Abstract
Several previous studies suggest, that early life environment influences partner choice and quality of romantic relationship in adulthood. One of the significant factors influencing individuals in their childhood is the presence of siblings. There were numerous investigations executed whether the number and the sex of partner’s siblings has any significant impact on their relationship. For the past few decades the duplication theorem was used as the stepping stone into this field of research. This theorem states that duplication of interpersonal patterns that spouses come from (e.g. couple consisting of firstborn and lastborn) is desired in a romantic relationship. However, nowadays there are some studies implying that in fact homogamy of the sibling positions could be beneficial.

We collected data about sibling constellations and romantic relationships of the participants (2537) and their parents (838) through web-based questionnaires. We tested both of the theories listed above considering representation of pairs in the population, their stability and self-report questionnaire-based compatibility. Taking into account also the sex of the siblings we created new categorization of pair based on the degree of common childhood experience; experience that is rooted – as a counterpart to duplication theorem – in the hypothesis of homogamy.

Collected data do not support duplication theorem as the results suggest higher incidence of homogamous pairing. However, these results were not supported by the analysis of self-reported relationship quality and sexual compatibility. Further studies could show the robustness of these findings.

Keywords
sibling constellation, duplication theorem, homogamy, complementarity, dominance