

## Relationship between Love Attitude and Vengeance among Young Adults

Amiya Mariyam Tomy<sup>1\*</sup>

### ABSTRACT

The study explores the relationship between love attitudes and vengeance among young adults aged 18-25. It addresses an increasing concern over the impact of love-related emotional experiences on aggressive behaviors, particularly revenge, following romantic breakups. The research involved 60 participants (30 males and 30 females) categorized into committed relationships, breakups, and singles. To measure love attitudes, the Love Attitude Scale (LAS) Short Form developed by Hendrick and Dicke (1998) was used, while the Vengeance Scale by Stuckless and Goranson (1992) assessed participants' tendencies toward revenge. The findings revealed no significant relationship between love attitudes and vengeance. However, gender, relationship status, and social factors influenced the expression of vengeance. Notably, men exhibited a higher tendency toward revenge, especially following breakups. The study emphasizes the need for further exploration into cultural, social, and psychological variables influencing the connection between romantic experiences and aggressive behaviors. These findings have implications for understanding how romantic relationships and emotional regulation affect young adults' mental health and social behaviors.

**Keywords:** *Love Attitude, Vengeance, Young Adults, Romantic Relationships, Emotional Regulation*

Love and revenge are pervasive themes in contemporary society, especially among young adults. The increasing trend of aggressive behaviors, including acid attacks and other forms of violence following romantic breakups, raises concerns about the role of love-related emotional experiences in shaping aggressive tendencies. In patriarchal societies, where dominance and control issues are prevalent, failed romantic relationships may evoke strong emotional responses, leading to vengeful behaviors. This study investigates the relationship between love attitudes and the inclination to seek revenge, focusing on a sample of young adults aged 18-25. The research aims to address a gap in existing literature by examining how different love styles relate to vengeful tendencies and whether variables such as gender, relationship status, and upbringing play a role.

<sup>1</sup>Department of Psychology, Kuriakose Elias College, Mannanam, Kerala

\*Corresponding Author

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## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### *Objectives*

The main objective of this study was to investigate the relationship between different love attitudes and tendencies toward vengeance among young adults.

Specifically, the research aimed to:

1. Determine if certain love styles correlate with a higher propensity for revenge.
2. Examine differences in vengeful behaviors across relationship statuses (committed, breakup, and single).
3. Explore gender differences in the expression of vengeful tendencies.

### *Hypotheses*

1. There is a significant relationship between love attitudes and the inclination toward vengeance.
2. Individuals who have experienced a breakup exhibit a higher tendency toward revenge compared to those in committed relationships or singles.
3. Male participants are more likely to express vengeful behaviors than female participants.

### *Participants*

The study sample consisted of 60 young adults aged 18-25 years, with equal representation of males and females (30 each). Participants were categorized based on their relationship status: committed, experienced breakup, and single.

### *Materials*

1. **Love Attitude Scale (LAS) Short Form:** Developed by Hendrick and Dicke (1998), this tool was used to measure participants' attitudes toward love, encompassing different love styles such as Eros, Ludus, Storge, Pragma, Mania, and Agape.
2. **Vengeance Scale:** Created by Stuckless and Goranson (1992), this scale was employed to assess the tendency for revenge among participants.

### *Data Collection*

Data were gathered using self-reported questionnaires, which included the LAS Short Form and the Vengeance Scale. Participants completed these instruments under supervised conditions to ensure accuracy and reduce response bias.

### *Scoring*

The scores from the LAS and Vengeance Scale were calculated according to their respective manuals, providing a quantitative measure of love attitudes and vengefulness for analysis.

### *Variables*

- Independent Variables: Love attitudes, relationship status, and gender.
- Dependent Variable: Tendency toward vengeance.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results revealed varying patterns in the expression of vengeful tendencies based on love attitudes, relationship status, and gender. The data analysis focused on identifying significant correlations and differences among these factors.

1. **Relationship Between Love Attitudes and Vengeance:** Statistical analysis showed no significant correlation between overall love attitudes and the tendency toward

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vengeance. This indicates that the type of love style, whether Eros, Ludus, Storge, Pragma, Mania, or Agape, did not directly influence participants' vengeful behaviors.

- 2. Impact of Relationship Status on Vengeful Behaviors:** Participants who had experienced a breakup reported higher levels of vengeance compared to those who were in committed relationships or had never been in a relationship. The findings suggest that the experience of a breakup serves as a significant emotional catalyst for vengeful behaviors, potentially due to unresolved feelings of hurt, anger, or betrayal.
- 3. Gender Differences in Vengeance:** Male participants exhibited higher levels of vengeful tendencies than females, particularly in the context of breakups. This supports the hypothesis that men may be more prone to seeking revenge, possibly due to social and cultural factors that influence the expression of aggression.

### Multiple Regression

Relationship Between Love Style and Vengeance

Table 1

	M	SD	F	Sig.
Love Style	80.63	11.49	0.001	0.974
Vengeance	3.32	1.702		

The results indicate that while love attitudes alone do not determine vengeful behaviors, relationship status and gender significantly impact how individuals react to romantic disappointments. The elevated levels of vengeance among those who had experienced breakups suggest that unresolved negative emotions can play a pivotal role in aggressive responses.

## CONCLUSIONS

The study explored the relationship between love attitudes and tendencies toward vengeance among young adults aged 18-25. The findings suggest that while specific love styles do not significantly predict vengeful behaviors, certain factors, such as relationship status and gender, play a critical role in influencing these tendencies. Key conclusions include:

- 1. Love Attitudes and Vengeance:** There is no direct relationship between different love styles and the propensity for revenge.
- 2. Impact of Relationship Status:** Young adults who have experienced a breakup exhibit a higher tendency toward revenge.
- 3. Gender Differences:** Males showed a higher inclination for vengeful behaviors compared to females.

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### **Conflict of Interest**

The author(s) declared no conflict of interest.

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