





Strategies and Consequences of Non-Marriage among Men: A Grounded Theory Study

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

You state that “approximately 30 percent of men in large cities... live independently and unmarried.” Please cite the exact source of this statistic or governmental report, as it is critical data supporting your research premise.

The sentence “the modernization process in Iranian society...” is conceptually rich but analytically vague. Break this into sub-claims supported by evidence or references to sociological data for better clarity.

Propositions 2 and 6 appear logically redundant. Consider merging or differentiating them more clearly by clarifying causal links versus strategic outcomes.

The propositions are well-articulated but disconnected from the earlier theory sections. Consider briefly linking these to sociological theories introduced in the Introduction for conceptual continuity.

The phrase “greater personal freedom” is listed as a consequence. Please elaborate whether participants viewed this positively, negatively, or ambivalently. The tone here needs clarification.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

While the citation of Goode is historically significant, the discussion lacks connection to contemporary Iranian societal changes. Consider bridging this classical theory with recent empirical trends or local data.

You write that this study is “the only one that explicitly focuses on men’s roles in marriage...” This is a strong claim. It would be more accurate to rephrase it as “one of the few” unless a systematic review has been conducted.

Table 2 is comprehensive but overwhelming. A brief summary table that clusters concepts into broader theoretical categories (psychological, social, economic, etc.) would improve accessibility.

In discussing the category “easy sexual gratification,” some sensitive terms (e.g., masturbation, pornography) are mentioned without sociocultural interpretation. Consider discussing this within a normative or religious context in Iran.

You refer to findings “including calmness with family and friends...” that are cited to Javanmard et al. It is unclear whether this is your finding or from the cited work. Clarify to avoid misattribution.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

2. Revised

Editor’s decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief’s decision: Accepted.