

Review of: "Young love in contemporary China: Attitudes and behaviors in romantic relationships"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The article explores an interesting and novel topic, and it is generally well written. However, there are several limitations or aspects that should be considered before regarding it ready for publication:

1. There is no mention of how the instrument (questionnaire) used was constructed and validated, so we can be sure the results are robust enough to be adequately interpreted. It is probable an issue related to translation, but several of the questions seem to be rather ambiguous, at least in the English translation, which could compromise the results. It would be necessary to have more information on this.
2. As the authors themselves acknowledge, the sample is quite small and it is a convenience sample, which means that even a larger sample would not be representative either. However, N=128 seems even smaller when divided into groups for comparison purposes, and no mention of how this could affect the statistical operations made in the article is noted. Furthermore, the criteria used to include "mainland" and "overseas" Chinese young people in the sample are not explained -one could assume that depending on how long young people have been abroad, they could have incorporated views on dating from the society they are currently living in.
3. There is no mention of any ethical issue regarding data collection: was there any informed consent form included in the survey? Were respondents aware that their location was being tracked, and did they authorized this? Again, it would be necessary to have more information on this. This is, in my opinion, a particularly pressing issue and key if the article is to be published. For now, it needs major changes.