



MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AMONG ANDROGYNOUS AND FEMININE 411/8 WORKING FEMALES

Dr. Pratibha Singh

Assist. Professor, Psychology

PG Department Psychology

Veer Kunwar Singh University, Ara

Abstract

The behaviour of working females in work setting, domestic arrangements and their attitudes regarding their role depends on a number of variables among which marital adjustment and mental health are very common factors. In such factors marital adjustment plays a very vital role in their working environment. Studies on marital adjustment among working and non working females indicates that the scholars of this field have tried to ascertain the effect of such variables on some aspects of their work setting. The objective of the study is aimed to measure the marital adjustment among androgynous and Feminine working females by using sex role inventory among the working women. Marital adjustment is a type of adjustment which deals the family conditions, adjustment in a family with the other members, adjustment with the situation, with surroundings, with children as well as their work setting. A comparative picture of marital adjustment among the respondents were calculated and it may be observed from tables which shows that androgynous females feel much more maritally adjusted.

Keywords: marital adjustment, sex role, androgynous, Feminine

INTRODUCTION

Behaviour of working females in work setting, domestic arrangements and their attitudes regarding their role depends on a number of variables among which marital adjustment, mental health and subjective well being are very common factors. In such factors marital adjustment plays a very vital role in their working environment. Studies on marital adjustment among working and non working females indicates that the scholars of this field have tried to ascertain the effect of such variables on some aspects of their work setting. Hence our present state of knowledge is consequently vague and ambiguous. In other words it can be said that there may be number of mute questions which need clarification regarding the present study. Masculinity and femininity are the concept of healthy people in society. They are physically, psychologically as well as sociologically healthy. They play all role which ever may be given by them. Home environment as well as their workplace both have their own values and they play their role according to their situational demands. Recently however the women's Liberation movement have been arguing that our current system

of sex role differentiation has long history. Since outlived its usefulness and that is now serve only the prevent both men and women from developing as full and complete human being. The new dimension of sex role has been replaced by their old traditional bipolar concept of masculinity and femininity. As per dual conception they are the biological qualities of masculinity and femininity, both are available as orthogonal dimension. (Bern 1974, Spence 1975). The Masculinity and femininity as independent dimensions, indicates that the propound gender are found with both qualities of masculinity and femininity. It may be rather low or high. Thus Indian people who has high on masculinity and on femininity is masculine, high on femininity and low on masculinity is feminine. High both masculinity and femininity is androgynous (Bern 1974). The term psychological androgyny defines that there is no linkage between anatomical sex and once own behaviour. The effectiveness of their work, role and other behaviour aspects will be maximized of androgynous peoples. Bern (1975). advocates that the people who have androgen qualities are much more flexible in their behaviour and performance on their counterparts.

These group of variables are androgynous and non androgynous working females including masculinity and femininity. Thus it is clear that the present study aimed to examine the effect of marital adjustment among androgynous and non androgynous working females on same aspects of their sex role, behaviour and mental health.

Androgynous is the term used to describe a persons who are androgynous. androgynous first and foremost is a state of mind, not just an attitude or fashion statement. The notion that only androgynous looking people can be or are androgynous is a misconception. Androgynes can be said to have the gender identity of both a man and a woman or neither. That is to say, some androgynes consider themselves to be bi gendered in that they identify with both traditional genders, while others see their identity as more of synthesis and consider themselves to be a gendered, as in other or none of the above. Some go as far as to call themselves gender outlaws. It better to be androgynous in today's society as men and women need to be adoptable and willing to share all types of jobs without staying that one job is women's work for another job is just for men. With the development of science and technology, socio-economic aspects of life are changing. Erikson (1950) Stated that gender role development is a central task for any developing person. It is the most important and centralised part of our identity. The peoples are masculine and feminine, (Pearson and Cooks 1995), but in some cases people are masculine and feminine both. On the dimension of marital adjustment social construction gender identity as per their role asserts that our society, describe major amounts of observable behaviour of people (Eagly & Wood 1999; Mead 1935). The sex gender and gender role identity both are different concepts. psychologist you sex and gender interchangeably, and despite their enormous popularity, the basic construct is unclear and confusing in the non professional world. In a study of Pryzgod and Chrisler (2000), the majority of participants used the word sex to describe their biological and gender description on the ground of sociological and psychological identity. Gender shows that socialize to pattern of behaviour and assets refers to the biological aspects and differentiation between men and women. Because of these factors discuss gender in a gendered world (Kimmel, 2000). Androgynous people are sensitive to both masculine and feminine qualities and as such may respond to a wider range of positive and negative stimuli than traditional people. A negative androgynous person would have a bigger repertoire of any unusual or unwanted behaviour of respondents. A non androgynous person may react in an undesirable feminine way in any submission situation, and undesirable or unwanted online hue in another situation of any kind of aggressiveness. Matlin (2000). In a study of Kusa (2002), The gender scale where found independent and it is useful subjects on their quantitative criteria of assessment of

androgyny. It is also noted that the desirability correlation of this scale is higher with opposite sex than with masculine or feminine attributes. Kusa reported that prominent attributes are greater differentiating power between gender scales with masculine attributes. It shows that emotionality in both sexes are normative standards. The study of Woodhill(2003), indicates that there are significant differences indigenous and non androgynous people on marital adjustment angle between positive and negative 29 and positive and negative masculine people on the ground of psychological health and well being. So study indicates the validity and utility of positive and negative androgyny and their gender role identity. Bem's (1974) Describe the sets Rose as in two dimension instead of bipolar with masculinity and femininity. In the Inventory of Ben sex roll describes on the basis of their theoretical assumption on the criteria of masculinity, femininity and undifferentiated perspectives.

Problem-

The Problem of the present study is," marital adjustment among the androgynous and non indigenous working women"

Objectives of the Study

The present study was conducted with following objectives in mind:

1. To identify the androgynous personality among working women.
2. To evaluate the effect of androgyny on marital adjustment.
3. To compare marital adjustment of androgynous females and feminine working women.

Hypotheses

1. There would be a significant number of androgynous females working women.
2. There would be significant difference among androgynous and feminine working women on marital adjustment.
3. Androgyny would not influence marital adjustment.

Research Methodology

Sample

The present study was designed to study the marital adjustment among androgynous and non androgynous working females. For this purpose the study consisted of 300 married working women was taken from Bhojpur and Buxar districts. The married working women employed with different departments like education, bank employees, operating small scale industries, NGOs and government officers also. The selection of their work setups based on purposive sampling and incidental purposive sampling was employed in administering the psychological tools on female working women. The age of the respondents ranged from 25 - 60, with mean age being 45.

Measuring Instruments

The following tools were administered on the employees in an attempt to collect the data.

Personal Information Blanks:

Personal information blank was prepared to seek information relating to age, experience, working sectors, marital status etc.

Measures of Dependent Variables

The present study tapped marital adjustment of androgynous and feminine working females as the dependent variables. The following tools were used to measure these variables.

Sex Role Inventory(SRI)

The sex role inventory was developed by Asthana and Chaudhary (2006). This Inventory contains 60 items, consisting 25 masculine, 25 feminine and 10 are neutral response items. This inventory measures the 4 components of personality : androgyny, feminine, masculine and undifferentiated. In all four components masculine and feminine components are positive and some of them are neutral traits where as positive and negative both traits are present. These moments includes the seven alternative response categories by putting a right mark under the appropriate column which ever applies to the respondents. The 7 alternatives are ' Never, Very less, Less, Moderate, Much, Very Much and Always. The Validity of the inventory was ascertained by correlating the scores of sex role inventory. High positive correlations on masculinity $r = .76$, femininity $r = .69$, social desirability $r = 0.80$.

Comprehensive Marital Adjustment Inventory(CMAI)

The Marital adjustment inventory was developed by Mishra and Srivastava(1997) to measure the adjustment of marital life of males and females. The inventory consists 55 items having 5 alternative responses (to always, mostly, seldom, mostly no, never). related to marital adjustment of married couples which are to be rated on 5 point scale on the dimension of marital adjustment i.e. feeling for spouse, harmonious relations, communication, mutual understanding, sexual relations, other factors are related to marital life. In inventory the total number of items are 55 in which 24 items are positive and 33 items are negatively worded. The negative items were scored as 1,2,3,4& 5, and positive items were scored in reverse order 5,4,3,2 & 1. The Minimum score in this inventory are 55 and maximum scores are 275, minimum scores shows poor marital adjustment and maximum scores of this inventory shows better marital adjustment. The reliability of marital adjustment inventory are also calculated to show the reliability of the inventory. Test retest method was done twice after the interval of one month and obtained reliability are significant at 0.01 level. Coefficient (r- values 0.69, 0.76). The validity of the inventory was done from the marital adjustment questionnaire of Kumar and Rohtagi(1987).

Result and Discussion

Among the selected sample of working women firstly we identify the androgynous personality. For This purpose sex role Inventory of Asthana and Chaudhari (2006) was admin instead among the total respondents. The women who scored 110 or above on masculinity scale and 119 or above on femininity scale were sorted as androgynous. The number of androgenesis women were 105 out of 300 working women.

Marital adjustment among androgynous and non androgynous working females.

The objective of the present study is aimed to measure the marital adjustment among androgynous and non androgynous working women. For this purpose marital adjustment inventory by Mishra and Srivastava (1997), was administered to 105 androgynous, 70 feminine and 90 undifferentiated working women. The finding revealed that there is no any specific difference on the dimension of marital adjustment among androgynous and non androgynous working women. The sub contents of masculine, feminine, undifferentiated and androgynous working women. The marital adjustment has become very vital problem of the modern technically advanced society where male and female both are working for betterment of the family. It is the era of women empowerment, where women are approaching in all the professional and non professional jobs. The various social economic and some modern self-respect ideology have brought about a newly emerging Society of working women in India. With the passes of time attitude and social barriers of

society towards them has also changed. Female employment has become an integral part of the modern Indian society but this trend has made the lives of working females and more difficult because she has to perform duties of wife and mother in addition to the primary responsibilities. Their double role has made their life more difficult in home and outside of the home.

Mean and SD of the indigenous and non androgynous working females were calculated on the dimension of marital adjustment on behalf of this The Other subcomponents were also recorded in table 1.

Table-1

Significance of difference among androgynous and feminine working females on the dimensions of marital adjustment.

Dimensions of marital adjustment	Categories	N	Mean	SD	t	p
Feeling of Spouse	Androgynous	105	52.76	3.39	1.01	NS
	feminine	70	55.40	2.61		
Harmonious relations	Androgynous	105	54.92	9.26	0.51	NS
	feminine	70	52.84	6.93		
Communication	Androgynous	105	39.72	3.94	1.2	NS
	feminine	70	38.16	5.16		
Mutual Understanding	Androgynous	105	31.55	14.61	1.48	NS
	feminine	70	29.23	12.25		
Sexual Relations	Androgynous	105	7.08	2.86	1.73	NS
	feminine	70	6.56	2.49		
Other Factors Related to Sexual Life	Androgynous	105	8.36	4.61	3.41	<0.01
	feminine	70	6.73	3.87		
Over All	Androgynous	105	31.55	14.61	1.48	NS
	feminine	70	29.23	12.25		

In order to examine the validity of the above assumption the descriptive and inferential Statistical Techniques were employed to analyse the data belonging to androgynous and feminine working women on all the dimensions of marital adjustment. Thus the obtained results are recorded in table 1. A perusal of table 1, takes it obvious that the androgynous females have scored a mean value of 52.76 and SD value of 3.39, while the mean and SD values of the working females belonging to feminine category are 55.40 and 2.61 respectively on the dimension of feeling of spouse of marital adjustment. Thus it is obvious that androgen is working females have scored the lowest mean value while feminine working females have scored the highest mean value. On the dimension of harmonious relation androgynous working females have scored slightly higher mean value than the feminine working females. This indicates that the androgynous working females may be more harmonious than feminine working females. It may be observed from table 1. The mean and SD values of androgen is working women are 54.92 and 9.26. On the other hand in working females have scored their mean and SD values of 52.84 and 6.93 respectively. A comparison of the component of between these groups on the dimension of communication between androgynous and not androgynous working females make it obvious that androgynous females have scored the mean and SD value of 39.72 and 3.94, while feminine working females the mean values of 38.16 and 5.16 respectively. The lowest score of 79 working women indicates that working females who have feminine qualities possess relative less communicative on their counterparts of androgen is working females. Mutual Understanding is an important factor from marital adjustment point of view. The results obtained in this study indicates that androgen is working females have been found more experiencing on mutual understanding.

A comparison of above components the another component of marital adjustment is sexual relation shows that androgen is working females experiencing more effective with sexual relationship followed by the feminine working females. This factors refers to the ability to get along with their partners, other relations and so on. This suggests that androgen is bulking females involved for interpersonal interactions with their marital relations with colleagues as compared to the feminine working women. On the factors related to sexual life the androgynous group has secured the mean value of 8136 and there SD is 4.61. On the other hand the feminine working females have score the mean and SD value of 6.73 and 3.87 respectively. On the dimension of androgen is working females have emerged as the most efficient group in the situation all requirement, marital adjustment, family relations handling in home and office work situations and undertaking the responsibilities and marital adjustment. A overall comparison on marital adjustment suggest that androgynous working females evaluate themselves more adjusted workplace settings than their counterparts. This inference is based on the facts that this group has secure the highest mean value while the working females of feminine qualities scored the lowest mean value. Since highest score on the scale used in this study suggests that they have balanced marital and workplace environment. But the difference between these two means all the dimensions of marital adjustment have been not so much differentiable. So it could not be said that there are lots of difference between androgynous and feminine working females.

Conclusion

The marital adjustment of androgen is working females where compared with feminine categories of working females which shows that both are well adjusted in their marital life. There are no significant differences are found on all the dimensions of marital adjustment. But some studies shows that androgen is working women are well adjusted on marital adjustment. Bem (1975, 1976) ,were found in his study that androgynous people were flexible in their nature and performed with better responsibility than any other kind of sexes like masculine and feminine. Isaac and Shah(2004), found a link between the differences of sex role and close relationships among male and females. Marital adjustment is basically related between husband and wife's relations, their role regarding their family and working conditions. The results suggest that androgynous females and feminine females are not differ significantly show the proposed hypothesis i.e. " difference among androgynous and feminine working females are rejected. A comparison of working females of androgynous and feminine category on marital adjustment indicates that feminine working females are less adjusted with their marital adjustment. Finally the working women of androgynous category have scored the highest mean value, which suggest the general demonstration that marital adjustment would be for significantly to a considerable extent. In This condition this study also given the such kind of findings so the study is not exceptional study because review shows that undifferentiated people have poor marital adjustment rather than androgynous working females.

References

Anderson, K.L.(1986).Androgyny, flexibility and individualism. Journal of Personality Assessment,50,265-267

- Antill,J., & Cunningham, J. (1979) Self esteem as a function of masculinity in both sexes, Journal of Counselling and Clinical Psychology.47,783-785
- Antill, J (1983). Sex role complementarity versus similarity in married couples. Journal of Personality and Social Psychology,45,45-155.
- Asthana, M., Chaudhary, O. P. (2006). Manual of directions for sex role inventory.
- Bem, S.L.(1974). The measurement of psychological androgyny. Journal of consulting and clinical psychology,42,155-163.
- Bem, S.L.(1975). Sex role adoptability. One consequence of psychological androgyny. Journal of Personality and Social Psychology.
- Bem, S.L. Martyna,W. And Watsson,C (1976). Sex typing and androgyny: Further exploration of the expressive domain. Journal of Personality and Social Psychology.
- Bem, S.L. (1975): Sex-role adaptability. ' One consequence of psychological androgyny. *Journal of Personality and, Social Psychology*, 31, 634-643.
- Block, J. (1973): Sex-role and socialization patterns : Some personality concomitants and environmental antecedents. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 41,321-323.
- Constantinople, A. (1973): Masculinity-femininity: An exception to a famous dictum, *Psychological Bulletin*, 80, 389-407.
- Cristall and Dean (1976): Psychological Androgyny, An Exploration www.google.com.
- Chaudhary, Agrawal and Rastogi (1998): Pattern of sex-role identity in working and non-working women: An exploratory study-paper presented in third biennial national conference of community Psychology, Association of India. April 12-13 Varanasi.
- Das, S. & Ghadially, R. (1988): Parental sex-role orientation and sex stereotypes of children. In R. Ghadially (Ed.). *Women in Indian society. A reader CPP*. 124-135, New Delhi sage.
- Dean, D.G. (1966): Emotional maturity and marital adjustment. *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, 28, 454-457.
- Datta, S. & Basu, J. (1998): A study of marital relationship of women: the contributory role of work status and gender schema. Paper Presented third Biennial National conference community Psychology Association of India, April 12-13 (1998) Department of Psychology,Sri Agrasen Kanya P.G. College, Varanasi (U.P.).
- Davidson, B. & Sollie, D. (1987): sex-role orientation and marital adjustment, *Social Behaviour and Personality: An International Journal*, 15,59-69.
- Ellis, L.J. & Bentler, P.M. (1973): Traditional sex-determined role standards and sex stereotypes. *Journal of Personality and social Psychology*, 25, 28-34,
- Erikson, E. (1968): Identity: youth and crisis. Newyork:W.W. Norton.

- Eva E.A. Skoe (2002): The influences of sex and gender role identity on moral cognition and prosocial personality traits. Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway, 46, 295-309.
- Harvey J. Locke, (1947): Predicting marital adjustment by comparing a divorced and a happily married group. American Sociological Review, XII, 187-91.
- Isaac, R & Shah, A (2004): Sex-roles and marital adjustment in Indian couples. *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*, Vol. 50, No.2, 129-141.

