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## A Sociological Analysis of Marital Values of Educated Women

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### **Abstract:**

*After independence the modern education system has changed the attitude of women regarding various aspects like family position, friendship, marriage, education, job etc. With the increase in educated population, the authority and decision-making capacity of the family also varies has changed in a way. The process of globalization has also changed the relationship between husband and wife. In this background, this research paper delves into the intricate web of marital values among educated women, seeking to understand the evolving dynamics of marriage in the context of changing societal norms and increasing educational attainment among women. The study employs a sociological lens to explore the intersections of education, career aspirations, and marital values, aiming to unravel the complexities that shape the decisions and perspectives of educated women regarding marriage. The findings of the said research work will be helpful in understanding how education has been successful in changing the attitude of educated women towards marriage system in Indian Society.*

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**Keywords : Values, Education, Women, Marriage, Family.**

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### **Introduction :**

Marriage and family are two important institutions in Indian society. A change in any one of these can affect the other and social life in general. There is no bigger event in a Bhartiya family than a wedding . The institutions of marriage and family are constantly changing due to a complex set of socio-economic and cultural factors. Industrialization, Urbanization, social legislation, changes in global economic conditions, globalization, rapid increase in national and international migration rates, transportation and unprecedented changes in mass

communication, particularly audiovisual media and information and communication technology has accelerated changes in social systems around the world. Indian society in the 21st century is experiencing rapid changes in many spheres of social life, primarily involving social institutions such as marriage and family.

The surge in women's education over the past few decades has led to a paradigm shift in societal expectations and gender roles. As more women pursue higher education and professional careers, their attitudes toward marriage are undergoing significant transformations.

This paper aims to explore and analyse the marital values of educated women in the contemporary sociocultural landscape.

Women constitute almost half of the total population of the country but their position and status in society is lower than that of men. Their status has changed from pre-Vedic times to modern times. After independence, modern education system has changed the attitude of women regarding various aspects like family position, friendship, marriage, education, job etc. With the growth of educated population, the authority and decision-making process in the family has also changed in some ways. The process of globalization has also changed the relationship between husband and wife. In modern times it has been noticed that most women do not consider their partner as Lord or God and are eager to accept him as a companion. This tendency is seen in a large number among educated men and women. Now in the family, most decisions are taken by both men and women with equal respect and consideration of each other's views.

The status of a wife and woman has gained importance in the present times as compared to the past. A woman's role and her decisions have become crucial and important in every type of family decision. The reason for this is that there is a growing awareness among women about their rights and duties. As a result, globalization has brought about changes in various mediums of independent communication. Freedom of women has increased in every sphere of life. Women's

emancipation has increased due to the influence of communication tools and information revolution. There has also been a slight change in people's attitude towards widow remarriage and divorce. Widow remarriage and remarriage of the divorced are important, as it is accepted by the public that women are supported and supported throughout their lives. In terms of improving the social status of women, traditional approaches appear to be more in conflict with modern approaches than complementary or neutral. It is necessary to institutionalize the modern approach for the development of women. Hence the objective of this study is to focus and analyze the above area.

**Objectives of the Study:** The main objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To study the socio-economic background of the respondents.
2. To investigate the impact of education on marital aspirations and choices among women.
3. To analyse the role of societal expectations in shaping the marital values of educated women.

**Research Methodology:**

A qualitative approach was employed, utilized in-depth interviews and focus group discussions to gather rich data on the experiences, perspectives, and values of educated women regarding marriage. A total 120 educated women's from Sangli city of Western Maharashtra were participated in this survey from different socioeconomic backgrounds,

ethnicities, and age groups to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the subject matter. The collected information has been analyzed with the help of statistical tools like SPSS and MS-Excel and output was utilized for findings of the study.

### Key Findings:

#### 1. Socio-economic of the respondents Background :

Majority 88 respondents ( 73.33 %) are Hindus. 26 respondents ( 21.66 %) are Muslims, while the rest ( 5 %) belong to other religions. Most of the respondents ( 78 %) were in the age group of 20 to 25 years . 103 ( 85.83 %) of the respondents were single; Only 14.16% were married. More than half of the students ( 58 %) lived in nuclear families; The rest were in the family together. Majority of the respondents ( 64 %) were from middle class family background.

#### 2. Matrimonial Attitudes and Expectations of Respondents:

1. Respondents were asked whether they would prefer an arranged or ,Interestingly .love marriage of the ( % 70.5 ) majority respondents preferred arranged preferred % 29.5 marriage while love ) choosing their own partner it should be ,However .(marriage noted that majority of young women still prefer traditional . marriage and may even go for it rs also favor But significant numbe a trend in opinion ,love marriage

in ) that may later manifest itself . ( actual behavioral choices

2. of the ( % 79.16 or 95 ) Majority caste -respondents preferred inter while the remaining ,marriages preferred partners of % 20.84 Reasons .e or religion different cas given by respondents for preferring better :caste partners include-same adjustment between partners due to customs and ,similarity in culture social and family ,lifestyle belief in parental ,pressure pride in own caste and ,approval . religion
3. - People marry for many reasons , In each study .personal or social an attempt was made to identify the %70 .important causes of marriage of the respondents considered companionship as the primary Another .reason for marriage means of satisfying sexual - reason % 45.4 ;% 50 desire was given by gave reasons for living And the means to ; independently fulfill parenting wishes were given .of the respondents % 36 by
4. ,urbanization ,Industrialization spread of education and rapid rise rn values have gradually in mode changed the ideas about marriage Every study .of the modern youth has tried to find out the choices regarding the 'respondents .qualities of the partners they like s youth looking for 'What are today en or what factors do they value wh To ?choosing a marriage partner

respondents were given ,study this a list of possible attributes and asked to prioritize them in order of A majority of good . importance respondents (% 41.6 )company while , gave the highest priority Iso gave more respondents a % 35.6 importance to choosing a partner ,on the basis of his occupation educational background of the partner was another important Mutual .% 14.4 criterion given by understanding of the couple was of % 5.2 considered important by d physical the respondents an appearance of the couple was of % 3.2 considered important by . the respondents

5. Age of marriage varies in Indian Respondents were asked to .society express their views on what ideal The .age they value for marriage results clearly indicate that of the respondents % 55.2majority 30 to 25 preferred the age group of , years as the ideal age for marriage of the respondents % 35.6 while 25 to 21 preferred the age group of , years as the ideal age for marriage Respondents preferred % 6.4 while years and 30 group of the age respondents prefer % 2.8 . above years as the ideal age 21 less than respondents % 2.8 for marriage and These results clearly indicate that the willingness to marry at an early age has decreased and the er willingness to marry at an old .as increased in Indian societyage h

6. In it is very interesting ,this study to know the values of young women responding to the changes in marriage in contemporary society. Respondents were asked about their views on alternative in -live : forms of marriage such as ,childless marriage ,relationship year assessment and renewal -five Which is now .of marriage etc The . emerging in Indian society major findings regarding attitudes towards 'respondents alternative forms of marriage are respondents that a large number of said they would continue with the .traditional form of marriage we can also see ,However striking views on 'respondents .alternative forms of marriage

### Conclusion:

Based on the above findings, it is concluded that Indian society has witnessed rapid social and cultural changes in the last few decades due to the unprecedented spread of modern higher education especially among young women. This research paper seeks to contribute to the sociological understanding of the marital values of educated women in a rapidly changing social landscape. By examining the intricate interplay between education, career goals, and societal expectations, it aims to shed light on the diverse and evolving perspectives that shape the marital choices of educated women. Understanding these dynamics is crucial for fostering more inclusive and

supportive social structures that accommodate the aspirations of women in contemporary society.

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