

## Publication

### Actor and partner effects of self-esteem on relationship satisfaction and the mediating role of secure attachment between the partners

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**Author(s)** Erol, Ruth Yasemin; Orth, Ulrich

**Author(s) at UniBasel** [Orth, Ulrich](#) ; [Erol, Ruth Yasemin](#) ;

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We examined actor and partner effects of self-esteem on relationship satisfaction, using the actor-partner interdependence model and data from five independent samples of couples. The results indicated that self-esteem predicted the individual's own relationship satisfaction (i.e., an actor effect) and the relationship satisfaction of his or her partner (i.e., a partner effect), controlling for the effect of the partner's self-esteem. Gender, age, and length of relationship did not moderate the effect sizes. Moreover, using one of the samples, we tested whether secure attachment to the current partner (assessed as low attachment-related anxiety and avoidance) mediated the effects. The results showed that attachment-related anxiety and avoidance independently mediated both the actor and the partner effect of self-esteem on relationship satisfaction. (C) 2012 Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

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