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RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AND TOLERANCE LEVEL

In this study, the correlation between martial adjustment and tolerance levels taking into account such variables as gender, age, education level of individuals and their spouses, duration of marriage, perceived socio-economic and happiness levels, a place of residence, were investigated. The data were collected with Martial Adjustment Scale developed by Locke and Wallace (1959) and adapted to Turkish by Tutarel-Kışlak (1999), Tolerance Scale developed by Ersanlı (2011), and personal information form. The sample consisted of 300 married individuals which were 150 married women and 150 married men. 194 participants lived in urban areas and 106 participants lived in rural areas. The data were analysed with Spearman's Rho statistics and Kruskal-Wallis and Mann-Whitney U tests. The results of statistical analysis showed no significant difference between martial adjustment and tolerance levels of married individuals. Tolerance level of married individuals depends on gender; martial adjustment level of married individuals was different accounting for education level of individuals and their spouses, perceived happiness levels, and the living area variables. There was no significant difference between age, duration of marriage, and perceived socio-economic level and marital adjustment and tolerance levels. The findings of the research were interpreted based on literature and suggestions were made for future studies.
Keywords: *marriage, marital adjustment, marital satisfaction, tolerance, marital duration.*

Introduction

Marriage is considered as one of the most important relationships in the life of an individual. It is clearly known that compliance between spouses affects mental health of the family members as well as social adjustment. Women, men, and children are organised systems of the society. Family is a part of this social system. Since social relations are connected with character traits of people, the relationship of family members effects the quality of general relations (Çelik, 2009: 1). According to Tarhan (2008: 15), stress, high expectations, changes in roles of women and men are pushing the psychological and social limits of the family.

Marriage is defined as a human-specific love-interest-responsibility-union integration and mutual trust-based communication system that results in a psychosocial engagement-integration-unification as two different individuals of women and men who have different interests, desires, and needs (Özuğurlu, 2013: 57). Yıldırım (1992: 1) stated that whether supported or nor, marriage had emerged in 2000 B.C. and continued to exist until this day. Fundamental structures of marriage were protected, and marriage became an indispensable cultural phenomenon. Demiray (2006: 1) states that marriage is a combination of regulating social proliferation as well as economic, social, sexual, and legal aspects of the relationship between spouses. Aktosun (2007: 49) explained that marriage is the fusion of the two worlds under the same roof,

and a psychological, physiological, and social sense as a happy and healthy world to explain.

Ersanlı (2012: 149) defines family as a fundamental component of the society, as a social and universal institution where women and men have united their lives to complement each other, to help each other, and to live a better life as social values, traditions, customs, and laws prescribe that there is no tie for temporary satisfaction. Furthermore, the author emphasises that marriage is the first psychosocial circle of happiness, in which intimate, warm, reassuring relationships are established and maintained between the spouses and children, the continuation of human generation is carried out.

According to Fışıloğlu (1992: 16), marital adjustment is one of the most frequently discussed subjects involving factors causing family problems due to the importance of the relationship between family and extramarital relationships. Demiray (2006: 3) states that marital adjustment is the degree to which needs, expectations, and desired tings were met in marriage. Tutarel-Kışlak (2012: 28) notes that marriage is associated with balancing the mandatory and voluntary parts. Ersanlı and Kalkan (2008: 2) consider marital adjustment as a general term including marital satisfaction and the concept of happiness in marriage, and the success and function of the couple in marriage.

Some researches revealed that marital adjustment correlated with anger levels (Baron et al., 2007); piety (Wilson and Filsinger, 1986); connection styles (Erişti,

2010); sense of humour (Güngör and İlhan, 2008); thinking models (Günay, 2000); socio-demographical properties (Yalçın, 2014); psychological well-being (Almas, 2010); gender roles (McGovern and Meyers, 2002); work stress in woman (Sears and Galambos, 1992); emotional abilities (Cordova, Gee, and Warren, 2005); emotional perception (Cole and Dean, 1980); interpersonal perception (Creamer and Campell, 1988); personality characteristics (Chen et al., 2007).

Under the scope of this research, the objective is to investigate the relationship between marital adjustment and tolerance level.

Tolerance examined in this study, is defined by Yürüşen (1993: 19) as a power, which individuals avoid from using. Ersanlı and Dicle (2011) defined tolerance as endurance to internal stress with individual power. Aslan (2001: 363) stated that tolerance, endurance, and compassion had similar meanings.

Although the concept of tolerance occurred on the basis of religion, its area of use has transformed (Atalay, 2008: 27) and it is widely applied in different areas of life. Kaleli (2013: 2) believes that tolerance is a multidisciplinary concept.

Aim

The objective of this research is to reveal the relationship between marital adjustment levels and tolerance levels of married individuals depending on gender, age, education level, duration of marriage, perceived socio-economic and happiness level, and place of residence.

Is there a correlation between marital adjustment levels and tolerance levels of married individuals? Additionally, do gender, age, education level of the individual and the spouse, duration of marriage, perceived socio-economic and happiness level, and the place of residence affect marital adjustment and tolerance levels?

Healthy relations in the family, which are considered as the fundamental structure of the society, are a precondition for social peace. It is expected that marital relationship between spouses are complying. Otherwise, marital problems could adversely affect public health (Kalkan and Ersanlı, 2009: 134).

We believe that communication level of spouses affects the tolerance level, directs the marriage processes, and therefore, can contribute to achieving higher marital adjustment levels.

Research Methods

Model of the Research

In this study, where the relationship between marital adjustment levels and tolerance levels of married individuals was investigated, relational scanning model among descriptive methods was selected to describe the events as they are. According to Karasar (2009: 81) in relational scanning models, the aim is to determine the degree of interchange between two or more variables. For this reason, Marital Adjustment Scale (MAS), Tolerance Scale (TS), and Personal Information Form (PIF) were used in the data collection processes.

Scope of the Study

Based on the data of Turkish Statistical Institute, the distribution of married population by gender and settlement in Samsun province was taken into consideration. Accordingly, the sample group consisted of total of 150 married men (97 respondents live in urban and 53 rural areas) and 150 married women (97 respondents live in urban and 53 rural areas). The individuals were married for at least one year. During the sample detection process we applied layer sampling method which enabled to work with sub-layers and sub-unit groups in a bounded environment (Yıldırım and Şimşek, 2008: 105). Average age of the married individuals in the sample is presented in Table 1 and demographical distribution is given in Table 2.

Table 1.

Average Age Distribution of Married Individuals Based on Gender and Settlement

	Urban (N=97)	Rural (N=53)	General
Woman (N=150)	36.67	39.47	37.66
Man (N=150)	39.72	38.41	39.26
Total	38.19 (N=194)	38.94 (N=106)	38.46 (N=300)

Accoding to he Table 1, he sample has balanced distribution for settlement as well gender (woman/man).

This is important for the reliability of the resulting data.

Table 2.

Demographical Information about Married Individuals in the Sample

Demographical Properties	Groups	Woman (N=150)		Man (N=150)	
		Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural
Age	22-27	7	6	5	4
	28-33	30	9	17	11
	34-39	27	13	21	14
	40-45	18	10	31	9
	46-51	8	8	12	10
	52 and more	7	7	11	5

Demographical Properties	Groups	Woman (N=150)		Man (N=150)	
		Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural
Total		97	53	97	53
Education Level	Literate/illiterate	1	6	0	0
	Elementary school	34	43	17	41
	Middle school	18	4	22	8
	Associate degree	10	0	10	3
	Undergraduate degree	33	0	43	1
	Graduate or higher	1	0	5	0
Total		97	53	97	53
Duration of Marriage	1-6 year	26	6	21	8
	7-12 year	19	9	17	8
	13-18 year	21	14	29	18
	19-24 year	17	8	14	7
	25-30 year	8	7	11	7
	31 and more	6	9	5	5
Total		97	53	97	53
Socio-economic Level	Low SEL	8	13	13	10
	Medium SEL	84	40	78	43
	High SEL	5	0	6	0
Total		97	53	97	53

As seen from Table 2, total of 300 married individuals where 150 (50%) woman and 150 (50%) male was analysed. According to age variable, 22 (7.33%) individuals were between 22-27 years old, 67 (22.33%) individuals were between 28-33 years old, 75 (25%) individuals were between 34-39 years old, 68 (22.66%) individuals were between 40-45 years old, 38 (12.66%) individuals were between 46-51 years old, and 30 (10%) individuals were 52 years old or more.

The analysis of the education level of the married individuals participated in the study has shown that there are135 (45%) individuals have graduated from elementary school, 52 (17.33%) individuals have middle school dimplomas, 23 (7,66%) individuals have associate degree, 77 (25.66%) individuals are undergraduates, and 6 (2%) individuals are university graduates, and 7 persons (2.33%) are illiterate.

According to duration of marriage, 61 (20.33%) individuals have been married for 1-6 years, 53 (17.66%) individuals have been married for 7-12 years, 82 (27.33%) individuals have been married for 13-18 years, 46 (15.33%) individuals have been married for 19-24 years, 33 (11%) individuals have been married for 25-30 years, and 25 (8.33%) individuals have been married 31 years or more.

Data Collection and Analysis

The data in this study were collected from the married individuals participated to the study. In order to investigate the marital adjustment levels of married individuals Marital Adjustment Scale (MAS) was applied and in order to determine tolerance levels Tolerance Scale (TS) was adopted. To collect gender, age, education level of the respondents and their spouses, duration of marriage, perceived socio-economic and happiness level, and their places of residence, Personal Information Form (PIF) was used. Each survey process lasted for approximately 20 minutes and obtained data were analysed with SPSS-22 package program.

Results

Hypothesis 1: There is a significant relationship between marital adjustment levels and tolerance levels of married individuals.

When marital adjustment levels and tolerance levels of married individuals were investigated, the data showed no significant relationship at .05 level. To understand this relationship, Spearman Rho statistic was calculated. Statistical data of obtained values are presented in Table 3. Minimum and maximum points of marital adjustment scale and tolerance scale results as well as arithmetic mean and standard deviation values are given in Table 4.

Table 3.

Spearman Rho Statistical Results for Marital Adjustment Points and Tolerance Level Points of Married Individuals

			Tolerance Point	Marital Adjustment Point
Spearman's Rho	Tolerance Point	R	1	.088
		Sig.(2-tailed)		.127
		N	300	300
	Marital Adjustment Point	R	.088	1
		Sig.(2-tailed)	.127	
		N	300	300

Table 4.

Minimum and Maximum Values of Marital Adjustment Points and Tolerance
Level Points of Married Individuals, Arithmetic Mean, and Standard Deviation

	N	Minimum Point	Maximum Point	Arithmetic Mean	Standard Deviation
Marital Adjustment Point	300	7	58	42.62	8,553
Tolerance Point	300	11	46	19.01	5,652

Hypothesis 2: *There is significant difference between marital adjustment and tolerance levels of married individuals based on gender.*

To test whether there is significant difference between marital adjustment and tolerance levels of married individuals based on gender, Mann-Whitney U test was applied. The results are given in Table 5.

Table 5.

Mann-Whitney U Test Results Regarding Marital Adjustment Points
and Tolerance Level Points of Married Individuals Based on Gender

	Mann-Whitney U Test					
(Gender)	N	So	u	z	Sig.(p)	Conclusion
Marital Adjustment Point	150 (Woman)	141.09	9838.5	-1,881	.060	Insignificant
	150 (Man)	159.91				
Tolerance Point	150 (Woman)	127.19	7753.5	-4,669	.000	Significant
	150 (Man)	173.81				

p<.05

The obtained data show that there is no significant relationship between marital adjustment level and gender at .05 level, and there is significant relationship between tolerance level and gender at .001 level. Accordingly, tolerance levels of married women are lower than tolerance levels of married man. Marital adjustment level of married individuals has shown no significant difference for gender variable.

In literature, there are researches that both support and contradict our findings regarding the relationship between marital adjustment and gender. While the researches by Demiray (2006), Fidanoğlu (2007), Tutarel-Kışlak and Çabukca (2002) in Turkey supported this finding, the researches by Bal (2007), Gökmen (2001) and Tolan (2015) in Turkey, and Karney (2004) do no support the results obtained from this study. The results of Ebenuwa-Okoh (2008) and Bonds-Raacke, Beardan, Carriere, Anderson and Nicks (2001) reveal that gender is an insignificant predictor of marital adjustment which supports the second hypothesis of this study.

According to the second hypothesis, gender variable has no significant effect on marital adjustment of married individuals but there is an effect for the favour of men in terms of tolerance levels. The transformation of male and female roles into equal with changing social order shows that gender variable may not be a determinative factor of marital adjustment level. Since there was oversensitivity when the tolerance levels of married women were measured and married individuals in rural area (N=106) were included in the sample group (N=300) may be the result for the differences between this study and other studies in the literature.

Hypothesis 3: *There is significant difference between marital adjustment and tolerance levels of married individuals according to the age.*

To test whether there was significant difference between marital adjustment and tolerance levels of married individuals based on age, Kruskal-Wallis test was applied to data. The results are presented in Table 6.

Table 6.

Kruskal-Wallis Test Results Regarding Marital Adjustment Points and
Tolerance Level Points of Married Individuals Based on Age

	Kruskal-Wallis Test						
(Age)	N	Group	So	Kk	Sd	Sig.(p)	Conclusion
Marital Adjustment Point	22	22-27	178.95	8.001	5	.156	Insignificant
	67	28-33	141.25				
	75	34-39	148.05				

	Kruskal-Wallis Test						
(Age)	N	Group	So	Kk	Sd	Sig.(p)	Conclusion
	68	40-45	141.06				
	38	46-51	177.87				
	30	51 and more	142.47				
Tolerance Point	22	22-27	163.14	1.421	5	.922	Insignificant
	67	28-33	150.39				
	75	34-39	149.88				
	68	40-45	148.16				
	38	46-51	158.33				
	30	51 and more	138.42				

p<.05

As can be seen in Table 6 there is no significant difference between marital adjustment and tolerance levels of married individuals based on age at .05 level. Accordingly, there is no significant difference in marital adjustment and tolerance levels of married couples based on age.

It can be stated that age factor is not a predictor for both marital adjustment and tolerance levels. When various elements for marital adjustment and tolerance levels of married individuals are considered, it is a low

chance for age to be a determinative factor. In such cases, it would be useful to consider the fact that the married individuals are assessed together taking into account age and many factors, and that the quality of the time spent together with marriage is very important.

Hypothesis 4: *There is significant difference between marital adjustment and tolerance levels of married individuals based on education levels.*

To test this hypothesis, Kruskal-Wallis test was applied to data. The results are given in Table 7.

Table 7.

Kruskal-Wallis Test Results Regarding Marital Adjustment Points and
Tolerance Level Points of Married Individuals Based on Education Levels

	Kruskal-Wallis Test						
(Education level)	N	Group	So	Kk	Sd	Sig.(p)	Conclusion
Marital Adjustment Point	142	Elementary school	167.50	10.461	2	.005	Significant
	52	Middle school	138.05				
	106	Graduate/Higher	133.83				
Tolerance Point	142	Elementary school	148.72	2.017	2	.365	Insignificant
	52	Middle school	138.55				
	106	Graduate/Higher	158.75				

p<.05

Numerical data in Table 7 show that there is significant relationship between marital adjustment and education at .05 level, and there is no significant relationship between tolerance and education at .05 level. Accordingly, marital adjustment level of married individuals is different accounting for the respondents' education level while there is no such a differentiation concerning tolerance levels. Based on this result, as the

education level increased, marital adjustment levels decreased in married individuals. Marital adjustment level average point was the highest for married individuals who were elementary school graduates. To test the significance differences between groups, Mann-Whitney U test was applied, and the results are indicated in Table 8, Table 9, and Table 10.

Table 8.

Mann-Whitney U Test Results Regarding Marital Adjustment and Tolerance
Level of Married Individuals Who are Elementary and Middle School Graduates

	Mann-Whitney U Test						
(Education level)	Group	N	So	u	z	Sig.(p)	Conclusion
Marital Adjustment Point	Elementary school	142	102.59	2969.5	-2.088	.037	Significant
	Middle school	52	83.61				

p<.05

According to Table 8, there are significant differences between marital adjustment levels of elementary and middle school graduates. The average rank of elementary school graduated married individuals was 102.59; and the average rank of married individuals graduated from middle school was 83.61. As a result, marital adjustment levels of elementary school graduate married individuals are higher than married individuals who are middle school graduates.

Table 9.

Mann-Whitney U Test Results Regarding Marital Adjustment and Tolerance
Level of Married Individuals Who are Elementary Graduates/Higher Graduates

	Mann-Whitney U Test						
(Education level)	Group	N	So	u	z	Sig.(p)	Conclusion
Marital Adjustment Point	Elementary school	142	136.41	5834.5	-3.031	.002	Significant
	Graduate/Higher	106	108.54				

p<.05

According to Table 9, there are significant differences between marital adjustment levels of elementary and higher graduates. The average rank of elementary school graduated married individuals was 136.41; and the rank average of married individuals graduated from higher educational institutions was 108.54. As a result, marital adjustment levels of elementary school graduate married individuals were higher than higher graduate married individuals.

Table 10.

Mann-Whitney U Test Results Regarding Marital Adjustment and Tolerance Level of
Married Individuals Who are Middle School Graduates/Higher Educational Institutions Graduates

	Mann-Whitney U Test						
(Education level)	Group	N	So	u	z	Sig.(p)	Conclusion
Marital Adjustment Point	Middle school	52	80.94	2681.0	-.278	.781	Insignificant
	Graduate/Higher	106	78.79				

p<.05

According to Table 10, there are significant differences between marital adjustment levels of middle school graduates and higher educational institutions graduates.

When the literature was considered, the research of Fidanoğlu (2007) found statistically significant difference in marital adjustment level based on education levels of married individuals. Similarly, Hoşgör (2013) stated that there was significant difference in marital adjustment level based on education levels of married individuals. However, in that study marital adjustment level of elementary school graduates was lower than the married individuals who were higher educational institutions graduates.

Akkoç (2011) found no statistically significant difference between tolerance levels and education level in the study performed on health workers. Good and Cartwright (1998) conducted a study about ethical development in a state university, a Christian university and a Jewish university with 360 students, and found no difference in ethical development among first-year students of these three universities. This result confirms the fourth hypothesis of our research that is related to the relationship between tolerance level and education level. As can be seen, it is possible to encounter different research results between marital adjustment, tolerance and education levels in the related field.

Hypothesis 5: *There is significant difference between marital adjustment and tolerance levels of married individuals based on education levels of the spouses.*

Table 11.

***Kruskal-Wallis Test Results Regarding Marital Adjustment Points and Tolerance
Level Points of Married Individuals Based on Education Levels of the Spouses***

	Kruskal-Wallis Test						
(Education level of the spouse)	N	Group	So	Kk	Sd	Sig.(p)	Conclusion
Marital Adjustment Point	142	Elementary school	167.14	9.974	2	.007	Significant
	72	Middle school	136.93				
	86	Graduate/Higher	134.39				
Tolerance Point	142	Elementary school	147.81	.291	2	.864	Insignificant
	72	Middle school	151.63				
	86	Graduate/Higher	154.01				

p<.05

The findings of the study show that there is significant relationship between marital adjustment level and education level of spouse at .05 level, and there was no significant relationship between tolerance level and education level of spouse at .05 level. Accordingly, marital adjustment level of married individuals differs according to the education level of spouses while there is no such a differentiation for tolerance levels. Based on this result, as the education level of the individual or spouse increased, marital adjustment levels decreased for married individuals. Marital adjustment level average point was the highest for married individuals who were elementary school graduates. To test the significance of the differences between groups, Mann-Whitney U test was applied, and the results are presented in Table 12, Table 13, and Table 14.

Table 12.

***Mann-Whitney U Test Results Regarding Marital Adjustment and Tolerance
Level of Married Individuals Whose Spouses are Elementary and Middle School Graduates***

	Mann-Whitney U Test						
(Education level of the spouse)	Group	N	So	u	z	Sig.(p)	Conclusion
Marital Adjustment Point	Elementary school	142	114.35	4139.0	-2.276	.023	Significant
	Middle school	72	93.99				

p<.05

According to Table 12, there are significant differences between marital adjustment levels if the spouses are elementary and middle school graduates. The average point of elementary school graduated spouses is 114.35; and the average point of middle school graduated spouses is 93.99. As a result, marital adjustment levels if the spouses is an elementary school graduate are higher than if he/she is a middle school graduate.

Table 13.

***Mann-Whitney U Test Results Regarding Marital Adjustment and Tolerance Level of Married Individuals
Whose Spouses Are Elementary School Graduates and Undergraduates/Higher Educational Institutions Graduates***

	Mann-Whitney U Test						
(Education level of the spouse)	Group	N	So	u	z	Sig.(p)	Conclusion
Marital Adjustment Point	Elementary school	142	124.29	4716.5	-2.882	.004	Significant
	Undergraduate/Higher	86	98.34				

p<.05

According to Table 13, there are significant differences between marital adjustment levels if the spouses are elementary school graduates and undergraduates/higher educational graduates. The average point of elementary school graduated spouses is 124.29; and the average point of undergraduates/higher graduates is 98.34. As a result, marital adjustment levels if the spouse is an elementary school graduate are higher than if the spouse is an undergraduate/higher educational institution graduate.

Table 14.

Mann-Whitney U Test Results Regarding Marital Adjustment and Tolerance Level of Married Individuals Whose Spouses Are Middle School Graduates and Undergraduates/Higher School Graduates

	Mann-Whitney U Test						
(Education level of the spouse)	Group	N	So	u	z	Sig.(p)	Conclusion
Marital Adjustment Point	Middle school	72	79.44	3092.0	-.014	.989	Insignificant
	Undergraduate/Higher	86	79.55				

p<.05

According to Table 14, there are significant differences between marital adjustment levels if the spouses are middle school graduates or undergraduates/higher school graduates.

The marriage adjustment scale minimum and maximum score values and arithmetic mean and standard deviation values obtained according to the education level of the participants in this study are shown in Table 15.

Table 15.

Minimum and Maximum Values of Marital Adjustment and Tolerance Level According to the Education Level of Spouses; Arithmetic Mean, and Standard Deviation

	N	Minimum Point	Maximum Point	Arithmetic Mean	Standard Deviation
Elementary school	142	7	58	43.80	8.848
Middle school	72	21	58	41.50	8.849
Undergraduate/Higher	86	9	54	41.62	7.591

As seen from Table 15, average point of married individuals whose spouses were elementary school graduates in marital adjustment scale is 43.80; average point of married individuals whose spouses were middle school graduates is 41.50; and average point of married individuals whose spouses were undergraduates/higher educational institution graduates is 41.62.

Domestic and foreign studies support the existence of the relationship between martial adjustment and education level of the spouse of married individual while the level of education has contradictory support. There are no domestic or foreign studies showing relevance between the education level of the spouse of a married individual and the tolerance level. As a result, it could be said that the education level of the spouse of the married individual is a predictor of marital adjustment level, and there is no such a relationship for the tolerance level.

Hypothesis 6: *There are significant differences between marital adjustment and tolerance levels of married individuals based on duration of marriage.*

To test whether there is significant difference between marital adjustment and tolerance levels of married individuals based duration of marriage, Kruskal-Wallis test was applied to data and the results are given in Table 16.

Table 16.

Kruskal-Wallis Test Results Regarding Marital Adjustment Points and Tolerance Level Points of Married Individuals Based on Duration of Marriage

	Kruskal-Wallis Test						
(Duration of Marriage)	N	Group	So	Kk	Sd	Sig.(p)	Conclusion
Marital Adjustment Point	61	1-6 year	150.25	3.041	5	.694	Insignificant
	53	7-12 year	143.05				
	82	13-18 year	157.10				
	46	19-24 year	136.74				
	33	25-30 year	165.68				
	25	30 years and more	150.56				
Tolerance Point	61	1-6 year	161.30	3.503	5	.623	Insignificant
	53	7-12 year	141.29				
	82	13-18 year	158.22				
	46	19-24 year	149.23				
	33	25-30 year	138.56				
	25	30 years and more	136.46				

p<.05

The marital adjustment and tolerance levels of married individuals have no statistically significant relationship at the .05 level as calculated from numerical data in Table 16. Accordingly, there is no significant difference in marital adjustment and tolerance levels of married couples based on duration of marriage.

Hoşgör (2013) found that there was a significant difference between marital adjustment level scores of married individuals according to their marriage durations. However, according to age, marital adjustment level scores indicate no such difference. Demiray (2006) stated that there were significant differences between marriage adjustment and marriage duration, marriage adjustment decreased after the first 10 years and increased again after 16-20 years. Hafner and Spence (1988) investigated the relationship between marital adjustment and marriage duration, and found that women with medium term marriages had lower scores than their spouses at marital adjustment levels. Tutarel-Kışlak and Çabukça (2000)

found that duration of marriage as a demographic variable was not related to marital adjustment level. In literature, there were some conclusions similar to the findings of this study in terms of the relationship between marital adjustment and duration of marriage in addition to contradictory results. It is believed that this difference could relate to social factors. There are no relevant studies that examine the relationship between duration of marriage and tolerance level of the married individuals in local and foreign literature.

Hypothesis 7: *There are significant differences between marital adjustment and tolerance levels of married individuals based on socio-economic levels.*

To test whether there are significant differences between marital adjustment and tolerance levels of married individuals based on socio-economic levels, Kruskal-Wallis test was applied to data and the results are presented in Table 17.

Table 17.

Kruskal-Wallis Test Results Regarding Marital Adjustment Points and
Tolerance Level Points of Married Individuals Based on Socio-Economic Levels

	Kruskal-Wallis Test						
(Perceived SEL)	N	Group	So	Kk	Sd	Sig.(p)	Conclusion
Marital Adjustment Point	44	Low	158.15	2.291	2	.318	Insignificant
	245	Intermediate	147.61				
	11	High	184.32				
Tolerance Point	44	Low	159.03	2.386	2	.303	Insignificant
	245	Intermediate	147.46				
	11	High	184.05				

p<.05

The data presented in Table 17 indicate that there are no significant differences between marital adjustment and tolerance levels of married individuals based on socio-economic state at .05 level. Accordingly, there are no significant differences in marital adjustment and tolerance levels of married couples based on their socio-economic levels.

It is possible to encounter supporting results for this hypothesis in other studies in literature, however, there are inconsistent results as well. Polat (2006) stated that there was a positive relationship between socio-economic level and marital adjustment level in women and that marital adjustment levels increase with the increase of socioeconomic levels of women. Kinnunen and Feldt (2004) found that economic difficulties in marriage caused the emergence of psychological symptoms in individuals, which in turn affect marital harmony in a negative way. They found that the psychological distress that arises partly mediated the relationship between marital adjustment and economic problems.

Demiray (2006) found no significant relationship between socioeconomic level and marital adjustment level. Akkoç (2011) found no significant difference between socioeconomic and tolerance levels. When we think that our country is considered in the category of developing countries, it can be expected that the economic level is related to both marital adjustment level and tolerance level of married individuals. Economic status of an individual could be effective in different areas of life. But in many cases, for the Turkish society, whose emotions are dominant, we can say that socioeconomic level is not a predictor of marital adjustment but is a predictor for tolerance levels.

Hypothesis 8: *There are significant differences between marital adjustment and tolerance levels of married individuals based on perceived happiness levels.*

To test whether there are significant differences between marital adjustment and tolerance levels of married individuals based on perceived happiness levels, Kruskal-Wallis test was applied to data and the results are presented in Table 18.

***Kruskal-Wallis Test Results Regarding Marital Adjustment Points and Tolerance
Level Points of Married Individuals Based on Perceived Happiness Levels***

				Kruskal-Wallis Test			
(Perceived happiness)	N	Group	So	Kk	Sd	Sig.(p)	Conclusion
Marital Adjustment Point	15	Low	81.43	40.395	2	.000	Significant
	174	Intermediate	131.55				
	111	High	189.55				
Tolerance Point	15	Low	129.07	.970	2	.616	Insignificant
	174	Intermediate	151.66				
	111	High	151.58				

p<.05

Numerical data in Table 18 show that there is significant relationship between marital adjustment level and perceived happiness level at .001 level, and there is no significant relationship between tolerance level and perceived happiness level at .05 level. Accordingly, there are differences in marital adjustment levels of married couples based on perceived happiness levels. This means that as the perceived happiness level of married individuals gets increased, marital adjustment levels also increases. Marital adjustment level average point was the highest for married individuals who had higher perceived happiness levels. To test the significance of the differences between groups, Mann-Whitney U test was applied, and the results are indicated in Table 19, Table 20, and Table 21.

***Mann-Whitney U Test Results Regarding Marital Adjustment Points and Tolerance
Level Points of Married Individuals Based on Perceived Happiness at Low and Intermediate Levels***

				Mann-Whitney U Test			
(Perceived happiness)	Group	N	So	u	z	Sig.(p)	Conclusion
Marital Adjustment Point	Low	15	61.27	799.0	-2.492	.013	Significant
	Intermediate	174	97.91				

p<.05

According to Table 19, there are significant differences between marital adjustment levels at low and intermediate perceived happiness levels. The average rank of low perceived happiness level is 61.27; and the rank average for intermediate perceived happiness level is 97.91. As a result, the marital adjustment levels of the married individuals whose perceived level of happiness is at intermediate level are higher than the marital level of the perceived happiness level of those with a low level.

***Mann-Whitney U Test Results Regarding Marital Adjustment Points and Tolerance
Level Points of Married Individuals Based on Low and High Levels of Perceived Happiness***

				Mann-Whitney U Test			
(Perceived happiness)	Group	N	So	u	z	Sig.(p)	Conclusion
Marital Adjustment Point	Low	15	28.17	302.5	-4,000	.000	Significant
	High	111	68.27				

p<.05

According to Table 20, there are significant differences between marital adjustment at low and high perceived happiness levels. The average rank of low perceived happiness level is 28.17; and the rank average for high perceived happiness level is 68.27. As a result, marital adjustment levels of the married individuals whose perceived level of happiness was high were higher than the marital level of the low level of happiness.

Table 21.

Mann-Whitney U Test Results Regarding Marital Adjustment Points and Tolerance Level
Points of Married Individuals Based on Intermediate and High Levels of Perceived Happiness

(Perceived happiness)	Mann-Whitney U Test						
	Group	N	So	u	z	Sig.(p)	Conclusion
Marital Adjustment Point	Intermediate	174	121.14	5853.0	-5,614	.000	Significant
	High	111	177.27				

p<.05

According to Table 21, there are significant differences between marital adjustment levels at intermediate and high perceived happiness levels. The average rank of intermediate perceived happiness level is 121.14; and the rank average for high perceived happiness level is 177.27. As a result, marital adjustment levels of the married individuals whose perceived level of happiness was high were higher than the marital level of the intermediate perceived happiness level.

The marriage adjustment scale minimum and maximum score values and arithmetic mean and standard deviation values obtained according to the perceived happiness level of the participants in this study are shown in Table 22.

Table 22.

Minimum and Maximum Values of Marital Adjustment Points and Tolerance Level
Points of Perceived Happiness Level, Arithmetic Mean, and Standard Deviation

	N	Minimum Point	Maximum Point	Arithmetic Mean	Standard Deviation
Low Level	15	11	51	32.27	12,909
Intermediate Level	174	7	56	41.08	8,499
High Level	111	24	58	46.44	5,561

As seen from Table 22, average point of married individuals with low perceived happiness levels in marital adjustment scale is 32.27; average point of married individuals with intermediate perceived happiness levels is 41.08; and average point of married individuals with high perceived happiness levels is 46.44.

The results of the hypothesis in this study were compliant with the literature. The results of Kitamura, Aoki, Fujino, Ura, Watanabe, Watanabe, and Fujihara (1998) indicated that individuals were part of the social adaptation of marital adjustment, and there was a positive relationship between marital and social adjustment. Blum and Mehrabian (1999) found that obedient and dominant women were happy with their marriage life, while obedient and unhappy women had unhappy marriages. It could be suggested that marital adjustment levels of married individuals with higher levels of perceived happiness are higher than married individuals whose perceived happiness level is lower. It is possible for married individuals, who are generally satisfied with their lives, to reflect this on marital relations. It can be considered that the level of happiness perceived by the individual and the satisfaction in marital life could support each other. Although there are domestic and foreign researches that investigated perceived happiness level and marital adjustment, and there are no researches for perceived happiness level and tolerance level.

Hypothesis 9: *There are significant differences between marital adjustment and tolerance levels of married individuals based on their places of residence.*

To test whether there is significant difference between marital adjustment and tolerance levels of married individuals based on settlement, Mann-Whitney U test was applied to data. The results are presented in Table 23.

Table 23.

Mann-Whitney U Test Results Regarding Marital Adjustment Points and
Tolerance Level Points of Married Individuals Based on Settlement

(Settlement)	Mann-Whitney U Test						
	N	Group	So	u	z	Sig.(p)	Conclusion
Marital Adjustment Point	106	Rural	169.62	8255.0	-2,826	.005	Significant
	194	Urban	140.05				
Tolerance Point	106	Rural	152.50	10070.5	-.295	.768	Insignificant
	194	Urban	149.41				

p<.05

Numerical data in Table 23 show that there is significant relationship between marital adjustment and settlement at .05 level, and there is no significant relationship between tolerance and settlement at .05 level. Accordingly, there are differences in marital adjustment levels of married couples based on settlement. The average rank of married individuals in rural settlement is 169.62; and the rank average of married individuals in urban settlement is 140.05. As a result, marital adjustment levels of married individuals in rural areas are higher than married individuals living in urban areas.

The marriage adjustment scale minimum and maximum score values and arithmetic mean, as well as standard deviation values obtained according to the settlement of the participants in this study are shown in Table 24.

Table 24.

Minimum and Maximum Values of Marital Adjustment Points and Tolerance Level Points of Settlement, Arithmetic Mean, and Standard Deviation

	N	Minimum Point	Maximum Point	Arithmetic Mean	Standard Deviation
Rural	106	17	58	44.62	6,887
Urban	194	7	58	41.53	9,172

As seen from Table 24, 106 married individuals who live in rural areas have 44.62 points according to the marital adjustment scale, and 194 married individuals who live in urban areas have 41.53 points.

Tosyalı (2010) found that there was no statistically significant difference between the happiness scores and the settlement of married individuals. The mean scores of happiness in the relations of married individuals living in rural areas were 32.09; and the average score of happiness in the relations of married individuals living in urban areas was 33.64. In contrast with the related research, in the ninth hypothesis of this study, there is significant relationship between settlement and marital adjustment of married individuals. Marital adjustment points of the married individuals in rural areas are 44.62, where marital adjustment points of the married individuals in urban areas are 41.53.

Moore and Ovadia (2006) found that tolerance levels of individuals in urban areas were higher than tolerance levels of individuals in rural areas where they investigated demographic factors affecting tolerance levels. Similarly, in this hypothesis of our research, tolerance level of married individuals in rural areas (N=106) was found as 18.85, where tolerance level of married individuals in urban areas (N=194) was found as 19.10. However, it was determined that there was no significant difference between arithmetic mean values. No domestic researches were found investigating the relationship between settlement and tolerance levels and no foreign researches were found as well investigating the relationship between settlement and marital adjustment levels.

Based on the obtained data, tolerance level of the married individuals insignificantly changes according to the settlement area. However, marital adjustment level changes for settlement and it could be said that couples in rural areas are happier than the couples living in urban areas. These results could be caused by many factors including culture, religion, and education level.

Conclusion

The sample of this study consisted of total of 300 individuals (150 women and 150 men); the average age of the sample was 39.21; 35.3% of married individuals (N=106) lived in rural areas and 64.7% of married individuals lived in urban areas (N=194). In this study, the significance level between martial adjustment and tolerance levels was investigated. The second stage of the study evaluated the effect of gender, age, education level of individuals and their spouses, duration of marriage, perceived socio-economic and happiness levels, and settlement on martial adjustment and tolerance levels. The research outcomes are summarised below.

1. The results of statistical analysis have shown no significant difference between martial adjustment and tolerance levels of married individuals.

2. There have been found some differences for tolerance levels of married individuals based on gender. The tolerance level of married men was higher that of married women. There were no differences for marital adjustment levels of married individuals based on gender.

3. There were no differences for tolerance levels and marital adjustment levels of married individuals based on age.

4. There were some differences for marital adjustment levels of married individuals based on the education level. However, there were no differences for tolerance levels of married individuals based on it. Marital adjustment levels of elementary school graduates were higher than middle school and undergraduate/university graduates. This means that as the education level of married individuals increased, marital adjustment levels decreased.

5. There were differences for marital adjustment levels of married individuals based on education level of their spouses. However, there were no differences for tolerance levels of married individuals based on education level of their spouses. Marital adjustment levels of elementary school graduates' spouses were higher than

middle school and undergraduate/university graduates' spouses.

6. There were no differences for martial adjustment levels and tolerance levels of married individuals based on duration of marriage.

7. There were no differences for martial adjustment levels and tolerance levels of married individuals based on socio-economic levels.

8. This means that as the perceived happiness level of married individuals increased, marital adjustment levels also increased. There was no significant difference between tolerance levels of married individuals and perceived happiness.

9. Marital adjustment levels of married individuals varied based on the settlement. Married individuals in rural areas had higher marital adjustment levels than married individuals living in urban areas. There was no significant difference between tolerance levels of married individuals and settlement.

Based on these results, there was significant difference between tolerance levels and marital adjustment. Tolerance levels showed no difference for

age, education level of individuals and spouse, duration of marriage, perceived socio-economic and happiness levels. However, as the perceived happiness level of married individuals increased, marital adjustment levels significantly increased. Married individuals who lived in rural areas had higher marital adjustment levels than married individuals in urban areas. However, there was no difference for tolerance levels.

Since there were no studies in the literature concerning the significant relationship between marital adjustment and tolerance levels, it is recommended that new studies should be conducted for new samples and the effects of different variables (age, education level, number of siblings, belief values etc.) should be considered for the tolerance level of individuals.

Some education events and workshops to achieve optimum level for the tolerance level of the individuals in the society should be considered and related psycho-educational programs should be created to promote tolerance levels of the family which is the smallest and most important component of the society.

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ЗВ'ЯЗОК МІЖ ПОДРУЖНЬОЮ СУМІСНІСТЮ ТА РІВНЕМ ТОЛЕРАНТОСТІ

У статті представлено результати дослідження зв'язку між подружньою сумісністю та рівнем толерантності з урахуванням таких змінних, як стать, вік, рівень освіти, тривалість шлюбу, соціально-економічний рівень, місце проживання. Для дослідження було використано шкалу подружньої сумісності, розроблену Локком і Уоллесом (1959) в адаптації турецькою мовою Тутарелема-Кишлака (1999), шкалу толерантності, розроблену Ерсанли (2011) та авторську анкету. В експерименті взяли участь 300 одружених осіб, серед яких – 150 заміжніх жінок та 150 одружених чоловіків. 194 учасники проживали в містах, а в сільській місцевості проживали 106 респондентів. Дані були проаналізовані за допомогою статистики коефіцієнта кореляції рангу Спірмена, Крускала-Уолліса та Манна-Уітні. Результати статистичного аналізу не показали суттєвої різниці між коефіцієнтом подружньої сумісності та рівнем толерантності одружених осіб. Виявлено, що рівень толерантності одружених осіб залежить від статі: він більший у чоловіків, порівняно з жінками. Однак, не було зафіксовано різниці у рівнях подружньої сумісності залежно від віку. Помічено деяку різницю у рівнях подружньої сумісності залежно від рівня освіти, однак це не стосується рівня толерантності. Рівень у подружньої сумісності людей з початковою освітою є вищим у порівнянні з одруженими людьми, що мають повну середню або вищу освіту. Було зафіксовано, що чим вищим є рівень освіти, тим нижчим є рівень подружньої сумісності. Не помічено різниці у досліджуваних рівнях залежно від тривалості шлюбу та соціально-економічного статусу. Виявлено відмінності залежно від місця проживання респондентів: рівень подружньої сумісності жителів сільських районів був вищим у порівнянні з респондентами, що живуть у містах. Однак щодо рівня толерантності такої різниці помічено не було.

Ключові слова: шлюб, подружня сумісність, подружнє задоволення, толерантність, подружжя.

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