



Survey of the Sternberg's theory

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ABSTRACT

This study is an attempt to compare love stories between the couples on the verge of divorce and normal couples in Semnan city. To this end, a causative-comparative research design was employed. All the couples applying for divorce and not applying for divorce in Semnan city constituted the population of this study. Among this population, the number of 60 couples (30 for each group) was selected through convenience sampling method. For data collection purposes, Love Stories Scale was used in two separate forms for men and women. The obtained data were analyzed via SPSS software. The results of multivariate analysis of variance indicated a lack of complementarity and compatibility in the love story of the couples on the verge of divorce. Similarly, the same result was found for normal couples. However, the results of multivariate analysis of variance on the comparison of love story between men seeking divorce and men not seeking divorce showed that men seeking divorce obtained higher scores in such stories as subject, suspect, sacrifice, and business while they obtained lower scores in such stories as object, religion, travel, fantasy, and humor. The same investigation on women showed that the women seeking divorce obtained significantly lower scores than their counterparts in terms of love story of religion. Considering these results, it can be concluded that love stories can be the reason for the precariousness of couples' life, especially men's love story, but personality types do not play such a role.

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1. Introduction

New research in psychology of marriage touches upon the variables related to marital satisfaction and stability as important factors in marital life. In the latest studies in this field, researchers have relied on interpersonal theory of marriage and, thereby, have emphasized the inevitable role of individual differences between the spouses with the stable personality traits that each spouse brings to the context of marital life. In the literature related marriage, love and love story have been referred to as one of the influential variables have drawn great attention. In 1994, Sternberg evaluated the previous Triangular Theory of Love and introduced the theory of love as a story. He believed that triangular theory of love only introduces the tri-polar components of love and cannot explain why an individual loves someone and does not love the other one. In the theory of love as a story, love is separated into its constituent components, which encompass a wide range of factors such affects, thoughts, different types of motivations, recognition of other

phenomena such as interest and desire to others, the establishment of suitable communication, and support of others. In this theory, it is assumed that humans tend to fall in love with the individual whose love story resembles their own one and whose role in stories is identical to that of themselves. As such, these people are similar to each other in some ways and are different in some other ways, as well. If it happens to a person that s/he accidentally falls in love with someone, there will be an entirely different story. In such cases, it is likely that the relationship between the couple and the love behind it become precarious. Therefore, the individuals in this situation should either look for another eligible person or change their dominant story (Sternberg, 1994).

Within the pertaining studies and theories (Sternberg, 1986), love stories are divided into five main groups and each group contains several sub-stories. Tales of Love is, and knows. Of course, Sternberg stated that the categories of love stories he has introduced represent a wide range of the concepts on what love can be. However, the love stories are not necessarily limited to these concepts and everyone can have a different love story, but some stories are more common and frequent.

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According to Sternberg, stories of love and their subdivisions include the following:

The first main story class is referred to as asymmetric stories where asymmetry or complementary behavior between spouses is the basis of intimate and close relationship. These stories include: 1) Student-teacher story: Here, one person provides structure and information and the other person is the recipient of the information. 2) Sacrifice story: one of the couples willingly makes sacrifices and gives discounts and the other person benefits from the discounts. 3) Government story: one person dominates the other one and has the power of adopting all the final decisions and the other one is merely obedient. 4) Police story: One of the couples supervises the other one and often restrains him/her in a framework s/he wishes. S/he regards him/herself additional rights. 5) Pornography story: One of the couples is debased and degraded and the other one is used as a sex object. 6) Horror story: One person is terrorizer and the other person is the victim of disrespect and contempt. This person will be attracted to relationships in which s/he should either terrorize or be terrorized and enjoys it.

The second main story class is divided into two categories, namely person as object and relationship as object. Person as object: The person who is considered to be the object plays the role of the object. Such stories include 1) Science fiction story: The person is assessed based on personality or his/her bizarre behavior. 2) Collection story: The value of a person is as s/he fits into some overall collection. 3) Art story: The person is valued for his/her physical appearance.

The second category of the second main group of love stories is relationship as object, in which the relationship comes out as a means to achieve a goal that has nothing to do with the relationship. This includes such subcategories as: 1) House and home story: The relationship becomes a means to achieve a comfortable and attractive living environment and to make it come to fruition. Here, home is the focus of the relationship. 2) Recovery story: It is the story of survival and it is used to recover the person who has suffered trauma. 3) Religion story: Here, the relationship is used as a means to get closer to God. 4) Game story: It entails a kind of competition. Relationship is converted into a means to play a complex game with its own set of laws and rules and typically contains winner and loser.

The third main story class of love stories is referred to as partnership. In this story, love is seen from this angle that love is completed with partners' collaboration with each other in creating or maintaining something. It includes the following: 1) Travel story: In this story, love is viewed by the partners as a journey where the destination is not important because the purpose of the relationship is to enjoy the journey together. Sometimes the journey actually takes place and the couple will travel to exciting places. 2) Sewing: The spouses view themselves as the individuals weaving and

sewing their different and special relationship. They weave together the pieces of their own relationship to implement it. 3) Gardening story: The couple regards their relationship as a garden that needs to be always approached with care to be nurtured and become fertile. 4) Business story: The relationship is managed like a business. The person is attracted to his/her spouse as a potential partner and mainly evaluates him/her regarding his/her merit in this role. 5) Addiction story: The main characteristic of addiction stories is the addicted person's deep and anxious attachment to his/her partner or the need to have this attachment. The person needs both addiction and the addicted individuals.

The fourth main story class of love stories is referred to as narrative stories: Here, spouses believe that there is some real or imaginary text outside the relationship, but this text to a great extent determines the way the relationship should go on. It includes such sub-groups as: 1) Fantasy story: This story has a fairy tale text in which an imaginary person who is fully ideal comes to the person. 2) History story: It owns a historical text that lights the way of the future. The couple lives together by looking at the past as if the past is present. 3) Science story: Logical scientific principles and rules are the main factors in motivating and the formation of feelings, thoughts, and deeds of people in the relationship. 4) Cookbook story: There is a recipe to prepare food that contains the entire necessary ingredient to create a happy and successful relationship.

The fifth main story class of love stories is referred to as genre stories: The condition for presence in the relationship is the key to the availability and maintenance of the relationship. A certain current dimension in this relationship dominates and is superior to other aspects. 6) War story: There is a war going on without any winner or loser because the maintenance of the story is guaranteed on the condition that the war is endless. 7) Theater story: The relationship is like a theater in which one or both partners play some role. 8) Humor story: It is superior to deal with jokes and vitality and to see the funny side of things. With the help of humor, serious and even conflictual dialogues will be distracted. 9) Mystery story: One of the two partners is constantly obsessed with an air of mystery and it succeeds the other partner's efforts to infiltrate in the air of mystery. Sternberg do not assign credit to any of the stories; in other words, none of the stories are preferred to another one and each story has its own pros and cons. Sternberg asserts that couples feel satisfied with their marital life when there are shared stories between the couples.

As per the above-mentioned points, there is an important variable that is effective in interpersonal relationships in couples, fulfillment of their mutual wants and needs, feeling of marital satisfaction, their individual and collective quality of life. This variable is called love story of individuals. According to Sternberg's theory of love story and the research

conducted by Sternberg et al. (2001), love story is effective in the stabilization or destabilization of relationship between couples and their satisfaction or dissatisfaction. Now, this study is an attempt to find whether there is any incompatibility (or compatibility) of love stories between the couples whose relationships have become precarious and look for divorce. Therefore, the following four research questions have been formulated for the conduct of this study: 1. Are the love story profiles of the couples seeking divorce different from each other? 2. Are the love story profiles of normal couples compatible and consistent with each other? 3. Are the love story profiles of ordinary men different from those of the men seeking divorce? 4. Is the love story of ordinary women different from that of the women seeking divorce?

2. Methodology

The present study was a survey with a retrospective (causal-comparative) research method. The statistical population of this study consisted of all the couples applying for divorce and not applying for divorce in Semnan city in 2015. Among this population, the number of 60 couples (30 for each group) was selected as the sample participants of the study through convenience sampling method.

2.1. Data collection instruments

1. Sternberg's Love Stories Scale: This scale was developed in two distinct forms for men and women. Each form of the scale consists of 25 different stories and measures five factorial groups. Roles are more clearly separated from each other in 8 stories, such as pornography story with two roles, i.e. subject and object; and government story with two roles, i.e. the governor and the governed; therefore, considering the distinguished roles, each version of the scale measures 33 stories and roles and 5 factorial groups. Then, the number of 38 scores is obtained, through which the love story profile for each participant is drawn. The number of two questions has been considered for each role in those stories that contain roles and each story includes four items. In total, each version of the scale consists of 100 items, which elicit the respondent's opinion on each item. In fact, participants are asked to decide on the degree of agreement or disagreement on each item based on a 7-point Likert scale (strongly disagree to strongly agree). Hence, each item receives a score from one to seven. Score 1 represents complete disagreement whereas score 7 represents complete agreement on each item. In addition, score 4 has taken up a middle position. Five factorial groups include: 1) Friendly community stories with 11 sub-stories 2) Domineering stories with 10 sub-stories 3) hedonism stories with 3 sub-stories 4) Entertainment stories with 4 sub-stories, and 5) Subservient stories with 5 sub-stories. After the participant's love story profile was drawn, the story

or stories of high straub are considered one's dominant story or stories; since this scale aims to compare and contrast the love story between the couple. Thus, as the difference love story profiles (D2) is lower, the couple's love stories are more similar to each other.

Test-retest correlation coefficient of the test for women is significant for 31 subscales at 0.01 and the two roles of mystery figures and sleuth (roles of mystery story) are significant with a correlation coefficient of 0.45 and 0.40, respectively ($P < 0.05$). The highest correlation coefficient and the lowest correlation are respectively 0.86 and 0.40, which belong to the role of sleuth. For men, the role of governor with the lowest correlation coefficient value of .38 is significant at $P < 0.05$ and home and house story has taken up the highest value, i.e. 0.88. Furthermore, the four stories, namely collection, governed, travel, and war were significant at $P < 0.05$. The retest reliability coefficient in two test administrations was very high, i.e. 0.992 and 0.997 for men and women, respectively ($P < 0.010$). The lowest Cronbach's alpha coefficients for men and women are respectively 0.43 (gardening story) and 0.51 (sleuth role). The highest coefficients for both groups are respectively 0.88 (art story) and .90 (science-fiction). The Cronbach's alpha mean score for men and women is 0.71 and 0.72, respectively. Accordingly, it can be claimed that the questions enjoy very good internal consistency.

3. Findings

Before presenting the research findings, it is important to note that the following constitute the variety of role or complement stories: government story (governor and governed), pornography story (subject and object), horror story (terrorizer and victim) and recovery story (recovered and codependent), theater story (actor and audience), humor story (audience and comedian) and mystery story (mystery figure and sleuth). According to theory of love stories, compatibility in these complementary stories (stories of the roles) means lack of satisfaction and understanding). Therefore, it is necessary to substitute the men's scores and women's scores with each other. For example, the scores belonging to the roles of female governed and female governor are put under the node of male governor's score and male governor's score, respectively.

Table 1 shows mean and standard deviation statistics of 33 love stories which are placed in five factorial groups. The data in the above table show that the mean score of men is higher than that of women in most love stories; however, this difference is not great. Considering the fact that the existence of large differences in the stories containing roles is desired and represents the sense of understanding and complementarity, this small difference in these stories might have resulted from the confrontation and conflict in the couples seeking divorce.

3.1. Multivariate analysis of variance representing the comparison of love stories in couples seeking divorce

Table 2 represents the results of multivariate analysis of variance on the comparison of love stories between men and women seeking divorce. The data in the above table show that there is a significant difference between the groups in love

stories ($P < 0.01$). Hence, univariate analysis of variance is used.

Table 3 shows the results of Levene's test investigating the equality of variances. The results suggest that the equality of variances assumption has been met and, thereby, the conduct of univariate analysis of variance is allowed ($P > 0.01$).

Table 1: Mean and standard deviation of 33 love stories in men and women seeking divorce

Sex	Love stories	Mean	Standard deviation	Love stories	Mean	Standard deviation	Love stories	Mean	Standard deviation
Male	Sacrifice	22.07	3.85	Art	16.5	3.5	Fantasy	15.85	3.8
Female		18.71	4.27		14.28	5.12		14.85	2.97
Male	Government*	5.85	3.28	Home	17.85	4.5	History	20.57	4.81
Female		5.50	2.39		14.75	4.46		22.21	3.77
Male	Governor*	7.28	2.19	Recovered*	7.07	2.67	Science	2.67	3.22
Female		6.28	2.32		7	2.98		2.98	1.38
Male	Police*	6.57	2.32	Codependent*	8.78	2.04	Cookbook	18.42	4.51
Female		6.78	2.72		7.28	2.91		20.92	4.29
Male	Suspect*	9.57	3.5	Religion	20.42	2.66	War	12	4.14
Female		8.28	2.73		18.64	4.83		10.50	5.80
Male	Object*	5.57	2.89	Game	14.28	6.24	Actor*	7.71	3.55
Female		6.28	3.72		14.21	4.39		6.62	2.62
Male	Subject*	6.28	4.15	Travel	20	2.34	Fan*	7.42	2.09
Female		6.35	3.25		20.07	2.73		7.78	2.80
Male	Terrorize*	5.57	2.45	Sewing	18.5	4.86	Audience*	7.64	2.65
Female		4.42	2.42		16.71	3.87		7.78	2.78
Male	Victim*	5.42	2.79	Garden	21.28	4.67	Comedian*	8.57	2.89
Female		4.14	1.58		22.64	3.06		7.50	2.57
Male	Science-fiction	12	5.01	Business	15.71	4.68	Mystery figure*	4.85	2.54
Female		11.71	6.17		14.28	5.01		5	2.43
Male	Collection	11.5	5.64	Addiction	18	7.23	Sleuth*	6.64	2.87
Female		7.78	4.05		17.85	6.22		4.42	1.42

* Stories containing roles

Table 2: Multivariate analysis of variance representing the comparison of love stories between men and women seeking divorce

Analysis	Value	F	Hypothesis Df	Error Df	Sig
Pillai's trace	0.524	2.67	16	39	0.006

Table 3: Levene's test for the assessment of the equality of variances

Variable	f	Df 1	Df 2	Sig
Government	2.60	1	54	0.112
Recovered	0.828	1	54	0.367
Governor	4.44	1	54	0.040
Codependent	5.93	1	54	0.018
Police	1.77	1	54	0.188
Suspect	6.81	1	54	0.012
Actor	0.015	1	54	0.903
Object	18.60	1	54	0.000
Fan	0.905	1	54	0.364
Subject	4.28	1	54	0.043
Audience	1.16	1	54	0.286
Terrorize	10.46	1	54	0.002
Comedian	1.02	1	54	0.316
Victim	3.88	1	54	0.054
Mystery figure	.118	1	54	0.732
Sleuth	0.120	1	54	0/730

Table 4 shows the results of univariate analysis of variance on the comparison of love stories among the couples seeking divorce. The data in the above table show that the couples seeking divorce are compatible in all the stories except in sleuth roles.

This is not desired and means that the couple's love stories are not complementary. In other words, there are high levels of conflict and dispute between them ($P > 0.01$).

3.2. Love stories in normal couples

Table 5 shows mean and standard deviation statistics of 33 love stories for normal men and women. The data in the above table show that the reported mean scores are similar to each other in

roughly most love stories. The availability of this situation indicates that there are probably fewer complementary love stories among normal couples. For the further exploration of this issue, profile of love stories for each normal couple is drawn and independent t-test is conducted.

Table 4: Univariate analysis of variance on the comparison of love stories among the couples seeking divorce

Variable	Sum of square	Df	Men square	F	Sig
Government	1.78	1	1.78	0.216	0.446
Recovered	14	1	14	2.74	0.103
Governor	0.643	1	0.643	0.103	0.749
Codependent	23.14	1	23.14	2.34	0.131
Police	7.14	1	7.14	0.642	0.426
Suspect	0.071	1	0.071	0.005	0.943
Actor	18.28	1	18.28	3.06	0.085
Object	23.14	1	23.14	4.49	0.039
Fan	0.071	1	0.071	0.009	0.925
Subject	31.5	1	31.5	4.96	0.030
Audience	0.286	1	0.286	0.046	0.831
Terrorize	68.64	1	68.64	13.36	0.001
Comedian	16.07	1	16.07	1.64	0.205
Victim	1.78	1	1.78	0.291	0.592
Mystery figure	0.286	1	0.286	0.039	0.845
Sleuth	16.07	1	16.07	2.13	0.149

Table 5: Mean and standard deviation of 33 love stories in normal men and women

Sex	Love stories	Mean	Standard deviation	Love stories	Mean	Standard deviation	Love stories	Mean	Standard deviation
Male	Sacrifice	22.60	3.63	Art	16.80	5.04	Fantasy	18.20	3.72
Female		19.33	4.64		14.20	4.56		16.36	4.13
Male	Government*	6.06	3.55	Home	16.86	5	History	20	4.77
Female		5.66	2.36		15.46	3.88		20.10	3.74
Male	Governor*	5.26	2.19	Recovered*	7.96	3.72	Science	19	4.86
Female		5.76	3		7.23	3		19.36	4.49
Male	Police*	6.36	2.68	Codependent*	7.80	2.89	Cookbook	18.93	5.14
Female		70.30	2.76		8	2.10		20	4.24
Male	Suspect*	7.43	2.88	Religion	23.16	4.35	War	10.46	3.33
Female		70.70	7.09		23.31	3.98		9.53	4.21
Male	Object*	7.43	2.96	Game	12.46	6.28	Actor*	9.53	2.35
Female		6.20	2.36		12.60	5.54		6.60	2.89
Male	Subject*	6.73	3.53	Travel	21.96	21.96	Fan*	7.86	3.47
Female		5.26	2.76		20.83	3.36		8.03	2.74
Male	Terrorize*	4.33	2.61	Sewing	19	3.69	Audience*	7.70	1.96
Female		4.40	2.44		17.26	3.98		7.90	2.33
Male	Victim*	3.83	1.80	Garden	22.30	3.59	Comedian*	10.80	2.82
Female		4.30	2.28		21.10	4.30		8.30	2.80
Male	Science-fiction	12.66	4.52	Business	11.60	4.97	Mystery figure*	3.96	1.90
Female		13.43	4.73		12.33	4.68		4.56	2.40
Male	Collection	8.96	5.31	Addiction	13.93	5.60	Sleuth*	5.26	2.39
Female		8.10	3.88		19.50	5.57		5	2.66

* Stories containing roles

3.3. Multivariate analysis of variance representing the comparison of love stories in normal couples

Table 6 represents the results of multivariate analysis of variance on the comparison of love stories between normal men and women. The data in the above table suggest that there is a significant difference between the two groups in love stories (P < 0.01). Hence, univariate analysis of variance is used.

Table 7 shows the results of Levene's test investigating the equality of variances. The results suggest that the equality of variances assumption has been met and, thereby, the employment of univariate analysis of variance is allowed (P > 0.01).

Table 8 shows the results of univariate analysis of variance on the comparison of love stories among normal couples. The data in the above table show that normal couples share compatibility in all love stories except in comedian roles. This means that the couple's love stories are not complementary as in the couples seeking divorce (P > 0.01).

Table 6: Multivariate analysis of variance representing the comparison of love stories between normal men and women

Analysis	Value	F	Hypothesis Df	Error Df	Sig
Pillai's trace	0.461	2.29	16	43	0.016

Table 7: Levene's test for the assessment of the equality of variances

Variable	f	Df 1	Df 2	Sig
Government	7.04	1	58	0.010
Recovered	1.02	1	58	1.02
Governor	0.013	1	58	0.013
Codependent	0.139	1	58	0.139
Police	0.994	1	58	0.994
Suspect	2.94	1	58	2.94
Actor	0.006	1	58	0.006
Object	5.35	1	58	5.035
Fan	2.50	1	58	2.50
Subject	1.36	1	58	1.36
Audience	0.479	1	58	0.479
Terrorize	0.421	1	58	0.421
Comedian	1.81	1	58	1.81
Victim	1.94	1	58	1.94
Mystery figure	1.37	1	58	1.37
Sleuth	0.129	1	58	0.129

Table 8: Univariate analysis of variance on the comparison of love stories among normal couples

Variable	Sum of square	Df	Men square	F	Sig
Government	2.40	1	2.40	0.263	0.610
Recovered	3.75	1	3.75	0.542	0.465
Governor	13.06	1	13.06	1.75	0.190
Codependent	1.06	1	1.06	0.119	0.731
Police	22.81	1	22.81	3.16	0.080
Suspect	32.26	1	32.26	3.20	0.079
Actor	0.067	1	0.067	0.010	0.919
Object	3.26	1	3.26	0.775	0.382
Fan	8.06	1	8.06	0.704	0.405
Subject	0.600	1	0.600	0.094	0.760
Audience	50.40	1	50.40	1.15	0.228
Terrorize	1.06	1	1.06	0.166	0.685
Comedian	0.817	1	0.817	0.117	0.733
Victim	0.417	1	0.417	0.043	0.837
Mystery figure	0.600	1	0.600	0.128	0.721
Sleuth	93.75	1	93.75	11.48	0.001

3.4. Comparison of love stories between normal men and men seeking divorce

Table 9 shows mean and standard deviation statistics of 33 different love stories for normal men and men seeking divorce. The data in the above table show that the scores of normal men and men seeking divorce are not different. Multivariate analysis of variance test is used to explore significant differences between normal men and men seeking divorce. The results of this test are presented in the following table.

Before the conduct of multivariate analysis of variance test, Box's M Test should be generally conducted to examine the equality of covariance. However, Box's M Test was not conducted on the current variables due to the presence of less than two covariance matrices. For this reason, this test was not conducted here. In this specific case, Pillai's trace should be reported (Meyers et al., 2012).

Table 10 represents the results of multivariate analysis of variance on the comparison of love

stories between two groups of men. The data in the above table suggest that there is a significant difference between the men seeking divorce and the normal men in love stories ($P < 0.01$).

The results of the results of Levene's test suggest that the equality of variances assumption has been met and, thereby, the employment of univariate analysis of variance is allowed ($P > 0.01$).

Table 11 shows the results of univariate analysis of variance on the comparison of love stories between normal men and men seeking divorce. The data in the table indicate that the two groups are significantly different from each other in terms of such love stories and roles as the governed, suspect, object, sacrifice, religion, travel, business, fantasy, and comedian ($P < 0.05$). More specifically, men seeking divorce have obtained higher scores in such stories as the governed, suspect, sacrifice, and business; however, they have obtained lower scores in object, sacrifice, religion, travel, fantasy, and comedian, as shown in Table 5.

3.5. Comparison of love stories between normal women and women seeking divorce

Table 12 shows mean and standard deviation statistics of 33 different love stories for normal women and women seeking divorce. The results of the above table show that normal women and women seeking divorce have obtained slightly different scores in love stories. Multivariate analysis of variance test is used to explore the significant differences between normal women and women seeking divorce.

Like the case of love stories between male groups, Box's M Test was not conducted on the current variables due to the presence of less than two covariance matrices. In this specific case, Pillai's trace should be reported (Meyers et al., 2012).

Table 13 represents the results of multivariate analysis of variance on the comparison of love stories between two groups of women. The data in the above table suggest that there is a significant difference between the women seeking divorce and the normal women in love stories ($P < 0.01$).

The results of results of Levene's test suggest that the equality of variances assumption has been met and, thereby, the employment of univariate analysis of variance is allowed ($P > 0.01$).

Table 14 shows the results of univariate analysis of variance on the comparison of love stories between normal women and women seeking divorce. The results of the table indicate that the two groups are significantly different from each other only in terms of religion story ($P < 0.01$). This means

that normal women have obtained higher scores. However, there was no significant difference between the two groups in the scores of other love stories ($P < 0.01$).

4. Discussion

4.1. The first research question: Are the love story profiles of the couples seeking divorce different from each other?

In short, it should be stated that profile analysis and drawing of love story in the couples of both groups showed that the couples seeking divorce have compatible stories except in sleuth and victim roles. This is not the desired result and means that the couple's love stories are not complementary to each other.

This finding is consistent with that of the study conducted by Abedi (2004) wherein occupational therapy and counseling were implemented to make love stories of the clients the same, the clients whose main complaint was about love. This finding is also consistent with that of the study carried out by Alaei and Karami (2007). They showed that the couples with a lower level of marital satisfaction do not have complementary love stories. This finding is also consistent with that of the studies conducted by Yousefi et al. (2011); Sternberg (1986); and Sternberg et al. (2001) where they have concluded that the love stories with roles must be in line with each other in order to achieve satisfaction and a successful life.

Table 9: Mean and standard deviation of 33 love stories in normal men and men seeking divorce

Sex	Love stories	Mean	Standard deviation	Love stories	Mean	Standard deviation	Love stories	Mean	Standard deviation
Male	Sacrifice	22.60	3.63	Art	16.80	5.04	Fantasy	18.20	4.18
Female		22.07	3.85		16.50	3.50		15.85	4.30
Male	Government*	6.06	3.55	Home	16.86	5	History	20	4.77
Female		5.85	3.28		17.85	4.50		20.75	4.81
Male	Governor*	5.26	2.19	Recovered*	7.96	3.72	Science	19	4.86
Female		7.28	2.19		7.07	2.67		18	3.22
Male	Police*	6.36	2.68	Codependent*	7.80	2.89	Cookbook	18.93	5.14
Female		7.28	2.33		8.78	2.04		18.42	4.51
Male	Suspect*	7.43	2.88	Religion	23.16	4.35	War	10.46	3.33
Female		9.57	3.50		20.42	3.66		12	4.14
Male	Object*	7.43	2.96	Game	12.46	6.28	Actor*	6.36	2.35
Female		5.75	2.89		14.28	6.24		7.71	3.55
Male	Subject*	6.73	3.53	Travel	21.96	3.84	Fan*	7.76	3.47
Female		6.28	4.15		20	2.34		7.42	2.09
Male	Terrorize*	4.33	2.61	Sewing	19	3.69	Audience*	7.70	1.96
Female		5.75	2.45		18.50	4.86		7.46	2.65
Male	Victim*	3.83	1.80	Garden	22.30	3.59	Comedian*	10.80	2.82
Female		5.42	2.79		21.28	4.67		8.57	2.89
Male	Science-fiction	12.66	4.52	Business	11.60	4.97	Mystery figure*	3.96	1.90
Female		12	5.01		15.71	4.68		4.85	2.54
Male	Collection	8.96	5.31	Addiction	19.13	5.60	Sleuth*	5.26	2.39
Female		11.50	5.64		18	7.23		6.64	2.87

* Stories containing roles

Table 10: Multivariate analysis of variance representing the comparison of love stories between two groups of men

Analysis	Value	F	Hypothesis Df	Error Df	Sig
Pillai's trace	1	2698.87	33	24	0.000

Table 11: Univariate analysis of variance on the comparison of love stories between normal men and men seeking divorce

Variable	Sum of square	Df	Men square	F	Sig
Sacrifice	4.04	1	4.04	0.289	0.593
Government	0.636	1	0.636	0.054	0.817
Governor	59.04	1	59.04	12.26	0.001
Police	0.607	1	0.607	0.099	0.754
Suspect	66.20	1	66.20	6.47	0.014
Object	50.20	1	50.20	5.83	0.019
Subject	2.90	1	2.90	0.196	0.659
Terrorize	22.20	1	22.20	3.43	0.069
Victim	36.85	1	36.85	6.76	0.012
Science-fiction	6.43	1	6.43	0.283	0.597
Collection	92.94	1	92.94	3.10	0.084
Art	1.30	1	1.30	0.086	0.759
Home	14.20	1	14.20	0.624	0.433
Recovered	11.60	1	11.60	1.08	0.301
Codependent	14.07	1	14.07	2.21	0.142
Religion	108.58	1	108.58	6.66	0.013
Game	47.92	1	47.92	1.22	0.274
Travel	56.01	1	56.01	5.43	0.023
Sewing	3.62	1	3.62	0.196	0.660
Garden	3.62	1	3.62	0.866	0.356
Business	245.15	1	245.15	10.47	0.002
Addiction	18.60	1	18.60	0.488	0.506
Fantasy	79.49	1	79.49	4.41	0.040
History	4.72	1	4.72	0.205	0.652
Science	14.48	1	14.48	0.840	0.1563
Cookbook	3.69	1	3.69	0.157	0.694
War	34.05	1	34.05	2.42	0.125
Actor	26.30	1	26.30	2.93	0.092
Fan	2.78	1	2.78	0.332	0.567
Audience	0.047	1	0.047	0.009	0.926
Comedian	71.92	1	71.92	8.80	0.004
Mystery figure	11.48	1	11.48	2.29	0.136
Sleuth	27.42	1	27.42	3.95	0.052

Table 12: Mean and standard deviation of 33 love stories in normal women and women seeking divorce

Variable	Couple	Mean	Standard deviation	Variable	Couple	Mean	Standard deviation
Sacrifice	Usual	19.34	4.73	Travel	Usual	20.82	3.95
	Divorce	18.71	4.27		Divorce	20.07	4.46
Government	Usual	5.65	2.40	Sewing	Usual	17.41	3.05
	Divorce	5.50	2.39		Divorce	16.71	2.98
Governor	Usual	5.68	3.02	Garden	Usual	21.34	2.12
	Divorce	6.28	2.32		Divorce	22.64	2.91
Police	Usual	7.34	2.80	Business	Usual	12.31	3.98
	Divorce	6.78	2.72		Divorce	14.28	4.83
Suspect	Usual	7.68	3.15	Addiction	Usual	19.51	5.64
	Divorce	8.28	2.73		Divorce	17.85	4.39
Object	Usual	6.17	2.40	Fantasy	Usual	16.37	3.42
	Divorce	6.28	3.72		Divorce	14.58	2.73
Subject	Usual	5.20	2.79	History	Usual	20.13	3.96
	Divorce	6.35	3.25		Divorce	22.21	3.87
Terrorize	Usual	4.44	2.74	Science	Usual	19.48	4.15
	Divorce	4.42	2.42		Divorce	19.14	3.06
Victim	Usual	4.17	2.20	Cookbook	Usual	20.10	4.78
	Divorce	4.14	1.58		Divorce	20.92	5.01
Science-fiction	Usual	13.34	4.79	War	Usual	9.34	5.67
	Divorce	11.71	6.17		Divorce	10.50	6.22
Collection	Usual	7.82	3.64	Actor	Usual	6.85	4.20
	Divorce	7.85	4.05		Divorce	6.64	2.97
Art	Usual	19.34	4.61	Audience	Usual	8.06	3.80
	Divorce	14.10	5.12		Divorce	7.78	3.77
Home	Usual	14.28	3.95	Fan	Usual	7.86	4.53
	Divorce	15.48	4.46		Divorce	7.78	1.38
Recovered	Usual	14.57	3.05	Comedian	Usual	7.78	4.27
	Divorce	7.20	2.98		Divorce	7.50	4.29
Codependent	Usual	7	2.12	Mystery figure	Usual	4.55	4.15
	Divorce	8.03	2.91		Divorce	5	5.80
Religion	Usual	7.28	3.98	Sleuth	Usual	4.89	2.94
	Divorce	14.10	4.83		Divorce	4.42	2.62
Game	Usual	14.28	4.61	-	-	-	-
	Divorce	15.48	5.12	-	-	-	-

Table 13: Multivariate analysis of variance representing the comparison of love stories between two groups of women

Analysis	Value	F	Hypothesis Df	Error Df	Sig
Pillai's trace	0.030	22.28	33	23	0.000

Table 14: Univariate analysis of variance on the comparison of love stories between normal women and women seeking divorce

Variable	Sum of square	Df	Men square	F	Sig
Sacrifice	5.66	1	5.66	0.278	0.600
Government	0.343	1	0.343	0.059	0.808
Governor	5.06	1	5.06	0.693	5.06
Police	4.45	1	4.45	0.581	4.45
Suspect	5.06	1	5.06	0.580	0.405
Object	0.183	1	0.183	0.019	0.892
Subject	18.84	1	18.84	2.05	0.185
Terrorize	0.006	1	0.006	0.001	0.976
Victim	0.012	1	0.012	0.003	0.954
Science-fiction	37.87	1	37.87	1.24	0.270
Collection	0.012	1	0.012	0.001	0.977
Art	0.473	1	0.473	0.020	0.473
Home	11.83	1	11.83	0.667	0.418
Recovered	0.610	1	0.610	0.067	0.797
Codependent	7.98	1	7.98	1.23	0.272
Religion	191.61	1	191.61	9.80	0.003
Game	37.76	1	37.76	1.47	0.230
Travel	8.14	1	8.14	0.854	0.362
Sewing	6.97	1	6.97	0.454	0.504
Garden	24	1	24	1.78	0.187
Business	55.58	1	55.58	2.23	0.133
Addiction	39.26	1	39.26	1.10	0.297
Fantasy	33	1	33	2.47	0.122
History	61.41	1	61.41	4.27	0.043
Science	1.64	1	1.64	0.144	0.705
Cookbook	9.69	1	9.69	0.528	0.471
War	19.01	1	19.01	0.749	0.390
Actor	0.046	1	0.046	0.006	0.939
Fan	1.14	1	1.14	0.166	0.704
Audience	0.083	1	0.083	0.012	0.911
Comedian	9.35	1	9.35	1.26	0.266
Mystery figure	2.86	1	2.86	0.481	0.491
Sleuth	3.12	1	3.12	0.682	0.412

To account for this result, one can refer to Sternberg (1994) who asserted that humans tend to fall in love with the individual whose love story resembles their own one and whose role in stories is identical to that of themselves. In this way, these people are similar to each other in some ways and are different in some other ways. If it happens to a person that s/he accidentally falls in love with someone, this will be an entirely different story. In such cases, it is likely that the relationship between the couple and the love behind the relationship become precarious. Therefore, the individuals in this situation should either look for another eligible person or change their dominant story (Sternberg, 1994). However, interest and liking in its general sense do not lead to any bond in the relevant theory of some of the stories, such as pornography story, horror story, and some other stories. In such a situation, this is the complementarity that leads to the establishment of bond. In this regard, one can also refer to Abouserie (1994) who pointed out that troubled families repeat a certain trade-off over and over again as if they are dancing together; indeed, they will have a dance whenever they gain an

opportunity. They develop a certain remedial solution over time to behave towards each other on a problem and each plays his/her own role. Therefore, each individual will play his/her role perfectly when sequences commence. This is so because family problems have been expressed through a maladaptive pattern. Family experience out of this pattern includes a range of harmful states, such as deprivation, anger, anxiety, and usually some elements of submission. Family members are aware of the fact that the interactions of this type are not helpful. However, everyone does not find the other members' behavior helpful while s/he will consider his/her behavior as an attempt to solve the problem. Personal factors are among the main causes of the problems. It is clear that there are many personal factors that can be involved in marital satisfaction and can intensify it. False perceptions and unrealistic expectations that are infiltrated into marriage are the main types of personal factors. As long as the society continues to nurture the romantic ideals and fantastic expectations that are accepted by people, marital frustration will be actively present.

4.2. The second research question: Are the love story profiles of normal couples compatible and consistent with each other?

Data analysis on comparing the normal couples in terms of the stories with roles suggested that normal couples share compatible stories except in comedian story. According to the love story theory, this status is not optimal and it means that the couple's love stories are not complementary.

A study rarely can be found directly on the match of love stories in normal couples to explain the obtained result. However, Abedi (2004); Alaei and Karami (2007); Yousefi et al. (2011); and Sternberg et al. (2001) have shown that the complementarity of love stories is of importance to a better life. This finding is both consistent and inconsistent with the above-mentioned studies. It is possible to refer to the inconsistency of this finding with the results of the above studies in that the investigation of love stories among the couples not seeking divorce suggested that these couples' love stories are not complementary as in that in the couples seeking divorce. However, the important point in justifying this result is that lack of complementarity of love stories among normal couples does not represent marital satisfaction since the complementarity of love stories suggests marital satisfaction and mutual understanding; and also no divorce involvement means a high level of marital satisfaction. Thus, it is possible that normal couples are involved in more conflicts and suffer from a low degree of marital satisfaction.

Another point related to this finding, that is, the lack of complementarity of love stories in the couples not seeking divorce is that several factors are involved in marriage and sustained relationship of couples. In other words, it cannot be asserted that love stories and romantic relationships determine preservation of the married relationship or divorce, but there are a variety of factors that predict the success or failure in the continuity of the married relationship. As an example, Jeronimus, Riese Sanderman and Ormel (2014) found several factors effective in marital satisfaction and continuity or discontinuity of marital life. These factors include level of education, socioeconomic status, similarities or differences in couples' interests and personality, the early and final stages of family life cycle, sex harmony, age of marriage, etc.

According to the research of this kind and also considering the common sense, one can perceive that love and romantic relationship are not everything although both love and love stories are regarded among the important factors.

4.3. The third research question: Are the love story profiles of ordinary men different from those of the men seeking divorce?

On the comparison of love stories between the two groups of ordinary men and men seeking divorce, it was shown that the two groups were

significantly different in terms of such stories and roles as the governed, suspect, object, sacrifice, religion, travel, business, fantasy, and comedian. In fact, the men seeking divorce obtained higher scores in the governed, suspect, sacrifice, and business while they have obtained lower scores than normal men in such roles and stories as object, religion, travel, fantasy, and comedian. No related study was found for the direct comparison and interpretation of this finding. However, it is possible to find this result consistent with the results of the study done by Matsumoto and Juang (2012) who concluded that Eros and Agape are followed by the couple's marital satisfaction and the absence of Eros and Agape is associated with marital dissatisfaction. In other words, intimacy and unselfish generosity are the most elastic part of a relationship. The men seeking divorce in this study are not characterized by this feature or do not demonstrate it. This finding is also consistent with that of the study undertaken by Masuda (2003) where it was shown that a higher level of marital satisfaction will be obtained as a result of empathic love and romantic love and this is what the men seeking divorce lack or do not reveal. This is so because these men lack enough share in love stories of the governed, suspect, object, sacrifice, business, and fantasy, which entail empathy and romance in marriage. This finding is also consistent with that of the study conducted by Masuda (2003), which indicates that the weakening of men's love relationship is among the causes of separation and disengagement between spouses.

To interpret this result, in addition to the above-mentioned points, one should refer to some features of love stories (especially the love stories with role in which couples should be complementary) that are least frequently found in men seeking divorce. The men seeking divorce have earned a higher score in such stories as the governed, sacrifice, and object. First, it is necessary to point out this characteristic of such men. In governor-governed relationship (autocracy), one person takes on a large part of power in this relationship, which may or may not be in agreement with the other mate. Government relationships can also be disciplined in power sharing (democratic) wherein power is more or less divided although power distribution may differ in various areas. For example, financial supervision may be compared with supervision of children, each taken by one partner. In power avoidance relationships, a chaotic and anarchist state is dominant where in neither of the couple is not willing to accept responsibility or take power (Sternberg et al., 2001). The role of governed is considered as a factor for undermining the life foundation since the men who play a role of the governed to a large extent are likely to ooze weakness in decision-making, housekeeping, acting as a backrest for their partner, and the like. These features are the main factors of men's authority in life.

In the same way, the men seeking divorce have a higher level of business story, which can play a big

part in weakening the family's foundation (Sternberg et al., 2001). In business story, the relationship that has started in another form takes a business direction while the couples are often unaware of what is happening. After the gradual infiltration of life requirements into the relationship (financial necessities, the necessity of organizing family, and perhaps the need to establish a balance between home and work), the business aspects of the family become more prominent. In the end, these business aspects may prevail. Some couples fight this tendency in search of some alternative solutions to maintain their romance or, if necessary, revive their romantic relationship. In addition, in this story, men are seeking higher order in which one person becomes the chief and the other partner becomes the subordinate in practice.

In such cases, the chief dominates the relationship and the relationship between partners is established in such a way that one partner gains more power in business and is likely to a greater share of profits obtained from the business. The danger of such discipline is that one feels being exploited (Sternberg et al., 2001).

Moreover, the suspect feature is higher in the men seeking divorce. To explain the effect of this story in life, this role and story will be discussed (Matsumoto and Juang, 2014). Research conducted at Stanford University suggests that if some are assigned the role of jailers and some others are assigned the role of prisoners and they become real practitioners, it will be observed that those having the role of jailers gradually behave towards the prisoners in a more authoritarian and inhuman way. In turn, prisoners also become more accustomed to their roles and gradually feel the kind of humiliation and degradation that deserves captivity and imprisonment. At first, it is likely that the police story is the dominant story of one of the partners; however, both partners take this story as the dominant one while the second partner may not even understand what is happening. As the second partner becomes habituated to the role of suspect or even prisoner more than previously, this role may find a self-confirming side and becomes the strange and unusual reality. It is as if the other party (partner) is only in an accused position to be ascribed any crime. As the story develops gradually, it is possible more than ever that the couple distance from whatever they share and escape from this reality becomes difficult.

4.4. The fourth research question: Is the love story of ordinary women different from that of the women seeking divorce?

Comparison of the love stories between normal women and women seeking divorce revealed that the two groups are significantly different in only religion story in such a way that normal women earned higher scores in this story. However, no significant difference was found between the two groups in the rest of the love stories.

This finding shows that whatever influences marital relationships and divorce in terms of love stories does not take place in women but takes place in me. The exploration of this research question also confirms this statement. This result can be regarded consistent with that of the study done by Contreras-Ramos (1989), which indicated that men hold game-like and altruistic attitude of love and their Eros is highly associated with marital satisfaction. In addition, this result is in line with the result of the study conducted by Aron and HenkMeyer (1995), which showed that emotional love in women, does not have a strong relationship with their marital satisfaction. In one point of view, this finding is also in confirmation with that of the study done by Mahmoodi and Hafezolkotob (2010). They showed that there is a relationship between one component of love (passion) and marital satisfaction in women, but between the two components of love (passion and intimacy in the triangular theory of love: three-component) and marital satisfaction in men. According to this finding, it can be deduced that men undergo precariousness in more than women and this is what was concluded in investigating this research question since there is no difference between the divorced women and non-divorced women in terms of love story.

It is noteworthy to refer to the lower activity level of the story love in women seeking divorce compared to their counterparts. In this regard, religion story has significant implications in maintaining a marital relationship, of which the women seeking divorce take advantage to a lesser extent. Sternberg (1986) and Sternberg et al. (2001) state that religion plays two roles in the couple's and them then argue that religion is a constituent of the story of a romantic relationship. The couples involved in such a relationship not only regard themselves typically as each other's partner, but also view themselves very intimate and close with God. They know that this has been the God's mercy that has helped them establish and continue this relationship. In religion story, the couples believe that God is the creator and inspirer of the entire relationship. Therefore God is not only the third member of a relationship, but also is the constituent of every aspect of the relationship. Without God, no relationship between the couples exists. In addition, God can be considered the third person and (the top one) in a relationship. It is also possible to look at God in a more abstract way, as the supplier of some guidelines on how to progress this relationship with the world. In the second type of religion story, religion is in itself the relationship in practice. Here, the individual is in search of redemption through the relationship. Thus, s/he hopes to find something in the relationship that is typically not present in religion. The partner may see his/her beloved in a way that others see religious figures, that is, the source of salvation. These are the characteristics that the women seeking divorce enjoy less than their counterparts. This can be the disadvantage and

detrimental point in the love stories of the women seeking divorce.

5. Conclusion

What can be termed as the summary and conclusion of this study is that love story is an effective variable in the relationships between couples. The minimum impact of love story on life is that the complementarity of love stories between couples does not lead to the destabilization of marital life, even if it does not lead to marital satisfaction and high quality of life. In this regard, the men's love stories have a greater impact on relationships between couples and stability or disintegration of life. It should also be noted that personality factors cannot be effective in marital breakdowns.

According to the results of this study, the following suggestions are proposed to be used in relationships between couples. It is strongly suggested that love stories be assigned credit in premarital counseling sessions. In counseling centers and divorce reduction centers, couples' love stories are recommended to be considered so that necessary awareness and tips can be provided to the would-be couples in case of the complementarity or sameness of their love stories. In this way, it is possible to change their love schema (, i.e. the story that generates controversy and conflict). In support and counselling affairs, it should be referred to the need for change or modification of love stories and men's love stories should be more or less regarded.

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