Supplementary File

Factor Loadings (Study 1)

Items by Factor	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	F7	F8
Factor 1. Carlol Communication								
Factor 1: Social Comparison I compare how supportive my	.80	02	02	08	05	.08	11	.08
partner is to other peoples'	.00	02	02	00	03	.00	11	.00
partners. (RSCM)								
I compare how considerate my	.74	.06	09	.01	03	.06	13	.08
partner is to how considerate								
other peoples' partners are.								
(RSCM)		0.5	0.0	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.7
I think about how well my	.68	.05	09	02	.06	03	.01	07
partner and I communicate with each other compared to how well								
other couples communicate with								
each other. (RSCM)								
I think about how dependable my	.67	.09	.02	.02	03	08	05	.01
partner is in comparison to other								
peoples' partners. (RSCM)			o -	0.4		0.4	0.0	
I compare how my partner and I	.67	.04	.07	01	13	01	.03	.11
treat each other to how other couples treat each other. (RSCM)								
I think about how trustworthy my	.63	.10	01	.06	.06	02	29	.06
partner is in comparison to other	.00	.10	.01	.00	.00	.02	>	.00
peoples' partners. (RSCM)								
I think about how romantic my	.61	10	01	03	.02	.05	.28	10
relationship is compared to how								
romantic other couples'								
relationships are. (RSCM)	50	.01	.08	.05	02	02	02	02
I pay a lot of attention to how well my partner and I resolve	.59	.01	.08	.03	02	02	02	02
problems compared to how well								
other couples solve their								
problems. (RSCM)								
I think about what types of	.58	06	03	.08	.08	08	.11	.04
activities my partner and I								
participate in together compared								
to what other couples do together. (RSCM)								
I think about how romantic my	.56	.05	.09	05	06	01	.15	01
partner is in comparison to other		.00	•07	.00		.01	.10	.01
peoples' partners. (RSCM)								

I compare the things that my partner does for me to what other peoples' partners do for them. (RSCM)	.53	.04	04	.06	06	04	.18	.12
I think about how successful my partner is in comparison to other peoples' partners. (RSCM)	.53	03	.05	01	.08	.02	07	.04
I observe the relationships of couples who are not as successful as mine. (RES)	.52	05	.00	.00	.05	.09	.18	17
I think about couples who argue more than me and my partner. (New)	.52	08	.00	02	01	.05	.28	18
I compare how much time my partner and I spend together to how much time other couples spend together. (RSCM) Factor 2: Past Comparison	.43	.01	.03	.03	.00	10	.15	.12
I compare my relationship with unhappy relationships I have had in the past. (RES)	06	.80	07	.01	01	03	.08	.06
I compare how my current partner treats me to how my previous partner(s) treated me. (New)	04	.77	.10	02	05	.12	06	.02
I compare my current relationship to worse relationships I've had in the past. (New)	04	.77	07	.04	.08	09	.15	03
I compare how satisfied I am with my current partner with how satisfied I was with my partner(s) in my previous relationship(s). (New)	05	.73	.01	.00	.07	.05	03	.03
I compare my current partner to my previous partner(s) from my past relationship(s). (New)	08	.72	.01	03	04	.14	.04	.11
I think about relationships I've had in the past that were less satisfying than my current relationship. (New)	.01	.71	02	.02	08	07	.06	.01
I compare how happy I am in my relationship with how happy I was in my previous relationship(s). (New)	.00	.71	03	05	03	.17	06	.04
I think about how much worse my life would be if I had stayed	.06	.68	05	.00	.10	22	.06	09

with my previous partner(s).								
(New) I think about how well my current partner and I	.10	.68	.03	02	.01	.03	03	13
communicate compared to how well my previous partner(s) and I communicated. (New)								
I compare how romantic my current partner is to how romantic my previous partner(s) was/were.	.08	.63	03	.02	.00	.09	.05	02
(New) I think about how supported I feel	.21	.57	.09	.04	.02	01	23	02
in my current relationship compared to how supported I have felt in past relationships.								
(New)								
Factor 3: Personal Standards I compare my current relationship	02	.05	.75	05	.00	07	.09	.03
to my own ideas about what	02	.03	.13	03	.00	07	.09	.03
makes an ideal relationship.								
(New)								
I think about my own goals for	.00	03	.70	.05	01	.00	05	.06
what a relationship should be								
like. (New)								
I compare my own relationship to	01	03	.70	02	08	06	.06	.06
my own personal standards of what my relationship should be								
like. (RES)								
I think about my idea of what	02	.01	.68	.03	13	.09	11	.14
defines a worthwhile relationship.								
(RES)								
I reflect on my own standards of	.03	.00	.67	07	01	.05	01	13
what makes a good relationship.								
(RES) I think about what I want from a	.02	05	62	02	05	02	10	05
relationship. (New)	.02	05	.62	.02	.05	.02	12	.05
I think about how I would like	09	04	.60	.06	.09	17	.03	.10
my relationship to be in the			•••			, ,	,,,,	
future. (RES)	0.5	00	5 0	07	10	1.0	0.5	0.2
I envision my ideal relationship. (RES)	05	09	.53	.07	.12	.16	.05	.02
I compare my current partner to	.01	.04	.53	06	.02	.03	.11	01
what I'm looking for in an ideal	=				· - -		. =	
partner. (New)								

I think about how well my current relationship matches my	.22	.01	.53	09	.02	.01	04	23
ideal relationship. (New)								
I compare images of what my	03	.07	.49	.03	.14	12	.16	02
relationship is like, now to how I								
hope my relationship will be in								
the future. (RES)								
Factor 4: Feedback	03	01	02	.85	02	00	00	05
I ask my friends what they think of my relationship. (New)	03	01	02	.05	02	.08	.00	05
I ask for input from my peers.	09	.02	02	.84	12	03	.09	.01
(RES)	07	.02	02	.07	12	03	.07	.01
I find it useful to hear other	.08	03	.03	.76	02	03	05	.00
peoples' opinions about my	.00	03	.03	.70	02	03	03	.00
relationship. (New)								
When I am unsure about how my	04	.08	08	.74	.06	.01	02	.04
relationship is going, I ask for		•••	.00	•	.00	.01		•••
others' opinions. (New)								
I think about feedback from	.09	05	.05	.68	.03	.06	02	04
others I have received about my								
relationship. (RES)								
I remember what others have told	.11	.00	01	.55	.09	08	.06	.04
me about the strengths and								
weaknesses of my relationship.								
(RES)								
Factor 5: Feared Future	0.4	0.7	10	0.0		0.0	0.7	0.7
I envision my 'worst fears' about	04	05	.10	.02	.76	.09	05	05
what my relationship could be								
like in the future. (RES)	04	02	06	02	75	05	04	01
I think about the "worst case	.04	.02	.06	.02	.75	05	04	.01
scenario" for the future of my								
relationship. (New)	0.6	00	06	02	5 2	10	00	07
I think about what I fear the	.06	09	06	.03	.72	.10	08	.07
relationship could become in the								
future. (RES) I think about my partner leaving	12	.10	05	06	.65	06	.12	.04
me. (New)	12	.10	03	00	.03	00	.12	.04
I compare my current relationship	.04	.01	02	.01	.64	.12	.02	03
to what I fear my relationship	.04	.01	.02	.01	.04	.12	.02	.03
could become. (RES)								
I think about what will happen if	.00	.09	.05	07	.63	07	.04	.10
my current relationship ends.	-		-	-	-	-		-
(New)								
Factor 6: Unward Past								

Factor 6: Upward Past Comparison

I think about relationships I've had in the past that were more satisfying than my current	01	03	08	06	01	.75	.12	.10
relationship. (New) I compare my current relationship to better relationships I've had in the past. (New)	.02	.01	05	02	.10	.73	.03	.00
I reflect on happy relationships I have had in the past. (RES)	07	.11	.08	.10	06	.72	01	09
I compare my relationship now to my own previous happy relationships. (RES)	02	.17	.08	.00	.01	.68	.02	04
I think about positive experiences in my past relationships. (RES)	.01	.10	.09	.04	03	.61	02	04
I think about how much better my life would be if I had stayed with my previous partner(s). (New)	.05	07	17	.00	.10	.61	.04	.13
Factor 7: Upward Social								
Comparison		0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0
I compare my relationship with other couples whose relationships are better than mine. (RSCM)	.12	.01	.00	03	03	.08	.74	.03
I think about relationships that are more successful than mine. (New)	.05	.09	01	.00	.02	.03	.73	.00
I compare my relationship with other relationships that seem to be more successful than mine. (RES)	.10	02	.00	02	02	.08	.72	.02
I think about couples who are happier than me and my partner. (New)	.05	.00	02	.02	.01	.07	.69	.10
I observe couples who are happier in their relationships than I am. (RES)	.08	10	03	04	.05	.09	.65	.15
I think about couples that have been together longer than me and my partner. (New)	.09	.08	.06	.05	.03	14	.57	09
I learn from experiences of people who have happier relationships than I do. (RES)	04	01	.09	.21	02	.11	.46	05
Factor 8: Negative Behavior I think about how frequently my	.05	02	.01	04	.13	01	06	.80
partner upsets me. (New)								
I think about how frequently my partner lets me down. (New)	07	.08	.04	01	.03	01	.13	.71

I think about how frequently my	.04	06	.02	01	.02	.09	.05	.67
partner annoys me. (New)								
I think about how frequently we	.08	03	.07	.05	.00	.03	.01	.66
disagree or argue with each other.								
(RES)								

Note. Source of item is indicated in parentheses. RSCM = Relationship Social Comparison Measure (Smith LeBeau & Buckingham, 2008), RES = Relationship Evaluation Scale (Wayment & Campbell, 2000), New = New item developed for this study.