

Current Scenario of Indian Marriages



Literature

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ABSTRACT

'Spouse' written by Shobha De is about modern marriages struggling for survival either willingly or under any obligations. Current scenario of Indian marriages shows the hideous face of modern marriages where the marriage is based either on financial securities, family, society or the children instead of plain emotions called 'love' and 'commitment'. People do not realize that unsuspectingly they execute things which injure their partner deadly and result in broken marriages. There is no such thing like 'perfect marriage', unless one deposits all labours to make it ideal. In marriage there is 'give and take make good relations' obsession which both the partners should vigorously contribute. Today's women are uniformly accountable for the outside as well as the inside world of the home. It was a century back when women had to run the house. In contemporary advanced society if men and women do not likewise put their efforts to run the house then the marriage shatter very straightforwardly.

1000 Divorce Cases filed every month. The number of Divorce applications has doubled and even tripled in cities such as Mumbai, Delhi, Bangalore, Calcutta and Lucknow over the past five years. Current scenario of Indian marriages shows the hideous face of modern marriages where the marriage is based either on financial securities, family, society or the children instead of plain emotions called "love" and "commitment". People do not realize that unsuspectingly they execute things which injure their partner deadly and result in broken relationships.

"Anybody who is married, or has ever been married, will recognize the truth of this deceptively simple sentence: marriage is for those who believe in it, who actively want it, who enjoy it" (*Spouse.xii Shobha De*)

Shobha De has manifested the fact of modern marriages struggling for survival either willingly or under any obligations through "Spouse". She enlightened us with the factors which marriages are going through at present. Why do the numerous cases of divorces filed every month? What do today's generation expect from the marriage? Why are they falling to make their marriages a success? Is it the success rate of working women in 21st Century, which is giving them the confidence to survive without the partner? Is it the success rate of educated women who is not ready to endure the wrong activities of their partner anymore?

90% of divorces go in the favour of women. But it does not signify that most of the men are responsible for broken marriages. Marriage is based on the relationship which both the partners share with fairness. Equality must be present in managing the house appropriately or in nurture the children or sharing the works in equal manner. It depends on the "love", "commitment" and "understanding" between both the partners to make their marriage flourishing. Understanding plays a major part in any relationship. It does not come naturally but one has to develop it with time. In Country like India, the children are taught to obey their parents in all circumstances. It is because we trust our parents utterly; it happens that we are incapable of finding their errors. We can't admit that they can also be incorrect. Every person has his own perspective. The trouble begins when this perspective gets mix up with relations. Before reacting to any nastiest situation, one has to first accept other person's perspective also. A man has to suffer the most when it comes on family and wife. Elders can play the foremost part by instead of provoking them to divorce; make them understand that "love & commitment" are higher than any crisis in relations. "Don't involve a third person in your fights. No judge can be entirely impartial, which means one of you will cry foul- leading to another fight!" (*Spouse.38*)

In the urban states, where the parents are themselves working,

desire to have one child only. Those who have one child, pamper their child exceedingly. Even when the child gets grown-up, it does not effect to their love towards the child. The difficulty begins when the girl is pampered extraordinary after the marriage also. Adoring the child is ordinary, but pampering him when not requisite makes the difference. Presently girls are so much dependent psychologically on their parents that instead of facing the post-marriage conflicts, they prefer to run to their maternal homes for ease. They share even the very small things with their parents. And parents know even a single thing occurring in their daughter's life or marriage. Unintentionally parents are becoming one of the chief reasons of girl's disastrous marriage. Every home has its own way of livelihood. Girl and the In-Laws should cooperate to make each other secure to live in that way of livelihood. It becomes moderately complex for any girl to get familiar to her in-laws home when she gets unusual attention from her parents and their not required pampering. One of the reasons of fewer divorces earlier was that the parents used to have minimum 3 to 4 children and were incompetent of giving equal or appropriate attention to every child, because of which children used to be very strong, tough and firm mentally and physically to face any dilemma. Parent's or any third person's involvement in any couple's married life can ruin the harmony of relationship. It would be healthier for any couple to resolve the matter with each other only by accepting each other's perspective.

"What the young couple desperately need is some space, physical and emotional. They are getting used to each other and making necessary adjustments. It is parent's delicate handling that will determine the foundation of their relationship" (*Spouse. 233*)

In most of the Indian families, there is a trend of women taking care of everything at home. A boy learns and makes his mind that it's constantly women who looks after all the domestic works and family. When he gets married, he expects the same with his wife. He never thinks or feels that it is their equivalent responsibility. The other side, a pampered girl rapidly gets lots of responsibilities after marriage. In the commencement of marriage she might tries to cope up to make her parents proud, but later she starts getting snappy because of which she looks for the reasons to fight. Any person, male or female, can do the work willingly only, not in any stress. Both the partners should believe it and should discover the likely solution of the problem. A woman does not have the born obligation to take care of everything."Marriage is not a business arrangement. Don't convert it into one, with terms and conditions spelt out contractually"(*Spouse. 88*)

"The point is not that housework and child-rearing are meaningless and dull, but rather, that both the positive and creative aspects of their work as well as the drudgery of it, should be shared equally by men and women" (*Seeing like a Feminist,15*)

In any divorce, children endure the most. It is the responsibility of both the partners to nurture the children mutually and equally. In most of the cases, parents charge each other for not taking care of children properly. Children are not like the footballs which parents can fling to each other according to their ease. They have to realize the priorities first and then should act in response. If one partner is busy, then other should take initiative for the responsibility of a child. It is not an individual work. Parents should believe what they are teaching to their children about relationships. Children learn by following their elders. The broken relationships do not set good examples for the children. A child might act in the same mode later in his life. "Children exposed to a foul marriage get permanently damaged. The scars rarely heal" (*Spouse.71*)

"It's important to isolate and identify the issues. Is it children? Money? Priority? Neglect? Cruelty? Something else? Find out and then tackle the problem headlong" (*Spouse. 39*)

Money is the next most essential factor in any marriage. Currently the young generation is very eager to live lavish life. Conflicts commence when they get lots of other responsibilities where they have to afford time and money, where they do not get adequate time to enjoy with friends, they do not get enough money to accomplish their irrelevant requirements. They start blaming each other. They should realize that 'money' is for 'surviving', 'surviving' is not for 'money'. One should set the priorities first. Money does matter but not more than life. The responsibilities, enjoyment and the needs can go side by side if deal with sensibility and patience.

There is no such thing like 'perfect marriage', unless one deposits all the labours to make it ideal. Love does not occur sometimes in relations. One has to develop it with patience and commitment. Not all the marriages begin with love. But the end of marriage is in our hands. No relation can be shattered until we want to. The words like compromise and adjustment loses its significance when love and commitment take over any relation. Respect, time, tolerance, tenderness are the foundation of any civilized relationship.

"Marriage is a permanent and stable union. Marriage is not a temporary contract to serve the momentary physical demand or to enjoy good company for some time and then to lapse at the slightest inconvenience. It is a permanent union which stands various vicissitudes in life only to grow stronger and more stable" (*Spouse 283*)

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