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# Identifying Criteria for a Successful Marriage: A Grounded Theory Study

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#### 1. Round 1

#### 1.1. Reviewer 1

#### Reviewer:

The statement, "Marriage is the first stage of the family life cycle and is considered a critical factor in creating a healthy society," is too broad. Provide references or specific data to substantiate this claim.

While Lincoln and Guba's trustworthiness criteria are listed, their application is not explicitly described. Provide examples of how these criteria were met.

The categories and subcategories lack a clear hierarchy. Use a visual diagram or detailed explanation to show how these were derived from raw data.

The central category, "couple interactions," is pivotal but underexplored. Include more participant quotes or examples to illustrate each subcategory.

The claim, "The ultimate and highest goal of marriage is achieving tranquility, satisfaction, and happiness," needs citations to support it, especially in the cultural context discussed.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.



#### 1.2. Reviewer 2

#### Reviewer:

The reference to "significant changes" in family formation and dissolution is vague. Elaborate on what these changes are, particularly in the Iranian context, to strengthen the discussion.

The discussion on Gottman's theory is relevant but brief. Expound on how this theory aligns or contrasts with the findings of your study.

The description of participant recruitment lacks detail about the dyadic conflict questionnaire used for selection. Explain its validity and reliability in this context.

The term "theoretical saturation" is mentioned but not defined. Add a brief explanation to clarify this term for readers unfamiliar with qualitative research.

The idea that economic factors influence marital success is mentioned but not discussed in detail. Provide specific examples from the data to reinforce this point.

The assertion about "routine familiarity" in long-term marriages is insightful but lacks direct evidence from the study. Include participant quotes to validate this claim.

The conclusion reiterates findings without suggesting specific practical applications. Offer concrete recommendations for marital counselors or policymakers based on your results.

The COVID-19 restrictions are mentioned as a limitation, but it would be useful to describe how this might have influenced the data collection and findings.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

### 2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.