

OPEN PEER REVIEW

Sociological Analysis of Youth Value Structures in the Lived Experience of Cohabitation

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The statement "Emerging cohabitation, a form of cohabitation without formal marriage, has been increasingly discussed in recent years in Iran" lacks specificity. Clarify the timeline of this increase and provide a more detailed context, such as societal or legal changes that may have contributed to this trend.

The term "selective hedonism" is introduced without sufficient explanation. Provide a brief definition or context for this term when first mentioned to ensure readers unfamiliar with the concept understand its relevance to the study.

The educational attainment data indicates a high level of education among respondents. Discuss how this might affect the generalizability of the findings to the broader population of young people in Tehran, particularly those with lower educational levels.

The statement "The family unit has undergone significant changes worldwide, including in Iran," is too broad. Consider narrowing this down by specifying the types of changes observed globally and how these are mirrored or differ in Iran.

The outcome "reduced commitment and responsibilities" is significant, yet the discussion lacks exploration of its long-term implications on societal structures. Expand on how this trend might affect future family formation and societal cohesion in Iran.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The phrase "given the undefined population of young individuals with cohabitation experience and their limited willingness to participate" needs elaboration. Explain why the population is undefined and discuss the potential biases this may introduce into the study.

The description of the coding process (open coding, axial coding, and selective coding) is too brief. Provide more detail on how these codes were developed and validated, and how they were used to identify the "144 concepts, 41 categories, and 18 themes."

The discussion of "economic challenges" impacting cohabitation is underdeveloped. Consider including specific economic factors (e.g., unemployment rates, housing costs) that may be influencing these challenges and how they compare to other socio-economic groups in Tehran.

The strategy of "hiding the relationship" is mentioned as the most common but lacks depth in its analysis. Discuss the psychological and social implications of this strategy in more detail, perhaps referencing related literature on secrecy in relationships.

The study relies heavily on a small qualitative sample of 18 participants. Discuss the limitations this imposes on the findings and how the study mitigates these limitations, perhaps through triangulation with quantitative data.

The concept of "globalization" is presented as an intervening condition but lacks specificity. Define what aspects of globalization are most relevant to the study (e.g., media influence, economic policies) and provide examples.

The comparison of your findings with those of previous studies is informative but somewhat surface-level. Deepen this discussion by exploring potential reasons for any divergences or similarities, particularly in the context of Iranian society.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

Editor's decision: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.