

ABSTRACT

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An Overview of Relational Maintenance Strategies by Early Adults Who Undergo International Long Distance Dating Relationship; Agoes Dariyo, M.Si, Psikolog., and Sandi Kartasasmita, M.Psi., Psikoterapis., Psikolog; Undergraduate Program in Psychology, Tarumanagara University, (i-x; 96 pages; P1-P3; L1-L17).

Relational maintenance strategies are approaches used by individuals to keep a relationship to last. Canary and Stafford (1994) stated that there are five relational maintenance strategies which are positivity, openness, assurances, network, and sharing task. This study aims to describe the *relational maintenance strategies* used by early adults who undergo international long distance dating relationship (LDDR). International LDDR is a condition where dating couples attempt to retain relationship by living in different countries caused by education or work pursued by one partner or both. The research subjects involved were 2 early adult men and 2 early adult women who had been dating for at least 1 year and had been undergoing international LDDR for at least 6 months. The research method used is qualitative with criterion sampling technique and the study took place over a period of 6 months. The research findings show that all subjects apply positivity, openness, assurances, and network relational maintenance strategies. Only women subjects apply sharing task relational maintenance strategy and no subjects apply critic avoidance towards partner which is a part of positivity relational maintenance strategy.

Keywords: Relational Maintenance Strategy, Early Adult, and Long Distance Dating Relationship