




Article history:
Received 03 July 2024
Revised 14 September 2024
Accepted 19 September 2024
Published online 01 October 2024

The Perspectives of Family Specialists on the Socio-Cultural Challenges of Family Therapy Interventions in Iran: A Qualitative Study

Maryam. Ordukhani¹, Mohsen. Kachooei^{2*}, Morteza. Keshmiri³


¹ Master of Clinical Family Psychology, Department of Psychology, Faculty of Humanities, University of Science and Culture, Tehran, Iran

² Assistant Professor of Health Psychology, Department of Psychology, Faculty of Humanities, University of Science and Culture, Tehran, Iran



³ PhD in Clinical Psychology, Department of Psychology, Faculty of Humanities, University of Science and Culture, Tehran, Iran

* Corresponding author email address: kachooei.m@use.ac.ir

Editor

Azizuddin Khan
Professor, Psychophysiology
Laboratory, Department of
Humanities and Social Sciences
Indian Institute of Technology
Bombay, Maharashtra, India
aziz@hss.iitb.ac.in

Reviewers

Reviewer 1: Taher Tizdast
Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Tonekabon Branch, Islamic Azad
University, Tonekabon, Iran. Email: taher.tizdast@toniau.ac.ir
Reviewer 2: Meysam Sadeghi
Assistant Professor of Department of Cognitive Psychology, Higher Education
Institute of Cognitive Sciences, Tehran, Iran. Email: m.sadeghi@icss.ac.ir

1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The introduction lacks a clear definition of what "socio-cultural challenges" entails. A more specific explanation of these challenges would help the reader understand the exact focus of your study. Are you referring to cultural, economic, or structural factors that impact the effectiveness of interventions? A more precise definition at the beginning would set a clearer framework for the study.

It would be helpful to discuss which societal shifts in values you are referring to. For instance, are you addressing shifts in gender roles, family structure, or socio-economic expectations? Providing concrete examples will clarify the direction of family therapy interventions in the Iranian context.

This sentence is broad and would benefit from specificity. How should family therapy theories change to address these challenges? Are you suggesting that current theories should be adapted, or is there a call for entirely new theoretical frameworks? More concrete examples of necessary adaptations would improve the clarity of your argument.

The idea of a "unique cultural environment" is important, but the term remains somewhat abstract. What specific cultural factors are being referred to? Are you speaking of Iranian familial traditions, religious influences, or socio-political factors? More detailed references to specific cultural aspects would strengthen the argument.

This sentence could be enriched by citing specific studies that have addressed cultural challenges within an Islamic framework. Providing a few examples or references would add credibility to this claim and allow readers to see the gap your research addresses more clearly.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The phrase "effects of social changes and harm" is vague and needs further clarification. What specific social changes and harms are being referred to? For example, are you discussing the impact of globalization, urbanization, or economic crises on family structures? Providing examples of these social changes will strengthen the clarity of this point.

This sentence introduces an important point, but it lacks detail regarding why the lack of consensus is so problematic. What are the specific implications of this absence? Is it due to theoretical gaps, cultural misunderstandings, or lack of practical application? Expanding on this would deepen the reader's understanding of the issue.

Could you provide specific examples of "classical Western theories" that were considered inadequate? For example, are you referring to psychoanalytic, behavioral, or cognitive theories? Mentioning particular theories and the specific social issues they fail to address will make the argument more robust.

This is a crucial point, but you should elaborate on what specific educational resources are needed. Do you mean updated textbooks, culturally relevant training programs, or a new curriculum for family therapy? Specifying what type of educational resources would provide a clearer action plan for addressing this gap.

The term "localization" here is key, but it would benefit from further clarification. How exactly should theories be "localized"? Are you proposing a deconstruction of Western theories and a complete re-conceptualization, or should there be an integration of local cultural nuances into existing frameworks? More details on the practical process of localization would be beneficial.

This sentence could be expanded by specifying how these disagreements manifest in the field. Are therapists hesitant to adopt localized theories, or is there a lack of consensus among academic scholars regarding these frameworks? Clarifying the nature of these disagreements will provide more insight into the challenges within the field.

This statement is crucial but lacks specificity. What specific "new issues" are you referring to? For instance, are these issues related to economic instability, migration, changing gender roles, or technology? Providing a more detailed list of these emerging issues will give readers a clearer picture of the phenomena being addressed.

It would be beneficial to cite specific studies or examples showing how Western theories have failed to address these changes. For instance, do you have evidence from Iranian family therapy practice that shows the limitations of these theories? Providing data or case studies will strengthen this claim.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.