Abstract

Recent studies show that both physical and personality characteristics influence mate choice. Two theories explaining particular mechanisms of mate choice were proposed. Theory of homogamy suggests that individuals prefer partners with similar personality traits as they have. In contrast, theory of complementarity states that people choose mates with opposite personality traits. Main aim of the current study was to test homogamy and complementarity of personality traits in long-term same-sex male couples. The research sample consisted of 40 male homosexuals (mean age 24.2, SD = 4.6) and their long-term partners (mean age 27.4, SD = 5.2). All participants completed anonymous set of questionnaires (NEO-FFI, Spanier’s test of dyadic adjustment, questionnaire focused on gender diagnosticy and revised sociosexuality orientation inventory) Each questionnaire was evaluated separately. The individual scores of participants and his partner was compared by correlational analyses. Then, we using a correlation and ANOVA analyses between couples similarity and results of Dyadic Adjustment Scale was tested. Findings showed that greater couple similarity in BMI and weight indicates higher satisfaction in the partnership. The results also showed that homosexual couples were similar in age, occupation, level of extraversion, level of satisfaction and level of sociosexuality. Further, the evidence of complementarity in sexual roles was shown.

Keywords: homogamy, complementarity, homosexuality, partner satisfaction