The affective sphere of spouses with high or low relationship satisfaction

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: As a major interpersonal relationship in human life, marriage greatly influences the psycho-physical condition of both husband and wife. Given increasing divorce rates, however, it is crucial for prophylaxis and therapy to identify factors that impact marriage quality. Purpose: To describe how relationship satisfaction relates to a positive affective shift. Materials and methods: Two hundred married couples were grouped as having either high or low relationship satisfaction and evaluated by taking the Good Marriage Questionnaire. Each couple’s affective sphere was measured using the semantic differential. Results: Wives and husbands with higher relationship satisfaction are characterized by a stronger positive affective shift than those with lower relationship satisfaction. Conclusions: A positive affective shift cultivates favourable conditions for relationship satisfaction, which encourages spouses to develop and improve the quality of their marriage. Key words: Psychotransgressionism, positive affective shift, relationship satisfaction