



# Predicting Marital Infidelity Proneness Based on Conscientiousness, Life Satisfaction and Independency in Employees Married Women in Cultural Context

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**Citation:** Farhang Parvar, Z., & Zeinali, A. (2024). Predicting marital infidelity proneness based on conscientiousness, life satisfaction and independency in employees married women in cultural context. *Journal of Woman Cultural Psychology*, 16(61), 63-77.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.61186/iau.1123867>

## ARTICLE INFO

**Received:** 17.07.2024

**Accepted:** 26.08.2024

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### Keywords:

Proneness to Marital Infidelity  
Conscientiousness  
Life satisfaction  
Independency  
Employees married women.

## Abstract

The purpose of this research was to predict the marital infidelity proneness among employees married women based on conscientiousness, life satisfaction, and independency in cultural context. The statistical population included all married women working in the executive administrations of Urmia City in 2023. The sample comprised 267 individuals whom were selected via convenience sampling procedure. The research method was descriptive-correlational. To collect data Drigotas & et al. (1999) Infidelity Proneness Scale, Diener & et al. (1985) Satisfaction with Life Scale, Rammstedt & John (2007) The Ten-Item Personality Inventory & Hui (1988) Individualism and Collectivism Scale were implemented. Data analysis was conducted by applying Pearson's correlation coefficient test, regression analysis. The findings indicated that conscientiousness and life satisfaction were significantly and negatively related to the proneness to marital infidelity, while a positive and significant relationship existed with independency among employees married women. Furthermore, the results also demonstrated that the three variables, conscientiousness, life satisfaction and independency could predict 59% of the variance in the proneness to marital infidelity among the participants. This study identified that conscientiousness and life satisfaction were as protective factors against the proneness to marital infidelity in working married women, and the independency as a risk factor. Therefore, concerning the cultural norms, public awareness of the causes and conditions of cultural, social and psychological vulnerability of marital infidelity, could play critical role in preventing it in the society.



## Extended abstract

**Introduction:** Conscientiousness, which refers to the personality trait of being responsible and organized, is also an important factor that affects life changes while life satisfaction is essentially a process of evaluation where individuals judge their situation based on certain criteria. It has been found that life satisfaction plays a significant role in the tendency of working married women towards infidelity. Another significant factor is independency, which is one of the sub-results of individualism. Individualism is characterized by three indicators: prioritizing one's own needs over others, prioritizing individual activities over collective and family bonds, and limiting oneself to self-reliance. The norms of a culture determine the acceptable behavior of members of a society and are used as a guide to normal behavior. One of the negative effects of married women's employment is the discrepancy between husband and wife. The attitude of society members to the employment of married women creates sometimes conflicting differences that deserve to be studied and examined carefully with the variables affecting them. Considering the above mentions the purpose of this research was to predict the marital infidelity proneness among employees married women based on conscientiousness, life satisfaction, and independency in cultural context.

**Method:** The statistical population included all married women working in the executive administrations of Urmia City in 2023. The sample comprised 267 individuals whom were selected via convenience sampling procedure. The research method was descriptive-correlational. To collect data Drigotas et al. (1999) Infidelity Proneness Scale, Diener et al. (1985) Satisfaction with Life Scale, Rammstedt & John (2007) The Ten-Item Personality Inventory and Hui (1988) Individualism and Collectivism Scale were implemented. Data analysis was conducted by applying Pearson's correlation coefficient test, regression analysis.

**Results:** The findings indicated that conscientiousness and life satisfaction were significantly and negatively related to the proneness to marital infidelity, while a positive and significant relationship existed with independency among employees married women. Furthermore, the results also demonstrated that the three variables, conscientiousness, life satisfaction and independency could predict 59% of the variance in the proneness to marital infidelity among the participants. This study identified that conscientiousness and life satisfaction were as protective factors against the proneness to marital infidelity in working married women, and the independency as a risk factor. Therefore, concerning the cultural norms, public awareness of the causes and conditions of cultural, social and psychological vulnerability of marital infidelity, could play critical role in preventing it in the society.

**Conclusions:** In explaining the obtained results regarding the prediction of marital infidelity proneness based on conscientiousness, it could be said that one of the main reasons for marital infidelity was the personality traits of couples. Personality traits are stable traits that, during the lives of couples, on the one hand, could be the basis for marital satisfaction and compatibility, and on the other hand, could be the basis for risk factors, including infidelity proneness among couples. It could be added that the increase in life satisfaction leads to a decrease in marital infidelity proneness in working



married women and vice versa. In more explanation of the findings it could be argued that working women experience more marital satisfaction, enjoy spending more time together, experience more positive emotions in life, and have positive evaluations of themselves. The cultural norm function as a guide to normal behavior. A working woman's desire for independence is considered harmful to the husband's authority as the head of the family and puts the family life at risk. On the other hand, the low level of conscientiousness and lack of satisfaction of the couple for any reason in the cultural context is added to the cause and provides the conditions for infidelity.

**Authors Contributions:** Zahra Farhang Parvar: Data collection and collaboration in writing the main body. Dr. Ali Zeinali: Reviewing and the corrections of the article, designing the general framework of the article, statistical analysis of data, writing the main body of the article including introduction, discussion and conclusion and corresponding author. All authors reviewed and approved the final version of the article.

**Acknowledgments:** The authors would like to thank all the participants in this study.

**Conflict of Interest:** The authors declared there are no conflicts of interest in this article.

**Funding:** This article did not receive any financial support.