

# Modeling Marital Satisfaction and Parental Problem-Solving on Children's Mental Health with the Mediating Role of Parental Emotional Support


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## 1. Round 1

### 1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

In the Introduction, the discussion on marital satisfaction, particularly the sentence "Marital satisfaction refers to the feelings that men and women experience in their marital life, including happiness, contentment, and enjoyment of their relationship," could benefit from a more contemporary reference, as the cited source (Dow et al., 2022) is relatively recent, but additional current literature might provide a broader perspective.

In the Methods and Materials section, the sentence "Klein's formula was used to determine the sample size in this study" needs clarification on the specific parameters used from the formula. A table illustrating the calculation steps would enhance transparency and reproducibility.

In the Methods and Materials section, the description "Adolescents accompanied by their parents who were willing to participate in the study were selected" raises potential bias concerns due to convenience sampling. Consider discussing how this limitation may impact the generalizability of findings in the limitations section.

In the Data Analysis section, the sentence "Data analysis was conducted using SPSS version 26 and AMOS version 24 with structural equation modeling" would benefit from detailing the specific steps of the analysis process, including any data cleaning methods applied before running the SEM.

In Table 1, the kurtosis value for maternal emotional support (0.834) is relatively high. Please discuss how this deviation from normality was addressed in the analysis, as it may affect the reliability of the structural equation modeling results.

The Findings and Results section mentions, "The correlation coefficients between the research variables... are positively and significantly related at the 0.01 alpha level ( $P < 0.001$ ).\" A more detailed discussion on the potential multicollinearity between parental problem-solving and emotional support (both having a correlation of 0.698) is necessary.

In Table 3, the RMSEA value of 0.623 exceeds the acceptable threshold of 0.08, which contradicts the stated acceptable range. Please clarify this discrepancy or provide justification for accepting this value.

In the Discussion, the statement "Parental emotional support as a mediating factor can complicate the relationship between these variables" is slightly unclear. Consider revising to "Parental emotional support mediates the relationship between marital satisfaction and children's mental health, adding complexity to this dynamic."

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

## 1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

In the Introduction, the section discussing parental problem-solving, specifically "Problem-solving ability involves advanced cognitive processes required to effectively cope with various problems and tensions in life," would benefit from a more detailed explanation of how these cognitive processes are measured in the current study. This would provide greater methodological clarity.

The Data Collection Tools subsection on the Marital Satisfaction Questionnaire states, "The score range is between 47 and 235, with higher scores indicating greater marital satisfaction among parents." It would be beneficial to explain why this range is appropriate for the population studied and whether cultural factors were considered during its use in an Iranian sample.

The Problem-Solving Styles questionnaire section mentions, "Scoring is based on three responses: Yes (score 1), No (score 0), and Don't Know (score 0).\" It is recommended to justify why this simplified scoring system was chosen over a more nuanced Likert scale, particularly in assessing complex cognitive abilities.

In the Family Emotional Atmosphere section, the sentence "This 16-item questionnaire covers 8 dimensions, including affection, nurturing, affirmation, shared experiences, gift-giving, encouragement, trust, and sense of security" could be expanded to include examples of specific items for each dimension, improving clarity on what was measured.

In Table 4, the standard errors for some coefficients (e.g., Maternal Emotional Support – Mental Health, S.E. = 8.382) seem unusually high. Please provide an explanation for these values and discuss any potential impact on the reliability of the estimates.

In the Discussion section, the sentence "According to Bowen's Family Systems Theory (1978), the family operates as an integrated system where interactions between members influence each other" could be strengthened by discussing how this theory specifically applies to the Iranian cultural context in your study.

The Discussion mentions Bandura's Social Learning Theory (1977) and its relevance. It is recommended to include empirical studies from Iran or similar cultural contexts that support this theory's applicability in family studies, enhancing contextual relevance.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

## 2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.