



Development And Standardization Of The Tiwari Marital Satisfaction Scale (TMSS) For Indian Couples

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Abstract

The present study aimed to develop and standardize the Tiwari Marital Satisfaction Scale (TMSS) to assess marital satisfaction among Indian married individuals. The scale contains 15 items covering six domains: Emotional Satisfaction, Communication, Conflict Resolution, Intimacy & Affection, Shared Decision-Making, and Overall Satisfaction. The sample consisted of 120 married individuals selected through purposive sampling. The reliability of the scale was found to be high (Cronbach's alpha = 0.87; test-retest reliability = 0.81). Content validity index (CVI = 0.89) and factor analysis confirmed strong construct validity. TMSS is a culturally relevant, reliable, and valid instrument for assessing marital satisfaction in Indian settings.

Keywords: marital satisfaction, scale development, reliability, validity, TMSS, Indian couples.

Introduction

Marital satisfaction refers to the perceived quality and fulfilment experienced within a marital relationship. Existing measurement tools such as ENRICH, KMSS, and Dyadic Adjustment Scale are largely based on Western cultural contexts. Considering India's collectivistic social structure, joint family systems, and culturally-bound marital norms, there is a need for a scale that reflects indigenous social realities.

Therefore, the present study introduces the Tiwari Marital Satisfaction Scale (TMSS), designed specifically for Indian couples.

Objectives

1. To construct a culturally appropriate marital satisfaction scale.
2. To establish the reliability of the TMSS.
3. To assess validity (content, construct, criterion).
4. To provide norms for Indian married individuals.

Method

Sample

A sample of 120 married individuals (60 males, 60 females) aged 25–50 years participated.

Sampling technique: purposive sampling.

Inclusion: minimum 1 year of marriage.

Tool Development Procedure

1. Item Construction

Initial pool: 32 items

After expert review → 15 final items.

2. Content Validation

Panel of 7 experts rated items (CVI = 0.89).

3. Pilot Testing

Conducted on 60 participants for clarity.

4. Final Administration

Final 120 participants used for item analysis and factor structure.

Statistical Analysis

1. Reliability

Type	Coefficient
Cronbach Alpha	0.87
Test–Retest (3 weeks)	0.81
Split-Half Reliability	0.85

Interpretation: Reliability is high.

2. Validity

A. Content Validity

CVI = 0.89

B. Construct Validity

Exploratory Factor Analysis revealed clear grouping of items in domains (KMO = 0.79, Bartlett's test significant).

C. Criterion Validity

TMSS correlated positively ($r = 0.63$) with an existing marital adjustment scale.

Results

Table: Mean & SD

Group	N	Mean	SD
Male	60	51.4	6.2
Female	60	53.1	5.8
Total	120	52.2	6.0

Discussion

The TMSS demonstrates excellent psychometric properties, indicating its applicability for research and counselling.

The domains accurately reflect Indian marital dynamics such as emotional closeness, communication quality, and shared responsibility.

The scale fills a significant gap in indigenous psychological tools.

Conclusion

The Tiwari Marital Satisfaction Scale (TMSS) is a valid, reliable, and culturally sensitive tool suitable for assessing marital satisfaction among Indian couples.

Limitations

Sample size moderate; larger samples recommended.

Limited to urban/semi-urban respondents.

Future studies may include diverse populations.

Future Scope

Use in pre-marital counselling

Comparative cultural studies

Clinical diagnosis of marital distress

Longitudinal marital studies

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