

## Conference Paper

# Humor Styles and Forgiveness of the Students Who Are in a Dating Relationship

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## Abstract.

One way to reduce or minimize conflict in a dating relationship is forgiveness. One of the factors of forgiveness is the positive attribution of the victim to the perpetrator, which can be facilitated by perspective-taking empathy. Previous research has shown that a style of humor correlates with perspective-taking empathy and forgiveness. This study aims to further develop previous research by finding out whether humor style can predict forgiveness and focusing more on the dependent variable to be forgiveness for a partner in college students who are in a dating relationship. This study uses a quantitative approach with correlational design and multiple linear regression. The independent variable is humor styles, consisting of affiliative humor, self-enhancing humor, aggressive humor, and self-defeating humor. Otherwise, the dependent variable is forgiveness for a partner. The measuring instrument in this study used the adaptation of the Humor Style Questionnaire (HSQ) and the Forgiveness for Partner Scale (FPS). This study involved 177 students of the FPPsi State University of Malang who were in a dating relationship. The results showed that the humor style could simultaneously predict forgiveness for the partner, but only aggressive humor has a significant effect.

**Keywords:** humor styles, forgiveness for partner, dating relationship, college students.

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## 1. Introduction

In the adult year, college students have development tasks in which one is making an intimate relationship with others. One way to be done is to establish a dating relationship with the opposite sex. Meanwhile, as the year of the dating relationship goes by, and if there is dissatisfaction in the dating relationship, it will cause conflict between partners that may lay to violence. According to the Komnas Perempuan [1] data in Yearly Note 2019, violence in the personal dating relationship increased significantly to 2.073 cases from the previous year. One way to reduce or minimalize conflict in a dating relationship is through forgiveness.

Rye et al [2] define forgiveness as a way to release negative influence (e.g., hatred), negative cognition (e.g., thought of giving revenge), and negative behaviors (e.g., verbal

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aggression) from the victims to the perpetrators. According to Yuliana [3], forgiveness can help partners to face difficulties and prevents problems that may arise in the future. One of the forgiveness factors is a positive attribution from the victim to the perpetrator. Taking perspective is a way to facilitate the positive attribution itself. Takaku et al [4] state that understanding others' perspectives increases an individual's forgiving ability. Based on the interview results on November 17, 2020, of the FPPSi State Malang University students who are in a dating relationship, it is concluded that even though the source person had experience conflict in a relationship, he kept forgiving his partner. It is because he believes that every people made mistakes. Moreover, conflicts can make a relationship last longer and make it more mature, more understanding, and more open to each other.

Based on Hampes [5], it is stated that there are humor styles that correlate with taking an empathy perspective. According to Martin et al [6], humor styles are divided into four styles: affiliative humor, self-enhancing humor, aggressive humor, and self-defeating humor. Hampes [5] concludes his research that self-enhancing humor correlates significantly positively with the ability to take an empathy perspective. Meanwhile, aggressive humor negatively correlates with the ability to take an empathy perspective. Related to the conclusion of the previous research, it can be estimated that self-enhancing humor will have positive correlation with forgiveness and aggressive humor will have a negative.

Furthermore, Hampes [7] mentions that some of humor styles has correlation with forgiveness. First, self-enhancing humor is significantly positively correlated with forgiveness. Self-enhancing humor is used as a coping strategy and a tendency to find a funny point of view in a stressful situation. So, it can play a role in taking a perspective that can arise positive attribution in facilitating forgiveness. Secondly, aggressive humor and self-defeating humor are significantly negatively correlated with forgiveness since those two kinds of humors are less reflecting in taking perspectives, making the victims' attribution to the perpetrators negative. Aggressive humor uses as humor to humiliate or attack someone with sarcasm, mockery, teasing, and hateful speech. Hence, self-defeating humor is humor that underestimates oneself excessively in order to get support and laughter from others. Lastly, as stated on the previous research, affiliative humor did not significantly correlate with forgiveness. It happened because affiliative humor is a humor style used to comfort others; it involves a compassionate feeling for other person's psychological or physical pain. In the case of a victim whom the perpetrator has hurt, the emphatic nature of the victim's personality is not directly relevant because it is the victim who has been hurt, not someone else; in this case, someone else is the

perpetrator. It reduces the effectiveness of the victim's empathic attention to lead to forgiveness.

Therefore, the researchers want to develop this study further by investigating whether a style of humor can predict forgiveness. The researchers also want to be more focused on the dependent variables being forgiveness to the partners in the students who are in a dating relationship. Nevertheless, the purposes of this research are: (a) finding out forgiveness to the partners in the FPPsi students of State University of Malang who are in a dating relationship, (b) identifying style of humors (affiliative humor, self-enhancing humor, aggressive humor, and self-defeating humor) used to their partners of the students of the FPPsi State University of Malang who are in a dating relationship, and (c) determining whether the contribution of humor styles (affiliative humor, self-enhancing humor, aggressive humor, and self-defeating humor) is capable of predicting forgiveness or not to their partners of the students of the FPPsi State University of Malang who are in a dating relationship.

## 2. Method

This study uses a quantitative approach with correlational design and multiple linear regression techniques. This study shows the impact of the X variable on the Y variable. In this study, the researchers want to determine a style of humor used as a forgiveness predictor for college students who are in a dating relationship. The research variable that will be studied in this study is the independent variable (X), which is humor style, which consists: affiliative humor (X1), self-enhancing humor (X2), aggressive humor (X3), and self-defeating humor (X4); also dependent variable (Y) that is forgiveness. The subject of this study is the active students of the Faculty of Psychology (FPPSi), State University of Malang, the year of 2017-2020, who are in a dating relationship. The sample used in this study are 117 students in which the sample selection used non-probability sampling techniques with the type of incidental sampling techniques.

Data collection in this research uses instruments consisting of the humor styles' scale and partner forgiveness' scale. The measurement of humor styles variable uses an adaption of the 32 items Humor Style Questionnaire (HSQ) scale by Martin [6]. Meanwhile, the measurement of partner forgiveness uses an adaption of 10 items Forgiveness for Partner (FPS) scale by Kato [8]. The adaptation process of the Humor Style Questionnaire (HSQ) and Forgiveness for Partner (FPS) used in this study is the adaptation stage back-to-back translation by Brislin [9].

The validity result test on the Humor Style Questionnaire (HSQ) obtained 26 valid items and 6 nonvalid items with a significance level ( $p < .05$ ) and r-table 0.279. The nonvalid items were dropped. So, the last item used is 26 items, consisting of 18 favorable and 8 unfavorable items. The reliability value of alpha Cronbach obtained on the Humor Style Questionnaire (HSQ) scale was 0.865 or included in the reliable category. Furthermore, the validity result test on the scale of Forgiveness for Partner (FPS) obtained 10 valid items with a significance level ( $p < .05$ ) and r-table 0.279. In conclusion, there are 10 items used, consists of 5 favorable items and 5 unfavorable items. The reliability value of alpha Cronbach obtained on the Forgiveness for Partner (FPS) scale was 0.721 or included in the reliable category.

The data collected using the two scales is then tested for classical assumption tests which include normality test, multicollinearity test, and heteroscedasticity test before being able to do a hypothesis test. After all the data in the study passes through the stage of the classical assumption test, then the hypothesis will be tested using multiple linear regression analysis.

### 3. Result

The results of this study consist of characteristics table of the respondents, the descriptions of the research data, normality test, multicollinearity test, heteroscedasticity test, and hypothesis test.

TABLE 1: The Representation of the Respondents Based on Sex Appeal.

Sex Appeal	Frequency	Percentage
Male	28	23.9%
Female	89	76.1%
Total	117	100%

Based on table 1, it is shown that respondents based on sex appeal are 28 males with a percentage of 23.9% out of the total respondents. Meanwhile, female respondents are 89 people, 76.1% out of the total respondents.

Based on table 2, it is shown that most respondent is 22 years old, with a total of 40 people or equivalent to 34.2% of the total respondents. Meanwhile, the lowest number of respondents is 17 and 25 years old, with each being only 1 respondent or equivalent to 0.9% of the total respondents.

As seen in table 3, the respondent from the class year of 2017 is the highest number, with 63 people or equivalent to 53.8% out of the total respondents. Besides, the

TABLE 2: The Representation of the Respondents Based on Age.

Age	Frequency	Percentage
17	1	.9 %
18	4	3.4 %
19	15	12.8 %
20	12	10.3 %
21	26	22.2 %
22	40	34.2 %
23	16	13.7 %
24	2	1.7 %
25	1	.9 %
Total	117	100%

TABLE 3: The Representation of the Respondents Based on Class Year.

Class Year	Frequency	Percentage
2017	63	53.8 %
2018	22	18.8 %
2019	9	7.7 %
2020	23	19.7 %
Total	117	100%

respondent from the class year 2019 is at least 9 people, equivalent to 7.7% of the total respondents.

TABLE 4: The Descriptive Variable Analysis of Humor Styles and Forgiveness Variable.

Variable	N	Min	Max	Mean	SD
Affiliative Humor (X1)	117	20	41	32.6154	4.94251
Self-Enhancing humor (X2)	117	11	41	28	6.19510
Aggressive Humor (X3)	117	5	21	11.8291	3.17395
Self-Defeating Humor (X4)	117	10	43	26.3846	7.02072
Forgiveness (Y)	117	27	56	42.2051	6.86889

Table 4 analyzes that 117 respondents on the variable of affiliative humor in this study have a mean number of 32.6154 with a deviation standard of 4.94251. Nevertheless, the lowest score on the variable of affiliative humor is 20, and the highest score is 41. On the other hand, in the self-enhancing humor variable, it was found that 117 respondents had a mean value of 28 with a deviation standard of 6.19510. Whereas the lowest score of the self-enhancing humor variable is 11, the highest score is 41. In the aggressive humor variable, it was found that 117 respondents had a mean number of 11.829 with deviation standard of 3.17395. Furthermore, the lowest score for the aggressive humor variable is 5, and the highest score is 21. As in the self-defeating humor variable, 117

respondents have a mean number of 26.3846 with a deviation standard of 7.02072. The lowest score for the self-defeating humor variable is 10, and the highest is 43. Lastly, the forgiveness variable with 117 respondents has a mean of 42.051 with a deviation standard of 6.86889. The lowest score on the forgiveness variable is 27, and the highest is 56.

TABLE 5: The T Score Categorization of Humor Styles Variable and Forgiveness Variable.

Variable	Category	Range	Frequency	Percentage
Affiliative Humor (X1)	High	51- 67	66	56.4 %
	Low	22-50	51	43.6%
Self-Enhancing humor (X2)	High	51- 71	58	49.6%
	Low	21-50	59	50.4%
Aggressive Humor (X3)	High	51- 79	62	53%
	Low	28-50	55	47%
Self-Defeating Humor (X4)	High	51- 74	57	48,7%
	Low	26-50	60	51.3%
Forgiveness (Y)	High	51- 71	56	47.9%
	Low	27-50	61	52.1%

According to table 5, it is identified that after being converted into a T score, the categorization is obtained as follows:

1. Most of the respondents had a high level of affiliative humor. It can be explained that from the total of 117 research respondents, 66 people had a high level of affiliative humor, equivalent to 56.4% of the total respondents.
2. Most of the respondents had a low level of self-enhancing humor. As explained in table 5, from the total of 117 research respondents, 59 people had a low level of self-enhancing humor, equivalent to 50.4% of the total number of respondents.
3. Most of the respondents had a high level of aggressive humor. Out of 117 research respondents, 62 people had a high level of aggressive humor or 53% of the total number of respondents.
4. Most of the respondents had a low level of self-defeating humor. It can be explained that from the total of 117 research respondents, 60 people had a low level of self-defeating humor, equivalent to 51.3% of the total number of respondents.
5. Most of the respondents had a low level of partner forgiveness. It can be explained that from the total of 117 research respondents, 61 people had a low level of partner forgiveness, equivalent to 52.1% of the total number of respondents.

TABLE 6: The Result of the Normality Test.

Variable	(p) Variable	(p) Unstandardized Residual	Description
Affiliative Humor (X1)	0.148	0.512	Normal Distribution
Self-Enhancing humor (X2)	0.305		
Aggressive Humor (X3)	0.088		
Self-Defeating Humor (X4)	0.645		
Forgiveness (Y)	0.615		

Table 6 defines the result of the normality test using one sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov, with the residual value's significance of  $0.512 > 0.05$ . So, the data from this study were normally distributed.

TABLE 7: The Result of the Multicollinearity Test.

Variable	Collinearity Tolerance	Statistics VIF
Affiliative Humor (X1)	0.814	1.228
Self-Enhancing humor (X2)	0.701	1.426
Aggressive Humor (X3)	0.873	1.145
Self-Defeating Humor (X4)	0.749	1.334

Table 7 shows that every independent variable had a tolerance value  $> 0.1000$  and the value of VIF  $< 10.00$ . It is simplified that there is no correlation between variables or multicollinearity.

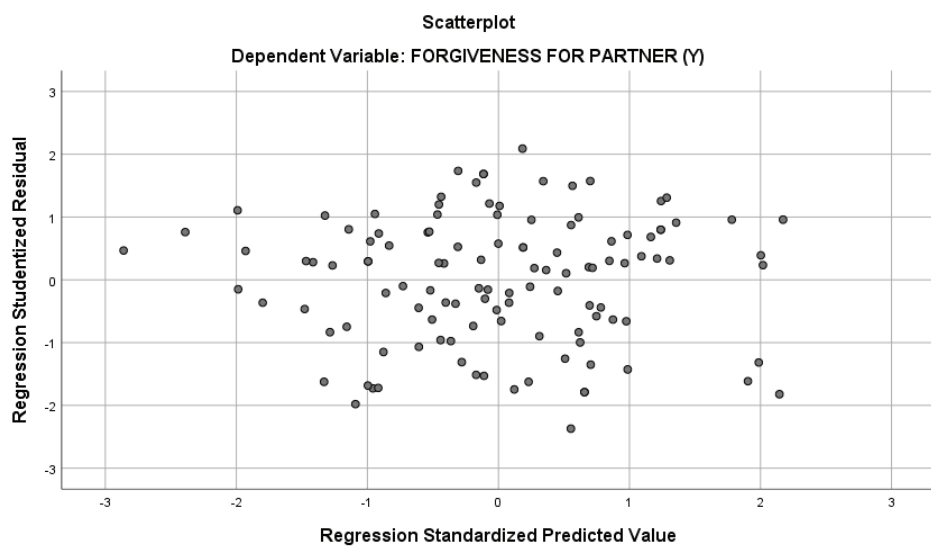


Figure 1: Scatter Diagram.

As identified in the scatter diagram on diagram 1 above, there is an unclear pattern and the dot spread above and under the number 0 on the Y axis. So, it concludes that there were no symptoms of heteroscedasticity.

TABLE 8: The Result of Partial T Regression Analysis.

Model	t	Sig.	$\beta$	Conclusion
(Constant)	8.814	.000	$\leq .05$	Sig. $\geq .05$ , There is no effect
Affiliative Humor (X1)	1.353	.179	$\leq .05$	Sig. $\geq .05$ , There is no effect
Self-Enhancing Humor (X2)	-.147	.884	$\leq .05$	Sig. $\geq .05$ , There is no effect
Aggressive Humor (X3)	-3.144	.002	$\leq .05$	Sig. $\leq .05$ , There is no effect
Self-Defeating Humor (X4)	1.326	.187	$\leq .05$	Sig. $\geq .05$ , There is no effect

*The Dependent Variable: Forgiveness*

Referring to table 8, the partial t regression analysis on each independent variable with the dependent variable describes as follows:

1. Affiliative humor has a significance value of  $.179 \geq .05$ , so it is accepted. In conclusion, affiliative humor is not a predictor of forgiveness to a partner.
2. Self-enhancing humor has a significance value of  $.884 \geq .05$ , so it is accepted. It means that self-enhancing humor is not a predictor of forgiveness to a partner.
3. Aggressive humor has a significance value of  $.002 \leq .05$ , so it is rejected. It means that aggressive humor is the predictor of forgiveness to a partner.
4. Self-defeating humor has a significance value of  $.187 \geq .05$ , so it is accepted. It concludes that self-defeating humor is not a predictor of forgiveness to a partner.

TABLE 9: The Result of Simultaneous F Regression Analysis.

Variable	R	R Square	Sig	$\beta$	Conclusion
Humor Styles toward Forgiveness	.310	.096	.022	$\leq .05$	Sig. $\leq .05$ , Influenced

As shown in table 9, the result of simultaneous regression analysis has a significant  $.022 \leq .05$ , that makes rejected. So, humor styles are the predictor of forgiveness to a partner. Then, it is also obtained a determination coefficient value of  $.096$ , which means that humor styles have a contribution of 9.6% in forgiveness to a partner; this can be stated that it has a very low impact.



## 4. Discussion

### 4.1. The Representation of Forgiveness

Rye et al [2] defines forgiveness as a way to release negative impacts (e.g. hatred), negative cognition (e.g. a thought of revenge), and negative behavior (e.g. verbal aggression) from a victim to a perpetrator. McCullough et al [11] states that forgiveness is a motivation to change a person for not taking revenge and reduces the urge to maintain hatred towards the offending party, also increases the drive for conciliation of the relationship with the offending party.

Based on the statistical descriptive test analysis results, it can conclude that the forgiveness of partners in FPPSi students at the State University of Malang who are currently in a relationship is mostly in the low category, namely 61 respondents or 52.1%. It is because there is an avoidance motivation and revenge motivation, a tendency not to give forgiveness. According to McCullough et al [10], avoidance motivation is a motivation for avoiding. It marks an individual as a victim, avoiding or withdrawing themselves from the perpetrator who offends them or hurts their feelings. At the same time, revenge motivation is a motivation for taking an act of revenge. It is characterized by an individual who has an encouragement to retaliate against the perpetrator's action. The avoidance motivation and revenge motivation are the motivation in the FPPSi State University of Malang students who are in a dating relationship can happen because there is a conflict, fight, or violence, which are caused a physics and psychological trauma.

Other factors can affect partner forgiveness in the FPPSi State University of Malang students who are in a dating relationship. McCullough et al [10] mention the factors affecting partner forgiveness, such as Socio-Cognitive factors: when a conflict is imprinted on the respondent, the respondent tends to continuously remember the incident so that it can cause anger or negative emotions, thus preventing him from creating forgiving behavior. The other factors are the perpetrator's attribution and his mistakes (taking a perspective): When the respondents see a positive side of their partner. As Caler et al [12] stated that a tendency to give forgiveness reduces when the respondents see a shortcoming or a negative side from the perpetrators—their partner—when the conflict occurs.

Additionally, the next factor is the attack characteristics. It is when the respondents will find it more difficult to forgive if a conflict is very meaningful and affects their life, such as causing trauma or physical or psychological wounds. On the other hand, the quality

of an interpersonal relationship is also affecting forgiveness. Research from Rollof and Janiszewski in McCullough et al [10] proved that a couple would be more likely to forgive their partner's act if there is satisfaction in a relationship, and a strong commitment. So, the dissatisfaction towards a romantic relationship and a weak commitment of the respondents can be caused by the age of the relationship that is too long, leading to a tendency for not forgiving their partner. Lastly, the respondents' personality factor also affects an act of forgiveness.

## 4.2. The representation of Humor Styles

As said by Martin et al [6], there are four humor styles representing an individual's differences in using humor, such as: affiliative humor, self-enhancing humor, aggressive humor, and self-defeating humor. Based on the descriptive statistic analysis test result, it concludes that the humor styles of the FPPSi State University of Malang students who are in a relationship, most of them are using aggressive humor and affiliative humor which placed in the high category. Meanwhile, for self-enhancing humor and self-defeating humor are in the low category.

Affiliative humor among the students of FPPSi State University of Malang who are in a dating relationship is high, with 66 respondents or 56.4%. Martin et al [6] state that affiliative humor increases relationship quality by telling jokes, funny stories, or gags that entertain other people. The respondents with had high affiliative humor tend to make jokes to have fun and to increase intimacy with their partner. Next, Campbell et al [13] shows the use of affiliative humor is linked with a bigger conflict resolution and a satisfying relationship.

Secondly, the aggressive humor in the students of FPPSi State University of Malang who are in a dating relationship also in a high category, with 62 respondents or 53%. Martin [6] states that aggressive humor is the humor that underestimates or attacks other people with sarcasm, teasing, mockery, and hate speech. Respondents with a high tendency for aggressive humor also tend to fight with others [14]. In Campbell et al [13], it shows that aggressive humor in a relationship can cause the relationship to become less close to the partner. In addition, aggressive humor causes more pressure and does not help resolve conflict in a relationship.

Additionally, the self-enhancing humor in the FPPSi State University of Malang students who are in a dating relationship is in a low category, with 59 respondents or 50.4%. As stated in Martin [6], self-enhancing humor is humor as a coping and a tendency to find a funny point of view in a stressful situation. The respondents who have a high

tendency of self-enhancing humor will easily cope with their stress, and increase their confident and pride. Conversely, if the self-enhancing humor is low, it will be difficult to manage their stress, especially when conflict with their partner happens. It will cause negative emotions, anxiousness, and depression. The research results of Santoso [15] show a significant positive relationship between self-enhancing humor and an intimate relationship. Shortly, if the self-enhancing humor is low, the relationship quality is low too.

Last but not least, self-defeating humor in the FPPSi State University of Malang students who are in a dating relationship is also in the low category, with 60 respondents or 51.3%. Self-defeating humor underestimates oneself excessively to get support and laughter from others [6]. A person more likely to use self-defeating humor is a person with a high feeling of shame, loneliness, anxiety, lack of social support, and poor interpersonal relationships.

As claimed by Martin [6], the factors affecting humor styles are: a) *Personality*, the expression of humor by an individual reflects their personality. Neurotic personality does not have a relationship with affiliative humor and self-enhancing humor. Besides, an open personality with experiences has a positive relationship with affiliative humor and self-enhancing humor; b) *Culture*, an individualist culture tends to have aggressive humor. Meanwhile, an individual with collectivist culture tends to have affiliative humor; c) *Gender*, men are likely to have a high level of aggressive humor and self-defeating humor than women.

### 4.3. Humor Styles as a Predictor of Forgiveness

Referring the hypothesis analysis test result, shows that the humor styles variable is simultaneously a predictor of partner forgiveness in the FPPSi State University of Malang students who are in a relationship. In other words, humor styles can affect forgiveness in the FPPSi State University of Malang students who are in a relationship by getting a hypothesis significance result of  $.022 \leq .05$ . However, humor style contributes 9,6% to partner forgiveness, means it has a very low impact. The humor style affects partner forgiveness in this study is aggressive humor with a level of significance of  $.002 \leq 0.05$ . Besides, the t-value is -3.144, meaning that aggressive humor negatively impacts partner forgiveness. In conclusion, a higher tendency of aggressive humor owned by someone will lower the forgiveness act to the partner. In line with Hampes [7], he states that aggressive humor is significantly negatively correlated with forgiveness.

McCullough et al [10] state that one of the factors that cause forgiveness is the positive attribution facilitated by perspective-taking empathy. From the previous research, Hampes [5] says that aggressive humor negatively correlates to perspective-taking empathy. So, it can be concluded that the more someone has a high tendency of aggressive humor, an individual's ability to see a perspective and empathy with their partner will be low. It is also supported by Caler et al [12], who mentions that a tendency of forgiveness decreases when an individual shows a shortage or negative side of the perpetrator—the partner—when a conflict occurs. In short, aggressive humor can decrease an individual's ability to see a perspective (positive side) and empathy with their partner, so will arise negative attribution, which is not forgiving their partner.

Aggressive humor underestimates or attacks other people with sarcasm, teasing, mockery, and hate speech; in this case, it affects the interpersonal quality with the partner. Campbell [13] states that the use of aggressive humor can lead a relationship to be not close with the partner, under pressure feeling, and it does not help to resolve a conflict in the relationship. Thus, the quality of an interpersonal relationship is one of the forgiveness factors [12]. In conclusion, the lower the interpersonal relationship between couples, so does the tendency to forgive.

Additionally, affiliative humor in this study has a significance of  $.179 \geq .05$ , making affiliative humor not significantly affect partner forgiveness. In line with Hampes [7], affiliative humor in the previous research is not significantly correlative with forgiveness. It happens since affiliative humor is a humor style used to comfort someone that involves a compassion feeling because of an individual's physical and psychological pain. In the case of a victim hurt by a perpetrator, the empathy characteristic of the victim's personality is not directly relevant because it is the victim who has been hurt, not the perpetrator. For that reason, it reduces the effectiveness of the victim's empathy characteristics that lead to forgiveness.

In this study, self-enhancing humor has a significant number of  $0.884 \geq 0.05$ , which makes self-enhancing humor not one of the forgiveness predictors to a partner. The reason is that most respondents tend to have low self-enhancing humor, that is 50.4%. As Martin [6] mentioned, self-enhancing humor is a coping strategy and finding a funny point of view in a stressful situation. When a person tends to have low self-enhancing humor, his capability to take an empathy perspective will also be low. Thus, the positive attribution that facilitates forgiveness will not arise. On top of that, self-enhancing humor has a significant value of  $0.187 \geq 0.05$ , representing that it is not a forgiveness predictor to a partner. It accordance with Hampes [5] says that self-defeating humor is not significantly correlated with perspective-taking empathy. In Hampes [7] opinion, an

individual with self-defeating humor tends to have a high feeling of shame, loneliness, anxiety, low intimacy, and the satisfaction they receive from social support because they tend to have bad interpersonal relationship. Shortly, the lack of ability of perspective-taking empathy, intimacy, and the quality of interpersonal relationship are the reasons that make forgiving behavior in a couple not appear.

## 5. Conclusion

According to the analysis result and discussion above, it can conclude that: (a) forgiveness to a partner in the students of the FPPSi State University of Malang who are in a dating relationship mostly in the low category, (b) affiliate humor and aggressive humor in the students of FPPSi State University of Malang who are in a dating relationship are in the high category. Conversely, self-enhancing humor and self-defeating humor in the students of the FPPSi State University of Malang who are in a dating relationship are in the low category, and (c) humor style simultaneously becomes a predictor of forgiveness in the students of the FPPSi State University of Malang who are in a dating relationship. However, the humor style that significantly affects forgiveness is just aggressive humor with the direction of negative influence.

## 6. Suggestion

Further researchers are expected to enhance their references and sources in the style of humor and forgiveness to study more deeply and extensively. Furthermore, which factors play the most role and have the greatest influence on forgiveness can be seen. In addition, further studies are also expected to develop research related to expanding the population, research subjects, and add other variables that contribute to forgiveness, especially forgiveness to partners. Moreover, the suggestion for students who are in a dating relationship is to be more aware of a positive style of humor. It is because the humor style influences on forgiveness to the partner, so it can reduce conflicts that occur. Lastly, a positive style of humor will also improve a relationship's quality and closeness.

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