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Lateralization and Marital satisfaction

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Abstract

The purpose of this study was to investigate the relationship between lateralization and marital satisfaction. The samples consisted of couples in the Iranian city of Hamedan, of whom 200 participants (100 couples) were randomly selected through cluster sampling. Data collection tools used included Enrich couple scales and demographic questionnaire that were made by the researchers. For data analysis, in addition to descriptive statistics, coefficient of rho-spearman correlation and multiple regression were used. Data analysis identified that left-handedness and right-handedness did not show don't have significant correlation with marital satisfaction ($p>0.05$). But mixed manual preferences (no-preference for either hand) has significant correlation with marital satisfaction ($p<0.01$). Therefore, it can be concluded that marital satisfaction seems to be correlated with lateralization.

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Keywords: lateralization, marital satisfaction, left-handedness, right-handedness, mixed manual preferences.

1. Introduction

The relationship between lateralization and its role in marital satisfaction and other variants were the focus of interest by the researchers. The research in area of handedness is considered among most debatable subjects (Leask & Beaton, 2007). Most research shows preference for handedness to have biological basis, for using one hand was more than the other hand in doing homework, for example, and other special duties, and are related with domination of brain hemispheres (Rice, 1998). The brain domination in hand preference follows a biological program which results in a relatively stable trait (Delisi, et al, 2002). Left handedness has always been minority in population (Raymond and Pontier, 2004). Left handedness consists of 10% of population and there are more males

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than females in this group (Francks, et al, 2003). Considering body symmetry we call this domination and prominence lateralization, which for example translates into preference of one hand to another hand, one eye to another eye, one ear to another ear, or one leg to another leg. For measuring the dominant handedness, there are two methods, one is hand preference and the other is hand performance (Regal, 1992). In this research authors have surveyed the correlation of lateralization with marital satisfaction, which causes separation of different handedness, are discussed in different study like marital life and is important and effective. The research shows that left hemisphere and right handedness are analytical, logical and computational, and left hemisphere and left handedness is involved in comprehension, visual, spatial, and emotional abilities (Bosman, 2001). There are different theories about effectiveness of lateralization on behavior and capabilities, many of which has been shown to be strong through research. But until now, effectiveness of handedness in couples on spousal approval has not been studied. Marital satisfaction means comparison between expectations of spouses in experiencing life (Madanes, 1981). According to Winch (1981) marital satisfaction involves evaluative comparison between the present situation and an expected state. (Winch, 1974). Some experts defined marital satisfaction as function of stages in lifecycle. There are different ways of defining marital satisfaction and Hawkins (1989) seemed to have presented the best definition. He describes the marital satisfaction as a feeling of satisfaction and enjoyment by the husband and wife when they consider all aspects of marriage. Satisfaction is a variable that is considered as an individual feature for each couple. According to the mentioned definition, marriage is supposed to be a positive and enjoyable experience, despite individual differences action (Elise, 1997). The marital satisfaction can be gained when there is harmony between the spouses as the hand superiority is an effective variance on the thought, it is the features of every individual and surely it is effective on the life of the husband and wife, side supremacy related to the ability and behavior of the human and seek a relation between the satisfaction of both As it was said before it seems that there has not been a research over the relation on any of the handedness with the marital satisfaction and the present research is trying to investigate the lack of related research and as such the current study is considered the first one investigating the effect of handedness on marital satisfaction among Iranian spouses.

2. Methods

2.1 sample and sampling method

This research is of descriptive type using correlational statistics method. The research population consisted of all the couples in the Iranian city of Hamedan, of whom 400 subjects were chosen through cluster sampling. At the end, 200 subjects (100 couples) participated in this research.

3. Measures

3.1 Four Enrich couple scales

For investigating the rate of marital satisfaction, Enrich couple scales has been used. This scale has been used as a valid research tool in various research and clinical work (Fowers & Olson, 1989). This scale includes four subscales with 35 articles in which the scale include idealistic distortion, marital satisfaction, communication, and conflict resolution. The Enrich couple scale is a complete measurement in the marital couple; it includes idealistic distortion, marital satisfaction, personality problems, communication, conflict resolution, financial management, leisure time management, sexual relation, children, child rearing, family and friends, the egalitarian roles between men and women, religious orientation, marital association, and change in marital life. This questionnaire was translated by Asoodeh (2011), with written permission from David Elson.

3.2 Researcher-made demographic questionnaire

This questionnaire collected basic information including initial Enrich scores on marital satisfaction, sex, age, level of education, and the subject of the study, duration of marriage, number of the children, job were asked from the spouses. In order to ensure the report, the individuals of both sexes after the delivery of the questionnaire were asked to write a sentence with both hands behind the questionnaire sheet. The individuals who had the same handwriting from both hands show that they are mixed-handed. Several of these individuals said that despite of the ability of writing with mixed hand, they were using their right hand for writing and doing most of their work, but

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