

한국의 배우자 선택과 결혼적응의 메커니즘: 인간 발달 생태학적 모형의 중매, 연애 결혼에의 적용

A Person-Process-Context Model of Mate Selection and Marital Adjustment in Arranged and Love-Based Korean Marriages

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본 연구는 개인-환경 상호작용 가정을 바탕으로 한국의 두 가지 결혼 유형에 따른 배우자 선택과 결혼 적응의 메커니즘을 이해하기 위하여 개인, 과정, 맥락의 역할을 포함한 연구 모델 (person-process-context model)을 적용시켰다. 배우자 선택, 이에 따른 부부간 유사성과 결혼적응에 있어 개인과 사회적 특성의 상대적 기여도와 그 메커니즘을 조사하기 위해 154쌍의 한국 부부를 대상으로 설문조사 하였다.

연구결과에 의하면, 중매결혼과 연애결혼의 결혼유형에 관계없이 모두 동질혼의 경향을 보였다. 개인적 특성이 결혼 적응도와 높은 상관을 보인 반면, 부부간 유사성은 결혼 적응도와 유의한 상관이 없었다. 이는 결혼 적응에 있어서 환경적 요소 (e. g. dyadic similarity)보다 개인적 요소가 중요하다는 것을 시사한다. 결혼유형에 따른 동질혼의 정도에는 유의한 차이가 없으며, 또한 동질혼의 정도에 따른 결혼 적응도에도 유의한 차이가 발견되지 않았다. 연애결혼과 중매결혼의 중요한 차이는 결혼전 교제기간이었다. 연애 결혼한 부부는 비교적 오랜 교제 기간을 통해 더 만족한 결혼생활을 영위하는 것으로 나타났다. 결혼전 교제기간의 효과를 통제할 후 두 결혼 유형의 결혼적응도에 대한 차이는 사라졌다. 연구결과들을 결혼과 성격에 관한 이론을 바탕으로 논의하였다.

I. Introduction

Few, if any, life events are as significant for many individuals as the selection of a spouse, a life

partner. People marry everywhere, however, the basis upon which and the reason for which a partner is selected show wide variation due to

individual and cultural differences in life style and social variations in life patterns (Murdock, 1949). This implies that there may be cross-cultural, subcultural, and individual differences in the type of match between marital partners, even if the general tendency is to select partners with similar dispositions and backgrounds (Caspi & Herbner, 1990; Holland, 1966; Kandel, 1978; Kohn & Schooler, 1983; Newcomb, 1961).

In Korea, marriage was considered a family rather than an individual union. However, due to industrialization and the wave of liberalism affected by Western individualism, traditional arranged marriage in Korea has been modified. Arranged marriage is no longer "blind marriage" in which the parents monopolize the decision. In general, an individual's preference is becoming a more important factor in mate selection. However, parents retain more power in mate selection than do their children in arranged marriages; an individual often only can choose a marital partner among partners suggested by their family. Love-based marriage has become popular among the younger generation of Koreans in recent years. Individuals often now initiate their mate selection and have free choice of their partner; however, their parents' approval is still needed to marry. In many cases couples break up because of the disapproval of their parents. Although there are few completely arranged and few entirely love-based marriages (in the sense of traditional concepts), the relative importance of an individual's and his or her parents' preference is different in mate selection between primarily arranged and primarily love-based marriages.

Considering the importance of person-environment interaction (e.g., Buss, 1984; Caspi & Herbner, 1990), I propose that couples will show similarities in their individual dispositions. Further,

it is expected that the degree of similarity between spouses might be a good indicator of marital adjustment. The relationship between dyadic similarity and marital satisfaction is controversial, especially as it concerns personality, however. One broadly-supported theory is that psychological similarity between spouses gives greater satisfaction (Epstein & Guttman, 1984; Jensen, 1978); another theory maintains that the complementarity of needs between spouses gives greater satisfaction (Winch et al., 1959). These two major theories of mate selection—homogamy and complementarity theory—are examined in this study.

Much of the research on marriage has focused on the correlates of marital satisfaction, including personal characteristics and resources of each partner, their demographic backgrounds, and personality factors (Bentler & Newcomb, 1978; Glenn, 1990; Spanier & Lewis, 1980). However, few studies have examined the mechanisms of matching and marital adjustment. In order to address the deficiencies in the literature, this study focuses on the mechanisms of matching and marital adjustment in two types of marriage in contemporary Korean society: arranged and love-based.

Concerning the characteristics of two types of marriage, the relative importance of personal and structural attributes might differ between arranged and love-based marriage, even if homogamy is the basic principle. Few mate selection studies consider both structural and personal attributes. By examining the role of individual dispositions and social structural characteristics in marital adjustment, we can better estimate the effects of the person, the environment, and their interactions for each type of marriage with person, context, and process research model. This model might be useful to study marital relationship without overlooking

important factors on marital adjustment, which makes differences from other studies that just see one side of marital relationship. There are so many variables which influence on marital adjustment, and those variables are interwoven. The research model helps us to look those relationships more systematically and also to find a precise mechanism of mate selection and marital adjustment.

To investigate the relative contribution of personal and social attributes in partner selection and marital relationship for both arranged and love-based marriages, two hundred married couples participated in a questionnaire study. The questionnaire included standard measures of personality, demographics, and marital adjustment. On the basis of mate selection and marital adjustment theories and research, several hypotheses were derived.

II. Literature Review

1. Theories of Mate Selection

There are two fundamental theories of mate selection—homogamy and complementarity theory. Homogamy, assortative mating, is the term used to describe any systematic departure from random mating. Some degree of assortative mating or homogamy is evident when people marry others of the same age, socioeconomic status, and religious and ethnic background. People tend to marry persons who are somewhat more similar in personality to themselves than one would expect by chance. This is the most widely accepted theory based on many empirical research findings. The formation of homogamous marriage continues to be the norm; however, for most characteristics studied, heterogamy was increasingly common. This is true for homogamy with respect to religious

denomination, race, ethnicity (Labov & Jacobs, 1986; Schoen & Wooldredge, 1989), mother tongue (Stevens & Schoen, 1988), and education (Schoen & Wooldredge, 1989). Positive assortative mating has been well-documented for physical characteristics, cognitive abilities, and personality dispositions (Epstein & Guttman, 1984; Jensen, 1978; Vandenberg, 1972).

The second theory, complementarity theory, maintains that individuals tend to be attracted by persons who have complementary characteristics, especially in personality traits (Winch et al., 1954). Winch et al. (1954) hypothesized that, although monogamy of social characteristics creates a “field of eligibles,” within this field people should choose mates whose pattern of needs is complementary to their own, in order to provide maximum gratification of their own pattern of needs. This theory has influenced a great deal of subsequent research on mate selection and compatibility between spouses. Unfortunately, there are several conceptual and methodological problems in complementarity theory. According to a review of Moss et al. (1981), the major theory treated was that of complementary needs, though they saw beginning evidence of an interest in exchange and balance theories. Moreover, a factor that is central to all social exchange theories concerns the resources that people give and receive from one another. The resource exchange theorists proposed that the resources that people exchange fall into six categories—love, status, information, money, goods, and services.

According to Blau et al. (1984), people marry outside their social group, not because they have a preference for doing so, but because of their multiple and interwoven group affiliations. Proximity, which lead to social contacts, might be another important factor in selecting a partner.

Indeed, there is some evidence that, although personal preferences affect social choice, heterogeneity influences social contacts above and beyond preference (Blum, 1985). Several studies support the contention that structural variables, such as region and size of place, influence the probability of marrying similarly for both men and women (Goldscheider & Waite, 1986).

Kelly and his colleagues (1983) suggest a four-level scheme to organize the kinds of causes that affect relationship: conditions in the social and economic environment, characteristics of the dyadic relationship (partners' fit on social background), personal attributes of the individual partners (their traits of skills), and the interaction of environment with dyadic and individual factors. In an insightful analysis, Kerckhoff (1974) proposed that marital choice is affected by two pools of potential mates: (a) the field of available partners which refers to the potential partners with whom one is likely to come in contact, and (b) the field of desirable partners defined by social and personal preferences for a mate similar to oneself.

Brown and his colleagues (1987) indirectly measured individual preferences for a desirable mate in that they explore the processes whereby families help shape individual standards for what constitutes a preferred partner. Familial influences on a child's definition of a desirable mate occur indirectly through socialization of ethnoreligious goals and norms, and directly by the granting or withholding of approval of partners (Leslie, Huston, & Johnson, 1986).

The influence of assortativeness for age, propinquity, education, socioeconomic status, and intelligence has been well documented. Assortativeness for marriage continues to be strongly evident, with no variable having been shown to be completely independent of it. Indeed,

according to mate selection studies, social background variables produce greater similarity in spousal selection than does psychological traits. For structural attributes, high levels of assortment have been reported for age, socioeconomic status, education, and other family background variables (Jensen, 1978; Watkins & Meredith, 1981; Epstein & Guttman, 1984; Price & Vandenberg, 1980).

For personal attributes, moderate levels of assortment have been found for certain intellectual attitudes and personality variables (Buss, 1984; Caspi & Herbner, 1990; Jensen, 1978; Vandenberg, 1972). The least important influence of assortativeness has been found for personality, perhaps because information about personality characteristics is not as readily available as that of education, intelligence, and attractiveness. Furthermore, it is not clear to many individuals just how the personality patterns of their partner will fit their own goals, aspirations, and daily functioning (Murstein, 1980). Despite efforts to remove the effects of such factors as educational, social, and geographical propinquity from estimates of assortative for cognitive abilities and personality traits (Phillips, Fulker, Carey, & Nagoshi, 1988; Tyler and Vandenberg, 1988), empirical findings are consistently replicated by positive correlations, even though the correlations are not significant. This indicates that personality selection is not entirely random.

2. Theories of Marital Adjustment

There is a wealth of literature concerning the quality of marital relationships, but the research on marital quality is ridden with methodological and definitional problems. However, there is little argument about the use of such concepts as quality, satisfaction, adjustment, and happiness. These are

several different concepts about marital satisfaction and marital adjustment. I applied the widely accepted definition of Spanier (1976) who defined marital adjustment as “a process, the outcome of which is determined by the degree of (1) consensus on matters of importance to marital functioning, (2) marital satisfaction, (3) dyadic cohesion, (4) expression of affection.”

Several theoretical perspectives, the most common of which are variants of exchange theory and theories of distributive justice—equity and equality theory—have dominated the writing about marital quality (Berardo, 1990; Glenn, 1990). According to social exchange theory, relationship satisfaction is determined by both outcome in the relationship and the individual’s comparison level (Thibaut & Kelly, 1959): happy couples behave in more positive, more rewarding ways toward each other than unhappy couples (Billings, 1979; Gottman, 1979; Jacobson, Follette, & McDonald, 1982). According to equity theory, people are most content when each partner has similar relative gains (Adams, 1969; Homans, 1961; Walster, Walster, & Berscheid, 1978).

3. Important Influences on Marital Adjustment

There are several important variables which affect marital relationships such as demographic variables, personality, attachment style, conflict strategy, and dyadic similarity. Several studies of marital quality have reported variation as a function of demographic variables—age (Argyle and Furnham, 1983), sex (Grove et al., 1983), education (Spanier & Lewis, 1980), and marital stage (Glenn, 1989).

Scanzoni (1979) argues that effective conflict resolution is a necessary condition for a more intense partnership since conflict is a complex

phenomena with both a positive and a negative dimension. Harmonious couples may more frequently experience “positive” conflict, while distressed couples may more likely report conflict to be a frustrating experience. Marital happiness is associated with conflict resolution strategies rather than with the probability of conflict. That is, happy couples are more willing to perceive conflict as a joint problem caused by both spouses and seek to find a mutually satisfying solution, whereas unhappy couples are more likely to blame each other for negative effects and expect the other to change (e.g. Fincham & O’Leary, 1983).

Levy and Davis (1988) report attachment is predictive of particular relationship features. Moreover, secure attachment style is positively associated with satisfaction and mutually focused conflict strategies, while the anxious/ambivalent and avoidant styles are negatively associated with these features (Canary & Coach, 1988; Pistole, 1989).

Cattell and Nesselroade (1967) find significant disassortative mating in their unstably married group for several traits: outgoingness, enthusiasm, and self-sufficiency. In stable marriages, wives tend to be more introverted and husbands more extroverted, and vice-versa for the unstable marriages. These results support the hypothesis that homogamy for personality between partners encourages marital success, as defined by a couple’s making no known step toward dissolution of their marriage. Murstein (1972) finds that personality similarity is significantly correlated with marital adjustment, but these correlations are no greater for perceived similarity than for actual similarity, and self-acceptance is significantly correlated with marital adjustment, as is role compatibility. On the other hand, Weigel et al. (1973) find no relationship between congruence of spouses’ personal constructs and marital success. Bentler and Newcomb (1978)

tried to see which personality traits, brought to the marriage by each partner, affect the subsequent outcome and quality of that marriage four years later. Their results support the idea that still-intact couples have more similarity in personality traits and background characteristics than do separated or divorced couples. Eysenck and Wakefield (1981) report that similarity in background (25%) and personality (20%), contribute moderately, and social attributes (5%) have little effect on marital satisfaction. This study also shows that the similarity effect accounts for only 2% of marital satisfaction variance. Eysenck and Wakefield conclude that marital satisfaction would best be studied by independently assessing each partner's contributions to the marriage, rather than by examining patterns of similarities or complementarities.

III. Assumptions and Hypotheses

1. Assumptions

Several research hypotheses are suggested by the review of theory and research on mate selection and marital functioning theories. The principle assumption of the present study concerns person-environment interaction: individuals' dispositions can lead them to select situations that, in turn, reinforce and sustain those same dispositions. Based on this assumption, assortative trends (homogamy) between spouses in structural and personal attributes are expected in both marriage groups. Further, assortative marriage might lead to relatively higher marital adjustment and personality continuity throughout adulthood. However, there may be some limitations in applying this assumption to mate selection, including parental disapproval and social variables in selecting

partners. Indeed, considering some of the obstacles to free choice, assortative trends in personality are expected to be lower than in structural variables, especially in arranged marriages.

In a marital context, two partners who have either similar or dissimilar backgrounds should adjust to each other to some degree. Therefore, the issue of stability and instability of individual dispositions is less important than the identification of mechanisms through which individuals adjust to the new context, based on their previous dispositions in the study of marital relationships. This might be especially salient for arranged marriage because individuals in arranged marriages may not have had enough time to adjust to each other.

Previous studies which support assortative marriage report that couples who have a higher similarity of personal and structural attributes are more satisfied in their marital relationship based on a common human tendency: the preference for a stable environment which is comparable with one's disposition. Further, I assume that the conflict strategy, the spouse's attitude/behavior in the conflict situation of everyday life, might be a mediator between the couple's matching style and marital adjustment.

This study investigates the mechanisms of assortative marriage and marital adjustment, and compares the effects of the individual's disposition itself with the effects of dyadic similarity in personal and structural attributes on marital relationship, and it also investigates the interactions of dyadic similarity in personal and structural attributes. The results show a clearer and more complete picture of the roles of person, context, and process in marital relationships, and they suggest important predictors of marital relationship and ideal matching styles for certain individual dispositions in both types of

marriage. Most of the studies on marital relationships examine the relationship of either individual disposition (person factor) and marital adjustment or of dyadic similarity and marital adjustment. There is no integrative study concerning both of these relationships and their mechanisms. If only one of these relationships is considered, the results will inevitably be misinterpreted.

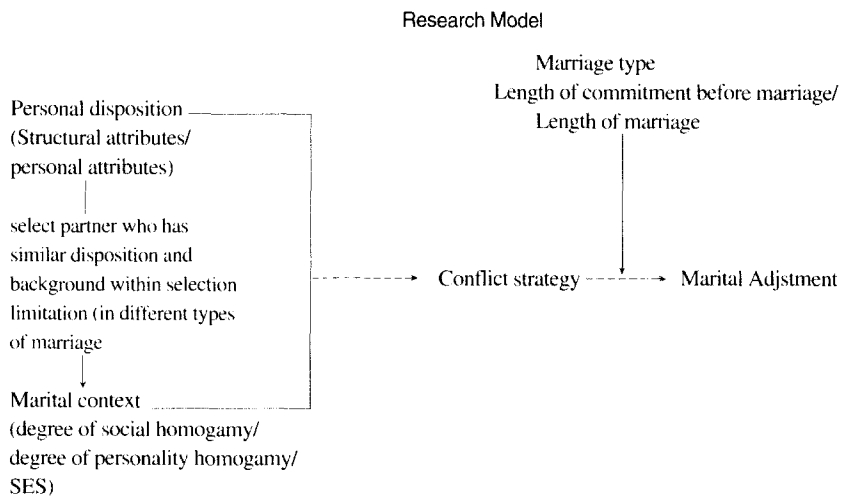
2. Hypotheses

Hypothesis 1: Consistent with the research and theory discussed above, assortative trends are predicted for both structural and personal attributes. Further, it is predicted that arranged marriages will show a relatively greater degree of similarity of structural attributes; love-based marriages will show a relatively greater degree of similarity of personal attributes.

Hypothesis 2: On the basis of studies about assortative marriage and marital satisfaction, I

compare the effects of person and environment on marital adjustment. This is meant to demonstrate a better predictor of marital adjustment among individual dispositions and type of match in marital relationships. It is predicted that (a) couples who are more similar in both personal and structural attributes will report a higher level of marital satisfaction; (b) similarly, individuals who have positive dispositions are more likely to show high marital satisfaction. These two results will be compared to find the relative effects of person and context. Moreover, concerning the characteristics of marriage type (arranged vs love-based), it is expected that (c) the rate of social homogamy will be a better predictor of marital satisfaction in arranged marriages, while the rate of personality homogamy will be a better predictor of marital satisfaction in the love-based marriage group.

Hypothesis 3: It is predicted that conflict resolution style will be a mediator of marital adjustment, in that individuals who have an effective strategy in conflict situations might be



<Figure 1> Research Model: Person, context, and process model

more satisfied in their relationship than individuals who use ineffective strategies. Consistent with this prediction, it is expected that couples who are relatively similar in personal and structural attributes will report relatively higher marital satisfaction, if they use effective conflict resolution strategies.

Hypothesis 4: Based on the research about the filtering processes during the premarital phase, it is predicted that the love-based marriage group will show higher marital adjustment than the arranged marriage group. Further, the length of commitment before marriage will be positively correlated with marital adjustment, whereas the length of marriage is curvilinearly related with marital adjustment.

IV. Methods

1. Subjects

Two hundred married couples, including both love-based marriages and arranged marriages, were selected as subjects in Seoul and Pusan, Korea; several research assistants distributed questionnaires to several workplaces and church in which the employers agreed to have their friends, relatives, neighbors, and especially young couples participate in this study. One hundred and fifty-four couples, 55 arranged and 99 love-based, are used for the final analyses. The age range of subjects is from 22 to 49 years with a mean age of 30. The length of commitment before marriage ranges from 0 to 168 months, the mean being 26.78 months. The length of marriage in the sample ranges from 1 to 280 months, the mean being 37.94 months. Most of the couples (72.9%) have been married within the past four years. The subjects' educational level ranges from middle school to graduate school; however, most of the subjects have

a high school or college education (37.6% at a high school and 48.4% at a college level). My subjects are mostly in their middle-late 20's or early 30's and comprise a somewhat well-educated and newly married group. Love-based marriage is popular in the younger generation; therefore, the love-based marriage group is larger than the arranged marriage group in this sample.

2. Conceptual Definitions

There are several sets of variables—structural variables (e.g., age, education, and SES), personal variables (e.g., attachment style and personality), relationship variables (e.g., length of commitment before marriage and length of marriage), and mediating variable (conflict strategy), in addition to type of marriage (love-based vs arranged), and outcome variables (marital adjustment).

1) Dyadic similarity is how similar spouses are to each other. There are two categories of dyadic similarities: personal and structural attributes. Personal attributes refer to personality dispositions, whereas structural attributes comprise social resources such as one's educational, occupational, economic, and family background. Therefore, there are two dimensions of dyadic similarity.

2) Marriage type can be distinguished based primarily on how partners meet. In arranged marriage, the two partners start to date upon the recommendation of parents, relatives, or matchmakers. They have a short time period in which partners can become acquainted with one another before marriage, because the meeting is arranged with the intention of marrying in near future (within one year, at most). On the other hand, love-based marriage means that people select their partner directly, primarily based on interpersonal attraction. They usually have enough

time to get acquainted with each other; it takes time to decide to marry their dating partner, because the meeting is not intended to result in a marriage on the basis of the first date.

3) Conflict strategy (Margolin, 1976) is assessed by a 26 item conflict inventory which measure individuals attitudes/behavior toward their partners in conflict situations (e.g., initiation of a discussion, insults, name calling).

4) Marital adjustment is measured by the Dyadic Adjustment Scale developed by Spanier (1976). According to Spanier, marital adjustment can be defined as a process with a qualitative dimension which can be evaluated at any point in time on a scale from well-adjusted to maladjusted.

3. Measures

The NEO Personality Inventory(181 item), developed by Costa and McCrae (1985), was to provide a concise measure of five major dimensions of normal adult personality—Neuroticism (Cronbach alpha .91;38 item), Extroversion($\alpha = .87$; 26item), Openness($\alpha = .81$; 23item), Agreeableness($\alpha = .83$; 23 item), and Conscientiousness($\alpha = .82$; 30 item).

The Attachment Scale (Hazan & Shaver, 1990) was used to measure individuals' attachment style (i. e., secure, anxious 1, anxious 2, avoidant), their intensity for each type of attachment, and some attachment history.

Conflict Inventory is a measure of the attitude or actions in conflict situations among couples, using both self and partner reports. This inventory composed of 26 identical items, and these items are categorized into four subsets: mature($\alpha = .80$; 7 item), avoid($\alpha = .58$; 6item), direct($\alpha = .79$; 6item), and indirect($\alpha = .75$, 7item) strategies. For example, item 1, initiate a discussion to air your different

point of view, indicates a mature strategy; item 2, try to hide the tension and act as though nothing happened, indicates an avoid strategy; item 4, insult partner, indicates a direct strategy; and item 13, cry, indicates an indirect strategy.

The Dyadic Adjustment Scale (Spanier, 1976) was used to measure marital adjustment. For this study the scale was translated into Korean in order to measure marital adjustment among Korean couples and to do confirmatory studies with American couples. In this study confirmatory analysis was not included.

4. Analysis

To test the hypotheses, correlation, Anova, and multiple regression analyses were employed. To test hypothesis 1, overall spouse similarity is assessed by correlating all husbands' scores with all wives' scores for each variable. The degree of matching in structural and personal attributes are compared between arranged and love-based marriages with both overall correlations and means of dyadic similarity within couple through the t-tests.

To test hypothesis 2, the correlations between individual dispositions and marital adjustment scores, and also between the dyadic similarity and marital adjustment scores are assessed regarding type of marriage. Then the effects of person factor (e.g., individual dispositions) and marital context factor (e.g., the degree of matching their dispositions) are compared to find more important factor in marital relationship. Further, multiple regression analyses are performed to find the better predictor of marital satisfaction in each of the two types of marriage.

To test hypothesis 3, correlations between the scores of each conflict strategy and marital

adjustment, and analyses of the variance test for differences in conflict strategies on marital adjustment, with important person and context variables controlled, were conducted in order to find the mediating effects of conflict strategy on marital adjustment.

To test hypothesis 4, polynomial regression which includes two important relationship variables—length of marriage and length of commitment before marriage is employed to find the curvilinear relationship between length of marriage and marital adjustment and the positive linear relationship between length of commitment before marriage and marital adjustment, respectively.

V. Results

1. Degree of Matching in Structural and Personal Attributes

As shown in Table 1, the homogamy principle, positive assortment between partners, is supported in structural and personal attributes for each marriage group. However, the degree of matching is not significantly different in structural and personal attributes between the arranged and the love-based group.

According to the correlations between husbands and wives in Table 1, all variables in structural attributes show positive assortment in both arranged and love-based marriages. Most of the variables, excluding several subsets of personality, show positive correlations.

The degree of matching is not significantly different between arranged and love-based marriage; Table 1 shows that the love-based marriage group has a higher correlation in both social and personal attributes, however, correlations

are not significantly different between the two groups.

In personality matching, correlations show different patterns for each subset of personality between arranged and love-based marriages. Arranged couples have higher correlations in Agreeableness, while love-based couples show higher correlations in the other four subsets in Table 1. Arranged couples have significant correlations of Hostility/Depression, Self-consciousness, Cooperativeness, Aesthetic, and Carefulness/calm, while love-based couples have significant correlations of Hostility/Depression, Excite-seeking, and Ideas in personality. Both groups show high correlations in Neuroticism and Openness, whereas they show different patterns in Agreeableness and Extroversion; the arranged group has a significantly high correlation in Agreeableness compared with the love-based group. The love-based group shows a relatively high correlation in Extroversion, compared with the arranged group. Within Extroversion, the two marriage types show different patterns of correlations: arranged couples have a high correlation in Direct/Extrovert, while love-based couples have a high correlation in Excite-seeking. Concerning matching attachment, the arranged marriage group shows high correlations in avoid, while the love-based group shows higher correlations in secure and anxious (Table 1). Overall, the love-based marriage group has a little higher dyadic similarity, but this is not significant.

As predicted, homogamy trends are found in both types of marriage; however, based on t-test results, the difference of the type of matching between arranged and love-based marriage is not considerable. Marriage type is not differentiated by the degree of matching in social and personal attributes.

<Table 1> Spouse Similarity: Correlations Between Partners

Variables	Correlations			Mean	S. D
	Arranged	Love-based	Total		
Structural attributes					
Age	.8095**	.8300**	.8330**	30.36	3.89
Education	.6431**	.6958**	.6550**	4.26	1.07
SES					
self report	.3311*	.3290*	.3268*	3.02	0.76
partner report	.2650*	.4864*	.3950*	3.05	0.78
Attachment style					
secure	.3360*	.2930**	.2959**	4.53	1.83
anxious1	.2469	.1886	.2233**	2.70	1.44
anxious2	.2516	.2394*	.2580**	2.46	1.54
avoid	.4666**	.1818	.2976**	4.33	1.63
Personality					
Neuroticism	.1938	.2991**	.2313**	114.55	16.84
Anxiety	.1212	.1655	.1120	33.31	5.78
Hostility/dep	.2799**	.2182**	.2451**	27.16	5.31
Self-conscious	.2223*	.1975	.2004*	22.33	3.98
Vulnerability	.1088	.1504	.1344	31.94	5.34
Agreeableness	.3760**	.0296	.1304	77.03	8.56
Warmth	.2525	.0894	.1386	21.61	3.66
Optimistic	.1815	-.0727	.0116	27.75	3.71
Cooperative.	.3745**	.0754	.1566	27.74	3.70
Extroversion	.0731	.1328	.1588	72.84	9.58
Gregarious.	-.1069	.1912	.0662	16.97	3.01
Active/assertive	.0644	.0670	.1067	25.97	4.30
Direct/extrovert	.2950*	.0715	.1617*	11.67	2.77
Excite-seeking	.0199	.2945**	.2223**	18.20	3.34
Openness	.1751	.2696**	.2684**	71.45	9.53
Fantasy	.0973	.1590	.1411	12.30	2.65
Aesthetic	.3252**	.0879	.2466**	39.56	6.17
Ideas	-.0025	.2503*	.1757*	19.63	3.33
Conscientiousness	.1253	.1645	.1366	70.17	8.22
Conscientious	-.0075	.1530	.0819	3.26	6.42
Carefulness	.3781**	.1019	.1836*	16.95	2.77

*p < .05. **p < .01

2. Effects of Individual Dispositions and Dyadic Similarity on Marital Adjustment

It was predicted that couples who are more similar in both personal and structural attributes would report a higher level of marital adjustment.

Similarly, individuals who have positive dispositions would be more likely to show high marital adjustment. In comparing these results, the relative effects of person (personal dispositions) and context (degree of matching) are discussed. Further,

the rate of social homogamy would be a better predictor of marital satisfaction in arranged marriages, while the rate of personality homogamy would be a better predictor of marital satisfaction in love-based marriage groups.

1) Dyadic Similarity and Marital Adjustment

Two different methods were used to assess dyadic similarity (the degree of matching) in structural and personal attributes—correlation and distance between husband's and wife's scores to examine the relationship between dyadic similarity and marital adjustment, both dyadic correlation and dyadic distances in each variable are correlated with their marital adjustment scores.

The results indicated that dyadic correlations are not significantly associated with marital adjustment for either structural or personal attributes. Aside from the dyadic correlation of fantasy which is significantly related with marital adjustment ($r = .1621$ $p = .05$) in love-based marriage, these correlations are not significant for either group.

According to the correlations between dyadic distances in personality and marital adjustment (Table 2), there is no significant correlation for men, while two domains of personality—agreeableness and conscientiousness—show negatively significant correlations for women in arranged marriage ($r = -.4018$ $p < .01$ for Agreeableness; $r = -.3058$ $p < .05$ for Conscientiousness). Distances of structural attributes are positively correlated with the husband's marital adjustment, and negatively correlated with the wife's marital adjustment; however, these correlations are not significant.

Table 2 also shows that there is a trend of negative correlations between dyadic distances and marital adjustment for both men and women in love-based marriage. The distance of educational level is significantly negatively related with the

<Table 2> Correlations between Dyadic Distances in Personal and Structural Attributes and Marital Adjustment for Arranged and Love-based Marriage

Variables	Arranged		Love-based	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
Structural Attributes	.2624	-.1093	-.0845	-.2004
Age	.0327	-.1828	.0242	-.1571
Education	.0419	.1280	-.2414*	-.1476
SES of their family	.0513	.0467	.0399	-.0717
Personal Attributes				
Personality	.0720	-.2038	-.0327	-.1545
Neuroticism	.1182	-.1999	.1186	-.1487
Agreeableness	-.0379	-.4018**	-.0379	-.1677
Extroversion	-.0118	-.1169	-.0118	-.0493
Conscientiousness	.0499	-.3508*	.0499	-.2357
Openness	-.0665	.1110	.0665	.0154
Attachment				
Secure	.1140	-.0397	.0727	-.0189
Anxious1	-.1469	.0197	-.2637*	-.2165
Anxious2	-.2340	-.2528*	-.1122	-.3012*
Avoid	.1610	.0084	.0020	-.1482

* $p < .05$. ** $p < .01$

husband's marital adjustment ($r = -.2414$ $p < .05$). Distances of Agreeableness and Conscientiousness in personality are significantly negatively related with the wife's marital adjustment. The distance of anxious1 within a couple shows a significant negative correlation with the husband's marital adjustment, while the distance of anxious 2 shows significant negative correlations with marital adjustment. The results are roughly consistent with the arranged group.

The results suggest that there are gender differences in correlations between personality matching and marital adjustment, rather than marriage type. Men's overall marital adjustment is not correlated with personality; however, there are several considerable correlations among subsets of

personality and marital adjustment.

Concerning the concept of the degree of matching and the results of correlation analysis, dyadic distances are more appropriate in explaining the relations between dyadic similarity and marital adjustment. Dyadic correlation cannot give any information on the number of differences between the husband and the wife. Dyadic correlation means the similarity of pattern in each structural and personal attribute, while dyadic distance means how much they are different from each other in each attribute.

2) Personal Disposition and Marital Adjustment

Table 3 shows that most of both structural and personal attributes are significantly correlated with marital adjustment. Without considering marriage type, among structural attributes, education ($r=.4033$ $p<.01$) and SES ($r=.2266$ $p<.01$) are positively correlated with marital adjustment, while age is negatively correlated with marital adjustment ($r=-.2281$ $p<.01$). In personality, four domains, excluding Extroversion, are significantly correlated with marital adjustment. All subsets of neuroticism are significantly negatively related with marital adjustment, and two subsets of extroversion—gregariousness and direct/extrovert, and a subset of conscientiousness—carefulness/calm—show negative correlations; however, these are not considerable. The other domains of personality are positively correlated with marital adjustment ($r=.2330$ $p<.01$ for Agreeableness; $r=.1906$ $p<.01$ for conscientiousness; $r=.1697$ $p<.01$ for Openness). The degree of secure and avoid is positively correlated with marital adjustment ($r=.1292$ $p<.05$ for secure; $r=.1793$ $p<.01$ for avoid), while the degree of anxious is negatively correlated with marital adjustment ($r=-.3371$ $p<.01$ for anxious1; $r=-.2062$ $p<.01$).

Table 3 also presents correlations between demographic and personality variables and marital adjustment in both marriage groups. It shows no considerable differences of variables between the two marriage groups. Among structural variables, education ($r=.4139$ $p<.01$) has a higher correlation than SES in love-based marriage; education has more weight on marital adjustment than SES in the love-based group, while the two variables have almost the same weight in arranged group. Age is negatively related with marital adjustment in both marriage groups; however, it is significant only in the love-based marriage group. Among personality subdomains, neuroticism and several subsets of extroversion show negative correlations with marital adjustment; all subsets of neuroticism are highly negatively correlated with marital adjustment in both marriage groups. Agreeableness has a relatively higher correlation in love-based marriage than in arranged marriage; optimistic shows a high correlation among three subsets of agreeableness in the arranged group ($r=.3156$ $p<.01$), while Cooperativeness shows a high correlation in the love-based group ($r=.2587$ $p<.01$). Extroversion is not significantly related with marital adjustment in both marriage groups. Conscientiousness shows higher correlations with marital adjustment in arranged marriage than in love-based marriage. Openness shows a relatively high correlation with marital adjustment in love-based marriage, while it is not significantly related with marital adjustment in arranged marriage. Among several subsets of Openness, idea is correlated with marital adjustment in love-based marriage ($r=.2419$ $p<.01$).

Concerning the degree of each attachment style, secure and avoid show positive associations with marital adjustment, while anxious1 and anxious2 show negative associations. In arranged marriage,

<Table 3> Correlations between Individual Dispositions and Marital Adjustment

Variables	Arranged	Lovebased	Total
Structural Attributes			
Age	-.1579	-.2131**	-.2281**
Education	.3098**	.4139**	.4033**
SES of their family	.3294**	.1855*	.2266**
SES (after marriage)	.3983**	.3819**	.3890**
Relationship variables			
Length of Commitment before marriage	-.0095	.2219**	.2481**
Length of marriage	-.2119*	-.3794**	-.3319**
Personal Attributes			
Personality			
Neuroticism	-.4310**	-.4230**	-.4229**
anxiety	-.3018**	-.3030**	-.3054**
hostility/depression	-.3837**	-.3769**	-.3602**
vulnerability	-.2965**	-.3461**	-.3347**
self-consciousness	-.4373**	-.3319**	-.3720**
Agreeableness	.1845	.2600**	.2330**
warmth	.0618	.1624*	.1055
optimistic	.3156**	.1887*	.2488**
cooperativeness	.1042	.2587**	.1926**
Extroversion	.0194	-.0525	.0230
excite seeking	-.0812	-.0054	.0045
gregariousness	-.0209	-.1176	-.0485
direct/extrovert	-.1087	-.1387	.0968
active/assertive	.1725	.0736	.1418*
Conscientiousness	.2577*	.1510*	.1906**
conscientiousness	.2356*	.1207	.1715**
carefulness/calm	.2395*	.1434	-.0165
Openness	.0855	.1535*	.1697**
fantasy	.0763	-.0751	.0081
aesthetic	.0124	.1296	.1216*
ideas	.1347	.2419**	.2291**
Attachment			
secure	.0771	.1483	.1292*
anxious1	.1744	-.3811**	-.3397**
anxious2	-.3138**	-.2331**	-.2062**
avoid	.1744	.2195**	.1719**

*p < .05. **p < .01

anxious2 shows significantly negative correlations with marital adjustment, while anxious1 shows a positive correlation. In love-based marriage, both anxious1 and anxious2 are significantly negatively

related with marital adjustment ($r = -.3811$ for anxious1, $r = -.2331$ for anxious2). The degree of avoid is significantly positively related in the love-based marriage group. Inconsistent with attachment studies, the avoid pattern is not interpreted, in a negative sense, differently from western culture. Fifty percent of arranged marriage couples reported themselves as avoid group, and 37.7% and 12.3% categorized themselves into secure and anxious group, respectively. In love-based marriage, 44.4%, 35.9%, and 19.7% of couples reported themselves as belonging to the secure, avoid, and anxious group, respectively. When the relative proportion of attachment styles in the two marriage types are compared, the anxious group is predominantly love-based marriage (73.6% in love-based, 26.4% in arranged), and the avoid group has slightly more couples in arranged marriage.

As predicted, individuals who have higher scores in positive dispositions such as education, SES, Agreeableness, Conscientiousness, Openness, Secure, and Avoid are more likely to show high marital adjustment, while individuals who have higher scores in negative dispositions such as Neuroticism and Anxious are more likely to show low marital adjustment.

3) Predicting Marital Adjustment from Personal and Structural Attributes

Among personal and structural variables, education, SES, length of commitment before marriage, length of marriage, neuroticism and conscientiousness, and attachment style are significant predictors of marital adjustment in Korean couples, according to stepwise multiple regression analysis (Table 4: R-square=.476, $F = 19.37$, $p = .000$). For the love-based group, education, SES, length of marriage (among structural variables), neuroticism and agreeableness in personality,

<Table 4> Regression Analysis: Predicting Marital Adjustment from Structural and Personal Attributes

Variables	b	Beta	t
Age			
Education	3.64	.224	3.87***
SES	4.77	.198	3.61***
Length of commitment			
before marriage	.073	.125	2.26*
Length of marriage	-.082	-.180	-3.27**
Personality			
Neuroticism	-.185	-.190	-2.98**
Agreeableness			
Extroversion			
Conscientiousness	.258	.124	2.13*
Openness			
Attachment			
secure	1.41	.154	2.80**
anxious1	-1.71	-.145	-2.52*
anxious2			
avoid	1.65	.158	2.75**

*p < .05 **p < .01 ***p < .001

R-square .476 F=19.37 Significant F= .0000

anxious1 and avoid (in attachment) are significant predictors of marital adjustment (R-square .449 F=14.59 p=.000). For the arranged group, education, SES, neuroticism, and conscientiousness are significant predictors of marital adjustment (R-square .429 F=12.01 p=.000). Neuroticism is the best predictor of marital adjustment in arranged marriages, while length of marriage is the best predictor of marital adjustment in love-based marriages.

In love-based marriage, two domains of personality—neuroticism and agreeableness—are significant predictors of the husbands’ marital adjustment, while education and SES in structural attributes and neuroticism and attachment in personal attributes are significant predictors of wives’ marital adjustment (Table 5-a). In arranged

<Table 5-a> Regression Analysis: Predicting Marital Adjustment from Structural and Personal Attributes in Love-based Marriage

Variables	b	Beta	t
Husband			
Age			
Education			
SES			
Length of commitment			
before marriage			
Length of marriage			
Personality			
Neuroticism	-.254	-.217	-2.54**
Agreeableness	.52	.197	2.36*
Extroversion			
Conscientiousness			
Openness			
Attachment			
secure			
anxious1			
anxious2			
avoid			
Wives			
Age			
Education	5.05	.208	3.15**
SES	6.09	.223	2.49*
Length of commitment			
before marriage			
Length of marriage			
Personality			
Neuroticism	-.29	-.165	-1.90**
Agreeableness			
Extroversion			
Conscientiousness			
Openness			
Attachment			
secure	2.25	.194	2.62**
anxious1	-3.19	-.187	-2.71*
anxious2			
avoi			

*p < .05. **p < .01

marriage, self evaluating social class is a significant predictor of husbands’ marital adjustment among

<Table 5-b> Regression Analysis: Predicting Marital Adjustment from Structural and Personal Attributes in Arranged Marriage

Variables	b	Beta	t
Husband			
Age			
Education			
SES	8.35	.342	3.12*
Length of commitment before marriage			
Length of marriage			
Personality			
Neuroticism			
Agreeableness			
Extroversion			
Conscientiousness			
Openness			
Attachment			
Wives			
Age			
Education			
SES			
Length of commitment before marriage			
Length of marriage			
Personality			
Neuroticism	-.58	-.38	-3.86***
Agreeableness			
Extroversion			
Conscientiousness			
Openness			
Attachment			

*p < .05. **p < .01. ***p < .001

personal and structural variables, while neuroticism is a significant predictor of wives' marital adjustment (Table 5-b).

Dyadic correlations are not significant predictors of marital adjustment in both types of marriages, whereas distances of several structural and personal attributes have significant effects on marital adjustment for women; however, this is not true for

men. The distances of structural attributes and conscientiousness between spouses have significant effects on wives' marital adjustment ($b = -2.46$ $p < .01$ for structural attributes; $b = -.67$ $p < .01$ for conscientiousness). In arranged marriage, distance of agreeableness is a significant predictor of wives' marital adjustment, while the distance of SES is a significant predictor of wives' marital adjustment in love-based marriage.

3. Conflict Strategy as a Mediator of Marital Adjustment

Conflict strategy shows significant effects on marital adjustment; there are significant group differences in marital adjustment ($F = 17.51$ $p = .0000$). According to the Tukey-HSD procedure, the mature group is significantly higher than the other groups, and the avoid group is significantly higher than the indirect group in marital adjustment.

After adding conflict strategy in regression analysis for predicting marital adjustment, R squares were increased from .634 to .738 and from .622 to .752 in arranged and love-based marriages, respectively. In the arranged group, education and their own level of SES in structural attributes and Neuroticism in personality attributes were significant predictors of their marital adjustment before adding conflict strategy, while SES in structural attributes and direct and indirect in conflict strategies were significant predictors of marital adjustment after adding conflict strategies in the regression equation (Table 6-a). Similarly, in the love-based group, age, education, and their own level of SES in structural attributes and Neuroticism in personality attributes were significant predictors of their marital adjustment before adding conflict strategy, while SES in structural attributes and mature and indirect in conflict strategies were

<Table 6-a> Regression Analysis: Predicting Marital Adjustment with Social, Personal Attributes, and Conflict Strategies in Arranged Marriage

Before Entering Conflict Strategy		
Variables	Beta	t
Social Attributes		
Age	-.023	-.297
Edu	.203	1.985*
SES before marriage	.133	1.245
SES after marriage	.239	2.304*
Personal Attributes		
Neuroticism	-.348	-3.090**
Agreeableness	.047	.433
Extraversion	.195	1.834
Openness	.002	.017
Conscientiousness	.088	.714

*p < .05, **p < .01, ***p < .001

R Square .634 F= 5.53 Signif F= .000

After Entering Conflict Strategy		
Variables	Beta	t
Social Attributes		
Age	.010	.097
Edu	.078	.792
SES before marriage	.135	1.384
SES after marriage	.227	2.413*
Personal Attributes		
Neuroticism	-.111	-.967
Agreeableness	-.005	-.047
Extraversion	.169	1.619
Openness	.094	.942
Conscientiousness	.042	.354
Conflict Strategy		
Mature	.127	1.317
Direct	-.255	-2.319*
Indirect	-.255	-2.267*
Avoid	.108	1.189

*p < .05, **p < .01

R Square .738 F= 6.429 Signif F= .000

<Table 6-b> Regression Analysis: Predicting Marital Adjustment with Social, Personal Attributes, and Conflict Strategies in Love-based Marriage

Before Entering Conflict Strategy		
Variables	Beta	t
Social Attributes		
Age	-.135	-2.0080*
Edu	.203	2.6840**
SES before marriage	.022	.2850
SES after marriage	.277	3.6540**
Personal Attributes		
Neuroticism	-.251	-3.7060**
Agreeableness	.080	1.1343
Extraversion	-.010	-.1433
Openness	.040	.5370
Conscientiousness	.068	.9370

*p < .05, **p < .01

R Square .622 F= 5.86 Signif F= .000

After Entering Conflict Strategy		
Variables	Beta	t
Social Attributes		
Age	-.107	-1.801
Edu	.122	1.868
SES before marriage	.024	.367
SES after marriage	-.185	-2.737**
Personal Attributes		
Neuroticism	-.122	-1.634
Agreeableness	-.051	-.786
Extraversion	.169	1.619
Openness	.030	.460
Conscientiousness	-.007	-.113
Conflict Strategy		
Mature	.273	3.748**
Direct	-.065	-1.096
Indirect	-.336	-4.173**
Avoid	.075	1.162

*p < .05, **p < .01

R Square .752 F= 14.64 Signif F= .000

significant predictors of marital adjustment after adding conflict strategies in the regression equation

(Table 6-b). These results support Hypothesis 3.

4. Effects of Marriage Type, and Length of Commitment Before and After Marriage on marital Adjustment

It was predicted that love-based couples would report higher marital adjustment than arranged couples, and the length of commitment before and after marriage would be positively and curvilinearly related with marital adjustment scores, respectively. There is a significant group difference between arranged marriage and love-based marriage in marital adjustment. According to results of analysis of variance, there are significant effects of marriage type on marital adjustment (Table 7-a: $F=11.97$ $P=.001$). The love-based marriage group has higher adjustment scores than the arranged marriage group (mean of love-based=110.51; mean of arranged=103.37). On the average, the love-based group is better adjusted to the marital context.

One of the important differences between the two marriage groups is the length of commitment before marriage. The mean difference of length of commitment before marriage is substantial: 5.93 months for arranged marriages and 42.8 months for the love-based marriage group. Moreover, length of commitment before marriage is positively correlated with marital adjustment ($r=.481$ $p=.01$). In order to test the effects of marriage type and

length of commitment, two different analyses of variance were done. In the first analysis, length of commitment before marriage was controlled, and there was no significant main effects of marriage type (Table 7-b: $F=1.60$, $p=.208$) on marital adjustment. In the second analysis, marriage type was controlled, and length of commitment before marriage was significant on marital adjustment (Table 7-c: $F=1.95$, $p=.000$). These results suggested that differences in marital adjustment as a function marriage type may be a function of differences between the two groups associated with length of commitment before marriage.

Table 7-d shows positive linear relation of length of commitment before marriage to marital adjustment, while there was curvilinear relation of length of marriage to marital adjustment. These trends are strong in love-based marriage; however, only negative linear relation of length of marriage to marital adjustment is significant in arranged marriage. Most of the couples in arranged marriages have a short length of commitment before marriage and, considering the range of this variable, perhaps there is not enough time to facilitate the effect of premarital commitment on marital adjustment in the arranged group. There

<Table 7-a> Marriage Type and Marital Adjustment Analysis of Variance

Source	df	MSE	F	P-Value
Marriage type	1	3266.63	11.97	.001
Residual	281	272.54		
Total	282	283.54		
Group	Count	Mean		
Arranged	98	103.37		
Love-based	185	110.51		
Total	283	108.04		

<Table 7-b> Marriage Type and Marital Adjustment Controlling the Length of Commitment before Marriage Analysis of Variance

Source	df	MSE	F	P-Value
Covariates				
Length B	1	4797.05	18.18	.000
Main Effects				
Mtype	1	421.06	1.60	.208
Explained	2	2609.05	9.89	.000
Residual	285	263.05		
Total	287	280.95		

<Table 7-c> Length of Commitment before Marriage and Marital Adjustment Controlling Marriage Type Analysis of Variance

Source	df	MSE	F	P-Value
Covariates				
Marriage type	1	2994.960	13.26	.000
Main Effects				
Length of commitment				
Before marriage	1	440.138	1.95	.000
Explained	2	482.02	2.13	.000
Residual	285	225.83		
Total	287	280.28		

was also high correlation between the linear and quadratic variable of length of marriage, especially in the love-based group.

VI. Discussion

1. Marriage Type Differences in Mate Selection and Marital Adjustment

The results indicate that individuals are no longer passive about selecting their own partner, even in arranged marriage. Mate selection theory, according to which individuals tend to select partners who have comparable dispositions (Buss, 1984; Caspi & Herbner, 1990), was strongly supported in both of the two marriage types. Inconsistent with my expectation, there were no significant differences in dyadic similarity of personal and structural attributes between arranged and love-based marriage; however, the love-based marriage group had slightly higher correlations in both types of attributes. These results suggest that both arranged and love-based marriage use same mate selection criteria; individuals consider both of personal and structural attributes as in mate selection for their own marital partner, and also

<Table 7-d> Predicting Marital Adjustment with Length of Commitment Before Marriage and Length of Marriage

Variable	Arranged		Love-based	
	Beta	t	Beta	t
LengthB (length of commitment before marriage)	.029	-.30	.179	1.682**
LengthM (length of marriage)	-.212	-2.125*	-.706	-4.714**
LengthM ²	.198	.078	.378	2.529**

*p < .05, **p < .01

their parents consider not only structural attributes, but also personal attributes, as important factors in mate selection for their children. The length of commitment before marriage and the way the couple first met were highly correlated with the marriage type.

Most studies, including my research, concern assortative mating as a major principle of mate selection, and the results confirm homogamy theory. However, we should not discard complementarity theory. There are some hints of complementary matching in this sample; men are more likely to marry women who have less education than themselves; further, those men show relatively higher marital adjustment than men who married women of same educational level. Some characteristics, especially in personality, are incomparable; both of two partners can not dominate each other. This kind of characteristic might be showing complementary trends rather than assortative matching; further, complementary matching might be positively associated with marital adjustment. In this sample, there is no significant complementary matching in the same domain of personality. No domain is incomparable in NEO personality inventory in that sense. There

is possible complementary matching in cross domains of spouse, but this study did not consider those relationships.

There is an effect of marriage type: the love-based group had a higher marital adjustment than the arranged group. Due to one or more characteristics of different types of marriage, such as a difference in the premarital period, there might be differences in the process of adjustment to the marriage. Two studies, Xiaohe and Whyte (1990) and Blood (1956), with Chinese and Japanese samples, respectively, report that the love marriage group was consistently higher than the arranged group, regardless of the length of the marriage. These previous studies did not consider the effects of length of commitment before marriage. In this study, there was no significant effect of marriage type after controlling the length of commitment before marriage. This indicates that there are no significant effects of marriage type itself on marital adjustment; rather, the differences of marital adjustment between the two groups can be explained by the length of commitment before marriage. According to Kerckhoff (1960) and Kelly (1983), partners have a filtering process during the premarital dating period. Indeed, the premarital dating period can be considered as a filtering process, and the love marriage group has a greater opportunity to filter out unsatisfactory relationships. In arranged marriage, partners typically do not have enough time to get acquainted with personal attributes and to build up a close relationship because of the lack of time as a filtering opportunity.

There might be a different interpretation of the effects of length of commitment before marriage concerning correlations between this variable and the other important variables which are significantly associated with marital adjustment. The length of

commitment before marriage is significantly correlated to openness and conscientiousness in personality and education and SES of their family of origin in structural attributes which are highly correlated to marital adjustment. Some part of the effects of length of commitment before marriage might be from covariates such as personality, education and SES.

In order to test pure effects of length of commitment before marriage, regression analysis was done after controlling other covariates. This result shows a significant effect of length of commitment before marriage on marital adjustment (Beta=.139, $t=2.34$, $p<.01$), after controlling Openness, Conscientiousness, education, length of marriage, and SES. This suggests that there are significant positive effects of the premarital dating period on their later marital relationship within a group which has the same characteristics in both personal and structural attributes.

2. Effects of Demographic and Personality Variables on Marital Adjustment

Several studies of marital quality have reported variation as a function of demographic variables—age, sex, education, and marital stage. Consistent with these findings, these variables show significant effects on marital adjustment in both marriage groups. Age and length of marriage are negatively correlated with marital adjustment; this is inconsistent with Argyle and Furnham's study (1983) which reports that older couples experience less marital conflict. In this sample, couples are mostly newly married and within four years of marriage, which indicates that they are still in the adjustment period in their marital context. Education is usually positively associated with marital quality, while the presence of children is

negatively correlated and results are mixed concerning child density (Spanier & Lewis, 1980). In this sample, social class, including education and SES, is highly positively correlated with marital adjustment, while the number of children is negatively correlated with marital adjustment. There is a significant effect of gender on marital adjustment and conflict scores. Men had higher marital adjustment and conflict free scores than women. Gender had a strong effect on the overall benefits that an individual derived from marriage.

Individuals who have higher scores in positive personality domains (Agreeableness, Openness, Conscientiousness) and have lower scores in negative personality domain (Neuroticism) are more likely to show higher marital adjustment, which is similar to the results from the demographic variables. Individuals who have higher education and SES of family of origin are more likely to report higher marital adjustment. These results, from both structural and personal variables, indicate that person factors (e. g., personal dispositions) in my research model have significant influences on marital adjustment. However, there might be a positive response bias in both personality and marital adjustment scales; some individuals report good things about everything, and this is one of the limitations of self-report study.

The degree of matching in both structural and personal attributes is not significantly related with marital adjustment. This implies that context factors, except current SES in this research model, do not have significant effects on marital adjustment. However, dyadic similarity in personality is more highly correlated with women's marital adjustment than men's, indicating that women's marital adjustment might be more influenced by their partner's personality than men's marital adjustment is. Further, individuals'

personalities were correlated to their partners' marital adjustment in order to avoid a self report bias. The results are basically similar to results from their own reports. The husband's Neuroticism is significantly negatively related to his wife's scores in satisfaction and affectional expression. His Agreeableness and Openness are positively associated with her marital cohesion, affectional expression, and marital satisfaction. On the other hand, only the wife's Neuroticism in personality shows negative assortments with the husband's marital cohesion, affectional expression, and marital satisfaction. A study by Grove et al. (1983), which reports women's happiness as more related to the emotional quality of the relationship, while men's happiness is more related to the status per se, is supported in this sample.

One important relationship variable, the length of marriage, is negatively related with marital adjustment in this sample. It shows a curvilinear trend in plot with marital adjustment scores. This is supported by several studies about marital satisfaction which report a curvilinear relationship throughout the life span; marital satisfaction significantly decreases after the first child is born, as this increases stress in transition to parenting, and then satisfaction increases in the late parenting stage (Schram, 1979; Ade-Ridder and Brubaker, 1983; Glenn, 1989). My sample ranges from one month to 15 years, but the majority are within four years of marriage. Because of this group's homogeneity in the length of marriage, a strong claim cannot be made concerning the curvilinear relationship; however, marital adjustment significantly decreases within the four year range. Polynomial analysis suggests a strong curvilinear relationship between length of marriage and marital adjustment in love-based marriage; however, it is not supported in arranged marriage. Consistent with my

prediction, the length of commitment before marriage is positively related to marital adjustment; however, the length of commitment before marriage is not a significant predictor of marital adjustment in arranged marriage. The length of the premarital period is almost the same and is short, so this might not make a difference on marital adjustment for the arranged group. In order to see the effects of total length of time, including both length of commitment before marriage and length of marriage, regression analysis with total length of time was done; the result shows no significant relationship of this variable on marital adjustment. In this sample, the length of marriage shows a significant positive assortment with the number of children which is highly correlated with decreasing marital adjustment. It implies that length of commitment before marriage plays a filtering role and also develops skills for a healthy, functioning marriage. Individuals who have a long premarital period might have a better knowledge of the right strategy for their partners when they are faced with conflicts.

3. Conflict Strategies and Marital Adjustment

Conflict strategy is considered as process (e.g., a mediator) in this research model, and conflict strategies are significantly correlated to marital adjustment. Even though important variables which have significant influences on marital adjustment are controlled, these effects of conflict strategies are still significant. This suggests that conflict strategy plays a mediating role between person and context factors and marital adjustment.

VII. Conclusion

Based on the principal assumption of this study—person-environment interaction—a research

model including role of person, context, and process in marital relationships was tested to find the mechanisms of matching and marital relationships concerning two different types of marriages in Korea. The results show assortative trends between spouses and significant effects of both personal and structural attributes on marital adjustment. Inconsistent with expectation, the degree of matching in personal dispositions is not significantly related with marital adjustment. This suggests personal dispositions are more important predictors of marital relationships than the degree of matching in marital context. The effects on marital adjustment of matching personal attributes between spouses could not be clearly seen in this homogeneous sample: couples show a high rate of homogamy in both personal and structural attributes, regardless of marriage type.

One of the important variables in this study, marriage type, also has a significant effect on marital adjustment; the love-based group shows a relatively higher marital adjustment than the arranged group. After more detailed analyses, it turns out that the differences come from length of commitment before marriage, not from the marriage type itself. The fact that there are no differences in the rate of homogamy between the two marriage groups also supports this result. The results suggest that there is no pure version of arranged and love-based marriage in the traditional concept of marriage type. Based on these results, I can not say that love-based marriage is better than arranged marriage in terms of marital adjustment, even though marital adjustment scores in love-based marriage are relatively high. Rather, the length of commitment before marriage, which might be a filtering period, is a more important variable than marriage type.

Overall, the results are fitted to suggested

research models, except the role of degree of matching. A more diverse sample of degree of matching and an elaborated analysis could possibly explain the role of matching more precisely. However, I do not claim, in this study, to have provided such an analysis. This study does, however, provide some important relations among individual dispositions, dyadic matching in their dispositions, and marital adjustment for arranged and love-based Korean marriages. It especially supports the person-environment interaction: individuals tend to select an environment that is comparable with their dispositions. Further, the "person" factor is more influential on marital relationships than "context" factor; that is, personal dispositions play a bigger role in marital adjustment than the degree of matching between spouses.

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