



Change in Rural Marriage System and Problems of Marital Pair Selection

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ABSTRACT

This research paper attempts to discuss the problems that arise as a result of changes in the marriage system in rural communities. Marriage is an important social institution in the Indian society. In the process of maintaining social health and order, the institution of marriage performs important functions. Marriage brings with it the formation of a family, the major needs of the sexual needs, reproduction, child rearing, and socialization. The marriage as a social institution has been undergoing important change. Both in its structure and functions changes have taken place. In traditional rural society, while arranging marriage relations with other family is important.

But today increasing number of women in employment and other sectors, the dominance of family is sidelined while selection of the marital pair. Now a day's number of marriage burros such as the 'vadu- var suchak mandal', 'shadi.com', 'bharat matrimony' are supporting in pair selection. Today girls prefer those mates, who are educationally qualified as well as those who are in job with high income and dwelling in urban areas, and also the mate should be having with attractive personality. So, today it looks that, traditional rural societies not interested to maintain marital relations with such families, those who are in business or farmers and also those who are educationally backward. So number of bachelor youths are increasing in rural areas particularly in farming families.

(Key words: reproduction, religious, rituals, monopoly, marital, unreasonable, equality.)

Introduction:

In the process of the creation of human society, social institutions have been created to meet the needs of the human life and continuity as well as the needs of the members of the society. It is important to meet the basic needs of the society as it depends on the existence and continuity of the social system. From time immemorial, social institutions like marriage, family, religion, state and economic came into being. Their marriage is an ancient social institution and is an integral part of every human culture in the world. When did the pattern of marriage begin in human society? Morgan, Bachofman, Westermarck and other anthropologists have presented various ideas about the origin of marriage in this regard. Marriage as a socially sanctioned union of male and female, is an institution devised by society to sanction the union and mating of male and female for purposes of establishing a household ,entering into sex relations, procreating and providing care for the offspring. The existence of the institution of marriage is found in all the societies of the world from ancient times. There are mainly two types of marriage, polygamy in the Indian society, as well as the rules for endogamy and

exogamy custody as a method of choosing a mate. According to these different forms, a family is formed through the marital relationship between a woman and a man. This facilitates the social order in the society. In each society there are some rules related to marriage. In Indian society, there are rules for endogamy and exogamy affairs. In the case of endogamy, caste, race, religion, class marriages occur, whereas in the type of marriage, family, family and family are married. In Indian society, marital partners are determined according to the type of endogamy and exogamy affairs, but today there are many changes in the social order in the process of globalization, industrialization, urbanization. Every society has undergone changes in the social organization under changing circumstances. Therefore, marriage arrangements are also changing. There are many changes in the nature of marriage, marriage patterns, changes in the choice of spouse, increase in marriage age, approval of widow marriage, acceptance of divorce, changes in marriage rules and these changes are being accepted by every constituent.

There are also many changes in the practice of marital choice, including in the law of marriage. In traditional society, marriage was decided by parents, family and relatives. Children did not have the freedom to choose their own spouse. It was mandatory to marry the spouse chosen by the elders. As well as choosing a mate, the reputation of the family and family are taken into consideration. Also, the practice of choosing marital partners was adopted by the children. Only today, there has been a lot of change in the way of choosing a mate. It has become popular in the rural community as it is in the urban community today.

The objectives of my study to know, the problems of rural youth in selection of their marital pair and for this, I interact with such youths and also made some my observations. I also try to collect primary data relating with rural youths those who are facing this problem. As far rural structure is consider, there is still farming communities living in poor condition and there is no any other source for their income and on the other hand, problem of unemployment is serious in rural area. So, the problem of pair selection in rural marriage system is clearly visible while taking into account the polarized conditions between high expectations of girls towards their pair selection and traditional rural structure. This situation creates psychological problems in rural youths like loneliness, depression and so on.

Objectives of the study:

- 1) To know the causes behind the late marriage and yet Unmarried.
- 2) To understand the behavior of female not prefer to select rural youths while selecting their pair.
- 3) To know the problems faced by farming families in rural areas due to this changing marriage system.

Review of Literature:

Many research article and dissertations have been published on the changing pattern of marriage in Indian society. Changing marriage pattern study focuses on five aspects of changing marriage. The purpose, nature of the marriage, its selection, its criteria, age of marriage, financial aspects are taken into consideration.

M.Sharma's research paper "Recent change in the marriage and family structure in India" considers changes in the age of marriage, increasing participation of women in mate choice, inter-caste marriages as well as assisting the bride-groom to find marital partners. In this dissertation, parents' involvement in the

process of mate selection is diminishing. Changes in the purpose of marriage are being seen as mutual utility. Similarly, marriage has become inevitable.

Also Shuani's research paper "Recent change in Hindu marriage" considers the changing marriage patterns of Indian society. This study also considers changes in spouse choice, increased participation of women, increased age of marriage, selection of competent spouse.

Dr (Mrs.) Manjeet Hundels research paper, "Changing trend in marriage: Study of matrimonial advertisement in newspaper" considered, Indian society has commented on the change in marriage system due to urbanization. It mainly indicates that the spouse is selected from the newspaper's marriage advertisement by changing the spouse's selection method.

Considering all the above research essays, it appears that many of the factors considered in this dissertation include changes in marriage, changes in spouse selection, reduction of participation in the spouse choice of parents, support of the governing board on the bride and groom for spouse selection, increasing number of inter-caste marriages has been made. But there is no any other study highlighted the problem of rural youths those who get married late or remain unmarried. This is the first effort done by researcher and it will help to other discipline also.

Methodology:

The particular study based on case study method. The primary and secondary data have been used. The primary data was collected with the help of interview and observation technique, whereas secondary data was collected through library, books, journals, newspapers and various websites.

For the purpose of study researcher has selected village 'Narsingpur', which is located in walwa taluka of District Sangli in Maharashtra state. According to 2011 census population of Narsinhpur is 3602, about 735 families' lives in this village. Out of 735 families, there are 296 families with young children in the age group of 25 to 40 years. Since it is not possible to study these 296 families, the researcher has selected 10 percent of these family i.e. Thirty families for the study. These 30 families have a total 56 young children between age group of 25 To 40 were selected applying probability sampling method. To understand the problem, the discussions have made with head of the families with the help of interview and observation technique and collected data is compiled as follow.

Table No: 1 Number of youth in the age group

Age Groups	Total Number	Percentage (%)
25-30	21	37.5 %
30-35	19	33.92 %
35-40	16	28.58 %
Total	56	100 %

There were 56 youths between the age group of 25 To 40 out of 30 families were consider for this particular study. Again this age group spilt into 25 To 30 (37.5%), 30 To 35 (33.92%), 35 To 40 (28.58%), A total of 56 youths found between the age group of 25 to 40, among the 30 families. All these are selected for research purpose.

Table No: 2 Educational Information

Age group	Up to 10 th Standard	Up to 12 th Standard	Up to Graduate	Up to Post Graduate	Total
25 -30	02	04	09	06	21
30-35	04	06	07	02	19
35-40	05	04	06	01	16
Total	11	14	22	09	56
Percentage (%)	19.64 %	25 %	39.28%	16.08%	100 %

Table no 2 Analyzes the total educational information of the selected respondents. It is found that majority (39.28%) of the respondents having degree level education followed by up to 12th standard (25%), up to 10th standard 19.64% and only 16.08 % have completed their post graduate education.

Table No: 3 Nature of Occupational and employment status

Age group	Agriculture	Co-operatives Societies	MIDC	Government Job	Total
25 -30	11	04	05	01	21
30-35	13	02	04	---	19
35-40	09	02	05	---	16
Total	33	08	14	01	56
Percentage (%)	58.93 %	14.29 %	25 %	1.78 %	100%

From the above table it is clear that, Majority of respondent (58.93%) are involved in agriculture, followed by service in Co-operatives society (14.29%), private sector i.e. MIDC (25%) and only (1.78%) respondent having a Government job.

Table No: 4 Number of married and unmarried youth in age group

Age Groups	Married	Percentage (%)	Unmarried	Percentage (%)	Total
25-30	06	10.71%	15	26.79%	21
30-35	10	17.86%	09	16.08%	19
35-40	11	19.64%	05	8.92%	16
Total	27	48.21 %	29	51.79%	56

From table no.4, It is found that, Out of total respondent maximum youth 51.79 % having age group 25 to 40 is still unmarried and 48.21% are married. It also focused that, most of the respondents (i.e.26.79%) unmarried in the age group of 25 to 30, followed by 16.08% in 30 to 35 and 8.92% in the age group of 35 to 40. From the above discussion it is clear that, the problem of getting late married or unmarried is visible in the study area.

Findings:

The study shows that, youths are not get married in time in rural areas particularly farming families. This kind of situation can be lead to other social problems in rural social structure. The following changes are to be discussed which are found during this particular research in rural marriage system. While discussing the problems faced by rural youth who getting late marriage, the youth have discussed many issues which are as follow.

1. Shifted attitude from tradition to financial gain:

As we have said that, the clear purpose in traditional Hindu marriages and mainly rural community was to, solve the sexual needs of the family members and to maintain continuity. However, today the purpose has been shifted from tradition to financial gain. The marital relations are converted to get financial gain and this kind of behavioral change has taken in recent times.

2. Changes in attitudes towards pair selection:

Initially, in traditional Indian society, selection of the bride was up to status, purity and kinship of the family in which marriage relations are going to connect. The priority was given on the basis of mutual understanding of both the families who are coming together. But now a days, Vadhu-var suchak mandal, bharat matrimony, weddings.com etc. are agencies leading to connect marital relations and in this process the role of family become secondary and only the bride and groom become primary. But sometime, selection could not be accepted by rural families of traditional nature.

3. Changes in outlook towards the in mate:

The traditional rural societies were rigid and conservative mindset so while at the time of performing the marriage the rules and norms were strictly followed. The factors like caste, religion, and ethnicity were influence while doing marital relations. Today the outlook has been changed. They select their partner on their choice and thrown away the traditional rules and norms. The purpose was only with financial and adjustment with today's living conditions.

4. Change in women's educational and economical status:

Since the British period, educational and economic status of Indian women has started taking its speed and tries to give freedom to them. After independence, the government has also implemented many things like reservation, scholarship, free education for girls' education. As a result, the educational development of women from the urban community to the rural community has been accelerating. With this, women are becoming financially independent. Due to the development of the service sector, the number of women employed in this sector is increasing. This approach has started to evolve in the rural communities, changing the traditional attitude of the people to educating and employing women. The women's employment and business is essential for the economic development of the family. However, the education and employment among the women change their mindset and this kind of change create problem in rural marriage system.

5. Attractions towards urban way of life:

In general, young people in the Indian society have a huge rise in matters of urban living, attractive personality. Due to the attractiveness of urban life, marriage mates also consider urban employment, business, urban living, and attractive personality in the system of choice. As a result, young people in rural communities are not selected as marital partners. As a result, children of peasant families are not married at the right age and girls from rural communities are also eager to get married with urban mate.

Farming is not profitable because of uncertainty of natural conditions. Other jobs are not available. Traditional education does not provide employment to young people. The people in the rural areas have not developed because the industry is not developed. It leads to lack of financial income in the village. Traditional farming has to do with the traditional way of life. Therefore, the village is viewed differently as a result; the villagers are not selected when choosing a marriage partner.

6. Insufficient Equipment for Recreation:

There are no recreational facilities as compare to urban areas. Apart from festivals, tours, televisions, there are no urban recreational facilities such as hotels, bars, movies, malls, playgrounds. The rural community is leading a peaceful and stable life. Therefore, the rural community is not prefer to select marriage mate. Considering all of the above, it can be seen that the process of choosing a marital pair is changing. It also affect that young people do not get married at the age of marriage in the rural community. The assumption of this study is that number of marriages do not take place in right age time of marriage. This assumption was made in this study and it proved on the facts collected for this study.

Conclusion:

The changes which are take place in rural marriage system because of many reasons like, urbanization, lifestyle, and attitude towards the open society. Due to the increased participation of girls in the process of choosing a marriage partner, girls are mainly considering education, financial competence, status, life style, attractive personality, urban attractiveness etc. As a result, young people from rural communities who are less educated, farmer and traditional practitioners do not get married or getting late marriage. This has created a problem for rural youth and rural families not to get married at the right age.

This paper concludes that, farming and other traditional business are still practiced in the rural community. The living standard of the people is very low. There are no other means of employment. Therefore, girls do not prefer to arrange their marriage in rural area , there is no expected job, good house and many other things to the rural youth today, and especially due to the unreasonable expectation of the girls who do not want husband belong to farming community. So many young people are not getting married in the rural community today. This is causing depression, physical and various problems in the lives of single youths. As a result, changes in rural marriage and family organization are creating a new problem in society.

This study shows that rural youth in farming communities do not get married at the right age of marriage. This research paper will pave the new way for further research in future. This study mainly focus on problems of bachelor and those who are getting late in marriage. This study also focuses on, how rural youths are becoming victims of problems like crime, addiction, suicide etc.

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