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Designing a Model of Marital Infidelity Proneness Based on Domestic Violence and Marital Distress with the Mediating Role of Marital Burnout

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

In "Marital infidelity is one of the most complex and destructive relational phenomena...", you present strong claims about social consequences but without citing recent meta-analyses. Adding more global prevalence data would enhance the justification of the study.

The rationale for including marital burnout as a mediator is introduced only briefly. Strengthen the theoretical justification by explaining why burnout, and not other variables such as attachment insecurity or sexual dissatisfaction, was prioritized.

The sentence "Perhaps the most important contribution of this study lies in confirming the mediating role of marital burnout" overstates originality. Previous research (e.g., Taziki et al., 2024) already indicated similar mechanisms. Revise to frame your work as extending rather than uniquely discovering this pathway.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

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1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The statement "Marital burnout, frigidity, and lack of intimacy have also been consistently identified as pathways leading to betrayal..." conflates different constructs (frigidity vs. burnout). These require conceptual distinction—revise to avoid theoretical overlap.

In "Cultural narratives and existential perspectives enrich this understanding by framing infidelity...", the section introduces existential and literary perspectives. While interesting, it diverges from the study's empirical focus. Consider shortening this discussion or explicitly linking it to your model variables.

The paragraph "Kolmogorov-Smirnov test was applied to examine the normality of the data" is insufficient. For SEM, multivariate normality and outliers should also be tested. Report Mardia's coefficient or similar.

In "The direct association found between domestic violence and infidelity proneness is consistent with previous work...", you should address possible reverse causality (e.g., whether infidelity tendencies could increase conflict and violence). This limitation is currently missing.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted. Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.