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**Husband-to-wife Sexual Coercion in Cross-border Marriage:
A Power Perspective**

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Cross-border marriage has increased in many parts of the world. The pattern of cross-border marriage is often gendered in East Asia where women from a less developed region migrating to a more developed region as a form of transnational hypergamy. Very often, both men and women in these marriages are stigmatized and socially disadvantaged. Men in these marriages are also challenged as they are perceived of as failing to marry a partner in the local marriage market. Especially for men from a lower SES background, their masculinity is often challenged. As a form of compensatory masculinity, husbands of migrant wives often demand more decision-making power. Using sex as a tactic of controlling the wife and displaying masculinity, husbands from cross-border marriage are at a higher risk of perpetrating husband-to-wife sexual coercion. This study investigates how the differences in the prevalence of husband-to-wife sexual coercion between local and cross-border marriages are mediated by the household power structure and husband's power motive. Using couple-level data from a representative sample in Hong Kong (N=871 couples) that includes information from both husbands and wives of local and cross-border marriages, the results show that cross-border couples are at higher risk of husband-to-wife sexual coercion and couples' power dynamics fully mediates the differences in the prevalence rates between the two groups.