



Women's Romantic Jealousy Predicts Risky Appearance Enhancement Effort

Megan MacKinnon, Sadie Clarke, Grant McPherson, Emily Kapitanchuk, & Steven Arnocky

Relative to men, women engage in more costly, and risky, appearance enhancement practices for the purpose of *attracting* mates. Much less research has focused on women's appearance enhancement as a form of *mate retention*.

It is unclear whether costly or risky appearance enhancement efforts are predicted by romantic jealousy in the same manner as other mate retention tactics.

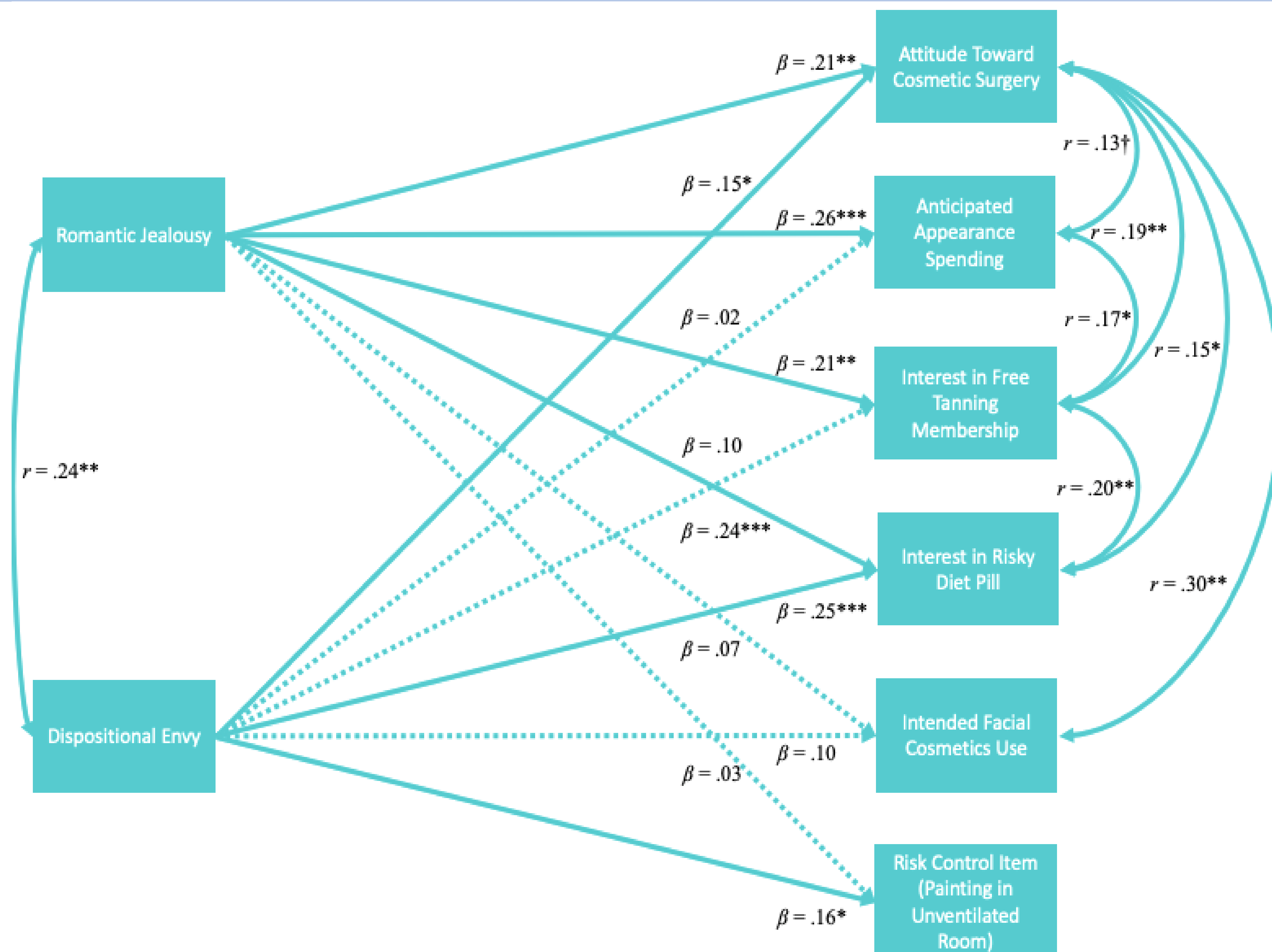
We hypothesized that jealousy would predict a variety of costly and/or risky appearance enhancement strategies.

Sample. 189 undergraduate women aged 17-37 ($M_{age} = 20$, $SD = 2.64$). Approximately half (55%; $n = 104$) were in a committed romantic relationship.

Measures.

- Multidimensional Jealousy Scale (MJS)
- Dispositional Envy Scale (DES)
- Acceptance of Cosmetic Surgery Scale (ACSS)
- Appearance enhancement products
- Tanning and diet pill use
- Situational Cosmetics Use Inventory

Conclusion: Jealousy predicted measures of appearance enhancement effort, supporting our hypothesis that jealousy-related risk-taking specific to appearance enhancement can enhance one's ability to attract *and* retain desirable mates.



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