

Extended Abstract

Union formation and marriage: in the post Revolutionary of Iran

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Introduction

Marriage, like every other social phenomenon, has such norms that are different in every community and every time section. In current days, marriage affairs in Iran have its own particular characteristics. Like other countries, Iran is experiencing tradition to modernity transition that has made such expanded social changes in all social phenomena including marriage and mate choice that causes men and women's new attitude toward marriage, and they figure it not only as a sexual relation and childbearing, but also a way to make a perfect life with love and companionship. The new world has made high social encouragement, public literacy and education, and besides, men and women's expectations have been definitely higher than before. In the other hand, cultural and social differences in social groups of community have got more and last similarities have got less. Moreover, some parts of these changes in Iran are just for trend of being an Islamic country after the revolution. Some other changes are because of women's social roles in community and their interest to have higher education and getting some high competencies like men in jobs out of house. All of the above caused mate choice to change from its traditional form and face with some new matters in Iran. The other point that was happened in first decade after the revolution (1981) and affected marriage and mate choice for youth was high rate of fertility that led to demographic misbalance at the age of marriage. In addition to meeting the sexual and emotional needs, marriage organizes economic needs and social and cultural relationships, and it is counted as an accepted norm in all over the world. Time and needs to marriage are different among individuals. Some individuals feel needs in adolescence and get married sooner. Some others get married in young age and some others after young age. Of course, in undeveloped countries, parents or relatives choose spouse for their daughter or son themselves before that needs represented.

Also with urbanization, development of metropolitans and cultural variation in cities, marriage ceremony and necessity of holding expensive ceremonies for families are constantly increasing. In other hand, price inflation and increasing unemployment of youth caused that they, especially youth studying in university that are straitened, couldn't hold a expensive ceremony and so delay their marriage.

Youth, especially boys, should reach economic and social adolescence to get married. The statistical average of age of marriage presents that this average have increased gradually in recent years. This fact means that today youth reach economic and social adolescence later and time between sexual – emotional and economic – social adolescence is getting more and more; and youth are wondered and distress during this time. Consider to this point and taking difficulties that increase this time is necessary because during this distress period, youth and society are in danger.

Aims of research:

The main aims of study are:

- Recognition of youth's problems for marriage by sex and age
- Recognition of youth's attitudes toward their interest in marriage and their limitations and problems.

- Deliberation of young married spouse's attitudes toward suitable age and time for marriage, reasonable marriage dowry and their problems for marriage.
- Recognition of problems for youth's marriage from view of single and married youth.
- Comparative comparison of youth's attitude toward marriage by single and married.

Theoretical model of study:

After deliberation of attitudes and views of researchers about effective factors of increasing age of marriage and standards of mate choice, and problems of youth's marriage, the applicable model is explained below:

The main theoretical model of this study is Renovation Theory. Emphasizing constructive changes (traditional agriculture to industrial economics transition), this theory indicates that changes of marriage and its problems are related to constructive changes in society to appear new social powers: Industrialization, Urbanization and Public Education.

Also based on Exchange Theory, marriage is a phenomenon that would be done within a social exchange, and elements related to exchange, given and taken, effect on standards of mate choice. In Exchange Theory human is always going to enjoy more from less expense.

Based on Exchange Theory, the more positive difference between expectable satisfaction from marriage and received satisfaction from individual's current situation, the sooner marriage.

To reach high social statuses, youth try to delay their marriage. According to Exchange Theory, marriage decision is a kind of investment decision and the individual deliberates reasonable assessment of costs and profits of marriage.

According to view of social exchange, it is possible appearing of "relative deprivation feeling" that effects on many aspects of human social life. In this consideration also individual's preferences in mate choice are deliberated.

We also applied Marten Theory in appearance of social matters, misbalance between aims and organized social means in deliberation and comparison between standards of mate choice and problems youth face in marriage.

Questions of research:

- 1- What are the problems of youth for marriage?
- 2- What are the attitudes of single youth toward marriage?
- 3- What is the married young spouses' attitude toward suitable age and time of marriage? And how do they assess their age and time of marriage? (the assessment would be by sex, age and questioned individual's economic and social base)
- 4- Single and married youth's attitudes towards marriage and different problems.

Methodology

The methodology is based on review of literature and descriptive – analytical study using the survey.

- 1- Review of literature: Review of literature is used to get connoisseurs' attitudes toward marriage, standards of mate choice and research background.
- 2- Survey: The survey is used to get single and married youth' attitudes toward marriage and existing problems.

Statistical community and methodology of sample size

This descriptive – analytical study is a kind of Cross Sectional studies and all youth aged 18-35 (9,222,000 persons) in centers of provinces are statistical communication. This communication is divided to single youth and married youth (divorced, spouse dead or not reported cases are omitted) that includes respectively 53.9 and 49.4 percent of all age 18-35.

Kokran formula is used to calculate the sample size:

$$n = \frac{Nt^2 pq}{Nd^2 - t^2 pq} \sim 2470$$

N = 9,222,000 sample of communication
t = 1,96 relative assurance for error
p = 0.5 possibility of a characteristic
q = 0.5 impossibility of the same characteristic
d = 0.02 accepted error

After calculating the proportional sample size, number of sample size is calculated in each 3 groups:

Number of sample size for single communication is 1286 and for married communication is 1184.

Sampling Method

Because of statistical communication construction, we use multi-steps cluster sampling in this study. In this technique, final sample includes some different samples. At first, a sample should be selected among several provinces. Then, it should be sampled among provinces and after that some counties should be sampled in each province. Final step is a sample of households and using a method to select individuals in selected households (Dowas, 2003). Therefore, we divided provinces to 5 area or study cluster including several provinces:

- 1- First cluster: Tehran, Isfahan, Yazd, Gilan
 - 2- Second cluster: Qom, Semnan, Markazi, Mazandaran, Fars, Qazvin
 - 3- Third cluster: Khuzestan, Kermanshah, Hamedan, Esat azarbaijan, Khorasane razavi, Kerman
 - 4- Fourth cluster: Ardebil, Lorestan, Kohgiluye & Boyerahmad, Chaharmahal & Bakhtiary, Zanjan, Hormozgan, Khorasane jonubi, Khorasane shomali, Golestan
 - 5- Fifth cluster: Sistan & Baluchestan, Kordestan, West azarbaijan
- 14 provinces are selected randomly from these 5 main areas (3 provinces from the first four clusters and 2 provinces from fifth cluster).

Table 1- Sample provinces in this study, by their development

Development	Province
Very high	Tehran, Isfahan, Gilan
High	Semnan, Markazi, Mazandaran
Middle	Khuzestan, Kermanshah, Hamedan
Low	Ilam, Kohgiluye & Boyerahmad, Khorasan
Very low	Sistan & Baluchestan, West azarbaijan

1- In second step, number of samples is determined, proportionate to population of centers in every province and by 3 kind of questionnaires) and collected by systematic random sampling, going people's house.

The sexual and age proportion of questioned individuals are relatively observed in determination of samples.

Data collecting

Necessary data is collected in two ways:

- 1- In review of literature – by documents and books
- 2- In survey – by questionnaire (two types of deferent questionnaires for single and married youth) with open, closed and semi open questions using face to face interview.

Questions of questionnaire are finalized after primary design and connoisseurs' approval and pre test.

Also SPSS statistical software is used to analyze data.

Method of calculating social economic base indicator

To determine the social economic base of questioned individuals, their social economic base grade is calculated using questions related to their or their fathers' educational and employment status, and their or their father family economic status, and putting their grades together.

Results

The results show that in contrast with current married people, single youth are going to get married in older ages. High economic social base, high level of literacy and education and their attitudes toward marriage and method of mate choice are the main reasons for their decision. One of the other factors of youth's increasing age of marriage is their high interest to education so that 57.4 percent of boys and 71.8 percent of girls are student in this study.

Near 40 percent of girls reported that they like to have a husband more educated than themselves, but since percent of girl students are more than boy students it is too difficult to find such an educated husband and only 1/2 percent of girls questioned believed that it is better to have a husband less educated than themselves.

Boys and girls that were questioned declared economic problems (including financial problems, cost of living, house, employment and unemployment problems) as main problems for their marriage (if they interest to get married at their current age). Thus, financial problems can not be as obstructive element for marriage because there are even people in high economic social bases who pointed this problem. So, financial problems are relative matters and individual's expectations can determine individual's recognition of financial problems.

Financial problems might be an essential factor for boys to get married, but it is different for girls, firstly, girls don't decide for marriage themselves and if boys don't proposed to them their age of marriage will be increased naturally (specially if number of girls is more than boys). It is Interesting to say that increase of boy's age of marriage is necessarily not paralleled to girls' age of marriage at the time of marriage, and even most of boys at older ages are interested to marry with younger girls. Consequently, certain percent of girls' singleness will increases, so that lake of suited young boys is the main problem for girls' marriage. Moreover,

rivalry among girls and their families and families' high expectation can lead to increase girl's age of marriage and singleness.

More than two thirds of single girls and boys are interested to choose their spouse by love, while more than two thirds of married people preferred traditional marriage under family control.

The other reason of increase in youth's age of marriage is change of their attitudes toward marriage, mate choice and their interest to choose their spouse by love.

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