




Presenting a Model for Predicting Marital Burnout Based on Experiential Avoidance and Relationship Beliefs with the Mediation of Forgiveness in Married Women Referring to Counseling Centers in Tehran

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E d i t o r	R e v i e w e r s
Monika Szczygiel ^{id} Department of Psychology, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland monika.szczygiel@uj.edu.pl	Reviewer 1: Masoud Asadi ^{id} Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology and Counseling, Arak University, Arak, Iran. Email: m-asadi@araku.ac.ir Reviewer 2: Stephen C. L. Lau ^{id} Professor (Assistant) at Washington University in St. Louis, United States. Email: lauc@wustl.edu

1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The phrase “marital burnout, conceptualized as a multidimensional syndrome encompassing emotional, physical, and psychological exhaustion” should be supported by a more recent citation in addition to Hosseini et al. (2024). Please integrate a 2022–2025 reference to show contemporary relevance.

The section describes regression types (simple, multiple, multivariate), which seems like textbook material. This could be condensed to avoid redundancy, focusing only on the regression approach relevant to SEM.

You note the sample size justification using Green’s formula. This is appropriate, but please add a power analysis or rationale for SEM sample adequacy (e.g., minimum cases per parameter).

You detail test–retest reliability from Adibrad and Adibrad (2005). While useful, it would be better to report your study’s reliability indices (Cronbach’s alpha) for each subscale rather than relying only on past studies.

The sentence “Cronbach’s alpha coefficients in various samples ranged from .91 to .95” is clear, but the reported $\alpha = .55$ for procrastination is low. You should discuss whether this impacts construct validity in your results or limitations section.

The phrase “evaluates five dimensions dichotomously (yes/no)” is unusual. Most scales use Likert formats. Please clarify whether you used the original dichotomous version or a modified Likert-based adaptation.

The table is very dense and difficult to read. Consider splitting into two tables (correlations of experiential avoidance with burnout; correlations of relationship beliefs with forgiveness) for better readability.

The sentence “the skewness and kurtosis values of all components were within the ± 2 range” is appropriate but repetitive. Instead, report only the range of skewness and kurtosis and reference Kline (2016).

The sentence “Research on sacred relational care highlights forgiveness as part of generative devotion that sustains family resilience” is conceptually rich but feels detached from your data. Integrate this cultural finding more explicitly with your Iranian sample.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

In “Dysfunctional beliefs—such as perceiving disagreement as destructive, expecting mindreading, or endorsing unrealistic sexual perfectionism—are strongly associated with maladaptive communication patterns”, the term “mindreading” is colloquial. Replace it with “expectations of partner omniscience” or a more technical term.

The statement “Cross-cultural evidence indicates that variables such as religiosity, cultural expectations, and economic stressors shape the extent to which couples experience and cope with marital challenges” is broad. Please narrow down to specific empirical studies that examined these variables in Iranian or similar cultural contexts.

When you write “The literature further highlights the role of mindfulness, self-compassion, and meaning in life as protective factors in marital dynamics”, you list multiple constructs without theoretical integration. Consider explicitly linking these to the stress-coping or cognitive-behavioral frameworks you employ later.

The sentence “Building on prior evidence, the present study seeks to advance the field by empirically testing a structural model...” is strong but could benefit from a hypothesis statement. Please state explicitly whether you hypothesized direct and indirect effects.

The figure caption “Model with Beta Values” is insufficient. Expand the caption to explain which constructs are represented, sample size, and significance levels.

In “Rigid beliefs such as mindreading expectations, unchangeability of the partner, and perfectionism lead to repeated disappointments”, again avoid the term “mindreading expectations.” Replace with more formal terminology consistent with the Relationship Beliefs Inventory.

You state “forgiveness significantly reduced the negative effects of experiential avoidance and relationship beliefs on marital burnout”. Please elaborate whether this effect was partial or full mediation, as the current wording is ambiguous.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

2. Revised

Editor’s decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief’s decision: Accepted.