




Effectiveness of Emotion-Focused Therapy on Anger Expression and Forgiveness in Divorced Women

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E d i t o r	R e v i e w e r s
Silvia Helena Koller  Faculty member, Universidade Federal do Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil silvia.koller@pq.cnpq.br	Reviewer 1: Ali Akbar Soleymanian  Associate Professor of Counseling Department, Bojnord University, Iran. Email: Soleymanian@ub.ac.ir Reviewer 2: Hajar Torkan  Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Islamic Azad University, Isfahan Branch (Khorasgan), Isfahan, Iran. h.torkan@khuif.ac.ir

1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

You mention: “In the cultural context of Taiwan...” but do not elaborate on how collectivist values may uniquely impact anger suppression or forgiveness. Consider integrating a brief explanation of cultural expectations to enrich the interpretation of results.

The inclusion criterion “elevated levels of anger or difficulty with forgiveness” lacks specificity. Please state the cutoff scores or percentiles used on screening tools to define “elevated.”

The sentence: “Participants demonstrated the ability to express previously suppressed emotions...” could be strengthened by tying back to the specific experiential tasks in the intervention (e.g., Session 3: Chair work). This would bridge results and intervention more clearly.

It’s not clear when the follow-up was conducted in relation to the final session. Please clarify whether “five-month follow-up” occurred five months post-intervention or post-posttest.

Please include information on therapist training, fidelity checks, or adherence to the EFT manual. This is essential for replication and assessing treatment integrity.

When discussing emotion regulation, please specify which subcomponents (e.g., emotional clarity, impulse control) are most relevant in the context of divorce, as this would better justify the choice of EFT.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The Heartland Forgiveness Scale is appropriate, but it would be beneficial to specify if a validated Chinese/Taiwanese version was used, given the cultural context of the sample.

The phrase “control group received no intervention” raises concerns about placebo effects. Consider clarifying whether the control group received any form of attention control, or why a waitlist design was selected over active comparison.

You state, “All assumptions for repeated measures ANOVA were tested and confirmed,” but the specific tests for homogeneity (e.g., Box’s M test) are not mentioned. Consider including more detail for transparency.

The statement references the Helsinki Declaration, but omits mention of IRB approval. Please include the name of the institutional review board and approval number for full compliance with publication ethics.

The manuscript states that cultural context “should be considered,” but this point could be expanded. Given that all participants are from Taiwan, how might findings translate to divorced women in more individualistic cultures?

The sentence “These improvements were sustained at follow-up...” could be misread. Specify that the differences from pre-test to follow-up were significant, but the differences between post-test and follow-up were not—indicating stability rather than continued improvement.

The use of “self-dialogue” and “inner conflict” overlaps between sessions. Consider clarifying the distinction in therapeutic focus between these sessions to avoid redundancy.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

Editor’s decision: Accepted.

Editor in Chief’s decision: Accepted.