Article review

Psychology

The article " Measuring love in romantic relationships: A meta-analysis" talks about evaluating the existing measures of love which usually fall on three distinct high-order factors such as love, romantic obsession and pragmatic friendship. Using a meta-analysis in order to identify which of these measures are able to produce the high-order components of love using various theories, it was found that a range of self-report measures of love are consistent in using one general love factor only (Graham, 2011). The implication of this research therefore gives significant emphasis of reliability particularly on studies of quantifying love and its popular measures. With 81 studies representing 103 samples and 19, 387 individuals, these provided data for the meta-analysis which Graham substantially used in order to come up with his conclusion. In this study, Graham simply illustrates his point of inquiry of finding what usually one is measuring when it comes to looking at self-reported love.

The topic about love is one of the most common concepts discussed in the academe and even in daily living in every part of the world where there is vibrant dominance of human population. This is usually the case simply because humans have emotions which substantially allow them to feel love and being loved (Feldman, 2010). Thus, the study of Graham is relevant to complex and diverse human population simply because normal people at some point in their lives should have felt love and being loved. It is important to understand whether a self-reported measure of love involves high-order factors in order to identify the real essence and concept of love. This is important considering that the human population is diverse and this leads to having highly differentiated demographic characteristics. In fact, this is one of the most significant points or limitations explicated by Graham in his

study. In other words, in order to make his study substantial enough to provide more meaningful information, Graham should have identified some demographic variables that could be correlated with love measures. In this regard, his reader would be given with substantial idea on any significant association of demographic variables with love measures. This should be further elaborated knowing the fact that an individuals used in the study may have different cultural background, social orientation and varying perspectives in life. Thus, this underlying concept may just pose a significant threat to validity of his result.

However, Graham made a remarkable revelation at some point, which would allow someone to evaluate the common conceptualizations of love. His study therefore could be highly recommended to modern studies that seek to understand more about this special subject about love especially on the ground of quantifying it. The attempt to quantify love marks the revolutionary act of understanding it not only from the perspective of human emotion, but as something with significant value that could be translated from words to numbers for future use. Therefore, Graham's attempt to conduct this study about measuring love in a romantic relationship using a meta-analysis makes sense at some point. In the first place, it tries to minimize the complexity of love as a subject matter.

References

Feldman, R. (2010). Essentials of Understanding Psychology (9th ed.). New York, NY: McGraw-Hill Companies.

Graham, J. M. (2011). Measuring love in romantic relationships: A meta-analysis. Journal of Social and Personal Relationships, 28(6), 748-771.