

TABLE 5-1 Data for Testing the Theory of Extramarital Affairs

Variable	Description	Values	Mean
<i>Psychology Today Data</i>			
affair	How often engaged in extramarital sexual intercourse during the past year	0 = none, 1 = once, 2 = twice, 3 = 3 times, 7 = 4–10 times, 12 = monthly, 12 = weekly, 12 = daily	1.46
years married	Number of years married	0.125 = 3 months or less, 0.417 = 4–6 months, 0.75 = 6 months–1 year, 1.5 = 1–2 years, 4 = 3–5 years, 7 = 6–8 years, 10 = 9–11 years, 15 = 12 or more years	8.18
age	Age	17.5 = under 20, 22 = 20–24, 27 = 25–29, 32 = 30–34, 37 = 35–39, 42 = 40–44, 47 = 45–49, 52 = 50–54, 57 = 55 or over	32.50
marital happiness	Rating of marriage	5 = very happy, 4 = happier than average, 3 = average, 2 = somewhat unhappy, 1 = very unhappy	3.93
religiosity	Rating of how religious	5 = very, 4 = somewhat, 3 = slightly, 2 = not at all, 1 = anti	3.12
occupation	Occupation	Values between 1 and 7, ranked by social position of occupation	4.19
<i>Redbook Data (women only)</i>			
affair	Measure of time spent in extramarital affairs	Equal to 0 if no sexual relations with man other than husband; otherwise equal to (no. men × frequency)/years married. (Values range from 0 to 57.6.)	0.705
no. men	If since marriage have had sexual relations with man other than husband, with how many different men	1 = 1, 3.5 = 2–5, 8 = 6–10, 12 = more than 10	N/A

TABLE 5-1 continued

Variable	Description	Values	Mean
<i>Redbook Data (women only)</i>			
frequency	Continuing from previous question, approximate number of times had sexual relations with each man	1 = once, 3.5 = 2-5, 8 = 6-10, 12 = more than 10, 5.6 = it varied greatly from partner to partner	N/A
years married	Number of years married	0.5 = less than 1 year, 2.5 = 1-4 years, 6 = 5-7 years, 9 = 8-10 years, 13 if more than 10 years and oldest child is under 12 years of age, 16.5 if more than 10 years and oldest child is between 12 and 17 years of age, 23 if more than 10 years and oldest child is 18 years of age or over	9.01
age	Age	17.5 = under 20, 22 = 20-24, 27 = 25-29, 32 = 30-34, 37 = 35-39, 42 = 40 or over	29.1
marital happiness	Rating of marriage	5 = very good, 4 = good, 3 = fair, 2 = poor, 1 = very poor	4.11
religiosity	Rating of how religious	4 = strongly, 3 = fairly, 2 = mildly, 1 = not	2.43
occupation	Occupation	6 = professional with advanced degree; 5 = managerial, administrative, business; 4 = teacher, counselor, social worker, nurse, artist, writer; technician, skilled worker; 3 = white-collar (sales, clerical, secretarial), 2 = farming, agriculture, semiskilled or unskilled worker, other; 1 = student	3.42

Note: *Psychology Today* data consist of 601 observations, 150 of them where affair is not zero. *Redbook* data consist of 6,366 observations, 2,053 of them where affair is not zero.