Reviewer’s report

Title: The Relationship between Personality Traits and Marital Satisfaction: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Version: 1  Date: 21 Jan 2020

Reviewer: Rebekka Weidmann

Reviewer's report:

I had another opportunity to review the article "The Relationship between Personality Traits and Marital Satisfaction: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis". I thank the authors for readily incorporating the points I have raised. After reading what has been adapted in the paper, I have these three minor points:

First, my first point was not yet addressed in the direction that I proposed. I respect that the authors see marriage as sacred and that many people, including myself, would agree with this statement. However, the understanding of marriage is a very personal, sometimes also religious, matter. Therefore, I would ask the authors to modify the first sentence to make clear that it reflects a viewpoint on marriage and that this viewpoint might not be shared by everyone. Currently, it's stated as a fact. Here are two sentences that illustrate what could be improved: "Many couples see marriage as a sacred covenant…" or "Marriage can be viewed/understood as a sacred covenant…"

Second and regarding the point of adding a reference that reinforces the statement that researchers agree on the five-factor model of personality, I think the book chapter by John & Srivastava (1999) could be used. The reference can be found below. I assume there are many other references, but it is a strong statement and, therefore, should include a reference.

Finally, I appreciated the explanations the authors offered why it is important to focus on Iranian couple samples. I would like for the reader also to understand why Iranian couples were the focus of the study. Therefore, may I ask the authors to include some of the divorce statistics that they mentioned in their revision notes to include into the manuscript?


Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess
Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
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Yes

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Quality of written English
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