

significant level accepting the hypothesis postulated for the study that there is a positive attitude of youth towards marriage and changing trends in marriage. The findings of the present study is also supported the research work carried out by Clarksberg et.al., (1981) which concludes that majority of adolescents expressed positive attitude towards marriage.

Table 4: Aspect wise Mean Attitude score of Respondents on Marriage and Changing trends in Marriage
 N = 300

SL NO	Aspects of marriage	Respondents Attitude (%)						't' Test
		Male		Female		Combined		
		Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
I	Concept of Marriage	83.7	12.0	84.2	9.1	83.9	10.6	0.44 ^{NS}
II	Sexual Relationship	65.4	13.2	62.6	9.1	64.0	11.5	2.13*
III	Social Expectation	74.0	7.5	74.8	8.8	74.4	8.2	0.82 ^{NS}
IV	Type of Marriage	62.6	15.0	74.6	10.4	68.6	14.2	7.99*
V	Criteria for choosing a life partner	77.9	10.5	84.4	9.7	81.1	10.6	5.56*
VI	Changing trends in marriage	62.0	10.7	63.2	11.1	62.6	10.9	0.89 ^{NS}
VII	Specific motives for Successful in marriage	80.2	7.6	83.0	10.4	81.6	9.2	2.61*
	Combined	73.6	7.0	76.0	6.8	74.8	7.0	3.01*

* Significant at 5% level, $t(0.05, 298df) = 1.96$

Table-4 shows the aspect wise mean attitude score of male and female respondents on marriage and changing trends in marriage.

The mean attitude score of female respondents (84.2%) found to be higher when compared to male respondents (83.7%) in the area of concept of marriage. The concept of marriage did not have significant association with gender among the respondents. There was positive and significant association found between genders among the respondents in the area of attitude towards sexual relationship in that 65.4 percent of male respondents showed higher mean attitude score as compared to female respondents (62.6%). The t-test value found to be 2.13 which is significant at 5% level.

A higher mean score obtained by the female respondents (74.8%) as compared to male respondents (74.0%) in the area of attitude towards social expectation. However, the aspect of social expectation was not associated with gender among the respondents (with t-value being 0.82 NS).

On statistical analysis it was found that the attitude of respondents with regard to type of marriage had positive and significant association with gender among the respondents. A higher mean score of female respondents (74.6%) showed favorable attitude towards type of marriage compared to male respondents (62.6%). The t- test value found to be 7.99 significant at 5% level.

In the area of attitude towards criteria for selecting the life partner, female respondents showed higher mean score (84.4%) as compared to male respondents (77.9%). Hence t-value being 5.56 found to be highly significant at 5% level. The study conducted by O'Reilly et al. (2009) also highlights that female participant's primary qualities in a marital partner as being considerate, dependable, and intelligent. Finding a partner who is intelligent is an indication to their own intellectual pursuits. Females also want males who have the ability to develop an intimate and satisfying relationship.

The mean score obtained by female respondents (63.2%) was little higher as compared to male respondents (62.0%) in the area of attitude towards changing trends in marriage. This could be attributed to the fact that, the aspects of changing trends in marriage among male and female respondents found to be non-significant with the t-value being (t=0.8). It means that both male and female were more or less reported similar attitude in the area of changing trends in marriage.

With regard to the area of attitude towards specific motives for successful in marriage higher mean score obtained by female respondents (83.0%) as compared to male respondents (80.2%) and the calculated 't' – value 2.61 is greater than the table value and is highly significant.

With regard to the aspect on concept of marriage the results revealed that, majority of male and female respondents strongly agreed by responding that marriage is one of the social institutions. Male respondents considered marriage is sacred contact in most religious whereas in case of female respondents it is neutral state. It was also observed that both male and female respondent's responded that marriage is union of two individuals and it is closely established which last as long as life lasts. Female respondent's responded that marriage provides a psychological security to a person but in case of male respondents they disagreed the statement. Both the male and female respondents responded that marriage is a lifelong commitment and after marriage they can share the responsibilities of house hold work, and it provides the most intimate relationship to a person and it makes life more meaningful.

Majority of both male and female respondents strongly agreed to the statement that marriage is powerful instrument for regulating sex life and most of them responded that they neither agree nor disagree to the statement that sexual relationship prior to marriage should be prohibited. Most of male respondents strongly disagree to the statement that HIV test before marriage should be made mandatory whereas majority of female respondents strongly agreed to the statement. Even though the living together relationship is accepted in the developed countries but it is not still accepting in India due to high moral standards. None of the respondents gave positive opinion for the statement that sexual relationship after engagement leads to better adjustment in marriage. Most of the respondents agree to the statement that having children should be planned by mutual discussion and also of the opinion that it is ideal to have children within two years of marriage. The study supports

the findings of the study conducted by Jason li (2003) also highlights that sex before marriage is no longer a problem for most young people in Shanghai. Many of the city's single young people still believe sex before marriage remains the wrong thing to do.

With regard to the aspect of social expectation, most of the male respondents strongly agree that boys should be little older than girls as they will be more matured in thinking and in case of female respondents they disagreed with the statement. Both male and female respondents strongly agreed that marriage gives a license for production of children. Even though dowry system is prohibited in the society still some of the country's practicing the dowry system, in view of this both male and female respondents strongly agreed that demanding dowry should be prohibited, and it was surprising to see that both the male and female respondents strongly disagreed to the statement that marriage should be celebrated in a simple way.

With reference to type of marriage, female respondents strongly agreed to the statement that love marriage should be encouraged for better adjustment of the couples and also they should encourage the inter-caste marriage and treat all the individual in equality without discriminating the caste. They were of the opinion that arranged marriage leads to more number of divorce as there is a lack of understanding between the couples. Most of the male and female respondents disagree to the statement that in an inter caste marriage boys/girls should be made to change the caste.

In case of criteria's for choosing a life partner, both the male and female respondents strongly agreed that for choosing a life partner they consider the criteria's like, education, physical looks and family backgrounds. With regard to financial condition and ancestral property majority of the female respondents agreed that it plays an important role in marriage whereas the male respondents disagreed for the statement. However, both the respondent's strongly agreed that they look into the social status while choosing the life partner. Male respondents responded that they do not like to take parental preferences for choosing a life partner whereas females responded that parents preferences plays an important role in choosing life partner.

With regard to changing trends in marriage most of the male and female respondents strongly agree that love marriage, inter caste marriage, register marriage and love cum arrange marriages should be encouraged in the society. They disagreed that pre-marital counseling is important. Most of them strongly disagree for live in relationship, extra marital affair and also for the lesbian gay bisexual trans-gender marriage.

The findings is also supported by the research work carried out by Rabita, S. M. (2012) on attitude towards inter-caste marriage among youth's the findings revealed that the respondents showed higher degree of acceptance of inter-caste marriage regardless of caste and social class.

Majority of the female respondents strongly agree that love and affection, companionship, emotional interdependence and emotional security, sexual fulfillment, trust in each other, working out plans together are the specific motives for

successful in marriage whereas, male respondents agree for the above motives and strongly agree that sexual fulfillment leads to successful in marriage.

There is not much variation with the mean score obtained on attitude of youth with respect to concept of marriage, social expectation and changing trends in marriage among different areas of classified for the study. Therefore the hypothesis postulated for the study was rejected. However, the difference in the other areas was apparent when compared with male and female respondents.

The calculated "t" – value is greater than the table value in the categorized areas of sexual relationship, type of marriage, criteria for choosing life partner and specific motives for successful in marriage and the test found to be highly significant at 5% level.

Further, the study revealed that there is a significant difference between male and female respondents with regard to attitude towards sexual relationship, type of marriage, criteria for choosing life partner and specific motives for successful marriage leading to the acceptance of the hypothesis.

4. Conclusion

Study on "Youth attitude towards marriage and changing trends in marriage" revealed that, majority of youth had moderate and favorable attitude towards marriage. Some of them showed unfavorable attitude towards marriage and also changing trends in marriage. The study also highlighted that 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.

Further there is no significant difference found between male and female respondent's attitude with respect to the concept of marriage, social expectation and changing trends in marriage whereas, there is a significant difference found between the respondents with regard to sexual relationship, type of marriage, criteria for choosing life partner and specific motives for successful marriage.

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