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## The Influence of Provided and Received Supports among Taiwanese Married Couples

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This paper examined the received and provided supports between married couple from both individual- and couple-level point of views, and evaluated whether marital intimacy and marital quality of couples differ by their support-receiving and providing pattern. The analyzed data are from 452 Taiwanese married couples. The analysis of variance, latent class analysis, and hierarchical linear model are utilized to analyze the data. Results indicated that those who received more support than provided reported higher marital intimacy and better quality, either for wives or for husbands. By using the latent class models, the patterns of couples' support received and provided were identified four distinct groups, named 'husband-underbenefited and wife-overbenefited couple,' 'husband-overbenefited and wife-underbenefited couple,' 'dual overbenefited couple' and 'dual underbenefited couple.' From the individual point of view, both the wives who belong to 'husband-underbenefited and wife-overbenefited couple' and the husbands who belong to 'husband-overbenefited and wife-underbenefited couple' reported the highest marital intimacy and best quality, respectively. Either wives or husbands who belongs to 'dual underbenefited couple,' however, reported the lowest intimacy and worst quality. Finally, from the couple point of view, while 'husband-underbenefited and wife-overbenefited' or 'husband-overbenefited and wife-underbenefited' couples showed the best marital quality, the 'dual underbenefited' couple showed the worst marital quality. The results implied that the couple interaction in terms of support received and provided and its effects on marital relationship in the Taiwanese families exhibit its cultural distinction which is different from those found in the western societies.

**Keywords:** *hierarchical linear model, latent class analysis, marital quality, married couples, provided and received support.*