

A PERSONALITY INVENTORY APPROACH  
TO THE STUDY OF  
MARITAL ADJUSTMENT

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## ABSTRACT

### A PERSONALITY INVENTORY APPROACH TO THE STUDY OF MARITAL ADJUSTMENT

by Diane M. Powell

The purposes of this investigation were: (a) to study Marital Adjustment (MA) as related to the Edwards Personal Preference Schedule (PPS); (b) to investigate the relationship between MA and interspouse ratings of needs. A sample of  $23\frac{1}{2}$  university and university affiliated married couples were administered the PPS, van der Veen et al.'s Family Concept Q-Sort, and a biographical data sheet. Instructions for the PPS were altered slightly in order to elicit a rating for spouse as well as for self on each of the paired items. Using upper and lower tertiles of Q-Sort scores, equal numbers of males and females were selected from the original sample to form four groups: High MA males, High MA females, Low MA males, and Low MA females. Subsequently, PPS scores were analyzed by a  $2 \times 2 \times 2$  (MA  $\times$  Sex  $\times$  Role) factorial design using analysis of variance. Sex and MA group differences on Biographical Data Sheet variables were tested by Student's t and Fisher's Exact tests. In addition, Biographical Data Sheet findings were correlated against PPS scores and were found to be independent of PPS findings. With regard to the first purpose, the findings show that the PPS does measure a number of significant differences within and between married couples of high and low adjustment, and that the differences are clearer among females than among males.

Both High MA males and females are generally more socially outgoing and less task oriented than the Low MA groups, but they are divided in their interest in meeting the needs of others (High MA females exceed High MA males on nNUR). The High MA females appear to be unusually unneedful of emotional support from others (nSUC) and seem to have a higher level of self-esteem (nABA) relative to their Low MA female counterparts.

Although Low males and females agree on their perhaps masochistic persistence in maintaining unsatisfying commitments at the expense of fulfillment of emotional needs, there are also some striking sex differences. The hint of denial of individual responsibility and feelings of guilt at transgression (nABA) in combination with the high nSUC scores for Low MA males suggests relatively dependent individuals who relate in a passive-aggressive manner towards females. Although inordinate interpersonal dependency does not seem to be a major issue, Low MA females seem to be unable to sever themselves from unrewarding relationships, and, consequently, seem to become preoccupied with concerns about things rather than people. Intropunitive expression of frustration would seem to characterize this group.

One of the most interesting findings is that MA scores of married couples seem to be independent of each other. Rather, it appears as if two mutually High or Low MA persons in a couple are more rare than cross-over couples! This conflicts with the literature, where a significant positive interspouse correlation is usually claimed. Spouse projection scores reveal that the subjects perceive their respective spouses as different from the other groups in several ways. Notable is the finding that High nNUR scores correlate positively with MA for females and inversely with MA for males. At the same time



High nNUR in spouse projection scores varies positively with MA in females and negatively with MA in males. Additionally, the more nSUC males perceive in their wives, the more probable that these males will have low MA scores. Thus it appears as if the better adjusted males are ones upon whom few demands for emotional support are made by their spouses. Similarly, females who make fewer demands upon their spouses, whom they perceive to be less capable of meeting their dependency needs than vice versa, tend to have higher MA scores.

Although the analysis of variance of the PPS provided only one significant main effect (nAGG) on Role (self-report vs. projected spouse ratings), numerous discrepancy scores for the two MA groups indicate marital adjustment correlates with projected interspouse agreement as well as with self-reported interspouse similarity. Furthermore, projected spouse similarities tend to be more highly related to MA than self-reported similarities, which suggests that high MA couples are even more similar than Low MA couples in the kinds of defense mechanisms they employ. The nAGG and nDOM findings suggest a male tendency to exaggerate masculine stereotype features at the possible expense of their contradiction to reality. The overall fewer differences found between male groups compared to females suggests that perceived spouse characteristics are more crucial to the determination of MA in males.

Additional findings of interest were noted in the biographical data relating to number and sex of children. It appears that the longer females are married, the more likely they are to have a Low MA score. Low MA females also have more children and are older on the average than High MA females. A highly significant difference between High

and Low MA males with respect to absence and presence of female children, if confirmed by further research, would have important bearing on interpersonal and developmental theories in general.

Similarity of PPS need-strength best describes this sample, although differences in kind of need similarity distinguish the High from the Low MA subjects.

Approved

John R. Hurley  
Committee Chairman

Date

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## INTRODUCTION

The use of personality inventories to describe and predict marital adjustment, spouse conformity, mate selection, etc., has generally been based on one of two tenets: (a) the similarity hypothesis--that married partners tend to seek each other on the basis of sameness of personality traits and needs; (b) the complementarity hypothesis--that attraction is based on the extent to which the partners complement each others' needs. The former posits that marital adjustment is correlated with similarity of the partners' scores on the various scales of a given inventory. The latter suggests that compatibility will be reflected when the scores on the same variable are different.

Depending upon the researcher and the technique involved, there have been conflicting results on the pertinence of these hypotheses to marriage research. Winch (1958) found needs of spouses tended to be dissimilar, which he took as evidence that mates select each other on the basis of complementarity of needs. Burgess and Wallin (1953), using 1,000 engaged couples, found no negative correlations among their measures and supported the similarity hypothesis. Katz et al. (1960) employed a shortened version of the EPPS and noted four significant correlations between like needs and one significant correlation between unlike needs of married couples. This study concluded that for the wives complementarity of needs was not generally related to marital satisfaction, although the picture was less clear for the husbands.

Luckey (1960) has studied the relationship of marital couples' individual self-concepts, spouse-concepts, and parental concepts and



their existing interrelationships with respect to a measure of marital adjustment. Assuming that parental identification is an important factor in adult sexual adjustment, whether and how such identification is related to marital interaction were questions considered important to an understanding of the marriage relationship. Using the Interpersonal Check List (La Forge, 1955; Leary, 1956), the Terman Scale (1938), and the Modified Marital Adjustment Scale (Locke, 1959), it was noted that congruence in perception of self and of parent of the same sex was associated with marital satisfaction for men. Maritally satisfied women also showed descriptive equations of spouse and father. Conclusions for the men with respect to opposite sexed parent and spouse concepts were less clear.

The several studies comparing measures of marital harmony and various self and significant other ratings have generally assumed a purely descriptive validity in their conclusions--noting, for example, whether or not the descriptions of the wife's father matched significantly those of the male spouse. Descriptive equations of spouse and opposite sexed parent, while heretofore used to substantiate hypotheses of mate selection by researchers such as Luckey, also suggest another interpretation: that satisfaction with the marital partner leads to perceiving the partner as being closer to the opposite sexed parent, who culturally often stands as a reference object in the mate selection process. Furthermore, it would seem that communication and accuracy of perception of one another's needs would be a crucial factor in determining marital adjustment and would implicitly contribute to descriptive agreement. This would suggest that perception as a function of attitude, that is, selective perceptual sharpening or leveling, is an interesting and perhaps important variable to investigate in the marital relationship.

### Statement of Problem:

The complexity of an interpersonal relationship and the multitude of salient features one could suspect pertinent in its satisfaction value to the participants, would make a single variable assessment approach seem of little relevance. Rather the findings of previous studies (Katz, et al., 1960; Luckey, 1960; Winch, 1958) all point to only partial understanding of what constitutes marital satisfaction. Admittedly research in this area is still in an adolescent status with regard to elucidation of the most pertinent indices of analysis. Moreover it will likely require a substantial amount of further "shotgunning" to clarify these issues.

In the meantime, it would seem of value to continue to explore what measures are presently available with respect to the issues at hand. Notwithstanding Tharp (1964) and Levinger's (1964) comments regarding the need for greater stimulus specificity in assessing the marital interaction, the unique importance and dominance of the marital partnership with respect to other two-person interactions in adult life logically justifies some credence for presuming this relationship, above others, is more likely to have measurable effects on the "stable intra-organismic state." To abandon a more wholistic trait analysis approach, not yet fully explored, for more role-specific limits in variable investigation seems premature. Rather the rationales for these methodologies may remain separate and functional without being mutually antagonistic.

Despite its conceptual weaknesses and the many conflicting results it has produced, Winch's concept of complementarity (1958) has been credited by some (Tharp, 1963) with being the most influential hypothesis in marriage research in the last decade. The essential idea of complementation in interpersonal relations is that two persons are "attracted to each other on the basis of their healthy or neurotic needs

for the purpose of maintaining and developing their habitual needs and goals" (Winch, 1958). Complementarity may occur in both of two ways: (a) two persons showing different intensities of the same need; (b) two persons showing positive or negative correlation of intensity on two different, but theoretically complementary, needs. Winch (1958) proposed that, although interests and attitudes would show similarity in a marriage relationship, the more fundamental variables of motivation, for example, needs, would reveal a pattern of complementarity.

Levinger (1964) outlines three conceptual issues that have received relatively little attention in previous studies: (a) a logical confusion in the accepted distinction between complementarity and similarity of needs; (b) the lack of an explicit basis for deciding which needs are complementary; (c) the distinction between internal and external sources of need satisfaction. To the first issue Levinger suggests,

More tenable is the idea that A's and B's needs, same in kind and equal in intensity, will complement one another properly when both members of the pair possess the need in moderate quantity. (1964, p. 154)

In settling upon a rationale for deciding which needs should be considered complementary, Levinger suggests the use of a more limited theory.

While Levinger supports the need for greater stimulus specificity in choosing research techniques, he criticizes the use of the EPPS for measuring other than need fulfillment in a general college peer setting. He assumes that the items do, in fact, elicit only responses with respect to general peer relations. If, on the other hand, one assumed that reactions to the general environment are reproduced in significant degree in any given two-person relationship, then the items of the EPPS can be regarded as a subtle measure of need fulfillment in that

relationship. Too, for females, the "general environment" is often restricted primarily to those relationships within the home bounds.

Purpose of the Present Study:

The purpose of this study is to investigate further the value of the EPPS scales in: (a) comprehending the nature of the marriage relationship and its constituents; (b) predicting marital adjustment; (c) investigating interspouse prediction of one another's needs; and (d) reviewing the findings with respect to current theoretical issues.

## METHOD

### Personality Measures:

Edwards Personal Preference Schedule (EPPS): Consisting of 210 forced choice items, the PPS variables or "needs" were derived from the theoretical work of H. A. Murray (1938). Each pair of items is matched approximately for mean rated social desirability as an attempt to reduce the effect of this factor on item choice; the pairing of the items provides the same total raw score for all persons. Thus the fifteen relatively independent normal personality variables are presented in such a way as to reflect only the relative strength of any need.

Family Concept Q-Sort: The Family Concept Q-Sort developed by van der Veen, et al. (1964) consists of 80 items that describe the family unit. Presented to the subject on separate cards in random order, instructions are given to place the cards in nine piles ranging from a "least like my family" pile to a "most like my family" pile, with the number of cards per pile determined by normal distribution proportions.

It is assumed that when a person describes a group such as his family he will select those characteristics salient for him in all the various group and subgroup events that occur; that these characteristics are for him the qualities that define the family group as a whole; and that they are the ones most likely to influence his feelings and his behavior in the family. (van der Veen, et al., p. 47)

Of the 80 items, twenty-seven are weighted as positive statements, twenty-one are weighted as negative, and the remainder are considered neutral. A Family-Adjustment Q-Score is obtained by crediting one point for every negative item that is categorized below



the middle category and for every positive item that is categorized above the middle category. Thus the range of possible scores is 0-47. Van der Veen, et al. (1964) have shown high agreement between family adjustment scores and marital adjustment scores obtained by other techniques. It can thus be used as an indirect measure of marital adjustment.

Biographical Data Sheet: A biographical data sheet including items of interest and pertinence to the confirmation of sample homogeneity was administered to all subjects after they had completed the first two techniques. Each subject was asked his age, age at marriage, number of years married, number of years education, number and sexes of children, religious affiliation, profession or area of study, status of parents (alive, deceased, divorced, etc.), and rating of parents' marital adjustment (five point scale).

#### Selection of Subjects:

Subjects were all married couples with the exception of one married woman whose husband did not participate. Six couples participated from a local interdenominational church group. One-half of the subjects were recruited from graduate classes in Social Work and Psychology, while the remainder were respondents to a class-credit sign-up sheet for undergraduate students taking course work in Psychology. All subjects were administered and completed all three materials of the study.

#### Description of the Sample:

The majority of the 47 subjects comprising the sample were directly affiliated with Michigan State University either as undergraduate or graduate students. Of predominantly Protestant religious

affiliation, all were presumably of middle class socioeconomic background and predominantly of Midwest origin. From the original group of all subjects, husbands and wives combined, upper and lower tertiles were selected on the basis of the Q-Sort scores and arbitrarily defined as High and Low Marital Adjustment groups, respectively. Among the subjects selected, the members of five couples were placed in the same MA group (two were High MA and three were Low MA). Seven couples, however, were divided into opposite groups, about evenly between the sexes. The remaining eight subjects were not related to each other by marriage.

#### Experimental Design:

Subjects were asked to respond to the PPS, Family Concept Q-Sort, and Biographical Data Sheet during the course of one session. Using a 2 x 2 x 2 factorial design of Marital Adjustment (High and Low), Sex (Male and Female), and Role (Self and Projected Spouse), scores on all fifteen subscales of the PPS were collected. (The terms "Projected Spouse" will be used here to refer to a subject's rating of his or her mate.) Instructions for the PPS were altered slightly to direct the subject to respond for how he viewed his spouse as well as to give the usual self-report score.

High and Low Marital Adjustment (MA) groups were selected by choosing the upper and lower tertiles of Family Concept Q-Sort scores. Equating for sex, four subgroups were selected containing eight subjects each: High MA males, High MA females, Low MA males, and Low MA females.

### Statistical Treatment of the Data:

Biographical Data Sheet variable means on all four subgroups (High males, High females, Low males and Low females) were compared by means of Student's t Test to determine relative homogeneity of the sample. This was done for those variables which might influence the main variables under investigation. One- and two-tailed hypotheses were used according to the expectation of directional differences on the variable under investigation. Where F test findings indicated them appropriate, Welch's and the pooled techniques were used to calculate the t tests. One biographical data item, Sex of Children, was analyzed by Fisher's Exact Test for the male groups.

Scores on two of the biographical data variables (Age and No. of Years Married) which differentiated female groups and which seemed interdependent, were correlated with MA scores and also with each other to determine which accounted best for the variance in the other. Subsequently, fourteen product-moment correlations were calculated between PPS scale scores and the scores on those remaining biographical data variables (No. of Years Married and No. of Children) which differentiated High and Low female groups, respectively. Comparisons between males on presence of female children and PPS scale scores which differentiated MA were tested by Student's t. These were done to examine the possibility that the differences between High and Low MA groups were due to unmatched samples.

PPS scores were analyzed by analysis of variance and Duncan's Multiple Range Test.

## RESULTS

### Biographical Data Sheet:

Table 1 lists the mean scores and standard deviations for all male and female MA subgroups on each of the Biographical Data Sheet variables. Table 2 lists the mean scores and standard deviations for all High MA and Low MA subjects, respectively, on each of the Biographical Data Sheet variables. Low MA females were older, had been married longer and had more children than High MA females. There were no differences between High and Low MA males. Low MA males were younger, had more education and had been married for fewer years than Low MA females. High MA males were older than High MA females. Analysis of sex of children as related to MA in males (Fisher's Exact Test) revealed ( $p. < .001$ ) that Low MA males have significantly fewer female children than High MA males.

### Family Concept Q-Sort:

Table 3 lists the means, standard deviations and ranges for all males, all females, and each MA subgroup, separately.  $t$  test comparisons were made between all four subgroups' mean MA scores to confirm the assumptions of MA subgroup differences and intra-group homogeneity. Both high groups were found to differ from both low groups and males and females within the same MA group were found to be homogeneous.

### PPS:

Table 4 lists product-moment correlations over all subjects for comparisons made between intra- and interspouse score differences,

both with respect to self-report and projected spouse scores. There were two significant negative findings between spouse mean MA score and PPS overall interspouse score discrepancy: (a) interspouse self-report overall  $\underline{D}$  (the sum of the differences on all PPS scales between the subject's self-report and the spouse's self-report); (b) interspouse projection overall  $\underline{D}$  (the sum of the differences on all PPS scales between the subject's rating of his spouse and the spouse's rating of the subject).

Table 5 presents a summary of all main and interaction effects including  $\underline{F}$  values and levels of significance of those  $\underline{F}$  values. While we may defer discussion of all the findings, significant main effects were: higher scores on nEXH, nINT, NDOM, and nCHG related to High MA; higher scores on nSUC and nEND related to Low MA. (Appendix C contains the summary data for the Duncan's Multiple Range analysis of each of the findings.) Table 6 shows means of MA subgroup self-report scores and projected spouse scores and PPS college normative means with  $\underline{t}$  test significant differences noted between the sexes on the same level of adjustment. Table 7 presents self-report data for all four subgroups including  $\underline{t}$  test differences and their significance levels for comparisons made between like-sexed subgroups. Figure 1 denotes significant differences ( $\underline{t}$  test at least at  $p = .05$ ) between sexes and between MA groups on five denotatively complementary need pairs of PPS subscales.



Table 1. Biographical Data Sheet Means and Standard Deviations for Males and Females of the High and Low Marital Adjustment Groups

Variable	Males				Females			
	Means		SD		Means		SD	
	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo
2 Age	28.63	26.75	8.94	3.11	24.00	32.75	2.27	8.70
2 Age at Marriage	21.75	21.88	2.05	2.54	20.88	20.88	2.12	3.91
2 Number of Years Married	7.25	5.00	7.40	2.30	3.13	12.00	1.77	2.48
2 Number of Years Education	17.38	18.13	2.20	3.21	16.00	15.13	2.17	6.96
2 Number of Children	2.13	1.50	2.36	1.85	.50	3.63	.84	2.39

<sup>a</sup>The difference between the two underlined means is significant ( $p. < .01$ ).

$$b(p \cdot < .05)$$
2Two-tailed test

Table 2. Biographical Data Sheet Means and Standard Deviations for the High and Low Marital Adjustment Groups Differentiated by Sex

Variable	Hi MA				Lo MA			
	Means		SD		Means		SD	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
	N = 16				N = 16			
<sup>1</sup> Age	<u>28.63</u>	<u>a 24.00</u>	8.94	2.27	<u>26.75</u>	<u>a 32.75</u>	3.11	8.70
<sup>1</sup> Age at Marriage	21.75	20.88	2.05	2.12	21.88	20.88	2.54	3.91
<sup>2</sup> Number of Years Married	7.25	3.13	7.40	1.77	<u>5.00</u>	<u>b 12.00</u>	2.30	2.48
<sup>1</sup> Number of Years Education	17.38	16.00	2.20	2.17	<u>18.13</u>	<u>b 15.13</u>	3.21	6.96
<sup>2</sup> Number of Children	2.13	.50	2.36	.84	1.50	3.63	1.85	2.39

<sup>a</sup>The difference between the two underlined means is significant ( $p. < .01$ ).  
<sup>b</sup>( $p. < .05$ )

<sup>1</sup>One-tailed test  
<sup>2</sup>Two-tailed test

Table 3. Means, Standard Deviations, and Ranges for Males and Females for Family Concept Q-Sort Data: Selected Sample Data and Total Sample Data

Subjects	Means	SD	Range
All Males (N=23)	33.74	5.75	16-41
All Females (N=24)	34.13	6.60	16-42
Hi Ma Males (N=8)	38.38	1.51	37-41
Hi MA Females (N=8)	39.25	1.58	38-42
Lo MA Males (N=8)	27.50	5.37	16-33
Lo MA Females (N=8)	25.38	4.24	16-29

Table 4. Product-Moment Correlations Between Intrapouse and  
 Interspouse MA Score Comparisons and Overall Discrepancy  
 Scores for All Scales of PPS (N=47)

Comparison	Product-Moment r	Significance
Interspouse MA Scores	.12	N.S.
Interspouse Self Report Overall <u>D</u> and Mean MA Score	-.36	.05
Interspouse Projection Scores Overall <u>D</u> and Mean MA Score	-.51	.005
Self Report-Projection Scores Overall <u>D</u> and MA Score (Insight)	-.14	N.S.
Projection of Spouse-Spouse Self Report Scores Overall <u>D</u> and MA Score (Projection)	-.10	N.S.

Table 5. Summary of EPPS Analysis of Variance Findings

	Main Effects			Interactions			
	MA	Sex	Role	MA x Sex	Role x MA	Role x Sex	Role x Sex x MA
nACH		16.06 .01		6.76 .05			
nDEF							
nORD				5.36 .05			
nEXH	9.94 .01					4.57 .05	
nAUT						6.17 .05	
nAFF					10.32 .01	129.48 .01	124.08 .01
nINT	4.40 .05						
nSUC	11.43 .01	13.60 .01					
nDOM	4.58 .05		6.41 .01			5.89 .05	
nABA		16.48 .01		53.60 .01			
nNUR				11.99 .01		61.11 .01	183.02 .01
nCHG	34.04 .01	22.47 .01		16.10 .01			
nEND	16.30 .01	42.75 .01		21.30 .01			
nHET		131.27 .01		66.34 .01			
nAGG		8.24 .05	13.33 .01	7.60 .05		35.21 .01	393.88 .01

Note: The first number in each filled cell indicates the F Test value; the second indicates the level of significance of that value.

Table 6. Overall Means of MA Subgroups and College Normative Data

EPSS Scale	Self Report Scores				Projection Scores <sup>1</sup>				College Norms <sup>2</sup>		
	HM	HF	LM	LF	HM	HF	LM	LF	M	F	F
nACH	16.75 *	14.63	17.25 *	15.12 *	15.50	15.75	13.62 *	18.88	15.66 **	13.08	
nDEF	9.00 *	10.75	9.00 *	10.75	10.63 *	12.25 *	11.75	12.13	11.21 **	12.40	
nORD	10.00 **	12.63	9.38 ***	12.75	14.50 *	10.25 *	13.00	13.13	10.23	10.24	
nEXH	16.50	15.00	15.00 *	11.25	12.88	16.25	11.00 *	15.25	14.40	14.28	
nAUT	14.50 *	10.88	14.75	11.13	11.00	14.38	11.63 *	15.75	14.34 **	12.29	
nAFF	11.38 *	17.38	11.25 ***	20.13	17.25	15.13	18.63 *	10.75	15.00 **	17.40	
nINT	17.38	17.13	17.50 *	15.75	15.50	16.75	12.75 *	16.63	16.12 **	17.32	
nSUC	9.88	10.25	12.50	13.63	12.75	9.50 *	10.25 *	8.50	10.74 **	12.53	
nDOM	19.62 *	14.38	18.25 **	11.75	14.25	15.75	12.50	14.63	17.44 **	14.18	
nABA	12.12	11.50	9.25 ***	16.12	12.75	10.88 *	10.50	10.88	12.24 **	15.11	
nNUR	10.75 ***	18.37	14.00	16.00	16.50	15.50	18.75 *	11.13	14.04 **	16.42	
nCHG	15.62 **	17.00	14.75	14.62	15.50 *	17.12	15.75	16.12	15.51 **	17.20	
nEND	11.87	12.88	13.50 *	15.25	13.75	14.00	11.75 *	17.25	12.66	12.63	
nHET	17.62 **	16.50	18.25 ***	13.38	15.88	15.50	18.63 *	14.63	17.65 **	14.34	
nAGG	16.00 ***	10.75	14.75 *	12.00	12.50	11.63	10.38 *	13.00	12.79 **	10.59	

\* Significant at alpha = .05

\*\* Significant at alpha = .01

\*\*\* Significant at alpha = .005

<sup>1</sup> These data were calculated only to p. < .05

<sup>2</sup> These data were calculated only to p. < .01

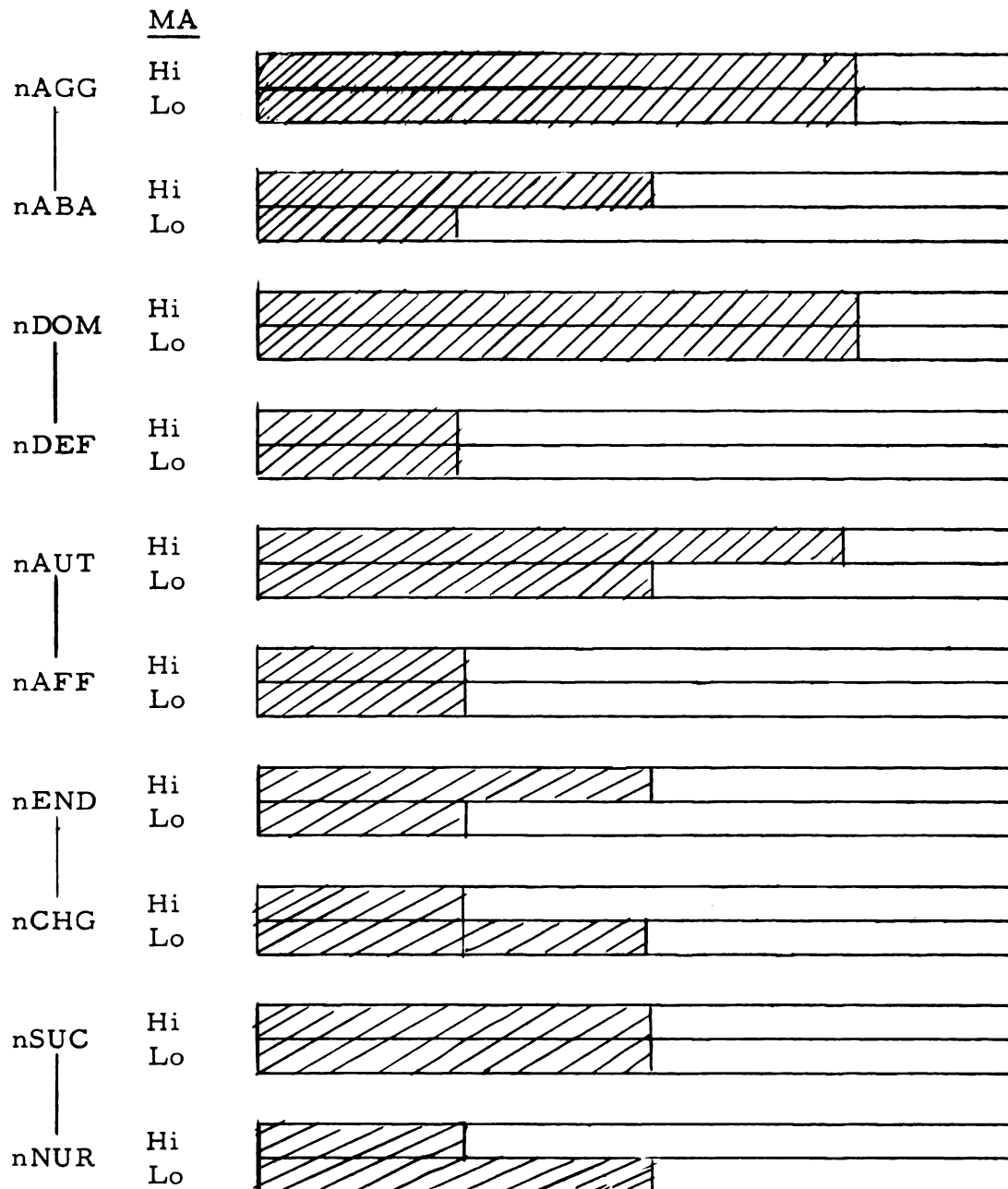
Table 7. MA Subgroup Mean Self Report and Projected Spouse Comparisons Over Sex


EPSS Scale	Self Report Scores				Spouse Projection Scores <sup>1</sup>			
	HM	LM	HF	LF	HM	LM	HF	LF
nACH	16.75	17.25	14.63	15.12	15.50	13.62	<u>15.75</u>	<u>b18.88</u>
nDEF	9.00	9.00	10.75	10.75	10.63	11.75	12.25	12.13
nORD	10.00	9.38	12.63	12.75	14.50	13.00	10.25	13.13
nEXH	16.50	15.00	<u>15.00</u>	<u>b11.25</u>	12.88	11.00	16.25	15.25
nAUT	14.50	14.75	10.88	11.13	11.00	11.63	14.38	15.75
nAFF	11.38	11.25	<u>17.38</u>	<u>a20.13</u>	17.25	18.63	<u>15.13</u>	<u>b10.75</u>
nINT	17.38	17.50	17.13	15.75	<u>15.50</u>	<u>b12.75</u>	16.75	16.63
nSUC	9.88	12.50	<u>10.25</u>	<u>b13.63</u>	<u>12.75</u>	<u>b18.75</u>	9.50	8.50
nDOM	19.62	18.25	14.38	11.75	14.25	12.50	15.75	14.63
nABA	<u>12.12</u>	<u>a9.25</u>	<u>11.50</u>	<u>a16.12</u>	<u>12.75</u>	<u>b10.50</u>	10.88	10.88
nNUR	<u>10.75</u>	<u>b14.00</u>	18.37	16.00	16.50	18.75	<u>15.50</u>	<u>b11.13</u>
nCHG	<u>15.62</u>	<u>b14.75</u>	<u>17.00</u>	<u>a14.62</u>	15.50	15.75	<u>17.12</u>	<u>b16.12</u>
nEND	<u>11.87</u>	<u>b13.50</u>	<u>12.88</u>	<u>a15.25</u>	<u>13.75</u>	<u>b11.75</u>	<u>14.00</u>	<u>b17.25</u>
nHET	17.62	18.25	<u>16.50</u>	<u>a13.38</u>	<u>15.88</u>	<u>b18.63</u>	<u>15.50</u>	<u>b14.63</u>
nAGG	16.00	14.75	10.75	12.00	<u>12.50</u>	<u>b10.38</u>	11.63	13.00


<sup>a</sup>The difference between the two underlined means is significant (p. < .005)  
<sup>b</sup>(p. < .05)

<sup>1</sup>These data were calculated only to p. < .05.

Figure 1. A Selection of Complementary Need Pairs



 = Male

 = Female

Note: Equal bar lengths indicate no significant differences (similarity);  
 Unequal bar lengths indicate significant differences (complementarity)  
 of  $p. < .05$  or greater.



## DISCUSSION

### Biographical Data Variables

An arbitrary selection of biographical data variables was made as an effort to confirm sample homogeneity and to discover through correlation if any significant biographical differences among the assessment groups were related to any of the marital adjustment main effects of the PPS analysis of variance.

Table 1 presents a summary of variables tested within sex and between MA group. Table 2 summarizes a selection of tests within MA group and between sex. Of twenty t tests calculated in the two tables, there were seven significant differences noted; if chance were operating alone, there would be an average expectation of one difference at the .05 level of significance. To check the possibility that sample heterogeneity on these variables accounted for differences found on the PPS subscales, product-moment correlations were calculated between biographical data variables and PPS subscales, which differentiated MA groups within sex (Appendix D). There were no significant differences found ( $p. < .05$ ). Thus the separate findings on the various research materials can be presumed to be independent of each other.

The only difference noted within High MA groups is that High MA males are older than High MA females. Three differences were found between sexes in the Low MA group (Age, Number of Years Married, and Number of Years Education) and three were found between MA groups within females (Age, Number of Years Married, and Number of Children). The difference in present age for High and Low MA females would seem to be related to the differences between High and

Low MA females on the variables of Number of Years Married and Number of Children. Product-moment correlations revealed an  $r$  of  $-.56$  between Age and MA score and an  $r$  of  $-.61$  between Number of Years Married and MA score ( $p. < .05$ ). A partial correlation of  $.90$  was found between Number of Years Married and Age for females. Subsequently, Number of Years Married, which seemed to account for most of the inverse relationship between Age and MA score for females, was correlated with scores on PPS findings discriminating female groups. The other variable showing a difference between female groups, Number of Children, was also correlated with PPS findings for these groups. There were no significant relationships between Number of Children and PPS findings or between Number of Years Married and PPS findings discriminating female groups. Thus these results can be considered independent of artifactual involvement. Consequently, it appears as if the longer a woman is married, the greater the probability of her having a Low MA score. Of the findings for males, the fact that Low males have more education than Low females is less clear as to meaning. However, the greater nACH attributed by Low MA females to their spouses suggests that the higher education of the Low male group may be a function of the males' own achievement needs. The difference on Age between Low males and females is due to the Low females' greater Number of Years Married. In any event, a difference between the sexes does not account for differences between High and Low MA, and therefore these findings were not tested further.

Sex of Children and MA for males, however, was tested by means of the Fisher's Exact Test. A rather interesting result of this test is the discovery that with a significance level of  $p. < .001$ , Low MA males without exception had no female children. Four of the eight Low MA males had no children at all. High MA males, on the other hand, had,

with one exception, at least one female child or no children (two subjects) although mixed sexes were present in some cases, too. The implication seems to be that the absence of a female child is somehow related to a low marital adjustment score for the male parent in that family. From another point of view, one might question the reciprocal potential in the Oedipal triangle, that is, what kinds of stresses are inherent in having only male children for the male parent. t test comparisons (Appendix D) between the male groups on presence of female child and the four PPS subscales discriminating for male groups revealed no significant differences. Thus this finding stands independent of PPS subscale scores.

### Perceptual Differences

With regard to another of the major concerns of this work, i. e., the investigation of whether or not perceptual distortions play a part in marital adjustment, analysis of variance by Role (self-report vs. projected spouse scores) was performed among the grouped subjects. Examination of the entire sample summed over all scales within each marital couple provides another means of regarding this hypothesis. Table 4 presents a summary of product-moment correlations between MA and intra- and interspouse score discrepancies in addition to a correlation of spouse Q-Sort MA scores. Specifically, comparisons were made between spouses' MA scores, MA scores and the discrepancy between self-report and projected spouse scores, and MA scores and the discrepancy between an individual's projected spouse score and his spouse's self-report scores. Additionally, interspouse mean MA score and the discrepancy between both spouses' self-report scores, and interspouse mean MA score and the discrepancy between both spouses' spouse projection scores were correlated.

Interspouse discrepancy between self-report scores relates inversely to MA, i.e., the greater the summed scale score differences between spouses, the more likely they are to have a Low mean MA score. Even though the sum difference between an individual's own self-report scores and projected spouse scores (Insight) and the sum difference between his spouse's self-report scores and his own projected spouse scores (Projection) do not correlate significantly with MA, the overall discrepancy between a couple's combined projected spouse scores does relate inversely to MA. It would appear that if married partners project on the same kinds of characteristics, they will tend to have a higher mean MA score. This finding is directly in support of the similarity hypothesis, for as a High MA couple they not only see themselves as more similar than Low MA couples see themselves, but they also have similar defenses.

Perhaps one of the most interesting findings here is that the correlation made between spouses' MA scores does not reach significance. There is disagreement in the literature on this point. Terman (1938) reports a positive but low correlation between spouses on his Happiness Test. He concludes that because one would expect a much higher  $r$  in view of the nature of the items, this suggests independence of spouse satisfaction in the marriage. The probable interspouse collaboration in the unusually high product-moment  $r$  reported by Burgess and Cottrell, make this study questionably comparable to the present one. Van der Veen et al.'s finding, however, is more difficult to explain. One major difference between the sample in this study and that of van der Veen et al. is the difference in criteria of selection. Whereas the latter study used couples chosen according to their having a child judged as very well or very poorly adjusted in school, the subjects in this study were chosen on a more nearly random basis.

Many, in fact, reported having no children at all. It could be that the presence of one or more children elicits more similar spouse scores on this particular technique.

### Personality Preference Schedule

Because of the multiple factor design of this study, the various aspects of the PPS data will first be considered individually before synthesis with respect to the general issues of marital adjustment validation and the similarity-complementarity hypotheses. Specifically, the data will be discussed with regard to: (a) statistical considerations; (b) differences between members of High and Low MA groups; (c) differences between role scores; (d) differences between the sexes; (e) individual MA group descriptions; and (g) the complementarity-similarity issue.

Statistical Considerations: Table 6 presents a synopsis of the main effect and interaction findings on all fifteen analyses of variance of the PPS subscales. The collective main effect and first and second order interaction findings for factors of Marital Adjustment, Sex, and Role are thirty-three significant differences (31%) at the .05 level of significance or higher. Of the 180 possible significant differences of the first order interaction analyses by Duncan's Multiple Range Test, 99 were significant at the .05 level or higher. If chance were operating alone, only six main effect and interaction findings would be expected and less than 10 significant differences would be expected on the Duncan's Test analyses. Discussion of the results will assume  $p. < .05$  or greater in reference to significant differences.

Discussion of the subgroup mean data includes comparison of the subgroup self-report scores and projected spouse scores,

respectively, which vary from the normative data. With few exceptions, comparison of mean projection scores with self-report scores by each subscale is not done here. Furthermore, comparisons with normative data refer to directional and estimated magnitudinal similarities and differences.

The nonsignificant correlation between spouse's MA scores suggests that use of opposite sexed same MA subgroups as hypothetical couples is invalid. However, for purposes of descriptive elucidation of, e.g., how High MA seems to occur in females differently than in males, sex comparisons of self-report and projected spouse scores within MA will be included. Perfect agreement between scores of one MA subgroup and the scores of the oppositensex MA subgroup would result in the projected spouse scores of each different sexed same MA group matching the self-report scores of the other sex same MA group. Consequently, in reporting the projection score findings, only those findings that contradict or add to the data derived from the self report analysis will be discussed.

High MA and Low MA: Of the fifteen subscales, six showed main effect differences between High and Low MA groups regardless of sex. The High MA group had higher scaled scores than the Low group on PPS nEXH, nINT, nDOM and nCHG. The Low MA group had higher scores on nSUC and nEND. There were eight PPS subscales showing a significant first order interaction effect between levels of MA and levels of sex, and three PPS subscales revealing second order interactions between levels of sex, MA, and Role.

Males had overall higher nDOM scores than both female groups, but collective High MA groups' scores and Low MA groups' scores result in the Low MA group having less nDOM due primarily to the Low MA females unusually low scores on this variable. nCHG scores

clearly distinguished both High MA groups as having higher scores than either of the Low MA groups, and the High MA females as showing greater nCHG than any of the other groups. Again this contrast is due to the low scores of the Low MA subjects--especially the females.

The main effect nSUC is attributable to the Low MA female's higher score than either of the High MA groups and the reduced need strength on this scale among the High MA subjects. Both Low MA groups show higher nEND scores than either of the High MA groups, and Low MA females have even more of this need than Low MA males.

Compared to the Low MA groups and with reference to college norms, both High males and females reflect a greater tendency to seek out the attention of others, to be somewhat self-aggrandizing and to prefer being the focus of others' interest (nEXH). Self-assertiveness and a preference for taking the influential role in decision making is also characteristic of this group (nDOM), especially of the males. Dependency upon others for sympathy and support appears to be minimal (nSUC). This is most true for High females. An average interest in trying new things--for altering the routine of day to day living (nCHG)--complements a low task-orientation and frustration tolerance (nEND).

Relative to the High MA group, and college normative data, the Low MA groups are less likely to feel comfortable being the "center of attention" in a social context, especially the females, who seem to prefer avoiding situations where narcissistic self-flattering behavior may be provoked (nEXH). Whereas the Low MA males appear to have as much interest in the motivations and psychologic understanding of human behavior as the High MA groups, the Low MA females show less interest in this orientation (nINT). Low MA females see themselves as being somewhat more dependent upon others for support and encouragement (nSUC), but Low MA males are even more extreme, relative to

norms, in this respect. Passive compliance to the leadership and influence of others characterizes the females of this group (nDOM). Comparative passivity, too, is found in this group's resistance to spontaneously altering their behavioral routines (nCHG). A tendency to resist interruption of a given activity suggests a high task orientation with, perhaps, even some compulsive qualities (nEND).

Role Differences: nAGG was the only PPS variable showing a main effect with respect to role differences. Males rated themselves as higher on nAGG than their spouses, but the difference between females' self-report and projected spouse scores did not prove to be significant. Thus nAGG in spouses does not seem to be a variable discriminating MA in females. High MA males, however, see their spouses as having more nAGG than Low MA males perceive in their spouses and than is reported for women in college norms. Females, while scoring lower with respect to males on self-report scores, saw their spouses as having much less nAGG than the males attributed to themselves. The finding that males see themselves as much more aggressive compared to college norms and to female groups' descriptions of their male spouses, suggests male self-report distortion toward the cultural masculine stereotype. There is good agreement between the males' projected spouse scores and the females' self-report scores, however, suggesting that the females are better able to judge males on this variable than males are capable of rating themselves--at least with respect to the content of the subscale items.

Another finding of interest is the lack of any group differences on the projection scores for nDOM even though sex differences are substantiated on self-report scores. As with nAGG, this suggests that judgment of the self, especially with male subjects, is more likely to elicit a heightening of the culturally accepted sexual stereotypes, while



judgment of the mate appears less subject to the cultural image, but is, perhaps, evocative of a more accurate view.

In addition to nAGG, two other second order interactions appeared in the PPS data: nAFF and nNUR. nAFF subgroup scores indicate, in addition to the findings of the first order interactions, that High MA females see their spouses as having higher nAFF scores than High MA males see themselves as having (both male groups rate themselves as having much less of this need than college norms indicate). nNUR data show a second order interaction indicating that higher adjusted males and females attributed higher average projected scores for their spouses than the opposite sexed same MA group reported for themselves. In addition, the Low MA female self and projected spouse score discrepancy is much larger than that of the score difference of the High MA female. It is interesting to note that the lower of the two scores of this discrepancy, the projected spouse score by the Low MA female, approximates the self-report score of the High MA male! Thus a low nNUR in the male seems to predict High MA for him, but a Low MA for his spouse. If one assumes that nNUR is a trait that should be conducive to successful interpersonal relationships, then this finding tends to suggest that marriage rarely occurs where both partners are equally satisfied.

Sex Differences: The particular mixture of characteristics of the selected subgroups make them comparable to college norms when considering their educational level and comparable to general norms when considering the mean age and marital status of the individuals. Consequently, a discussion of sex differences will be made with regard to both standards. This section will deal primarily with differences in direction within MA groups; quantitative comparisons will be presented in subsequent sections.

Although college norms show no nORD sex differences, the general norms of the female showing greater need for order and organization are supported only by the Low MA group. Scores on the subscale describing sticking to a task once begun (nEND) show a difference opposite to general norms in that the females of this sample have higher scores than the males; there are no sexual differences noted in college norms on this subscale. Contrary to college norms is the finding that Low MA females have significantly less nEXH than the Low MA males. This sample does not reflect the college and general norm agreement that nACH should show higher scores for males and that nINT should show no sex differences. Here Low MA males have higher nACH and Low MA females have lower nINT than their opposite sex, same MA group.

There were eight PPS subscales showing a main effect between the sexes. Males gave higher scores on PPS nSUC, nDOM, nHET, and nAGG. Females were higher on PPS nDEF, nABA, nCHG, and nEND. In terms of the culturally defined sex roles, these findings would seem generally congruent: the initiating and dominant male who perceives himself to be highly sexual; and the deferring, self-effacing wife who must need be tolerant of a relatively greater demand for self-sacrifice of her own needs. All these findings with two exceptions, nSUC and nEND, are consistent directionally with normative data.

Despite the profile of assertive masculinity (nDOM, nAGG), the male's self description on nSUC does not differ from the female of the same group. The projected scores for their female spouses, however, are significantly higher than those reported for self or projected for spouse by the comparable female group. The discrepancy is especially large for the Low MA male scores. This leads to speculation that there may be some projection on the part of poorly adjusted males in marriage.

Perhaps an underlying anxiety about one's own dependent strivings on the part of the Low MA male is indicated. The female high nEND mean score compared to the average Low MA male score differs by opposition to general population norms and is different from the college norms which show no differences on this subscale. The high task orientation suggested here may be influenced by the largely graduate student status of the couples, where a large number probably depend heavily upon the wife for income and family maintenance.

It is of interest to note where the sexes do not differ. nACH and nAUT, while typically associated as masculine characteristics, show no sexual differences in the combined sample. This may be related in large part to the fairly high mean years education of all subjects, which implicitly would suggest rather high need strengths on these two variables. nINT scores, too, while reflecting a significant difference of females having higher scores than males in the college norms, show no sexual difference here among the High MA groups. The Low MA groups however, show a difference opposite to norms, i. e., the Low MA females have much less of this need than the Low MA males. While nAFF and nNUR do not appear as main effects in the data to conform with college norm expectations, interaction analyses demonstrate that the college norm difference, that is, females scoring higher on both, are supported when spouse role scores are eliminated from the data.

High MA Males: Self-report scores of High MA males indicate that they express as much nINT as the High MA female group, thus varying from the normative data which credits the male with significantly less of this need. A much lower nNUR is noted for this group of better adjusted males than for all other groups including male norms--contrasting with the High MA female's highest scores on this scale. Comparison with

normative data suggests quantitative trends toward higher scores on nEXH, nDOM and nAGG. Lower scores on PPS subscales nDEF, nAFF and nNUR are also noted. In other words, the High MA male seems to see himself as closer to the cultural masculine stereotype than the average male.

Similarity of projected spouse scores on nEXH is found between High MA males and females despite a sex difference in self-report scores. Again there are no significant differences between the projection scores for both sexes of the High MA group on nAUT. This group sees their spouses as having much less nABA than is reported in the normative data. Spouses of High MA males are seen as having high nAGG relative to norms and more than Low MA males see in their wives; there are no differences noted between the female groups' self-report scores. Relative to female norms, High MA males attribute their wives with high nACH, nHET and nAGG and low scores on nDEF and nABA. It appears as if the woman who participates in the High MA of the husband is perceived as very similar to himself with the exception of a greater capacity for nurturing and supportive behavior.

Findings for both male groups are fewer than for the females, especially on self-report scores. Thus different degrees of MA seem to relate less to self-report characteristics for males than for females. It appears that the spouse characteristics of the wives are more crucial to the determination of the relative degree of satisfaction experienced by the male in that relationship than vice versa.

High MA Females: High females gave significantly higher nORD scores than their male counterparts, which fits general norms, but not college norms. nNUR scores indicate High MA females score significantly higher than both Low MA females and High MA males. This group differs from all others in having higher nCHG scores. This finding

characterizes High MA females as fairly mobile, outgoing individuals who seek out and provide themselves frequently with new sources of stimulation. A higher mean self-report score on nEXH is noted for this group than for Low MA females. This suggests that the females of the lower MA groups are more socially introverted than the High MA females. Lower nSUC scores relative to Low MA groups characterize both male and female High MA groups, but without significant difference between them, which is contrary to college norms. This tends to imply a greater self-reliance and independence attributable to the better adjusted females as compared to the normative population. Notable is this group's very low nABA scores, both in comparison to Low MA females and normative data. Contrary to college norms, High MA females show no greater nABA than High MA males. nHET is much greater in this group than in Low MA females and tends to be higher than female norms. Other differences from normative means are lower scores on nDEF and nAUT, and higher scores on nNUR. N-ACH scores are somewhat elevated and nORD scores are halfway between college and general norms--which coincides with the mixed student-housewife status of many of the subjects.

Higher nDEF scores are credited the spouses by both High and Low MA females than the male groups claim for themselves--a finding contrary to norms and findings of self-report scores--consequently upsetting projection score expectations. It appears, furthermore, that these mean projection scores are higher than the High MA male group's projected spouse scores! There are no differences noted on nEXH for High MA males and females' projected spouse scores. High MA females project a mean spouse score on nAUT higher than their own, but not significantly different from the projected spouse score of the High MA males. Spouses of this group are perceived as having more nNUR than the Low MA females see their spouses, in contrast

to the lowest self-report scores of the High MA male on this scale. This group attributes significantly more nCHG to their spouses than the High MA males attribute to their spouses--a reversal of the self-report score findings.

High MA females see their husbands as having higher nEXH and higher nCHG than the average man. Lower nDom and a trend toward lower nABA and nHET scores also characterize their spouse percepts. In contrast to the High MA males self description, the husbands of the High MA females appear to be generally more considerate of their wives' needs, more socially expansive and seem to have a high level of self-esteem.

Low MA Males: The Low MA males had significantly less nABA than all other groups and than is indicated for male college norms. Although both Low MA groups show higher nEND scores than both High MA groups, respectively, the significantly lower score of the Low MA males in contrast to the Low female group is interesting to note. Perhaps the greater diversification of need gratification sources for the male, e.g., from his career, counteract having a stronger nEND pattern. The Low MA males' highest mean score on nHET, although not significantly different from the High MA males', provide sharp contrast to the Low MA females' lowest mean score. It appears that disturbance in the marital relationship is connected with a higher probable extramarital sexual interest in the male, but with a decreased interest in the female. Although the differences on nNUR and nAUT between Low MA males and females is consistent in direction with college norms, it does not reach significance. This group tended toward higher mean scores on nACH, nSUC, and nAGG than the average college male. Lower scores than normal were on nDEF, nAFF, as well as nABA. The picture seems to suggest a mixture of aggressive-

assertive characteristics (nAGG, nACH) and a defensive handling of dependency strivings (nSUC, nABA, nDEF).

Low MA males perceive their spouses as having less nACH than all other groups. There are no differences between Low MA males' and females' projected spouse scores on nORD, although the High MA groups show the expected complementary spouse score projection consistent with general norms. nINT reveals a projected spouse score lower than all other groups; this finding is consistent with the Low MA female's lowest self-report score on this subscale. On nSUC, however, the Low MA males project a higher score for their spouses than do High MA males even though there are no intragroup sex differences noted on the self-report scores for High or Low MA groups. The spouses of Low MA males are seen as having very low nABA which contrasts sharply with the Low MA females high self-report score on this subscale. Low MA males see their spouses as being significantly more heterosexually oriented than do all other groups, which is a finding opposite to the self-report score data for Low MA females. This scale, however, does not specify whether the items are specific to one's marital partner or are to be interpreted both monogamously and/or exogamously; it may be that Low MA males perceive their wives to be inappropriately interested in other males.

Compared to female college norms, wives of Low MA males are seen as having high nSUC, nNUR and nHET with rather low scores on nEXH, nINT, nDOM and nABA. Somewhat higher scores on nAFF and slightly lower scores on nCHG are also noted. The mutually high nSUC and the wives' high nNUR seem to reflect a union between two rather dependent kinds of people, but where the man has difficulty admitting his dependent strivings and yet is unable to participate very effectively in meeting his wife's needs.

Low MA Females: Low MA females gave significantly higher scores on nORD than the Low MA males. Considering the larger family size of unhappy females, this finding would not seem inconsistent with the added household workload, which creates greater environmental demands for order and organization. This group also showed higher nABA scores than any other group--contrasting the Low MA males' lowest scores on this scale. Interpretively, there seems to be a heightening of complementarity in a homogeneously Low MA couple on this variable under conditions of dissatisfaction in marriage. The picture would seem to reflect a rigidifying of the male's defensive structure--even to the point of a self-effacing detachment--while the female is pictured as moving more toward a masochistic, self-depreciative position. The Low MA females' significantly higher scores on nEND, although explainable in terms of an assumed high nEND requisite in tolerating an unsatisfactory marriage, are also significantly higher than the counterpart male group's mean score. Low MA females indicate having less heterosexual interest than all other groups. The low nINT mean score for this group reflects a reversal of set difference expectations relative to the college norms, where the females score higher. Higher nSUC scores for this group are noted compared to High MA females. Lower nEXH, nDOM and nCHG scores are noted and higher nACH, nAFF and nEND scores occur for this group relative to norms. Somewhat higher scores on nSUC are present, too.

The highest projected mean score on nACH is attributed to the spouses of the Low MA females. Like the High MA female, this group projects a higher nDEF score for their spouses than they score for themselves--a somewhat surprising finding considering the generally more aggressive picture given the male spouse by the female groups.



The Low MA females show a projected spouse score lower than all other groups on nAFF and nNUR. Spouses of Low MA females are seen as having much more nEND than Low MA males attribute to their spouses, which is the opposite finding directionally to the Low MA females' significantly higher nEND self-report scores. Low MA females see their husbands as having less nHET than all other groups, complementing the converse finding in the Low MA male group. Projected spouse scores for this group tend to be higher on nACH and nEND and lower on nAFF, nSUC, nDOM, nNUR and nHET than male college norms. The picture of an emotionally depriving, highly career ambitious male seems to characterize the man to whom the Low MA female is married.

The Complementarity-Similarity Issue: To review Winch's definition of complementarity, he says that the resulting gratifications of two people interacting are defined as complementary when:

. . . the need or needs in A which are being gratified are very different in intensity from the same needs in B which are also being gratified.

or

. . . the need or needs in A which are being gratified are different in kind from the need or needs being gratified in B. (p. 243)

Winch's work used comparisons within couples, whereas this study undertakes to look at group characteristics of people who are married more or less happily. Consequently, references to sex comparisons within MA imply a hypothetical couple whose constituents may in real life seldom occur together. Spouse projection data, because of its susceptibility to distortion by the respondent's own needs, will not be used as a mate self-report equivalent.

Comparisons of direction within like MA subgroups on each subscale of the PPS reveal five findings in support of the complementarity hypothesis and seven findings in support of a hypothesis of similarity with respect to mate selection. Of the complementary findings, i.e., subscales showing significant sex differences within the same MA group and varying from normative expectations (college and general), two scales can be said to predict low marital adjustment: nINT (males having higher scores) and nEND (females having higher scores). Three scales where similarity is associated with poor marital adjustment are nAUT, nNUR and nCHG. Two scales where similarity of scores is related to good marital adjustment are nINT and nABA. Thus higher adjusted (hypothetical) couples occur when the male and female are similarly interested in the needs and motives of others and when there is a similar degree of what may be summed as conscience (nABA). Lower adjustment couples are distinct in their similar need for authority (nAUT), similar interest (low) in meeting the needs of others (nNUR) and in altering routine (nCHG). In addition, complementary interest in understanding the needs of others (nINT) and a difference in degree of task orientation (nEND), where males achieve the higher scores on the former and females on the latter, also characterize the low adjustment relationship.

All other complementary findings were consistent with normative data.

The superiority of the concept of similarity in explaining marital adjustment is further confirmed by the inverse relationship between interspouse self-report scores presented in Table 5. The higher correlation between interspouse projection scores suggests that higher adjustment couples see each other as even more similar than they report for themselves!

The absence of certain expected differences, however, was of interest. For example, the lack of significant differences on subscales nSUC, nINT, and nABA in the High MA groups, where college females typically score significantly higher than college males, suggests that the better adjusted males take a greater interest in comprehending the motivations of others than the average male, while the better adjusted female is much less dependent and intropunitive than the average female.

Absence of significant differences between Low MA groups is noted on nSUC, nNUR, and nCHG. Whereas college and general norms show a significant difference in favor of the female, the lack of a difference on nNUR suggests that a sex difference in concern for meeting dependency and giving support is requisite for an adjusted relationship. The similarity on nSUC in this group, while ostensibly the same finding as in the High MA group, suggests by a significant difference in magnitude from the latter group, that both sexes in an unhappy relationship feel equally deprived of emotional support and interest. The lack of difference on nCHG, which is attributable to the low scores of the Low MA female, lends little clear indication as to the pertinence of this finding with respect to the interpersonal relationship of the low adjustment couple.

Of the fifteen subscales, ten seem to be fairly diametric, at least with respect to common sense meaning, and can consequently be paired as rough complements. These scales are: nAGG-nABA, nDOM-nDEF, nAUT-nAFF, nEND-nCHG, and nSUC-nNUR. Thus in re-examining the issue of complementarity versus similarity with regard to mate selection, in this case mate selection that results in differing degrees of individual and mutual satisfaction in the marital relationship, a comparison of the two marital adjustment groups will

be made using the mean self-report scores of each group on these selected "complementary" subscales (Figure 1).

In terms of Winch's definition of kind of need complementarity, there appear to be no findings discriminating between Low and High MA groups in support of the complementarity hypothesis in these data. There are two complementary subscales, however, that with a combination of the complementarity and similarity hypotheses can be used to discriminate MA groups--nEND and nCHG. Similarity of scores on nEND (low) and complementarity of scores on nCHG (females high) relate to High MA for both spouses; complementarity on nEND (females high) and similarity on nCHG (low) predict mutual Low MA.

These findings bring to mind Levinger's comments regarding the establishment of a logical rationale for determining when needs are complementary and when they are similar. The difficulty with Levinger's suggestion is its complexity. To establish whether moderate amounts of, for example, similar need strengths versus different amounts of need strengths, is the appropriate definition of complementarity for a given variable in context of a given population would seem prohibitive with an inventory inclusive of even a moderate number of variables. Selection of variables according to a carefully devised definitional criterion for a given population or single variable investigation would be the alternatives. While admittedly inconsistent in hypothesis formation, Winch has provided a technique which is valuable at least in its descriptive utility.

### Comparisons With Previous Findings

In relating the present findings to hypotheses of previous investigators regarding complementarity of kind of need, significant differences between sexes in the same MA group were taken as correlational

equivalents to the statistical techniques of these previous studies (Winch, correlation; Katz et al., Chi Square, etc.). Differences significant at  $p. < .05$  were taken as evidence of complementarity of intensity on a given need for different sex, same MA group members.

Tharp (1963) in his survey of the literature notes that most of the earlier studies through Burgess and Wallin (1953) point to homogamy as the trend in assortative mating. Marital success, however, seems to be related to variables such as emotional stability, sociability, consideration, and some degree of interpersonal dependence (Terman, 1938; Burgess and Wallin, 1953). Individuals possessing characteristics of emotional instability, dominance, isolation, and low self-esteem tend to be unhappily married. Whereas most of these findings are grossly repeated in the present study, dominance, at least within the bounds of the PPS definition, is not found to discriminate between the two groups of MA.

Preston, Peltz, Mudd, and Froscher (1952) noted a greater congruence in happy than in unhappy couples and a tendency for higher correlations to occur between self-report-projected spouse ratings than for self-report--spouse self-report comparisons. Although the superiority of the similarity hypothesis in describing marital adjustment is supported by this study, the second Preston et al., finding is confirmed only in part here. Whereas they found a trend of self-report--projected spouse rating discrepancies being more highly related to marital adjustment than self-report comparisons--that happily married groups "show more evidence of lack of realism in their (spouse) personality appraisals"--the present study's findings show an exaggeration of perceived similarity as MA goes up only when both projection scores are compared to each other.

The studies of Winch (1958) and Katz et al. (1963) posit a series of intra- and inter-need complementarities. Taking their studies

together (Katz et al. include many of the relationships hypothesized by the original Winch study), the present study shows support for 51.8% of the hypotheses of intensity need complementarity between the High MA groups and for 55.5% of the hypotheses for the two Low MA groups. It must be remembered, however, that all of these findings are predictable as sex differences alone, irrespective of the existence of a marriage relationship.

Comparison of the projected spouse scores means for each group with college norms reveals some interesting findings. Whereas the High MA male and female groups tend to see their spouses as highly similar in need strengths to their own self-percepts, one important difference does occur: High MA males see their spouses as having average nNUR but rate themselves as very low on this need; High MA females rate themselves as rather high on this scale but see their spouses as having an average nNUR strength. While this may be a function of response defensiveness on the part of High MA males, it also suggests the possibility that complementarity of need strength is requisite for both males and females on this need--only for males this complementary relationship occurs in the lower half of the score distribution while for females it occurs in the upper portion. For the Low MA groups a different situation is found. The wives of the Low MA males are seen as having high need strength on both nSUC and nNUR in contrast to the high nSUC and only average nNUR scores of the males. The husbands of the Low MA females are seen as having low need strength on nSUC and nNUR; the Low females also have a high nSUC and average nNUR scores. From this it appears as if perceived spouse extreme need strength on both nSUC and nNUR subscales combined with the subject's singular high need strength on nSUC predicts low MA. The direction of projected spouse extreme scores varies for sex, however--the wives are seen as high and the husbands are seen as low.

The combined findings of this study tend to support the similarity hypothesis both with regard to mate selection and to marital adjustment. This agrees well with the conclusions of Bowerman and Day (1956) who studied 60 steady or engaged couples with the PPS. Schellenberg and Bee (1960) compared steady non-marrieds with married college couples and also concluded in favor of homogamy for both groups.

Three similarity findings (the presence of homogamy on nINT and nABA and the omission of complementariness on nSUC) characterize the High MA group. Four similarity findings (the presence of homogamy on nAUT, nNUR, and nCHG, and the absence of complementariness on nSUC) describe the Low MA group. Only two unexpected complementary findings are to be found in the data, and these are pertinent only to the Low MA group; nINT(m) and nEND(f). Thus there are about as many findings of similarity that describe the High MA group as there are that pertain to the Low MA group. This supports a general theory of similarity in mate selection. However, the qualitative differences in similarity between the two groups, and between each group's self-report and spouse projection scores, suggest that marital adjustment is a function of special kinds of complementarity (e.g., nSUC and nNUR) as well as overall similarity. While this study differs generally from that of Katz et al. (who found no overall quantitative support for either hypothesis in their groups of High and Low Satisfaction married subjects), there is support found in their finding that satisfaction of both wives and husbands was positively related to wives' scores on nNUR and nSUC.

Implications for Future Research: Selection of the sample in this study by MA score resulted in several significant differences among the biographical data variables. Although none of these differences proved to be artifactual to the PPS data, greater care to assure homogeneity of relevant biographical sample characteristics would be preferable in

future studies. Selection of subjects with respect to biographical homogeneity first with a secondary selection according to MA scores would be one way of accomplishing this end.

The value of comparing opposite sex, same MA groups as hypothetical couples, while useful for descriptive contrast, is somewhat questionable when compared to real married partners. For example, despite the good consistency among MA scores for five couples, seven couples actually show opposite placements in the subgroups. Some of the qualitative disagreements noted within MA subgroups' spouse projection and opposite sex, same MA group scores, point to the probability that the kinds of spouses to whom e.g., High MA females are married differs in numerous ways from the High MA male subgroup. On the other hand, the nonsignificant interspouse MA score correlation suggests that the occurrence of two same MA marital partners is the exception rather than the rule. Clarification of this issue may be obtained by selecting High and Low MA subgroups composed only of couples internally homogeneous with respect to MA categorization. It would also be of interest to investigate a sample of only "cross-over" couples.

The value of using the PPS to study MA subgroups appears evident from this study. Cross-validation with another sample, however, is indicated in order to establish results free of possible artifactual contamination. The finding of increasing spouse perceptual distortion as related to MA suggests that further investigation of interspouse attitudes, beliefs, and feelings could lead to valuable insights regarding the marriage relationship and kinds of marital friction.



## SUMMARY

The purposes of this investigation were: (a) to study Marital Adjustment (MA) as related to the Edwards Personal Preference Schedule (PPS); (b) to investigate the relationship between MA and interspouse ratings of needs. With regard to the first purpose, the findings show that the PPS does measure a number of significant differences within and between married couples of high and low adjustment, and that the differences are clearer among females than among males.

Both high MA males and females are generally more socially outgoing and less task oriented than the Low MA groups, but they are divided in their interest in meeting the needs of others (High MA females exceed High MA males on nNUR). The High MA females appear to be unusually unneedful of emotional support from others (nSUC) and seem to have a higher level of self-esteem (nABA) relative to their Low MA female counterparts.

Although Low males and females agree on their perhaps masochistic persistence in maintaining unsatisfying commitments at the expense of fulfillment of emotional needs, there are also some striking sex differences. The hint of denial of individual responsibility and feelings of guilt at transgression (nABA) in combination with the high nSUC scores for Low MA males suggests relatively dependent individuals who relate in a passive-aggressive manner towards females. Although inordinate interpersonal dependency does not seem to be a major issue, Low MA females seem to be unable to sever themselves from unrewarding relationships, and, consequently, seem to become

preoccupied with concerns about things rather than people. Intro-punitive expression of frustration would seem to characterize this group.

One of the most interesting findings is that MA scores of married couples seem to be independent of each other. Rather, it appears as if two mutually High or Low MA persons in a couple are more rare than cross-over couples! This conflicts with the literature, where a significant positive interspouse correlation is usually claimed.

Spouse projection scores reveal that the subjects perceive their respective spouses as different from the other groups in several ways. Notable is the finding that High nNUR scores correlate positively with MA for females and inversely with MA for males. At the same time High nNUR in projected spouse scores varies positively with MA in females and negatively with MA in males. Additionally, the more nSUC males perceive in their wives, the more probable that these males will have low MA scores. Thus it appears as if the better adjusted males are ones upon whom few demands for emotional support are made by their spouses. Similarly, females who make fewer demands upon their spouses, whom they perceive to be less capable of meeting their dependency needs than vice versa, tend to have higher MA scores.

Although the analysis of variance of the PPS provided only one significant main effect (nAGG) on Role (self-report vs. projected spouse ratings), numerous discrepancy scores for the two MA groups indicate marital adjustment correlates with projected interspouse agreement as well as with self-reported interspouse similarity. Furthermore, projected spouse similarities tend to be more highly related to MA than self-reported similarities, which suggests that High MA couples are even more similar than Low MA couples in the kinds of defense mechanisms they employ. The nAGG and nDOM

findings suggest a male tendency to exaggerate masculine stereotype features at the possible expense of their contradiction to reality. The overall fewer differences found between male groups compared to females suggests that perceived spouse characteristics are more crucial to the determination of MA in males.

Additional findings of interest were noted in the biographical data relating to number and sex of children. It appears that the longer females are married, the more likely they are to have a Low MA score. Low MA females also have more children and are older on the average than High MA females. A highly significant difference between High and Low MA males with respect to absence and presence of female children, if confirmed by further research, would have important bearing on interpersonal and developmental theories in general.

Similarity of PPS need-strength best describes this sample, although differences in kind of need similarity distinguish the High from the Low MA subjects.

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## APPENDICES

## APPENDIX A

### NAMES AND DEFINITIONS OF THE PERSONALITY INVENTORY VARIABLES AND ITEMS

#### Edwards Personal Preference Schedule:

1. ach Achievement: To do one's best, to be successful, to accomplish tasks requiring skill and effort, to be a recognized authority, to accomplish something of great significance, to do a difficult job well, to solve difficult problems and puzzles, to be able to do things better than others, to write a great novel or play.

2. def Deference: To get suggestions from others, to find out what others think, to follow instructions and do what is expected, to praise others, to tell others that they have done a good job, to accept the leadership of others, to read about great men, to conform to custom and avoid the unconventional, to let others make decisions.

3. ord Order: To have written work neat and organized, to make plans before starting on a difficult task, to have things organized, to keep things neat and orderly, to make advance plans when taking a trip, to organize details of work, to keep letters and files according to some system, to have meals organized and a definite time for eating, to have things arranged so that they run smoothly without change.

4. exh Exhibition: To say witty and clever things, to tell amusing jokes and stories, to talk about personal adventures and experiences, to have others notice and comment upon one's appearance, to say things just to see what effect it will have on others, to talk about personal achievements, to be the center of attention, to use words that others do not know the meaning of, to ask questions others cannot answer.

5. aut Autonomy: To be able to come and go as desired, to say what one thinks about things, to be independent of others in making decisions, to feel free to do what one wants, to do things that are unconventional, to avoid situations where one is expected to conform, to do things without regard to what others may think, to criticize those in positions of authority, to avoid responsibilities and obligations.

6. aff Affiliation: To be loyal to friends, to participate in friendly groups, to do things for friends, to form new friendships, to make as many friends as possible, to share things with friends, to do things with friends rather than alone, to form strong attachments, to write letters to friends.

7. int Intraception: To analyze one's motives and feelings, to observe others, to understand how others feel about problems, to put one's self in another's place to judge people by why they do things rather than by what they do, to analyze the behavior of others, to analyze the motives of others, to predict how others will act.

8. suc Succorance: To have others provide help when in trouble, to seek encouragement from others, to have others be kindly, to have others be sympathetic and understanding about personal problems, to receive a great deal of affection from others, to have others do favors cheerfully, to be helped by others when depressed, to have others feel sorry when one is sick, to have a fuss made over one when hurt.

9. dom Dominance: To argue for one's point of view, to be a leader in groups to which one belongs, to be regarded by others as a leader, to be elected or appointed chairman of committees, to make group decisions, to settle arguments and disputes between others, to persuade and influence others to do what one wants, to supervise and direct the actions of others, to tell others how to do their jobs.

10. aba Abasement: To feel guilty when one does something wrong, to accept blame when things do not go right, to feel that personal pain and misery suffered does more good than harm, to feel the need for punishment for wrong doing, to feel better when giving in and avoiding a fight than when having one's own way, to feel the need for confession of errors, to feel depressed by inability to handle situations, to feel timid in the presence of superiors, to feel inferior to others in most respects.

11. nur Nurturance: To help friends when they are in trouble, to assist others less fortunate, to treat others with kindness and sympathy, to forgive others, to do small favors for others, to be generous with others, to sympathize with others who are hurt or sick, to show a great deal of affection toward others, to have others confide in one about personal problems.

12. chg Change: To do new and different things, to travel, to meet new people, to experience novelty and change in daily routine, to experiment and try new things, to eat in new and different places, to try new and different jobs, to move about the country and live in different places, to participate in new fads and fashions.



13. end Endurance: To keep at a job until it is finished, to complete any job undertaken, to work hard at a task, to keep at a puzzle or problem until it is solved, to work at a single job before taking on others, to stay up late working in order to get a job done, to put in long hours of work without distraction, to stick at a problem even though it may seem as if no progress is being made, to avoid being interrupted while at work.

14. het Heterosexuality: To go out with members of the opposite sex, to engage in social activities with the opposite sex, to be in love with someone of the opposite sex, to kiss those of the opposite sex, to be regarded as physically attractive by those of the opposite sex, to participate in discussions about sex, to read books and plays involving sex, to listen to or to tell jokes involving sex, to become sexually excited.

15. agg Aggression: To attack contrary points of view, to tell others what one thinks about them, to criticize others publicly, to make fun of others, to tell others off when disagreeing with them, to get revenge for insults, to become angry, to blame others when things go wrong, to read newspaper accounts of violence.

(Edwards 1959, p. 11)

#### Family Concept Q-Sort:

1. We like to do new and different things.
- + 2. We usually can depend on each other.
- + 3. We have a number of close friends.
4. We often do not agree on important matters.
5. Each of us tries to be the kind of person the others will like.
6. Good manners and proper behavior are very important to us.
- + 7. We feel secure when we are with each other.
8. We want help with our problems.
- + 9. We do many things together.
- 10. Each of us wants to tell the others what to do.
- 11. There are serious differences in our standards and values.
- + 12. We feel free to express any thought or feeling to each other.
- + 13. Our home is the center of our activities.
- + 14. We are an affectionate family.
- 15. It is not our fault that we are having difficulties.
- 16. Little problems often become big ones for us.
- 17. We do not understand each other.
- + 18. We get along very well in the community.

- + 19. We often praise or compliment each other.
- 20. We do not talk about sex.
- 21. We get along much better with persons outside the family than with each other.
- 22. If we had more money most of our present problems would be gone.
- + 23. We are proud of our family.
- 24. We do not like each other's friends.
- 25. There are many conflicts in our family.
- + 26. We are usually calm and relaxed when we are together.
- 27. We are not a talkative family.
- + 28. We respect each other's privacy.
- 29. Accomplishing what we want to do seems to be difficult for us.
- 30. We tend to worry about many things.
- 31. We often upset each other without intending it.
- 32. Nothing exciting ever seems to happen to us.
- 33. We are a deeply religious family.
- + 34. We are continually getting to know each other better.
- 35. We need each other.
- 36. We do not spend enough time together.
- 37. We do not understand what is causing our difficulties.
- 38. Success and prestige are very important to us.
- + 39. We encourage each other to develop in his or her own individual way.
- 40. We are ashamed of some things about our family.
- + 41. We have warm, close relationships with each other.
- 42. These are some topics which we avoid talking about.
- + 43. Together we can overcome almost any difficulty.
- + 44. We really do trust and confide in each other.
- 45. We make many demands on each other.
- 46. We take care of each other.
- 47. Our activities together are usually planned and organized.
- + 48. The family has always been very important to us.
- 49. We get more than our share of illness.
- + 50. We are considerate of each other.
- + 51. We can stand up for our rights if necessary.
- 52. We are all responsible for our family problems.
- 53. There is not enough discipline in our family.
- + 54. We have very good times together.
- 55. We depend on each other too much.
- 56. We often become angry at each other.
- 57. We live largely by other people's standards and values.
- 58. We are not as happy together as we might be.
- 59. We are critical of each other.

- 60. We are satisfied with the way in which we now live.
- 61. Usually each of us goes his own separate way.
- 62. We resent each other's outside activities.
- + 63. We have respect for each other's feelings and opinions even when we differ strongly.
- 64. We sometimes wish we could be an entirely different family.
- + 65. We are sociable and really enjoy being with people.
- 66. We are a disorganized family.
- 67. It is important to us to know how we appear to others.
- 68. Our decisions are not our own, but are forced upon us by circumstances.
- 69. We are not really fond of one another.
- + 70. We are a strong, competent family.
- 71. We just cannot tell each other our real feelings.
- 72. We are not satisfied with anything short of perfection.
- + 73. We forgive each other easily.
- 74. We are usually somewhat reserved with each other.
- 75. We rarely hurt each other's feelings.
- 76. We like the same things.
- + 77. We usually reach decisions by discussion and compromise.
- + 78. We can adjust well to new situations.
- 79. We are liked by most people who know us.
- 80. We are full of life and good spirits.

(van der Veen et al., 1964)

CODE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

SEX: \_\_\_\_\_

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

\_\_\_\_\_ Present age  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Age at marriage  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Number of years of education  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Number of years married  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Number of children  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Ages of children and sex  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Your vocation (or field of study)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Religious affiliation (optional)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Parents: living or deceased; please explain  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Marital status of parents (if living)

How would you rate your parents' marriage? (Circle one)

1	2	3	4	5
Unusually Unhappy	A typical marriage			Unusually Happy

# APPENDIX B

RAW DATA ON ALL MEASURES FOR ENTIRE SAMPLE<sup>1</sup>

	S	A	C	H	D	E	F	A	U	T	A	F	I	N	T	S	U	C	D	O	M	A	B	A	N	U	R	C	H	G	E	N	D	H	E	T	A	G	G	C	M	A		
* 1	17/14	6/10	10/6	11/13	17/18	15/22	12/21	10/8	21/5	14/90	18/19	14/17	8/9	22/24	18/17	12/11	35																											
2	17/18	8/9	11/7	13/13	9/18	18/12	23/11	11/17	7/19	11/6	15/17	17/11	8/14	26/22	17/16	9/9	32																											
L 3	18/20	4/7	5/15	15/9	16/10	10/11	17/14	8/24	20/20	5/10	18/20	19/7	21/16	20/19	14/10	13/7	33																											
H 4	18/12	4/7	16/6	14/12	8/19	14/14	24/27	11/16	18/11	12/11	17/21	5/22	17/11	19/13	14/8	13/14	42																											
L 5	24/15	6/18	11/22	15/5	22/15	8/22	18/13	6/13	23/10	11/17	10/21	20/13	20/23	8/2	10/2	13/14	33																											
H 6	14/21	14/12	15/8	11/23	18/25	15/13	14/8	5/5	14/23	16/10	17/7	16/18	19/16	10/8	12/13	9/13	38																											
L 7	13/10	10/8	14/11	14/13	11/16	12/15	18/9	22/20	11/9	7/11	8/16	2/16	15/7	28/28	18/17	13/12	28																											
L 8	12/23	6/18	12/18	6/7	17/7	18/5	8/17	12/12	5/8	16/16	22/11	18/7	18/24	20/25	20/13	14/14	16																											
L 9	18/13	9/14	12/7	13/16	11/6	15/19	10/18	16/23	24/9	8/12	16/21	19/21	14/12	14/14	11/5	10/13	30																											
H 10	16/19	11/15	3/14	19/15	9/15	19/14	18/11	15/6	12/22	5/4	22/7	26/15	12/21	12/11	11/20	10/12	40																											
L 11	17/11	11/16	9/11	15/12	11/10	12/18	20/18	12/19	18/11	13/6	14/16	11/15	11/7	19/22	17/18	9/10	16																											
L 12	16/21	17/12	7/13	15/20	15/22	20/9	13/21	11/2	12/18	21/8	7/6	21/19	18/19	6/6	12/14	13/15	29																											
H 13	23/14	9/9	7/19	16/9	9/6	13/20	20/13	8/14	22/17	10/15	13/26	14/13	11/14	15/9	19/12	12/9	41																											
H 14	13/13	16/16	17/16	12/11	6/5	19/19	16/15	9/9	22/22	12/14	20/19	15/15	15/16	6/6	10/12	13/13	38																											
H 15	20/14	13/17	9/14	21/14	10/12	9/13	14/10	7/21	23/8	11/15	9/14	18/16	9/14	18/18	18/16	9/12	37																											
16	15/18	9/12	17/12	17/19	13/11	13/8	20/15	14/5	3/22	18/14	19/8	18/20	17/18	9/12	8/16	13/13	30																											
L 17	12/21	13/7	4/14	10/12	14/17	17/17	14/6	20/14	16/22	10/3	21/11	11/14	16/14	24/24	8/13	11/11	27																											
H 18	14/6	13/19	23/13	15/15	8/9	19/14	7/13	12/11	13/11	15/17	16/25	13/10	6/16	23/23	13/8	11/11	38																											
H 19	18/21	10/10	14/15	17/20	17/13	13/11	15/22	10/10	20/14	11/14	12/5	14/10	11/9	15/24	12/11	8/9	39																											
L 20	13/15	10/12	21/11	14/18	9/16	18/12	16/20	14/14	5/8	26/19	15/14	8/16	18/14	8/12	14/9	13/11	28																											
H 21	8/19	10/9	12/10	10/13	13/16	16/18	21/13	8/9	7/16	21/8	16/12	19/19	12/8	23/23	14/18	11/13	38																											
22	12/15	8/11	10/19	11/8	18/13	16/5	26/22	14/9	8/14	13/16	16/5	17/13	1/19	23/25	17/15	10/14	35																											
L 23	11/7	11/11	11/10	18/12	13/10	7/24	20/14	9/16	20/13	19/15	12/23	21/22	1/8	16/13	21/12	15/11	26																											
24	13/18	9/13	9/13	15/18	7/14	17/7	12/15	12/4	17/20	21/13	18/3	19/19	9/11	19/25	13/16	13/10	34																											
25	17/17	5/5	6/6	14/14	20/20	10/10	17/17	3/3	16/16	13/13	13/13	19/19	16/16	23/23	16/16	14/14	36																											
H 26	15/15	7/7	6/6	21/21	19/19	9/9	21/21	8/8	12/12	11/11	16/16	22/22	10/10	27/27	7/7	13/13	38																											

27	25/16	13/11	6/80	15/13	13/14	7/11	13/10	11/12	14/18	11/16	9/13	21/18	13/9	22/19	14/14	15/8	35
H 28	16/22	11/10	15/12	16/18	8/11	21/15	14/16	6/4	10/16	12/8	16/9	24/24	13/13	17/18	11/15	11/11	41
29	17/16	12/10	21/18	12/15	12/13	8/9	11/9	18/18	16/15	14/14	8/10	10/16	18/15	21/21	12/11	12/12	36
30	15/18	10/13	16/23	9/8	14/15	16/8	16/18	4/4	6/8	21/20	17/13	21/17	22/28	6/3	17/15	14/13	34
H 31	18/9	5/10	1/20	14/9	21/12	12/20	16/9	15/21	21/14	8/10	10/23	21/16	2/11	25/17	20/9	14/10	38
32	7/11	6/10	15/8	14/14	12/18	22/20	12/9	18/14	11/10	15/9	18/16	16/19	20/13	17/24	7/14	12/13	37
H 33	11/18	6/15	8/14	14/7	13/11	22/19	21/19	13/8	16/6	12/17	13/17	23/21	10/23	11/10	17/5	11/11	37
H 34	11/15	11/12	6/7	12/15	11/12	23/23	23/23	16/7	14/9	9/12	23/20	15/11	11/9	18/18	8/10	12/13	39
L 35	25/12	8/13	9/14	20/9	20/9	9/25	23/10	7/21	14/6	1/10	13/22	15/18	10/7	17/27	19/6	13/12	27
L 36	17/21	12/8	15/21	14/22	7/16	22/10	14/18	21/4	15/19	3/4	20/7	18/18	12/21	13/10	5/10	9/10	27
37	16/12	14/11	9/11	13/12	21/20	14/15	18/20	7/8	11/11	8/8	16/17	21/21	12/14	20/19	10/10	12/9	36
38	14/19	19/16	14/19	12/11	15/15	14/12	10/9	9/7	6/6	16/13	19/18	21/22	13/14	15/15	13/12	13/13	36
40	16/17	6/7	10/9	19/18	17/17	19/14	18/19	14/9	19/21	7/6	11/7	14/22	18/18	11/13	11/13	13/14	34
H 41	18/15	12/13	15/15	24/17	14/5	10/14	18/18	8/11	23/21	14/15	5/15	10/10	10/12	18/18	11/11	15/7	37
L 42	14/18	14/11	20/11	11/25	9/23	21/7	24/10	12/5	8/20	18/5	12/1	16/20	16/16	8/12	7/26	12/15	25
H 43	18/14	7/2	14/9	15/14	18/13	6/23	13/20	11/8	23/18	11/8	6/20	11/19	24/19	7/9	17/18	13/12	40
L 44	13/21	6/9	5/10	19/15	15/16	20/10	17/20	12/10	17/14	14/15	16/13	14/12	6/19	17/12	19/14	9/12	25
45	16/17	15/14	12/13	3/3	8/9	20/20	17/17	15/15	16/16	13/14	16/17	15/15	16/17	23/21	5/4	9/10	34
L 46	13/13	10/12	8/13	4/3	11/11	20/16	19/17	12/13	15/14	19/16	21/18	16/19	13/11	24/28	5/6	14/11	29
47	16/15	18/20	9/13	13/9	8/7	24/24	19/18	11/11	17/18	12/11	21/22	18/18	7/8	16/15	1/1	12/11	37
L 48	23/19	11/15	14/8	7/12	6/15	22/17	15/10	15/7	17/16	12/16	15/19	6/18	21/14	11/12	14/12	12/9	24

<sup>1</sup> The first number in each cell refers to the sum self report score on that subscale; the second denotes the sum projected spouse score on that subscale.

\* Odd numbers refer to male subjects; even numbers to female subjects.

H = selected for the High MA group

L = selected for the Low MA group

# APPENDIX C

## DUNCAN'S MULTIPLE RANGE TEST RESULTS FOR ALL PPS SCALES

nACH<sup>\*</sup>

### Self Report Scores

	HF 14.63	LF 15.12	HM 16.75	LM 17.25		Shortest Signif. Range
14.63			2.12	2.62 *		1.742
15.12				2.13		1.836
16.75						1.895
17.25						

### Projected Spouse Scores

	LM 13.62	HM 15.50	HF 15.75	LF 18.88
13.62		1.98	2.13	5.26
15.50				3.38
15.75				3.13
18.88				

---

\* All differences recorded reach at least p. < .05 level of significance.

## nDEF

## Self Report Scores

	HM 9.00	LM 9.00	LF 10.75	HF 10.75	Shortest Signif. Range
9.00			1.75	1.75	1.19
9.00			1.75	1.75	1.96
10.75					2.03
10.75					

## Projected Spouse Scores

	HM 10.63	LM 11.75	LF 12.13	HF 12.25
10.63			1.50	1.62
11.75				
12.13				
12.25				



## nORD

## Self Report Scores

	LM 9.38	HM 10.00	HF 12.63	LF 12.75	Shortest Signif. Range
9.38			3.25	3.37	1.69
10.00			2.63	2.75	1.96
12.63					2.03
12.75					

## Projected Spouse Scores

	HF 10.25	LM 13.00	LF 13.13	HM 14.50
10.25		2.75	2.88	4.25
13.00				
13.13				
14.50				

nEXH

## Self Report Scores

	LF 11.25	HF 15.00	LM 15.00	HM 16.50	Shortest Signif. Range
11.25		3.75	3.75	5.25	3.64
15.00					3.84
15.00					3.96
16.50					

## Projected Spouse Scores

	LM 11.00	HM 12.88	LF 15.25	HF 16.25
11.00			4.25	5.25
12.88				
15.25				
16.25				

## nAUT

## Self Report Scores

	HF 10.88	LF 11.13	HM 14.50	LM 14.75	Shortest Signif. Range
10.88			3.62	3.87	3.59
11.13					3.79
14.50					3.91
14.75					

## Projected Spouse Scores

	HM 11.00	LM 11.63	HF 14.38	LF 15.75
11.00				4.75
11.63				4.12
14.38				
15.75				

## nAFF

## Self Report Scores

	LM 11.25	HM 11.38	HF 17.38	LF 20.13	Shortest Signif. Range
11.25			6.13	8.88	3.04
11.38			6.00	8.75	3.25
17.38					
20.13					

## Projected Spouse Scores

	LF 10.75	HF 15.13	HM 17.25	LM 18.63
10.75		4.38	6.50	7.88
15.13				3.50
17.25				
18.63				

nINT

## Self Report Scores

	LF 15.75	HF 17.13	HM 17.38	LM 17.50	Shortest Signif. Range
15.75				1.75	1.67
17.13					1.76
17.38					
17.50					

## Projected Spouse Scores

	LM 12.75	HM 15.50	LF 16.63	HF 16.75
12.75		2.75	3.88	4.00
15.50				
16.63				
16.75				

## nSUC

## Self Report Scores

	HM 9.88	HF 10.25	LM 12.50	LF 13.63	Shortest Signif. Range
9.88				3.75	2.78
10.25				3.38	2.93
12.50					
13.63					

## Projected Spouse Scores

	LF 8.50	HF 9.50	HM 12.75	LM 18.75
8.50			4.25	10.25
9.50			3.25	9.25
12.75				6.00
18.75				

## nDOM

## Self Report Scores

	LF 11.75	HF 14.38	LM 18.25	HM 19.62	Shortest Signif. Range
11.75			6.50	7.87	3.83
14.38				5.24	4.04
18.25					
19.62					

## Projected Spouse Scores

	LM 12.50	HM 14.25	LF 14.63	HF 15.75
12.50				
14.25				
14.63				
15.75				

## nABA

## Self Report Scores

	LM 9.25	HF 11.50	HM 12.12	LF 16.12	Shortest Signif. Range
9.25		2.25	2.87	6.87	1.31
11.50				4.62	1.38
12.12				4.00	1.42
16.12					

## Projected Spouse Scores

	LM 10.50	HF 10.88	LF 12.38	HM 12.75
10.50			1.88	2.25
10.88				1.87
12.38				
12.75				



## nNUR

## Self Report Scores

	HM 10.75	LM 14.00	LF 16.00	HF 18.37	Shortest Signif. Range
10.75		3.25	5.25	7.62	3.03
14.00				4.37	3.19
16.00					
18.37					

## Projected Spouse Scores

	LF 11.13	HF 15.50	HM 16.50	LM 18.75
11.13		4.37	5.37	7.62
15.50				3.25
16.50				
18.75				

## nCHG

## Self Report Scores

	LF 14.62	LM 14.75	HM 15.62	HF 17.00	Shortest Signif. Range
14.62			1.00	2.38	.58
14.75			.87	2.25	.61
15.62				1.38	.63
17.00					

## Projected Spouse Scores

	HM 15.50	LM 15.75	LF 16.12	HF 17.12
15.50			.62	1.62
15.75				1.37
16.12				1.00
17.12				

nEND

## Self Report Scores

	HM 11.87	HF 12.88	LM 13.50	LF 15.25	Shortest Signif. Range
11.87			1.63	3.38	1.09
12.88			1.62	2.37	1.15
13.50				1.75	1.18
15.25					

## Projected Spouse Scores

	LM 11.75	HM 13.75	HF 14.00	LF 17.25
11.75		2.00	2.25	5.50
13.75				3.50
14.00				3.25
17.25				

## nHET

## Self Report Scores

	LF 13.38	HF 16.50	HM 17.62	LM 18.25	Shortest Signif. Range
13.38		3.12	4.24	4.87	.77
16.50			1.12	1.75	.82
17.62					
18.25					

## Projected Spouse Scores

	LF 14.63	HF 15.50	HM 15.88	LM 18.63
14.63		.87	1.25	4.00
15.50				3.13
15.88				2.75
18.62				

nAGG

Self Report Scores and Projected Spouse Scores

	LM(Sp)	HF	HF(Sp)	LF	HM(Sp)	LF(Sp)	LM	HM	Shortest Signif. Range
10.38	10.38	10.75	11.63	12.00	12.50	13.00	14.75	16.00	
10.38					2.12	2.62	4.37	5.62	1.69
10.75						2.25	4.00	5.25	1.96
11.63							3.12	4.37	2.03
12.00							2.75	4.00	
12.50								3.50	
13.00									
14.75									
16.00									

## APPENDIX D

### COMPARISONS BETWEEN BIOGRAPHICAL DATA VARIABLES AND PPS SCALES WHICH BOTH DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN HIGH AND LOW MA GROUPS WITHIN SEX

FEMALES		
Comparison	Product-Moment $r$	Significance Level
No Years Married with MA Score	-.61	.05
Age with MA Score	-.56	.05
No. Years Married with Age (partial $r$ )	.90	.01
No. Years Married with nEXH Score	.38	N.S.
No. Children with nEXH Score	-.48	N.S.
No. Years Married with nAFF Score	.37	N.S.
No. Children with nAFF Score	.34	N.S.
No. Years Married with nSUC Score	.18	N.S.
No. Children with nSUC Score	.01	N.S.
No. Years Married with nABA Score	.19	N.S.
No. Children with nABA Score	.513	N.S.
No. Years Married with nCHG Score	-.11	N.S.
No. Children with nCHG Score	-.05	N.S.
No. Years Married with nEND Score	.13	N.S.
No. Children with nEND Score	.09	N.S.
No. Years Married with nHET Score	.01	N.S.
No. Children with nHET Score	.02	N.S.

# **MALES**

Comparison	Student's <u>t</u>	Significance Level
Presence of Female Child with nABA Score	.57	N.S.
Presence of Female Child with nNUR Score	.62	N.S.
Presence of Female Child with nCHG Score	.24	N.S.
Presence of Female Child with nEND Score	.23	N.S.

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