criteria should be mentioned in the introduction. Also, the importance of creating a new questionnaire compared to existing questionnaires should be added in this section.*

At this stage, the researcher searched for a questionnaire to measure the factors of successful marriage, but all existing Iranian instrument, such as short form of Afrooz questionnaire and non-Iranian tool such as Enrich's questionnaires, measured marital satisfaction (24-27); therefore, this study aimed to develop and psychometrically evaluate of successful marriage factors questionnaire (SMFQ) in Youth after qualitative study entitled "exploring the concept and dimensions of successful marriage from the perspective of Iranian experts and couples was conducted

Material and Method

- *The qualitative part of the study is not well defined. For example, it is not clear how the authors select the examined couples. Also, the method of the interview with these couples and its questions are not clear and should be explained. Their demographic characteristics, such as age, level of education, social class, etc., should also be added*.

. Couples participating in the study were selected based on maximum diversity in terms of age of marriage, duration of marriage, number of children and occupation.

Living in Iran and Iranian nationality and willingness to participate in the study were the inclusion criteria for experts and in both groups of couples and experts, the reluctance to continue participating in the study was considered as exclusion criteria. The data collection method included unstructured in depth interview, observation and field note. All interviews were conducted by the researcher separately and until the saturation of data was continued. The interviews started with the question *"Do you* feel happiness and success in *your married life?"* and what factors in your married life make you feel happy or success? Based on the results, mean age and mean marriage age in men were 42.50 ± 8.51 and 28.59±2.90 and for women were 40.20 ± 7.67 and 26.25 ± 3.89 respectively. Also mean of duration of marriage were 13.95 ± 7.73 and 13.95 ± 7.73 for men and women respectively (30).

.As requested by the respected Editor-in-Chief, the questionnaire has been sent with the manuscript -3

Many thanks

[.*Translated from Persian by the Brieflands editorial office*]

2 Revision 1

1 comment · 15 May 2020

Associate Editor

ACCEPT 15 May 2020

Accepted