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Perception of Married Women on Family Life Satisfaction in Nallagoundanpatty Village Panchayat of Omalur Taluk in Salem District of Tamil Nadu

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Abstract

Family is the one of the prime as well as important institutions of the society. When two or more generation lives together through the institution of marriage then such living together is called as family. When family consists of two generations then it is called as nuclear family and when more than two generations lives together then it is called as joint family. The style of living together always depends on mutual love and affection between the couples as well as others in the family and such type of family environment brings family life satisfaction among the member of the concerned family. Such healthy family environment helps the concerned family to progress and shine well in the society. The present study has been conducted in Nallagoundanpatty Village Panchayat in Omalur Taluk of Salem District in order to know the family life satisfaction among the married women and in order to get the responses from the respondents, 30 married women have been selected with the help of purposive sampling and their responses were recorded in the semi structured interview schedule. The interview schedule consist personal information of the respondents and their responses over the family life satisfaction and the family life satisfaction have been measured with seven statements and these seven statements have been measured with four point scale. Simple frequency table and percentile score have been used for data analysis. the results of the present study indicate that families in the rural setting also have some issues and misunderstandings and these could be rectified through appropriate measures.

Keywords: Family, Married Women, Percetion and Family Life Satisfaction.

Introduction

Marriage is regarded as a means to establish an unbreakable relationship between two families. As an important social institution, marriage is a basic need for the family. The family is one of the universal and permanent institutions of mankind. A family is a group of people united by the ties of marriage, blood, or adoption, constituting a single household, and interacting with each other in their respective social positions, usually those of spouses, parents, children, and siblings. Family is a very essential part of everyone's life. The importance of family has been inscribed in our brains since childhood. The bond that we share with each and every individual in our family not only creates a respectful relationship but also transforms a house into a home. Family is a universal group. A family is based on marriage, which results in a mating relationship between two adults of opposite sexes. Family is the most important group in any individual's life.

Family is the most basic and important group in the primary socialization of an individual. Family is based on emotions and sentiments. Mating, procreation, maternal and fraternal devotion, love, and affection are the basis of family ties. The family is a unit of emotional and economic cooperation. Family is a great source of strength, both emotional and psychological, for its members. All the members are aware that they can depend on their family in times of need. The family is the basis of the division of labor, where all members have their duties and obligations towards each other. A family fulfills the economic needs of its members.

A husband and wife are lifelong companions who lead a common life; they are two intimate comrades. The rights and status of each are equal. They should work together and manage household affairs together. They should encourage and help each other in all social activities. In daily life, they should take care of each other and show consideration. As for their parents, both sides should bear the responsibility for their care. This kind of relationship between husband and wife will continuously increase the feelings between the two and make their lives more and more ideal. The husband-wife relationship is most important in the lives of people. It is crucial for long-lasting happiness in our lives.

Review of Literature

(Rao) has studied the relationship between marital adjustment and depression among couples. The sample of the study consisted of 26 couples. Their ages ranged from 25 to 50 years. Their education was at least graduation and above. They belong to middle and high socioeconomic status. Results indicated a highly significant relationship between marital adjustment and depression. The findings of the results also show that both women and men have to face more problems in their married lives.

(Gaur and Bharadwaj), conducted a study among married women and men. The study aimed at finding the relationship between empathy, forgiveness, and marital adjustment. The study reported that higher levels of empathy have a positive relationship with marital adjustment. There were significant gender differences between males and females in the domains of empathy and forgiveness in a marital relationship.

(Dixit and Ramachandran) conducted a study to investigate the effect of demographic variables on the dyadic adjustment and interpersonal behavior of married individuals and the role of interpersonal needs on the dyadic adjustment of married individuals. Married individuals living in a nuclear family or joint family preferred social interactions and enjoyed the company of others. But the structure of the family alone might not influence the extent of social interactions; there might be some personality factors, situational factors, personal preferences, and so on. There was a statistically significant effect of demographic variables on the interpersonal needs of married individuals.

(Saheba) studied the marital adjustment of married couples, marital adjustment with regards to love marriage and arranged marriage, and the interactive effect of marital adjustment with regards to gender and type of marriage. The study found that there was no significant difference in the mean score of marital adjustment among the married males and females; there was no significant difference in the mean score of marital adjustment among the couples of love marriage and arranged marriage; and there was no significant difference in the interactive effect of the mean scores of marital adjustment with regards to the gender and type of marriage.

(Rusman) conducted a case study to understand the interpersonal relationships and communication among married couples. The study concludes that the relationship between husband and wife resembles the relationship as a “friend” or an “enemy,” giving colors to the relationship in the early years of marriage. The husband often facilitates the role of parent in dealing with wives and the “adult-adult” relationship pattern develops as they share their business duties. The present study aims to find out perception of married women about family life satisfaction in Nallagoundanpatty Village Panchayat of Omalur Taluk in Salem District of Tamil Nadu

Methodology

The present study has been carried out in Nallagoundanpatti villiage panchayat and Nallagoundnpati is located in Omalure Taluk of Salem District and which is 16 Km far away from the headquarters of Salem and 326 Km from State capital

Chennai. Nallagoundanpatti is surrounded by Salem Block towards East, Taramangalam Block towards West, Kadaiyampatty Block North, Mecheri Block towards West. The married women who are above the age of 20 years in Nallagoundampatti village panchayat considered as universe of the present study and with the help of purposive sampling the researchers identified 30 respondents in the study area. A structured interview schedule has been used as a tool of data collection and which consists of socio-economic conditions of the respondents and questions related to family life satisfaction. The socio-economic conditions have assessed with age, education, occupation, monthly income, type of family and husband's particulars. Whereas the family life satisfaction have been measured with seven statements and the respondents' responses were recorded on a four-point scale viz., 'always', 'sometimes', 'often' and 'never'. The scores assigned for these four-point measurement of the respondents' responses were 4 for 'always', 3 for 'sometimes', 2 for 'often' and 1 for 'never' for positive statements and reverse score pattern have been followed for negative statements. The collected data were analyzed with the help of simple frequency table and percentile score.

Results and Discussion

The age of the respondents is considered, 23.4 per cent of the respondents were aged between 20- 30 years, 43.3 per cent were aged between 31 - 40 years, 13.3 per cent of the respondents were aged between 41 - 50 years and remaining 20 per cent of them were aged 51 and above. With regard to education, 62.4 per cent of the respondents were completed their school education, 27.3 per cent of the respondents were graduates, 2.4 per cent of the respondents were post graduates and remaining 7.9 per cent of the respondents were illiterates. While considering the occupation of the respondents, 83.3 per cent of the respondents were housewives, 16.7 per cent of the respondents were agricultural workers. As per as the occupation of the respondents' husband is considered, 40 per cent of the respondents' husbands were farmers, 33.3 per cent of the respondents mentioned that their husbands were masons, 20 per cent of them revealed that their husbands were

doing business and 6.67 per cent of the respondents' husband were labourers of private companies. The monthly income of the families is concerned, 30 per cent of the respondents were mentioned that their family monthly income was between Rs.10000/- – Rs.15,000/-, 46.7 per cent of the respondents were revealed that their family monthly was between Rs.15,000/- and Rs.20,000/- and remaining 24.3 per cent of the respondents were stated that their family monthly income was more than 20,000/-.

The marital longevity of the respondents is considered that 28.6 per cent of the respondents have more than 21 years of marital longevity, 26.2 per cent of the respondents have 11 - 20years, 23.8 percent of the respondents have 5 - 10 years and 21.4 percent of the respondents have less than 5 years of marital longevity. With regard to type of marriage, 59.5 of the respondents mentioned that their marriage was arranged marriage, 28.6percentof the respondents revealed that their marriage was love marriage and remaining 11.9 per cent of the respondents stated that their marriage was love cum arranged marriage.

Table 1 Distribution of the Respondents by their Opinion on the Statement 'My Partner is Sincere and Practices what he/she Preaches'

Response given by the respondents	No. of responses	Percentage
Always	26	86.67
Sometimes	03	10.00
Often	-	-
Never	01	03.33
Total	30	100.00

The table shows that the respondents' responses on the statement 'My partner is sincere and practices what he preaches' and responses revealed that 86.67 per cent of the respondents mentioned that their husband always practice what he preaches', 10 per cent of the respondents revealed that sometimes only their husbands follow what he preaches and remaining 3.33 per cent of the respondents stated that their husbands never practice what he preaches. In the patriarchal society, the husband is the head of the family and others are his followers and in such a set up when the head is needed that others must obey his words first he must follow what is he preaches

to others. But in the present study 13.33 per cent of the respondents mentioned that either sometimes or never their husbands' practice what he preaches and this type of situation prevails for a long period of time then the same may be the one of the reasons for the family disorganization.

Table 2 Distribution of the Respondents by their Opinion on the Statement 'My Partner is Honest Mainly because of a Fear of Being Caught'

Response given by the respondents	No. of responses	Percentage
Always	-	-
Sometimes	01	03.33
Often	05	16.67
Never	24	80.00
Total	30	100.00

The respondents are asked to respond the statement 'My partner is honest mainly because of a fear of being caught', 80 per cent of the respondents replied that their husbands always honest but not because of a fear of being caught, 16.67 per cent of the respondents mentioned that their husbands often have fear of being caught because of this they are honest and remaining 3.33 per cent of the respondents revealed that their husbands sometimes have fear of being caught because of this they are honest. A person's honest must be in-build nature then only the same person should be receive respect from others and if a person is having his honest because of fear of being caught red handed then the same person should not receive respect from others. In the present study one fifth of the respondents (20 %) stated that their husbands have honest because of fear of being caught red handed and because of the welfare of the family this type of mentality must be avoided and such avoidance might help the family to function smoothly without any quarrels and controversies.

The respondents' responses of the statement "the advice my partner gives cannot be regarded as being trustworthy" indicates that 83.33 per cent of the respondents mentioned that they never treated their partner's advice as untrustworthy, 13.33 per cent of the respondents revealed that they often considered their partner's advice as untrustworthy and remaining 3.33 per cent of the respondents stated

that they sometimes contemplated their partner's advice as untrustworthy. For smooth functioning of the family, the members in the family should trust on one another and that type of mentality keeps family happy and everyone work hard for the welfare of the others and such mutuality contribute positively to the growth of the family and such family should earn name and fame in the society. In the present study, nearly one-fifth of the respondents (17.67%) revealed that either often or sometimes they untrustworthy of their husbands.

Table 3 Distribution of the Respondents by their Opinion on the Statement 'The Advice my Partner gives cannot be Gerged as being Trust Worthy'

Response given by the respondents	No. of responses	Percentage
Always	-	-
Sometimes	01	03.33
Often	04	13.33
Never	25	83.33
Total	30	100.00

Table 4 Distribution of the Respondents by their Opinion on the Statement 'In most ways My Family Life is Close to Ideal'

Response given by the Respondents	No. of responses	Percentage
Always	25	83.33
Sometimes	05	16.67
Often	-	-
Never	-	-
Total	30	100.00

The above table shows the responses of the respondents' on the statement 'In most ways my family life is close to ideal', 83.33 per cent of the respondents mentioned that their family life is always close to ideal and remaining 16.67 per cent of the respondents stated that their family life sometimes only close to ideal. Like the previous statement, in this statement also 83.33 per cent of the respondents stated their family life is close to ideal and others are responded negatively. The similar percentage of the respondents responded negatively to the earlier

statement and they mentioned that they do not trust their husband advice and this might be the reason for the respondents to mention that their life is not close to ideal.

Table 5 Distribution of the Respondents by their Opinion on the Statement ‘I am Satisfied with My Family Life’

Response given by the Respondents	No. of responses	Percentage
Always	26	86.67
Sometimes	03	10.00
Often	01	03.33
Never	-	-
Total	30	100.00

The above table indicates the response of the respondents on the statement ‘I am satisfied with my family life’, 86.67 per cent of the respondents revealed that they always satisfied with their family life, 10 per cent of the respondents stated that sometime only they satisfied with their family life and remaining 3.33 per cent of the mentioned that they satisfied their family life very often only. Since these much percentage of the respondents responded negatively to earlier statements viz., ‘family life is very close to ideal’ and ‘partner is trustworthy’ and that might be the reasons for the present statement ‘I am satisfied with my family life’..

Table 6 Distribution of the Respondents by their Opinion on the Statement ‘How Well does your Partner Meet your Needs’

Response given by the Respondents	No. of responses	Percentage
Always	23	76.67
Sometimes	06	20.00
Often	-	-
Never	01	03.33
Total	30	100.00

The respondents also asked about to respond the statement ‘how well does your partner meet your needs’, 76.67 per cent of the respondents revealed that their partner always meet the needs of the respondents, 20 per cent of the respondents

mentioned that their partner sometime only fulfill the needs of the respondents and remaining 3.33 per cent of the respondents stated that their partner never meet the needs of the respondents. Meeting the needs of the life partner is considered as one of the essential elements for the smooth and successful functioning of the family but in the present study more than one-fifth of the respondents (23.33 %) stated either sometimes or never their partner meet their needs and this must be corrected by the concerned family members sit together by making dialogue with one another in cordial and amiable manner and such dialogue might solve these type of family problems in successful way.

Table 7 Distribution of the Respondents by their Opinion on the Statement ‘How Good is your Relationship Compared to Most’

Response given by the Respondents	No. of responses	Percentage
Always	25	83.33
Sometimes	04	13.34
Often	-	-
Never	01	03.33
Total	30	100.00

The data given in the above table indicates the responses of the respondents on the statement ‘how good is your relationship compared most’, 83.33 per cent of the respondents mentioned that their relationship is good always, 13.33 per cent of the respondents revealed that their relationship is good sometimes and remaining 3.33 per cent of the respondents stated that their relationship is never good. The respondents’ responses indicate that, nearly one-fifth of the respondents (16.67 %) mentioned that their relationship is either sometimes good or never good. Since these respondents earlier mentioned that they don’t have life is ideal, their partner’s doesn’t meet needs and partner’s advice cannot be trustworthy. The responses of the respondents on these statements might influence them to respond in such a way.

Conclusion

The present study has been conducted in Nallagoundanpatti Village Panchayat in Omalur Taluk of Salem District in order to know the family

life satisfaction among the married women and in order to get the responses from the respondents, 30 married women have been selected with the help of purposive sampling and their responses were recorded in the semi structured interview schedule. The interview schedule consist personal information of the respondents and their responses over the family life satisfaction and the family life satisfaction have been measured with seven statements and these seven statements have been measured with four point scale. Simple frequency table and percentile score have been used for data analysis.

The data indicates that the mean age of the respondents work out 35.79 years with a standard deviation of 4.25. The mean years of schooling was worked out 6.82 years with a standard deviation of 2.13. The mean years of marital longevity was worked out to 12.37 years with a standard deviation of 2.69. With regard to respondents' responses on the statement 'My partner is sincere and practices what he/she preaches', 13.33 per cent of the respondents responded negatively, 20 per cent of the respondents responded positively to the statement 'My partner is honest mainly because of a fear of being caught', 16.67 per cent of the respondents positively responded to the statement 'The advice of my partner gives cannot be regarded as being trustworthy', 16.67 per cent of the respondents negatively responded to the statement 'In most ways my family life is close to ideal', 13.33 per cent of the respondents negatively responded to the statement 'I am satisfied with my family life', 23.33 per cent of the respondents negatively responded to the statement 'How well does your partner meet your needs' and 16.67 per cent of the respondents negatively responded to the statement 'How good is your relationship compared to most'. From the above observation, it can be concluded that more or less one-sixth of the respondents (16.67 %) have had negative experiences over their family life and these types of dissatisfaction can be rectified immediately through proper family discussion along with family elders. Because the family elders, i.e. the parents as well as the in-laws, visit frequently and have had healthy discussion with their daughters as well as their son-in-laws and such discussion help the couples to reveal their problems and issues and such platform enable all of them to sort out their

misunderstanding in an amicable manner. This type of frequent meeting also enable the couple to further strengthening their family life and such mutual coordination and consultation definitely bring the all-round development to the entire family and then they will enjoy the fruits of cooperation. If the couple fails to have frequent healthy discussion about their family affairs with their parents and in-laws then it will bring more dissatisfaction and such dissatisfaction ultimately leads to family disorganization. The present study has been carried out in the rural setting and maximum all the people believe that families in the rural setting lead almost healthy as well satisfied family life. But the results of the present study indicate that families in the rural setting also have some issues and misunderstandings and these could be rectified through appropriate measures. The results of the present study consistent with the earlier study ([Gobalakrishnan](#)) and it was found that nearly 25 to 40 per cent of the dual carrier married women have had responded negatively to the various statement of the life satisfaction. ([Lawrence](#)) mentioned that life satisfaction is influence with various factors like people where they live with, finding happiness in little things, financial security, positive individual identity, high self-esteem, coping strategies with life stressors and positive thought process.

Limitations

The present study has been conducted with a sample of thirty married women and that too the sample selected from one village panchayat. In order to generalize the results of the present study then it requires large sample size and that too cover wide geographical area.

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