Function of Family-of-origin Experiences and Marital Adjustment among Married Iranian Students of Universiti Putra Malaysia

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Abstract

The purpose of this study was to examine the relationships between family-of-origin experiences and marital adjustment in a sample of married postgraduate Iranian students in Malaysia. The sample consisted of 220 married students who were randomly recruited to participate in the study through their email addresses. The respondents completed demographic information and two questionnaires including Family-of-Origin Scale (FOS; Hovestadt, et al., 1985) and the Locke-Wallace Marital Adjustment Test (LWMAT; Locke & Wallace, 1959). A correlational survey design was utilized in the present study. Data analysis included frequencies, percentages, mean scores, Pearson's correlation, and multiple regression analysis. The results indicated that Family-of-origin experiences were positively and significantly correlated with marital adjustment. In addition, this study indicated that marital adjustment influences by family-of-origin experiences.

Keywords: family of origin, relationships, marital adjustment, married Iranian

1. Introduction

Undoubtedly, one of the most important decisions for most individuals, if not all, is choosing a marital partner, especially among traditional societies and families. Marriage is defined as a formally-written, verbal, or tradition long-term agreement between a man and a woman for the production of children, food and other commodities in a domestic context (Bailey, 2003).

In a marriage, marital satisfaction refers to the level of satisfaction or happiness derived from the union (Locke & Wallace, 1959). The level of marital satisfaction determines the survival of any marriage and as such there have been studies and investigations on the factors that affect marital satisfaction since the 1990s (Bradbury, Fincham, & Beach, 2000). According to Snyder and Lopez (2005), marital bliss contributes to enhanced well-being and a happy marriage experiences less stress, anxiety or depression. It is therefore understandable why there has been much focus on investigating the key factors that lead to happy marriages.

The process in which an individual or a couple modifies, adopts or changes their behavior pattern and interaction to gain the maximum satisfaction in their relationship is referred to as marital adjustment (Bali, Dhingra, & Baru, 2010). Marital adjustment, which is a developmental process (Martin, 2007) has been investigated extensively in marriage and family relationship research and it is one of the most frequently investigated dependent variables in relationship studies.

According to Martinson (2005), of the various factors that influence the development and behavior of an individual e.g., socio-cultural interactions and environment, work, friends, etc, family-of-origin experiences that we go through with our family have the greatest impact. According to Hovestadt, and colleagues (1985), family-of-origin is the family of an individual's psychological, physical and emotional beginnings. The term experiences in the family-of-origin, refers to person's experiences with parents and/or primary caregivers and especially the relationship with the parents during childhood, as the basis of relationships in adult life (Falcke, Wagner, & Mosmann, 2008).

Kerr (2008) reminds us that while we are physically away from our family, we do not leave them emotionally. From a multigenerational perspective, the legacy of the family of origin appears to be unshakably with us, an

emotional baggage that stubbornly stays within us that is exhibited in our adult relationships (Martinson, 2005; Sabatelli & Bartle, 2003). As such, the circumstances of the family-of-origin determine the conjugal adjustment and the psycho-social state of the individual in later life (Asadinik, 2009; Botha, Berg, & Venter, 2009; Falcke, et al., 2008; Luecken, Kraft, & Hagan, 2009; Martinson, 2005; Topham, Larson, & Holman, 2005).

The importance of the family of origin is unavoidable. This is why Falcke et al. (2008) stated that the basis of conjugal choice is related to the inclination to replicate the family-of-origin. As such, instead of mutual agreement between both partners on what should be, there is the conflict that arises from one party trying to impose his/her perspective on the other in their individual efforts to recreate their personal family-of-origin, their own cultural and familiar patterns. Similarly, Patterson, Williams, Edwards, Chamow, and Grauf-Grounds (2009) make the same conclusions and advice therapists and counselors when doing marital or couple therapy to closely assess the couples' family-of-origin. Carr (2006) indicated that family-of-origin and parent-child experiences may lead individuals to hold on to certain belief systems and patterns of behavior that contribute to marital discord such as attachments that are insecure, and authoritarian, permissive, neglectful or inconsistent parenting. It has been indicated that it is not easy to come to terms with the internalization of anger, devotion, loyalty and neglect that originated in the family-of-origin (Laham, 1990).

In the discussions on parent-adolescent relationships, theorists stressed that adolescents should be detached from their parents emotionally so that they can become autonomous and independent individuals (Steinberg & Silverberg, 1986). Allen et al. (1994) emphasized that for healthy adolescent development, a balance between autonomy and relatedness in the parental relationships should be maintained. Intimacy and autonomy are two essential conditions for an optimal functioning of a marriage (Gordon, 2006).

The perceptions of marital satisfaction vary across cultures (Atta-Alla, 2009). In a recent research by Delkhamoush (2007), his findings showed that the content and structure of young Iranians' marital values could be explained by the five dimensions of Schwartz and Ros' (1995) theoretical model of values. He further concluded that Iranian youths' perception of conceptual values of marriage is the same as the common perspective in other societies (Delkhamoush, 2007).

In traditional Iranian culture, the primary goal of marriage is procreation such that infertility is sufficient grounds for divorce (Asadinik, 2009). Zoroastrians in ancient Iran made marriage vows for life and there were rare divorces among them (Kameli, 2008). In case of conflict or disagreement, the couple's families and priests helped to resolve the conflict. Unavoidable divorce brought shame and dishonor to the families until recently. Islam discourages divorce and considers it as the last resort for the couples who cannot continue a healthy relationship (Kameli, 2008).

Many Iranian couples endure a problematic marriage for the sake of the family and self-sacrifice of personal freedoms and happiness for the sake of the family has always been highly valued in traditional Iranian culture (Asadinik, 2009). However, over the past few decades, relationship patterns have become more diverse. There are a lot of marriage-related issues researched that indicate changes in marital values. The results of studies show mate selection has changed in both industrial countries (Higgins, Zheng, Liu, & Sun, 2002; Kiernan, 2000; P. D. Martin, Specter, Martin, & Martin, 2003), and developing countries (Delkhamoush, 2007; Zaidi & Shuraydi, 2002). Many rapid global changes that are occurring have had an impact on patterns of marriage in developing countries (Delkhamoush, 2007).

Dennison (2011) carried out a mixed methods study and investigated how family-of-origin characteristics (inter-parental conflict) influenced the state of current marriage on 190 newly-wed couples in Arizona USA. It was found that family-of-origin characteristics (inter-parental conflict) that were measured indicated a reduction in the level of marital satisfaction, particularly among wives. especially Sabatelli and Bartle (2003) study that investigated 125 newly-wed student couples at Ohio State university and evaluated the correlation between the experiences of the newly-weds' experiences in their family-of-origin and how they coped with their marriage. The data analysis indicated that the family-of-origin experiences of both partners significantly influenced their own marriage adjustments.

A total of 542 respondents in Porto Alegre, Brazil were studied by Falcke, et al. (2008) using Family Background Questionnaire (FBQ) and the Golombok Rust Inventory of Marital state (GRIMS). Results showed a relationship between level of marital satisfaction and their family-of-origin influences. With the aim of exploring the relationship between marital satisfaction and family-of-origin, Botha et al. (2009) from South Africa used Locke and Wallace's Marital Adjustment Test and the McMaster Family Assessment Device on 47 married couples. Again it was found that there was a close association between family-of-origin factors and the status of married life. The researchers also investigated the significance of family-of-origin functions as a determining aspect of

the quality of later married life.

A research conducted on 6,423 U.S. couples by Martinson (2005) indicated that those among the respondents who had desirable family-of-origin experiences, also had more satisfying married lives while those who had less satisfactory family-of-origin histories showed less satisfaction with their marriage.

Shokrkon, Khojastemehr, Atari, Haghighati, and Shahniyeilagh (2006) investigated the predictors of marital relationship in divorced couples compared to normal ones among 514 respondents in Ahwaz city in Iran. Utilizing multiple regression, the findings indicated that personality factors, social skills and family-of-origin characteristics (attachment styles) have a relationship with marital adjustment.

The factor influencing marital satisfaction can be external stressors while studying abroad. As opposed to domestic students with more social support, Hechanova-Alampay, Beehr, Christiansen, and Horn (2002) believe that international students suffer from additional stress, loneliness, homesickness and finally anxiety. According to the Ministry of Higher Education, the flow of international postgraduate students to Malaysian universities has increased in the years 2002 to 2008 from 27,872 to 90,501(Horany & Hassan, 2011). Iranian postgraduate students seem to outnumber others in Malaysian public universities (Akhtari-Zavare & Ghanbari-baghestan, 2010). However, most studies on post graduate students in Malaysia focus on their academic enhancement and supervision (Ibrahim & Hassan, 2011; Krauss & Ismail, 2010), only few studies focus on the marital life of these students (Kalantarkousheh & Hassan, 2010).

2. Methodology

2.1 Respondents and Procedure

The respondents included in this study were married postgraduate Iranian students in Universiti Putra Malaysia. Students were randomly recruited to participate in the study through their emails addresses. The target population of the study comprised all postgraduate married Iranian students enrolled in governmental universities encompassed almost all postgraduate Iranian students. The target university of this Study was Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) which is classified as governmental by classification of the Malaysian Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE, 2011). The Iranian Students Association Malaysia states that this university has 1,760 students enrolled in master and Ph.D programs, making it the Malaysian public university with the highest number of Iranian postgraduate students (ISAM, 2011). The minimum sample size regarding G*Power is 172, and according to Bartlett, Kotrlik, and Higgin (2001), it is 100. Thus in this study, the target number of 220 subjects was calculated to ensure the reliability of the study. A list of Iranians who meet the eligibility criteria was obtained from the School of Graduate Studies of UPM (SGS). The whole married postgraduate population of Iranian students and their individual email addresses was 600 subjects. Using simple random sampling, 300 random digit selected because of non-responded, non-completed probability consideration of respondents. Data for this study were obtained by administering the survey instruments to the respondents via an online survey. The total number of respondents reached 220. The raw data from the online survey instruments were downloaded from the website in which the survey was administered and imported into a computer spreadsheet for analysis. The sample consisted of 220 married students including 117 females and 107 males aged from 25 to 61.

2.2 Instrumentation

In addition to the demographic questionnaire, two instruments were used to collect the data. Both of the items were translated into Farsi to make it feasible for administration to respondents. The translation was done by a panel of experts under supervision of Sanai (one of the most well-known professors in Family and Marriage Counseling and psychotherapy) and printed in a book titled "Family and Marriage Scales" in the year 2009. The translated versions have been frequently used in different studies in Iran (Bahari et al., 2010). The instruments include:

2.2.1 Family-of-Origin Scale (FOS; Hovestadt, et al., 1985)

The adolescent FOS scale is an instrument designed to measure the "perceived levels of health in one's family-of-origin" (Hovestadt, et al., 1985). In contrast to other self-report measures of family functioning, the FOS provides a unique perspective particularly relevant to adolescent development (Manley, Wood, Searight, Skitka, & Russo, 1994). This 5-point Likert-type scale consists of 40-items which, according to the test authors Hovestadt et al. (1985) tap 10 relational characteristics that are thought to influence an individual's capacity regarding the two dimensions of autonomy and intimacy. Twenty of the items are designed to measure autonomy and the other 20 items are designed to measure the encouragement of intimacy. The autonomy dimension is comprised of five subscales: Clarity of Expression - thoughts and feelings are clear in the family; Responsibility - family members claim responsibility for their own actions; Respect for Others - family members are allowed to

speak for themselves; Openness to Others - family members are receptive to one another; Acceptance of Separation and Loss - separation and loss are dealt with openly in the family. The intimacy dimension consists of five subscales: Range of Feelings - family members express a wide range of feelings; Mood and Tone - a warm positive atmosphere exists in the family; Conflict Resolution - normal conflicts are resolved without undue stress; Empathy - family members are sensitive to one another; and Trust. With a range of possible scores 40-200, high scores (160-200) on this scale indicate higher perceived family-of-origin health, while low scores (40-80) indicate lower perceived health. Some examples of questions are "My parents openly admitted it when they were wrong." and "Sometimes in my family I did not have to say anything, but I felt understood".

Mazer, Mangrum, Hovestadt and Brashear (1990), based on their testing of family-of-origin scale with 407 adolescent participants, found that the scale is a multi-dimensional tool with value and validity to be applied in clinical research. Fischer and Corcoran (2007) report the internal consistency of the family-of-origin scale as .75, and a test-re-test reliability of .77 for measures of autonomy, and .73 for measures of intimacy. In the current study, reliability for FOS was a = .925.

2.2.2 The Locke-Wallace Marital Adjustment Test (LWMAT; Locke & Wallace, 1959)

This instrument was developed to measure the marital happiness or marital satisfaction in married couples. Using selected, non-duplicated and statistically significant items from a variety of previously developed measures with high item discrimination, Locke and Wallace (1959) composed a 15-item marital adjustment scale. Because of its history and widespread use, it is used as a benchmark standard for assessing the degree of adjustment in marriage (Sperry, 2004). The LWMAT has a total of 15 questions that are ranked on different scales. The main scale that is provided on the LWMAT is a 6-point Likert-type scale that has a minimum score of 1, representing "Always Disagree," and a maximum score of 6, representing "Always Agree". The remaining questions that are provided on the LWMAT include multiple choice type responses. Some examples of these questions are, "When disagreements arose, they usually resulted in (a) husband giving in (b) wife giving in (c) agreement by mutual give and take" and "If you had your life to live over again, do you think you would: (a) Marry the same person? (b) Marry a different person (c) Not marry at all".

The validity of the LWMAT was illustrated by Krokoff (1989) using predictive validation. It was found that the scores for the husbands and wives in the sample had significant correlations with one another. The reliability of the LWMAT instrument was illustrated with internal consistency/reliability coefficients using Cronbach's alpha scores. In the original study by Locke and Wallace (1959), it was found that the reliability of the LWMAT was equal to .90 (Sanai, 2009). In the current study, reliability for LWMAT was $\alpha = .819$.

2.3 Data Analysis

The data analysis used in this study was the descriptive statistics to sum up data and report percentages and frequencies. Additionally Pearson's correlation coefficient was used to estimate the relationship between independent variable (family-of-origin experiences), and dependent variable (marital adjustment). Furthermore multiple regression used to examine the accurate prediction of a predictor.

3. Results

3.1 Descriptive Statistics

Table 1 shows that 54.1% of participants are within the age range of 25-35 years while 40.9% are between 36-45 years of age. A majority of the participants were doctoral students (58.2%) and 41.8% were doing their master's degree. In terms of marriage duration, 86.8% of participants were within 1-17th year of their marital life and only 13.2% of them were living with their spouses between 17-34 years. With regard to the number of children, 42.3% of the respondents do not have children, 34.5% of them have one child, and 18.7% have two children while only 4.5% have three children.

		Percent for All	Percent	Percent		
		(n=220)	For Males	For Females		
		(11-220)	(n=107)	(n=113)		
	25-35	54.1	52.3	55.8		
	36-45	40.9	42.1	39.8		
Age	46-60	4.5	5.6	3.5		
	61 and more	.5	0	.9		
	Total	100.0	100.0	100.0		
	Master	41.8	28.0	54.9		
Education	Doctoral	58.2	72.0	45.1		
	Total	100.0	100.0	100.0		
	1-17	86.8	87.9	85.8		
Duration of Marriage	17-34	13.2	12.1	14.2		
Maillage	Total	100.0	100.0	100.0		
	1	34.5	29.9	38.9		
	2	18.7	25.2	12.4		
Number of Children	3	4.5	4.7	4.4		
Cilluren	None	42.3	40.2	44.2		
	Total	100.0	100.0	100.0		

Table 1. Descriptive statistics for demographics variables, for the total sample and by gender

Table 2 presents the descriptive statistics of dependent and independent variables. Marital adjustment score has a minimum of 63 with a maximum of 138 from maximum score of 158 (M=100.58, SD=15.83). Family-of-origin total scores ranged from 95 to 172 (the maximum is 200) and had a mean of 135.39 with a standard deviation of 14.25. Its sub-scales scores had a minimum of 5 with a maximum of 20. In addition, it seems that the participants' function with the respect of responsibility was the weakest and their mood and tone were the strongest factors in the family-of-origin sub-scales.

Table 2. Descriptive statistics of marital adjustment and family-of-origin subscales

Variables No. of Items		Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation	Cronbach's Alpha
Marital adjustment	15	63.30	138.00	100.85	15.83	.758
Family-of-origin total	40	95	172	135.39	14.25	.815
Clarity of Expression	4	8.00	20.00	13.64	2.47	.820
Responsibility	Responsibility 4		17.00	11.89	1.67	.832
Respect for Others	4	7.00	18.00	13.22	2.04	.824
Openness to Others	4	9.00	17.00	12.63	1.70	.828
Acceptance of Separation and Loss	4	5.00	20.00	14.31	2.67	.828
Range of Feelings	4	7.00	20.00	12.08	2.41	.827
Mood and Tone	4	8.00	20.00	15.98	2.70	.820
Conflict Resolution	4	6.00	20.00	13.22	3.01	.817
Empathy	4	8.00	20.00	14.20	2.49	.821
Trust	4	7.00	20.00	14.22	2.55	.823

Note: n = 220

3.2 Correlations

In this step, the association between family of origin total scale and marital adjustment was examined through bivariate analyses. It was hypothesized that there is a significant relationship between family-of-origin scale and subscales and marital adjustment among married postgraduate Iranian students in Malaysia. Table 3 presents the Pearson correlation matrix. As it can be seen here, this table indicates that the family-of-origin total scale correlated significantly and positively with marital adjustment (r = .514, p < .01 N = 220). Among all the sub-scales more significantly correlated at .01 is conflict resolution with marital adjustment (r = .412, p < .01, N = 220), trust (r = .387, p < .01, N = 220), and openness to others (r = .384, p < .01, N = 220). As was the case with total family-of-origin scores, this is a positive relationship, hence we can conclude that, the higher perceived family-of-origin health was defined, the higher level of marital adjustment the participants experienced.

	VAR	MA	FOS	CLE	RSP	RET	OPN	ACP	RAG	MOD	CFT	EMP	TST
	MA	1											
	FOS	.514**	1										
	CLE	.295**	.764**	1									
	RSP	.234**	.213**	0.076	1								
	RST	.381**	.634**	.383**	0.122	1							
	OPN	.384**	.469**	.255**	.151*	.286**	1						
	ACP	.141*	.432**	.231**	-0.048	.173*	0.104	1					
	RNG	.153*	.512**	.352**	0.081	.289**	.252**	.225**	1				
	MOD	.322**	.744**	.525**	0.077	.404**	.236**	.228**	.210**	1			
	CFT	.412**	.763**	.582**	0.116	.413**	.267**	0.12	.242**	.657**	1		
	EMP	.375**	.704**	.527**	0.108	.418**	.280**	.273**	.249**	.495**	.431**	1	
_	TST	.387**	.579**	.445**	-0.089	.328**	.196**	0.102	.139*	.363**	.468**	.302**	1

Table 3. Correlations between the family of origin sub-scales and marital adjustment

Note: Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed), *p<.05, **p<.01, n=220 p = 0.1: small effect; p = 0.3: medium effect; p = 0.5: large effect Abbreviations: MA=marital adjustment; Family of Origin Scale=(FOS): CLE=clarity of expression; RSP=responsibility; RST=respect for others; OPN=openness to others; ACP=acceptance of separation & loss; RNG=range of feeling; MOD=mood & tone; CFT=conflict resolution; EMP=empathy; TST=trust

3.3 Multiple Regression Analysis

Multiple regression is a correlational procedure that examines the relationships among several variables. "Specifically, this technique enables researchers to find the best possible weighting of two or more independent variables" (Ary, Razavieh, Jacobs, & Sorenson, 2010, p. 360). When two variables were correlated perfectly Ho (2006) states that multiple regression provide an opportunity to assess the importance of each of the predictors to the overall relationship.

Using the enter method; findings can be seen at Table 4. The findings revealed that two of the predictor variables were significant in explaining the marital adjustment. The two predictors variables were autonomy (t = 3.398; p = .001), and intimacy (t = 3.647; p = .000). The findings suggest that the data supported the two-predictor multiple linear regression model.

Variables	Summary Of Regression	Un-Std Coefficient B	Un-Std Coefficient	Std. Coefficient	Т	Sig. Value	Collinearity Statistics		
	Regression	Coefficient D	Std. Error	Beta		varue	Tolerance	VIF	
(constant)		20.741	9.758		2.125				
Autonomy		.688	.202	.271	3.398	.001	.533	1.876	
Intimacy		.497	.136	.291	3.647	.000	.533	1.876	
Multiple R	.515								
R Square	.265								
Adjusted R Square	.259								
F-Statistics	39.192								

Table 4. Multiple regression analysis

Note. Predictors: (Constant), Autonomy & Intimacy. Dependent variable: Marital Adjustment, p<.05, n = 220

An R-square value of .265 implies that the two-predictor model explained about 26.5 % of the variance in marital adjustment. Table 4 revealed that based on the reported value of the F-statistic (F = 39.192, p < .05), the model fits the data. This means that the slope of the estimated linear regression model line was not equal to zero, thus confirming that there was a linear relationship between marital adjustment and the two predictor variables.

Standardized regression coefficients are presented in Table 4. to explain the importance of two predictors in predicting marital adjustment. Independent variable with a high beta coefficient is highly important in contributing to the prediction of the criterion variable. Based on the beta values obtained, the beta coefficient for autonomy was .271 and for intimacy was .291. This means that intimacy relatively had a higher power than the autonomy in predicting the marital adjustment. Also this describes that a one standard deviation increase in autonomy was followed by a .271 standard deviation unit increase in marital adjustment and that one standard deviation increase in intimacy was brought about a .291 standard deviation unit increase in marital adjustment

Furthermore, result in this study indicated that men's perception of marital adjustment is more influenced by their families of origin experiences than women's. In other words, for men 37.7 % of the variance in marital adjustment increase was explained by family-of-origin experiences, while in women the overall regression model was successful in explaining approximately 17.9 % of the adjusted variance in marital adjustment. Thus, family-of-origin experiences measured predicted marital adjustment especially for men (Table 5).

		Male										Female	;			
variables	Summary Of Regression	Un-Std Coefficient B	Un-Std Coefficient Std. Error	Std. Coefficient Beta	t	Sig. Value	Tolerance	VIF	Summary Of Regression	Un-Std Coefficient B	Un-Std Coefficient Std. Error	Std. Coefficient Beta	t	Sig. Value	Tolerance	VIF
Constant		-2.065	13.519		153					37.972	13.811		2.749			
Autonomy		.977	.265	.382	3.682	.000	.557	1.795		.516	.298	.213	1.734	.086	.495	2.018
Intimacy		.581	.208	.290	2.791	.006	.557	1.795		.377	.190	.244	1.991	.049	.495	2.018
Multiple R	.614								.423							
R Square	.377								.179							
Adjusted R Square	.365								.164							
F-Statistics	31.446								11.981							

Table 5. Multiple regression analysis by gender

Note. Predictors: (Constant), Autonomy & Intimacy. Dependent variable: Marital Adjustment, p < .05, n = 113 female, n = 107 male

4. Discussion

The results of present study clearly indicate that 1) Family-of-origin experiences were positively correlated to marital adjustment of respondents. This implies that despite living out of the country of origin, Iran, the post graduate students in Malaysia are still influenced by the family of origin and the collectivistic cultures. This finding is in agreement with the results of Falcke et al. (2008) which indicated that there is an association between type of experience that the respondents live in their families of origin and the quality of their marital relationship. Since, Iranian culture is similar to the host country Malaysia, in terms of being a collectivist society, the influence of family of origin remains significant. 2) The family-of-origin dimensions (autonomy and intimacy) were statistically significant predictors of the marital adjustment. Indeed, the autonomy and intimacy were found to be the best predictors of marital adjustment. In addition, result in this study indicated that men's perception of marital adjustment is more influenced by their families of origin experiences than women's. So, the findings of this study support the presence of positive effects of family-of-origin experiences on married students' marital adjustment. For example, in line with this finding, Dennison (2011) examined the effect of family-of-origin characteristics (e.g., interparental conflict) on current marital satisfaction, within a sample of newlywed. Findings of the study stress the need to help individuals understand the significance of their family-of-origin experiences in their later relationships, particularly in their married lives. The present investigation was concluded that the experiences from families of origin can influence marital quality and awareness about these experiences can play a significant role in enhancing the quality of marriage among married individuals.

The limitation of this study lies in use of correlational statistical approach in the study of married persons' memories of their past experiences within their families of origin. To overcome this limitation, future studies may consider longitudinal, observational and experimental research design to evaluate their needs and enhance and develop their educational and clinical training. Also, future research will need to assess both members of a couple rather than assessing each married person individually. We also suggest that future studies examine function of family-of-origin experiences and marital adjustment of different samples of non-academic and business settings and compare the results obtained.

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