

Youth Attitude Towards Marriage and Changing Trends in Marriage

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Abstract: Marriage is one of oldest socially recognized institution. with changing trends and westernization, the thinking perspective of people towards marriage is changing.

This study can be used to know the attitude of youth and compare the results with other study performed across various part of the world.

A cross sectional study was performed on students in Khammam Telangana. Self-structured questionnaire was prepared and data collection was done. Majority of participants viewed the status and responsibility of both male and females as an important determinant of successful marriage.

Keywords: marriage, youth attitude

1. Introduction

Marriage is the process by which two people make their relationship public, official, and permanent. Marriage, also called matrimony or wedlock, is a socially or ritually recognized union between spouses. The definition of marriage varies around the world not only between cultures and between religions [3].

Marriage is a central familial process in India. For years Indian had an orthodox mindset; there conception was that marriage is possible only within the caste and community in which individual belong.

Those who violated the social norm faced many consequences in terms of violence, family boycott, social exclusion and death by honor killing [3].

Modernization, development and increase in educational levels weaken various myths, taboos on caste and religion. In India, a religious matrimonial ceremony is considered a legal marriage but now registration of marriage is necessary in most of the Indian states. According to prohibition of Child Marriage Act, a girl in India cannot marry before the age of 18, and a boy before 21.

Attitude towards marriage has been changed a lot, with the change from parents arranged marriages to dating individual choice courtship emerged as an activity in its own right, creating a new institution in culture. Although increases in the incidence of premarital sex represent a departure from the strict

association of sex, love and marriage research evidenced strongly suggest that love is still a major justification, for premarital sex [1].

In the modern era we see the youth giving importance to changing trends in marriage viz. love marriage, inter-caste marriage, live in relationships, lesbian Gay Bisexual transgender marriage etc. Unlike past days many girls are managing both their personal and professional lives smoothly. Today, boys are equally involved in household chores as girls. As joint family system is being replaced by nuclear families the closeness and the level of comfort between the partners is increasing.

2. Methodology

A cross-sectional study was performed on a sample of 150 interns of Mamata medical and dental college, from 1st August, 2019 to 5th August 2019.

A self-structured questionnaire with the title Youth Attitude towards Marriage and Changing Trends in Marriage was prepared. The questionnaire included demographic data of the participants like age, gender, year of study. The participants name was not included in demographic data, to minimize the ability to identify a particular individual's responses. The questionnaire was pre tested and necessary modifications were done and finalized before data collection. Consent is taken from study objects prior to the study.

Permission was taken from the Head of the department of Public Health Dentistry to conduct the study.

All the interns in Mamata Medical college, present between the dates 1st August, 2019 to 5th August 2019 were included in the study.

The interns in the Mamata Medical College who were absent between the dates 1st August, 2019 to 5th August 2019 and the students who were not willing to participate in study were excluded.

Statistical analysis was done by using SPSS25. Descriptive statistics were performed. Chi square test was used to find the association among categorical variables.

3. Results

Of the 150 students participated in the survey, 96 were female and 54 persons were male. The mean age of the participants was 23.08, standard deviation (0.799).

	N	Min	Max	Mean	Std. deviation
Age	150	21	26	23.08	0.799
Valid N	150				

64% participants in study thinks that marriage is responsibility, while 32% participants thinks that it is intimate relationship and 4% think that it is legal contract with a statistically significant difference of (P= 0.028).

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent	Cumulative percent
Intimate relation	48	32.0	32.0	32.0
Responsibility	96	64.0	64.0	96.0
Legal contract	6	4.0	4.0	100.0
Total	150	100.0	100.0	

For the question do you want to get married, 84% participants answered “YES” and 16% participants answered “NO”

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent	Cumulative percent
Yes	126	84.0	84.0	84.0
No	24	16.0	16.0	100
Total	150	100.0	100.0	

52% participants prefer for joint family and 48% participants preferred for nuclear family, for the question given to them about what kind of family status do they prefer.

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent	Cumulative percent
Nuclear family	72	48.0	48.0	48.0
Joint family	78	52.0	52.0	100.0
Total	150	100.0	100.0	

Majority of the people answered legal age of marriage is 21 for male and 18 for female when question was asked about legal age of marriage in India.

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent	Cumulative percent
M-21yrs F-18yrs	132	88.0	88.0	88.0
M-21yrs F-21yrs	9	6.0	6.0	94.0
M-18yrs F-18yrs	6	4.0	4.0	98.0
M-20yrs F-16yrs	3	2.0	2.0	100.0
Total	150	100.0	100.0	

Most of the people prefer for the love marriage when question was given to them about what kind of relationship do they prefer.

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent	Cumulative percent
Love marriage	84	56.0	56.0	56.0
Inter caste marriage	21	14.0	14.0	70.0
Live in relation	12	8.0	8.0	78.0
Gay/Lesbian/ transgender	9	6.0	6.0	84.0
Arrange marriage	24	16.0	16.0	100.0
Total	150	100.0	100.0	

52% participants have answered “No” for the question, is the age gap a problem in marriage/ live in/ dating relationships and 26% participants have answered “YES”, and 22% participants have answered Not sure.

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent	Cumulative percent
Yes	39	26.0	26.0	26.0
No	78	52.0	52.0	78.0
Not sure	33	22.0	22.0	100.0
Total	150	100.0	100.0	

Majority of the people agree that successful independent life is more better than responsible married life.

	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent	Cumulative percent
Strongly agree	51	34.0	34.0	34.0
Agree	51	34.0	34.0	68.0
Disagree	45	30.0	30.0	98.0
Strongly disagree	3	2.0	2.0	100.0
Total	150	100.0	100.0	

4. Discussion

Majority of students think that marriage is a responsibility, most of the students prefer love marriage and majority think that responsibilities of married life be fairly enjoyable.

Most of the students think that relationship can be just as strong without going through the marriage ceremony. 52% participants prefer joint family. Majority (52%) of the participants thinks that age gap in relationship is not an problem.

Modernization, development and increase education levels weaken various myths, taboos on caste and religion. With opportunities for cultural exchanges, travel, work, increases contacts with different ethnic groups.

Overall it was found that community and culture have influence on youth’s decision about marriage. But the same time they should also be able to understand what is beneficial for them and the future generation.

5. Conclusion

This study was conducted between the students of age group 21-25 years. This study was performed on a sample of 150 interns of which 54 are male and 96 are female. Further there is no significant difference found between male and female respondent’s attitude with respect to concept of marriage, social expectations and changing trends in marriage. whereas the significant difference found between the respondents regard to

sexual relationship, type of marriage, criteria for choosing life partner.

Study on “youth attitude towards marriage and changing trends in marriage” revealed the majority of youth had moderate and favorable attitude towards marriage.

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