

**RACIAL DIFFERENCES IN MATE SELECTION
CRITERIA AMONG MALAYSIAN UNDERGRADUATES**

Haslee Sharil Abdullah*

Lau Poh Li*

Anand Paul Vijayan David*

Abstract

The purpose of this study was to examine whether racial differences existed in the mate selection criteria of undergraduate students in a public university. The participants recruited in this study were 132 undergraduate students between the ages of 20 to 28 years comprising different races, religions and cultures from the various faculties. The participants were given identification numbers which were purposively, randomly sampled. The test instrument used was a mate selection inventory made up of Sternberg's love components, Mc Crae's personality traits, David Buss's physical traits and mate selection traits from the work of Sprecher. The Cronbach's alpha value for this 62-items inventory was .79. The results showed significant racial differences in mate selection preferences. Chinese and Malays were found to value symmetrical bone structure, small waist size, physical looks and were more willing to accept divorcees and unemployed people as mates. For the Indians, looks were not important, preferred a more agreeable mate, youthfulness, same religion, disliked marrying other races, divorcees and unemployed people.

Keywords: racial differences, mate selection, undergraduates, love, family, marriage.

* Department of Educational Psychology and Counseling, Faculty of Education, University Malaya, 50603 Kuala Lumpur.

Introduction:

The topic of mate selection has been one important area that counseling and psychology has always emphasized on, particularly in the area of developmental, family and marriage therapy. A person's religion and cultural values do play an important role whether they are a Catholic, Muslim, Buddhist or Hindu. It is commonly seen that for people who are devoted to their religion, divorce and children out-of wedlock is a taboo. In certain communities like the Sikhs and some Indian societies marriages are arranged very early on in life, the couples are supported by the group and both husband and wife stay committed till death do they part. Here there is a strong communal and societal pressure coercing them to be faithful to a particular person and live a certain way of existence.

Race as well as sociodemographic factors like whether they are from rural or urban areas, rich, middle-class or poor families all play a role in choosing a life-partner and their level of happiness in marriage. Malaysia being a multi-racial, multi-cultural country, there is indeed an important need for doing this research study. The number of studies on mate selection criteria are limited and confined to isolated articles publicized in different journals in the world. There are articles overseas in the Journal of Comparative Family Studies Autumn 1988, International Journal of Sociology of the Family Spring 1996, Journal of Marriage and Family August 1976 and Department of Psychology Newcastle Upon Tyne 2005 comparing the mate-selection criteria of Malays, Punjabi Sikhs and rating of mate attractiveness by University students comparing Malaysian students with overseas samples from Great Britain and the United States.

Although these studies are in-depth, there has been no recent study of a multi-racial group in one setting. This study undertakes sampling Malaysian undergraduate students and comparing the Chinese, Malay and Indians to see whether there is a difference in what they want in a future mate. This has an important role in inter-ethnic or cross-cultural relations in multi-cultural, family and marriage counseling.

Research Questions:

The objective of this study is to investigate whether there are significant racial differences in mate-selection criteria. In keeping with the objectives of this study, the research question was formulated: Are there significant racial differences in mate selection criteria?

Methodology:

In order to investigate the racial differences in mate selection criteria among undergraduate students, a survey research design was employed to gather the necessary data and to answer the research question formulated. The Independent Variables and Dependent Variables are shown below:

Independent Variables:

Race (Chinese/Malays/Indians)

Dependent Variables:

- 1) Intimacy Component
- 2) Passion Component
- 3) Commitment Component
- 4) Openness to Experience
- 5) Conscientious
- 6) Extraversion
- 7) Agreeableness
- 8) Neuroticism
- 9) Body Shape and Structure
- 10) Sexual Orientation
- 11) Mate Selection traits from Sprecher, Hatfield and Sullivan, 1994.

Sample:

All participants recruited in this survey were undergraduate students from one of the public university with the ages of 20-28 years. Samples were randomly selected across the campus to get an accurate representation of race, religion, geographical location and socioeconomic status. The sample consisted of 132 postgraduate students included 44 males and 88 females. The participants were selected based on a purposive random sampling.

Instruments:

The instrument used in this survey study was a self-developed mate selection inventory with information taken from various journals like Robert S. Sternberg’s Triangular theory of love, Costa & McCrae’s NEO-P-IR Revised 5 Factor personality test (OCEAN), traits taken from the National Study on Mate Selection by Sprecher, Hatfield and Sullivan (1994) and physical traits taken from David Buss (1996) work on mate selection. The item were scored based on the 5-pointed Likert Scale with 1 for strongly disagree and 5 for strongly agree.

A pilot study was conducted to test the validity and reliability of this mate selection inventory. This study sampled 29 people included 17 males, 12 females.

Table 1

Internal Consistency of all the Test Items from the Pilot Test

Number of Items	Cronbach’s Alpha	Cronbach’s Alpha based on standardized items
Sternberg’s Love		
Items (15 items)	.774	.764
OCEAN-5 Factors (20 items)	.755	.756

Body Shape (5 items)	.649 (removed 1 item)	
Sexual Orientation (2 items)	.203	.207 (both items removed)
Sprecher's (23 items)	.741	.729

n (male) = 44, n (female) = 88

On doing the internal consistency of all 65 test items it was noted that 3 test items two from the sexual orientation category and 1 from the body shape category was affecting the reliability scores and thus these 3 test items were removed from the test instrument making it a 62 item inventory. The overall reliability for this new 62-item inventory was .789.

Results:

All questionnaires were collected back and scores for all 62 test items were totaled for all 132 students and data was grouped into headings like for example intimacy total, passion total and commitment total. Mean scores were calculated for all 62 test items and a comparison of mean scores was done. ANOVA was done to determine whether there were significant racial differences in mate selection criteria.

Race and Intimacy, Passion and Commitment:

A comparing between race and Sternberg's intimacy, passion and commitment factors were made using ANOVA to determine whether there were significant racial difference differences. Each component comprised 25 items on a 5-pointed Likert Scale. These results are presented in Table 2 below.

Table 2

Mean Intimacy, Passion and Commitment Scores for the different races

Race/N	Mean	SD	df	F	Sig(2-tailed)		
Intimacy score	Chinese	41	22.39	2.11	152	1.83	0.16
	Indian	22	21.91	2.65			
	Malay	90	21.53	2.45			
Passion score	Chinese	41	15.24	3.13	152	0.55	0.58
	Indian	22	15.05	3.40			
	Malay	90	15.66	2.60			
Commitment score	Chinese	41	18.98	2.88	152	2.10	0.13
	Indian	22	20.55	3.00			
	Malay	90	19.69	2.95			

n (male) = 44, n (female) = 88

It is shown in Table 2 that, for all three races, the mean scores was highest for the intimacy category followed by commitment and the lowest scores was in the passion category. There was a difference if mean scores and standard deviation scores here. There were no significant racial differences in the selection of intimacy, commitment and passion scores being almost identical for all three races in the three categories. Chinese, Indians and Malays all had higher mean scores in intimacy followed by commitment and lowest in passion.

Race and the Five Factor Personality Traits:

Comparisons between race and Costa’s and Mc Crae’s 5-factor personality were done to determine whether there were racial differences in the selection of these personality traits in human mating preferences. The results are showed in Table 3 below.

Table 3

Mean 5-Factor Personality Traits for the different races

Race	N	Mean	SD	df	F	Sig(2-tailed)	
Openness	Chinese	41	13.54	2.19	152	1.40	0.25
	Indian	22	13.64	2.15			
	Malay	90	14.10	1.75			
Conscientiousness	Chinese	41	14.61	1.84	152	2.58	0.08
	Indian	22	15.18	2.20			
	Malay	90	15.47	2.02			
Extroversion	Chinese	41	14.10	1.96	152	0.92	0.40
	Indian	22	13.27	3.31			
	Malay	90	13.97	2.32			
Agreeableness	Chinese	41	15.73	1.90	152	4.16	0.02
	Indian	22	16.87	2.03			
	Malay	90	15.52	1.97			
Neuroticism	Chinese	41	15.00	1.82	152	4.92	0.01
	Indian	22	13.96	2.28			
	Malay	90	13.88	1.90			

n (male) = 44, n (female) = 88

It is shown in Table 3 that, there was about equal selection of openness, conscientiousness and extroversion for all three races. There was a significant racial difference in the selection of the agreeableness and neuroticism categories this being significant at $p < .05$. Indians were found to have higher mean scores for agreeableness ($M=16.87$, $SD=2.03$) compared to their Chinese and Malay counterparts who had similar scores. In regard to neuroticism Chinese were found to have higher mean scores ($M=15.00$, $SD=1.82$) compared to Indians and Malays who had similar mean scores.

Race and Body Shape and Size Factors:

Comparisons between race and David Buss's (1996) body shape and size factors were made to determine whether there were racial differences in the selection of these physical factors in human mating preferences among Malaysian undergraduates. These results are presented in Table 4.

Table 4

Mean Body Shape and Size factors for the different races

Race	N	Mean	SD	df	F	Sig(2-tailed)	
Mate same size	Chinese	41	2.66	0.88	152	1.36	0.26
	Indian	22	2.82	0.91			
	Malay	90	2.93	0.88			
Mate big hips	Chinese	41	2.24	0.77	152	7.95	0.00
	Indian	22	2.18	0.80			
	Malay	90	2.78	0.90			
Mate small waist	Chinese	41	2.85	0.91	152	6.37	0.00
	Indian	22	2.18	0.80			

	Malay	90	2.87	0.80			
Mate symmetrical bone structure	Chinese	41	3.17	0.86	152	4.55	0.01
	Indian	22	2.59	1.10			
	Malay	90	3.14	0.70			

n (male) = 44, n (female) = 88

It is shown in Table 4 that there was no racial difference in the selection of mate with the same size however there was a significant racial difference in three categories of mate with a symmetrical bone structure, small waist and big hips. Malays preferred their mate to have big hips ($M=2.78$, $SD=0.90$) compared to Chinese and Indians. Chinese and Malays preferred their mate to have a smaller waist size compared to Indians ($M=2.18$, $SD=0.80$) who had lower mean scores possibly preferring a mate with a larger waist size. Chinese and Malays preferred a mate with a symmetrical bone structure and had higher mean scores in contrast to Indians ($M=2.59$, $SD=1.10$) who had lower mean scores.

Race and Age Related Factors:

This part compares race and Sprecher, Hatfield and Sullivan's (1994) age-related factors to determine whether there were racial differences in selection of these factors in human mating preferences. These results are as displayed in Table 5.

Table 5

Mean Age related Factors for the different races

	Race/N	Mean	SD	df	F	Sig(2-tailed)	
Age not important	Chinese	41	2.78	1.15	152	5.82	0.00
	Indian	22	2.27	1.08			

	Malay	90	3.16	1.14			
Older by 8 years	Chinese	41	2.12	0.95	152	0.47	0.63
	Indian	22	2.27	0.98			
	Malay	90	2.30	1.00			
Younger by 8 years	Chinese	41	2.05	1.02	152	2.33	0.10
	Indian	22	1.87	0.99			
	Malay	90	2.34	1.10			

n (male) = 44, n (female) = 88

There were no racial differences for the categories of older by 8 years and younger by 8 years where there was equal emphasis placed by all three races. There was a significant racial difference in the category of age not being important with the highest mean scores being with the Malays ($M=3.16$, $SD=1.14$) followed by the Chinese ($M=2.78$, $SD=1.15$) and the lowest amongst the Indians ($M=2.27$, $SD=1.08$). Quite possibly age is important for Indians when looking for a life-partner particularly when it comes to youthfulness and beauty as compared to Chinese and Malays where age isn't such an important factor for marriage.

Race and Attractiveness Related Factors:

This section compares race and Sprecher, Hatfield and Sullivan's (1994) attractiveness related factors to determine whether there were racial differences in the selection of these factors in human mating preferences. The results are presented in Table 6.

Table 6

Mean Attractiveness Related Factors for the different races

	Race	N	Mean	SD	df	F	Sig(2-tailed)
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Attracted to good looks	Chinese	41	3.63	0.97	152	9.00	0.00
	Indian	22	2.91	0.87			
	Malay	90	3.83	0.90			
Want good looking mate	Chinese	41	3.05	0.77	152	13.02	0.00
	Indian	22	2.45	0.96			
	Malay	90	3.46	0.86			

n (male) = 44, n (female) = 88

There was significant racial differences for both categories of being attracted to good looks $F(152)= 9.00$ and wanting a good looking mate $F(152)= 13.02$ and this was significant at $p<.05$. In the category of attracted to good looks Malays had the highest scores ($M=3.83$, $SD=0.90$) followed by the Chinese ($M=3.63$, $SD=0.97$) and the Indians having the lowest means scores ($M=2.91$, $SD=0.87$). In the category of wanting a good looking mate Malays and Chinese again had the highest mean scores in contrast to the Indians which had the lowest scores ($M=2.45$, $SD=0.96$).

Race and Religious Factor Traits:

Race and Sprecher, Hatfield and Sullivan's (1994) religious factor traits mean scores were compared to determine whether there were racial differences in the selection of these factors in human mating preferences.

Table 7

Mean Religious Factor Traits for the different races

Race	N	Mean	SD	df	F	Sig (2-tailed)		
Prefer same religion	Chinese	41	3.80	0.87	152	7.86	0.00	
	Indian	22	4.27	0.98				

	Malay	90	4.42	0.76			
Not marry	Chinese	41	3.10	1.07	152	4.33	0.02
other religions	Indian	22	3.90	1.15			
	Malay	90	3.57	1.12			

n (male) = 44, n (female) = 88

There were significant racial differences in the categories of preferring to marry someone of the same religion $F(152)= 7.86$ and not marrying someone of another religion $F(152)= 4.33$. These results were significant at $p<.05$. In the category of preferring a mate from the same religion, Malays and Indians had higher mean scores in comparison to Chinese who had lower scores ($M=3.80$, $SD=.87$). In the category of not wanting to marry someone of another religion Indians and Malays again had higher mean scores compared to Chinese counterparts who had lower mean scores ($M=3.10$, $SD=1.07$).

Race and Ethnic Factors:

Race and Sprecher, Hatfield and Sullivan's (1994) ethnic factor traits mean scores were compared to determine whether there were significant racial differences in the selection of these factors in human mating preferences. The results are showed in Table 8.

Table 8

Mean Ethnic Factors for the different races

	Race	N	Mean	SD	df	F	Sig (2-tailed)
Prefer mate own race	Chinese	41	3.80	0.90	152	5.17	0.01
	Indian	22	4.09	1.06			
	Malay	90	3.43	0.95			

Prefer mate different race	Chinese	41	2.56	0.98	152	4.41	0.01
	Indian	22	2.77	1.19			
	Malay	90	3.08	0.86			
Race not factor in mate Choice	Chinese	41	2.61	1.14	152	1.32	0.00
	Indian	22	2.64	1.33			
	Malay	90	3.43	0.91			

n (male) = 44, n (female) = 88

It was shown here that there were significant racial differences in all three categories of preferring a mate from own race $F(152)= 5.17$, preferring mate from a different race $F(152)= 4.41$ and race not being a factor in mate selection $F(152)= 11.32$ and the results were significant at $p<.05$. In the category of preferring mate from own race Indians had the highest mean scores ($M=4.09$, $SD=1.06$) followed by Chinese ($M=3.80$, $SD=0.90$) and the lowest mean scores in the Malays ($M=3.43$, $SD=0.95$). In the category of preferring to mate with people from different races Malays had the highest mean scores ($M=3.08$, $SD=0.86$) compared to lower mean scores obtained by Chinese and Indians. In the category of race not being an important factor in mate selection Malays had the highest mean scores ($M=3.43$, $SD=.91$) followed by Indians ($M=2.64$, $SD=1.33$) and lowest mean scores in the Chinese ($M=2.61$, $SD=1.14$).

Race and Educational Factors:

Race and Sprecher, Hatfield and Sullivan's (1994) educational factors traits mean scores compared to determine whether there were significant racial differences in the selection of these factors in human mating preferences.

Table 9

Mean Educational Factors for the different races

Race	N	Mean	SD	df	F	Sig (2-tailed)
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Prefer more educated mate	Chinese	41	3.34	0.94	152	2.34	0.10
	Indian	22	3.23	1.11			
	Malay	90	3.62	0.87			
Prefer less educated mate	Chinese	41	2.41	0.97	152	0.78	0.46
	Indian	22	2.45	1.26			
	Malay	90	2.62	0.86			
Educational level not important	Chinese	41	2.88	1.00	152	10.07	0.00
	Indian	22	3.72	1.32			
	Malay	90	2.57	1.07			

(male) = 44, n (female) = 88

It is shown here that there was a significant racial difference in the category of educational level not being important in mate choice $F(152) = 10.07$ as compared to the other two categories of preferring a more educated and less educated mate which was selected equally by all three races. The results were significant at $p < .05$. For educational level not being important, Indians had the highest mean scores ($M=3.72$, $SD=1.32$) followed by the Chinese ($M=2.88$, $SD=1.00$) and lowest mean scores in the Malays ($M=2.57$, $SD=1.07$). It can be seen that Malays value the education level of their future mate as compared to Indians and Chinese where level of education was not a factor in marrying someone.

Race and Marital Factors:

Race and Sprecher, Hatfield and Sullivan's (1994) marital factor traits mean scores were compared to determine whether there were significant racial differences in the selection of these factors in human mating preferences.

Table 10

Mean Marital Factors for the different races

Race	N	Mean	SD	df	F	Sig (2-tailed)	
Past divorce not important	Chinese	41	2.83	1.05	152	5.22	0.01
	Indian	22	2.14	1.17			
	Malay	90	2.89	0.92			
Rule out divorced people	Chinese	41	3.00	0.87	152	3.35	0.04
	Indian	22	2.50	0.96			
	Malay	90	3.00	0.79			
Accept people with children	Chinese	41	2.71	0.90	152	2.99	0.05
	Indian	22	2.41	1.22			
	Malay	90	2.90	0.75			

n (male) = 44, n (female) = 88

It was seen that there was significant racial differences for all three categories of past divorce being unimportant $F(152)= 5.22$, ruling out divorced people $F(152)=3.35$ and accepting people with children $F(152)=2.99$. This was significant at $p<.05$. For the category of ruling out divorced people, the Chinese and Malays had the highest mean scores Indians having the lowest mean scores ($M=2.50$, $SD=0.96$). For the category of past divorce not being important, Malay and Chinese had the highest mean scores Indians having the lowest mean scores ($M=2.14$, $SD=1.17$). For the third category of accepting people with children as mates Malays and Chinese had the highest mean scores Indians having the lowest mean scores ($M=2.41$, $SD=1.22$). It can be seen from these results that the Chinese and Malays were more liberal about accepting people with children as life partners. At the same time they disliked the idea of marrying someone who was divorced. This was in contrast to the Indians who wouldn't rule out divorced people but disliked the idea of and accepting people with children from past marriages.

Race and Employment Factors:

Race and Sprecher, Hatfield and Sullivan’s (1994) employment factor traits mean scores were compared to determine whether there were racial differences in the selection of these factors in human mating preferences.

Table 11
Mean Employment Factors for the different races

Race	N	Mean	SD	df	F	Sig (2-tailed)	
Marry someone unemployed	Chinese	41	2.66	1.06	152	3.05	0.05
	Indian	22	1.95	1.09			
	Malay	90	2.33	1.11			
Employment status not important	Chinese	41	2.66	1.09	152	1.72	0.18
	Indian	22	2.14	1.04			
	Malay	90	2.56	1.11			

n (male) = 44, *n* (female) = 88

It is shown that there was significant racial difference in the category of marrying someone unemployed $F(152)=3.05$ and there was no racial difference in the category of employment status not being important as there was equal selection by all three races. For this category, the Chinese had the highest mean scores ($M=2.66$, $SD=1.06$) followed by Malays ($M=2.33$, $SD=1.11$) and the lowest mean scores for the Indians ($M=1.95$, $SD=1.09$). Thus, it was seen that Chinese and Malays were more willing to marry.

Race and Earning Capacity Factors:

Race and Sprecher, Hatfield and Sullivan's (1994) earning capacity factor traits mean scores were compared to determine whether there were significant racial differences in the selection of these factors in human mating preferences.

Table 12

Mean Earning Capacity Factors for the different races

Race	N	Mean	SD	df	F	Sig (2-tailed)	
Prefer mate earned more	Chinese	41	3.37	0.99	152	1.30	0.28
	Indian	22	3.64	1.05			
	Malay	90	3.64	0.89			
Not mind if mate earned less	Chinese	41	3.32	0.91	152	0.76	0.47
	Indian	22	3.18	1.26			
	Malay	90	3.09	0.94			

n (male) = 44, *n* (female) = 88

There were no racial differences in these two categories of preferring a mate who earned more and not important if mate earned less as there was equal importance given by all three races. The means and standard deviation scores here were roughly similar. Thus, Chinese, Malays and Indians did not mind if their mate earned more or less than themselves.

Race and Career Related Factors:

Race and Sprecher, Hatfield and Sullivan's career related factor traits mean scores were compared to determine whether there were racial differences in the selection of these factors in human mating preferences.

Table 13

Mean Career Related Factors for the different races

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Race	<i>N</i>	Mean	<i>SD</i>	<i>df</i>	<i>F</i>	Sig (2-tailed)		
Choose mate successful career	Chinese	41	3.54	0.87	152	1.51	0.22	
	Indian	22	3.50	0.86				
	Malay	90	3.77	0.85				
Successful career not important	Chinese	41	2.95	1.12	152	0.55	0.58	
	Indian	22	3.14	1.32				
	Malay	90	2.88	0.92				
Job prestige not a factor	Chinese	41	3.14	0.99	152	0.74	0.48	
	Indian	22	3.45	1.22				
	Malay	90	3.23	0.92				

n (male) = 44, *n* (female) = 88

There were no racial differences in the three categories of choosing a mate with a successful career, successful career is not important and job prestige not a factor. Here all three races gave equal importance to these three categories mean scores and standard deviation scores being roughly similar.

Discussion:

In this study, it was noted there were no racial differences and all three races selected intimacy as most important followed on by commitment and the lowest scores being given to the passion component. According to Robert J Sternberg, 1986, people have three components of love which are intimacy, passion and commitment. The intimacy component is characterized by feelings of closeness, connectedness in loving relationships. This gives rise to the experience of warmth and strong emotional investment in the relationship. Passion is partly physiological and

psychological which pulls two people together leading to romance, attraction and sexual consummation.

In the agreeableness category, Indians were found to prefer a mate who was more agreeable and Chinese were found to prefer mates who were having the neurotic personality trait. The Chinese and Malays prefer the Western model of attractiveness which is skimpy models in bathing suit magazines. Quite possibly Indians have a different set of criteria into what they view attractiveness is. Malay preference for a mate with big hips is possibly a cultural norm where big hips are seen as beautiful.

Besides, there was a significant racial difference in the category of age being unimportant with the lowest mean scores in the Indians where Indians preferred younger mates. Indians placing a higher importance on age goes hand in hand with the evolutionary and sociocultural theories. In that Indians place a lot of emphasis on beauty and youthful looks in order to have a future mate by an arranged marriage and dowry. The older an Indian woman got the less likely she was to get married off.

There was a significant racial difference where Malays and Indians preferring someone from their own religion and disliked marrying people from other religions. Religion and culture has always been the most important for the Malays and Indians. The concept of marrying someone from another religion is often unacceptable to members of the community as these cultures are based on a collectivistic community culture. The Chinese are possibly more pragmatic and adaptive.

Indians and Chinese prefer to marry people from their race and it was the Malays that were broadminded about marrying people from different racial backgrounds. It can be seen that the Malays were similar to the Puerto Rican people who in the United States preferred people of different racial backgrounds. The West Indians and Native Africans were like the Chinese and Indians in this study who preferred people of their own racial background (Batson, Qian & Lichter, 2006). However, educational level was most important to the Malays and wasn't so important to the Chinese and Indians.

The Chinese and Malays with higher mean scores for past divorce being unimportant and ruling out divorced people. This contradiction could be due to poor understanding of past divorce being unimportant. The conclusion maybe that in the Chinese and Malay groups there is a

reluctance to marry divorcees. However the Chinese and Malays were more willing to accept people with children as compared to the Indian group. The Chinese and Malays were shown to be more liberal accepting Western based practices whereas the Indians, being divorced or having children from past marriages might be something that is unacceptable to their family and society.

Chinese and Malays were more willing to marry someone who was unemployed compared to Indians. Chinese and Malays seemed to be more liberal again in being able to accept unemployed people as partners. For Indians there maybe a social stigma attached to being unemployed. However, all three races; Chinese, Malays and Indians didn't mind if their mate had a successful career or job prestige for that matter.

Counseling Implication:

There is a vast literature on mate-selection studies particularly in the west in regard to racial differences. However there has not been any significant study done in Malaysia on racial preferences of the Chinese, Indians and Malays. In this study the sample chosen was undergraduate students and the information gained from this research could be useful in understanding the beliefs, values and cultural practices of the Malays, Chinese and Indians and possibly strengthening inter-ethnic and cross-cultural ties between the races. These results serve as a source of information that can be utilized in the field of family and marriage counseling.

Conclusion:

This results of this study have revealed the difference in Malaysian undergraduate mate selection criteria. The findings showed racial differences in the mate selection criteria. These results support past research that racial differences in mate selection is an evolutionary process. However, further studies need to be replicated with larger sample size to make it generalizable to the Malaysian undergraduates population.

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