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Comparing the Effectiveness of Schema Therapy and Emotion-Focused Therapy on Attitudes Towards Infidelity Among Individuals Experiencing Marital Conflict

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

Consider adding specific measures and significant numerical results (like effect sizes or percentage improvements) in the abstract to highlight the quantitative findings. The keywords should also include "quasi-experimental design" to enhance searchability and accurately reflect the study's methodology.

The sampling method (convenience sampling) poses a risk of selection bias which might limit the generalizability of the findings. A recommendation to improve would be to consider stratified sampling in future studies to ensure a more representative sample of the population affected by extramarital affairs.

While the instruments used were validated in previous studies, the adaptation and cultural relevance of these scales (like the Intimacy Scale and Forgiveness Questionnaire) for the Tehran population should be discussed and justified.

The paper lacks a detailed explanation of the assumptions checked for the repeated measures ANOVA, such as sphericity and normality of residuals. Providing these details would enhance the credibility of the statistical analysis.

The interpretation of results could be enhanced by discussing potential confounding variables that might affect the outcomes, such as the duration of the marriage, presence of children, or the severity of the extramarital affair.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

Revise the title to specify the population (e.g., "among Women in Tehran Affected by Their Husbands' Extramarital Relationships") to clarify the specific focus of the study, enhancing its relevancy and clarity for readers.

The discussion on related works could be expanded to include a comparison with similar studies in different cultural contexts, offering a broader perspective on the applicability of EFCT across different societal norms.

More detailed descriptions of the therapy sessions could be beneficial. Specifically, outline any homework or exercises assigned to participants between sessions, as these could contribute significantly to the therapy's effectiveness.

More deeply integrate the theoretical framework guiding EFCT, particularly how it addresses the specific trauma and attachment issues arising from extramarital affairs. This would strengthen the theoretical grounding of the study.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.