

Abstract

THESIS: Affectionate Touch and Emotional Displays in Japanese U.S. American Intercultural Romantic Relationships

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The purpose of the current study was to understand how affectionate touch and emotional displays were enacted between partners in Japanese-U.S. American intercultural romantic relationships. Using a qualitative methodological approach, the current study answered six research questions related to how affectionate touch and emotional displays were enacted, how affectionate touch and emotional displays were perceived, and some factors contributing to the ways in which affectionate touch and emotional displays were enacted between partners in Japanese-U.S. American intercultural romantic relationships.

Keywords: affectionate touch, emotional displays, intercultural relationships, romantic relationships, nonverbal communication