

DOI: 10.69980/ks.v10i1.4115

## A study of an attitude of college female students towards marriage

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**Abstract:** The main objectives of study was to investigate the attitude of college students towards marriage. To conduct this study, the investigator selected a representative sample of total 160 female students studying in various Government Degree Colleges of Jammu region. While selecting the sample, care was taken that equal number of married and unmarried females from rural and urban government degree colleges was selected. These female students were picked randomly from various Government Degree Colleges For this purpose, the researcher has randomly selected 10 Government Degree Colleges. Among those, 5 were taken from urban areas and 5 from rural areas. The Mean, Standard Deviation and t-ratio used to test the significance of difference between means. statistical techniques were used to find out the interpretation of the raw scores, the data were analysed using mean, standard deviation and t-test.

**Keywords:** Attitude, marriage, college, student, Rural, Urban etc.

**Introduction:** Marriage consists of the union and cohabitation of two people of the opposite sex with a permanent commitment to each other and their children. It is singularly the only institution in the world that calls for highest level of civilization. A good marriage is the most rewarding experience that life can offer. It helps both partner to feel adequate, wanted, needed, socially approved, secure and complete to a degree which cannot be achieved by any other human relationship. It is one of the most complex involvements of human relations. Marriage creates between the two partners, a sharing of efforts, a mingling of life, a blending of aims, a union of heart and soul, extremely rare elsewhere.

People believe that God has created male and female to conjoin themselves into one and in doing so, God's ultimate objective was and still is that a man should marry a woman of his choosing, and that through progression in marriage they should gradually come to receive conjugal love and perceive an ever-increasing sense of blessedness. Marriage is not only a bond between a man and a woman that is recognized by the society, but also a bond between their families. Often latter relation is more important than the marital bond.

Attitude is actually an outcome of an individual's experience. Attitude of a person has its base in his inner urges, acquired habits, and the environmental influences by which he is surrounded. In other words, attitude is the by-product of personal desires and group stimulation. Attitude is mostly considered an individual matter and occupies a key position in an individual's own personality but is affected by the attitudes and behaviour of the group or groups with which he associates.

Marriage is very directly depicted and defined for the young by the marital relationship of their parents. It is the home that they first and most continuously encounter marriage, not as a fiction or concept but embodied in the behaviour of their father and mothers with and towards one another. To determine just what affects their parent's marital happiness has on their attitude towards marriage, college students were questioned about their parent's happiness up to the time they were 12 years old and their parent attitude towards marriage. It was found that the women students have more favourable attitude towards marriage the men, especially among students whose parents were divorced. The happier parents' marriage, the more favourable was the men's attitude towards marriage, when however, there parents were divorced the men's attitudes towards marriage were unfavourable. The explanation of the sex difference was that women regard marriage as an essential framework of their adult life more than men do. Furthermore, the women may be convinced that they have learnt much from the marital failure of their parent's and that they can, as a result look forward with all the greater certainty to marital happiness form themselves.

### SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

Marriage is one of the most important socially approved institutions in one's life. Through the years, the trend in selection of marriage partner has undergone a change.

- Evolution of Marriage Selection: The study highlights how the selection of marriage partners has transitioned over time, moving away from traditional past practices.
- Female Agency and Decision-Making: Modern Indian women are now more aware of their individual needs and are actively participating in the decision-making process regarding their mate selection.
- Influencing Factors: It explores various factors affecting these choices, including: Personal attitudes and perceptions, Family background and involvement, Educational and occupational status, Physical characteristics and age gaps.
- Social Dynamics: The research examines the "consensus opinion" of both married and unmarried females on sensitive topics like the dowry system and interpersonal partner interaction.
- Representation of the 'Avant Garde': The study focuses on the "educated elite" of Indian women, viewing them as symbols of social change and the "torch bearers of the future."

- Predictive Value: By understanding contemporary attitudes toward marriage, the study aims to predict future trends in social behaviour and the stability of the future Indian family unit.

### OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The present study aims at achieving the following objective:

To study the difference in the attitude of married and unmarried college female students towards marriage.

### HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

In order to achieve the above mentioned objectives of the study, the following hypothesis that, **there will be no significant difference in the attitude of married and unmarried college female students towards marriage.**

### DELIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The present study was carried out under the following delimitations:

1. The present study was confined to Government Degree Colleges.
2. The present study was confined to female students only.
3. Only 10 colleges of Jammu region were covered under this study.

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

To conduct this study, the investigator selected a representative sample of total 160 female students studying in various Government Degree Colleges of Jammu region. While selecting the sample, care was taken that equal number of married and unmarried females from rural and urban government degree colleges was selected. These female students were picked randomly from various Government Degree Colleges

**TABLE No-01 : SAMPLE DISTRIBUTION TABLE**

AREA	MARITAL STATUS		TOTAL SAMPLE
	MARRIED	UNMARRIED	
URBAN	n=40	n=40	N=160
RURAL	n=40	n=40	

For this purpose, the researcher has randomly selected 10 Government Degree Colleges. Among those, 5 were taken from urban areas and 5 from rural areas.

Following educational institutions were selected in the study on simple random sampling basis:

#### URBAN AREA

1. Govt. MAM College, Jammu.
2. G.G.M Science College, Jammu.
3. Govt. SPMR College of Commerce, Jammu.
4. Govt. College for Women, Parade, Jammu.
5. Govt. College for Women, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu.

#### RURAL AREA

1. Govt. Degree College, R.S. Pura.
2. Govt. Degree College, Vijaypur.
3. Govt. Degree College, Samba.
4. Govt. Degree College, Bishnah.
5. Govt. Degree College, Jammu City (Paloura).

**TABLE No-02:DETAILS OF SAMPLE TAKEN FROM GOVERNMENT COLLEGES**

S.No	Name of the College	Married Females	Unmarried Females	Total
1	Govt. MAM College, Jammu.	6	8	14
2	G.G.M Science College, Jammu	4	8	12
3	Govt. SPMR College of Commerce, Jammu.	3	8	11
4	Govt. College for Women, Parade, Jammu.	13	8	21

5	Govt. College for Women, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu.	14	8	22
6	Govt. Degree College, R.S. Pura.	16	8	24
7	Govt. Degree College, Vijaypur.	3	8	11
8	Govt. Degree College, Samba.	12	8	20
9	Govt. Degree College, Bishnah.	3	8	11
10	Govt. Degree College, Jammu City (Paloura).	6	8	14
	<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>160</b>

Before the use of the tools, their usefulness, relevance, reliability and validity should be well thought of and after due consideration as well as through deliberation and consultation with the experts in the field, the following standardized tool was selected.

### THE SCALE

The Marriage Attitude Scale (MAS) consists of 38 highly sensitive 'YES' -'NO' - 'DOUBTFUL' type of items.

### SCORING OF THE TOOL

All the items of the scale except 28,29,31, and 33 are positively worded. All these items are to be given a weightage of 3,2, and 1 for 'YES' 'DOUBTFUL' and 'NO' response'. For negatively-worded items, the scoring system is to be reversed. The score of these values gives the attitude score for the subject. The total score varies from 38 to 114 showing most negative and most positive attitude of marriage.

### ADMINISTRATION OF THE TOOL

After deciding the sample and the tool to be used, the next step was how to administer them to collect the desired data. For the purpose of collection of data, the investigator personally visited the colleges in urban and rural areas. The aim was that the personal presence of the investigator would satisfy the curiosity of pupils and that the purpose of the study could be explained to the female students in order to ensure reliable response.

The present study was conducted in three phases

Phase-1: In this phase, 160 students from various Government Degree Colleges comprising equal number of married and unmarried female students were picked randomly. Marriage Attitude Scale was administered to selected sample of the students.

Phase-2: In this phase, the data collected with the help of the tool was scored personally with the help of scoring key. Thereafter, the list of the raw scores was prepared for further analysis.

Phase-3: In the last phase, the classified data was tabulated and used for the calculation of various statistical techniques for further interpretation and getting the results.

### STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES USED

The following statistical techniques were used:

1. Mean.
2. Standard Deviation.
3. t-ratio used to test the significance of difference between means.

To find out the interpretation of the raw scores, the data were analysed using mean, standard deviation and t-test.

### ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

In the present study, the data has been collected from the married and unmarried female students studying in various rural and urban government degree colleges and was analysed by using appropriate statistical techniques as mentioned in the previous chapter. The data was collected for the present study has been analysed under following headings that? **There will be no significant difference in the attitude of married and unmarried college female students towards marriage.**

**Calculation of 't' ratio between married and unmarried female students towards marriage**

**Table N0-3.1 :MARRIED COLLEGE FEMALE STUDENTS**

S.No.	X	d (X-X̄)	d <sup>2</sup>
1	84	-3.1625	10.00141
2	75	-12.1625	147.9264
3	75	-12.1625	147.9264
4	106	18.8375	354.8514
5	77	-10.1625	103.2764
6	93	5.8375	34.07641
7	94	6.8375	46.75141

8	92	4.8375	23.40141
9	75	-12.1625	147.9264
10	93	5.8375	34.07641
11	96	8.8375	78.10141
12	80	-7.1625	51.30141
13	83	-4.1625	17.32641
14	93	5.8375	34.07641
15	95	7.8375	61.42641
16	93	5.8375	34.07641
17	87	-0.1625	0.026406
18	84	-3.1625	10.00141
19	81	-6.1625	37.97641
20	95	7.8375	61.42641
21	93	5.8375	34.07641
22	94	6.8375	46.75141
23	103	15.8375	250.8264
24	70	-17.1625	294.5514
25	93	5.8375	34.07641
26	96	8.8375	78.10141
27	89	1.8375	3.376406
28	100	12.8375	164.8014
29	96	8.8375	78.10141
30	88	0.8375	0.701406
31	93	5.8375	34.07641
32	78	-9.1625	83.95141
33	74	-13.1625	173.2514
34	78	-9.1625	83.95141
35	92	4.8375	23.40141
36	63	-24.1625	583.8264
37	95	7.8375	61.42641
38	83	-4.1625	17.32641
39	90	2.8375	8.051406
40	67	-20.1625	406.5264
41	73	-14.1625	200.5764
42	80	-7.1625	51.30141
43	82	-5.1625	26.65141
44	87	-0.1625	0.026406
45	90	2.8375	8.051406
46	92	4.8375	23.40141
47	77	-10.1625	103.2764
48	80	-7.1625	51.30141
49	90	2.8375	8.051406
50	73	-14.1625	200.5764
51	94	6.8375	46.75141
52	94	6.8375	46.75141
53	88	0.8375	0.701406
54	95	7.8375	61.42641
55	82	-5.1625	26.65141
56	77	-10.1625	103.2764
57	83	-4.1625	17.32641
58	101	13.8375	191.4764
59	93	5.8375	34.07641
60	81	-6.1625	37.97641
61	103	15.8375	250.8264
62	94	6.8375	46.75141
63	85	-2.1625	4.676406
64	98	10.8375	117.4514
65	92	4.8375	23.40141
66	84	-3.1625	10.00141
67	98	10.8375	117.4514
68	97	9.8375	96.77641

69	99	11.8375	140.1264
70	95	7.8375	61.42641
71	87	-0.1625	0.026406
72	86	-1.1625	1,351406
73	74	-13.1625	173.2514
74	71	-16.1625	261.2264
75	86	-1.1625	1.351406
76	74	-13.1625	173.2514
77	79	-8.1625	66.62641
78	84	-3.1625	10.00141
79	91	3.8375	14.72641
80	98	10.8375	117.4514
	$\Sigma X = 6973$		$\Sigma d^2 = 6824.888$

Table No-3.2 UNMARRIED COLLEGE FEMALE STUDENTS

S.No.	X	d (X-X)	d <sup>2</sup>
1	79	3.8875	15.11266
2	67	-8.1125	65.81266
3	88	12.8875	166.0877
4	89	13.8875	192.8627
5	57	-18.1125	328.0627
6	81	5.8875	34.66266
7	72	-3.1125	9.687656
8	72	-3.1125	9.687656
9	78	2.8875	8.337656
10	72	-3.1125	9.687656
11	92	16.8875	285.1877
12	64	-11.1125	123.4877
13	105	29.8875	893.2627
14	73	-2.1125	4.462656
15	71	-4.1125	16.91266
16	67	-8.1125	65.81266
17	79	3.8875	15.11266
18	79	3.8875	15.11266
19	74	-1.1125	1,237656
20	65	-10.1125	102.2627
21	78	2.8875	8.337656
22	62	-13.1125	171.9377
23	69	-6.1125	37.36266
24	70	-5.1125	26.13766
25	80	4.8875	23.88766
26	77	1.8875	3.562656
27	94	18.8875	356.7377
28	49	-26.1125	681.8627
29	88	12.8875	166.0877
30	77	1.8875	3.562656
31	72	-3.1125	9.687656
32	77	1.8875	3.562656
33	97	21.8875	479.0627
34	96	20.8875	436.2877
35	81	5.8875	34.66266
36	100	24.8875	619.3877
37	78	2.8875	8.337656
38	89	13.8875	192.8627
39	90	14.8875	221.6377
40	80	4.8875	23.88766
41	84	8.8875	78.98766
42	87	11.8875	141.3127
43	91	15.8875	252.4127
44	63	-12.1125	146.7127

45	73	-2.1125	4.462656
46	74	-1.1125	-1.237656
47	73	-2.1125	4.462656
48	55	-20.1125	404.5127
49	71	-4.1125	16.91266
50	63	-12.1125	146.7127
51	67	-8.1125	65.81266
52	59	-16.1125	259.6127
53	76	0.8875	0.787656
54	79	3.8875	15.11266
55	71	-4.1125	16.91266
56	87	11.8875	141.3127
57	60	-15.1125	228.3877
58	76	0.8875	0.787656
59	77	1.8875	3.562656
60	84	8.8875	78.98766
61	96	20.8875	436.2877
62	79	3.8875	15.11266
63	56	-19.1125	365.2877
64	58	-17.1125	292.8377
65	59	-16.1125	259.6127
66	53	-22.1125	488.9625
67	48	-27.1125	735.0877
68	73	-2.1125	4.462656
69	60	-15.1125	228.3877
70	65	-10.1125	102.2627
71	72	-3.1125	9.687656
72	61	-14.1125	199.1627
73	82	6.8875	47.43766
74	78	2.8875	8.337656
75	88	12.8875	166.0877
76	79	3.8875	15.11266
77	93	17.8875	319.9627
78	67	-8.1125	65.81266
79	72	-3.1125	9.687656
80	72	-3.1125	9.687656
	$\sum X = 6009$		$\sum d^2 = 11659.99$

Table No-04:showing t-value between married and unmarried college female students

Category	N	Mean	S.D.	S.E.M.	S.E.D.M	t-ratio
Married	80	87.1625	9.236	1.033	1.869	6.44
Unmarried	80	75.1125	12.073	1.350		

From the above table, it has been derived that ‘t’ value between married and unmarried college female students comes out to be 6.44, the said value is significant at 0.01 level because calculated value is more than the table value which is 2.58. This indicates that when married and unmarried college female students have been compared on the basis of attitude scores towards marriage, a significant high difference has been obtained. Hence the hypothesis of no significant difference in the attitude of married and unmarried college female students towards marriage has been rejected.

**CONCLUSION**

The hypothesis says that “There is no significant difference in the attitude of married and unmarried college female students towards marriage.”

The research finding for hypothesis (on t value 6.44) is not significant at 0.01 level of significance. Thus on the basis of this findings it can be said that there is found significant difference in the attitude of married and unmarried college female students towards marriage.

The present study reveals the attitude of college female students towards marriage. This small pilot study gives practitioners an opportunity to increase their awareness of contemporary views of marriage in a sample of college female students. Practitioners such as mental health counsellors, marriage and family therapists, and primary and secondary educators can use this study as a pathway to understand college students’ romantic relationships. By understanding college female students’ romantic relationships, they can help

enhance quality of the students' relationships. Furthermore, practitioners can use this information to increase awareness to students on contemporary attitudes towards marriage, which may benefit the students' personal relationships.

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