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A Comparative Study Between the Paradigmatic Models of Girls and Boys in the Formation Process of Marriage Trauma

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

In the sentence "Marriage trauma is understood not merely as fear of commitment...", the concept is introduced without citations from trauma literature. Please add foundational psychological references to support the classification of this reaction as "trauma."

The discussion of modernization and cultural transitions (e.g., "Changing family structures, rising educational levels...") would benefit from a clearer link to empirical studies in Iran or neighboring contexts. Currently, the argument feels descriptive rather than evidence-driven.

The description "54 codes for girls and 42 codes for boys" is helpful, but the criteria for saturation are not reported. Please specify how the research team determined theoretical saturation in both gender groups.

Several categories such as "moral looseness," "narcissism," or "multiple relationships" appear value-laden. Please clarify how these categories were derived from codes without imposing researcher interpretation or moral judgment.

The manuscript reports participant ages up to 55, which contradicts the stated population of young unmarried girls and boys. Please clarify inclusion criteria or correct the data.

The manuscript references multiple international studies, but it does not contextualize how Iran's unique sociocultural constraints (e.g., legal requirements, temporary marriage, economic pressures) may produce different trauma trajectories. Please deepen this comparative analysis.

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

This citation is inserted at the end of a long paragraph. Please clarify which exact claim the cited study supports—intergenerational transmission, value conflict, or relational insecurity.

The authors discuss fear of intimacy and rumination but present several citations without explaining how these specific mechanisms interface with marriage anxiety. The conceptual integration should be strengthened.

In the sentence "Girls internalize familial expectations... while boys may experience pressure related to economic readiness...", please provide empirical evidence or regional data to substantiate these gendered differences, as the claims risk appearing stereotypical.

The quote "Loyalty to each other is very important..." is presented without linking back to the axial or selective coding model. Please integrate participant quotes directly with the categories they exemplify.

This section transitions abruptly from qualitative findings to prescriptive recommendations. Please relocate recommendations to the Discussion to maintain structural consistency.

The discussion restates the findings but lacks critical reflection on contradictions or outliers. Were there participants who did not follow the major trauma pathways? Please address negative cases.

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

2. Revised

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

