

Attractiveness of Individuals Based on Personality and Financial Status

A very common saying is “opposites attract.” Some studies suggest that people are more likely to be in relationships with others who are similar to them (Olderbak et al., 2017) whereas other research findings suggest individuals are more attracted to those with dissimilar interests and characteristics to them (Schmitt, 2002). The aim of the current study is to examine how different constellations of a person’s characteristics impact attraction. We hypothesize that the more extroverted, conscientious, and financially stable a person is, the more attractive they will appear. Also, we predict that participants will find individuals with dissimilar characteristics to themselves to be more attractive. In addition, participants that are more (vs. less) satisfied in their relationships are predicted to rate individuals as less attractive. We will create 8- fictitious individuals and create short descriptions of them. We will not provide any photographs or gender information.

We will conduct a 2x2x2 within-subjects, experimental-design. The independent variables are extroversion (high, low), conscientiousness (high, low), and financial stability (high, moderate), and the dependent variable is ratings of attractiveness. First, Participants will complete a consent form. Then, they will rate the attractiveness of the 8 fictitious individuals (the order of descriptions will be counterbalanced). Then, participants will rate their own personality traits and basic demographic information. Last, participants will be debriefed. Results of the current study may help individuals better understand why we choose particular mates. It can also aid in narrowing down potential partners when online dating.