

Study of Attitude towards Marriage among Male and Female Adults

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Abstract

Aim: The aim of the study was to assess attitude towards marriage among male and female adults. **Material and Method:** Sample of 200 adults were taken from which 100 were males and 100 were females. For data collection, Marriage Attitude Scale(1988) by Promod Kumar was used. **Results:** A significant difference was found between the mean scores of Attitude towards Marriage of male and female adults. **Conclusion:** It was concluded that male and female adults differ in marriage attitude. Female adults have better marriage attitude as compared to male adults.

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Introduction

The state of being united to a person of the opposite sex as wife or husband in a relationship recognized by law or society has been defined as marriage. Marriage is a popular ritual in all cultures and is attributed to private functions such as sexual gratifications and social functions like division of labor between genders. Marriage primarily serves for reproduction, care of children and continuation of race (Encyclopedia, 2015). It is not only culturally significant thing but also it is evolutionary significant. Seligman (2014) invalidates the view of many social scientists that marriage is a socially concocted institution and asserts marriage is invented by evolution but culture. Marriage is a big transition in life (Fricke et al., 1998). With the advancement of time (or generations), society changes in various ways. Attitude change regarding marriage is obvious too. Chaturvedi and Singh (2015) investigated into “attitude of Indian youth towards marriage and family relations”. The study was conducted on 240 subjects including 140 males and 100 females. The age range varied from 18 to 32years. Altogether 12 items from social change attitude scale were used to measure the attitude of the subjects toward marriage and family relations. The findings of the study revealed a positive change in the attitudes among the youth in terms of decision making at home, sharing of household work by both partners, acceptance of wife’s decisions by husband, need for economic independence of wife and obsolescence of purdah system. Positive attitudes towards the female child and significance of Parents consent in marriage are indicated. Sexual satisfaction is still seen as the primary aim of marriage in significantly larger number of males than females. Bhavana and Roopa (2015) conducted a study “To assess and compare the attitude of youth towards marriage and changing trends in marriage “. The sample consisted of 300 youths, of which 150 were males and 150 were females between the age ranges from 18 to 23 years who were

studying in bachelor of degree courses. The questionnaire was developed by the investigator on the different aspects of marriage and recent trends in marriage. The findings revealed that majority of youth had moderate and favorable attitude towards marriage. When compared to male respondents, female respondents had favorable attitude towards marriage and changing trends in marriage. Male respondents showed moderate attitude level towards marriage compared to female respondents. Some of the male and female respondents showed unfavorable attitude towards marriage and changing trends in marriage. Further, there was no significant difference found between male and female respondents attitude towards the concept of marriage, social expectation and changing trends in marriage whereas, there was a significant difference found between the male and female respondents with regard to sexual relationship, type of marriage, criteria for choosing life partner and specific motives for successful marriage. Shefali and Navya (2016) studied “Attitude towards marriage and Life Satisfaction among Mid adults”.The sample comprised of 60 mid adults belonging to the age range of 35 to 50 years from rural and urban areas. Result showed that there is no significant gender difference in attitude towards marriage and life satisfaction among mid adults. There is no significant difference between urban and rural mid adults in their attitude towards marriage and level of life satisfaction. There is no significant relationship between the two variables. Adhikari (2017) conducted a study on “Attitudes of present generation towards marriage - A survey of marriageable college students”. Sample size was 51. Data saturated after 16 persons of marriageable age, those between 18 and 35, were interviewed. Some were interviewed twice or thrice. After five years, survey questionnaire was given to 35 individuals of marriageable age who were between 19 and 24. It consisted of five open-ended questions. Both samples comprised of the men and women living in Kathmandu valley at the time of research. It was found that present generation perceives that parent generation married to continue customs, to obey parental orders and to settle permanently meaning to start a new family by bearing children. Race continuity is the common theme seen on both generations. The intention, beliefs and feelings of participants about marriage have been inquired to know the conative, cognitive and affective components of attitude.

Materials and Method

The present study was conducted on 200 adults from which 100 were males and 100 were females. In the present study, Marriage Attitude Scale by Kumar (1988) was used for data collection.

Results and Discussion

Table 1. Mean, Median, Mode, Standard Deviation, Skewness and Kurtosis of scores of Adults on the variable of Marriage

Variable	Mean	Median	Mode	S.D.	Skewness	Kurtosis
Marriage Attitude	84.22	85.00	86.57	5.44	0.009	-0.382

Table 1 shows that the values of mean, median and mode of the scores of adults on the variable of marriage attitude as 84.22, 85.00 and 86.57 respectively which are quite proximate to each other. The values of skewness and kurtosis in case of adults are 0.009 and -0.382 respectively showing the distribution as positively skewed and platykurtic. But these distortions are quite small. Therefore the distributions can be taken as normal.

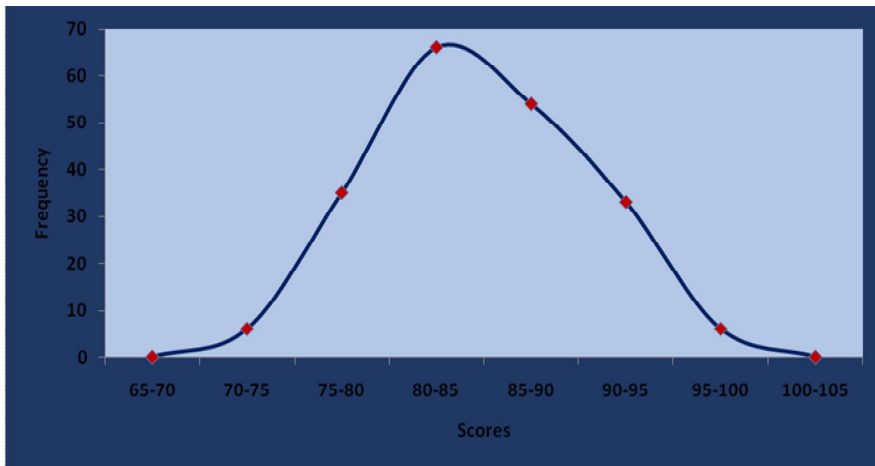


Figure 1. Frequency Polygon of scores of Adults on the variable of Marriage Attitude

Table 2. Frequency Distribution of scores of Male and Female Adults on the variable of Marriage Attitude

Class Interval	Male	Female
70-75	4	2
75-80	15	20
80-85	41	13
85-90	30	36
90-95	10	23
95-100	0	6
Total	100	100

Table 3. Mean, Median, Mode, Standard Deviation, Skewness and Kurtosis of scores of Male and Female Adults on the variable of Marriage Attitude

Variable	Mean	Median	Mode	S.D.	Skewness	Kurtosis
Male	82.93	82.00	80.14	4.66	-0.029	0.655
Female	85.50	86.00	87.00	5.86	-0.218	-0.824

Table 3 shows that

- The values of mean, median and mode of the scores of male adults on the variable of marriage attitude as 82.93, 82.00 and 80.14 respectively which are quite proximate to each other. The values of skewness and kurtosis in case of male adults are -0.029 and 0.655

- respectively showing the distribution as negatively skewed and leptokurtic. But these distortions are quite small. Therefore the distributions can be taken as normal.
- the values of mean, median and mode of the scores of female adults on the variable of marriage attitude as 85.50, 86.00 and 87.00 respectively which are quite proximate to each other. The values of skewness and kurtosis in case of female adults are -0.218 and -0.824 respectively showing the distribution as negatively skewed and platykurtic. But these distortions are quite small. Therefore the distributions can be taken as normal.

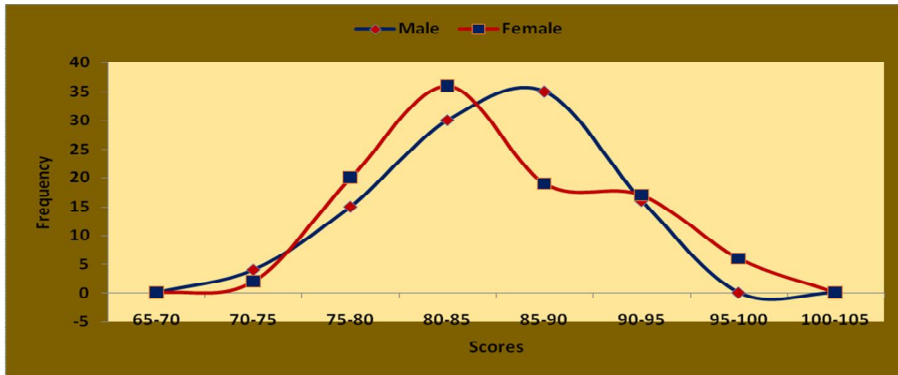


Figure 2. Frequency Polygon of scores of Male and Female Adults on the variable of Marriage Attitude

Table 4. Difference between Mean Scores of Marriage Attitude among Male and Female Adults

Group	Variable	N	M	S.D	SE _M	t-ratio	Sig./Not Sig.
Male	Marriage Attitude	100	82.93	4.66	0.47	3.43	Sig. at .01 level
Female		100	85.50	5.86	0.59		

Table 4 revealed that the mean scores of the variable of attitude towards marriage of male and female adults as 82.93 and 85.50 respectively. The t-ratio is calculated as 3.43 with $d_f=198$ which is significant at .01 level. This revealed that a significant difference exists between mean scores of attitude towards marriage of male and female adults. As significant difference was found between the mean scores of attitude towards marriage of male and female adults. Further as the mean scores of marriage attitude of female adults is higher than that of male adults, it may be concluded that the female adults have better marriage attitude as compared to male adults.

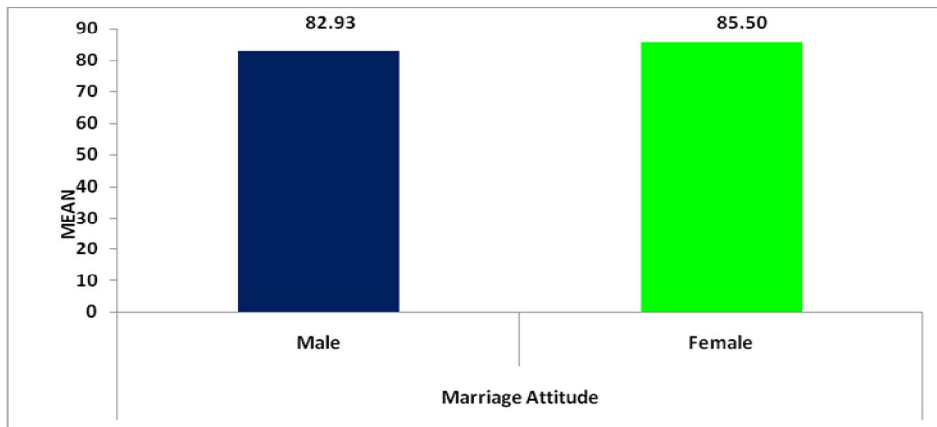


Figure 3. Difference between Mean Scores of Marriage Attitude among Male and Female Adults

Conclusions

The adults are normally distributed on the variable of attitude towards marriage irrespective of their gender. A significant difference was found between mean scores of attitude towards marriage of male and female adults. Therefore it may be concluded that male and female adults differ in marriage attitude. As the mean scores of attitude towards marriage of female adults is higher than that of male adults. It may be concluded that the female adults have better marriage attitude as compared to male adults.

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Conflict of Interest: None declared