



## The mediation role of internet addiction between social support of family scale and marital commitment

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### ABSTRACT

*This study aimed to investigate the role of mediator of Internet addiction between social factors family scale and marital commitment. Type of study is, applied, and the research method used in this research, descriptive and correlational - structural relations model has been tested. The population under study, all couples who lived together in a house, which is 120 samples were selected randomly. To collect data Used questionnaires such as Yung internet addiction (1996), Adams and Jones marital commitment questionnaire (1997) and social support questionnaire (family scale) Prvsydanv Mary and Kenneth Heller. To analyze the data according to the research questions intended for simple review, used correlation coefficient Pearson and also to investigate the relationship between variable, fixed Path analysis was used to show mediate role. But before it to explain the distribution of sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov test was used. It should be noted that all the above process with software SPSS 20 and LISREL done. The tests were considered significant area 0.5.*

**Keywords:** Internet addiction; social support of family scale, marital commitment

### INTRODUCTION

Commitment is the task or guarantee against someone or for something. Healthy and successful marriage means the presence of several elements, such as commitment, marital satisfaction, and relationship and there is nothing like the violence and betrayal [1]. Each successful marriage containing three pillars of a commitment, Attractions and understanding, marital commitment is The most powerful and enduring and effective predictors of marital quality and stability [2]. The thing that makes identity for Emotional relationships and cause the short-term relationships become to long-term relationships, is commitment [3-4]. Commitment in simply level means loving someone and being with him but at a deeper level is a strong predictor of having healthy and successful life [5]. People who have a marital commitment, have a long-term views on marriage, and sacrifice for their relationship. They try to maintain, strengthen and solidarity of their unity. And remain with their husbands even their marriage are not rewarding [6].

Marital commitment can be defined as a sense of continuity in attraction, constraints and opportunities [7]. Marital commitment is the second factor to maintain marriage and lack of commitment is the most important factor affecting the incidence of divorce [8]. In fact the reason that cause instability in cohabit relationship, is lack of commitment [9]. Commitment is divided into three distinct types. These three types of commitment are A: commitment to partner (personal commitment), which is based on the desire to retain and three factors involved: the people in the relationship, attract to relationship and couples identity. B: commitment to marriage (moral commitment), related to social issues or religious situation was due to the belief in values. C: structural commitment (Compulsory) which

corresponds to a commitment to a relationship because of the costs and the problems that arise in the event of termination of your relationship [10].

Many factors are effective to create and maintain marital commitment, commitment is in communication to a number of factors such as compatibility, further stabilize relationships and problem-solving skills, and commitment is different from having marriage or legal contract [11-12]. Also one of the important factors that are associated with the commitment is people's Attachment style as inner and outer powers [13]. As the Industrial Revolution, families were experiencing major changes and these changes affected the family structure and other details. From a few decades ago, Revolution in information technology (especially through the Internet) made the world a global village, and had a great impact on families, their structure and their commitment. In the past, the Internet was not public for all people and only used for confidential correspondence, and since then it has grown considerably and become an essential tool in our lives [14].

Increasing the use of the Internet in recent years has caused the phenomenon, known as "Internet addiction" [15]. Internet addiction means a person regardless of the situation preferred it to other activities. A person who is dependent on the Internet spent for at least 38 hours per week of his time on the Internet and people who are involved and addicted to the Internet, search happiness and their identity in cyberspace [16-17].

In a study four reasons for Internet addiction were said: First: web applications are applications. Second: make users do fast. Third: the way to have peace and relief not compromise thoughts. And finally being dissatisfied with one or more areas of life, including lack of intimate relationships, meaningful and substantive with others [18]. Internet addiction often leads to marriages to failure and relationships to instability [19]. Research has shown that Internet addiction as opposed to the normal and reasonable use of the Internet, changes the behavioral patterns and life style and impact on personality characteristics such as self-esteem; confidence; desire and commitment [20-21]. As well as Internet addiction has created a new challenge in couples' relationships and affected on emotional and physical intimacy and commitment and the way they look [22]. This type of addiction through a series of symbols, such as addiction to pornography, dating, chat, web browsing, affected more on mental health, interpersonal features and characteristics such as marital commitment [23]. In a study quoted by Ericsson it says that one of the effects of Internet addiction on individuals, is the concept named "self-development", which the self-development has several important concepts such as: self-awareness, originality, self-control, social recognition and commitment [24].

The dependence on the virtual world of data and information, while perhaps many of them are junk, can have an effect on the type of communication, perception, experiences and feeling with whom we are in contact and in particular the family. Number of close friends, social support and community involvement abundance, particularly through family, have positive and independent relationship to self-health assessment [25]. Family is the most important source of social support and has a positive relationship with all levels of mental health [26]. The concept of social support is generally understood as a getting help from others in difficult situations [27-28]. This concept through an intermediary role between stressors of life and physical and mental problems and increases understanding of people, reduces stresses, increases survival and improves the quality of life [29]. Perceived social support also negatively correlated with negative emotion that person's experience. Since the individual at the time in cyberspace restricts the communications, unusual use of the Internet has an inverse correlation with social support, and in some cases is a defensive reaction to social pressures [30]. Also has a significant relationship with a reduction in family support, reducing regulation and social support and many disorders, such as depression, autism and parenting style and the relationship between parents and their children [31].

So, according to research done in this field, this study examines the role and impact of Internet dependence and received information from the virtual world, on social assistance, especially through family and its impact on marital commitment.

## EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

### METHODS, POPULATION AND SAMPLE OF RESEARCH

The purpose of this study, is functional. And the method of data collection and analysis method used descriptive and correlational study designs and SEM. Statistical population of this study consists of all couples in 1394 in the cities of Shiraz and Tehran, who live together in a house. To sample of married couples used random sampling of 120 married people, were given questionnaires.

**Research Tools**

**Yung Internet Addiction Test (1996):** The questionnaire consisted of 20 questions prepared by Yung ET al. And has validated. This questionnaire can be used to show overuse, obsessive and pathological Internet use. We have two indicators and signs of Internet addiction: 1- Used to be so high that affect individual's daily life and social relationships. 2-The individual will not have to stop it. The questionnaire based on the Likert scale (1: strongly disagree, 2: disagree, 3: neither agree nor disagree, 4: agree, 5: strongly agree). This questionnaire is scored on Likert scale ranging from 1 to 6. The reliability of the questionnaire obtained by Atashpour et al., 1384 and Cronbach's alpha test is 78/0.

**Social Support Questionnaire (scale family):** The questionnaire has been prepared to measure satisfaction and social support from family area, by Mary Prvsydanv and Kenneth Heller. Which in 1387 was translated into Persian by Sanaee et al. Expressions of this questionnaire are about experience, perception and feeling that most people find in conjunction with their family. Questionnaire options are Yes, No, and do not know. . The total score ranges of questions are from 0 to 20. In terms of respondent's High score means greater social support. Social Support Questionnaire with alpha coefficient 90/0, has inner harmony. This questionnaire has good concurrent validity.

**Adams and Jones marital commitment questionnaire (MCQ):** Marital commitment questionnaire measure people adherence to his wife and marriage and its dimensions. The questionnaire developed by Adams and Jones in 1997 and measures 3 dimensions of marital commitment. That include personal commitment, moral commitment and Structural commitment. Commitment to partner (personal) questions 1 to 10. Commitment to marriage (moral): 11 to 22. Commitment (Structural): 23 to 44. Questionnaire Scoring is on Likert five-point scale from strongly agree to strongly disagree. A score between 44 to 88 is low marital commitment. A score between 88 to 132: average marital commitment and Score higher than 132 is high marital commitment. The reliability of the questionnaire was 0.82.

**RESULTS**

Statistical analysis was performed including descriptive and inferential analysis that will be followed in sequence.

Descriptive characteristics of the study variables

**Table 4-5. Independent variables descriptive statistics**

Dimension		Minimum	maximum	average	Standard deviation
Internet addiction		33.00	120.00	90.0917	21.53715
Social Support (scale family)		1.00	27.00	14.9333	5.49520
Marital commitment	Personal commitment	23.00	48.00	36.7417	6.09104
	Moral commitment	26.00	56.00	42.8167	7.41108
	Structural commitment	22.00	110.00	76.7667	13.96619
total		92.00	212.00	156.3250	25.25506

Based on the results obtained from the above table, the average of Internet addiction sample is 09/90 with standard deviations: 53/21. The variable social factors, family scale with an average of 14.93 and marital commitment with an average of 32.156 evaluated.

**Check normality of the data**

**Table (4-6): Kolmogorov-Smirnov result to check the normality of the variables**

Test index	Internet addiction	Social Support (scale family)	marital commitment
Z Value	1.176	1.243	1.233
Significance level	.126	.091	.096

Based on the results, the test is not significant at 0.5 level. so it can be concluded that the data that evaluated have normal conditions and circumstances for the use of parametric tests is ready.

**Comprehensive analysis of hypotheses**

First the correlation matrix of variable presented and continues to have been investigate research model.

Table (4- 7) the results of the Pearson correlation coefficient matrix about the relationship between research

		1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Internet addiction	1					
2	Social Support (scale family	-.821**	1				
3	Personal commitment	-.616**	.641**	1			
4	Moral commitment	-.734**	.759**	.779**	1		
5	Structural commitment	-.496**	.582**	.724**	.760**	1	
6	Total	-.638**	.699**	.870**	.902**	.950**	1

\*\*Significantly 0.1

\*Significantly 0.5

According to the data in the table above  $r$  value in the relationship between Internet addiction and social factors in the scale of family and marital commitment is Significant at 0.5 level.

And according to the results of the correlation matrix, most correlation was between social factors and internet addiction scale family with a 0.821 and the lowest correlation was between Internet addictions with a structural commitment 0.496

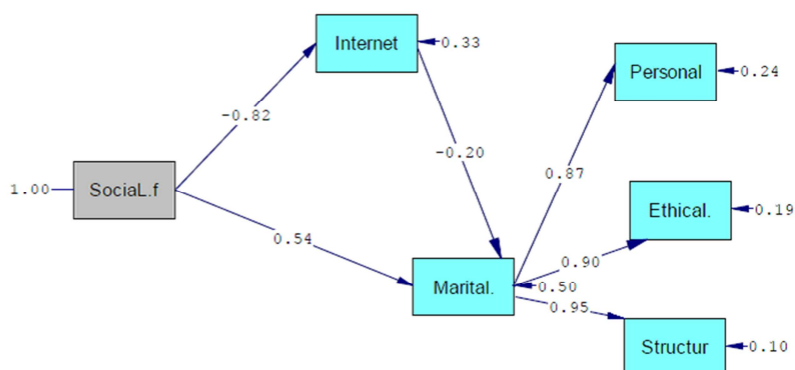
**The test model of structural relationships**

**Screening data**

**Diversity Linear:**

This phenomenon occurs when a researcher use two overlapping variables to measure the same thing in its own study. Linear diversity can be detected through tolerance and Variance Inflation Factor (VIF). Tolerance value indicates the proportion of the total variance that is standardized 1-R2 (Klein, 2005). VIF is the ratio of Standardized total variance Refers to specific variance which is equal to  $(1-R^2) / 1$  (Klein, 2005).Tolerance of less than 0.10 or VIF greater than 10 indicates a plurality of linear (Klein, 2005).In this analysis, none of the values of tolerance and VIF calculated for variables, linear deviations from assumptions diversity was not observed.

Figure 4-1: Mediation role model for Internet addiction between social factors, family scale and marital commitment



Chi-Square=16.72, df=9, P-value=0.51247, RMSEA=0.015

Figure 4-1 shows the results of the mediation role of Internet addiction between social factors of scale family and marital commitment. Careful review of Structural Model indices Goodness of fit ( $\chi^2/df=1.8, p<0.5, \chi^2(9) =16.7, CFI = 0.97, AGFI = 0.98, RMSEA=0.015$ ) Show that the model is a good fit with the data. Show that the model is a good fit with the data. In this model, 42% of the variance of marital commitment scores was explained by social factors, family scale. Also in this example, 67% of the marital commitment score variance explained through Internet

addiction and social factors, family scale. It is assumed in the structural model, all path coefficients between latent variables were statistically significant. In this model, the relationship between the variables was positive and significant. (Figure 1-4).

#### **Direct and indirect effects**

Based on the structural model, the direct and indirect effects of the research underlying exogenous variable, the social factors scale family on marital commitment through Internet addiction respectively was 0.47(6/62) and -0.52(14.25). The results showed that the direct and indirect effects of changing social factors, family scale on marital commitment through Internet addiction, were statistically significant ( $P < 0.05$ ). As well as social factors, family scale Direct and indirect effects on the components of the marital commitment through Internet addiction, were statistically significant ( $P < 0.05$ ). Thus, the indirect influence of social factors scale family on the marital commitment through Internet addiction compared to the direct route has more role to explain marital commitment variance, it can be approved a good fit to the model. And concluded that Internet addiction scale between social factors, family scale and marital commitment is the role of mediation.

### **DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION**

Based on the findings of this study showed that there is a significant relationship between Internet addiction, social factors, family scale and marital commitment. Also according to the results of the correlation matrix, most correlation was between social factors, family scale and internet addiction and the lowest correlation was between internet addiction and the structural commitment. Internet addiction sometimes takes place as a disorder, In fact is a kind of problematic use of the - internet means, electronic means, such as online game, handheld mobile and computers, Which cause many emotional, social and psychological disorders. And on the other hand the use of technology can effect on the intensity and scope of our daily activities [32]. It has been studied that what we refer to as the problem is not appropriate and necessary use of the Internet, but overuse and no regular use can impact on our communication, information and interactions what at the community level and at the household level [33-34].

Dependence on the Internet has obvious relation to health and quality of life. And by the effect of tolerance, mental health, time management and above all interpersonal relations, changes people's life structure [35]. People in cyberspace make a virtual privacy and identity for themselves which left a virtual space is tantamount to suicide [36]. But one of the consequences of addiction and dependence on the Internet is instability in thoughts, behavior, and in early age effect on people's attachment style and all of these impact marital commitment as a psychological key factor in enhancing the quality of life [37]. Since marital commitment, the strongest and most stable factor to predict the quality and stability of marriage [38], As a result, lack of adherence to it is the main cause of the disintegration of a couple's life. One of the important effects of too much in the world of the Internet is at risk of relationship, opinion and information are that much of it is unwanted. And thus they are away from themselves and are experiencing an identity crisis and lose their difference and independence greatly. Which reduces the differentiation impact on marital commitment negatively [39].

On the other hand, we are seeing the rapid social and cultural changes, and Involvement in the global economy and technology, unstable man's personality, so that it does not know who and where they are going. And social identity has become a social problem Because of the multitude of individual identity in society that everyone get [40]. In other words, a lot of time that can be spent on the relationships and the real world, Spent through virtual space and the social isolation caused the reduction of social interaction and social support received from family and friends, and the higher levels of social contact leads to more pleasing life [41-42]. In some researches has been said that Internet addiction causes internet depression, and one of the most important reason is limitation in relationships and social support [43-44]. In a study quoted by Gunuc & Dogan [45], found that between Internet addiction and social support and at a higher level, support from the parents (family) is negative and significant relationship. In fact, social support has relationships with social interactions in both online and offline communication level. So that social relationships and consequently online social support have a positive and significant relationship with Internet addiction, and social relations and, consequently, offline social support (real world) with Internet addiction have significant and inverse relationship.

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