

Abstract

The present study aimed at examining the relations among personalities, commitment and the five conflict management styles (collaborating, competing, accommodating, compromising and avoiding) in marriage. It also attempted to find out the effect of different conflict management styles on individuals' marital satisfaction, as well as satisfaction of spouses. This was a questionnaire study. There were 101 valid responses, including 41 pairs of couples. Results showed that level of commitment, which was related to the need of affiliation, and the personality variable of agreeableness and neuroticism had associations with conflict management styles. Moreover, it was found that collaborating and accommodating styles, which were characterized by high cooperativeness, had positive effect on individuals' marital satisfaction. Results also showed that there was an positive association between husbands' use of accommodating conflict management style and the wives' marital satisfaction; while wives' use of collaborating style was positively associated with husbands' marital satisfaction.