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Impacts of Unjust Traditional Practices on Unhappy Marriage Life: An Empirical Assessment of the Social Context in the Kurdish Region

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Abstract

The issue of marital dissatisfaction has emerged as a significant concern in light of economic instability and educational deficiencies, necessitating the attention of contemporary scholarly works and policymakers. Therefore, the current study aims to examine the effects of dowry-related pressures, male ego, and gender discrimination on the overall satisfaction levels in marital relationships among Kurdish individuals. This study also examines the moderating influence of educational attainment on the relationship between pressure to provide dowry, male ego, gender discrimination, and marital dissatisfaction among Kurdish individuals. The primary data for this study was collected from a specific group of individuals through the use of survey questionnaires. The study additionally utilised the SPSS-AMOS software to assess the validity of the data and examine the relationships between the variables under investigation. The results of the study revealed that there is a significant correlation between the practice of dowry, male ego, and gender discrimination and the level of marital dissatisfaction experienced by Kurdish individuals. The findings also revealed that the level of education plays a significant moderating role in the relationship between the pressure to provide dowry, male ego, gender discrimination, and marital dissatisfaction among Kurdish individuals. This article provides guidance to policymakers in formulating policies pertaining to the dissatisfaction experienced within marital relationships, with a focus on addressing issues such as the practice of dowry, male ego, limited access to education, and gender-based discrimination.

Keywords: Pressure of hiring dowry, male ego, gender discrimination, unhappy marriage life, lack of education

Introduction

The institution of marriage is a prominent social phenomenon that continues to be a perennial topic of discussion and debate across various stages of life. Marriage serves as a framework within which individuals' fundamental necessities, such as shelter, clothing, food, security, and a desire for tranquilly, are met. Additionally, it functions as a legally sanctioned means of human procreation. The achievement of the true goals of a marriage is contingent upon the presence of a harmonious and contented marital relationship (Tahir et al., 2021). A successful marital union is characterised by a mutual commitment between the husband and wife, fostering an environment of trust, tranquilly, and effective interpersonal communication. Additionally, it entails a thoughtful consideration of each other's needs and a deliberate effort to enhance the quality of the marriage. Regrettably, the enduring issue of domestic violence, encompassing

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various manifestations such as emotional aggression, psychological and physical torment, collusion, and mistreatment, has persisted over an extended period and significantly impacts marital relationships (Collins, 2021). Numerous regions worldwide continue to engage in various unjust traditional practices. These practices are considered societal ills that have detrimental effects on domestic life, and research has shown that they impact individuals' marital relationships (Niam, 2021). This study aims to shed light on three unjust traditional practices, namely the pressure to provide dowry, male ego, and gender discrimination, and examine their impact on marital dissatisfaction.

A dowry refers to the transfer of monetary funds, material possessions, domestic appliances, and real estate from the bride's family to the groom or his family during the matrimonial ceremony. In certain cultural contexts, the incorporation of certain practices or rituals is regarded as a fundamental aspect of the institution of marriage. In reality, the responsibility falls upon the bride or her parents. In the context of dowry, it is observed that girls may face various forms of coercion or abuse subsequent to their marriage. The presence of tension within marital relationships has been found to have a detrimental impact on the overall quality and productivity of the union (Jalovaara & Fasang, 2020; Suleman & Mohamed, 2019). The dynamics of a romantic partnership are contingent upon the attitudes and behaviours exhibited by both male and female individuals towards each other. In situations where male individuals possess an ego characterised by a perception of superiority in terms of being more active, intelligent, efficient, and deserving, a lack of compatibility arises in the thoughts, goals, and actions within the couple. Men tend to make decisions and adhere to them, perceiving them as correct. The couple in question is experiencing difficulties maintaining a satisfactory marital relationship (Utami, Sayuti, & Jailani, 2019). Gender discrimination is a prevalent phenomenon observed in numerous societies. Gender discrimination is a prevalent sociocultural occurrence characterised by the unequal treatment of individuals based on their gender. The aforementioned factors encompass disparities in the allocation of educational opportunities, access to nourishment and healthcare, deprivation of inheritance entitlements, premature and coerced unions, limitations on freedom of movement, instances of violence, and instances of mistreatment. In a societal context characterised by prevalent gender discrimination, a significant barrier exists within the husband-wife relationship, resulting in an overall state of marital dissatisfaction (Guetto, Vignoli, & Bazzani, 2021; Suleman et al., 2020).

This study investigates the effects of unjust traditional practices on marital relationships. The infringement upon women's rights within Kurdish society is a matter of grave concern, as the nation's authorities demonstrate a lack of earnestness in addressing this issue. Consequently, women are confronted with a multitude of challenges. The societal and familial spheres tend to undervalue the significant contributions made by women to the nation (Chakravorty, Goli, & James, 2021). The traditions that relegate women to a lower status and value compared to men are deeply ingrained. In the context of Kurdish patriarchal culture, it is observed that men possess greater opportunities in various domains such as politics, education, business, and other social spheres when compared to women. Over the course of time, there is a discernible trend wherein the significance of women undergoes a gradual decline. It is a prevalent societal expectation that women should be safeguarded by men, typically their fathers or husbands. Throughout history, there has been a prevailing belief that men hold a superior position to women across various societal measures. The presence of Kurdish values and traditions may have a detrimental impact on the overall satisfaction and appeal of married life (Suleman & Rahman, 2020; Olivelle, 2022). The primary objective of the current study is to address this concern by elucidating the role of inequitable traditional customs in fostering marital dissatisfaction.

A comprehensive literary work has been composed with the purpose of documenting the traditional influences on marital lives, yet it is worth noting that significant gaps exist within its content. The current study aims to address and bridge certain gaps in the existing literature. First, in prior scholarly works, researchers primarily focused on the examination of post-marital experiences of individuals or the investigation of the effects of societal inequities on the institution of marriage. The current study examines the underlying factors contributing to marital dissatisfaction, specifically focusing on three unjust traditional practises: dowry pressure, male ego, and gender discrimination. Thus, it effectively bridges the literary divide. Secondly, numerous studies have explored the effects of inadequate education on marital dissatisfaction in a straightforward manner. A limited body of research has examined the moderating influence of educational attainment on the association between unjust traditional practises, such as dowry pressure, male ego, gender discrimination, and marital dissatisfaction. This study contributes to the existing body of literature by examining the moderating effect of educational attainment on unjust traditional practises, such as dowry pressure, male ego, gender discrimination, and marital dissatisfaction. Third, this study is unique in its focus, as it provides a comprehensive analysis of the correlation between unjust traditional practises, such as the imposition of dowry, male ego, and gender discrimination, and the experience of marital dissatisfaction within the Kurdish society.

The paper consists of five sections. Following the introduction, there is a literature review that examines the connection between various factors, such as the moderating influence of educational attainment, dowry-related hiring pressures, male ego, gender discrimination, and marital dissatisfaction. The third section of the study elucidates the methodologies employed for data acquisition and the formulation of findings. The findings obtained in the fourth section are examined and substantiated through a comparative analysis with previous research. Subsequently, the study's findings, implications, and constraints are presented.

Literature Review

Various scholars have examined the effects of unjust traditional practises, such as the imposition of dowry, male dominance, and gender discrimination, on marital dissatisfaction from diverse perspectives. This study conducts a comprehensive review of existing literature in order to examine and formulate hypotheses regarding the correlation between unjust traditional practises, such as dowry-related pressures, male ego, gender discrimination, lack of education, and marital dissatisfaction.

In traditional societies characterised by conservative values, it is customary for the parents of a daughter to provide a substantial financial contribution, household appliances, high-end goods, or property to the groom or his family as part of the marriage arrangement. In instances where the perceived value of the dowry is deemed insufficient by the groom or the groom's family, it is not uncommon for them to exert pressure on the newly-married woman to provide additional dowry. The act of subjecting the girl to torture is not uncommon in the pursuit of dowry. In this particular scenario, there exists a deficiency in the realm of effective communication and mutual consideration between the bride and groom, thereby impeding the optimal development and prosperity of their marital relationship. The prevalence of unhappy marriages is significantly higher when there is societal pressure to engage in dowry transactions (GP, Unnithan, & Belk, 2023). According to Thadathil and Sriram (2020), it has been observed that certain families consider it a matter of prestige for the groom's family to receive a dowry

of significant market worth. Consequently, they assess the worth of the bride based on the value of the items presented as part of the dowry. Additionally, they monitor the allocation of dowry funds to family members and establish their rapport with the recently married woman based on this. In instances where brides are unable to meet the anticipated dowry requirements set by the groom or his family during the time of marriage, they may encounter disrespectful treatment, endure emotional and physical abuse, and experience limitations in their active engagement within their marital union. As a result, marital satisfaction is diminished. According to Ali et al. (2021), the authors argue that when girls in a family are subjected to societal expectations of providing a substantial dowry, they experience emotional distress and feelings of isolation. The quality of their marital relationship is characterised by dissatisfaction. Hence,

H1: *Pressure of hiring dowry has a positive association with unhappy married life.*

The concept of the male ego can be understood as a societal phenomenon in which males perceive themselves as superior to females within the context of their marital relationship. The aforementioned sense of superiority can manifest as a desire for admiration, a display of competence, the ability to make decisions, and the exercise of ruling authority over females. Men who possess masculine egos exhibit a deficiency in embracing courteous, encouraging, and valiant conduct towards their spouses. In contrast, wives tend to exhibit a more reserved demeanour, displaying limited emotional expression and demonstrating comparatively weaker emotional attachment towards their partners. The aforementioned circumstances give rise to conflicts within the conjugal partnership (Sultana, 2021). Jarska (2021) conducted a study investigating the correlation between the male ego and marital dissatisfaction within the context of men's roles as husbands and fathers. A study was undertaken to examine the correlation between male ego and marital dissatisfaction during the years 1956-1975, with data being gathered from Poland. Based to the study, it is asserted that when husbands engage in male ego, they exert pressure on women to comply with their wishes rather than treating them with courtesy, and they encourage women to fulfil their responsibilities willingly. In this particular scenario, marital satisfaction declines. According to the research conducted by Kılıçarslan and Parmaksız (2023), it is suggested that when males hold the misguided belief that they possess unique qualities in terms of their attire, physical appearance, lifestyle, background, qualifications, and competence, which warrant admiration, respect, and obedience, they encounter difficulties in establishing a relationship with their spouse that is founded on principles of equality. Within the context of a marital union, it is observed that one party (specifically the male counterpart) exhibits a deficiency in commitment due to feelings of pride, while the other party (specifically the female counterpart) demonstrates a lack of commitment stemming from a sense of inferiority. So, the marriage life gets unhappy. So,

H2: *Male ego has a positive association with unhappy married life.*

In a societal context characterised by the persistence of traditional practises and conservative ideologies, there exists a discernible distinction between individuals based on their gender, with a prevailing belief that males hold a superior status compared to females. Consequently, the allocation of rights and privileges is disproportionately skewed in favour of males. In the context of this particular society, women are burdened with numerous unwarranted limitations and obligations, resulting in significant physical and psychological strain that leads to fatigue and distortion. Men are absolved of numerous essential obligations associated with the well-being, contentment, and dignity of women, leading to a lack of attentiveness and disregard on the part of men. When women experience excessive responsibilities while men enjoy greater freedom, the prospects for achieving a peaceful, fulfilling, and productive married life are

significantly diminished (Dessalegn et al., 2020). Sangji et al. (2020) conducted a study that examines the correlation between gender discrimination and marital dissatisfaction. The research participants consisted of career-oriented women in China. In order to gather data on specific factors, a total of 30 single, professional women were interviewed using in-depth interview techniques. The study suggests that within households where individuals continue to distinguish between family members based on gender and enforce disparate regulations pertaining to gender, women are compelled to fulfil the needs of their male counterparts, often at the expense of their own well-being, rest, autonomy, and dignity. These women experience a lifestyle characterised by compromise rather than the full enjoyment of relational freedom. Conversely, there is a noticeable disparity in men's inclination to prioritise the cultivation and enhancement of their relationships with women. Therefore, the marital union has the potential to result in dissolution. According to Van Winkle and Fasang (2020), it is essential for a healthy marital relationship that both men and women demonstrate commitment to each other, fostering mutual care and cultivating happiness in their partnership. Gender discrimination has been found to have a negative impact on commitment levels and marital happiness. Thus,

H3: *Gender discrimination has a positive association with unhappy married life.*

Education encompasses a wide range of subjects, including various entities, occurrences, phenomena, and factual information. Moreover, it fosters cognitive capacities that enable individuals to meticulously analyse situations and devise effective resolutions. On the contrary, in the absence of education, individuals tend to exhibit ignorance and a lack of intellectual acuity. There is a lack of thorough examination regarding the societal implications of dowry pressures on girls (Basu & Kumar, 2022). In situations where there is a deficiency in education, individuals perpetuate and actively engage in the practice of dowry rather than taking steps to alleviate it. Individuals with limited knowledge and understanding have a tendency to intrude upon and disrupt the lives of married couples. The presence of a limited educational background serves as a moderating factor in the association between the societal expectation of providing a dowry during the process of marriage and the experience of marital dissatisfaction (Srivastava et al., 2021). In their study, Fattah and Camellia (2022) investigate the correlation between educational attainment, dowry expectations during the hiring process, and marital dissatisfaction. The research employed an exploratory sequential mixed-method approach, incorporating quantitative survey data from a sample of 3344 participants residing in the Rangpur region of northern Bangladesh. Additionally, qualitative data was collected through group discussions and interviews with a total of 64 individuals in 2014. The study suggests that a deficiency in education leads individuals astray and fosters a propensity to embrace unjust customs, such as the practice of demanding dowries, due to an inability to discern between morally acceptable and unacceptable behaviours. The imposition of dowry demands upon women by their husbands and families impedes their ability to contribute effectively towards fostering marital happiness. Thus,

H4: *Lack of education plays a significant moderating role between the pressure of hiring dowry and unhappy married life.*

Education serves as a structured means of acquiring knowledge and skills for individuals within a given societal context. The process of broadening individuals' mentality fosters critical thinking skills and enhances their ability to make informed judgements for effective decision-making. The absence of educational opportunities in specific geographical areas leads to the misdirection of individuals, fosters the development of male ego, and undermines the quality of marital relationships, resulting

in mutual dissatisfaction (Hogendoorn, Kalmijn, & Leopold, 2022). Khan and Hamid (2021) conducted a study that explores the correlation between educational deficiency, male ego, and marital dissatisfaction. The study was undertaken among a sample of women who had experienced divorce in the region of Kashmir. A purposive sampling strategy was employed to select a sample of 20 women who had experienced divorce. The data was collected through the use of semi-structured interview questions and subsequently subjected to analysis employing Colaizzi's methods. The study suggests that a deficiency in education fosters male ego, which in turn contributes to the deterioration of marital satisfaction. Karupiah (2019) investigates the correlation between educational deficiency, male ego, and marital dissatisfaction. This research article critically analyses the character of Lady Brett Ashley in Hemingway's novel "The Sun Also Rises" as a primary source of information. This study elucidates that in regions characterised by low levels of education, individuals possess a limited understanding of humane standards, moral values, and manners. This can be attributed to their cognitive reliance on informal knowledge transmission from older generations. In these regions, there is a higher prevalence of individuals who exhibit male ego. The manifestation of the male ego within the husband poses challenges for the girls in their pursuit of emotional exploration, skill development, and the cultivation of a harmonious atmosphere.

H5: *Lack of education plays a significant moderating role between male ego and unhappy married life.*

The provision of education is an inherent entitlement that should be afforded to all members of a given society. It fosters awareness among young individuals and empowers them to engage in critical analysis, enabling them to make well-informed decisions. Regrettably, access to education remains limited across all regions, thereby excluding certain individuals from its benefits. The absence of formal education results in a state of complete unawareness and adherence to traditional beliefs and values among individuals. Within these particular communities, there exists a lack of understanding regarding the fundamental essence of human existence and the authentic principles that govern human conduct. Instead, individuals remain entangled in inequitable customs such as the unjust practice of gender discrimination (Parlak, Celebi Cakiroglu, & Oksuz Gul, 2021). In the event that individuals are denied access to fundamental educational opportunities, they may acquire a limited and potentially misguided understanding of marital relationships. Many individuals lack knowledge about the institution of marriage and may be unaware of their rights and responsibilities within it. As a result, individuals may find themselves unable to fully engage in their marital commitments, leading to a diminished sense of fulfilment and overall dissatisfaction within their married life (Sudarso, Keban, & Mas'udah, 2019). Feeny et al. (2021) conducted a study to investigate the correlation between educational deficiency, gender discrimination, and marital dissatisfaction. Based on the findings of the study, it can be inferred that a deficiency in education contributes to the exacerbation of gender discrimination, consequently leading to marital dissatisfaction. That's why,

H6: *Lack of education plays a significant moderating role between gender discrimination and unhappy married life.*

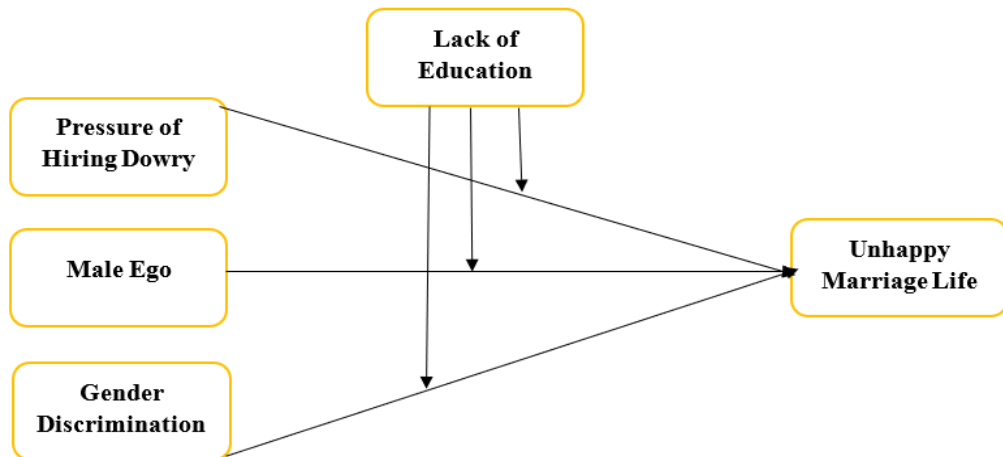
Research Methods

This study aims to examine the influence of factors such as the pressure to provide dowry, male ego, and gender discrimination on marital dissatisfaction among Kurdish individuals. Additionally, it seeks to explore the potential moderating effect of educational attainment on the relationship between these aforementioned factors and marital dissatisfaction. A carefully

chosen group of people received survey questionnaires in order to gather the primary data for this study. The survey questionnaires utilised in this study were sourced from previous literature. Specifically, the questionnaire on the pressure of hiring dowry consisted of five items (Parvulescu & Boatacǎ, 2021); the measurement of male ego involved the use of eight items (Pai & Chandra, 2021); gender discrimination was assessed using a questionnaire comprising six questions (SteelFisher et al., 2019); and the lack of education construct was evaluated through a set of six questions (Joshi, Vinay, & Bhaskar, 2021). Lastly, the measurement of an unhappy marriage life encompassed seven items, as identified by Hartmann (2020). The research participants were chosen from the Kurdish population, specifically those who face numerous challenges in their marital relationships. The participants for the study were chosen using purposive sampling, specifically targeting Kurdish citizens. The survey questionnaires were disseminated through personal visits conducted by the researcher among Kurdish citizens. The researchers distributed a total of 544 surveys, of which 295 were received and deemed suitable for analysis after a one-month period. This corresponds to a response rate of approximately 54.23 percent.

Furthermore, the study employed the SPSS-AMOS software to assess the validity of the data and examine the relationships among the variables under investigation. The SPSS-AMOS software is a widely used tool for conducting primary data analysis. It has been found to be effective in producing optimal results, even when researchers employ intricate frameworks (Hair, Gabriel, & Patel, 2014). The article employed three distinct constructs, namely pressure of hiring dowry (PHD), male ego (ME), and gender discrimination (GD). Additionally, the study incorporated a moderating construct known as lack of education (LE) and a predictive construct referred to as unhappy marriage life (UML). The constructs depicted in Figure 1 are provided.

Figure 1: Theoretical model



Research Findings

This article explores the concept of convergent validity, specifically focusing on the correlation observed among various items. The verification process involves the utilisation of Alpha, which yields outcomes indicating values exceeding 0.70. Furthermore, the evaluation also includes the utilisation of average variance extracted (AVE) in conjunction with factor loadings. The

findings indicate that the observed values surpass the threshold of 0.50. Ultimately, the data is assessed utilising ASV and MSV techniques, revealing that both metrics yield values that are lower than the average variance extracted (AVE). The results revealed a strong correlation between the items. The aforementioned results are presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Convergent validity

Constructs	Items	Loadings	CR	AVE	MSV	ASV	
Pressure of Hiring Dowry	PHD1 <---	PHD	0.988	0.916	0.690	0.406	0.134
	PHD2 <---	PHD	0.701				
	PHD3 <---	PHD	0.985				
	PHD4 <---	PHD	0.707				
	PHD5 <---	PHD	0.717				
Male Ego	ME1 <---	ME	0.820	0.913	0.601	0.587	0.319
	ME2 <---	ME	0.840				
	ME3 <---	ME	0.800				
	ME4 <---	ME	0.666				
	ME5 <---	ME	0.732				
	ME6 <---	ME	0.795				
	ME8 <---	ME	0.759				
Gender Discrimination	GD1 <---	GD	0.996	0.936	0.754	0.687	0.263
	GD3 <---	GD	0.632				
	GD4 <---	GD	0.998				
	GD5 <---	GD	0.630				
	GD6 <---	GD	0.992				
Lack of Education	LE1 <---	LED	0.822	0.895	0.593	0.406	0.238
	LE2 <---	LED	0.843				
	LE3 <---	LED	0.831				
	LE4 <---	LED	0.790				
	LE5 <---	LED	0.770				
	LE6 <---	LED	0.513				
Unhappy Married Life	UML1 <---	UML	0.532	0.863	0.518	0.288	0.186
	UML2 <---	UML	0.827				
	UML4 <---	UML	0.601				
	UML5 <---	UML	0.791				
	UML6 <---	UML	0.768				
	UML7 <---	UML	0.753				

The article additionally investigates the discriminant validity, which reveals the correlation between variables. The examination of the association between constructs is conducted using the Fornell-Larcker technique, which reveals that the values indicating the association with other constructs are lower than the values indicating the association with the construct itself. The results revealed a weak correlation between the variables. The results are presented in Table 2.

Table 2: Discriminant validity

	LE	PHD	ME	GD	UML
LE	0.770				
PHD	0.637	0.831			
ME	0.469	0.286	0.775		
GD	0.349	0.140	0.529	0.868	
UML	0.452	0.167	0.537	0.474	0.720

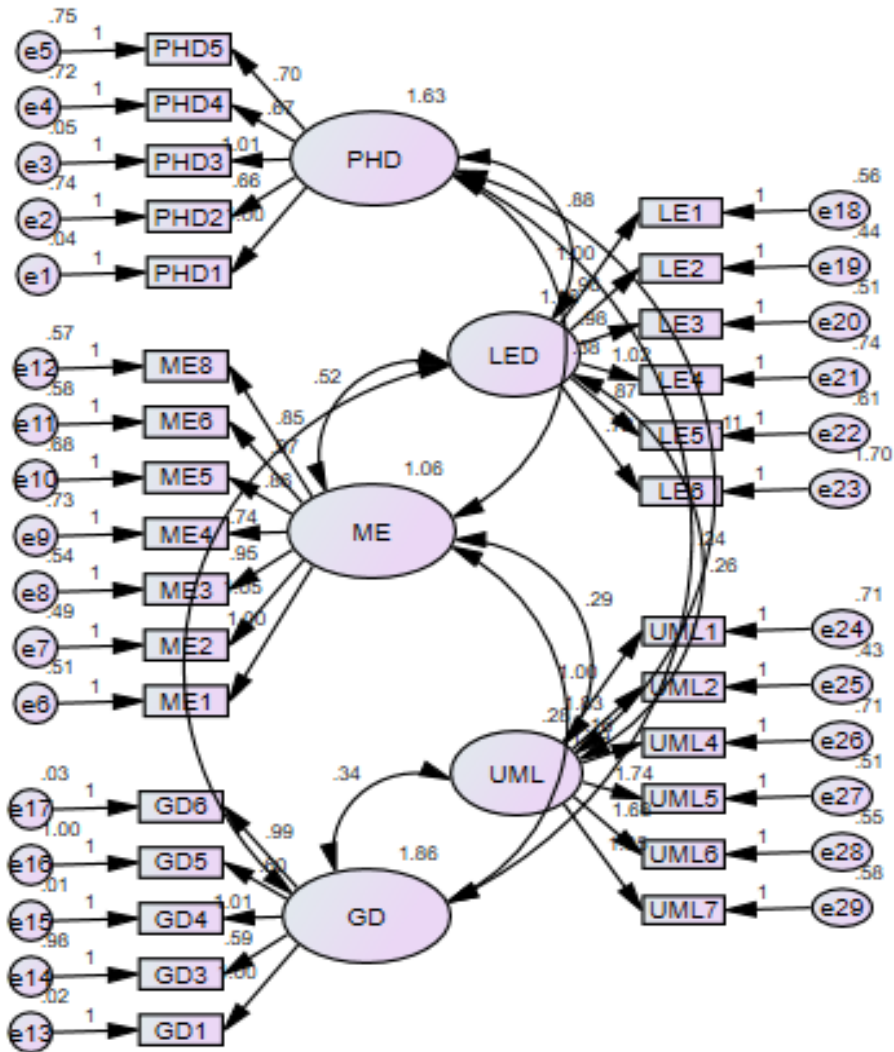
The article also explores the concept of a well-developed fitness model. The assessment of the data is conducted using the Root Mean Square Error of Approximation (RMSEA), and the resulting values indicate that the observed outcomes are below the threshold of 0.05.

Furthermore, the examination of this phenomenon is facilitated through the utilisation of the Turfus-Lewis Index (TLI) and Comparative Fit Index (CFI), both of which exhibit values exceeding 0.90. The results of this study indicate that the chosen model is a suitable fit. The results are presented in Table 3.

Table 3: Model good fitness

Selected Indices	Result	Acceptable level of fit
TLI	0.976	TLI > 0.90
CFI	0.981	CFI > 0.90
RMSEA	0.001	RMSEA < 0.05 good; 0.05 to 0.10 acceptable

Figure 2: Measurement model assessment



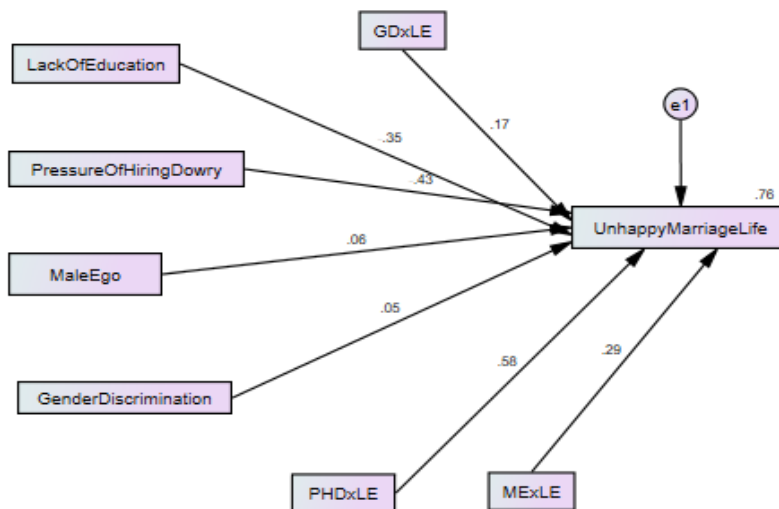
The outcomes of the study suggest that there is a positive association between the practice of dowry, male ego, and gender discrimination and the level of marital dissatisfaction experienced by Kurdish individuals. These results support the acceptance of hypotheses H1, H2, and H3. The

findings of this study indicate that the absence of education plays a significant role in moderating the influence of factors such as pressure to provide dowry, male ego, gender discrimination, and dissatisfaction with marital life among Kurdish individuals. These results support hypotheses H4, H5, and H6. The aforementioned associations are referenced in Table 4.

Table 4: Path analysis

	Relationships	Beta	S.E.	C.R.	P
Unhappy Marriage Life	<--- GD x LE	0.038	0.006	5.821	0.000
Unhappy Marriage Life	<--- Lack of Education	0.456	0.037	12.269	0.000
Unhappy Marriage Life	<--- Pressure of Hiring Dowry	0.527	0.035	14.877	0.000
Unhappy Marriage Life	<--- Male Ego	0.085	0.040	2.126	0.034
Unhappy Marriage Life	<--- Gender Discrimination	0.062	0.030	2.067	0.048
Unhappy Marriage Life	<--- PHD x LE	0.130	0.006	20.178	0.000
Unhappy Marriage Life	<--- ME x LE	0.072	0.007	10.283	0.000

Figure 3: Structural model assessment



Discussions

The findings indicate that there is a positive correlation between the practice of demanding dowry during the hiring process and the experience of marital dissatisfaction. The findings presented here align with the research conducted by Kamal (2023), which suggests that in households where daughters are expected to provide dowry in the form of material possessions, money, or property upon marriage, they experience feelings of oppression and heightened anxiety. In this particular scenario, the male partner encounters difficulties in establishing trust, faith, and affection with the female individuals, potentially leading to the dissolution of the marital union. The findings presented in Mohanan and Shekhar (2021). study further corroborate the notion that within certain conservative households, the perceived worth of a daughter-in-law is contingent upon the monetary value of the dowry items accompanying the bride. Women who possess a limited dowry often experience mistreatment and feelings of

shame. It is possible that they may not experience marital satisfaction. The findings indicated a significant correlation between male ego and marital dissatisfaction. The findings presented are consistent with the assertions made by Sab (2023), who posits that within marital relationships, when males exhibit egotistical behaviours characterised by attempts to assert superiority over their partners and demand excessive attention, praise, and subservience, they fail to establish a deep emotional connection with their wives and consequently undermine the overall happiness of the marriage. The findings presented in this study are consistent with the research conducted by No et al. (2020), who argue that when male individuals possess a sense of superiority in terms of power and effectiveness compared to their wives, marital life may be characterised by compromise rather than a fulfilling relationship.

The findings indicate a positive correlation between gender discrimination and marital dissatisfaction. These findings are in line with the research by Matsui et al. (2019), which contends that girls are more likely to make concessions in households where gender discrimination is still present while men typically show a lack of concern. In the present circumstances, genuine emotional attachment is hindered, resulting in an unsatisfactory marital relationship. The study by Umberson, Lin, and Cha (2022). supports the findings presented in this one. Their work suggests that in situations where gender discrimination leads to inequality within a family, women are compelled to acquiesce rather than express their viewpoints. Consequently, this accumulation of resentment adversely affects familial relationships, resulting in marital dissatisfaction. The findings indicate that the absence of formal education has a notable influence in mediating the relationship between societal pressure to provide a dowry during marriage and subsequent marital dissatisfaction. The findings presented here are consistent with the assertions made by Akhter (2019), who argues that in societies characterised by limited access to education for children, adults perceive it as acceptable to exert pressure for dowry during marriage negotiations, leading to subsequent marital dissatisfaction. The findings presented in this study are further corroborated by Fuller (2020). research, suggesting that a dearth of educational opportunities contributes to the perpetuation of conservative ideologies and a lack of knowledge. The contemporary phenomenon of increasing societal expectations surrounding dowry practices has resulted in a notable surge in the prevalence of dowry-related demands during the process of matrimonial selection. Consequently, this has led to a pervasive sense of dissatisfaction and discontentment within the institution of marriage.

The findings indicate that a deficiency in education has a notable influence on the relationship between male ego and marital dissatisfaction. The findings presented in this study align with the findings of Ndeti et al. (2019), emphasising that within societal contexts, males who experience a dearth of educational opportunities tend to exhibit a limited comprehension of human nature, resulting in disruptive behaviours that undermine the positive aspects of marital relationships. These findings are consistent with the study conducted by Saarela, Stanfors, and Rostila (2019), suggesting that a deficiency in education is associated with male ego-driven disruptions in marital harmony. The findings indicate that a deficiency in education has a notable influence on the extent to which gender discrimination is experienced and the level of marital satisfaction. The findings presented in Jayawardana (2022). study provide further evidence that gender discrimination is prevalent in contexts characterised by limited educational opportunities, resulting in marital dissatisfaction due to inequality. The findings align with the study conducted by Mouzon et al. (2020), which suggests that gender discrimination, characterised by unequal treatment of males and females, proliferates in contexts marked by educational deficiencies. Consequently, such circumstances impede the attainment of marital satisfaction.

Implications

Social issues have a significant impact on a nation's productivity, reputation, and progress. Among these social issues, the presence of dissatisfied marital relationships stands out. This article holds significance for the Kurdish region and other comparable regions that continue to grapple with social issues such as marital dissatisfaction. This study outlines strategies for social reformers, intellectuals, leaders, policymakers, and governmental authorities to address the problem of marital dissatisfaction. The study suggests the implementation of a ban on the practise of pressuring girls for dowry in order to mitigate the prevalence of marital dissatisfaction. This perspective suggests that it is beneficial to raise men in a manner that discourages the display of male ego in the presence of females, as this behaviour may hinder the establishment of a harmonious married life. The study additionally suggests that in order to mitigate marital dissatisfaction, efforts should be made to minimise instances of social discrimination. There is also a proposition that entities possessing authority should actively foster and advocate for education in order to facilitate the attainment of fulfilling marital relationships by individuals. The study also suggests that enhancing educational attainment is necessary to discourage the male ego and eliminate marital dissatisfaction. Additionally, the study suggests that ensuring equal access to education for all individuals is crucial in order to eliminate the detrimental effects of gender discrimination and mitigate the prevalence of marital dissatisfaction. This article provides guidance for policymakers in formulating policies pertaining to the dissatisfaction experienced within marital relationships among citizens. Specifically, it aims to address issues such as the practise of dowry, male ego, limited access to education, and gender discrimination, with the objective of alleviating these pressures.

Conclusion

The objective of this study is to investigate the impact of unjust traditional practises, such as dowry pressure, male ego, and gender discrimination, on marital dissatisfaction. This study also to investigate the impact of limited education on perpetuating unjust traditional practises, such as dowry demands, male dominance, gender discrimination, and marital dissatisfaction. Questionnaires were systematically developed and disseminated within the Kurdish society with the purpose of gathering data pertaining to specific variables. The research findings revealed a significant correlation between the practise of dowry, male ego, and gender discrimination, and the experience of marital dissatisfaction. The findings suggest that the imposition of dowry expectations on girls following marriage is associated with increased levels of anxiety and a reduced inclination to emotionally connect with their partners. In this particular scenario, it is plausible that the quality of marital life may be characterised by a notable lack of contentment. The research findings also revealed that in relationships where the male partner exhibits male ego, positioning himself as superior and more competent, there is a lack of development in courteous and trusting behaviour towards the female partner.

Consequently, he diminishes the happiness derived from the institution of marriage. The study additionally determined that in households where gender discrimination is prevalent, it is anticipated that wives will disproportionately shoulder the burden of responsibilities, while husbands bear comparatively lesser responsibility. Consequently, the absence of emotional bonding renders marital life unattainable. Additionally, the study suggests that a deficiency in education serves as a moderating factor in perpetuating unjust traditional practises such as the imposition of dowry, male dominance, gender bias, and marital dissatisfaction. The prevalence

of inadequate education is associated with an increased occurrence of unjust traditional practises, including the imposition of dowry obligations, male-centric attitudes, and gender-based discrimination. Consequently, such circumstances contribute to a higher likelihood of marital dissatisfaction.

Limitations

The practical significance of this study is limited to certain cases. Nevertheless, the additional efforts made by the authors contribute to the broader applicability of the study. The present study focuses exclusively on conventional factors associated with injustice, such as the influence of dowry expectations, male dominance, and gender-based discrimination, as determinants of marital dissatisfaction. In this context, there is a tendency to overlook the underlying character and economic factors that contribute to marital dissatisfaction. Therefore, the author's attention is necessary. This study exclusively focuses on the factors contributing to marital dissatisfaction within the Kurdish community. It is widely acknowledged that the aforementioned concerns and discontent within marital relationships are prevalent across various global regions. The research should be undertaken by gathering data from various societies.

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