

Abstract

The belief that couple selection will be determined by homogamy rather than heterogamy, i.e., mating with similar individuals at levels above chance or random selection, has been widely accepted. This study attempted to determine whether strangers tend to choose facial resemblance or perceived personality as the major factor in couple selection. Adjusted photos of couples were given to raters. Across the study judges rated perceived age, attractiveness, and personality traits by using Big Five personality traits. Perceived age and attractiveness are controlled in order to see the effect of perceived personality in couple selection. In previous studies, both facial resemblance and perceived personality were analyzed separately and both were regarded as important. This finding reflects individuals choosing couples who physically resemble themselves rather than perceived similar or dissimilar personality.

1. Introduction

Psychologists have been attracted by human faces in recent decades due to well-developed ability of human to recognize and extract information by looking at others' faces. The human face is a complex, unique and characteristic pattern, most familiar to us when distinguishing people (Vezejak and Stephancic 1994). Physical features of faces are largely determined by genetic factors and it refers to physiognomy. People have adopted and