Changing Structure of Marriage and Fertility In 21st Century (With Reference to Indian Society)

Dr. Nidhi Tyagi
Associate Professor
Department of Humanities & Social Sciences
Graphic Era Deemed to be University Dehradun Uttarakhand
tyagi1234nidhi@gmail.com

Mr. Amit Kumar
Assistant Professor
Law College Dehradun, Uttaranchal University Dehradun Uttarakhand,
amitsinghdahiya03@gmail.com

Kumar Ahutosh
Law College Dehradun, Uttaranchal University Dehradun Uttarakhand, ashutoshjhalcd@gmail.com

Dr. Yuvika Tyagi
Assistant Professor
Swami Vivekanand Law College Chandausi, MJPR University Bareilly UP
yuvikashankhwar@gmail.com

Dr. Radhey ShyamJha
Associate Professor
Law College Dehradun, Uttaranchal University Dehradun Uttarakhand
radhey.shyamjha@gmail.com

Abstract

Through this paper an attempt is made to study the impact of change in the marital age group of females and its influence on fertility.The study also takes into account the underlying causes behind delay in marriages in advanced contemporary societies. Through an analysis of no. of children born to women in different age groups and percentage of fertility in different periods it is observed that lower the age at marriage the higher is the ratio of fertility. Intermediary variables indicate that delay in marriage increases with work status, job availability socio-economic conditions, circumstantial factors etc. However out of all these factors Education is considered as one of the most strongest determinant of variation in age at marriage further influencing fertility ratios in society.

KeyTerms: Circumstantial factors, Socio-economic, Education, Fertility.

INTRODUCTION

One of the most essential determinants in the growth of population is Fertility and hence occupies a crucial place in the understanding of Indian society. Among differential factors the biological and societal factors plays an important role in fertility so far as the human species is concerned. The biological factors include fecund ability, the general sexual drive, age factor ,heredity, medical and health conditions etc.the biological factors consist of heredity, general health conditions, age, location, sex drive, fecund ability, sterility etc. Talking and discussing about sexuality related issues including fertility and reproductive health is a taboo in the Indian society. As a result, there is no well defined and well- established institutional framework for informing people, especially the adult unmarried

males and females and young married couples about various aspects of fertility and reproductive health issues. In present scenario changes in the structure of marriage is affecting fertility ratio in India.

During Vedic period, marriage before puberty was an essential practice. After Upnayana ceremony the student was sent to the teacher for the purpose of education where the child used to stay for a period of twelve years. Accordingly a man was more than twenty years of age at the time of marriage.The ideal gap in the age groups of husband and wife at the time of marriage was two to five years which simply means that the girls were not married at an adolescent age. Dharmsutras have also emphasized on marriage to take place before attaining 'womanhood'. In seventh century A.D the rule that the Brahmin girls should be married between eight to ten years became generally accepted by the society.Raj Bali Pndey in "a socio-religious study of the Hindus sacraments" has given mentioned the perspectives of different thinkers as to why the marriageable age of a girl went down lower in the post- Vedic period. He stated that after the domination of India, the life of Aryans became more easy, comfortable and luxurious. Sexual gratification at an early stage was the direct outcome this hedonistic life.

National Report Survey clearly indicates that in both rural and urban sectors there is a tendency to post puberty marriages. C. T. Kannan's post – independent study on "inter-caste and intercommunity Marriages in India" of 250 cases of inter-caste and intercommunity marriages (Bombay 1961) revealed "that the average age of marriage for girls was around 22 years and 27 years for boys. It reflects that nowadays there is a tendency towards late marriages inthe present generation". Many factors have contributed to this trend 1) Acts of 1955 and 1929 2) impact of western education on females 3) more emphasis on professional education with a view to acquire jobs with respect to girls 4) liberty to boys and girls in mate selection 5) prevalence of small family norm.

Further it is the maturity level which prepares the individual to enter into a domestic life. As

marriage means shouldering of innumerable responsibilities on the part of the spouses it is for this reason that the people who are matured enough must only be considered for marriage. Maturity may be classified into five parts chronological, mental, emotional, physical and social. Physical maturity refers to bone development or body build up or one's physique. This is important for girls. Mental maturity refers to parson's intelligence and idiocy. Emotional maturity means the ability of a person to establish close, intimate, proximate and personal relations.Maturity at a social level indicates experiences of social world. Hence, in advanced contemporary society only a person who is mature enough in all these aspects should only proceed for marriage, it is therefore that late marriages are preferred in advanced contemporary societies.

MEANING OF SOCIAL STRUCTURE

Sociologically speaking social structure refers to the network of relations between actors in relation to one another. According to Ginsberg "The study of social structure is concerned with the principal forms of social organization, i.e., types of groups, associations and institutions and the complex of these which constitute societies. A full account of social structure would involve a review of the whole field of comparative institutions". Ginsberg has written that human beings organize themselves into groups for the achievement of some object or goal and these groups are called institutions. The sum total of these institutions gives birth to the structure of society. Another eminent sociologist Talcott Parsons has defined social structure in the following words, "Social structure is a term applied to the particular arrangement of the interrelated institutions, agencies and social patterns as well as the statuses and roles which each person assumes in the group"[1]. Parsons has tried to explain the concept of social structure in abstract form. All the units of social structure, i.e., institutions, agencies, social patterns, statuses and roles are invisible and intangible and hence are abstract. He has emphasized that the statuses and roles of individuals are determined by customs traditions and conventions of society. These

---

[1]TALCOTT PARSONS, 1972" The Social System'
American Publication, New Delhi

statuses give birth to different institutions agencies, social patterns. All these when interrelated and organized in a particular manner build the social structure of society.

What is Fertility?

Fertility may be defined as the different forces applied by the social agencies, social patterns and by the expectations of interrelated institutions on the individual. An individual has to work or live in accordance with these set patterns of the society. Fertility is the necessity for the continuation of the lineage which in turn is again the requirement of various social institutions like family, marriage etc. The institution of marriage can be said to be directly related to fertility. It is so because one of the primary aims of this institution is to direct or motivate human beings for the continuation of lineage. Fertility hereby plays a vital role in achieving this desired end of mankind.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

In today's complex societies the casual relation between social structure and fertility is intervened by a set of intermediary variables which act as catalysts and raise or bring down the effect of primary variables. Our study would remain incomplete without including the intermediary variables in the study of fertility. It is so because India on the world scale is marked as a country with high scale of population. A deep understanding of the actual phenomenon undertaking fertility decisions is must, so that we may prevent the rapid increase in population by framing the desired policies. People of India consider any new change in the society as a threat to their old established values of past because of which the structure of our society is under constant flux. This is largely due to the conflict between the old and new values the intermediary variables through which socio-economic factors operate fertility are different in developing societies.

An attempt is made to recognize the intermediary variables in the form of education, family, socio-psychological variables etc. and their function in the social set up of our country. It has somewhat

influenced our social structure too. In this study marriage as an institution is used as an explanatory variable and change in the marriage age group is included to study its relative impact on fertility behavior.

Review of literature:

The first analytical attempt to study fertility was made by Jain (1939) when, under the auspices of the Punjab board of economic inquiry, 275 villages in 25 districts of undivided Punjab were studied. The study revealed that both the total and effective fertility was higher amongst the agriculturalists.Chandrasekhar (1946) was of the view "that large family units in India are culturally equipped to accommodate any extra baby"[2] .Beobarata (1967) found from his study of 567 women belonging to joint families and 327 to nuclear families from six Delhi villages, that the nuclear type had higher fertility than the joint type in each group. The average completed family size for the joint family was 8.06 and 8.28 for the nuclear family. Reddy (1978) studied "the relationship between family structureand fertility in the urban as well as rural areas of Bangalore division. The study revealed that fertility was higher in the stem families and stem joint families as compared to other types of families in rural areas. However, such differences did not exist in urban areas"[3].

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY:

- The objective of this study is to analyze the impact of marital age on fertility.
- It also aims to explore the influence of explanatory variable in the form of marriage in changing the structure of Indian society.

HYPOTHESIS :

1. There is an inverse relationship between age at marriage, fertility and childloss.
2. Late marriages is directly proportionate to infertility.
3. Women who married early belong to lower middle class.

---

[2] CHANDRASEKHAR;1946, 'Indian Population; facts and policy'.

[3] P.HREDDY, 1978. 'Family Structure & Fertility'.

RESEARCH DESIGN:

The study is based on empirical research because it shows the relation between marriage and fertility and how it exercises its influence on the social structure the method used for collecting data are:

1. Scheduled questionnaire
2. Primary data (interview & observation are also made use of)

The social research technique consists of questioning people and getting their responses, because a person's socio psychological makeup can only be determined by questioning or asking him and then processing the responses.

530 respondents were selected from three blocks of District Bijnor of Uttar Pradesh.Primary data was gathered with the help of interview and observation methods. Secondary data was collected from official records. Chi Square test and T test is used where feasible.Chi square is a statistical test commonly used to compare data with data we would expect to obtain according to a specific hypothesis. The Chi square is always testing what scientists call the null hypothesis which states that there is no significant difference between the expected and observed result.

The formula for calculating Chi- square $(x)^2$

$X^2 = (o-e)^2/e$

That is chi square is the sum of squared difference between observed (0) and the expected (e) data or the deviation(d) divided by the expected data in all categories.

Analysis of Data : The primary technique constitutes framing a scheduled questionnaire along with each question an alternate set of answers were supplied and the responses of the individuals were recorded.Tabulation was carried out on the basis of nature of variables. Bivariate, trivariable and tetravariate tables were constructed where necessary.Three point scale was used for the evaluation of responses of the respondents.The quantitative data was collected on the basis of responses of the individuals which was given qualitative response which was further divided in to high, medium and low.Conformity to family ethical cods is crossed with fertility independently and then it is used as a control variable with various

explanatory variables viz education, caste etc. All the other intermediary
variables were used in the same manner. To calculate sample size for
each block the statistics used is
N = nh/n
Where, n=sample size for each block (to be calculated)
Nh = total no of respondents in three blocks
I.e nh=530
N=3 Sample size for each block N=nh/n N=530
Age at marriage Calculation of sample size of age at marriage of respondents in each category of each block. Total no of respondents of three block in each category
1) 15-20-246
2) 20-25-197
3) Above 25-87
a) To calculate sample size of 15-20 age at marriage of respondents in each block N=nh/n N=sample size of 15-20 age at marriage of respondents in each block to be calculated) Nh =total number of respondents in 15-20 age at marriage of respondents in three blocks
 N=total no of blocks
N=nh/n .
N=246/3
 N=82
b) To calculate sample of 20-25 age of marriage of respondents in each block N=nh/n Where
nh =197
 N=197/3=65.6 To calculate sample size of 25+age at marriage of respondents in each block We have N=nh/n Where nh =total no of respondents in 25+age at marriage in three blocks N=total no of blocks
N=87/3
N=29 for each block Duration of marriage Calculation of sample size of duration of marriage of married respondents in each block. Total no of respondents of three blocks within the given duration.
0-layrs-291
10-20-169
Above 21-70
A) to calculate sample size of 0-layrs of married respondents in each block N=nh/n Where nh =total no of respondents in 0-loyrs in three blocks n=total no of blocks
N=291/3
 N=97

B) to calculate sample size of 10-20 yrs of married respondents in each block N=nh/n
N=169/3
N=56.3
c) To calculate sample size of 21 above yrs of married respondents in each block
N=nh/n
N=70/3=23.3.
The details concerning social structure is based on the data collected from revenue records, observation and interview with the elderly residents of the village, female respondents, their husbands and census report.
similarly 't' test is also used to show the significance of difference. Degree of freedom is calculated by adding the samples of both means (n) with leads to the overall sample size (n) and then substracting 1 from this number. Df=(n-1) 't' test is calculated as follows
T= sqr (s1 2 /n1 + s2 2 /n2)
Where, s1 2 , s2 2 = variance n1 & n2 = number of observations in sample 1 or 2 Formula; t=x1-x2).

CHANGES IN MARRIAGE AGE GROUP AND FERTILITY

Age at marriage is considered as one of the most important demographic variable affecting fertility. In India, as most of the births take place after marriage, it seems quite reasonable to assume that age at marriage is likely to affect the number of children a woman eventually bears. A lower age at marriage increases the reproductive time period whereas higher age at marriage reduces the fertility rate of women. The marriage system has undergone radical changes in present scenario. Even though the basic religious beliefs associated with marriage have not crumbled down, many of its practices,customs and forms have changed. Previously the age of marriage was 15 and 18 years respectively. Then it was amended to 18 and 21 years but in advanced contemporary society the system of late marriage is gaining momentum and this state of affairs is no more considered abnormal but at the same time it is adversely affecting the fertility ratio and consequently the structure of the society.According to G.B Desai in his study on "Women in Modern Gujarati Life" went through the study of 900 Gujarati women living in Bombay(1945), where the marriage age of girls

was 15 years". K.M.Kapadia in his study on "marriage and family in India' studied 148 girls (married between (1941 and 1951) found that 10.1 percent respondents married in the age group of 14 and 15 years , 12.8 percent in the age group of 15 to 16 years , 33.8 percent in 17 to 18 years of age group, 22.3 percent in 19-20 years age group, 16percent in 21 to 24 years of age group, and 4 percent in between 25-27 years age group. The demographic data from 1951 census report show that the age at marriage in India in case of boys and girls was 15 years and 20 years in last few decade. National Report Survey indicates that in present scenario there is generally a tendency to late marriages both in the rural and urban areas. In present day society people wants to marry at a mature age.The prominent reason behind is that at an early stage the chances of fertility is high, obviously it makes the size of the family large too thereby bringing about economic hardships. In most of the cases, child marriage resultsin family, family disorganization, marital discords and societal disorganization. Immorality, suicides etc can be seen as a consequences of child marriage. This situation has compelled people to perform late marriages. One prominent factor which indicates readiness for marriage for a person is marriage in a matured age with a mature person who has the capacity to shoulder familial responsibilities. It is therefore that Robert O' blood in his study on census of India' has defined "matured person as the one who possess the ability to establish close,proximate ties or one who can understand , love, care and shoulder (responsibilities)". Synder and Lentz on their work on marriage took in 1966 has mentioned characteristics of a matured person: responsibility, empathy and stability. Among these empathy reflects the capacity to feel other's responsibilities and the capability of taking the duty to stand on one's own; and stability reflects life-long commitment of taking ones duties and responsibilities.

        Hence maturity is what the matter of degree is. Marriage means empathy and sound responsibility to help the partners to count and understand each other. It is also believed that older the age at marriage, the lesser be the chances of divorce .As divorce indicates failure of marriage and the highest is observed in case of low marriages. It can be said that the minimum

age should not be below twenty five in any case. Besides the maturity factor, other factors too should be considered in fixing the age for marriage.Another factor is role preparation, that is a person must be prepared to take up new and changed social roles of husband and wife.They can better understand these roles by observing the already married couples. Until or unless they come in contact with various married couples, they can never understand the positive and negative aspects of these institutions.

CIRCUMSTANCIAL READINESS AND DELAY IN MARRIAGES

Another factor in determining the suitable age for marriage is circumstantial readiness; that is do the circumstances permit a person to marry. If a person to marry is a student then he has either to neglect studies or his wife. Here it is circumstances which prohibit a person to marry. Similarly, if a girl is not well-trained in cooking food and maintaining house, she should be considered ready for marriage because of her circumstances. Normally, a young person completes his education after 27-28 years and three to six years in getting stability in jobs. As such 'circumstances usually permit a person to marry after 30-34 years of age. Similarly the question of ability to adjust in new environment after marriage is also a very significant factor in determining the minimum age for marriage. An Indian girl after marriage is expected to accept her husband role dominance and mother in laws role dominance and mother in law's treatment with habits, ideologies and the behaviour patterns of other members in the family and acquire their tastes. This requires not only adjustment but assertion also. A girl of tender age is mentally less capable of such adjustment and assertion. Only a girl who has crossed her adolescence age, and entered into an adulthood age is expected to acquirethis capability. But this is adversely affecting the fertility rate as marriage age increases fertility rate among women

decreases.There are also matters related to the reproductive age of a woman in determining the minimum and maximum age for marriage. As far as the reproductive age of a woman in India is concerned, it is believed to be about forty-five years. If marriage takes place when a woman is 29-30 years old, the reproductive span will be hardly 5 years. Shorter the period, smaller is the fertility. If one marries at the age of 33 or 34 years and have only two children with a difference of at least two years in their age, his youngest child would be approximately twenty one or twenty two years of age when he retires at the age of around sixty years. Such a child cannot get a fair chance of developing under the loving and affectionate care of his father or mother. It means that the age of a man and woman at marriage should not be above thirty years or more on an average. If marriage is consummated at a middle age then it is conducive to lengthen exposure to reproduction. Similarly on the other hand higher age at marriage brings down the reproductive span. On a close inspection of the studies conducted on age at marriage and fertility an inverse relationship was observed between the age at marriage and fertility by various sociologists.

EDUCATION & FERTILITY

Education is also a one such factor which influences the age at marriage of women. J.C Bhatia in his study on 'ideal number and sex preference of children in India" in "the journal of family welfare held that women with higher educational level had higher age at marriage and women who were uneducated had lower age at marriage". He found that effect of age at marriage on fertility was an indirect one that is through education. K Mahadevan and M. Sumangala in their study on "social development, cultured change and fertility decline" regarded rising age at marriage as an important factor in fertility decline. So here an attempt is made to study the relationship between age at marriage and fertility.

Table 1

Chi-Square between Age at Marriage and Fertility	Level of Fertility			
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	TOTAL
15-20	38	26	18	82
20-25	24	21	20	65

| 30+ | 3 | 4 | 22 | 29 |
| TOTAL | 65 | 51 | 60 | 176 |

In table 1 the association between age at marriage and fertility is tested using chi-square test. It is assumed that lesser age at marriage result in higher fertility. In table 1 the result in higher fertility. In table 1 the distribution of respondents according to their age at marriage is shown. In table 1 the table value of x^2 with 4 degrees of freedom at .05% level is 9.49 whereas the calculated value is 37.37. As the calculated value is higher than the table value, a strong association is found between the two.

Table 2

Mean Number of Live Births According to Respondents Age At Marriage and SES.

Age at Marriage	UPPER SES		LOWER SES	
	Live Births	N	Live Births	N
15-20	3.17	28	3.34	54
20-25	2.60	23	2.88	42
Above 25	1.58	15	1.93	14

Reproductive Span and Fertility

Table 2 shows the effect of the age at marriage of respondents on the fertility of different socio-economic status group. The data in The table show that The mean number of births for The three age at marriage groups namely., between 15-20, 20-25 and 25+ in The upper SES are 3.17, 2.60, 1.93 respectively while mean live births for The lower SES are 3.34, 2.88, 1.58 respectively. So from the above figures is concluded that the mean number of births decrease with increase in the age at marriage in the two SES groups. Now in table 2 it is seen that in The age at marriage between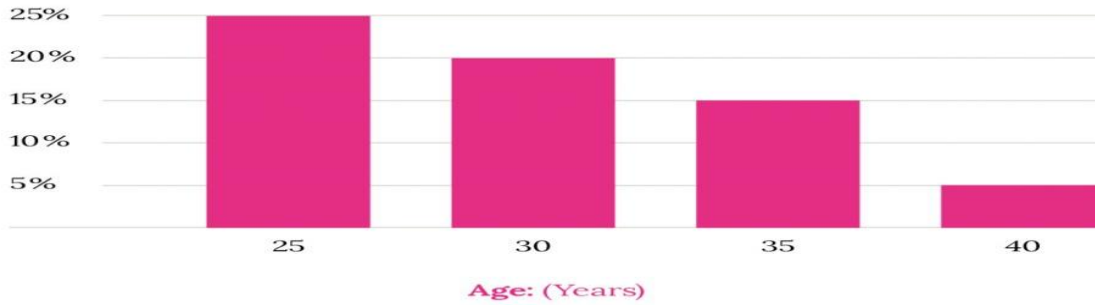 15-20 group, mean number of live births for the upper and lower SES is 3.17 and 3.34 respectively, which show that mean birth decrease with increase in SES. Similarly in the age at marriage between 20-25 age group, the mean births in the upper and lower SES is 2.60 and 2.88 while the mean births in the age at marriage for 25 and above age group is 1.93 and 1.58 respectively. In the 15 to 20, 20to 25 and 25 and above age at marriage mean births increase with increase in upper economic status so from the above figures it can be concluded that age at marriage is a more reliable determinant than socio-economic status as fertility reduce with increase in age at marriage.

AVERAGE NO.OF CHILDREN BORN TO WOMEN AT THE OF 40-45

AGE OF MARRIAGE	UTTAR PRADESH	UTTRAKHAND
Less than 11	5.5	4.6
11-12	5.6	4.2
13-14	5.8	4.3
15-16	5.3	4.2
17-18	4.9	3.6
19-20	4.8	2.9
21+	3.7	2.5
All ages	**5.3**	**3.5**

CHANCES OF GETTING PREGNANT AGE WISE

The above mentioned graph clearly indicates that chances of getting pregnant at the age of 20 is 25% , 30 is 20%, at the age of 35 is 15% and at the age of 40 is 5% respectively.

Table 3

Distribution of respondents according to Marriage Patten (TYPE OF MARRIAGE)	N
Inter Caste And Self Arranged	15
Within Caste & Settled by Parents	161

Table 3 brings forth the distribution of respondents according to the type of marriage. In table 3, 91.4% marriages taken from different parts of country are settled by parents whereas 8.52% marriages are inter caste marriages. This shows that still preference is paid to the marriages decided by parents. Although some variations in the opinion of the youngsters in matter related to marriages is seen but on the whole the change is not too wide. The data in the above table is insufficient to reach to meaningful conclusion.

Table 4

Mean Number of Live Births According to the Age At Marriage of Respondents.(Age At Marriage)	Level Births	Live Births	%(N)	Variance
15-20	X1	3.32	82	0.405
21-25	X2	2.16	66	0.033
Above 25	X3	1.79	29	0.198

Table 4 throws light on the effect of age at marriage of respondents on their fertility performances. The percentage of respondents marrying in the age group of 15-20, 20 to 25, 25 and above are 46.3%, 37.2% and 16.4% while their respective mean births are 3.32, 2.16, 1.79. So from the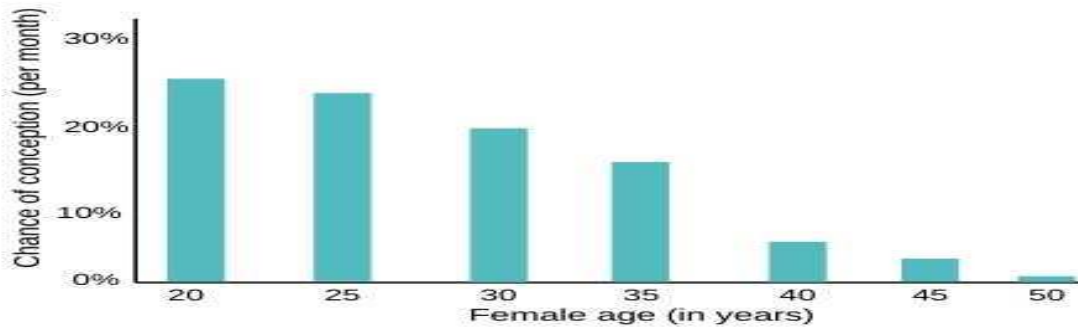 above figures it is concluded that fertility decreases with increase in the age at marriage. In table '2' the 'T' test of difference of significance between X1 and X2, X1 and X3 at .05% level at 2 degrees of freedom while it is insignificant between X2 and X3 which may be due to chance factor.

Table 5

Chi Square Between Duration of Marriage And Fertility (Duration of Marriage)	Level Of Fertility			
	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	TOTAL
0.10	15	38	44	97
10.20	13	25	19	57
Above 21	18	3	2	23
TOTAL	46	66	65	177

In table 5 the type of association between duration of married life and fertility of the respondent is noticed. The distribution of respondents according to duration of marriage and fertility is depicted in table 5. In table 5 since the calculated value is greater than the critical value at .05% level. A strong association is inferred between duration of marriage and fertility.

CAUSES OF LATE MARRIAGES

Economic Independence: This has helped the girls to do late marriages.Today the youth wants to focus on their career first then enter the institution of marriage.Several young boys and girls are supporting their families.Under such circumstances thoughts of marriage does not floats in mind.

*Marriage no more as an indissoluble union of husband and wife:*The ratio of constantly increasing divorces ,marriage a contract, more of voluntary break ups have forced the youths to get themselves out of this matter.

Impact of westernization: Today media,cinema,television and internet have changed the perspective of people regarding marriages which is consequently bringing achange in Indian society and cultures. In present scenario age hardly matters as youths of today are getting solemnized at the age of 35-40-45-50 years.

Search of an ideal life partner: Marriage has changed from institution to companion ship. Today'seducation has made man more mature. Instead they want a companion who is more mature in age, can understand them and who can be emotionally suggestive too.

Education: Education has not only a change in the immense attitude in the outlook but in the mindset by of society as well.

Self dependent: Education has brought about thorough metamorphosis in the thought process of youths. Their confidence has boosted enormously stocking the fire in them to be self dependent.

Living Relationships: Being in a living relationship no longer raises eyebrows like before.

*Scientific Advancements:*Science can now take care of the biological clock with solutions like IVF and surrogacy.

CONSQUENCES OF LATE MARRIAGES ON FERTILITY

Problems faced by women: Women who marry late fret about having children. Further stress and anxiety can cause delay in pregnancies. It may also result in genetic problems in the children once the prime time of biological conception is over.According to census 2011 Indian women prefer to marry late. Late marriage is the reality of Indian women today.

Complicated Conception: Though today science allows too much options for contraception yet if one goes for natural method complications could arise.

Sexual activity is compromised: Due to the pressure of a balancing life zeal and enthusiasm is lost and sexual activity often gets compromised. Imbalanced sexual zeal among the two partners could lead to issues in marriage.

Rush for kids: Late marriages leave people to hurry up for kids leaving the people behind to enjoy their just married phase. Another possibility could be dying off while the kid is too young to be independent.

No time for each other: As result of Late marriages people are more focused on their career and do not find enough time to spend with their spouses.

Frequent Miscarriages and Abortions: Due to incapability to conceive or weak uterus or poor ovarian reserve with the passage of time there are frequent miscarriages and abortions.

Low Weight babies: As a result of late marriages low weigh babies are born as body in old age is more prone to host of many diseases.

Increased chances of Gestational Diabetes; Due to lesser bone density,cardiac problems,hypertension due to overage women often suffer from gestationaldiabetes.

Expensive treatments: In order to overcome the problem of infertility and with a view to fulfill the desire of a child there are treatments like IVF and IUI which are highly expensive. This not results in poverty but exaggerates indebtness in society too.

CONCLUSION
The relationship between marital age,fertility and child mortality has been shown through experimental studies. The importance of these findings must be taken into account if a healthy society needs to be created. In both economic and normative sense these insights have the capacity to solve the economic and social science4s problems. In one of these societies Meghalaya state is taken which has matrilineal societies whereas in states like Uttar Pradesh have patriarchal societies. The study clearly assures that there is an inverse relationship between age at marriage, fertility and child loss which is rapidly transforming the Indian Social structure.Women entering their conjugal life at an early stage have more number of children born than child loss.As a result of analysis it is also clear that woman who married early at the age group of 20-25 belong to a low economic class.

It is clearly observed that higher fertility is directly related toearly age at marriage. It clearly means that a woman entering into the marital life at an early age has maximum time to get pregnant. Another factor affecting fertility is the ratio of education among women.Women who are highly educated yield to greater use of reproductive health services and better prospects of employment than uneducated women. Hence

efforts must be made to elevate the economic status of women as economic factors play a crucial role in early marriages and child bearing.Another perspective of the study is that women entering into marriage at a late age suffers from the problem of psychological distress and finally drives towards suicide.

Data from the largest study to date of women with infertility was presented at the annual meeting of European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology in which it was noticed that 51,221 women with infertilities had a greater risk if suicide than women who had at least one child. It is therefore highly suggestible that a person must marry at an appropriate age at least when he or she is capable of differentiating in between a marriage partner and a puppy love. It is for this reason that an appropriate age must be within 25-28 years when people can explore their personal and professional level successfully as well as discover the qualities they want in their life partner. This can benefit the overall relationship and simultaneously the problem of infertility could also be dealt effectively at the same time.

References:
1. Agarwala, R., & Vasudevan, V. (2021). Relating Household Consumption Expenditures to Road Traffic Fatalities: A Rural–Urban Study. Transportation Research Record, 2675(12), 1317–1326. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1177/036119812 11033281
2. Ahmad Kabir , Gulshana Jahan and Rukhshana Jahan , (2001). Female Age at Marriage as a Determinant of Fertility, Journal of Medical Sciences, 1: 372-376. DOI: 10.3923/jms.2001.372.376
3. Akin, M.S. (2005). Education and Fertility: A Panel Data Analysis for Middle Eastern Countries. The Journal of Developing Areas 39(1), 55-69. DOI:10.1353/jda.2005.0030
4. Chakravarti,Anurita,Jha, Radhey Shyam, Ashutosh Kumar (2021) RIGHT TO EDUCATION OF A PREGNANT STUDENT. Elementary Education Online, 20 (1), 1718-1725. DOI:10.17051/ilkonline.2021.01.179

5. Bates, L.M., Maselko, J. and Schuler, S.R. (2007), Women's Education and the Timing of Marriage and Childbearing in the Next Generation: Evidence from Rural Bangladesh. Studies in Family Planning, 38: 101-112. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1728-4465.2007.00121.x

6. Bongaarts, John (2011), Completing the fertility transition in the developing world: The role of educational differences and fertility preferences, Population Studies (A Journal of Demography) P. 321-335, DOI: https://doi.org/10.1080/0032472032000137835

7. Castro Torres, A.F. Analysis of Latin American Fertility in Terms of Probable Social Classes. Eur J Population 37, 297–339 (2021). DOI:https://doi.org/10.1007/s10680-020-09569-7

8. Tyagi, Nidhi, Jha, Radhey Shyam, Chaudhary, A., Batar, S. (2021) WOMEN IN DUAL ROLE; A SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE. Elementary Education Online, 20 (1), 1766-1772. DOI:10.17051/ilkonline.2021.01.187

9. Kabir, A.H., Jahan, G., & Jahan, R. (2001). Female Age at Marriage as a Determinant of Fertility. Journal of Medical Sciences(Faisalabad), 1, 372-376.

10. Mahanta, Amarjyoti (2016) Impact of Education on Fertility: Evidence from a Tribal Society in Assam, India, International Journal of Population Research (Hindawi Publishing Corporation) DOI: https://doi.org/10.1155/2016/3153685

11. Marphatia Akanksha A., Ambale Gabriel S., Reid Alice M. (2017), Women's Marriage Age Matters for Public Health: A Review of the Broader Health and Social Implications in South Asia, Frontiers in Public Health, 5, 269. DOI=10.3389/fpubh.2017.00269

1. Mcdonald, Peter, LadoT., Ruzicka & John C., Caldlwell (1980) 'Interrelations between Nuptiality and Fertility: The Evidence from the World Fertility Survey,'World Fertility Conference 1980,record of proceedings, volume 2, London.

12. Pandey, Arvind (1984),' Determinants of Age at Marriage for Females in India", unpublished paper, Mumbai India: International Institute for population sciences.

13. Reddy, P.H. (1991). Family Structure and Age at Marriage: Evidence from a South Indian Village, Journal of Asian and African Studies, 26(3-4), 253-266. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1163/156852191X00282

14. TALCOTT PARSONS, 1972" The Social System'American Publication, New Delhi.