

## Abstract

This study examined the reasons of not terminating a romantic relationship in times of entrapment. In Study 1, a total of 68 participants from Hong Kong and the U.S. were asked to suggest reasons of staying in an entrapped romantic relationship. Responses in Study 1 were used to develop a Drive for Entrapment Scale to be validated in Study 2. 124 participants from Hong Kong and the U.S. responded to the questionnaire. Factor analysis revealed a 13-item Drive for Entrapment Scale with 4 dimensions, namely, consequence of dissolution, social constraints, change of self and sexual satisfaction. Multiple regression analyses showed that all 4 dimensions could be predicted by various aspects of commitment while relationship satisfaction also predicted change of self. Results also showed that the factors of entrapment could predict the expected duration of relationship. Explanations and limitations of the findings were discussed.