



## Insight Into Early Marriage and Girls Education

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## KEYWORDS :

A woman's life lies between pleasures at one end and danger at other end. India is a land where women are worshipped as Gods and Goddesses. A woman in the Indian society is known as Ardhangini meaning one half of husband's body. No religious ceremony by the Husband could bear fruit without her participation. As a mother, wife and sister she occupies an honoured place in the Indian Society. She is the epitome of courage and boldness, love and affection, sacrifice and suffering. On the other hand a woman in the Indian society has been a victim of humiliation, torture and exploitation. They are victims of wide spread illiteracy, purdah system, forced child marriage, polygamy, female infanticide rape and murder, dowry burning, wife beating and discrimination. On the other hand, at the family level women are exclusively burdened with household chores- cooking, cleaning, collecting fuel and water and caring elderly and children (Arokiasamy, 2003). Women suffered from the denial of freedom even in their homes. OsaEconomic dependence, early tutelage of husbands and in-laws, heavy domestic workload which remained unpaid and unrecognized, absence of career and mobility, non recognition of their economic contribution, poor work conditions and wages.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To study the insight of Early Marriage and Girls Education of secondary school students.
2. To study the insight of Early Marriage in Rural and Urban area secondary school students.
3. To study the insight of Girls Education in Rural and Urban secondary school students.
4. To study the insight of Early Marriage in low and moderate socio economic family back ground.
5. To study the insight of Girls Education in low and moderate socio economic family back ground.

## THE HYPOTHESIS

1. There is no significant difference in the insight of Early Marriage and Girls Education in secondary school students.
2. There is no significant difference in the insight of Early Marriage in Rural and Urban secondary school students.
3. There is no significant difference in the insight of Girls Education in Rural and Urban secondary school students.
4. There is no significant difference in the insight of Early Marriage in low and moderate socio economic family back ground.
5. There is no significant difference in the insight of Girls Education in low and moderate socio economic back ground.

## THE VARIABLES

The following dependent and independent variable have been identified for the investigation.

| S.No | Independent Variable                       |
|------|--|
| 1    | Locality<br>(a) Rural<br>(b) Urban         |
| 2    | Economic Status<br>(a) Low<br>(b) Moderate |

## RESEARCH METHOD

Survey method is found suitable for the present study. Hence descriptive survey method is used in the present study.

## SAMPLE AND SAMPLING TECHNIQUE

A sample of 150 girls was selected randomly from various mandals of Guntur District using simple random sampling technique.

## TOOLS USED IN THE STUDY

A standardised questionnaire consisting of 50 items was used in the present study covering various issues of early marriage and its impact on girl child's education especially higher education, career and job settlement of women in relation to their settlement in marriage.

## STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES

Mean, SD, Percentages, 't' test were used in the present study.

## LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

The study is limited to girl students of various mandals of Guntur district only because of the limited time available and level of research.

## FINDINGS WITH RESPECT TO EARLY MARRIAGE AND GIRLS EDUCATION

| LOCALITY        | N   | MEAN | SD   | MD | 't'   | Significance |
|-----------------|-----|------|------|----|-------|--------------|
| Early Marriage  | 150 | 20   | 1.77 | 1  | 3.571 | Significant  |
| Girls Education | 150 | 19   | 3.02 |    |       |              |

Table 1: Scores of Early Marriage and Girls Education

The above table reveals that there is a difference in the insight of Early Marriage and Girl's Education in secondary school girl students as they feel that they need both and they cannot achieve both in the same time. Most of the students wish that they want to settle in marriage as well as want to obtain higher education. Some students want to go for higher education rather than settle in marriage. They feel that education gives liberty, social status and economy to lead their life on their own.

## FINDINGS WITH RESPECT TO LOCALITY

|                 | Rural |       | Urban |      | t     | Significance |
|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|--------------|
|                 | Mean  | SD    | Mean  | SD   |       |              |
| Early Marriage  | 20    | 2.704 | 19    | 2.71 | 2.272 | Significant  |
| Girls Education | 20    | 1.99  | 21    | 1.57 | 4.761 | Significant  |

Table 2: Scores of Rural and Urban Students

Though there is significant difference in rural and urban secondary school students with respect to Early Marriage and Girls Education the scores are higher for Girls Education. Girls have a good understanding about the importance of Education and career in their life. The widely accepted tradition of early marriage and importance of family life against career, by the girl's parents and the society is resulting in early withdrawal of girls from education specially the rural girls. Urban girls are having better understanding about the effects of early marriage on health.

## FINDINGS WITH RESPECT TO SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS

|  | Low  |    | Moderate |    | t | Significance |
|--|------|----|----------|----|---|--------------|
|  | Mean | SD | Mean     | SD |   |              |

|                 |    |       |    |       |       |             |
|-----------------|----|-------|----|-------|-------|-------------|
| Early Marriage  | 20 | 3.328 | 21 | 2.798 | 2.272 | Significant |
| Girls Education | 19 | 1.549 | 20 | 1.90  | 4.651 | Significant |

**Table 3: Scores of Low and Moderate Socio-Economic status**

The above table indicates that there is significant difference between low socio economic status and moderate socio economic status secondary school girl students. Gender bias accompanied with low socio economic status plays a key role in deciding a girls future. Society is composed of many institutions and most important of them are the system of decent, family and kinship, marriage and religious traditions etc. They provide the ideology and moral basis about rights, duties, status and role of women. The victims of low socio economic status within the family are needless to say women and girl children. Better healthcare and higher educational opportunities are far reaching dreams for these children.

### CONCLUSION

While no definitive or generalizable conclusions can be deduced from the present study, it is reasonable to conclude that widely accepted tradition of early marriage is often necessitating withdrawal of girls from education specially higher education.

### SUGGESTIONS

1. Parents should be educated about the importance of Girls Education and Economic development of women
2. Government should also take measures to discourage early marriage and encourage Girls education.
3. Students should be encouraged to take advice and suggestions from parents, teachers, elders and friends.