

## ATTITUDE OF ADOLESCENTS TOWARDS MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

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### ABSTRACT

*The present study was conducted to investigate the attitude of adolescents towards marriage and family life. To assess the attitude of adolescents, 60 girls and 60 boys from the age group 12-18 years were selected from the sixth zone of Kanpur city. Data was collected with the help of standardized tool, Marriage Attitude scale by pramod kumar. The results of the study show that majority of the adolescents expressed positive attitude towards marriage and family life and viewed marriage as a lifelong commitment. Most of the adolescents were in favour that after marriage a person feels psychologically secure. Majority of the boys respondents stated that children are necessary for the safety of old age and to continue their names from generation to generation while girls were in the favour that by children people gets a chance to satisfy one's parental emotions.*

### Introduction

Adolescents are growing up in the world in which they will have to make more decisions for themselves than any previous generation. They experiment more, make choices and risks and learn by their own experiences rather than by those of others, many are able to face change and confidence and with the vision of better life in future which they can build with their own efforts. Yet for others, the result is confusion, despair and risk taking of a kind which is ultimately self destructive, considering 'the adolescent stage as a traumatic period.' The most complex form of human relationship is marriage. Marriage is considered as a sacred contract in most religions. In the Indian tradition and philosophy, marriage is a holy act confirmed by all the ceremonies and rituals accompanying it. Marriage involves the union of two individuals who decide to live in an intimate relationship for the major portion of their life. It is also believe to be an irrevocable bond between the man and women who enter the sacred alliance. It is an adjustment between the biological purpose of nature and sociological

purpose of man. It is an institution and it is a device for the expression and development of love. Its purpose is not only the generation and nurturing of children but also the enrichment of the personality of the husband-wife through the fulfillment of their need for a permanent comradeship. In which each may supplement the life of the other and both may achieve completeness (Devdas and Jaya, 1991).

In India marriage is considered a lifelong partnership. It is the rock on which the family is built and which in turn, is the foundation of society. Tradition, culture, religion, caste and community pressure, all play an important part in the institution of marriage (Lewis, 1975).

The present age of multimedia revolution has fostered to our society. Adolescent attitudes towards and expectations of marriage are currently of great significance. Several authors (cited in Kieren & Badir, 1976) have indicated that these attitudes and expectations are formed during adolescence. According to Mooney (cited in Malony, 1978) the uncertainty regarding a future marriage is one of an adolescent's greatest problems.

## Objectives of the study

1. To study the attitude of adolescents towards marriage.
2. To find out the sex differences if any on the attitude of adolescents towards marriage.

## Research methodology

The main criteria of sampling were to select 60 adolescent girls and 60 boys of 12-18years of age. They all were school and college going students of 6<sup>th</sup> zone of Kanpur Nagar. Multistage random sampling technique was used for the present study. At the first stage 6<sup>th</sup> zone of Kanpur Nagar was

selected purposively and out of schools and colleges, five schools were randomly selected and from each school 12 adolescent boys and 12 girls were selected randomly. Thus 120 adolescents were interviewed with the help of schedule for collecting the required information.

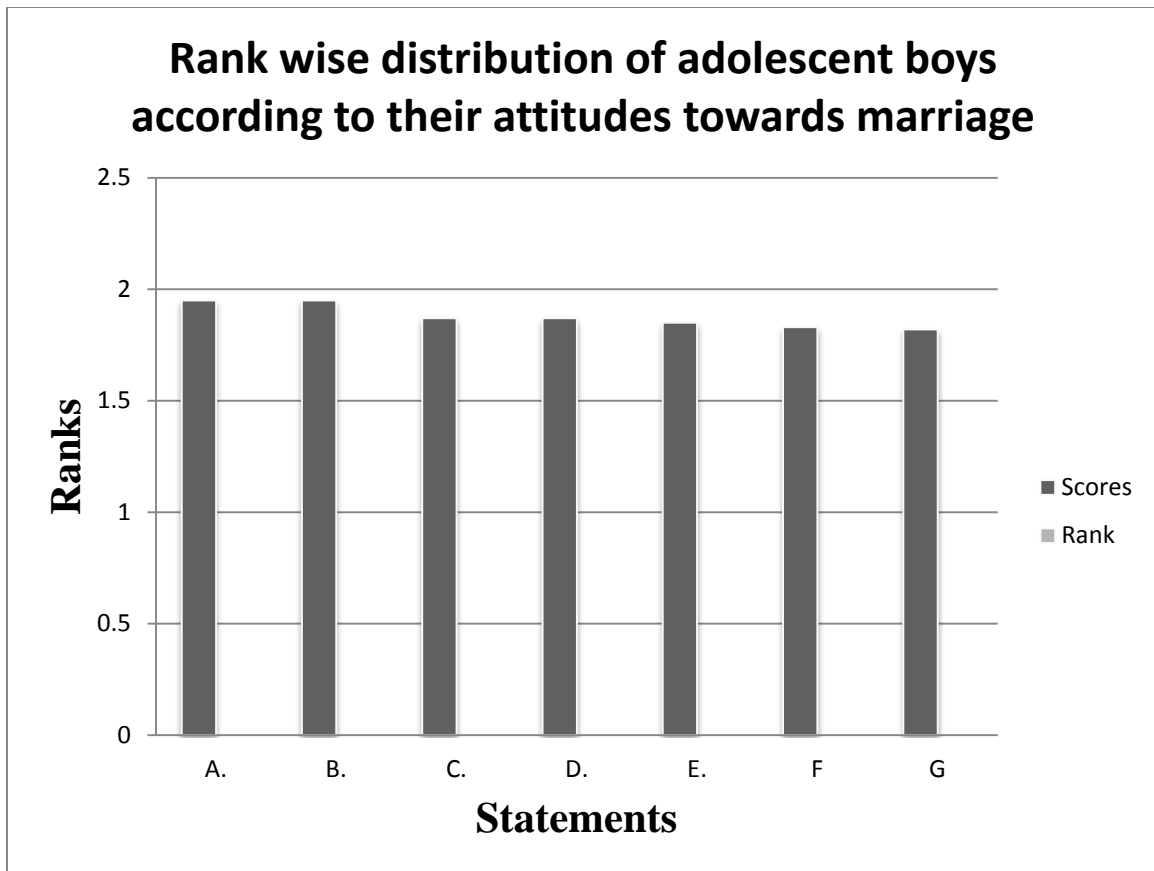
## Measures

Marriage attitude scale by Pramod Kumar was used for data collection.

## Result and discussion

**Table1:Rank wise distribution of adolescent boys according to their attitudes towards marriage.**

S.N.	Statements	Boys	
		Scores	Rank
A.	Children are necessary for safety of old age.	1.95	I
B.	Children are necessary to continue a person's name from generation to generation.	1.95	I
C.	Marriage continuously provides sexual satisfaction.	1.87	II
D.	Married people get a chance to satisfy ones parental emotions.	1.87	II
E.	Extra marital relations should rigidly be punished.	1.85	III
F.	After marriage a person feels psychologically secure.	1.83	IV
G.	By marriage one can experience the pleasure of children.	1.82	V



**Table2: Rank wise distribution of adolescent girls according to their attitudes towards marriage.**

S.N.	Statements	Boys	
		Scores	Rank
A.	By marriage one can experience the pleasure of children.	1.97	I
B.	Married people get a chance to satisfy ones parental emotions.	1.90	II
C.	Marriage provides pleasure of internal emotional relationship.	1.88	III
D.	Children are necessary to continue a person’s name from generation to generation.	1.87	IV
E.	Extra marital relations should rigidly be punished.	1.85	V

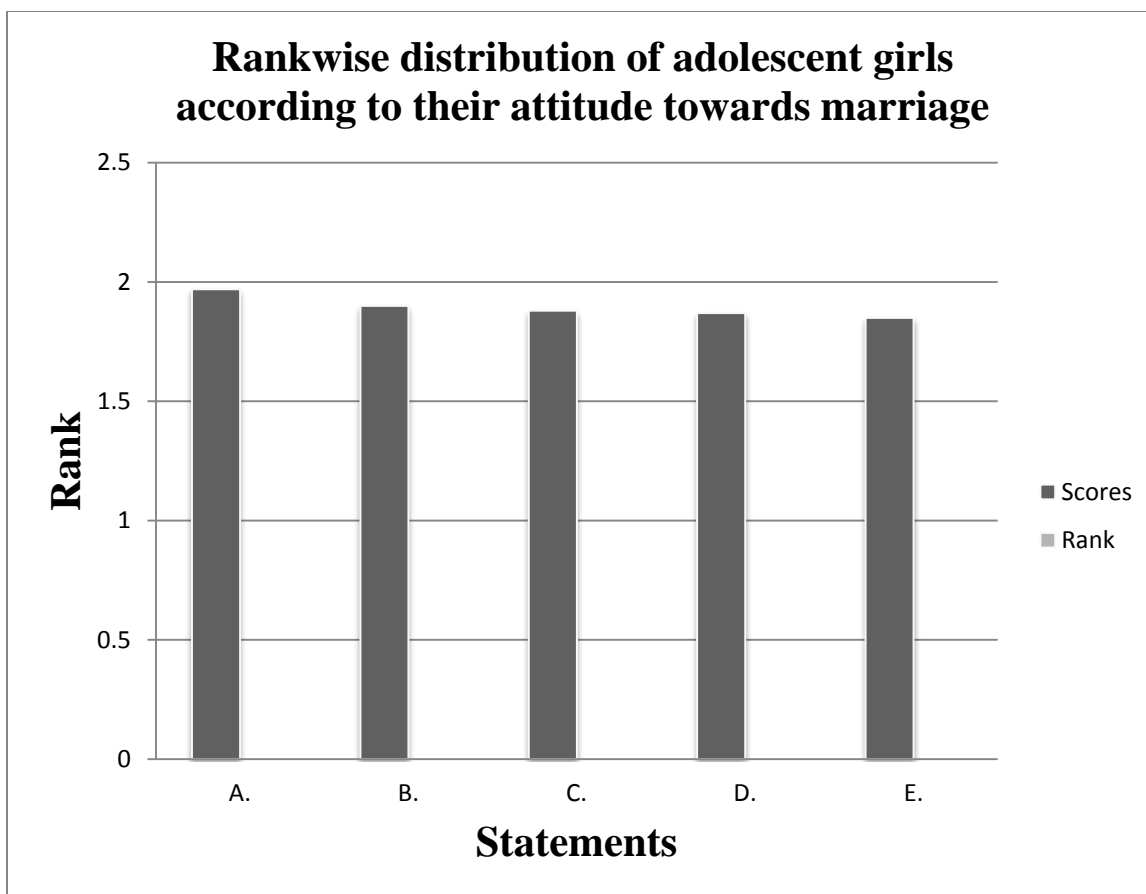


Table-1&2 indicates that out of 60 respondents most of the adolescent boys have given first preference to the progeny i.e. the most important function of marriage, in which boys felt that children are necessary for the safety of old age and to continue a person's name and generation. **Wai(1988)** also supported the present findings that old age support and expectations of help from children were important explanatory variables of fertility. While adolescent girls have given first preference to the statement that by marriage one can enjoy the pleasure of children.

This study indicated that boys want children to continue their name and generation while girls, for marital satisfaction.

Table-1&2 reveals that out of respondents most of the adolescent boys had given second preferences to the statement that marriage

continuously provide sexual satisfaction and married people gets a chance to satisfy one's parental emotions and adolescent girls out of 60 respondents were also in the favour of adolescent boys that is married people gets a chance to satisfy one's parental emotions. Study reveals that adolescent girls and boys want to satisfy their physical and psychological needs by marriage.

Table-1&2 also shows that most of the adolescent boys had given 3<sup>rd</sup> preference to the attitudes that extra-marital sexual relations should rigidly be punished. While most of the adolescent girls has given 3<sup>rd</sup> rank to the statement that marriage provides of internal emotional relationship.

Table-1&2 highlights the views of adolescents about marriage. Out of the adolescent boys most of the respondents have given 4<sup>th</sup> rank to the opinion that after marriage a person feels

psychologically secure. But most of adolescent girls were in the favour of opinion that children are necessary to continue a person's name from generation to generation.

Table-1&2 reveals that attitudes of adolescent boys and girls regarding marriage. In which most of the adolescent boys have given 5<sup>th</sup> rank to the opinion that by marriage one can experience the pleasure of children. While adolescent girls in the favour that 5<sup>th</sup> rank should be given to the statement that extra marital relations should rigidly be punished.

The correlation between attitude of adolescent boys and girls towards marriage was found significantly positive. This shows that there is positive correlation between the attitude of adolescent boys and girls.

## Conclusion

The majority of the adolescents were of the views that marriage is necessary and children are also necessary to continue their names from generation to generation and to satisfy one's parental emotions.

## References

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