ATTITUDE TOWARDS MARRIAGE AND FAMILY ENVIRONMENT AMONG MARRIED AND UNMARRIED WOMEN
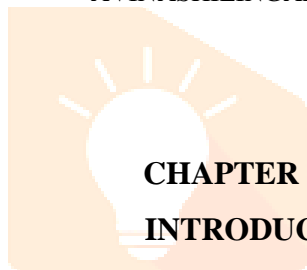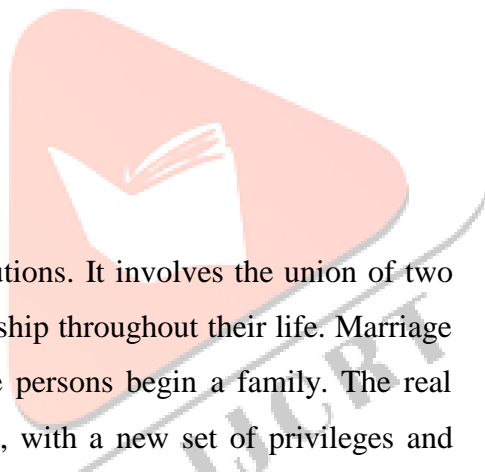
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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Marriage is one of the universal social institutions. It involves the union of two individuals who decide to live in an intimate relationship throughout their life. Marriage is the approved social pattern whereby two or more persons begin a family. The real sense of marriage is the acceptance of a new status, with a new set of privileges and obligations and the recognition of this new status by others. The universality of marriage within different societies and cultures is accepted to the many basic social and personal roles for which it provides structure such as sexual gratification and regulation, division of labour between the sexes, financial production and consumption and fulfilment of personal needs for affection, status and companionship. Perhaps its strongest purpose concerns procreation, the care of children and their education and socialization and regulation of lines of descent. Through the ages, marriages have taken a countless number of systems. It is said to be one of the earnest and most difficult forms of human relationships. The process of marriage is a social construct or agreement where two people willingly enter into either a religious or civil styled and yet legal contract to become husband and wife."

Marital Attitude

"It is the tendency to respond positively or negatively towards marriage."

Marital attitudes and expectations form a cognitive schema about relationships brought about by experience (Fletcher & Thomas, 1996). Attitudes and expectations about

relationships are important cognitions regarding perceptions of and behaviours in personal relationships (Riggio & Weiser, 2008). One may form attitudes and expectations regarding marital life through personal experiences with a partner, by observing one's parents, or by watching others negotiate the process of courtship and marriage. Highly embedded positive marriage attitudes may influence behaviour and highly embedded negative marriage attitudes may also affect beliefs about relationships. Individuals with highly embedded positive attitudes about marriage view their own current and future marriages as happy and successful but those with highly embedded negative attitudes have less positive expectations (Riggio & Weiser, 2008).

Theoretical Perspectives on Marriage and Family

Sociologists study families on both the macro and micro level to define how families function. Sociologists may use a range of theoretical outlooks to explain events that occur inside and outside of the family.

When in view of the role of family in society, functionalists uphold the conception that families are an important Social Institution and that they play a key role in stabilizing Society. They also note that family members take on position roles in a marriage or family. The family and its members undertake certain functions that facilitate the prosperity and progress of society.

Murdock, Sociologist (1949) conducted a survey of 250 societies and determined that there are four universal residual functions of the family: sexual, reproductive, educational, and economic. According to Murdock, the family regulates sexual relations between individuals. He agrees with the reality or impact of premarital or extramarital sex but states that the family offers a socially legitimate sexual outlet for adults (Lee, 1985). This outlet gives way to reproduction, which is a required part of ensuring the survival of society.

Once children are formed, the family plays a crucial role in training them for adult life. As the primary mediator of socialization and enculturation, the family teaches young children the ways of thinking and behaving that follow social and cultural norms, customs, standards, values, beliefs and attitudes. Parents teach their children manners and civility. A well manneredchild reveals a well mannered parent.

Parents also teach children gender roles. Gender roles are a significant part of the economic function of a family. In each family, there is a division of labour that consists of active and expressive roles. Men tend to take up the instrumental roles in the family, which typically involve work outside of the family that provides financial support and establishes family prominence. Women tend to assume the expressive roles which normally involve work inside of the family which provides emotional support and physical care for children (Crano &Aronoff, 1978).

According to Functionalists, the differentiation of the roles on the basis of sex ensures that families are well balanced and coordinated. When family members move outside of these roles, the family is thrown out of stability and balance which must recalibrate in order to function properly. For example, if the Father assumes an expressive role such as providing daytime care for the children, the mother must take on an influential role such as gaining paid employment outside of the home in order for the family to maintain balance and function.

Conflict Theory

Conflict theory is a theory that claims that society is in a state of perpetual conflict, due to competition for limited resources. In the dichotomy of a marriage, many couples feel that there is an imbalance in the day today interactions within the confines of the relationship and that the continuance of that type of imbalance can breed marital

conflict. Conflict theorists may study conflicts as simple as the enforcement of rules from parent to child or they may examine more serious issues such as domestic violence (spouse and child), sexual assault, marital rape and incest.

The first study of marital power was performed in 1960. Researchers found that the person with the most access to value resources held the most power. As money is one of the most valuable resources, men who worked in paid labour outside of the home held more power than women who worked inside the home (Blood & Wolfe, 1960). Conflict theorists find disputes over the division of household labour to be a common source of marital discord. Household labour offers no wages and therefore, no power. Studies indicated that when men do more housework, women experience more satisfaction in their marriages, reducing the incidence of conflict (Coltrane, 2000). In general, conflict theorists tend to study areas of marriage and life that involve inequalities or discrepancies in power and authority, as they are reflective of the larger social structure.

Symbolic Interactionism

Interactionists view the world in terms of symbols and the meanings assigned to them (LaRossa & Reitzes, 1993). The family itself is a symbol. To some, it is a father, mother and children; to others, it is any union that involves respect and compassion. Interactionists stress that family is not an objective, concrete reality. Like other social phenomena, it is a social construct that is subject to the ebb and flow of social norms and ever changing meanings.

Consider the meaning of other elements of family: "parent" was a symbol of a biological and emotional connection to a child; with more parent child relationships developing through adoption, remarriage or change in guardianship, the word "parent" today is less likely to be associated with a biological connection than with whoever is socially recognized as having the responsibility for a child's upbringing. Similarly, the terms 'mother' and 'father' are no longer rigidly associated with the meanings of caregiver and breadwinner. These meanings are free flowing through changing family roles. Interactionists also recognize how the family status roles of each member are socially constructed, playing an important part in how people perceive and interpret social behaviour. Interactionists view the family as a group of role players or actors that come together to act out their parts in an effort to construct a family. These roles are up for interpretation. In the late 19th and early 20th century, a "good father," for example, was one who worked hard to provided financial security for his children. Today, a

"good father" is one who takes the time outside of work to promote his children's emotionalwell being, social skills, and intellectual growth - in some ways, a much more daunting task. **Purpose of Marriage**

➢ Partnership

➢ Procreation

➢ Protection

➢ Purity

➢ Permanence

➢ Provision

➢ Parenting

➢ Pleasure

➢ Companionship

➢ Fruitfulness

➢ Completeness

➢ Enjoyment

Advantages of Marriage

- Most human beings are not solitary and crave companionship. Life is enhanced when experiences can be shared with another person who loves you and has similarinterests and concerns.

- Most cultures have religious reasons for getting married. A religious marriage can be a way for a couple to deepen their bonds to each other, as well as help them forma deeper relationship with God and receive His blessings.

- With or without religion, marriage is an accepted way for two people to show their commitment to each other. Couples who marry have been statistically shown to betogether longer and are more likely to bond for life.

- Marriage benefits society generally because it is associated with stable families. Stable families produce happier children and a more stable society with less crimeand other social problems.

- Marriage is about sharing burdens and responsibilities and that can mean lessstress, both in terms of practicalities and also with emotional problems.

- Marriage gives a child two parents, which can help a child to develop into a balanced and happy adult. Children have two different role models to look up toand twice as much potential support, emotionally and practically.

- Marriage promises and helps deliver a happy sex life. Partners can get to know and fulfil each other's desires in a trusting long term relationship. Monogamy also reduces health risks such as Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD).

Disadvantages of Marriage

- Many couples get stuck in a rut, repeating the same arguments over and over. The key differences in their personalities never go away. Petty problems, irritating habits, become magnified over time.

- Marriage restricts the freedom of the individual. Single people can happily live their lives pretty much as they please without having to be concerned with the needs or wishes of others.

- Marriage means that couples have to deal with their partner's family, which can be a source of problems and conflict.

- Relationships should be purely personal and less formal. Marriage is about seeking approval from the civil authorities or a religion, when it should just be the two people in the relationship that matter.

- There can sometimes be situations where there are financial disadvantages to being married. Divorce costs can also be huge if an individual make a mistake and marry the wrong person.

- Marriage ceremonies can be very expensive and extremely stressful. It is not uncommon for relatives to take over and the couple's wishes to be side lined.

- Marriage can extend the time that couples stay together in a bad or unhealthy relationship, when it would be better if they split – for instance, where the couple are clearly ill suited, or even where there is physical or emotional abuse going on, they may be tempted to stay together because of religious or cultural taboos over breaking up the marriage.

Changing Trends in Marriages

The India of today is the land of changes. As noble laureate Amartya Sen has said "If time can change India, then India can change the times". The last two decades has seen a tremendous drift in morals and values existing in the Indian Society. Since ages Marriage has always been a very important part of the Indian Society.

In the Modern Era the Social Institution of Marriage has witnessed many changed trends and the ones who are accountable to bring about those changes are the young individuals for whom the meaning, significance and purposes of marriage have completely transformed.

Even though we cannot completely state that marriage has lost its emphasis for the youth, but certainly it has undergone some radical changes. The Indian Youth are now getting more influenced by the Modern and Western Values, their perceptions and ideologies are getting redesigned within the structure of Westernization, Modern Education, Urbanization and Reformed Legislations and this has also impacted the implications of marriage within our Indian Society. The youth of the modern era has come up with new and fresh dogmas and they rather seek the authenticity in the bonding of marriage, with the time numerous of things have changed and for the youth as well the institution of marriage has also been reformed as a sacrament of companionship, love and trust.

The changing times have greatly influenced the marriage trends existing in the society. In the Modern Era, the youth giving importance to changing trends in marriage viz. Love Marriage, Intercaste Marriage, Live in Relationship, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Marriage etc. The Indian society is also undergoing a drastic change due to economic prosperity and the Internet revolution that has exposed people to social trends prevalent across the world. Traditionally, parents found the match for their children and the marriage was formalized strictly as per their customs and rituals. But today, many youths are choosing their own partners. Earlier, the boy and the girl were not allowed to meet before the marriage. They met each other only on the day of marriage. Eventually, it gave way to phone chats and then few meetings in the presence of a family member before the marriage. But today in the 21st century, both the companions try to spend maximum time together before marriage. Unlike earlier times, many girls are working before marriage and they put forward their condition to continue working after marriage. As a result, girls are managing both their personal and professional lives efficiently. This, in turn, has dissolved the demarcation between gender roles. Today, boys are equally involved in domestic chores as girls. On the other hand, girls are also providing financial support in time of need. As Joint Family System is being switched by Nuclear Families, the closeness and the level of comfort between the partners is increasing. They have ample space to talk and strengthen their relationships. In a Joint Family System, the partners spent very few hours together because of lack of space due to a large number of members in the family. This acted as a blockage in removing communication gap between the couple. An increase in the women employment ratio and the number of Women Centric Laws has led to the empowerment of women economically and mentally. Now, it is not easy to subject her to any sort of harassment because she is equipped with all the means to live an independent life.

Family Environment

The family forms the basic unit of social organization and it is difficult to imagine how human society could function without it. The family has been seen as a universal social institution an inevitable part of human society. The family is seen as the main pillar block of a community; family structure and upbringing influence the social character and personality of any given society. Family is where everybody learns to love, care, to be compassionate, ethical, honest, fair, to have common sense, to use reasoning etc., values which are essential for livingin a community.

According to Sociologists, the family is an intimate domestic group of people related to one another by bonds of blood, sexual mating or legal ties. It has been a very hardy social unit that has survived and adapted through time. The family acts as a primary socialization of children whereby the child first learns the basic values and norms of the culture they will grow up in. A child needs to be carefully nurtured, cherished and moulded into responsible individuals with good values and strong ethics. Therefore, it is important to provide them the best childcare so that they grow up to be physically, mentally and emotionally strong individuals.

It has been generally assumed that the Institution of Marriage is a universal feature in human societies. Although many Sociologists and Anthropologists have attempted to provide definitions of marriage, none of them has been satisfactorily and sufficiently general enough to encompass all its various manifestations. This is because marriage is a unique institution of human society that has different implications in different cultures. It is a natural fact that marriage is intimately connected towards parenthood. This has led to many Anthropologists like Malinowski and Radcliffe-Brown to propose definitions of marriage centring on the Principle of Legitimacy.

Malinowski stated that a legal marriage is one which gives a woman a socially recognized Husband and her Children a socially recognized Father. Radcliffe-Brown (), states that Marriage is a social arrangement by which a child is given a legitimate position in the society determined by parenthood in the social sense.

According to Westermarck it is a relation of one or more men to one or more women which is recognized by custom or law and includes certain rights and duties both in the case of parties entering the union and in the case of children born out of this union. Lundberg () stated that marriage consists of rules and regulations that define the rights, duties and privileges of husband and wife with respect to each other. Horton and Hunt defined marriage is the approved

social pattern whereby two or more persons establish a family. Levy and Monroe people get married because of the feeling that being in a family is the only proper indeed the only possible way to live. People do not marry because it is their social duty to extend the Institution of family or for the reason that the scriptures recommend matrimony but because they lived in a family as children and cannot get over the feeling that being in a family is the only suitable way to live in society.

The United States Census Bureau (2007) defines the family as a comparatively everlasting group of two or more people who are related by blood, marriage or adoption and who live under the same roof. Stephen (1999) stated that the family as a social arrangement based on marriage comprising recognition of rights and duties of parenthood, common residence for husband, wife and children are reciprocal economic obligations between husbandand wife.

Over the decades, Social Scientists have fought in their efforts to define the multidimensional concept of family. Trost (1990) confirmed this overwhelming definition dilemma experienced not only by family researchers but also the general population. Specifically, she illustrated the difficulty and diversity with which people identify those who could or should be labelled family members. For some sample, family consisted of only closest family members, Nuclear Family, while for others family involved various other kin, friends and even pets.

The Family Environment involves the surroundings and social climate conditions within families. It is the core process of every child upbringing, with positive and negative influences. When families experience sudden and unexpected trauma, such as loved ones sustaining severe problems, all members of the family are affected in one way or other.

Family environment is considered as a system where the behaviour and relationship among all family members is mutually dependent. A stimulating physical environment, encouragement of achievement and affection are repeatedly linked to better performance of children. Every individual bears an impact of the environment in which she is brought up. Family is almost the exclusive environmental factor, which controls the first few primitive years of life. The family environment maintains its significance for the psychological development of the child.

Research shows that those adolescents shows more victory in life who belong to households in which parents are supportive, caring, helping and accepting the child's needs for

more psychological independence (Olsson et al., 1999; Madhu & Matla, 2004; Powell, 2006; Lee et. al., 2006; Deepshikha & Bhanot, 2011).

The influence of family processes in the course of human development is broadly recognized in the psychological literature. Among the family features that are relevant to the study of psychological dimensions, those related to the family environment or climate are highlighted, i.e. the individual's perception of the quality of relationships within the family (Teodoro, Allgayer & Land, 2009). Assessment of family environment is usually achieved based on dimensions such as Cohesion, Hierarchy, Support and Conflict (Björnberg & Nicholson, 2007; Teodoro et. al., 2009). Cohesion is the emotional bond that links family members, meaning the levels of affection, friendship and intimacy shared. Hierarchy refers to the structure of power and control between individuals which mostly reveals the greater influence of older people on family decisions. Support is the perception of the material and emotional support received from the family in face of challenges and problems. Conflict involves a set of negative feelings among individuals which can create stress, hostility, criticism and aggression within the family. Some studies have suggested that family conflict is inversely related to cohesion and support; however, there is no consensus whether cohesion and hierarchy are independent or related aspects in the dynamics of family interactions (Teodoro et. al., 2009; Wood, 1985).

The existence of change or stability in the perception of cohesion, conflict and hierarchy in adolescence has been widely discussed by theories and studies of psychology of human development (Goede, Branje & Meeus, 2009; Smetana et. al., 2006). Contrarily, Neopsychoanalytic, Sociobiological and Cognitive Theories claim that the youths search for autonomy leads to decreased cohesion, more conflicts and progressive balance in the relations of hierarchy with parents from early adolescence to intermediate adolescence (Goede et. al., 2009). Empirical support for this hypothesis is found in recent studies conducted with youths from different ethnic groups (Goede et. al., 2009; Matjasko, Grunden & Ernest, 2007). On the other hand, sociorelational theories have argued that there is continuity in the emotional bond between youths and their families, instead of withdrawal and exacerbation of conflicts (Collins& Laursen, 2004).

Positive Family Functioning

In view of the vast range of family configurations, it is very difficult to define a "healthy" family. But, at least two concepts are important when assessing the effectiveness or healthiness of a family. These include how well family functions are undertaken and how well

family members communicate with each other. Family functions include child care and child socialization, income support and long term care, additionally to other care giving functions. Children must be nurtured and taught. All family members need adequate resources to thrive. Additionally, family members should be able to call upon each other for help when necessary (for instance, in the event of sudden illness). Good communication is the main aspect which characterizes healthy families. Communication and autonomy are closely related concepts. Good communication involves clear expression of personal views and feelings even when they differ from those of other family members. Contrarily, good communication also involves being sensitive to the needs and feelings of other family members. Good communication promotes compromise so that the most essential needs of all involved are met. In families which foster autonomy, boundaries for roles and relationships are established clearly. All family members are held responsible for their own behavior. Under these conditions, family members much less frequently feel the need to tell others what to do or "push each other around." Negotiation is also clearly related to good communication and good relationships. When faced with decisions or crises, healthy families involve all family members to come to solutions for the common good. Conflicts are settled through sensible discussion and compromise instead of open hostility and conflict. If one family member feels strongly about an issue, healthy families work to accommodate his/her views in an expected way. As unhealthy families suffer conflict and disagreements, like healthy families. Howsoever, a healthy family deals with conflict much more rationally and practically. Families can be compared and evaluated on different dimensions and variables. The specific variables involved are not as important as the concept that children learn how to behave or are socialized according to the makeup of their individual family environments. The family environment is important in that children are taught what types of transactions are considered suitably. They learn to form relationships, handle power, maintain personal boundaries, communicate with others and feel that they are an extremely important subset of the whole family system.

Negative influences are when the family neglect their children; this condition gives negative effect for a child personality. The loss of love among the family members causes poor performance in Education. They feel such abandoned and neglected and hinder its ability to foster a sense of self-esteem that can benefit themselves and community around it.

Women and the Family

Women have always been strong. They are always on the forefront of struggle for the betterment of mankind. They have given strength and have been of great support to their male counterpart. Women play multiple roles in their life. Especially after marriage they play many roles and handle all the circumstances in a better way at home as well as in various organizations. All the marriages are aimed at happiness. Marriage involves the legal commitment that is quite important in any adult life. But selecting a partner and entering into a marital relationship required one's maturity and personal achievement. Choice of marital partner is one of the most important decisions in one's life. There are so many reasons for people's marriage like they need companionship, happiness and to escape from an unhappy situation. Strong and healthy married life requires adjustment. If person can do adjustment in his/her married life, the life could be much better than those who are low on adjustment. Marital Adjustment (Thomas, 1977) is the state in which there is an overall feeling in husband and wife of happiness, satisfaction with their marriage and with each other. Usually couples marry with full of high expectations from each other. Dalack (1990) defined marriage as socially legitimate sexual union, begun with a public announcement and undertaken with some ideas of performance. There is a list of six areas of marital adjustment by the Psychologist, such as, religion, social life, mutual friends, in laws, money and sex (Lazaru & Delingis, 1983). Another Psychologist defines ten areas of marital adjustment which includes values, couple growth, communication, conflict resolution, affection, roles, cooperation, sex, money and parenthood (Margolin, 1980). Kinnunen and Feldt (2004), Economic Strain is directly linked to increased couple disagreements and has direct impact on marital adjustment. Each human environment has characteristics that affect the behaviour of people in it in many ways. The home is a person's primarily environment from the time he is born, until the day he dies while it may change over the years owing to marriage, death, divorce, birth of new members and other circumstances, the family unit and the pattern of living that meets the needs of its members remains relatively constant. Human environment reflects the prevailing attitudes and values of the individuals within them. Wiltfang et. al. (1990) have stated that the family environment will cover the characteristics determining the social status of the parents like educational level, occupational status and professions of the parents also the quality of the residence, working conditions of the parents and relations of the siblings. Grolnick et. al. (1994) defined the environment in which the family lives as a setting of learning which has vital effects on the child. An environment may be destructive and pathogenic. The family environment can be a

strong source of support for developing non-working women, providing close relationships, healthy life and good communication and modelling positive attitude and behaviors. It can also be a problematic environment when those supports are lacking or when negative behaviors occur like alcohol (heavy drinking), smoking, anxiety, aggression, anger, depression are present. Family environment means the emotional environment in a family in which there is a love, peace and support for each other. From interpersonal relationships in a family, the family environment develops. Sociologists remarked that home and family is the main goal from ordinary man and woman. There is a strong relationship between family environment and women's career development.

Need for the Study

The family plays an important role in developing attitudes about marriage among adults. As children enter the transition from adolescents to adults, they observe their family members. As a result of this, they form attitudes towards their own marital life. In the present context, the rate of separation and divorce has been increased. The reasons might include personal and family influences. Both unmarried and married women have various attitudes about marriage. This study focuses to serve the purposes to find out the influence of family on such attitudes. Once this objective is fulfilled various strategies or measures can be employed to reduce the number of divorce and to instill positive attitudes regarding marriage.

CHAPTER II
REVIEW OF
LITERATURE

Hyder (2018) assessed the attitude towards marriage among Divorcee Women residing in Kashmir was selected through Multi Stage Sampling Technique. For the sample 600 divorcee women were selected from urban and rural areas of Kashmir. The sample was collected with the help of Marriage Attitude Scale constructed by Pramod Kumar. The study shows that positive attitude towards marriage is found among Kashmiri Divorcee women irrespective of their dwelling, occupation and motherhood.

Yadav and Rakhee (2018) conducted a study based on "Explaining the Attitudes of Young Adults Towards Marriage in India". The main focus of this study is to find out the attitudes of young adults towards marriage. The data was collected through online survey where total 78 males and 123 females in the age range of 18-32 years were administered by 25 item Survey Questionnaire (Shivalli, Chittagubbi & Devendrappa, 2012) which was adapted and modified as per the need of the research. Results indicated that the attitudes of young adults on marriage were changing with times. Female participants were found to be equally accepting of their responsibility in marital life and they view themselves as equal to males with respect to roles defined by the society. Results also indicated that mutual compatibility as an important domain for the success of marriage in life. Present believes that it is not only the responsibility of wife to take care of household chores and husband's responsibility to manage the finances of the family. Participants stated that successful career was more important than successful marriage, majority agrees that wife should not bear the authority of dominance of husband in marital life. The results also indicated that the view towards practice of dowry was changing as majority of the research participants agree that wife should not carry dowry at the times of marriage and also they viewed the status and responsibility of both males and females as an important determinant of successful marriage.

Darrow, Accurso, Nauman and Goldschmidt (2017) conducted a research on "Exploring Types of Family Environments in 123 Youth with Eating Disorders". Latent class modelling of the Family Environment Scale identified three classes (i.e. different Family Environment Scale profiles): (1) Control Vs Oriented; (2) System Maintenance Vs Oriented; and (3) Conflict Vs Oriented. Data were presented to characterize the classes (e.g. age, gender, rates of different eating disorders, severity of eating disorder pathology and rates of comorbid

disorders). The preliminary results suggested that family interaction types may help personalize treatment for eating disorders and encourage future research to guide such efforts.

Sharma and Tyagi (2017) analyzed the marital attitude of students of vocational and traditional courses towards marriage. The sample consisted of 120 students of vocational and traditional course from Saharanpur District were selected and the data was analyzed by t-test. The results indicated that there was a significant difference between the attitude of student of vocational and traditional courses towards marriage.

Kaur, Satish and Pandey (2017) investigated the relationship among depression, family environment and self concept of adolescents. The sample consisted of 200 adolescents (100 males and 100 females) in age range of 14 -17 years, pursuing Secondary Schools from Ambala and administered by Mental Depression Scale (Dubey, 2006), Family Environment Scale (Bhatia and Chadha, 1993) and Self Concept Questionnaire (Saraswat, 2010). Results revealed that depression was negatively and significantly correlated with four dimensions of family environment namely cohesion, active recreational orientation, independence and organization whereas it is positively correlated with conflict in the family. Significant differences were found in the family environment and self concept of adolescents scoring high and low on depression.

Pickard (2017) examined the changing attitude towards marriage and family. The study focused on changing attitude towards marriage and family in the United States. The survey was based on how people felt about marriage and family. One hundred and twenty five demographic questions, including sex, sexual orientation and marital status, and 14 questions about the respondents attitude towards marriage, children and family. The Convenience and Snowball Sampling Method was used to collect data from the participants. The research revealed that attitudes were shifting slowly regarding marriage and the place of children in marriage.

Lazinski (2016) investigated the relations among young adults' attachment styles, their reported family of origin functioning and parents' marital status (divorced or non-divorced) and their current feelings about and attitudes towards marriage, in a sample of 537 young adults, half of the participants experienced the divorce of their parents. The participant's age range was from 0 to 24 years and participants were interviewed and after that they were administered by Attachment Style Questionnaire, Family Environment Scale, ICPS Family Functioning Scale. The results demonstrated that knowledge of divorce status alone does not tell the whole predictive story for a child's later relational connections and attitudes.

Sometimes, parental marital status may, act as a proxy for lower intimacy, fewer democratic parenting practices and higher conflict in the family. Family of origin functioning and in particular higher levels of intimacy was the best predictor of the young adult's secure attachment in close relationships. Although adult children from divorced households reported more negative feelings and opinions of marriage, parents' marital status, attachment style and Family of origin functioning variables were all important in explaining their feelings about and attitudes towards marriage. Especially those with higher level of attachment avoidance were more likely to express negative feelings and opinions about marriage.

Rashmi (2016) focused on relationship between family environment and academic achievement at secondary level. One hundred and sixty students were selected randomly from Government and Non Government Schools and administered by Family Environment Scale (Bhatia & Chadha, 1993) and for academic achievement student's previous percentage were recorded. Result revealed that there was a positive correlation between family environment and academic achievement. As the cohesion increases the academic achievement of the students also increases.

Hippen (2016) examined the existing developmental research on marital attitude change by focusing how attitude toward marriage and long term relationships may vary across emerging adulthood. Utilizing five waves of data from the Centre on Young Adult Health and Development's College Life Study, discrete time survival analysis and latent basis growth curve analysis were employed to assess the change – life predictors of such change – in three measures of relationship attitudes (desire for marriage, desire for long term relationship, and importance of marriage and long term relationships) of over 900 college students. Results indicated that positive change in all three measures of attitudes, with most emerging adults desiring and placing importance of marriage and long term relationships from the very beginning of college. Predictors of attitude change included sex, race, experience of parental death, student status, educational aspirations and total number of sex partners.

Jain and Chandalia (2016) focused on the family environment and its correlation with anxiety and depression on heart patients. Thirty participants were selected by purposive sampling technique consists of 15 males and 15 females in the age range of above 45 years with heart disease, depression and psychiatric symptoms were administered by Beck's Depression Inventory, Hamilton Anxiety Scale and Family Environment Scale. As a result, they concluded, for people with heart dysfunction, depression and anxiety can increase the risk of an adverse cardiac event such as heart attack or blood clots. For people who do not have

heart disease, depression and anxiety can also increase the risk of a heart attack and development of coronary artery disease. Researchers may also have emphasized on the role of family psychosocial environment and its positive association with the coronary heart disease risk.

Sarma and Talukdar (2016) investigated the relationship between family environment and mobile phone addiction among young adults. It was hypothesized that there would be no relationship between family environment and mobile phone addiction. Data were collected from a sample of 80 young adults residing in Guwahati, Assam was administered by Family Environment Scale (Bhatia and Chaddha, 1993) and Mobile Phone Addiction Scale (Velayudhan and Srividya, 2012). The data were statistically treated and found a negative correlation between Family Environment and Mobile Phone Addiction.

Shefali and Navya Shree (2016) analyzed the relationship between attitude towards marriage and Life Satisfaction among mid adults. The sample comprised of 60 mid adults in the age range of 35 to 50 years from rural and urban areas were selected and assessed by Marriage Attitude Scale (Kumar, 1988) and Life Satisfaction Scale (Diener, Emmons, Larsen and Griffin, 1985) respectively. Results were analysed using Two Way Analysis of Variance and Pearson Coefficient of Correlation. Result showed that there was no significant gender difference in attitude towards marriage and life satisfaction among mid adults. There was no significant difference between urban and rural mid adults in their attitude towards marriage and level of life satisfaction. The findings indicated that the two variables are independent of each other and there is no significant relationship between the two.

Mohammadi, Khojastehmehr, Pour and Tbe (2016) analyzed the experience process and formation of the attitudes towards marriage among married students. Eighteen married students were selected by purposive sampling method and data was collected by the indepth and semi structured interview. When the data reached to the data saturation; after that the data was analysed by content analysis method. Five hundred and eighty eight concepts in primary coding, 81 subthemes in open coding and 15 final and main themes in Axial coding were extracted from the analysis of obtained data. The findings of study showed needing the young men and women to financial and moral supports, supporting of government in cultural and social planning, importance of adherence or weakness toward religious, traditional and ethnic values in youth's attitude to marriage.

Shorter (2016) examined the association between relational and contextual family environment variables and adjustment outcomes in an understudied sample of

Rural

Appalachian Youth and also examined whether extracurricular involvement moderated the relationship between these variables. Participants were 367 adolescents from multiple High Schools (grades 9-12) in an Appalachian Region of Rural East Tennessee. Self Report measures were used to assess internalizing and externalizing problems, family relationships, extracurricular activity and health risk behaviours; truancy data was collected from academic records. Results were as expected, family cohesion and moral religiosity promoted positive outcomes for youth, while family conflict emerged as a risk inducing factor. Significant interactions were found between both moral religiosity and cohesion and extracurricular activity when predicting truancy, revealing extracurricular involvement as an important contributor to reductions in truant behaviour. Family expressiveness was predictive of increased truancy, while extracurricular involvement appeared to strengthen this relationship. Extracurricular activity also enhanced the relationship between family conflict and substance use in this sample and negated the protective effects of family cohesion, leading to increased substance use in both instances.

Meldrum, Connolly, Flexon and Guerette (2015) examined the associations between parental low self control, aspects of the family environment and officially recoded juvenile delinquency among 101 Juveniles processed through a juvenile justice assessment facility located in the South-eastern United States. Furthermore, it considers whether aspects of family environments, particularly family cohesion, family conflict and parental efficacy, mediate the influence of parental low self control on delinquency. The results of a series of analyses indicated that parental low self control was correlated with various aspects of family environments and juvenile delinquency, and that the association between parental low self control and juvenile delinquency was mediated by family environments. Supplementary analyses also suggested that the association between parental low self control and the family environment may be reciprocal.

Chng, Li and Khoo (2015) analyzed whether parental active and restrictive mediation strategies were negatively associated with youths' Pathological Internet Use (PIU) and also tested the effectiveness of these strategies as a function of the broader family environment with measures of parent child attachment, family communication and the youth's comfort with living at home. The data of 3,079 students in Singapore were analysed through a series of Logistic Regressions. The results revealed that the family environment for students with Pathological Internet Use was significantly less positive. Only restrictive mediation was found to be negatively associated with Pathological Internet Use. This relation was stronger for higher

levels of attachment, communication and comfort at home, implying that the effectiveness of restrictive mediation varies with the degree of warmth and support in the general family environment.

Yucel (2015) explored the correlates of attitudes toward marriage and children in North Cyprus, South Cyprus, Turkey and Greece, using the most recent wave of the European Values Study (EVS) data. The results showed that the most support for the second demographic transition theory. The combined effects of education, religiosity, political ideology and gender ideology explain the most variance in family values among these four countries. Less religiosity and egalitarian gender ideology were correlated with egalitarian attitudes towards marriage and children throughout, but cross country differences were also significant. The effects of parenthood, marital status, education and political ideology are in the expected direction, yet the effects are not universal but country specific.

Kim and Jung (2015) investigated the relationships between self differentiation, family functioning, life satisfaction and attitudes toward marriage and identify factors contributing to the development of these attitudes among University Students in South Korea. Participants were 759 students attending five universities located in Daegu and Gyeongsangbukdo, South Korea. Data were collected through a structured questionnaire. The analysis revealed that attitudes toward marriage significantly differed by gender, age, school year and religion and were positively correlated with self differentiation, family functioning and life satisfaction. Self differentiation was positively correlated with family functioning and life satisfaction. Family functioning was positively correlated with life satisfaction. Factors that significantly influenced attitudes toward marriage were life satisfaction, gender, age, self differentiation and family functioning together explained approximately 16.1% of the total variance. These results suggested that positive attitudes toward marriage among Korean university students can be fostered by providing marriage education programmes that increase life satisfaction and improve self differentiation and the quality of family relationships.

Kumar and Varma (2015) investigated the marital adjustment and family environment among working and non working women. Two hundred women (100 working and 100 non working) in the age range of 25 to 35 years graduates from Panchkula and Mohali, Chandigarh, were administered by Marital Adjustment Scale (Kumar & Kanchan, 1999) and Family Environment Scale (Moos & Moos, 1994) consisted of 90 true false items. The data was analysed by descriptive statistics and t-test was used which indicated that two groups i.e. working and non working differ significantly with marital adjustment as well as with family

environment. The t ratio was 3.72 and 5.73 among working and non working with respect to marital adjustment and family environment respectively.

Sharma, Pandav and Lally (2015) conducted a study on "Role of Family Environment on Adolescent Well Being". One hundred and sixty school students in the age range of 16 -21 years was administered by Family Environment Scale (Bhatia and Chadha, 1993) and PGI General Well Being Measure (Verma and Verma, 1989). The study adapted Normative Survey Research Design and using Stratified Random Sampling, 160 students from different school of Lovely Professional University was taken. Result showed that there was positive relation between family environment and well being.

Chaturvedi and Singh (2015) conducted a study on "attitude on Indian Youth towards marriage and family relations". Two hundred and forty subjects consisted of 140 males and 100 females in the age range of 18 to 32 years were selected and administered by 12 items Social Change Attitude Scale (Rekha, 1996). The findings of the study revealed a positive change in the attitudes among the youth in terms of decision making at home, sharing of household work by both partners, acceptance of wife's decisions by husband, need for economic independence of wife and obsolescence of purdah system. Hence also, positive attitudes towards the female child and significance of parents' consent in marriage is indicated. Sexual satisfaction is still seen as the primary aim of marriage in significantly larger number of males than females.

Savitha and Srimathi (2015) focused on to find out the difference in family environment between male and female adolescents with low and severe suicidal ideation. It was hypothesised that there will be significant difference between gender of low and severe suicidal ideation. A sample of 120 college going students in the age range of 16-19 years were selected from three different colleges of Bengaluru. Modified Scale for Suicidal Ideation (MSSI - Miller) was administered and students were classified into low and severe suicidal ideation adolescents based on the scoring system of Modified Scale for Suicidal Ideation. Thirty males and females belonging to categories of low and severe suicidal ideation group were selected (total sample being 120) and administered by Family Environment Questionnaire (Bhatia and Chadha) measuring 8 dimensions on family was administered. The results were analysed using t test to study the significant difference in family environment for low and severe suicidal ideation between the genders. The findings indicated that significant difference found only on the family dimension of recreational orientation for male and female with low suicidal ideation.

Females and males with severe suicidal ideation differed significantly on different dimensions of family environment except on the areas of family conflict and organization.

Fatma (2015) investigated the attitude of adolescents towards marriage and family life. To assess the attitude of adolescents, 60 girls and 60 boys from the age group 12-18 years were selected from the sixth zone of Kanpur city were administered by Marriage Attitude Scale (Pramodkumar, 1988). The results showed that majority of the adolescents expressed positive attitude towards marriage and family life and viewed marriage as a life long commitment. Most of the adolescents were in favour that after marriage a person feels psychologically secure. Majority of the boy's respondents stated that children were necessary for the safety of old age and to continue their names from generation to generation while girls were in the favour that by children people gets a chance to satisfy one's parental emotions.

Bhavana and Roopa (2015) assessed and compared the attitude of youth towards marriage and changing trends in marriage. The sample consists of 300 youths of which 150 were males and 150 were females between the age ranges from 18 to 23 years. The questionnaire was developed by the investigator on the different aspects of marriage and recent trends in marriage. The analysis was carried out using t-test and chi-square test. The study revealed that majority of youth had moderate and favourable attitude towards marriage. When compared to the male respondents, female respondents had favourable attitude towards marriage and changing trends in marriage. Male respondents showed moderate level compared to female respondents. Further there was no significant difference found between male and female respondent's attitude towards the concept of marriage, social expectations and changing trends in marriage whereas there was a significant difference found between male and female respondents with regard to sexual relationship, type of marriage, criteria for choosing life partner and specific motives for successful marriage.

Bagi and Kumar (2014) found out the relationship between family environment and well being of adolescents. The sample size comprised of 100 college students in the age range of 18-24 years old were selected and they were administered by Family Environment Scale (Bhatia & Chadha, 1993) and PGI Well Being Measure (Verma & Verma, 1989). Results showed that there was significant positive correlation between cohesion and expressiveness, cohesion and conflict, acceptance and caring. Subjective Well Being was not correlated significantly with any of the factor of family environment. It can be concluded that family environment does not necessarily imply subjective well being of adolescents.

Goslin (2014) investigated the attitude towards marriage and intentions to marry amongst young adults. Quantitative analysis was the chosen method for this research where 200 participants were used within the analysis, 100 males and 100 females in the age range of 19-33 years were selected and administered by The General Attitude to Marriage Scale, The Attitude Towards Marriage Scale and The Intent to Marry Scale by Park and Rosen (2013) with demographic data were collected. The analysis revealed that female participants had strong intention to marry some day compared to the male participants. Females also wanted to get married before males. This also reveals that young adults with divorced or separated parents do not have a negative attitude towards marriage. However, Attitude towards marriage varied slightly amongst both the participants.

Christensen (2014) conducted a study on "Young Adult's Marital Attitude and Intentions: The Role of Parental Conflict, Divorce and Gender". Six hundred and nineteen students consists of 139 males, 455 females, 2 transgenders and 2 who identified as other in the age range of 17-38 years old were administered by Demographic Data of the Participant, The General Attitude to Marriage Scale, The Intent to Marry Scale and Aspects of Marriage Scale by Park and Rosen (2013) and The Children's Perception of Interpersonal Conflict Scale by (Grych, Sied & Fincham, 1992). The results revealed that high to moderate levels of parental conflict were more strongly associated with increased fear\doubts about marriage and lowered intent to marry and high parental conflict were more strongly linked to holding more negative attitudes towards marriage in young adults. Results indicated that women did not hold positive attitudes toward marriage in general nor they did endorse stronger desires to marry whereas men are more likely to hold more negative attitudes towards than women. Compared with students whose parents were not divorced, adult children of divorce (ACOD) reported significantly higher levels of conflict in their homes while growing up.

Ramaprabhu (2014) investigated on the effect of family environment on adjustment patterns. Seventy adolescents pursuing undergraduate programmes were randomly selected from the Arts and Science Colleges, Puducherry and administered by Family Environment Scale (Harpreet & Chadha, 1993) and Adjustment Inventory for College Students (Sinha & Singh, 1971) and data was analyzed by One Way ANOVA. Family factors associated with the development of child and adolescent mental health problems have been studied intensively for several decades. Findings of the study revealed that family environment had significant effect on the adjustment patterns of the students.

Kumar and Lal (2014) examined the pattern of relationship between the academic achievement and family environment. The research was carried out of 200 adolescents in the age group of 15 to 18 years. The researchers used academic achievement scores which were the aggregate percentage of marks from the previous two classes, serve as indicators of academic achievement. Moos (1974) Family Environment Scale (FES) was used to study the impact of family on adolescent's academic success. The academic scores of girls were found better than the boys while boys lead the girls on family environment scores where the t-value was significant at 0.01 levels. There was a clear cut difference between the scores of high and low groups and significant at 0.01 level. The obtained results indicated that the adolescent experiencing healthy family environments are found to have higher academic achievement in comparison to children belonging to low family environment.

Rodriguez, Donenberg, Emerson, Wilson, Brown and Houck (2014) examined associations among family environment, coping and emotional and conduct problems in adolescents attending therapeutic day schools due to mental health problems. Four Hundred and Seventeen Adolescents in the age range of 13–20 reported on their family environment (affective involvement and functioning), coping (emotion focused support seeking, cognitive restructuring, avoidant actions), and emotional and conduct problems. Results showed that Poorer Family Environment was associated with less emotion focused support seeking and cognitive restructuring and more emotional and conduct problems. Emotional problems were negatively associated with cognitive restructuring and conduct problems were negatively associated with all coping strategies. Cognitive restructuring accounted for the relationship between family environment and emotional problems. Cognitive restructuring and emotion focused support seeking each partially accounted for the relationship between family functioning and conduct problems, but not the relationship between family affective involvement and conduct problems. The findings implicated the role of coping in the relationship between family environment and adolescent mental health.

CHAPTER III

METHOD

The procedure pertaining to the present study namely, "Attitude towards Marriage andFamily Environment among Married and Unmarried Women" was carried out involving the following steps:

- Objectives
- Hypotheses
- Area
- Sample
- Inclusion criteria
- Exclusion criteria
- Tools
- Procedure
- Analysis of data

Objectives

1. To find out the differences between Married and Unmarried Women in the attitudetowards marriage.
2. To find out the differences between Married and Unmarried Women in the FamilyEnvironment.
3. To find out the relationship between attitude towards marriage and familyenvironment among married and unmarried women.
4. To identify the factors that represents the relationship in the attitude towards marriageand family environment among married and unmarried women.

Null Hypotheses

1. There will not be significant difference among Married and Unmarried Women inAttitude towards Marriage.
2. There will not be significant difference among Married and Unmarried Women inFamily Environment.
3. There will not be significant difference among Married and Unmarried Women inAttitude Towards Marriage in respect to area of residence.

4. There will not be significant difference among Married and Unmarried Women inFamily Environment in respect to area of residence.

5. There will not be significant difference among Married and Unmarried Women inAttitude Towards Marriage in respect to family type.

6. There will not be significant difference among Married and Unmarried Women inFamily Environment in respect to family type.

7. There will not be correlation among Married and Unmarried Women in Attitude towards Marriage and Family Environment.

Area

The participants were selected from Dr. SNS Rajalakshmi College of Arts and Science and Pioneer College of Arts and Science for the study. The reasons for selecting theareas were as follows:

➢ Availability of the required number of samples for the study.

➢ Easy accessibility as the Institution is situated within the city.

➢ Permission and facilities provided by the Institution authorities to conduct theresearch.

➢ Cooperation of the participants to serve as the subjects for the research.

Sample

One Hundred participants were collected from Dr. SNS Rajalakshmi Collegeof Arts and Science and Pioneer College of Arts and Science for the study and they were administered Family Environment Scale and Marriage Attitude Scale. The participants in the age range of 19 to 30 years were selected.

Inclusion Criteria

• The participants in the age range of 19-30 years were selected

• Only female participants

• Based on married and unmarried criteria

• Willingness to participate

Exclusion Criteria

- The participants below 19 years and above 30 years were not included for thestudy
- Male participants were not included for the study

Tools

- Consent Form was used for the ethical purpose.

- Sociodemographic Data was used to collect the general information about the Participants

- Marriage Attitude Scale (Promod Kumar, D., 1988) was used to measure the Level of Marital Attitude among Married and Unmarried Women.

- Family Environment Scale (Dr. Harpret Bhatia and Dr. N. K. Chadhia, 1993) was used to measure the Level of Family Environment among Married and Unmarried Women.

Consent Form (Annexure – I)

Consent form was signed by the participants in agreement to participate in the research.

Demographic Data (Annexure – II)

Demographic data was used to collect the personal and family information's of the participants.

Marriage Attitude Scale (Annexure – III)

The Marriage Attitude Scale was constructed and standardized by Promod Kumar, D. (1988) which is used to assess the attitude of a person towards marriage. The scale consists of 38 statements with three choice format namely Yes, ?, No. The participants should encircle against "Yes" if they agree with the statement and should encircle against "No" if they disagree with the statement and encircle against "?" if they are not very sure of their agreement and disagreement of the statement. The reliability of the scale is found to be highly significant at

0.79 and 0.84 by split half and test retest methods.

Family Environment Scale (Annexure – IV)

The Family Environment Scale is based on the family environment scale by Moos (1974). This scale consists of three dimensions which are taken from Moo's scale. Relationship

dimensions consisting of 4 sub scales like Cohesion, Expressiveness, Conflict, Acceptance and Caring. Personal Growth Dimension includes two sub scales of Independence and Active Recreational Orientation. Dimension of System maintenance includes two sub scales of Organization and Control. Total 69 items were included under 8 sub scales. Each sub scale has many positive and negative statements. Five response options are provided for each statement like Strongly Agree, Agree, Neutral, Disagree and Strongly Disagree. Positive items will be scored 5, 4, 3, 2 and 1. Whereas, for the negative items it will be scored as1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. Accordingly statements will be added to obtain raw scores.

Relationship Dimensions

1. Cohesion: Degree of commitment, help and support family members provide for oneanother.
2. Expressiveness: Extent to which family members are encouraged to act openly andexpress their feelings and thoughts directly.
3. Conflict: Amount of openly expressed aggression and conflict among family members.
4. Acceptance and Caring: Extent to which the family members are unconditionallyaccepted and the degree of which caring is expressed in the family.

Personal Growth Dimensions

5. Independence: Extent to which family members are assertive and independently taketheir own decisions.
6. Active-Recreational Orientation: Extent of participants in social and recreationalactivities.

System Maintenance Dimensions

7. Organization: Degree of importance of clear organisation structure in planning familyactivities and responsibilities.

8. Control: Degree of limit setting within a family.

Reliability

Spilt Half reliability has been found for the present scale. For this purpose, the present scale has been spilt into two halves. The scores of each dimension have also been split into two halves. From this self correlation of the half tests, the reliability coefficient of the whole test has estimated using the Spearman Brown Prophecy Formula.

Sl. No.	Variables	r
1	Cohesion	0.92
2	Expressiveness	0.88
3	Conflict	0.84
4	Acceptance and Caring	0.86
5	Independence	0.70
6	Active Recreational Orientation	0.48
7	Organization	0.75
8	Control	0.48
9	Overall Test Reliability Coefficient	0.95

Validity

The validity of the test was confirmed by experts. Both Face and Content Validity have been tested by giving the scale to eighteen experts to evaluate the test items. Only those items with at least 75% agreement among the judges have been retained. For content validity, the dimensions of the family environment have been selected and clearly defined for the purpose of measuring the specific aspects of the environment.

Institution of Human Ethics Committee

As the study involves human subjects, all procedures described in this study was reviewed and approved by the Institutional Human Ethics Committee, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore. The approvalnumber for the research purpose is **AUW/IHEC/PSY-18-19/XPD/03.**

Procedure

Initially the booklet which consists of Consent Form, Demographic Data, Family Environment Scale and Marriage Attitude Scale were given to the participants. Participants were asked to sign the consent form in the agreement of participating in the research followed by obtaining Demographic Data, Family Environment Scale and Marriage Attitude Scale wereadministered to the participants with proper instructions.

Analysis of Data

The data was analysed using SPSS version 21.

CHAPTER IV

RESULTS AND

DISCUSSION

The study on "Attitude towards Marriage and Family Environment among Married and Unmarried Women" was conducted. Two hundred (100 married and 100 unmarried) women in the age range of 19-30 years participants were selected for the study.

The results of the study were analyzed, tabulated and discussed.

Table 1

Level of Marital Attitude among Married and Unmarried Women

N=200

Marital Attitude	Number	Percent
Low	0	0
Average	25	13
High	175	87

Percentages are rounded off

Table 1 shows the level of Marital Attitude among Married and Unmarried Women. Marital attitude is the attitude one shows towards marriage. It is based on an individual's personality and nature of the environment they reside. It is also formed by the influence of family climate, parenting style, personal values, customs, norms and other factors. The Table 1 shows that majority of the participants (87%) had high level of positive marital attitude towards marriage because of the cultural aspect and the societal norms.

Figure 1

Level of Marital Attitude among Married and Unmarried Women
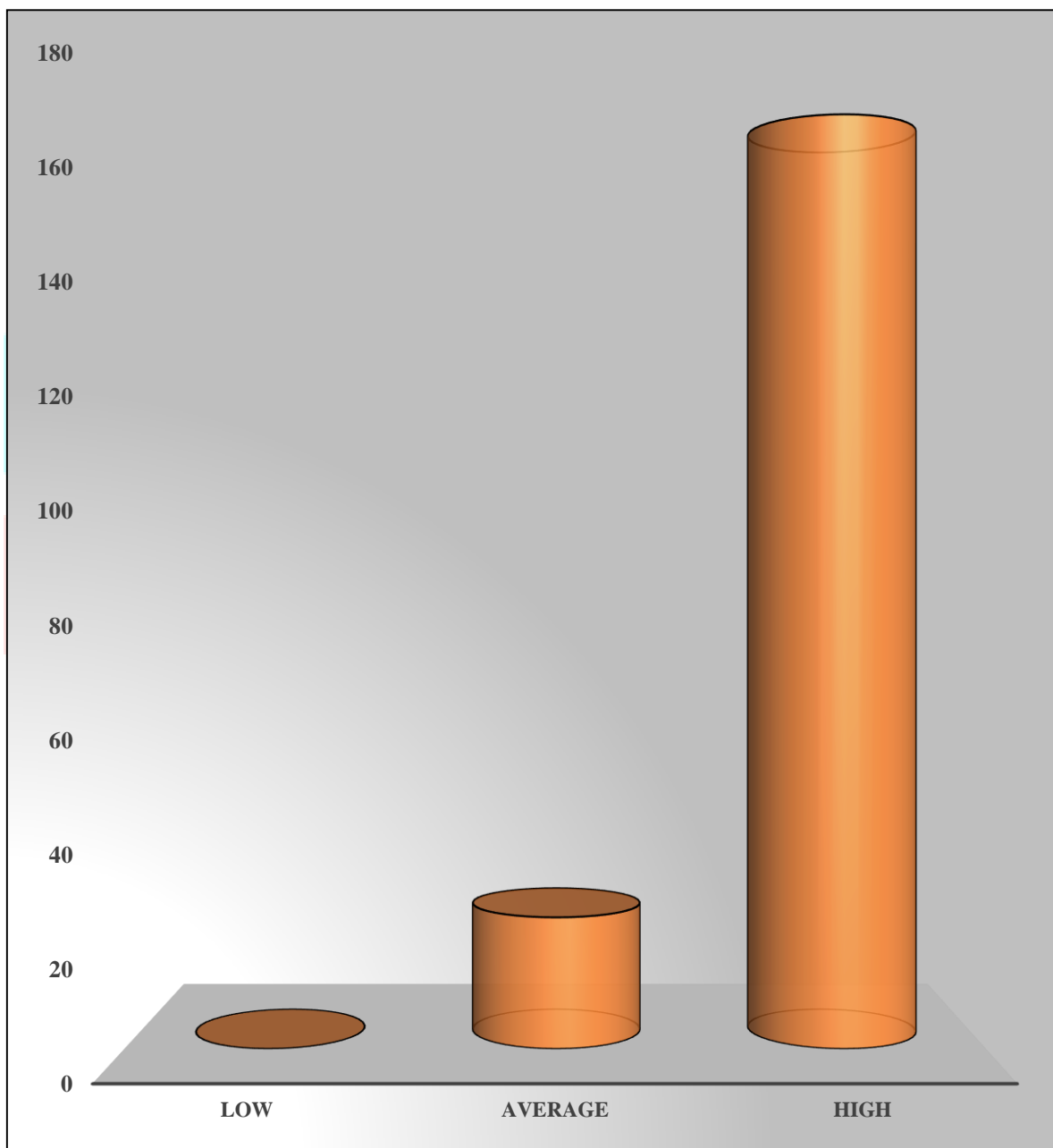
Table 2

Level of Family Environment among Married and Unmarried Women

N=200

Family Environment	Number	Percent
Very low	0	0
Low	5	2
Average	41	21
High	138	69
Very high	16	8

Percentages are rounded off

Family environment is the core process of every child upbringing with positive and negative influences. It involves the circumstances and social climate conditions within families. Table 2 shows the level of Family Environment among married and unmarried women and it implies that 69% had high level of family environment because of the intensity of the positive factors such as bonding, understanding and the high levels of attachment found within the family and remaining participants had Average and Very High family environment and it implies that the family environment is very good among taken participants.

Figure 2

Level of Family Environment among Married and Unmarried Women
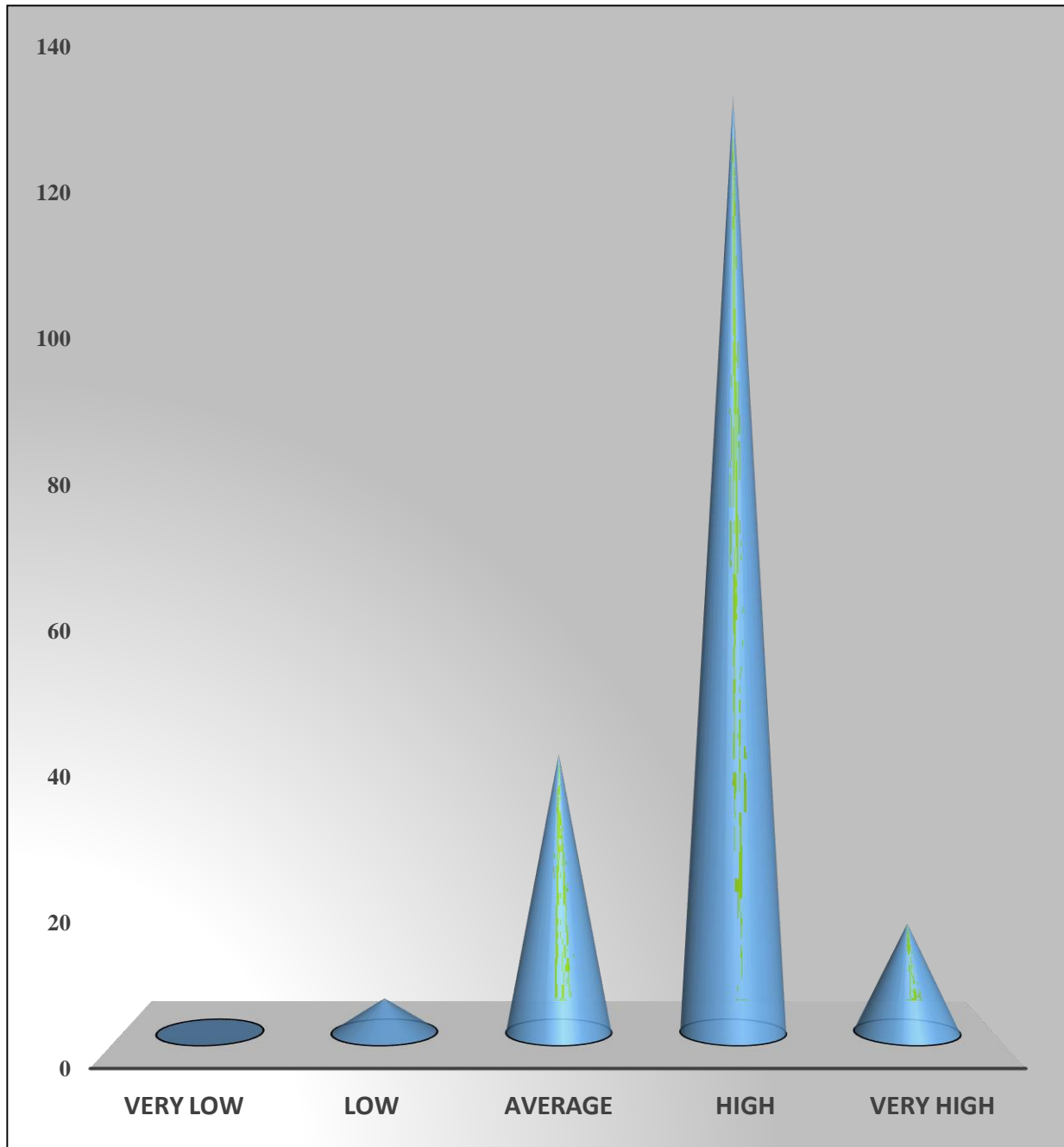
Table 3

Mean, Standard Deviation, t value for Attitude towards Marriage among Married andUnmarried Women

N=200

Variable	Group	N	Mean	Standard Deviation	t value
Attitude towards Marriage	Unmarried	100	85.50	8.89	2.59 *
	Married	100	81.56	12.33	

* = Significant at 0.05 level

Table 3 shows the Mean, Standard Deviation and t value for Attitude towards Marriage among Married and Unmarried Women. The scores indicated that the unmarried women had higher attitude towards marriage than married women with a mean difference of 3.94 and it is due to the expectations they form about marriage. Studies showed that it is actually good to have higher expectations in forming relationships because it paves way for forming a healthy relationship with respect, affection, love, intimacy and time together. It shows that the t value is 2.59 which is statistically highly significant at 0.05 level. Hence the hypothesis '**There will not be significant difference in levels of marital attitude among married and unmarried women**' is rejected.

Table 4

Mean, Standard Deviation, t value for Family Environment among Married and Unmarried Women

N=200

Variable	Group	N	Mean	Standard Deviation	t value
Family Environment	Unmarried	100	225.39	33.48	2.79*
	Married	100	230.81	35.68	

* = Significant at 0.05 level

Table 4 shows the Mean, Standard Deviation and t value of Family Environmentamong Married and Unmarried Women. The Mean Values are for Married and Unmarried Women in the family environment were 225.39 and 230.81 with the mean difference of 5.42 and the t value is 2.79 and it is statistically significant at 0.01 level. The data reveals that married women had greater family climate than unmarried women. This may be because married women undertake the family functions well and they communicate with each other. Married women uphold higher responsibilities when compared to unmarried women. Hence the hypothesis '**There will not be a significant difference in levels of family environment among married and unmarried women'** is rejected.

Table 5

Mean, Standard Deviation, t value in Attitude towards Marriage among Married andUnmarried Women in relation to Area of Residence

N=200

Variable	Area of Residence	N	Mean	Standard Deviation	t value
Attitude towards Marriage	Urban	85	84.96	10.89	0.96 N.S
	Rural	115	82.47	10.83	

N.S = Not Significant

Table 5 shows the Mean, Standard Deviation and t value for Area of Residence in Attitude towards Marriage among Married and Unmarried Women. The Mean value of urban and rural in attitude towards marriage was found to be 84.96 and 82.47 respectively and it implies that there was only a slight difference between urban and rural residence in the attitude towards marriage. This may also due to the changing trends in recent times and it implies that the marital attitude and family environment based beliefs, values, norms, customs are formed irrespective of the area of residence which does not show up major differences among mean values. The t ratio was found to be 0.96 which has no significant difference between the area of residence. Hence the hypothesis '**There will not be significant difference between Attitude towards Marriage in relation to area of residence**' is accepted.

Table 6

Mean, Standard Deviation, t value in Family Environment among Married and Unmarried Women in relation to Area of Residence

N=200

Variable	Area of Residence	N	Mean	Standard Deviation	t value
Family Environment	Urban	85	229.38	33.75	0.83 N.S
	Rural	115	227.16	35.36	

N.S = Not Significant

Table 6 shows the Mean, Standard Deviation and t value for Family Environmentin the Area of Residence among Married and Unmarried Women. The mean value in the family environment for urban and rural area participants were 229.38 and 227.16 with the mean difference 2.22 and the t value was 0.83 and it indicates that there is no difference between urban and rural area participants due to culture. Hence the hypotheses, **'There willnot be a significant difference in Family Environment among Married and UnmarriedWomen in relation to area of residence'** is accepted.

Table 7

Mean, Standard Deviation, t value for Attitude towards Marriage among Married andUnmarried Women in relation to Family Type

N=200

Variable	Family Type	N	Mean	Standard Deviation	t value
Attitude towards Marriage	Nuclear	111	85.42	10.19	2.79**
	Joint	89	81.17	11.34	

**= Significant at 0.01 level

Table 7 shows the Mean, Standard Deviation and t value in Family Type in the Attitude towards Marriage among Married and Unmarried Women. The mean value for Nuclear and Joint Family Type in attitude towards marriage was found to be 85.42 and 81.17 respectively and t value was found to be 2.79 which is significant at 0.01 level statistically. Hence the hypotheses, **'There will not be a significant difference in Attitude towards Marriage among Married and Unmarried Women in relation to Family Type'** is rejected.

Table 8

Mean, Standard Deviation, t value for Family Environment among Married and Unmarried Women in relation to Family Type

N=200

Variable	Family Type	N	Mean	Standard Deviation	t value
Family Environment	Nuclear	111	228.32	34.07	0.98 N.S
	Joint	89	227.83	35.48	

N.S= Not Significant

Table 8 shows Mean, Standard Deviation and t value for Family Type in the Family Environment among Married and Unmarried Women. The mean value of nuclear and joint family system was found to be 228.32 and 227.83 respectively and t value was 0.98 and it is not statistically significant in family environment, it indicates that there is only a slight difference between the Mean Values of nuclear and joint family system. This may be because of the personal traits that individual hold irrespective of the family environment and family type. Hence the hypotheses, **'There will not be a significant difference in Family Environment among Married and Unmarried Women in relation to Family Type'** is accepted.

Table 9

Correlation between Attitude towards Marriage and Family Environment among Married and Unmarried Women

		Marital Attitude	Family Environment
Marital Attitude	Pearson Correlation	1	0.08
	Sig. (2-tailed)		0.25
	N	200	200
Family Environment	Pearson Correlation	0.08	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.25	
	N	200	200

Table 9 shows the correlation between attitude towards marriage and family environment among married and unmarried women and the value indicated that there is no correlation between attitude towards marriage and family environment among married and unmarried women. It shows that the family environment does not influence the marital attitude because of one's personal attitude, values, beliefs that are formed irrespective of the family environment. It is due to the changing trends that influence each other and also because of the parenting style that is impacted on children which in case turns no relation to marital attitude over family environment. Hence the hypotheses, **'There will not be a correlation between Attitude towards Marriage and Family Environment among Married and Unmarried Women'** is accepted.

Table 10

Correlation between the subscales of Family Environment

		C	E	C	AC	I	AR	O	C
Cohesion	Pearson Correlation	1	0.42**	0.41**	0.31**	-0.08	-0.22**	-0.06	0.05
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000	.000	.000	.253	.002	.404	.510
	N	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200
Expressiveness	Pearson Correlation	0.42**	1	0.33**	0.31**	-0.08	-0.05	-0.06	-0.01
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000		.000	.000	.261	.523	.370	.859
	N	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200
Conflict	Pearson Correlation	0.41**	.330**	1	.430**	.046	-.104	.003	.077
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000		.000	.519	.143	.965	.280
	N	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200
Acceptance and Caring	Pearson Correlation	.309**	.305**	.430**	1	-.004	-.038	-.012	.015
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000		.952	.593	.867	.829
	N	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200
Independence	Pearson Correlation	-.081	-.080	.046	-.004	1	.050	.153*	.091
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.253	.261	.519	.952		.484	.031	.202
	N	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200
Active-recreational Orientation	Pearson Correlation	-.215**	-.045	-.104	-.038	.050	1	.149*	.209**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.002	.523	.143	.593	.484		.035	.003
	N	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200
Organisation	Pearson Correlation	-.059	-.064	.003	-.012	.153*	.149*	1	.228**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.404	.370	.965	.867	.031	.035		.001
	N	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200
Control	Pearson Correlation	.047	-.013	.077	.015	.091	.209**	.228**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.510	.859	.280	.829	.202	.003	.001	
	N	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200

**= Significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)

* = Significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)

Table 10 shows the correlation between the subscales of family environment. It shows that cohesion, expressiveness, conflict and active-recreational orientation are correlated with each other. This may be due to the emotional bonding that family members have towards one another in expression of strong positive or negative feelings that are interdependent. Expressiveness and Conflict is correlated with acceptance and caring due to the reason that expressiveness is a healthy bonding in communication either in a positive or negative way which avoids misunderstandings and leads to acceptance and caring. Independence is correlated with organization because of independent people tend to be more structured and systemized. Active-recreational orientation, organization, conflict and control are correlated to one another. On the whole, each and every domain is correlated with one another in various aspects. This is mutually important to have a healthy bonding and good family climate within families. Hence the hypothesis "**There will not be a significant relationship within the subscales of family environment**" is rejected.

Table 11

Correlation between Attitude towards Marriage and subscales of Family Environment

	Cohesion	Expressiveness	Conflict	Acceptance & Caring	Independence	Active Recreational Orientation	Organization	Control
Pearson Correlation	.115	.098	.035	.087	.024	-.067	-.182**	-.008
Sig.(2-tailed)	.105	.169	.627	.221	.732	.345	.010	.916
N	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200

Table 11 shows that there is a negative correlation between attitude towards marriage and organization in the subscale of family environment. This may be due to the changing trends in the modern era where people are more oriented towards work rather than their personal life. In such case there is a probability of change in marital attitude which may be elicited in a firm and scheduled way which will either have positive or negative impacts. Hence the Null Hypothesis "**There will not be a significant difference between attitude towards marriage and any specific domains of family environment**" is partially accepted.

CHAPTER 5

SUMMARY AND

CONCLUSION

The study on "**Attitude towards Marriage and Family Environment among Marriedand Unmarried Women**" was carried out. The results obtained indicates the following:

Objectives

1. To find out the differences between Married and Unmarried Women in the attitudetowards marriage.
2. To find out the differences between Married and Unmarried Women in the FamilyEnvironment.
3. To find out the relationship between attitude towards marriage and family environmentamong married and unmarried women.
4. To identify the factors that represents the relationship in the attitude towards marriageand family environment among married and unmarried women.

Hypotheses

1. There will not be significant difference among Married and Unmarried Women inAttitude towards Marriage.
2. There will not be significant difference among Married and Unmarried Women inFamily Environment.
3. There will not be significant difference among Married and Unmarried Women inAttitude Towards Marriage in respect to area of residence.
4. There will not be significant difference among Married and Unmarried Women inFamily Environment in respect to area of residence.
5. There will not be significant difference among Married and Unmarried Women inAttitude Towards Marriage in respect to family type.
6. There will not be significant difference among Married and Unmarried Women inFamily Environment in respect to family type.
7. There will not be correlation among Married and Unmarried Women in Attitude towards Marriage and Family Environment.

Conclusions

- There is a significance difference in the Level of Attitude towards Marriage and FamilyEnvironment among Married and Unmarried Women

- There is a significance difference in the Marital Attitude among Married and UnmarriedWomen in relation to Family Type.

- There is no significant difference in the Family Environment among Married andUnmarried Women in relation to Family Type

- There is no relationship between Attitude towards Marriage and Family Environmentamong Married and Unmarried Women in respect to Area of Residence

- There is no relationship between Attitude towards Marriage and Family Environmentamong Married and Unmarried Women

- There is a significant difference between the specific subscales in the dimensions ofFamily Environment

- There is significant relationship between Cohesion, Expressiveness, Conflict andActive Recreational Orientation

- There is significant relationship between Expressiveness, Conflict and Acceptance andCaring

- There is significant relationship between Independence and Organization

- There is positive relationship between Active Recreational Orientation, Organization,Conflict and Control

Limitations

- Women participants were selected for the study.

- Unmarried participants were collected from one particular college and married participants were selected randomly due to convenience of the Researcher.

Recommendations

- In addition to attitude towards marriage and family environment variables like Parenting Style, Attachment Style, Family Functioning, Life Satisfaction can be added.

- Male participants can also be included.

- Different areas, districts could be included.

- Intervention can be included for future research involving Family Techniques andFamily Therapies.

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ANNEXURE – I

INFORMED CONSENT FORM

Use of a Questionnaire

You are being invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide to participate in this study, it is important that you understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take the time to read the following information carefully. Please ask the researcher if there is anything that is not clear or if you need more information. The purpose of the study is to find out the relationship between the Family Environment and Attitude Towards Marriage among Married and Unmarried Women.

Study Procedure

You will be given two tests of paper-pencil type along with socio demographic profile. You need to respond to all the items in the test. There is no expected time commitment for this test. Any amount of time can be taken to complete the tests. There is no risk in undertaking the study. There will be no direct benefits to you for your participation in this study. Your responses to the question will be anonymous and kept confidential. Your participation in this study is voluntary. It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part in this study. If you decide to take part in this study, you will be asked to sign this form. You are free to withdraw at any time and without giving any reason. There are no costs to you for your participation in this study.

CONSENT FORM

"By signing this consent form, I confirm that I have read and understood the information and have the opportunity to ask questions. I understand that my participation is voluntary and I am free to withdraw at any time, without giving a reason and without cost. I voluntarily agree to take part in this study."

Name of the participant: _____

Signature: _____

Place: _____

Date: _____

ANNEXURE – II

SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC

PROFILE

Initial:

Age:

Gender:

Occupation:

Marital status:

Area of residence(urban/rural):

Family type(nuclear/joint):

Birth order(first/middle/last):

How many members are there in your family?

ANNEXURE – III

MARRIAGE ATTITUDE

SCALE

INSTRUCTIONS: *Below are given a list of statements about marriage. You are requested to read each statement carefully. If you agree with the statement, you are requested to encircle "Yes" against it. If you do not agree with the statement, you are requested to encircle "No" against it. Only when you are not very sure of your agreement or disagreement with the statement, you are to encircle "?" (doubtful). You are requested to give your reactions faithfully. Your replies will be kept strictly confidential.*

1	Marriage provides a steady satisfaction of sexual need.	Yes	?	No
2	Marriage should be made compulsory for all.	Yes	?	No
3	Marriage provides psychological security to a person.	Yes	?	No
4	Married people are more trustworthy.	Yes	?	No
5	A person blossoms only after getting married.	Yes	?	No
6	Through marriage, one can have the pleasure of having children.	Yes	?	No
7	Marriage provides the most intimate relationship to a person.	Yes	?	No
8	People who decide to remain unmarried generally lack self-confidence.	Yes	?	No
9	Unmarried people have poor self-understanding.	Yes	?	No
10	People who Indulge in sexual perversions prefer to remain unmarried.	Yes	?	No
11	Through children, one gets a feeling of extention/continuation.	Yes	?	No
12	Marriage helps in one's fuller psychological growth.	Yes	?	No
13	Sex outside marriage is only business-like.	Yes	?	No
14	Children are needed for old-age security.	Yes	?	No
15	Marriage makes life meaningful.	Yes	?	No
16	Through marriage, one gets an opportunity to express his love and affection.	Yes	?	No
17	Real/selfless love one can get only through marriage.	Yes	?	No
18	With marriage begins the most glorious period of one's life.	Yes	?	No
19	Marriage provides an opportunity to satisfy one's maternal/paternal need.	Yes	?	No
20	Married people are strong character.	Yes	?	No
21	Unmarried people are bound to suffer from feelings of loneliness.	Yes	?	No
22	People who remain unmarried suffer from sexual problems.	Yes	?	No
23	Sex within marriage ls more wholesome.	Yes	?	No
24	True love always culminates in marriage.	Yes	?	No

25	People who remain unmarried possess unhealthy attitudes / notions towards the opposite sex.	Yes	?	No
26	Marriage provides stability to the society.	Yes	?	No
27	Marriage means unnecessary botheration.	Yes	?	No
28	Marriage is a sign of conservatism/backwardness.	Yes	?	No
29	Marriage provides social respectability/status to a person.	Yes	?	No
30	Unmarried person is always a topic of discussion.	Yes	?	No
31	Only fools get married.	Yes	?	No
32	Real pleasure of life you only get through marriage.	Yes	?	No
33	Marriage means loss of one's Independence.	Yes	?	No
34	You really feel settled once you get married.	Yes	?	No
35	Married people are more disciplined.	Yes	?	No
36	Unmarried people suffer more from psychological problems.	Yes	?	No
37	Married people are more matured.	Yes	?	No
38	Sex in any form outside marriage must be severely punished.	Yes	?	No

ANNEXURE – IV

FAMILY ENVIRONMENT

SCALE

Instructions: *This booklet contains some statements. These statements are about families, you have to decide which of these statements are applicable to you about your family and which are not. Give us your general impression of your family. There is no right or wrong answers to any statement. Your responses will be kept in strictly confidence and will be used only for research purposes. Please respond to each statement and do not leave any statement unanswered. Your help will be duly acknowledged.*

S.no	Statement	Strongly disagree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1	We enjoy doing things together.					
2	Family members often do not express their feelings.					
3	Breaking things in anger is quite common in our family.					
4	Making decisions independently is strongly encouraged in our family.					
5	In our family everyone is encouraged to play and interact with neighbors.					
6	Responsibilities are not taken seriously in our family.					
7	All members of the family are expected to be together for at least one meal in a day.					
8	Affection is expressed openly, quite often in our family					
9	Togetherness is the basic feeling of our family.					
10	Our feelings of happiness are shared openly with others in our family					
11	Beating up people in anger is not seen in our family.					
12	There are a lot of restrictions in our family.					
13	Friends and guests are welcome in our family					
14	Everyone in our family is well aware of their responsibilities.					
15	Nobody in our family is bothered about rules of any kind.					
16	Everyone in our family listens to what each one of us has to say.					
17	Whenever any work comes up, everyone tries to get out of the situation.					

18	It is difficult to express ourselves openly for fear of someone reacting to it angrily.					
19	Everyone tries to sort things out if there is a disagreement in the family.					
20	Thinking for ourselves is not encouraged in our family.					
21	We often go out together for movies in our family.					
22	Going for programs without informing at home is not accepted in our family					
23	Nobody bothers to look after anyone else in our family.					
24	Any new situation that arises is discussed openly in the family in order to get ideas and suggestions from every.					
25	We talk about our personal problems to each other in our family.					
26	When members are angry, they do not talk to each other for days together.					
27	In our family, members ask for what they need, quite openly.					
28	Having hobbies is encouraged in our family.					
29	Quite often members of our family stay out without informing at home					
30	Only when we do something well we get praise and attention from others in our family.					
31	Family members do not get along with each other.					
32	Complaining about something that we don't like is not accepted in our family.					
33	Finding faults with each other is quite common in our family.					
34	It is difficult to do something on your own in our family, without someone feeling rejected or left out.					
35	Watching T.V. is our only form of entertainment.					
36	There is plenty of time and attention for everyone in our family					
37	Everyone comes together to sort out any new situation that may arise in our family.					

38	At home we feel free to anything we want to.					
39	Shouting in anger is not common in our family.					
40	Everyone is expected to accept all decisions made in the family, whether they like it or not.					
41	Our family members are just confined to either work or school.					
42	We are careful not to hurt anyone in the family by making thoughtless remarks.					
43	Whenever something needs to be done in the house, everyone joins in, happily.					
44	When any member is feeling upset, he/she talks to someone in the family.					
45	The members of our family constantly keep bickering over small matters.					
46	Whenever a marriage takes place in our family the person concerned is asked his/her views.					
47	We go out often to visit friends or relations.					
48	In our family if anyone is upset, there is always someone to comfort them.					
49	There is no sense of closeness in our family.					
50	Family members often keep their feelings to themselves					
51	Whenever anyone in our family is angry with another member, he makes sure to sort out things with him.					
52	The decision to take on or continue a particular job is taken by the family members concerned in consultation with other family members					
53	Joking and laughing is not encouraged in our family.					
54	When things get tough there is always someone in the family whom we can turn to.					
55	When someone is sick in our family everyone participates in looking after the person.					

56	Expressing an opinion about matters at home is strongly encouraged in our family.					
57	Whenever a family member does, something well, the other members feel upset about it.					
58	All major decisions in our family are taken by the elders in our family, without asking anyone else's opinion.					
59	There is a lot of affection amongst our family members					
60	When a family vacation is planned we all give our suggestions					
61	Our family believes in not letting differences continue unsorted out.					
62	If any member gets into trouble he/she gets help and sympathy from other family members.					
63	When in trouble, all of us stand up for our family members					
64	Quite often members of our family fail to arrive at a mutually acceptable solution.					
65	When anyone makes a mistake, the other members ridicule him.					
66	In our family, we enjoy sitting together and talking to each other.					
67	Showing anger by banging doors is rarely seen in our family					
68	Members of our family are very critical of each other.					
69	All of us participate together in family functions/programmers.					