

## Comparing Continuity Causes of Married Life in High and Low Marriage Continuity Groups

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### ABSTRACT

The current study, generally aims at comparing effective factors on the married life continuity in high and low marriage continuity groups. Casual-comparative method was applied to study continuity causes of married life in women with high and low marriage continuity. The statistical population, included women involving more than 20 years in couple life who lived in Bandar Abbas (Iran), 40 of who were selected as sample by convenience sampling technique were divided into two high and low marriage continuity groups. The research tool applied here was researcher prepared questionnaire. Study results indicate that in the confidence and reliance, conflict resolution methods, positive attitudes towards financial affairs, and sexual relationship, differences were in favor of high marriage continuity group. Finally, a few suggestions are presented to the family therapists and counselors marriage continuity.

**Keywords:** marriage continuity, women, casual-comparative study

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### INTRODUCTION

Bringing up a family, contributes peace and equilibrium to the society. In case that desirable feelings could be found by couples in their marriage life, it would bring them comfort, safety, and welfare; put their assessments from own capabilities up; provokes their acceptance of responsibilities and playing role as parents, and secure children from shortage [1]. One's aims of raising family are experiencing couple life and benefiting from calmness and support, but family would evolve through a living entity-like nature. From the start point to the end of marriage life, the existence of such a growing and evolving system would be transformed by going through various phases. Thus, re-adaptation and compatibility with occurring phases such as child birth, their separation from the family or retiring of couples seem to be vital. Now, a question is raised "what would be happened if they were not equipped with conflict resolution methods through the course of passing evolving steps?" The answer is a hearth ideally with peace giving role would be turned into a quarrel battle with no presumed end. Quarrelling partners will be faced with mental energy shortage and difficulties in playing their roles as both partner and parent. Studies show these tensions leads couples to depression feelings; the very feelings with direct consequences of losing respect and self-impression owned by the couples. Family relation decrement remains effect on the children, too. Children of these families will bear defeats which involve them till the end of life [2].

It can be argued that under above-mentioned circumstances, revision of relation and making attempts to resolve inter-personal complications are essential. However, mostly partners are not aware of principal raising causes or problems were brought up during passing various evolving phases. Actually, no one at the beginning of raising family, think about separation and inclined to start relation full of tensions, defeats, and confliction. It's revealed those high rates of those driven to divorce by marriage conflictions claim that they could establish better marriage life through awareness of effective factors on marriage life continuity [3].

Studies have indicated that increasing personal satisfaction from marriage life depend on numerous variables which can be classified in two principal discussions: (1) pre-marriage formed factors and influence on satisfaction level from early in couple life; (2) factors raised during marriage life and enquire re-adaptation with new conditions [3]. Some studies have shown numerous factors affect marriage satisfaction and continuity [4, 5 and 6] and other studies emphasis the role of women in marriage continuity [7, 8, 9 and 10].

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present research is a causal-comparative study that variables such as confidence and reliance, conflict resolution methods, positive attitudes towards financial affairs, and sexual relationship of the high and low marriage continuity groups, has been studied. Using convenience sampling method, 40 women selected and were divided into two high and low marriage continuity groups based on marriage continuity questionnaire score cut point (20 cases in each group).

In order to measure the dependent variables, researcher prepared questionnaire is used. In order to study the factorial structure of the questionnaire, the statistical method of the confirmatory factor analysis was used and its

factorial structure was confirmed. For measuring the marriage continuity variable, researcher prepared questionnaire was used too. The reliability coefficient of questionnaire was 0.96. In the section of descriptive statistics, the data's average and standard deviation were calculated and in the inferential statistics section, multivariate analysis of variance (MANOVA) was used for testing the difference existing between the two groups.

## RESULTS

For analysis of data, SPSS software, 16 versions is used. The descriptive statistics for dependent variables are presented in table 1.

**Table 1.** Descriptive Statistics of dependent variables in high and low marriage continuity groups

Variables	Group	Mean	Standard deviation	N
Confidence and reliance	High marriage continuity	3.37	1.05	20
	Low marriage continuity	2.11	0.85	20
Conflict resolution methods	High marriage continuity	3.34	0.81	20
	Low marriage continuity	2.14	0.91	20
Financial positive attitudes	High marriage continuity	3.26	1.18	20
	Low marriage continuity	1.90	0.71	20
Sexual relationship	High marriage continuity	3.24	0.85	20
	Low marriage continuity	1.72	0.65	20

First, assumptions for MANOVA and ANOVA were tested and no violations observed. Then a MANOVA test is conducted to assess the overall effect of marriage continuity levels on dependent variables: confidence and reliance, conflict resolution methods, positive attitudes towards financial affairs, and sexual relationship. The analysis revealed statistically significant group differences as a result of marriage continuity levels (Wilks' Lambda=.044,  $F(4, 35) = 11.01$ ,  $p = .001$ ). Results of analysis are presented in table 2.

**Table 2.** Multivariate Tests: Marriage continuity level

Effect		Value	F	Hypothesis df	Error df	Sig.
Group	Pillai's Trace	.5570	11.017 <sup>a</sup>	4	35	0.001
	Wilks' Lambda	0.443	11.017 <sup>a</sup>	4	35	0.001
	Hotelling's Trace	1.259	11.017 <sup>a</sup>	4	35	0.001
	Roy's Largest Root	1.259	11.017 <sup>a</sup>	4	35	0.001

Follow up ANOVA analysis, indicated that there is significant differences between groups in confidence and reliance, conflict resolution methods, positive attitudes towards financial affairs, and sexual relationship. Based on this analysis, F values for confidence and reliance, conflict resolution methods, positive attitudes towards financial affairs, and sexual relationship variables calculated equal with 40.17, 14.77, 11.09 and 20.47 respectively, which all were significant at the 0.01 level. Results of analyses are presented in table 3, table 4, table 5 and table 6.

**Table 3.** ANOVA Marriage continuity on confidence and reliance

Source	Sum of squares	Df	Mean of squares	F	significance level
Between group	42.02	1	42.02	40.17	0.001
Within Groups	39.75	38	1.04		
Total	81.77	39			

**Table 4.** ANOVA Marriage continuity on conflict resolution methods

Source	Sum of squares	Df	Mean of squares	F	significance level
Between group	11.02	1	11.02	14.77	0.001
Within Groups	28.35	38	0.74		
Total	39.37	39			

**Table 5.** ANOVA Marriage continuity on positive attitudes towards financial affairs

Source	Sum of squares	Df	Mean of squares	F	significance level
Between group	11.02	1	11.02	11.09	0.001
Within Groups	37.75	38	0.99		
Total	48.77	39			

**Table 6.** ANOVA Marriage continuity on sexual relationship

Source	Sum of squares	Df	Mean of squares	F	significance level
Between group	13.22	1	13.22	20.47	0.001
Within Groups	24.55	38	0.64		
Total	37.77	39			

## DISCUSSION

This study aims to investigate the differences between high and low marriage continuity on confidence and reliance, conflict resolution methods, positive attitudes towards financial affairs, and sexual relationship variables, which in all, differences were in favor of High marriage continuity group. These findings are conformed to those of research made by Rosen-Grandon and colleagues [11], Charania (2007), [12] and Rajabi and Nabgani [13].

Generally, based on present study findings, family therapists and counselors must more pay attention to factors affect marriage continuity and help to families that coping with marital problems. Its recommended future studies to examine the relationship of continuity of marital and variables such as marital satisfaction, life skills and emotional intelligence in couples.

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