

Review of: "Developing and Evaluating the Marriage Education Program: The Example of the Turkish Cypriot Community*"

Rebecca Rosario Bercasio¹

¹ Bicol University

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Congratulations to you for this paper.

Here are my observations and recommendations for your paper entitled "Developing and Evaluating the Marriage Education Program: The Example of the Turkish Cypriot Community"

1. Abstract

1. It mentions the 20 participants but did not add some important details about the participant aside from being employees. For instance, you can mention how male and female, and other characteristics like religion (if applicable). This is one way of understanding the paper better even at the onset.
2. More salient findings should be mentioned here aside from saying that the EEP is effective.
3. The recommendation part of the abstract is more detailed than the findings. You may shorten this part a bit.

2. Introduction

1. There is a lengthy discussion on lifelong learning. The researcher however should be able to clearly connect this to the topic or the research problem.
2. The entire introduction should be clearly and compellingly connected to the research problems. You can mention here existing needs to be addressed or literature gap to be bridged by the present study.
3. The introduction does not have a sort of ending or closure (for this section) and a transition to the next section of the paper or at least to the research problem.

3. Literature Review

1. It is good that you have included a literature review. It would be better if you have a start rather than mention one literature immediately, and a sort of ending or summary for this section. In this way, there will be a smooth transition from this section of the paper to the next.

4. Research Problem

1. This section literature on divorce and on protecting the family. You may relocate these to the introduction to further

strengthen that section.

2. For this section, you may start with the general aim or purpose of the research.
3. The title of the paper is “Developing and Evaluating ...” It is noted that the developing part is not captured by the research problem. (This is also true to the finding expectedly.) Please rethink about this. If you would like to capture this in the title, then I suppose this should be tackled in the body of the paper as well. If so, that is highlighting the process as well as the output which is the Marriage Education Program. I can see that for this paper to ignite or inspire similar undertakings, the said program which is an example of a lifelong learning program, should be presented (Anyway, you have it). In this way, including the term “developing” in the title will be in order.

5. Methodology

1. Please further clarify the discussion of the research design. It will also be of help to readers if you will mention the details for the quasi-experimental study. Perhaps you can mention that this is the pilot implementation of the intervention program.
2. The sample, data gathering tools and analysis of data are detailed. Likewise, it includes discussion of the ethical considerations.
3. It includes the process for the implementation of the intervention program. However, it does not include the process of the development and validation of the program prior to the pilot implementation.

6. Findings

1. The findings to the three research questions are presented clearly. the use of tables and figures are in order.
2. Instead of using “Findings related to sub-problem,” use the terms as used in the research problem to introduce each sub-section. And there is no need to repeat/re-state the research question in this section.
3. Although these are quantitative results, the discussion of the salient findings in the text (or paragraph) should capture the contents of the tool which was used as pre-test and posttest. since the tool is about marriage attitude, then it is of utmost importance to mention what are captured in the said tool. As currently written, the findings cannot be fully appreciated as meaningful information.
4. The table showing the theme need not be presented in table with frequencies. I understand that this part is a qualitative part so the researcher may present the results in paragraph form. Or the researcher may present in tabular form the salient themes without the frequencies.
5. After presenting quotes from the research participants, add a paragraph that will synthesize those responses so that there will be a smooth and logical transition to the next section of the paper.

7. Discussion

1. The discussion highlights the positive change created by the intervention program, and related this to existing literature. In most parts, the similarities to the literature are noted.
2. However, it is suggested to the researcher to connect the discussion to the needs being addressed, or to the gap being bridged. In this way, you are connecting this to the real intent of the paper as it should be.

8. Recommendation

1. Perhaps, it is the format of this paper that there is no separate part for the conclusion. Yet, even so, the research should present a part that will clearly capture the conclusions. (I understand though that somehow these are mentioned in the discussion part.)
2. It is suggested that conclusions are presented before the recommendations. The conclusion should highlight the contribution of this paper to the discipline aside from simply having specific final answers to the three research questions.
3. The recommendations are realistic and doable.

9. Other observations

1. Include a section on the limitations of the research
 2. Mention conflict of interest, if any.
 3. Mention fund sources, if any.
10. I hope that my inputs will be taken positively. And I really hope that the intervention program (together with the process of developing it will be highlighted as well).