Examining the Effectiveness of the Imago Therapy Approach on Marital Adjustment and Love Styles in Married Students with Early Marriages

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The statement "marriage as the most important and supreme social tradition" is broad. Consider specifying the cultural context or providing references that support this claim, as the importance of marriage can vary significantly across different cultures and societies.

The description of the Spanier Marital Adjustment Questionnaire is thorough, but the article would benefit from a brief explanation of why this specific tool was chosen over other available measures of marital adjustment.

The Love Attitudes Scale is discussed in terms of its subscales. However, the justification for using this particular scale over other models of love styles, such as Sternberg's Triangular Theory of Love, should be provided.

The session on "Understanding the Partner" could be further elaborated by explaining the theoretical basis for examining "hidden agendas" and how this relates to Imago therapy's effectiveness.

When discussing the role of childhood experiences in shaping romantic choices, it might be beneficial to integrate a discussion of attachment theory, which could provide a more comprehensive theoretical foundation.

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

1.2.   Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The authors state, "Age at marriage is very important in achieving adjustment." It would be beneficial to include recent studies or meta-analyses that directly link age at marriage with marital adjustment to strengthen this claim.

The selection criteria mention "low adjustment scores" but do not specify the cutoff or range used to define "low." Please clarify the criteria for this categorization, including any specific thresholds used.

The exclusion criteria include "absence from more than one session or divorce and separation during the treatment process." It would be useful to discuss how these factors might have influenced the results, particularly considering the high-risk nature of the population.

The descriptive statistics in Table 1 show a notable increase in "Romantic Love" from pre-test to post-test in the experimental group. It would be helpful to discuss the practical significance of this change, beyond the statistical results, to give readers a clearer understanding of its real-world impact.

The effect size reported is 0.21, indicating a small effect. The discussion should address the implications of this small effect size and how it influences the overall conclusions about Imago therapy's effectiveness.

The statement "Couples learn to view conflicts as opportunities for deeper intimacy and connection" is a critical finding. Consider expanding on how this outcome aligns with or differs from other conflict-resolution strategies used in couple's therapy.

The claim that "Imago therapy training and intervention are effective on love styles" should be supported with more specific data or examples from the study, rather than general references to prior studies.

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

2.   Revised

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