Development of a Premarital Education Package Based on Transactional Analysis Theory

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The introduction should more clearly state the specific gaps in existing premarital education methods that this study aims to address. Adding a statement like "Current premarital education packages often lack comprehensive integration of psychological theories such as Transactional Analysis, which this study aims to rectify" would be helpful.

The literature review in the introduction should include more recent studies and a broader range of sources. For instance, "Many individual goals such as financial and educational growth have replaced family formation" could be supported with additional contemporary sources.

The description "line-by-line examination of texts guided by questions relevant to the components suitable for premarital counseling" could benefit from examples of the questions used and a brief explanation of how they were developed.

The explanation of Eric Berne's Transactional Analysis theory should be more detailed. For instance, "The theory posits three ego states: Parent, Adult, and Child, which interact to influence behavior and communication patterns" should be expanded with more context.

The sentence "These concepts were integrated theoretically using the method by Yousefi and Golparvar (2023)" would benefit from a brief description of this integration process and its significance.

In Table 1, it would be helpful to define each main concept and sub-concept more clearly. For example, "Lovable Child" and "Adapted Child" under the Child Ego State could include brief definitions or examples.

The discussion section should more explicitly connect the study's findings to the existing literature. For instance, "Research has long shown that the ability to establish and maintain communication is a cornerstone of successful marriage" could be followed by specific references to relevant studies.

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

1.2.   Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The section "The selection of texts was purposefully done from Eric Berne's theoretical works within the timeframe of 1990 to 2024" should clarify the criteria for selecting these texts and how they are representative of the theory.

The justification for the sample size of ten texts is insufficient. It would be beneficial to add a rationale such as "Ten texts were selected to ensure comprehensive coverage and saturation of the major components of Transactional Analysis."

The use of Hsieh and Shannon's (2005) method should include a brief overview of this method and why it is suitable for this study. For example, "This method allows for an inductive approach to categorizing text data into meaningful themes relevant to premarital counseling."

The objectives for each session in Table 2 should be more specific. For instance, "Understanding the important role of personality in couple interactions" could specify the expected learning outcomes for participants.

The assignments listed in Table 2 should include examples or more detailed instructions to clarify what participants are expected to do. For example, "Complete the worksheet monitoring personality traits that facilitate interpersonal relationships" could be expanded to include an example worksheet.

The validation process described in Step 6 would benefit from more detail. For example, "The educational package along with the content and process evaluation form was provided to experts" should specify the criteria used by the experts to evaluate the package.

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

2.   Revised

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