

## *Abstract*

The purpose of this study aims at examining the effect of facial features on couple facial resemblance judgment. 30 adult participants were invited to take part in the experiment as similarity raters, they were given 6 different sets of face images to judge the similarity. In order to investigate the potential influence of facial features on couple facial resemblance judgments, raters were presented with intact face images, eyes-occluded images and mouth-occluded images, half are couple pairs and another half are non-couple pairs. The results didn't show a "Couple Facial Resemblance" effect in the intact face condition, which is not consistent with previous research findings. To examine the effect of facial features on facial resemblance judgment, experimenter occlude the salient facial features, eyes and mouths in stimulus materials for raters to judge the similarity. The result didn't show a significant main effect of facial features on similarity rating.

## *Introduction*

### **"Couple Facial Resemblance" Effect**

It is commonly believed that people tend to select mates who are more similar in terms of physical appearance and psychological characteristics<sup>1</sup>(Buss, 1986). Physical appearance includes face, heights, weights, and so on, psychological characteristics usually refer to the personality traits. The **matching hypothesis** proposes that we don't seek the most physically attractive person but that we are attracted to individuals who match us in terms of physical attraction<sup>2</sup> (Kalick and Hamilton, 1986). Among all physical features, "Face" places an extremely important role in mate selection and are