Predicting the Tendency Towards Divorce in Couples Involved in Infidelity Based on Marital Intimacy and Satisfaction with the Mediation of Ethical Orientation Styles

Behjat. Darbandi[1] , Hasan. Ahadi[2*] , Javad. Khalatbari[3]

[1] PhD Student, Department of Psychology, UAE Branch, Islamic Azad University, UAE
[2] Professor, Department of Psychology, Karaj Branch, Islamic Azad University, Karaj, Iran
[3] Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, Tonekabon Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tonekabon, Iran

* **Corresponding author email address**: drahadi5@gmail.com

Editor	Reviewers
Manijeh Daneshpour Department of Couple and Family therapy, Alliant International University, California, United States of America mdaneshpour@alliant.edu	**Reviewer 1:** Manijeh Daneshpour Department of Couple and Family therapy, Alliant International University, California, United States of America. mdaneshpour@alliant.edu **Reviewer 2:** Farhad Namjoo Department of Psychology and Counseling, KMAN Research Institute, Richmond Hill, Ontario, Canada. Email: farhadnamjoo@kmanresce.ca

1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

Consider revising the title for conciseness and clarity. "Predicting Divorce Likelihood in Couples with Infidelity: The Role of Marital Intimacy, Satisfaction, and Ethical Orientation" might capture the essence more directly.

The abstract should succinctly summarize key findings and implications. Ensure that it encapsulates the mediation effect of ethical orientation styles more clearly.

Enhance the introduction by briefly discussing existing models or theories related to marital satisfaction and ethical orientations. This could provide a stronger theoretical foundation for the study.

Specify the version of the scales used (e.g., the shortened 47-item Marital Satisfaction Scale). Clarify whether these versions have been validated in similar contexts or if additional validation was necessary for your study.

The link between your findings and existing literature could be strengthened. Specifically, discuss how your findings align or contrast with prior studies on ethical orientation styles' mediation effect.

Expand this section to discuss the generalizability of the findings more critically, especially considering the cultural context of Tehran, which might influence the universality of the ethical orientation styles and their impact.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

1.2.   Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

Expand on how ethical orientations have been previously studied in relation to marital issues. This could better position your research within the existing body of knowledge.

Provide more details on the rationale behind choosing districts one and two of Tehran for the study. Discuss any demographic characteristics that might influence the results.

Mention any specific reasons for choosing PLS3 SMART software over other statistical tools. A brief justification could help in understanding the choice's appropriateness for your analysis.

Elaborate on any ethical safeguards implemented during the study, especially concerning the sensitivity of the subject matter (infidelity).

Some findings could be interpreted in multiple ways. Discuss alternative interpretations that might affect the understanding of marital intimacy's impact on the tendency towards divorce.

Make the conclusion more robust by summarizing not only the findings but also their practical implications for family therapy and counseling practices.

Ensure all references are up-to-date and relevant, especially focusing on the most recent studies conducted after your literature review cut-off.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

2.   Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.
Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.