

Analyse and interpret the results of research seeking to investigate whether individuals with different partner selection experiences (sometimes referred to loosely as ‘sexual identities’) have different preferences regarding ideal traits related to choosing romantic partners.

Research Question and Hypotheses (5 Marks)

- a) A research question that captures the overall intention of the study. You can have two research questions, one for each of your hypotheses.
- b) One Hypothesis that can be tested using a between-groups design with only two groups. This should be a directional hypothesis.
- c) One Hypothesis that can be tested using a between-groups design with three or more groups. This should be an overall/omnibus hypothesis.

Method (20 Marks)

- a) The Design section outlines the basic research design, and clearly identifies your independent and dependent variables. This section is typically no longer than a few sentences. You may have to address the design for each hypothesis separately.
- b) The Participants section describes the sampling method used in the study, as well as the size and demographic characteristics of the final sample. It should also specify the number of participants in each group or condition if applicable, and whether anyone dropped out of the survey or was excluded from the final sample (along with reasons, if known). For this assessment, you will also be required to report the results of two separate a priori power analyses using G*Power to identify the minimum number of participants required for the analysis for Hypothesis One and then for Hypothesis Two. Both analyses can be reported using the conventional alpha level of .05, power level of .80, and a medium effect size. Note: remember that you are conducting a priori analysis and not a retrospective sensitivity power analysis!
- c) The Materials section should describe the measures and/or tasks that participants were asked to complete, and the procedures used to collect data)
- d) Finally, the Procedure section should present a description of whether the study had ethics approval, how data collection was carried out and should provide enough detail to permit replication. Essentially, this section should walk the reader through the study from the perspective of the participant. What were participants required to do, and in what order? How long did this procedure take? There is no need to repeat information already provided in the Materials section here, and consequently, this section is usually no longer than a short paragraph.

Results (30 Marks)

As you are testing two separate Hypotheses, it is anticipated that you will have two ‘sub-sections’ in your results section – one for each Hypothesis test. This is fine to do and could be signaled using well-structured paragraphs, or correctly formatted APA style headings.

- a) The Results section should contain descriptive statistics (mean, standard deviation, etc) for each of the variables in your research hypotheses (by group or condition where applicable),

an account of the statistical tests used to test your hypothesis, and a summary of the outcomes of those tests.

b) To facilitate interpretation, you should also include effect sizes and confidence intervals where appropriate. Although assumption testing is not usually reported in published research reports, all assumptions should be reported in this assignment.

c) To further enhance your research-writing competencies, you will be required to make use of Tables and Figures to showcase your results. Specifically, you will be required to include the following:

1. A Figure to illustrate the results of Hypothesis One. Think carefully about the data you want to present in this figure, and how to display it clearly and honestly. Also note that the APA Publication Manual has many requirements for the preparation of figures. You can use Excel (or any other spreadsheet program) if you prefer but must make sure you adhere to APA style of presentation. Generating your figures in SPSS is not a requirement.
2. A Table that summarises the pairwise comparisons between outcome variables for Hypothesis Two. This table should only include relevant information (mean differences, statistical significance, 95% CI's) and not repeat information unnecessarily.

Partial Discussion Section (15 marks)

a) A clear statement summarising the aims of the present research project.

b) Clear statements demonstrating whether Hypothesis One and Hypothesis Two were supported (or not supported).

c) A brief discussion interpreting and commenting on the results of your pairwise comparisons resulting from your ANOVA) Detail the differences between groups (if any) and speculate as to why this is the case in this sample. As you do not have background knowledge, you do not have to cite your speculation (think of it as a brand-new finding to interpret).

Appendix (5 Marks)

As an Appendix, please include the tables of SPSS output that you consulted to determine whether each of your hypotheses was supported (i.e., the tables which show whether your hypothesis tests were 'significant' or not). These tables do not need to be formatted in the APA style. Only provide the tables that you used to determine whether your hypotheses were supported)