

Discriminant Validity of Korean version of ENRICH Marital Inventory (K-ENRICH)

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Objectives

The aim of this study was to assess the validity and reliability of K-ENRICH, which measures the key dimensions of marriage. In Korea, the increase of women's job involvement and change of conventional role expectations has created more marital problems. To ameliorate and intervene with marital problems, it's very crucial to have a tool for assessing the marital dynamics.

Sample

The subjects of this study were clients of marital therapy or participants in a seminar for marital enrichment. They were all Koreans, and a total of 1058 married couples' data was analyzed.

The couples were divided into a satisfied and dissatisfied groups based on their scores on the 1-item marital satisfaction measure. When both couple reported that they were very or extremely satisfied, they were classified as the satisfied group (n=597). While the couples whose response were somewhat dissatisfied or dissatisfied were classified as dissatisfied group (n=76). This sample was randomly split to provide validation and cross-validation samples for the discriminant validity analysis. There were 673 couples' data out of 1058 couples' data were used in discriminate validity analysis. To verify validity of group classification, chi-square test was done using 'considering divorce' item as an indicator.

Results

Based on the alpha reliability for each scale, the scales of K-ENRICH have very acceptable internal consistencies (Table 1). The average alpha reliability for the 12 scales is .80 and the range is from .63 to .90.

The group classification into the satisfied and dissatisfied was proven to be valid (Table 2). The chi-square analysis clearly showed the two groups were significantly different. When comparing the two groups on whether one or both partners considered divorce, it was found that in the satisfied group, 98% of the persons never considered divorce. However, in the dissatisfied group, 74% of both spouses considered divorce.

The K-ENRICH scales have high discriminant validity because using only 4 scales, it is possible to predict the group correctly with 97.0% accuracy (Table 3 and 4). The four scales that were most predictive were in rank order (high to low): spiritual beliefs, sexual relationship, financial management and role relationship. Finally, multiple regression analysis results show that 7 out of 10 PCA scales explains 65% variance in couple satisfaction (Table 5). The top five scales were sexual relationship, communication, spiritual beliefs, financial management, and family & friends.

Discussion and Conclusion

The study shows that K-ENRICH has high reliability and validity and the 12 scales explains many aspects related with marital satisfaction. A limitation of this study is that the number of dissatisfied group is relatively small compared to satisfied group. Also, the total sample may not be representative of married couples in Korea. In conclusion, K-ENRICH was proved to be a valid and reliable inventory that provides a comprehensive picture of marriage.

Table 1. Reliability of K-ENRICH Scales

Scale Name	Alpha
Marital Satisfaction	.87
Idealistic Distortion	.90
Personality Issue	.83
Communication	.86
Conflict Resolution	.72
Financial Management	.85
Leisure Activities	.71
Sexual Relationship	.84
Children & Parenting	.80
Family & Friends	.72
Role Relationship	.63
Spiritual Beliefs	.87

Table 2: Chi-Square Test for Grouping Validity

		Group		
		Dissatisfied	Satisfied	Total
Considering Divorce	Neither	13	51.4	52.7
		2.5%	97.5%	100.0%
	Husband Only	5	22	27
		18.5%	81.55%	100.0%
	Wife Only	16	48	64
		25.0%	75.0%	100.0%
	Both	42	13	55
		74.4%	23.6%	100.0%
Total		76	597	673
		11.3%	88.7%	100.0%

Table 3: The Results of Discriminant Analysis

Original	Count	Predicted Group Membership			
		Group	Dissatisfied	Satisfied	Total
		Dissatisfied	34	4	38
		Satisfied	6	293	299
	%	Dissatisfied	89.5	10.5	100.0
		Satisfied	2.0	98.0	100.0

Table 4: Standardized Canonical Discriminant Function Coefficients

	Function 1
Spiritual Belief	.542
Sexual Relationship	.446
Financial Management	.380
Role Relationship	.212

Table 5: The Results of Regression Analysis

	Unstandardized Coefficient	Standard Coefficient	t	Sig.
	B	Beta		
Communication	.009	.205	6.013	.000
Sexual Relationship	.008	.223	8.064	.000
Spiritual Belief	.006	.143	6.932	.000
Financial Management	.004	.127	4.723	.000
Friends and Family	.002	.031	2.100	.036
Role Relationship	.003	.076	2.998	.003
Child and Parenting	.002	.057	2.339	.017
Personality Issues	.003	.066	2.075	.038

Reference

Blaine J. Fowers & David H. Olson (1989). ENRICH marital Inventory: Discriminant Validity and Cross-Validity Assessment, *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy*, 15(1). 65-79.

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