

Religiosity and the Type of Love; the Relation with Marital Satisfaction

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Abstract. Marriage is the beginning of family formation by the union of two individuals of the opposite sex and birth of children (Papalia & Old, 1998). There are many factors that affect marital satisfaction, one of them is religiosity. Religiosity is considered to have a role in marital satisfaction, because religiosity may influence a person's mindset and behavior in living a life of marriage. However on this research, we focused more on the type of love since in Indonesia the research about the impact of type of love is still rare.

The objective of this study is to measure Marital Satisfaction in Indonesia and to see the possibility of other factor that might affect the marital satisfaction such as number of children, their age, age of marriage and their educational level. 125 respondents that have been married for more than 5 year were recruited from different city in Jakarta Indonesia to answer the questionnaires. Our respondents consist of 65 female and 60 male. Aside of that, we will also do depth interview with 3 couples that we choose randomly from our subject. The available data would be analyzed using statistical approach in order to see the factors that might have bigger contribution to Marital Satisfaction.

The results indicated that there were no significant different on marital satisfaction between female and male group. Further to this, the type of love did not bring significant impact to the marital satisfaction compared with religiosity which still bring a significant impact in the male group. On the contrary, the type of love did give a significant contribution to the marital satisfaction in female group as well as religiosity. Other findings also describe that demographic factors such as age of marriage, educational level, number of children and their age did not affect the marital satisfaction in a significant way.

Keywords: Religiosity, Type of Love, Marital Satisfaction, Demographic Factors.

1. Introduction

Marriage is a bond that forms between man and woman in which there is an element of intimacy, friendship, love, fulfillment of sexual desire, and become more mature. Duvall & Miller (1985) defines marriage as a form of relationship between men and women, including sexual relations, the legitimacy of an heir, and the determination of liabilities owned by each partner. Moreover, according to Carr (2004), he mentioned other psychological factors that might be affect to the relationship between married couples such as self esteem, attachment style, sexual compatibility, stage of family life cycle, types of love (Sternberg in Miller & Perlman), types of couples. Indonesia is one country with a fairly high divorce rate. This is evidenced by the data recorded in the land court and the Court of Religion. Historically, the divorce rate in Indonesia is volatile. It can be traced from the research results of Professor Mark Cammack Southwestern School of Law, Los Angeles, USA. Based on the findings Cammack, in 1950 the divorce rate in Southeast Asia including Indonesia ranks highest in the world. In the decade from 100 marriages, 50 of which ended in divorce. In the year 2009 reached 250 thousand cases. Then the data in 2010 from the Director General of Islamic Guidance Ministry of Religious Affairs (Kompasiana, 2011) state that 2 million people are married, then there are 285 184 cases ended in divorce. The factor of divorce caused by many things, ranging from infidelity, disharmony, until as an economic problem which is the most common cause. There are many factors that affect marital satisfaction, one of them is religiosity. Religiosity is considered to have a role in marital satisfaction, because religiosity may influence a person's mindset and behavior in living a life of marriage. Jane (2006) also states that religious belief has a profound influence on long-term marital satisfaction. Filsinger & Wilson (1984) also added that religion makes life or marriage becomes more accepted and the couples become more satisfied. Commitment to religion can form a healthy family structure (Jane, 2006).

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2. Research Problem

- Does religiosity give significant impact to the marital satisfaction among married people in Jakarta?
- Does type of love give significant impact to the marital satisfaction among married people in Jakarta?
- Does religiosity and type of love give significant impact to the marital satisfaction among married people in Jakarta?

3. The Objective of The Research

The result of this study is expected giving benefit to the the development of clinical and developmental psychology theories, especially in giving different point of view about the Eastern and Islamic values to some theories since mostly the theory of clinical and developmental psychology has been western culture oriented. Also in this research, we specifically using Moslem people as our respondent. Therefore we could see how much our islamic thoughts give impact to marital satisfaction. Hopefully in the future, our research could help the society especially the married couple to maintain their relationship in the longer time since their already know what aspects that important for their spouse so could lead them to the happily life.

4. Theoretical Framework

4.1. Religiosity.

Stark and Glock (1970) found that spirituality is nothing but a religious commitment, a determination and goodwill related to the religious life. In their explanation, Stark and Glock mentioned the 5 dimensions of religious commitment, such as: belief, practice, experience, knowledge and act of faith.

4.2. Type of Love

Sternberg (in Sternberg and Barnes, 1988) describe the theory of love and mentioned three main pattern of love, which was : *intimacy*, *passion*, and *decision/commitment*.



Fig. 1: The Triangular Theory of Love

He then summarized few type of love that might be occurred whether the married people combined the pattern indeed ;

Sternberg's Typology of Love Relationships

Type of Love	Love Pattern		
	Intimacy	Passion	Komitmen
Non Love	Low	Low	Low
Liking	High	Low	Low
Infatuation	Low	High	Low
Empty Love	Low	Low	High
Romantic Love	High	High	Low
Companionate Love	High	Low	High
Fatuous Love	Low	High	High
Consummate Love	High	High	High

4.3. Marital Satisfaction

(Fitzpatrick, 1988) (in Bird & Melville, 1994) says that marital satisfaction is:

“.....how marital partners evaluate the quality of their marriage. It is a subjective description of whether a marital relationship is good, happy, or satisfying”. (page. 192)

5. Research Methodology

5.1. Participants

There were 125 participants that had been incidentally chosen with specific criteria. There are 60 male and 65 female.

5.2. Procedure of Data Gathering

Firstly the questionnaire was set by the researchers with 32 items, which used to assess the marital satisfaction and 40 items for measured religiosity, and 45 items for measured type of love. By the time they filled in the questionnaire, participants had been asked their willingness to fill in demographic data, such as name, age, gender, their income, number of child and how long they had been married. The study began with a draft of the study. After that, the researchers adapted existing instruments and made new scale and at the end analyzed the collected data using SPSS 17.0 for Windows.

5.3. Measurement

The scale of this research consists of three parts. First part is questions about marital satisfaction. Second part is religiosity that was set up in form of questionnaires with likert scale as well as the type of love scale in the third part. It means each item consists four items of answers; Strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree and Strongly Disagree. In the scale there were also positive and negative items. Score for positive item which answered is Strongly Agree rated by 4, Agree rated by 3, Disagree rated by 2 and strongly Disagree rated by 1. In contrast, score for negative item which answer is Strongly Agree rated by 1, Agree rated by 2, Disagree rated by 3 and Strongly Disagree rated by 4. The original instrument was translated in to Indonesian language.

5.4. Stastitical Analysis

In this phase, we tried to test the impact of religiosity and type of love to the marital satisfaction. Based on the data available, the multiple regression result show ;

ANOVA^b

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	4764.858	9	529.429	6.575	.1
	Residual	8696.981	108	80.528		
	Total	13461.839	117			

a. Predictors: (Constant), type of love, religiosity , age of marriage

b. Dependent Variable: marital satisfaction

We know that F score was 6.575 (9, 108) ($p < 0.05$) which means the type of love, religiosity and age of marriage have significant impact to the marital satisfaction. Further, to see how big the varians impact from both IV to DV, the result was 35.4 % variance in marital satisfaction was caused by Religiosity, Type of Love and also Age of Marriage. This result showed that 64.6 % ($1 - 0.354$) variance in marital satisfaction was caused by other variable. Furthermore, based on t score, this analysis also found that intimacy (one aspect from type of love) was the only one aspect which bring significant impact to the marital satisfaction. To complete our analysis, we also differentiate the analysis between the male group from the female, and the result was ;

- **Male Group**

ANOVA^b

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	2067.738	9	229.749	1.984	.066 ^a
	Residual	4863.185	42	115.790		
	Total	6930.923	51			

a. Predictors: (Constant), age of marriage, consequences, commitment, knowledge, belief, ritual, intimacy, experience, passion

b. Dependent Variable: marital satisfaction

As seen above, the F score was 1.984 ($p > 0.05$) which means that *intimacy, passion, commitment, belief, experience, ritual, knowledge, consequences* and age of marriage did not bring significant impact to marital satisfaction.

• Female Group

ANOVA^b

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	3196.012	9	355.112	6.646	.000 ^a
	Residual	2992.246	56	53.433		
	Total	6188.258	65			

a. Predictors: (Constant), consequences, belief, passion, usia pernikahan, experience, ritual, knowledge, intimacy, commitment

b. Dependent Variable: kepuasan pernikahan

The F score in the table was 6.646 ($p < 0.05$). This means that *intimacy, passion, commitment, belief, experience, ritual, knowledge, consequences*, dan age of marriage affect marital satisfaction significantly.

6. Conclusion and Discussion

Generally, all the result seems in line with the fact that we usually see in our society. Man as a chief in the family have bigger responsibility to earn some money and give a welfare life to their family. Therefore sometimes they forget about the romantic and passionate love which they should expressed to their spouse. In a different way, the type of love whether it passionate or romantic love does bring some impact to marital satisfaction in female. This also match with the nature of female as a self. As final conclusion we could say that there is no significant different between male and female on how they feel satisfy with their marriage. Yet, the type of love bring significant impact to marital satisfaction an this was not apply for the man.

On the other side, we also tried to analysed the demographic factors such as number of child, educational level, the respondent's age and the age of their marriage. In fact, another conclusions that also found in this research was number of child, their age and their educational level did not give significant impact to the marital satisfaction. Yet, the age of marriage still bring impact to marital satisfaction, though the impact was not quite significant.

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