Temperament and Character Dimensions as Personality Predictors of Relationship Quality: An Actor-Partner Interdependence Model

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Abstract : Predicting the relationship satisfaction based on the personality characteristics of both partners has a long history. The association between relationship quality and personality traits has been previously demonstrated. Personality traits are most commonly assessed using the Five-Factor Model. The present study has focused on Cloninger's psychobiological model of personality that accounts for dimensions of both temperament and character. The goal of this study was to examine the actor and partner effect of couple's personality on relationship outcomes. In total, 184 heterosexual couples completed the Temperament and Character Inventory (TCI) and the Dyadic Adjustment Scale. The analysis was based on Actor-Partner Interdependence Model (APIM) using multilevel modeling (MLwiN). Results showed that character dimensions Self-Directedness and Cooperativeness had a statistically meaningful actor and partner effect on both partner's relationship quality. However, male's personality temperament dimension Reward Dependence had an only actor effect on his relationship quality. The findings contribute to the literature by highlighting the role of character dimensions of personality in romantic relationships.
Keywords : APIM (actor-partner interdependence model), MLwiN, personality, relationship quality
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