The Contribution of Personality Macro-Factors in Predicting Marital Satisfaction of Women: A Preliminary Study for Developing a Premarital Counseling Protocol

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The section cites multiple classical and contemporary sources but lacks a clear research gap statement. After the sentence "…making the identification of personality-based predictors essential for prevention and premarital counseling protocols…", explicitly state what is missing in prior Iranian or regional research that your study addresses.

The reliance on convenience sampling is acknowledged but not critically justified. Please discuss how this may limit external validity and what steps were taken to mitigate bias (e.g., demographic matching).

The inclusion criterion "marriage duration between 5 and 15 years" is unusual for a study aiming to inform premarital counseling. Clarify the rationale for excluding newlyweds or couples with shorter marriage durations.

The sudden inclusion of a sentence about "parenting adaptability and parenting orientation between the experimental and control groups" seems unrelated to the rest of the study. Please check for copy-paste errors and remove irrelevant material.

While the regression model shows that self-control and anxiety predict 18.5% of variance, effect sizes (β) should be contextualized as small, moderate, or large according to Cohen's benchmarks. This adds interpretive value.

The claim "self-control may reflect conformity to restrictive cultural expectations" is insightful but speculative. Please support it with evidence from Iranian or Middle Eastern sociocultural studies.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The claim "In Iranian samples, feasibility and correlational results likewise link Big Five markers to satisfaction…" should integrate a critical analysis of why Iranian cultural context may moderate these associations rather than just paralleling international findings.

The sentence "Accordingly, the objective of this study is to quantify the contribution of personality macro-factors…" should explicitly connect to the preliminary goal of informing a premarital counseling protocol, which is central to the article's novelty.

The sentence "These findings underscore the central role of dispositional traits in shaping relational outcomes" is well-stated, but the discussion should also address alternative explanations (e.g., social desirability, cultural conformity).

The text frames self-control negatively ("excessive restraint undermines intimacy"). Please balance this interpretation by referencing research where self-control supports marital satisfaction through reduced conflict and fidelity.

While the connection between anxiety and marital dissatisfaction is well-documented, the paragraph could be enriched by linking this to intervention strategies (e.g., CBT-based stress management in premarital counseling).

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

2.   Revised

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