

The Changing Attitude of Threatened Guardians regarding the Marriage of their Daughters

Sushma Pendharkar

Professor,
Department of Sociology
Govt.College, Bargi,
Jabalpur (M.P.)

Shailja Dubey

Professor,
Department of Sociology
Govt.M.L.B. Girls College,
Bhopal (M.P.)

Abstract

Marriage is an institutions as well as a custom in India. The existence of a society is directly depended on marriage and family. It is the moral duty of the parents that they should marry their children at the right age but, in the modern age because of the educational awareness girls want to become self-dependent by educating themselves. Apart, they also protest against marrying at an early age. There seems to be a mentality of getting married in the later age among women, who are very aware of their career. This is now found that the parents of the girls working on higher and reputed posts are taking less interest in their marriage, because they thought that when their daughter will get married, then who will take care of them. This problem and fear is getting increased in the present age. The basic emotions of a person form the base of these problems. Fear becomes the integral part of a person right from his birth, and it increases with the ascending age. The person gets struck with ignorance and attachment and get away from his main aim because of fear. He encircles himself with various doubts. In order to overcome and suppress fear and truth, he has to take the support of lie. Besides, knowing the fact that whatever he is doing is immoral, he still tries to stick with it because he is under the immense pressure of fear. In the present research paper studies has been made on unmarried women working on the first & second category posts and are aged above 35 years. These women are the only support of their parents and they fear that if they will get married they will become handicapped in their old age contrary to this, the women wants to get married in their lives.

Keywords: Chronic fear, Constructiveness, Ignorance, Imaginative fear, Attachment, Insecurity

Introduction

The human nature is a result of its internal responses. These acts are, knowledgeable, creative and emotional. According to Ross "Emotion is the affective colour of our experience that we find by introspection. William Macdoogal has given 14 types of emotion:-

1. Curiosity
2. Fear
3. Anger
4. Self assertion
5. Constructiveness
6. Love
7. Jealousy
8. Joy or pleasure

According to Watson the feeling of love, anger & fear exists in a human being right from his birth. Fear is such a sensitive state in which a person has to react to a condition, of which he can't get rid-off easily. The other name of mental tension is chronic fear. The state of mental imbalance is there in this condition, which is cumulative and each formulation of it goes on with the same. We know that fear is one of our negative emotions and it goes on with the driving of our emotive procedure resulting in a deadly end; but at the same time, it also creates some constructive factors in many cases. It is an important question what we do with the relevant fear and what we do with us .i.e., where our future is going to be? This imaginative fear creates the circumstances of our present

which can be positive or negative. The person affected with this imaginative fear discloses this, through their acts and nature. The imaginative fear not only imbalance the emotional behaviour of the person but also the negativity of the behaviour are clearly disclosed through his social behaviours. The intensive emotion of fear is directly related with the mechanism of physical consciousness that it is real and thus it accompanies appropriate reaction that is to be followed and which fear is unrealistic that gives birth to the acts of our mind and also which previous fear has its image in our unconscious mind. Also, some fear comes out with a deadly form in special circumstances, of which the consequences is unclear and dangerous. External stimulus is very important in emotions; Psychologists have shown mutual relationship between emotions and imaginative process. (Impact of emotion upon cognition the day to day experiences proves the emotional state of a person, how it affects his thoughts and his perception. (Isen & Shalker, in 1982 founded in their study that there is positive expression in a person that the ambiguous stimulus is direct and its evaluations are done in a positive manner. Similarly, there are negative expressions then they behave in a negative way. The expression state of a person not only affects a person's perception and the state of evaluation but also affects their cognitive aspects like memory, creativity and the behaviour of taking risks. When a person is in a good and happy state, he thinks about the way of behaviour and the losses related to it, which in a way an obstacle in a happy state of mind. From the studies of Arke, Herreh and Isen (1988) it is clear that if there are heavy losses in a behaviour of taking risks, a person does not respond to it, with modern studies & experiments it is clear that there is a two way relationship between emotion and cognition because cognition effects various emotional expressions and vice-versa. The importance of ashram system is considered to be the utmost in traditional Indian Society, to prove the Grahastha ashram at the top of the four ashrams the different prospects stresses on the essentiality of the family. This is built with organizational approval of the marriage system out of the four purusharth in the Indian culture to gain two physical purusharths the importance and compulsion of marriage was there. In the modern time the importance of marriage is not denied but its compulsion seems a bit to be lessened. In the present age, to keep pace with development in every field people are trying to gain more and more abilities. In these very attempts there is a chance of getting over aged with relation to the actual age of marriage, however, there is now a mentality developing of getting married late, in this context, there is found a mentality in the parents of the daughter regarding their marriage. Generally, it is found that if the parents had one daughter child or one son child, they marry their son at the right age, but tries to postpone their daughter's marriage providing different grounds and then a time comes when the girl stops thinking about her marriage.

In this study 50 unmarried girls are selected as the answerers. Women working on higher posts as well as on normal posts under the age group of 35-50 and their parents are included in the study. To know the real reasons, the selected women are systematically interviewed. From the information taken from the unmarried women, it is found that the lack of efforts of their parents and the responsibility of taking care of their parents are the main reasons for this condition. The developing mentality of insecurity in the parents creates physical and mental stress in them, thereby giving birth of dependency of their daughters. As a result, girls accept their state of spinsterhood. Gradually they are filled with indecisions of the future and its uncertainty. As from the information from the parents, girls want to educate them highly to gain educational and professional qualifications and because of which they get over-aged and are unable to find appropriate groom s even after lot of efforts. But how they don't want to get marry because they start thinking for looking after their parents and thus they remain unmarried. It is a general thinking that girls look after their parents much better than the boys. The mentality of insecurity of the future in the parents comes from economic, psychological and social reasons, which gives birth to imaginative fear. This fear is insecurity which effects the cognitive reactions and becomes the reason of the changes in her mental state. However, it is not directly expressed by the parents, because social fear is directly related to it and reasons of finding a proper groom for their girl child is hidden in the society. **Condition of the answeres on the basis of age**

Table (1) – Average age of the answeres

| S.No. | Age Group | No. of Answeres |
|-------|-----------|-----------------|
| 1 | 35-40 | 22 |
| 2 | 40-45 | 25 |
| 3 | 45-50 | 03 |
| | Total | 50 |

Table (2) – Educational Status of the Answeres

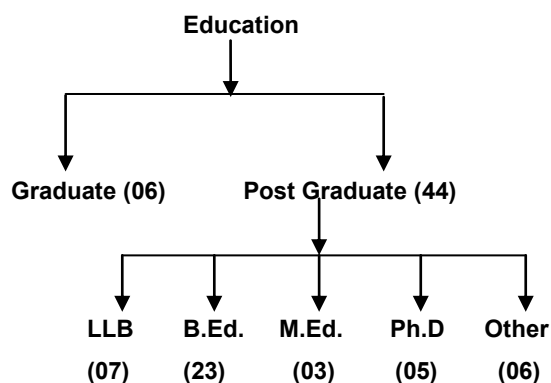


Table (3) – Professional status of the answerees on the basis of age group

| Designation | Age group | | | |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 35-40 | 40-45 | 45-50 | Total |
| Deputy Collector | | | 2 | 2 |
| Judge | | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Professor | | 4 | | 4 |
| Other Administrative | 20 | | | 20 |
| Education | | 18 | | 18 |
| Other | 02 | 02 | | 04 |
| Total | 22 | 25 | 03 | 50 |

Table (4) –Reasons of Being Unmarried

| Answerees | Reasons | | | | | Total |
|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| | Economic dependency | Educational status | Professional status | Over age for marriage | Parents not taking interest | |
| Parents | 30(60%) | 10(20%) | 05(10%) | 03(6%) | 2(4%) | 50(100%) |
| Unmarried women | 3(6%) | 3(6%) | 4(8%) | 12(24%) | 28(25%) | 50(100%) |

$X^2=53.91$

Df=04

P= <.001

50 unmarried women of age group 35-50 were selected for the study, out of which, 22 women from the age group 35-40, 25 from the age group 40- 45 age 3 women from the age group 45-50, were selected. The educational qualification of these respondents are under the standard of graduate and post graduate level at 06 & 44. The answerers gaining education of the post graduation level are LLB (07), B.Ed (23), M.Ed (03), PHD (05), and those getting qualification at other level (06). In the table no. (03)the professional status of the answerers is clearly indicated as per the age group. Two (02) answerers of the Deputy Collector level come under the age group of 40-50 years; two of them that come under the age group of 40-45, 45-50 and working on the particular posts a total of 4 respondent between the age group of 40-45, are joining the profession as a Professor. Beside this a majority of 20 of the answerers belonging to the age group of 35-40, total 18 respondent with an age group of 40-45 years are in a profession related to studies. In other profession 04 of the respondents are related to this profession. On analyzing the facts this is clear that a majority of 25 respondents are with the age group of 40-45 year and on the second number 22 respondent with age group of 35-40 are there. From interviews the answerers of these 50 respondent of different age groups, along with their parents and by analyzing the factors of the unmarried women, being not married, it is found that the difference of the clarification given by the unmarried women and their parents stands at a ratio of 60% and 20%. Parents claimed the economic dependency and educational development of their daughter, are being the main reason behind not marrying them. But on the other hand 56% and 24% of the respondent (unmarried women) accepted the reason of being over aged and the reason of their parents not given importance to their marriage, as a reason of their being remain unmarried. According to them their parents always carry the fear future due to

economical, physical and social reasons. The developing fear of insecurity in them always affects their daughters emotionally. Some of these women have lost interest in the marriage system also. This is found in the women of age group 45-50, but still unmarried women of the age group 35-45 are found to be interested in marriage but at this age finding an appropriate groom is one of the problems faced by them. The significance of the study is clear by the Kai square test of the figure of table No.4. at .001 level the significance level is 18.465 which is less than the Kai square test 53.91 which means that the effectiveness of the factors of the answerers of the two levels are related, which proves that the information gained is real.

From the information gained by the respondent the effectiveness of this, is clearly seen on the personality of unmarried women. The life history of special answerers is prepared with the situations faced. The reason of the insecurity of future comes out to the main reason with the parents behind not marrying their daughter. However, in the near future the reason of economic insecurity came out them in at audible voice. A majority of the unmarried women say that in the beginning their parents provoked them for educational development and economic dependency, but after some time, they themselves realized that because of their parents, not taking steps for their marriage, they are overaged for marriage. The present study clearly show the effectiveness of the emotion of fear on perceptive circumstance, parents think of their daughter's marriage as a risk of taking job, because of the fear of their insecure future. Adverse economic, social and psychological circumstances create imaginative fear gives birth of insecure future in them. This increasing intensity of fear started giving birth to a selfish attitude in the parents and they start postponing the marriage of their daughter due to different reasons. These reasons are higher education, training, profession, promotion etc.

As a result the girl remains unmarried. It is considered that unmarried women do not marry as they thought of their parents being their responsibility, but the real factor is that this situation is created due to the selfish attitude of their parents. We want to explore the mechanism of the strong emotion. Suggestion can be given on the basis of this study. How can we behave with this dangerous emotion? If it is held in a negative ratio our day to day gets affected, but if our behaviour gets with it a positive manner than we can live with this emotion in our social life in all sorts of circumstances. Fear is known to all of us and we can distinguish in the various dangerous conditions. We can be familiar with the known fear, but when we think of the dangerous aspects of the circumstances, that it given deep sadness.

1. It is the time to accept.
2. Think of being happy.
3. Look at the positive side.
4. Focus on what is going well, what good you do and what makes you fulfilled.
5. Don't think yourself of being weak.

6. Don't think your life is danger.
7. Be positive.
8. Keep the balance between giving and receiving.
9. Make sense of your life.
10. Do something of your choice.

References

- 1 Singh, Arun Kumar. *Advanced General Psychology*, Motilal Banarasi Das, New Delhi. 2001.Print.
- 2 "The Psychology of Fear." Akhand Jyoti <<http://www.akhandjyoti.org>>
- 3 "The Psychology of Fear. Understanding the Dynamic of the Fear Response". <<http://phobias.about.com/od/introductiontophobias/>>
- 4 "Fear" <http://www.psychologyhelp.com/emo_t95.html>
- 5 Fear : The complete guide to getting through it : Annette Charpenter, Ph.D