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Comparison of the Effectiveness of Therapist-Assisted Couple Therapy and Emotion-Focused Couple Therapy on Psychological Well-Being, Negotiation Enhancement, and Aggression Reduction in Women Victims of Spousal Violence

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Editor	R e v i e w e r s
Gholamreza Rajabi Family Department, Governors State University, University Park, Illinois, USA rajabireza@scu.ac.ir	Reviewer 1: Ali Khodaei [®] Department of Psychology, Faculty of Educational Sciences and Psychology, Payam Noor University, Tehran, Iran. Email: alikhodaei@pnu.ac.ir Reviewer 2: Mohammad Reza Khodabakhsh [®] Department of Psychology, Neyshabour Branch, Islamic Azad University, Neyshabour, Iran. Email: hodabakhsh@ut.ac.ir

1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The introduction effectively sets the stage for the study's importance but could benefit from a deeper exploration of cultural differences in domestic violence dynamics. It would be helpful to incorporate findings from more recent studies post-2020 to discuss any potential shifts in trends due to global events like the COVID-19 pandemic, which have known implications on domestic violence rates.

The method section provides a clear description of the sample size and process. However, it lacks detailed demographic information about the participants, such as age range, socioeconomic status, and educational background, which are crucial for understanding the generalizability of the findings.

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For the Ryff Psychological Well-Being Scales and the Conflict Tactics Scales, please include more recent reliability and validity data to ensure these instruments remain robust in current research settings, particularly in a culturally diverse context like Iran.

The results are well-presented, but the discussion of statistical significance could be enhanced by including effect sizes for all primary outcomes. This would provide a clearer understanding of the magnitude of the differences observed between groups.

The discussion makes several comparisons with previous studies but often without direct citations at the point of comparison. Enhancing this section with precise references would strengthen the argument and help situate your findings within the existing literature.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

Describe any measures taken to ensure consistency in the delivery of the intervention protocols across different sessions and therapists. This is crucial to ascertain that the observed effects are due to the intervention itself rather than variations in implementation.

Strengthen the comparative analysis between the two types of therapies by discussing not only the effectiveness but also the participants' adherence and satisfaction with each type of therapy. This might involve additional data collection or analysis.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

2. Revised

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

