

Problems of Courtship and Marriage in Rural - Urban Society

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Introduction:

The institution of marriage is likely to continue, but some previous patterns of marriage will become outdated as new patterns emerge. In this context, cohabitation contributes to the phenomenon of people getting married for the first time at a later age than was typical in earlier generations. Furthermore, marriage will continue to be delayed as more people place education and career ahead of settling down. One explanation for this trend may be that people are less motivated to get married than they have been in the past. Historically, marriage has served a variety of functions such as financial, political, biological and social. The top reasons for getting married to day are love, lifelong commitment and companionship, only 49 percent of survey respondents listed children as a son to get married

Courtship is the traditional dating period before engagement and marriage. It is an alternative to arranged marriage in which the couple or group gets to know each other and decides if there will be an engagement. Courting includes activities such as dating where couples or group goes together for some activity. Courting can also take place without personal contact, especially with modern technology. Virtual dating, chatting on line the telephone, instant messaging, writing letters and sending gifts are all modern forms of courting.

The Theoretical Perspective:

Sociologists study families on both the macro and micro level to determine how families function. For the present study the researcher has adopted theoretical perspectives to explain events that occur within outside of the family such as functionalism, conflict theory and symbolic interactionism.

The Research Problem:

The present study aims was to understand and critically examine the attention on problems of courtship and marriage couples changing nature of family in Kolhapur town of Maharashtra.

Objectives Of Study:

The specific objectives of the present study were as under.

- 1.To study the reviews certain contrasts in marital status of urban and rural populations.
- 2.To study t examines critically the functions of marriage within the metropolis.
- 3.To consider some problems connected with finding and selecting a satisfactory mate.
- 4.To describes some influences and processes and processes that seem to promote satisfactory marital adjustments.
5. To examine briefly some aspects of divorce.

Hypotheses:

The specific hypotheses have been formulated of the present study as per the following.

1. The courtship marriage status of the urban peoples is high.
2. The urban people's divorce status is higher.
3. The some problems with selecting mate in rural area.

Significance Of The Study:

The present study is mostly useful for the advancement of theoretical knowledge on the subject in particular and also for suggestion to the courtship and marriage of urban and rural peoples. The findings of the present study have enriched our theoretical understanding about problems and examine briefly some aspects of divorce.

The Study Area:

The area for the present study is confined to Kolhapur district of Maharashtra state.

Universe Of The Study:

The focus of the present study is on the courtship and marriage in urban and rural people in Kolhapur district. The researcher confirmed 15 couples from urban society and 15 couples from rural society in Kolhapur district.

Research Design:

The researcher has adopted descriptive research design for the present study. The descriptive research design is most useful for description is the fact finding investigation with the adequate interpretation.

Selection Of Respondent:

As per the plan of research, the data on certain general aspects of 30 urban people's, and 30 rural peoples from Kolhapur region were to be collected with the help of questionnaire to be designed for this purpose. Researcher decided to undertake a survey of all the 30 families, which positively responded to us and expressed their willingness to respond to the questionnaire.

The researcher selected sample of urban and rural families was contacted. The list of urban and rural peoples was obtained from the office of respective. By using these lists, 02 urban and rural peoples of each family were selected from various places in Kolhapur district. Sixty respondents were selected by using systematic sampling procedure.

Tools And Techniques:

The researcher has used various tools in the study. The main techniques used for data collection are interview, participant and non-participant observation method. The researcher has been prepared the structured interview schedule to related objectives of the study.

Plan Of Analysis And Interpretation Of Data:

For the present study, the plan of analysis and interpretation of data has given as below:

1. The data has to be collected with the help of interview schedules, which has to be coded after preparation of code books.
2. The coded data has to be processed on computer by using SPSS software.
3. The computer output will be used for analysis and interpretation with the help of simple statistical tools such as frequency distribution and percentage.

In order to process the collected data through both the questionnaire and the interview schedule, the suitable codebooks [data definition files] were prepared. The data were processed with the help of computer. The computer generated output is used for the analysis and interpretation of the data presented in this report.

Major Findings:

The researcher has find out the ten major findings in the present study which are given as below.

- **Urban- rural contrasts in marital status:**

The data shows that urban-rural populations differ significantly in the proportions of adults classified as single, married, widowed and divorced. The report shows that lower percentages of married females from rural area higher percentage of widows and more than three times as many divorces in urban area.

- **Factors influencing contrasts in marital status:**

Differences in urban and rural marital status depend on a variety of influences, including migrations between urban and rural society, differences in sex and age composition of population and differences in age at marriage, but the relative importance of these different influences has not been measured accurately. Some clues to interpretation may be gained.

- **Functions of marriage in the metropolitan community:**

The fact that more than 90 percent of urban dwellers, both male and female, marry sometime during their lives indicates that the great majority of them look upon this institution as an important means of achieving certain value-goals. Nevertheless, many young urban people have begun to ask whether marriage is worthwhile for them as individuals.

- **Problems of mate selection:**

Many young urban dwellers who recognize the great worth of marriage and who wish to form a permanent marital union of their own face the problem of discovering and a selecting satisfactory marriage partner. Our individualized democratic civilization has left the choice of mates largely to the young people themselves,

but it has not supplied them with adequate for judging in advance the soundness of their choice. The state assumes responsibility for regulating the formation and dissolution of families and for protecting younger members from neglect, abuse or exploitation. The problems such inadequacy of traditional criterion, attempts to aid in selection of marriage partners.

• **Adjustment between husbands and wives:**

Most young persons today know that many adjustments must be made after marriage, though few of them realize the extent or the complexity of this adjustment. If young people know in advance what kinds of problems of adjustment they are likely to encounter, they may better prepare them for achieving a happy married life. These essential functions are procreation and provision of physical care and protection of infants, giving basic socialization to young children, in co-operation with other primary groups, satisfying the deep need for intimate group relations on the part of both immature offspring and adult parents.

• **Changes in husband- wife role:**

Changes have occurred in the traditional division of labour between husband and wife. Emphasis on equal rights for individuals regardless of sex, women increasing participation in civic and political life, her ability to achieve respected status and economic independence outside of marriage and emphasis on intimate companionship as a central feature of marriage more and more husbands have come to regard their wives as equal partners.

• **Contrasting cultural and economic backgrounds:**

Democratic and equalitarian marriage does not characterize all groups and classes in the urban population. Social economic classes differ with regard to recognized rights and duties of husbands and wives. Differences in accepted patterns of marriage relations sometimes bring about critical problems of husbands-wife adjustments when young people of different social-cultural backgrounds marry.

• **Differences in outside contacts:**

If an urban husband and wife have different kinds of outside occupations, if they pursue different outside recreations that do not overlap and if they belong to contrasting special interest groups, these influences may pull them apart so strongly as to disrupt an otherwise satisfactory marriage union.

• **Success in marriage:**

This study indicates that couples who agree in advance about methods by which conflicts should be settled, who come from similar social-cultural back-grounds, whose marriage is approved by close friends and relatives and who have maintained close feeling of intimacy through several months of courtship and betrothal tend, on the average, to make better marital adjustments.

• **Divorce:**

Increase in divorce during the twentieth century is one of the more published aspects of marital incompatibility. Data on percentage of divorced in the populations indicate that cities have more divorcees than rural areas. In recent decades with increased mobility, anonymity, individualism and decline of local controls, increasing percentage of persons believe that they can make tolerable life of themselves after separation.

Conclusion:

The preceding discussions suggest that urban peoples may profit by repeatedly emphasizing to themselves such conclusions as these:

- 1 Permanent monogenic marriage affords deep satisfactions that cannot be obtained equally well through any other kind of group relation.
- 2 If marriage is entered tentatively and experimentally, with the expectations of ending it through divorce if trouble arises, it has materially less chance to succeed than if trouble arises.
- 3 Divorce does not end ones marital difficulties but brings in its wake a new series of complex and difficult problems of adjustment.
- 4 Before marriage, young persons should exercise great care in selecting mates in developing attitudes that promote marital adjustment and in learning what conflicts may emerge and how to deal with them.

- 5 During marriage, husband and wife should consciously and systematically practice and improve their techniques of marital adjustment.

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