

Analyzing the Components of Enhancing Dyadic Ego Strength (Facilitating the Transition from "I-ness" to "We-ness" in Marital Relationships) for Married Individuals

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R e v i e w e r s

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The claim that "the family environment becomes a setting for arguments and violence" should be supported by prevalence data or broader evidence. A quantitative reference here would strengthen the argument's empirical grounding.

The list of references in this paragraph, e.g., (Abazari & Barati Ahmadabadi, 2017; Shahriari & Navah, 2022; Sotoudeh et al., 2022; Balali et al., 2019), feels excessive and unstructured. Consider grouping by theme (e.g., emotional vs. structural causes) for better conceptual flow.

The phrase "such families will inevitably disintegrate" is deterministic. Rephrase to indicate potential risk rather than certainty, and discuss how this might vary across collectivist vs. individualist cultures.

The sentence "no research has yet been conducted under this specific title" is weak as a justification for novelty. Explain whether prior research has addressed similar constructs under different terminologies (e.g., couple identity, shared meaning).

Items like "Avoiding solo travel" and "Moderating non-couple social activities" may reflect specific cultural norms. Please indicate whether these emerged in culturally specific texts and caution against generalizing them globally.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The sentence "the ego can... achieve socially commendable personal growth through the use of the defense mechanism of sublimation" oversimplifies Freud's theory. Please cite primary Freudian texts or authoritative summaries (e.g., Laplanche & Pontalis) for accuracy.

The sentence "This can escalate family conflict beyond the couple to extended families and even the larger social context" needs further elaboration or examples of societal implications (e.g., intergenerational transmission or community-level effects).

The assertion that "a strong ego... cultivates a self-centeredness that impedes the emergence of mutual goals" is critical but theoretically thin. Consider integrating Erikson's psychosocial model or Bowen's differentiation theory for richer analysis.

The phrase "these findings align with previous research..." requires stronger linkage to the actual findings in Table 1. Consider citing specific sub-components and how they map onto existing frameworks.

While referencing spirituality and family values, more precision is needed. Which components were explicitly spiritual? Did any texts define spirituality operationally?

The statement "content of this study must eventually be transformed into a formal educational package..." is crucial. Please outline a roadmap or framework for this package (e.g., session themes, target outcomes).

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.