




Comparison of the Effectiveness of Integrated Behavioral Couple Therapy and Schema-Focused Couple Therapy on Conflict Resolution Styles in Conflicting Couples

Shokoufeh. Kordavani¹, Shahnaz. Khaleghipour^{2*}, Fatemeh. Tabatabaiejad³

¹ PhD Student, Department of Psychology, Naein Branch, Islamic Azad University, Naein, Iran

² Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, Naein Branch, Islamic Azad University, Naein, Iran



³ Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Naein Branch, Islamic Azad University, Naein, Iran

* Corresponding author email address: Sh.khaleghipour@iau.ac.ir

Editor

Gholamreza Rajabi
Family Department, Governors
State University, University Park,
Illinois, USA
rajabireza@scu.ac.ir

Reviewers

Reviewer 1: Farhad Namjoo
Department of Psychology and Counseling, KMAN Research Institute, Richmond
Hill, Ontario, Canada. Email: farhadnamjoo@kmanresce.ca
Reviewer 2: Hajar Torkan
Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Islamic Azad University, Isfahan
Branch (Khorasgan), Isfahan, Iran. h.torkan@khuisf.ac.ir

1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The manuscript could benefit from more detailed descriptions of the demographic characteristics of the participants. Specifically, expand on the socioeconomic backgrounds and employment status of the participants, as these factors might influence the generalizability of the findings.

Improve the clarity of the tables by ensuring that all are consistently formatted. This includes aligning column headers directly over the data and using the same font size throughout all tables.

Some references seem outdated or not directly relevant to the study's focus. Ensure all references are up-to-date and pertinent to the topic, especially those that discuss the theoretical background of the therapies compared.

Ensure consistent use of terms throughout the manuscript. For example, the terms "conflict resolution styles" and "conflict management strategies" are used interchangeably. Decide on one term and stick to it to avoid confusion.

There are a few typographical errors and grammatical mistakes that need to be corrected. A thorough proofreading session will enhance the professionalism and readability of the manuscript.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

1.2. *Reviewer 2*

Reviewer:

Justify the use of a waiting list control group more robustly. Discuss the ethical considerations and the impact of this choice on the interpretation of the therapy effectiveness, especially regarding potential placebo effects.

The theoretical underpinnings of each therapy mode need a deeper exploration. How do the foundational theories of these therapies predict differences in outcomes? This will provide a stronger rationale for why differences or similarities were expected between the therapies.

Address the limitations of the convenience sampling method used in the study. Discuss how it might affect the generalizability of the results and consider suggesting strategies for future research to include a more representative sample.

Provide more detail about the validation of the instruments, especially the Rahim Conflict Resolution Styles Questionnaire. Discuss the validation process in the specific population studied or provide citations of studies that have used this instrument with similar populations.

The discussion section could be expanded to better articulate the implications of the findings. Specifically, discuss how these findings can be applied in practical settings such as clinical practice or couple counseling workshops.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

2. **Revised**

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.