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Culturally identified constructs, methodology, and evidences of affective expression among Taiwanese couples

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Affect expression among couple is the key predictor of marital stability has been identified through the Specific Affect Coding System (SPAFF) developed by Gottman in the US. The SPAFF has been recognized as the best evidence of construct and criterion validity in recent observational studies of couples. However, behaviors derived from the Chinese Culture, discouraging expression, indirect communicate and emotion suppression may impede to explore. Thus, it is necessary to explore the appropriateness of the Chinese version of Specific Affect Coding System (SPAFF-C), to compare the constructs and definitions of SPAFF-C between Taiwan and the US. A culturally translation of SPAFF-C with forward-backward method was conducted, then expert review and a pilot study with 10 healthy couple dyads had been used to identify the feasibility of SPAFF-C in Chinese context. The overall mean Content Validity Indexes (CVI) was 0.82, which was rated by 10 experts who major in family marriage, counseling, and psychological fields, indicating the content validity of SPAFF-C was acceptable. Thus, a 25-code of SPAFF-C was newly adopted and established with a moderate correlation between SPAFF-C and Martial Intimacy Scale. The stability mean coefficient of Kappa rated by two coders was 0.82 and 0.70 in husband and wife respectively. Therefore, we confirmed the new SPAFF-C version as an objective measurement to observe the interactions, emotional expression of Taiwanese couples in the future. Providing an alternative methodology and translated scientific knowledge to explore the relationships among Taiwanese couples.

Biography

Mei-Feng Lin has completed her PhD in Counseling, invented herself to be an effective Psychosocial Interventionist and connected those capabilities into nursing care. She is a Full Professor and major in Mental Health Care at National Cheng Kung University of Taiwan. Couple-based interaction and intervention for healthy or cancer dyads has been her study of interests. She has published more than 40 papers and serving as a Reviewer for national and international scientific journals.

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