

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII LIBRARY
AN EXAMINATION OF THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN COMMUNICATIVE
RESPONSES TO ROMANTIC JEALOUSY AND COMMITMENT

A THESIS SUBMITTED TO THE GRADUATE DIVISION OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT
OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF

MASTER OF ARTS

IN

SPEECH

MAY 2003

By

Mei-Huan Feng

Thesis Committee:
Min-Sun Kim, Chairperson
R. Kelly Aune
Krystyna S. Aune
Cailin Kulp

Copyright 2003

By

Mei-Huan Feng

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to acknowledge the following individuals for their support and assistance.

Dr. Min-Sun Kim for guidance, advice, and understanding. Dr. Cailin Kulp, Dr. Krystyna Aune, and Dr. Kelly Aune for support and direction.

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to investigate the relationships between communicative responses to romantic jealousy and commitment. Two hundred and three participants who have experienced jealousy in a romantic relationship were recruited from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa. Each participant completed a self-report survey that measured the communicative responses to jealousy and commitment. A series of Pearson Product Moment correlations were computed. The results of the study suggested that commitment was positively associated with two of the three positive communicative responses to romantic jealousy. On the other hand, commitment was negatively associated with two of the eight negative communicative responses to romantic jealousy. The implications, limitation, and direction of future research were discussed.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|----|
| Acknowledgments..... | iv |
| Abstract..... | v |
| CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION..... | 1 |
| Communicative Responses to Romantic Jealousy..... | 2 |
| Romantic Jealousy Experience..... | 3 |
| Distinction between Cognitive, Emotional, and Behavioral Jealousy.... | 4 |
| Positive Communicative Responses to Romantic Jealousy..... | 7 |
| Negative Communicative Responses to Romantic Jealousy..... | 8 |
| The Investment Model..... | 11 |
| Extension and Clarification: The Investment Model..... | 12 |
| Relational Commitment, Persistence, and Maintenance..... | 17 |
| CHAPTER TWO: METHOD..... | 20 |
| Participants..... | 23 |
| Procedure..... | 24 |
| Measure..... | 24 |
| Communicative Responses to Jealousy..... | 24 |
| Commitment..... | 26 |
| CHAPTER THREE: RESULTS..... | 27 |
| Length of Relationship and Commitment..... | 27 |
| Hypothesis One..... | 27 |
| Hypothesis Two..... | 28 |

| | |
|---|----|
| CHAPTER FOUR: DISCUSSION..... | 30 |
| Discussion..... | 30 |
| Implications..... | 32 |
| Limitation and Future Direction..... | 33 |
| Conclusion..... | 36 |
| Appendix A: Communicative responses to Romantic Jealousy Measure..... | 38 |
| Appendix B: Commitment Measure..... | 40 |
| References..... | 41 |

LIST OF TABLE

1. Summary of Correlations between Commitment and Communicative Responses.....29

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

The study of communicative responses to romantic jealousy has generated increasing interest among social scientists in the past decade (Aylor & Dainton, 2001). In contrast to the various psychological feelings of romantic jealousy experience, romantic jealousy communicative responses have been defined as the tactics that are adopted by jealous partners to cope with their jealousy experience (Aylor & Dainton, 2001; Guerrero & Andersen, 1998). Romantic jealousy expression can result in positive or negative consequences (Afifi & Guerrero, 1998). The strategies that produce positive outcomes (e.g., reduce uncertainty, increase satisfaction) in a romantic relationship have been identified as positive communicative responses to jealousy (or positive expression of jealousy) (Guerrero & Afifi, 1998). The tactics that lead to negative consequences (e.g., dissatisfaction, uncertainty) have been classified as the negative communicative responses to jealousy (or negative expression of jealousy) (Eloy, Andersen, & Spitzberg, 1992).

The prior studies of romantic jealousy experience and expression have increased the understanding of romantic jealousy experience and the consequences of the jealousy coping strategies. However, the factors that influence one's decision to use certain romantic jealousy communicative responses need further investigation.

The Investment Model (Rusbult, 1983) proposes that commitment is an influential element that affects one's behaviors such as relational termination, accommodation, and effective jealousy management (Rusbult, 1983; Rusbult, Martz, & Agnew, 1998). The purpose of this study is to investigate the relationships between the communicative responses to romantic jealousy and commitment. The findings of this research will increase our understanding of romantic behaviors. First, the literature review of the communicative responses to romantic jealousy is presented. Second, the line of research that is based on the Investment Model is reviewed. Finally, two hypotheses are proposed to examine the relationships between the communicative responses to romantic jealousy and commitment.

Communicative Responses to Romantic Jealousy

Relationships are often vulnerable to certain situations that may be unexpected, such as romantic jealousy. The romantic jealousy experience is perceived as a threat to a romantic relationship that is negatively associated with maintenance and satisfaction (Guerrero & Afifi, 1998; Guerrero & Andersen, 1995). As a universally experienced emotion, jealousy has been indicated as a main source of conflict (Hansen, 1991; Stetes & Pirog-Good, 1987). When an individual suspects the romantic partner of engaging in an extra dyadic affair, the likelihood of losing trust of the partner and becoming uncertain toward the partner and the romantic relationship may increase. Early studies

of jealousy tended to focus on the emotional context such as sadness, anger, feeling betrayal, fear, and guilt (Guerrero & Afifi; 1995; Guerrero & Andersen, 1995). In recent years, the communicative responses to jealousy (or jealousy expression) have generated increasing interest among researchers.

Romantically involved partners use various methods to deal with their discomfort that is caused by their jealousy experience (Guerrero & Andersen, 1995). Communicative responses to romantic jealousy are the strategies that romantic couples apply to express their emotional distress to their partners (Andersen, Eylor, Guerrero, & Spitzberg, 1995). Communicative responses to romantic jealousy result in positive or negative consequences to the romantic relationship by increasing or decreasing satisfaction and uncertainty, which may lead to the continuation or termination of the relationship (Guerrero & Afifi; 1995; Guerrero & Andersen, 1995). Thus, romantic jealousy expression is an influential factor of romantic relationships.

Romantic Jealousy Experience

The experience of romantic jealousy is considered as one of the most powerful emotions that most people experience at some point in their lives (Guerrero & Eloy, 1992). White and Mullen (1989) define romantic jealousy as “a complex of thoughts, emotions and actions that follows loss of or threat to self-esteem and/or the existence or quality of the romantic relationship”(p.9). The perception of this loss or threat to one’s

self-esteem is created by the thought that one's partner is involved in a romantic relationship with another individual (Andersen et al., 1995). This perception often involves a real person but may also involve an imaginary person or rival (Bryson, 1977, 1991).

Sharpteen (1995) found a correlation between the likelihood of experiencing jealousy and the expectations of threats to the relationship from a romantic rival. As the likelihood of these threats increased, a similar increase in jealousy was reported.

Guerrero and Anderson (1998) note that these threats may come from a variety of scenarios, including paranoid suspicions, rumors, the discovery of evidence linking one's partner to another, or the experience of witnessing communication between the partner and a rival.

Distinction between Cognitive, Emotional, and Behavioral Jealousy

Pfeiffer and Wong (1989) offer a three-dimensional model of jealousy. According to their model, jealousy experience contains three components: cognitive, emotional, and behavioral jealousy. Aylor and Dainton (2001) make a distinction between jealousy experience and expression. The experience of jealousy includes emotional and cognitive jealousy, and the expression contains the communicative responses to jealousy.

The cognitive component includes thoughts and worries about the behavior of the partner. Within the cognition, two appraisals of the threat occur. The first one is the primary appraisal in which individuals perceive there is a threat to the existing relationship. Certain factors in the primary appraisal including quality of the relationship, type of relationship, severity of threat and type of threat, may lead the individual to perceive the threat to the relationship and hence feel jealous. During primary appraisal, perception of the relationship and a threat may influence each other. For example, jealousy will result when a very strong threat is posed on a secure relationship. Once a threat to the existing relationship is perceived, individuals engage in a secondary appraisal. In secondary appraisal, the individual tries to understand the situation better and begins to think about possible communicative responses/jealousy expression to the threat (White & Mullen, 1989; Brehm, 1992).

The emotional elements involve six basic feelings of the jealousy complex: fear, anger, sadness, envy, sexual arousal, and guilt (Guerrero & Anderson, 1998; White & Mullen, 1989). Several studies indicated fear, anger, and sadness as the three main emotions involved in jealousy experience (White, 1981; Clanton & Smith, 1977). In addition to these three types of jealousy experience, Sharpsteen (1993) found that jealous individuals reported other feelings such as being hurt, upset, threatened, confused, helpless, and frustrated when facing jealousy.

Jealousy experience positively associates with cognitive discomfort and emotional distress and often results in dissatisfaction and uncertainty. Once a person perceives a potential threat to the romantic relationship and acts cognitively and emotionally toward the threat, the next step in a jealousy experience is to communicatively respond to the jealous experience.

Guerrero and Andersen (1995) conceptualized eleven jealousy communicative responses based on prior research. Positive and negative communicative responses are categorized based on the productive or counterproductive consequences to romantic relationships (Guerrero & Afifi 1995; Guerrero & Andersen, 1995, 1998). Each jealousy coping strategy may lead to positive or negative effects for romantic relationship (Eloy et al., 1992; Guerrero & Afifi, 1995; Guerrero & Andersen, 1995). The positive jealousy communicative responses are categorized as the tactics that improve satisfaction, increase the quality, and reduce the uncertainty, whereas the negative jealousy communicative responses are classified as the strategies that intensify the conflict, increase distrust, and amplify uncertainty (Andersen et al., 1995; Guerrero & Eloy, 1991). Three jealousy expressions are indicated as positive communicative responses: integrative communication, negative affect expression, and compensatory restoration (Byers & Overdoff, 1991; Eloy et al., 1992).

Positive Communicative Responses to Romantic Jealousy

Integration. Integration represents the verbal communication that jealous individuals use to convey their emotional distress to their partners (Guerrero & Eloy, 1992; Guerrero & Afifi, 1995). Asking questions, discussing with the partner, or negotiating about the relationship are typical examples of integrative jealousy. Integration is an effective tactic that produces positive effects to romantic relationships; it is also a productive method for other relational difficulties (Guerrero & Afifi, 1998).

Negative Affect Expression. Negative affect expression refers to nonverbal communication that conveys individuals' jealous-related feelings such as sadness, anger, fear, and frustration to their partners (Andersen et al., 1995; Aylor & Dainton, 2001; Guerrero & Afifi, 1995; Guerrero & Andersen, 1998). When individuals nonverbally express their negative feelings caused by jealousy in a nonthreatening fashion, the expression leads to beneficial results to the relationship (Eloy et al., 1992; Guerrero & Jorgensen, 1991). Romantic partners tend to associate the nonverbal expression of jealousy with caring, love, and value of the relationships (Bryson, 1991).

Compensatory Restoration. Compensatory restoration refers to the behaviors that attempt to improve or to repair the relationship; increasing the expression of affection and sexual activities are reported as compensatory restoration strategies (Andersen et al., 1991; Guerrero & Afifi, 1998). Compensatory restoration increases

closeness, responsiveness, and satisfaction for romantic couples. The attempt of trying to improve the relationship is positively associated with increasing satisfaction and reducing uncertainty (Andersen et al., 1995; Guerrero & Afifi, 1995; Guerrero & Andersen, 1995).

Negative Jealousy Communicative Responses to Romantic Jealousy

While the three types of positive jealousy expression provide productive effects to romantic relationships, the negative jealousy communicative responses stir counterproductive consequences (Andersen et al., 1995; Guerrero & Eloy, 1991).

Violent expression, violent behaviors/threat, distributive communication, manipulation attempts, avoidance strategies, and active distancing have been identified as negative and inefficient methods which lead to dissatisfaction and uncertainty (Andersen et al., 1995; Guerrero & Afifi, 1995).

Violent Behavior and Violent Communication/Threat. Violent behaviors are the violent and threatening strategies that indirectly or directly hurt/threaten the partners. Such behaviors have negative impact on romantic relationships (Guerrero & Afifi, 1995). Slamming the door and throwing partner's belongings are the commonly observed tactics that are being used by jealous individuals (Byers & Overdorf, 1991; Guerrero & Andersen, 1995). Violent behaviors and violent communication are the extreme jealous reactions. Whether the communicative responses are physically

hurting partners, threatening partners, or engaging in indirect violent behaviors, these extreme strategies tend to intensify a problematic situation (Guerrero & Afifi, 1995).

Distributive Negative Communication. Distributive negative communication involves direct and aggressive strategies such as nagging, complaining, blaming, and sarcasm (Guerrero & Afifi, 1995; Guerrero & Andersen, 1998). Distributive negative communication is reported as the most negative method besides violence, and it often leads to conflict (Gottman, 1994, Guerrero & Afifi, 1995; Sillars, 1980).

Avoidance/Denial. Avoidance or denial is the indirect jealousy coping method that jealous partners apply to avoid the jealousy-evoking situation or to deny their jealous feelings. Tactics include ignoring the partners and pretending nothing is wrong (Aylor, & Dainton, 2001; Guerrero & Afifi, 1995, Guerrero & Andersen, 1998). The increasing uncertainty and confusion are the prevalent results of using these strategies (Afifi & Burgoon, 1996; Guerrero & Afifi, 1996).

Active Distancing. Active distancing involves avoiding opportunities of communication with partners. Giving the “cold look,” “cold shoulder,” or “silent treatment” are frequently used methods (Guerrero & Afifi, 1995). Jealous individuals who distance themselves from their partners in order to avoid opportunity of communication will create counterproductivity to their relationships (Aylor & Dainton, 2001). The chances of meaningful communication in the relationship are minimized,

and the levels of uncertainty are increased (Afifi & Burgoon, 1996; Andersen et al., 1995).

Manipulation. Manipulation includes the strategies that attempt to induce negative emotions from partners. Flirting, making partners feel guilty, and using infidelity threat are classified as manipulation strategies (Buss, 1988; Guerrero & Afifi, 1998). The strategies of manipulation are inversely correlated with satisfaction (Buss, 1988; Guerrero & Afifi, 1995).

Surveillance. Surveillance has been identified as an evident sign of jealousy experience in psychology literature (Guerrero & Andersen, 1998). Surveillance behaviors include spying on partners, checking up on partners, and looking through partners' personal belongings. Surveillance strategies focus on finding the evidence for partners' extra-dyadic affairs which often results in feelings of distrust for the romantically involved couples (Aylor & Dainton, 2001; Guerrero & Andersen 1998).

Rival Contacts. Threatening the rival, restricting partner's contact with the rival, or derogating the partner in the presence of the rival are classified as rival contact which has negative effects on satisfaction (Aylor & Dainton, 2001; Bryson, 1991; Buss, 1988; Guerrero & Andersen, 1998).

To recap, communicative responses to romantic jealousy are the strategies that individuals adopt to deal with their distress that is caused by their jealousy (Aylor &

Dainton, 2001; Bryson, 1991; Buss, 1988; Guerrero & Andersen, 1998). The Investment Model (Rusbult, 1980, 1983) argues that individuals' commitment levels affect their behaviors. Therefore, the Investment Model provides a potential explanation for one's choices of positive or negative romantic jealousy communicative responses. The research on the Investment Model will be reviewed in the following section.

The Investment Model

Social scientists have dedicated a considerable amount of effort to understanding persistence and termination of romantic relationships (Rusbult, 1980, 1983; Rusbult & Buunk, 1993). The question of why some relationships thrive whereas others decline has generated increasing interest from social science researchers (Rusbult, et al., 1994; Rusbult et al., 1998). Most of the early studies focused on satisfaction or commitment as predictor of behaviors (Berscheid, 1985; Brickman, Dunkel Schetter, & Abbey, 1987; Johnson, 1991; Clark & Reis, 1988; Kelley, 1983; Levinger, 1979; Rusbult, 1980, 1983; Rusbult & Buunk, 1993; Rusbult, Van Lange, Verette, & Yovetich, 1993; Rusbult et al., 1998). The assumption of "feeling good equals persistence" has not received conclusive empirical support (Rusbult, 1980, 1982; Rusbult & Buunk, 1993). In addition, this assumption does not apply to the unsatisfying but persistent relationship or the dissolution of some satisfying

relationships (Rusbult & Buunk, 1993; Rusbult et al., 1993; Rusbult et al., 1998).

Satisfaction ebbs and flows, even in the most satisfying relationships (Levinger, 1979; Rusbult et al., 1998).

Therefore, satisfaction cannot be solely considered as an influential factor for human behaviors. Similarly, several studies that singly applied commitment as the key component for understanding the decision making process have not reached conclusive findings (e.g., maintenance, termination) (Rusbult, 1980, 1983; Rusbult et al, 1993).

The Investment Model proposes that commitment is the product of satisfaction, quality of alternatives, and investment size (Rusbult, 1983). Close relationship partners determine their behaviors based on the levels of the commitment (Rusbult et al., 1998). Emerged from the Interdependence Theory, the empirical studies of the Investment Model demonstrate a superior predictive power of maintenance behaviors over a single variable of satisfaction, affection (e.g., liking, love), or commitment across various types of relationships (e.g., marital relationships, homosexual relationships) (Kelly, 1979, Kelly & Thibaut, 1978; Thibaut & Kelly, 1959; Rusbult & Buunk, 1993).

Extension and Clarification: The Investment Model

The Investment Model focuses on commitment as a decisive component for dependence and relational maintenance behaviors (Rusbult et al., 1994). The Investment Model indicates that the Interdependence Theory fails to provide

conclusive answers to persistence, due to its inability to explain the continuation of unsatisfying relationships, and its lack of sufficient justification of the endurance for individuals who experience tempting alternatives (Rusbult et al., 1998). The Investment Model argues that commitment is an effective predictor for behaviors (i.e., persistence and termination of a relationship, tendencies to accommodation, derogation of alternatives, perceived superiority, willingness of sacrifice, and effective jealousy management) (Rusbult, 1980, 1983). The commitment level is conceptualized as the long-term involvement which influences one's dependence, attachment, and maintenance (Rusbult et al., 1994; Rusbult et al., 1998). The commitment promotes attachment in which individuals fear dissolution and cling to the persistence. We will discuss three main components of the commitment.

Satisfaction Level. Satisfaction is the comparison between the negative and positive romantic experiences (Rusbult et al., 1993). When one's most important needs are being fulfilled by his or her partner, the individual's perception of satisfaction will peak. Relational needs include intellectual stimulus, sexual needs, and companionship (Rusbult & Buunk, 1993; Van Lange et al., 1993).

Quality of Alternatives. The individuals' perception of desirability and availability of extra-dyadic alternatives is described as the quality of alternatives (Lin & Rusbult, 1995). Attractive alternatives impair one's intention for endurance and

maintenance. When perceiving appealing qualities of alternatives, one's intention of continuation are relatively low. On the other hand, individuals who report poor quality of alternatives will tend to remain in relationships due to the unique and irreplaceable quality of their relationships (Rusbult, 1980,1982; Rusbult et al., 1998).

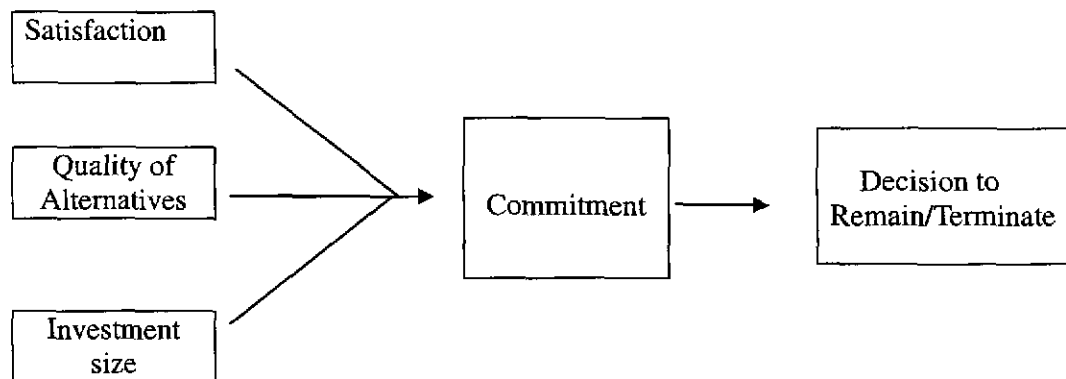
Investment Size. The importance and magnitude of resources that are attached to the romantic relationships are characterized as investment sizes (Rusbult, 1980,1982; Rusbult et al., 1998). Romantic partners tend to increase their investment in correspondence to progress. As the relationships progress, individuals increase their investment through various channels (e.g., self-disclosure, binding to the identities, effort expenditure). The most basic and common investment is the time that one spends with his or her partner (Rusbult et al., 1998). Relational termination signifies the loss or decreased value of the resources for the individuals (Rusbult, Van Lange, & Verette, 1993). Great investment is positively correlated with one's intention of persistence and maintenance (Rusbult & Buunk, 1993; Rusbult et al. 1998).

Commitment. Individuals' intention to persist and to maintain relationships is identified as commitment (Rusbult et al., 1991). Commitment is positively related with attachment and dependence. The psychological attachment such as togetherness/"we-ness" and long-term involvement toward the relationship are two examples of commitment. The commitment levels affect one's decision of persistence

and maintenance behaviors (see Figure 1) (Lin & Rusbult, 1995; Rusbult et al., 1993).

The Investment Model offers an explanation for persistence, attachment, and maintenance behaviors (Rusbult et al., 1993; Rusbult et al., 1994). Commitment is fortified by the satisfaction, great investment sizes, and poor quality alternatives (Lin & Rusbult, 1991; Rusbult et al., 1998). Commitment will lead to strong intention for relational maintenance and persistence (Rusbult & Buunk, 1993)(see Figure 1). Thus, commitment is an effective predictor for one's decisions of continuation and maintenance behaviors in a romantic relationship (Rusbult et al., 1991; Van Lange, 1993).

Figure 1 The Investment Model



(Rusbult, Martz & Agnew, 1998)

Relational Commitment, Persistence, and Maintenance

A series of empirical studies supported the predictability of persistence and maintenance of the Investment Model (Rusbult et al., 1991; Rusbult et al., 1998). An individual's tendency to persist in the relationship can occur under various situations, even for some problematic and unsatisfying relationships or for the individuals who experience tempting alternatives (Rusbult et al., 1993; Rusbult et al., 1994). Some individuals may repeatedly engage in such relationships and tolerate any costs in order to remain in their relationships. Holmes (1981) explained that such phenomena were based on macromotives (e.g., relatively enduring, internalized attitudes).

The Investment Model proposes the following statements as the macromotives for such behaviors: (a) commitment explains and predicts one's dependence to the relationship and to the partner, (b) commitment guides the familiar and novel interdependence situations, (c) commitment determines the tendencies to perform maintenance behaviors (Rusbult et al., 1994). Individuals who are more committed to their relationships and to their partners tend to act accordingly to protect the relationships from dissolution with an attempt to preserve and ensure their investment, the well-being of their partners, and the future of their relationships (Rusbult et al., 1993). Therefore, commitment promotes general motivation to one's maintenance behaviors (Rusbult et al., 1998). The relationship maintenance behaviors include: the

tendencies to accommodate, derogation of alternatives, willingness to sacrifice, perceived superiority, and effective jealousy management (Rusbult & Buunk, 1993). In sum, individuals tend to apply constructive maintenance behaviors to ensure the endurance of the relationship (Rusbult et al., 1993, Rusbult et al., 1994).

Tendencies to Accommodate. Prior research suggests that romantic partners' reaction to dissatisfaction vary on an individual basis (Rusbult & Buunk, 1993; Rusbult et al., 1991). When facing distress or dissatisfaction, one may behave in a constructive manner to deal with the difficulties rather than in a destructive fashion (Rusbult & Buunk, 1993; Rusbult et al., 1993). The constructive reactions are conceptualized as accommodation. The tendencies of accommodation are greater for individuals who are more satisfied with their relationships and perceive poor alternatives (Rusbult et al., 1994).

Derogation of Alternatives. Attractive alternatives are not limited to the dissatisfied romantic relationships; appealing alternatives could exist in smooth and satisfied romantic relationships (Buunk, 1980; Buunk & Bringle, 1987). However, when commitment is strong, the cost for pursuing an alternative relationship will be acute, and the probabilities for engaging in alternatives will be rare (Drigotas & Rusbult, 1992). Individuals with a high degree of commitment tend to associate the alternatives with threats that undermine the stability of their relationships (Rusbult et al., 1998).

Committed individuals will focus on the negative effects of the alternatives and will convince themselves that the alternatives are not attractive (Van Lange et al., 1993).

Willingness to Sacrifice. Individuals sometimes face the dilemma of pursuing the self-interests or best relational interests. The action of choosing relational interests over the self-interests is defined as willingness to sacrifice (Rusbult, et al., 1998). Willingness to sacrifice is positively correlated with commitment levels (e.g., satisfaction, great investment size, and poor alternatives)(Van Lange, et al., 1993, Rusbult, et al., 1998). Prior studies suggest that highly involved and highly committed individuals are more likely to sacrifice their self-interests for their maintenance purposes (Rusbult, et al., 1993).

Perceived Superiority. The tendencies to evaluate one's own relationship in more positive perspectives and to evaluate others' relationships in a more negative sentiment is characterized as perceived superiority (Van Lange et al., 1993, Rusbult et al., 1998). Rusbult and colleagues (1993) reported a positive association between commitment and perceived superiority. Committed individuals tended to evaluate their own relationship with more positive tone and perceive others' with more negative aspects (Rusbult et al., 1994).

Effective Management of Jealousy. Individuals apply various methods to deal with their romantic jealousy when fearing partners' extra-dyadic involvement (Thibaut

& Kelly; 1959; Rusbult & Buunk, 1993). Committed individuals tend to adopt effective jealousy management to avoid intense jealousy experience and distress (Rusbult & Buunk, 1993).

Commitment and Positive/Negative Communicative Responses

The Investment Model argues that commitment is an influential element that determines one's behaviors, including effective jealousy management (Rusbult et al., 1998). Commitment reflects the individuals' attachment, involvement, and dependence on romantic relationships (Rusbult et al., 1994). Furthermore, commitment is determined by satisfaction, quality of alternatives, and investment sizes (Rusbult, 1980, 1983). Commitment is the product of satisfaction, great investment sizes, and quality of alternatives. Individuals who are more committed to their relationships will be more likely to maintain their romantic relationships due to the satisfying and irreplaceable quality of their romantic relationships. On the contrary, individuals who are less committed to the romantic relationship will not perceive the relationship as precious as the more committed individuals; thus, less committed individuals will be more likely to exit or abandon the relationship when facing difficulties, such as romantic jealousy (Drigotas & Rusbult, 1992).

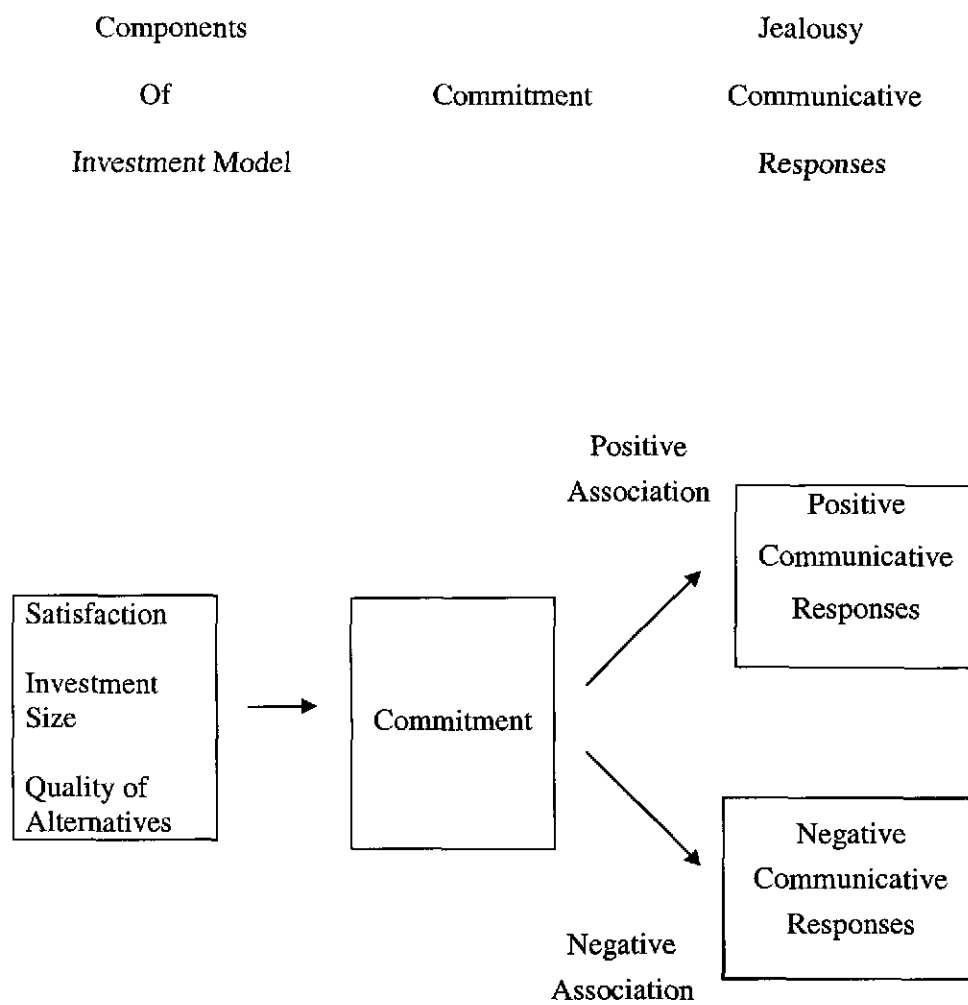
The current study proposed two hypotheses to investigate the relationships between commitment and positive/negative communicative responses. Commitment

might play an important role in one's choices of applying positive or negative romantic jealousy expression. The more committed individuals might adopt the positive romantic jealousy strategies with an attempt to maintain their romantic relationships and avoid applying negative communicative responses. Greater commitment might also be related to the use of positive communicative responses to romantic jealousy situations due to the unique and irreplaceable quality of the romantic relationship and the strong willingness for persistence. Commitment might also be negatively associated with negative communicative responses which result in counterproductive consequences. (see Figure 2). Thus, the current paper proposed the following hypotheses to investigate the relationships between commitment and positive/negative communicative responses to romantic jealousy.

H1: Commitment will be positively associated with positive communicative responses to romantic jealousy.

H2: Commitment will be negatively associated with negative communicative responses to romantic jealousy.

Figure 2. Relationship between Positive/Negative Communicative Responses to Romantic Jealousy and Commitment



CHAPTER 2

METHOD

Participants

Two hundred and three participants were recruited from undergraduate classes (N=203; male N= 65, female N=138) of the University of Hawaii at Manoa. The age of the participants ranged from 18 to 46 years ($M=21.23$, $SD=4.31$). Twenty-nine participants were freshman (13.9%), 48 were sophomore (23.0%), 64 were junior (30.6%), 56 were senior (26.8%), and two were other (1.0%). Twenty-nine participants (13.9%) were causal daters, 153 participants (73.2%) were exclusive daters, and 21 participants (10%) were other (i.e., cohabitating). One hundred and four participants (49.8%) were still dating; 97 participants' romantic relationships had ended (46.5%) ($M=5.77$, $SD=12.57$). The ethnicities of the participants included 48 Japanese (23%), 16 Chinese (7.7%), 8 Korean (3.8%), 18 Filipino (8.6%), 13 Hawaiian (6.2%), 30 Caucasian (14.4%), 47 mixed (22.5%), and 23 other ethnicities (11%).

Procedure

Participants were given a three-part survey to report communicative responses to jealousy that they have used in their romantic relationships and to evaluate their commitment levels. In order to participate, all participants must have experienced romantic jealousy in their current or most recent romantic relationships. The

questionnaire defined romantic jealousy as “the perception that your romantic relationship was threatened by a rival”. The instructions of the questionnaire asked the participants to recollect a romantic jealousy experience in their current or most recent romantic relationships and to keep the romantic jealousy experience in mind when completing the questionnaires. The participants first reported the communicative responses to romantic jealousy that they had used to convey their jealous feelings to their romantic partners. The participants then were asked to evaluate their commitment about the romantic relationships in which they had experienced romantic jealousy. The third part of the questionnaire asked demographic information about the participants, such as relational status, current situation, length of the relationship, how long ago has the relationship ended, age, sex, class standing, and ethnicity. The questionnaires took 20-30 minutes to complete. Participating students received research credit or extra credit from their respective classes.

Measures

Communicative Responses to Jealousy

The Communicative Responses to Jealousy Scale (CRJ)(Guerrero & Andersen, 1998) was used to measure the way people react to jealousy. The CRJ contains more responses that are not included by other jealousy measures. The CRJ eliminates the responses that are purely cognitive or cannot be conveyed externally. For these reasons,

the CRJ is more predictive measure for jealousy expression than other jealousy measures (Guerrero & Andersen, 1995). The CRJ also measures the positive and negative communicative responses to jealousy. The CRJ uses an nine-point Likert scale ranging from “do not agree at all”(0) to “agree completely”(8). The participants were required to recall their jealousy communicative responses based on their previous jealousy experience. The questionnaires included the eleven positive and negative communication responses to jealousy. The positive jealousy communicative responses consisted of three categories (e.g., integration, negative affect expression, compensatory restoration) with 16 items. Negative jealousy expression includes 6 categories (e.g., active distancing, distributive communication, avoidance/denial, violent communication, manipulation, violent behavior) with 27 items. A one-factor solution was clearly found for each of the communicative responses items with a minimum factor loading of .42. The positive communicative responses to jealousy reported an adequate reliability ($\alpha = .81$). The negative communicative responses to jealousy reported a good reliability ($\alpha = .91$)

Commitment

Commitment was measured by the Investment Model Scale (Rusbult, Martz, & Agnew, 1998). The scale consists of 7 items that are designed to measure one's satisfaction levels, quality of alternatives, and investment sizes (Rusbult, 1980,1983). The scale uses a nine-point Likert scale ranging from "do not agree at all"(0) to "agree completely"(8). Higher scores indicate stronger commitment, whereas the lower scores reflect lower level of commitment (see Appendix B). Exploratory factor analysis was conducted on all 7 items of the Investment Model Scale. A one-factor solution was clearly found for 6 out of 7 items with a minimum factor loading of .41. One item (item 4) was loaded on a second factor and was excluded from further analysis. The resulting Investment Model Scale had an adequate reliability ($\alpha = .77$).

Following previous research, a series of correlation analyses were conducted to examine the relationship between commitment and two sub-sets of positive/negative communicative responses to jealousy (Andersen et al., 1995; Rusbult et al., 1994). The association between each positive/negative communicative response to romantic jealousy and commitment levels were examined.

CHAPTER 3

RESULTS

Length of Relationship and Commitment

We investigated the association between the length of the relationship and commitment as an indirect testing of the validity of the Investment Model Scale. The results of the correlation analysis reported a significant association between the two variables. As expected, length of the romantic relationship was positively correlated with commitment, $r(201) = .22, p < .001, \eta^2 = .05$.

Hypothesis One

Hypothesis one investigated the relationships between one's positive jealousy communicative responses and commitment. A series of Pearson Product Moment correlation coefficients were computed. The results of the analyses indicated that there was a strong relationship between the two variables (see Table 1). Among the three positive communicative responses, two positive communicative responses of integration and compensatory restoration were positively correlated with commitment. Integration was positively associated with commitment, $r(201) = .18, p < .001$. Similarly, the strategy of compensatory restoration was positively correlated with commitment, $r(201) = .30, p < .001$. There was not a significant correlation between commitment and the third positive communicative response of negative affect

expression. The findings of the correlation suggested that commitment levels were positively associated with the majority of the positive communicative responses to jealousy. Thus, hypothesis one was largely supported.

Hypothesis Two

Hypothesis two examined the association between one's negative jealousy communicative responses and commitment. A series of Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficients were computed. Among the classified eight negative communicative responses, two negative strategies of active distancing and manipulation were negatively correlated with commitment (see Table 1). Active distancing was negatively associated with commitment, $r(201) = -.16, p < .005$. In addition, manipulation was negatively correlated with commitment, $r(201) = -.14, p < .005$. There was no significant correlation between commitment and the rest of the negative communicative responses to romantic jealousy. In sum, the results of correlation analyses demonstrated that commitment was negatively associated with two out of eight negative communicative responses to jealousy. Thus, hypothesis two was only partially supported.

Table 1.
Correlations between Commitment and Communicative Responses

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
|----------------------------------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----|
| 1. Commitment | - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2. Active Distancing | -.16* | - | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3. Negative Affection Expression | .22 | .36** | - | | | | | | | | | |
| 4. Integration | .18* | .04 | .33** | - | | | | | | | | |
| 5. Distributive Communication | -.04 | .48** | .53** | .16* | - | | | | | | | |
| 6. Avoidance/Denial | -.01 | .25** | -.05 | -.20** | -.07 | - | | | | | | |
| 7. Violence Communication | -.10 | .23** | .34** | .50 | .54** | -.08 | - | | | | | |
| 8. Surveillance | .00 | .26** | .36 | .13 | .37** | -.013 | .35* | - | | | | |
| 9. Compensatory Restoration | .30** | -.05 | .16* | .13 | -.02 | .12 | -.12 | .26** | - | | | |
| 10. Manipulation | -.14* | -.39** | .16* | .11 | .46** | .20** | .20** | .44** | .19** | - | | |
| 11. Rival Contact | -.11 | .22** | .17* | .11 | .25** | .02 | .38** | .44** | .11 | .21** | - | |
| 12. Violence Behavior | -.04 | .33** | .42** | .11 | .51** | -.12 | .54** | .36** | .07 | .29** | .43** | - |

*Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

**Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Chapter 4

DISCUSSION

The purposes of this study were to examine the relationships between positive jealousy communicative responses and commitment, as well as to investigate the association between negative communicative responses and commitment. Results of this study revealed that commitment levels were positively correlated with two of the three positive communicative responses: integration and compensatory restoration. On the contrary, commitment was negatively associated with two of the eight negative communicative responses (i.e., active distancing and manipulation). The results of this indicate commitment as an important factor in one's choices of communicative responses to romantic jealousy. This study also offers empirical support to the Investment Model in explaining romantic relational behaviors.

First, the results of the current study support the claim of the Investment Model in regards to relationships between commitment and effective jealousy management. The Investment Model argues that committed individuals tend to use effective romantic jealousy management due to the dependence and the attachment that jealous individuals hold toward the relationship (Rusbult et al., 1994). When commitment is stronger, the likelihood for individuals to persist in their relationships is greater. Thus, when romantically involved individuals experience difficulty such as

jealousy, the individuals tend to use productive jealousy management styles to express their emotional distress (Rusbult et al., 1994). The positive association between two positive jealousy expression and commitment has indicated the tendency of committed individuals' application of positive strategies.

Second, the negative associations between negative communicative responses and commitment levels were discovered. The negative correlations indicated that more commitment was related to lower reported uses of some of negative communicative responses to romantic jealousy. The findings are partially consistent with the claim of the Investment Model. Individuals' attachment and dependence to their romantic relationships influence their jealousy management styles. Committed individuals are concerned about the irreplaceable quality of their romantic relationships when experiencing romantic jealousy (Rusbult et al., 1998). Thus, greater commitment levels are related to positive communicative responses. Commitment also lowers the likelihood of using negative communicative responses to romantic jealousy. The negative association between commitment and two negative communicative responses demonstrates that greater commitment is linked to the avoidance of using negative jealousy coping tactics.

Implications

Investment Model: Commitment and Communicative Responses to Jealousy

The findings of this study contribute to the relevant research of the communicative response to romantic jealousy and the Investment Model. The Investment Model proposes that commitment influences one's behaviors such as jealousy management styles. However, this claim lacks empirical support. The results of the current study provide empirical support for the arguments that were made by the Investment Model in regards to effective jealousy management styles. The associations between commitment and positive/negative communicative responses have demonstrated the significant correlations between commitment and individuals' application of positive or negative jealousy expression. Individuals who are committed to their romantic partners and to the romantic relationship tend to adopt positive communicative responses to cope with their jealousy experience and avoid applying the negative communicative responses to ensure the endurance of the romantic relationship. The findings of this study suggest that commitment is an important factor for one's uses of positive/negative communicative responses. The findings of the current study fortify the explanatory power and predictability of the Investment Model for relational communication behaviors.

Limitation and Future Direction

Although the current study has discovered the significant associations between commitment and communicative responses, some limitations need to be noted for future research. One limitation concerns with sample that was used in this study. The majority of participants of this study were college students with a mean age of 21.23 years. An early study reported a negative association between jealousy experience and communicative responses (Taylor & Dainton, 2001). The previous study suggested that age played a critical role in influencing one's jealousy experience and communicative responses to jealousy. As age increases, the jealousy experiences and communicative responses decreases (Aylor & Dainton, 2001). Thus, the participants of this study may not reflect the general population. Future research may focus on recruiting participants from various ranges of age to increase the generalizability of the findings.

The second limitation centers on the self-report and recollection of the jealousy expression of the participants. The self-report might measure social desirability of the items and affect the accuracy of the recollection of jealousy expression. The self-report survey cannot accurately demonstrate participants' actual communicative responses, and it was relatively difficult to recall the exact behaviors that had been engaged by jealous individuals. The future study should consider using an *experimental design to examine one's communicative responses to jealousy. The*

experimental design will enable the researchers to observe the actual uses of the communicative responses that are applied by the jealous individuals.

The third limitation centers on the individual basis of the study. The current study has measured the communicative responses and commitment based on only one partner's perspective. However, the relational behaviors are *interdependent interactions* that require both members' participation. Individuals' communicative responses and commitment levels to jealousy may be affected by their romantic partners' jealousy expression and commitment. Future studies should consider using romantically involved couples as the subject population to compare and contrast the communicative responses to and commitment from both members in romantic relationships.

The fourth limitation centers on the difficulties of studying individuals with low commitment levels. The average of the commitment level of this study is 5.95 which is interpreted as the moderate to high levels on a nine-point Likert scale. Although the current study discovered a negative association between the commitment levels and two of the eight negative communicative responses, the relationship between low levels of commitment and negative communicative responses needs further examination. Future research may focus on recruiting low committed and jealous couples as participants (*i.e., jealous couples who just have had big fights*) to further

investigate the relationship between the negative communicative responses and
commitment.

Conclusion

In sum, the current study discovers significant relationships between commitment and some of the positive/negative communicative responses to romantic jealousy. The findings of the current study suggest that commitment is an influential factor to one's decision of applying positive/negative communicative responses. The current study provides an empirical support to the Investment Model's explanatory power in regards to effective jealousy management and relational behaviors.

APPENDIX A

COMMUNICATIVE RESPONSES TO ROMANTIC JEALOUSY MEASURES

Instruction: Please think about a time you felt jealous in your current or most recent romantic relationship. By “jealous” we mean that you felt that your perceived that the quality of your relationship was somehow threatened by a rival. The following items ask about the intensity of your jealousy experience, possible methods that you may have used to express your jealousy, and your romantic relationship. Please indicate the intensity of your jealousy experience, the frequency that you engaged in each of the behaviors, and your feelings about the romantic relationship with each of the following statement by circling a number from 0 to 8.

When I feel jealous I tend to:

Active Distancing

1. physically pulled away from partner
2. gave partner cold or dirty looks
3. decreased affection towards partner
4. ignored my partner
5. gave partner the “silent treatment”
6. stopped calling or initiating communication with my partner

Negative Affect Expression

7. displayed insecurity to my partner
8. vent my frustration when with my partner
9. appeared hurt in front of my partner
10. appeared sad and depressed in front of my partner
11. cried or sulked I front of my partner
12. wore my displeasure on my face for my partner to see

Integrative Communication

13. explained my feelings to my partner
14. disclosed jealous feelings to my partner
15. discussed bothersome issues with my partner
16. tried to talk about the problem and reach an understanding

a Indicates reverse coded items.

b Indicates items removed from final scale.

APPENDIX A(Continued)

17. calmly questioned my partner about her/his action and feelings

Distributive communication

- 18. yelled or cursed at my partner
- 19. acted rude toward my partner
- 20. made hurtful or abusive comments to my partner
- 21. quarreled or argued with my partner
- 22. confronted my partner in an accusatory manner

Avoidance/Denial

- 23. got quiet and didn't say much to my partner
- 24. became silent around my partner
- 25. acted like I didn't care
- 26. pretended nothing was wrong
- 27. denied feeling jealous if confronted by my partner

Violent Communication/Threat

- 28. used physical force
- 29. threatened to harm my partner
- 30. was/were physically violent
- 31. pushed, shoved , or hit my partner

Surveillance/Restriction

- 32. kept close tabs on my partner
- 33. checked up on my partner
- 34. spy on or followed my partner
- 35. looked through my partner's belongings for "evidence"
- 36. restricted my partner's access to the rival
- 37. tried to determine my partner's whereabouts
- 38. constantly called my partner

Compensatory Restoration

- 39. increased affection or did special things for my partner
- 40. try to prove my partner that I really love her/him
- 41. tried to be the "best" partner possible

a Indicates reverse coded items.

b Indicates items removed from final scale.

APPENDIX A (Continued)

- 42. spent more time with my partner than usual
- 43. tried to be more attractive and/or appealing than the rival

Manipulation Attempts

- 44. tried to make my partner feel jealous too
- 45. tried to get “revenge” or “get back at” my partner
- 46. tried my partner to test her/his loyalty
- 47. tried to make my partner feel guilty

Rival Contacts

- 48. threatened the rival
- 49. confronted the rival
- 50. told the rival not to see my partner anymore

Violent Behavior

- 51. hit or threw object
- 52. slam door

a Indicates reverse coded items.

b Indicates items removed from final scale.

Appendix B

COMMITMENT MEASURES

Instruction: Please keep in mind the same romantic relationship in which you have experienced jealousy from the first part of this survey. This part of the survey is concerned with your feelings about the same romantic relationship. Even if the relationship has ended, please answer the following questions about your feelings surrounding the time of the jealousy incident. Now, please indicate the degree to which you agree with each of the following statements by circling a number from 0 to 8. (circle an answer for each item).

Instruction: please indicate the degree to which you agree with each of the following statements regarding your current relationship (circle an answer for each item).

1. I want our relationship to last for a very long time.
2. I am committed to maintaining my relationship with my partner.
3. I would not feel very upset if our relationship were to end in the near future. a
4. It is likely that I will date someone other than my partner within the next year. a b
5. I feel very attached to our relationship – very strongly linked to my partner.
6. I want our relationship to last forever.
7. I am oriented toward the long-term future of my relationship (for example, I imagine being with my partner several years from now)

a Indicates reverse coded items.

b Indicates items removed from final scale.

References

- Afifi, W. A., & Burgoon, J. K. (1996, November). *Behavioral violations in interactions: The combined consequences of valence and change in uncertainty on interaction outcome*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Speech Communication Association, San Diego, CA.
- Andersen, P. A., Eloy, S. V., Guerrero, L. K., & Spitzberg, B. H. (1995). Romantic jealousy and satisfaction: A look at the impact of jealousy experience and expression. *Communication Report, 8*, 77-85.
- Aylor, B., & Dainton, M. (2001). Antecedents in romantic jealousy experience, expression and goals. *Western Journal of Communication, 65*, 370-391.
- Berscheid, E. (1985). Interpersonal attraction. In G. Lindzey & E. Aronson(Eds.), *Handbook of social psychology*. (pp. 413-484).
- Brickman, P., Dunkel-Schetter, C., & Abbey, A. (1987). The development of commitment. In P. Brickman (Ed.), *Commitment, conflict and caring* (pp. 145-221). Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall.
- Bryson, J. B. (1977, September). *Situational determinants of the expression of jealousy*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, San Francisco, CA.
- Bryson, J. B. (1991). Modes of responses to jealousy-evoking situations. In P. Salovey

(Ed.), *The psychology of envy and jealousy* (pp.1-45). New York: Guilford.

Buss, D. M. (1988). From vigilance to violence: Tactics of mate retention in American undergraduates. *Ethnology and Sociobiology*, 9, 291-317.

Buunk, B. (1980). Extramarital sex in the Netherlands: Motivations in social and marital context. *Alternative Lifestyles*, 3, 11-39.

Buunk, B., & Bringle, R. G. (1987). Jealousy in love relationships. In D. Perlman & S. Duck (Eds.), *Intimate relationship: Development, dynamics and deterioration* (pp.123-147). Newbury Park, CA: Sage.

Buunk, B., P., Englies, Ponjee, & Vassen (1993). Commitment process among young Dutch adults. Unpublished manuscript, University of Groningen , The Netherlands.

Byers, P. Y. & Overdoff, S. A. (1991, November). *A descriptive analysis of female perceptions of romantic marital jealousy*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Speech Communication Association, Atlanta, GA.

Carson, c. L., & Cupach, W. R. (2000). Fueling the flames of the green-eyed monster: The role of ruminative though in reaction to perceived relationship threat. *Western Journal of communication*, 64, 308-329.

Clark, M. S., & Reis, H. T. (1988). Interpersonal process in close relationships. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 39, 609-672.

- Clanton, G. Smith, L. G. (1977). *Jealousy*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall
- Cramer, D. (2000). Relationship satisfaction and conflict in romantic relationships. *Journal of Psychology, 134*, 337-341.
- Drigotas, S. M., & Rusbult, C. E. (1992). Should I stay or should I go?: A dependence model of breakups. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 62*, 62-87.
- Duffy, S., & Rusbult, C. E. (1986). Satisfaction and commitment in homosexual and heterosexual relationships. *Journal of Homosexuality, 12*, 1-23.
- Eloy, S. V., Guerrero, L. K., Andersen, P. A., & Spitzberg, B H. (1992, May). *Coping with the green-eyed monster: satisfaction and communicative responses to jealousy*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the international Communication Association. Miami, FL
- Gottman, J. (1994). *What predicts divorce?* Hillsdale, NJ: Erlbaum.
- Guerrero, L. K., & Afifi, W. A. (1998). Communicative responses to jealousy as function of self-esteem and relationship maintenance goals: A test of Bryson's Dual motivation model. *Communication Reports, 11*, 111-123.
- Guerrero, L. K., & Andersen, P. A. (1995). Coping with the green-eyed monster: Conceptualizing the measuring communicative responses to romantic jealousy. *Western Journal of Communication, 59*, 270-306.

- Guerrero, L. K., & Andersen, P. A. (1998). Jealousy experience and expression in romantic relationship. In P. A. Andersen & L. K. Guerrero (Ed.), *Handbook of communication and emotion: research, theory, application, and contexts* (p.p. 155-188). San Diego: Academic Press.
- Guerrero, L. K., & Eloy, S. V. (1991). Satisfaction and jealousy across marital types. *Communication Report*, 5, 21-31.
- Guerrero, L. K., & Jorgensen, P. F. (1991). *The nature of marital jealousy: effect of the threats to permanence and interdependence*. Paper presented at the Speech Communication Association Convention, Atlanta, GA.
- Guerrero, L. K., & Reiter, R. L. (1998). Expressing emotion: Sex differences in social skills and communicative responses to anger, sadness, and jealousy. In D. J. Canary & K. Dindia (Eds.), *Sex differences and similarities in communication*. Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum.
- Homes, J.G. (1981). The exchange process in close relationships: Microbehavior and macromotives. In M.J. Lerner and S. C. Lerner (Eds.). *The justice motive in social behavior*. New York: Plenum.
- Johnson, M. P. (1991). Commitment to personal relationship. In W. H. Jones & D. W. Perlman (Eds.), *Advances in personal relationships*, (pp.117-143). London: Jessica Kingsley.

- Kelley, H. H. (1979). *Personal relationships: Their structures and processes*. Hillsdale, NJ: Erlbaum.
- Kelley, H. H., & Thibaut, J.W. (1978). *Interpersonal relations: A theory of interdependence*. New York: Wiley.
- Kelly, H. H. (1983). Love and commitment. In H. HJ. Kelly, E Berscheid, A. Christensen, J. H. Harvey, T. L. Huston, G. Levinger, E McClintock, L. A. Peplau, & D. R. Peterson (Eds.), *Close Relationships* (pp. 265- 314). New York: W. H. Freeman.
- Levesque J. R. (1993). The romantic experience of Adolescents in satisfying love relationships. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 22, 219, 252.
- Levinger, G. (1979). A social exchange view on the dissolution of pair relationship. In R. L. Burgess & T. L. Huston (Eds.), *Social exchange in developing relationship* (pp. 169-193). New York: Academic Press.
- Lin, Y. H. W., & Rusbult, C. E. (1995). Commitment to dating relationships and cross-sex friendships in American and China. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationship*, 12, 7-26.
- Pfeiffer, S. M., & Wong, P. T. (1989). Multidimensional jealousy. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationship*, 6, 181-196.
- Pistole, M., Carole, C., Eddie, M., (1995). Love relationships: attachment style and the

Investment Model. *Journal of Mental Health Counseling*, 17, 7-34.

Rich, J. (1991). A two-factor measure of jealous response. *Psychological Reports*, 68, 999-1007.

Rusbult, C. E. (1980). Commitment and satisfaction in romantic associations: A test of the Investment Model. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 16, 172-186.

Rusbult, C. E. (1983). A longitudinal test of the Investment Model: The development (and deterioration) of satisfaction and commitment in heterosexual involvements. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 45, 101-117.

Rusbult, C. E., Van Lange, P. A. M., Verette, J., & Yovetich, N. A. (1993). *Absolute commitment level mutuality of commitment and adjustment in marital relationships*. Manuscript in preparation, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Rusbult, C. E., Drigotas, S. M., & Verette, J. (1994). The Investment Model: An interdependence analysis of commitment process and relationship maintenance phenomena. In D. Canary & L. Stafford (Eds.), *Communication and maintenance* (pp. 115-139). New York: Academic Press.

Rusbult, C. E., Martz, J. M., & Agnew, C. R. (1998). *The Investment Model Scale: measuring commitment level, satisfaction level, quality of alternatives, and*

investment size. *Personal Relationship*, 5, 357-391.

Rusbult, C. E., Verette, J., Whitney, G. A, Slovik, L. F., & Lipkus, I. (1991).

Accommodation processes in close relationships: Theory and preliminary empirical evidence. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 60, 53-57.

Rusbult, C.E., & Buunk, B. P. (1993). Commitment processes in close relationships: An interdependence analysis. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationship*, 10, 175-204.

Sillars, A. (1980). The sequential and distributional structure of conflict interactions as a function of attributions concerning the locus of responsibility and stability of conflicts. In D. Nimmo (Ed.), *Communication yearbook*, 4 (pp. 217-235).

Sharpsteen, D. J. (1993). Romantic jealousy as an emotion concept: A prototype analysis. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationship*. 10, 69-82.

Sprecher, S. & Feilmlee, D. (1993). Conflict, love, and other relationship dimensions for individuals in dissolving stable and growing premarital relationships: Free inquiry in creativity. *Sociology*, 21, 115-125.

Thibaut, J. W., & Kelley, H. H. (1959). *The social psychology of groups*. New York: Wiley.

Van Lange, P. A. M., Rusbult, C. E., & Drigotas, S. M. (1993). Emotions and attributional interpretations as proximal mediators of willingness to

accommodate in close relationship. Unpublished manuscript, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

White, G. L. (1985). *Portrayals of romantic jealousy in television programs*.

Unpublished manuscript, University of Auckland.

White, G. L., & Mullen, P. E. (1989). *Jealousy: Theory, research, and clinical strategies*. New York: Guilford.

We certify that we have read this thesis and that, in our opinion, it is satisfactory in scope and quality as a thesis for the degree of Master of Arts in Speech.

THESIS COMMITTEE

Maria Kim

Chairperson

Deborah

Kristina Allen

Carl Kim

We certify that we have read this thesis and that, in our opinion, it is satisfactory in scope and quality as a thesis for the degree of Master of Arts in Speech.

THESIS COMMITTEE

Monika Kim

Chairperson

Deborah

Kristina Stone

Carl Kip

We certify that we have read this thesis and that, in our opinion, it is satisfactory in scope and quality as a thesis for the degree of Master of Arts in Speech.

THESIS COMMITTEE

Maria Kim

Chairperson

Rosemary

Kristina & Anne

Carl Kip

We certify that we have read this thesis and that, in our opinion, it is satisfactory in scope and quality as a thesis for the degree of Master of Arts in Speech.

THESIS COMMITTEE

Minda Ksm

Chairperson

Breanna

Kristina St. Anne

Carl Kyp

We certify that we have read this thesis and that, in our opinion, it is satisfactory in scope and quality as a thesis for the degree of Master of Arts in Speech.

THESIS COMMITTEE

Chairperson

Karyn A. Allen
