

Examining the Effectiveness of Positive Thinking Focused on Improving Marital Relationships on Irrational Beliefs and Dyadic Coping in Women with Marital Conflict with Their Spouses




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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The abstract should clearly state the research questions, methods, and key findings. Consider revising for clarity and brevity to ensure it captures the essence of the study succinctly.

Elaborate on what the control group was doing during the intervention period. Was there any placebo activity, or were they simply waitlisted?

In Table 1, include the range and standard deviations for all variables to provide a clearer picture of data variability. The phrase "Mean (SD)" should explicitly state the full term "Standard Deviation."

In the results section, clarify why certain statistical tests were chosen. The justification for using ANCOVA should be expanded upon to include its appropriateness for controlling pre-test scores.

While you report significance levels, effect sizes (such as Cohen's d) should also be included to give a sense of the practical significance of your findings (Table 3).

The discussion should more explicitly compare the study's findings with those from previous research. For instance, the statement "These results are consistent with prior findings" (paragraph 1 of Discussion) could benefit from direct comparisons with specific studies.

Provide a more detailed discussion on the potential mechanisms by which positive thinking improves marital relationships and reduces irrational beliefs. This will help in understanding how the intervention works.

The limitations section is well-covered, but you might also consider discussing potential biases introduced by self-report measures and how they could have affected the results.

The conclusion could be strengthened by explicitly stating the practical implications for therapists and counselors. Suggest specific ways they might integrate positive thinking interventions into their practice.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

In the introduction, the rationale for focusing on positive thinking in marital relationships (paragraph 2) could be further elaborated. Specifically, mention why this area of study is particularly relevant in the current socio-cultural context.

While the introduction discusses relevant theories and previous studies, it would benefit from a more critical evaluation of gaps in existing research. The statement "positive thinking interventions are effective on many psychological variables among married individuals" (paragraph 6) should be supported with more specific examples from recent literature.

Clarify the process of purposive sampling and justify why this method was chosen over random sampling. In "The sample was selected based on purposive sampling" (paragraph 1 of Methods), specify the criteria used for selecting participants.

Provide more detail about the positive thinking training sessions. For instance, describe the specific activities and exercises used in sessions 3 and 5 (Session 3 and Session 5 details).

Highlight specific areas for future research, such as longitudinal studies to examine the long-term effects of positive thinking interventions, and studies involving male participants or diverse cultural groups.

Ensure all citations are up-to-date and correctly formatted according to journal guidelines. For instance, the citation "Gong et al. 2023" (introduction paragraph 1) should be double-checked for accuracy.

Incorporate a wider range of sources, including more recent studies, to provide a comprehensive background for your research. This can help strengthen the literature review section.

Include comprehensive legends for all tables, explaining all abbreviations and providing enough detail so the table can be understood independently of the text.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

Editor's decision: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.