9.2 Factors in Attraction: Self-Disclosure and Physical Attractiveness: 10-minute Pack

AQA 7182 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

At least three of the short-answer questions require full sentences. Complete the whole pack in about 50 minutes.

1 Explain three ethical issues a researcher should consider when studying intimate self-disclosure in new couples, and give a practical safeguard for each.

(Total for Question 1 is 6 marks)

2 Outline Walster et al.'s (1966) matching hypothesis and briefly name the experimental test they used to investigate it.

(Total for Question 2 is 3 marks)

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Mark scheme · 9.2 Factors in Attraction: Self-Disclosure and Physical Attractiveness: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

identifies issue: risk of distress from discussing sensitive personal topics oe	**M1**
gives safeguard: provide full informed consent, allow withdrawal at any time and offer information about support services oe	**A1**
identifies issue: confidentiality and privacy concerns when storing sensitive disclosures oe	**M1**
gives safeguard: anonymise data, store securely and limit access to authorised researchers only oe	**A1**
identifies issue: power imbalance or coercion if partners feel pressured to disclose oe	**M1**
gives safeguard: ensure separate consent from each partner and verify that participation is voluntary without partner pressure oe	**A1**

Answer: Issues and safeguards: discussing sensitive topics can cause distress, so obtain informed consent, allow withdrawal and provide support contacts. Confidentiality is vital, so anonymise and securely store disclosures. Finally, partners may feel pressured, so collect separate voluntary consent and ensure no coercion.

Question 2

states the matching hypothesis: people form relationships with others of similar levels of physical attractiveness oe	**M1**
explains the proposed reason: to avoid rejection and to maximise chances of a successful partnership oe	**M1**
names the computer dance study (computer dance or 'dance partner' experiment) as Walster et al.'s test of the idea oe	**A1**

Answer: The matching hypothesis says individuals pair with partners who match their own physical attractiveness to reduce rejection risk; Walster et al. tested this using the computer dance study where participants were paired for a dance and attractiveness ratings were compared to partner choices.

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