

Adjustment of Marriage on Woman in the Manner of Matchmaking Culture

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Abstract. Adjustment of marriage is the acceptance between couples to bring a sense of friendship between couples about the importance of affection, intimacy and support provided to each other. The purpose of this research is to know how the pattern of adjustment made by women who marry in the manner of matchmaking culture. This research exerted qualitative method with the subject of two people of 22 and 19 years old. The result of the research shows that there are differences between the subject of AN and M. The subject of AN is difficult to adjust, since she does not accept the match and has the hope to marry a man of his age. While the subject of M is more able to adjust for not choosing any hope in marriage. The second finding is that all subjects think matchmaking is commonplace and the third finding is that social support from the family has a positive impact on marriage adjustment.

Keywords: wedding/marriage adjustment, matchmaking/ arrange marriage

Introduction

Human is social creature that has a role and duty of growing progress in every stage of life. In a phase of being a grown up, there comes a duty of human to be married. Cinebell & Cinebell (2005) stated that the first year of marriage is a sensitive period. In fact, some people called it as a critical period in marriage life, since the couple still has a few experiences of being together. Therefore, the couple must learn more about the husband/wife and train themselves to be able to settle a problem if it is existed someday. This statement explains that when human is being married or has husband or wife, it does not mean that the issue is done, because actually it is time for the couple to adjust their selves into the new position and condition. However, some researchers found that there are many couples who do not have certain preparation of marriage, since their marriages have been arranged by the parents.

Each region or country certainly has their own culture to do marriage as it has been shown in the research of T.D. Raphalalani and N. M. Musehane (2013) concerning to the culture of matchmaking in Africa in many different kinds and types. Due to the fact that the culture is a result of human activity that tends to be permanent, and then it will automatically influence to the behaviour and thought of local community who live inside that region or country. Moreover, the research done by María del Mar Pastor Bravo a, Pilar Almansa Martínez a, and Ismael Jiménez Ruiz, (2014) asserted that the selection of husband from the parent consideration has to be granted, as when a man or woman is united in marriage bonding through certain manners that are appropriate to the local custom. On the stage of human growth, the age of adult is already able to determine and choose the couple of marriage or carrier that suits to themselves. But, by having such of matchmaking culture, the man or woman might lose the

right to determine the choice. Anyway, this culture is a result of idea that has been maintained by the certain community from the long time ago up to this time day.

Based on those backgrounds mentioned above, the researcher aims to do research relates to how the pattern of adjustment on woman who are going to be married within the culture of matchmaking.

This research aims to investigate the pattern of adjustment on woman to marry who live in the culture of matchmaking. Further, this research could be the broader study of psychology in across culture, development, and other studies. Also, the result of this research is hopefully able to increase the consciousness of local community to implement the practice of matchmaking which is able to affect positively to all implied parties.

Marriage

Marriage is a social system where a man and woman is closely adjust to each other and live together in more complex status of relationship (Samra Nawaz, Sadia Javeed, Atyia Haneef, Bakhtawar Tasaur&Irna Khalid, 2014). Based on the Acts of Marriage, marriage means a binding of material and spiritual between a man and woman as a husband and wife under the purpose of building a happy and long lasting family life based on divinity of Allah Ta'ala. This statement implied that the marriage is a long period binding that is stated in formal, verbal and in the tradition of engagement between the man and woman to produce generation, food, and other domestic needs in the context of household (SoudabehGhoroghi, Siti Aishah Hassan &Maznah Baba. 2015).

Adjustment of Marriage

Adjustment is a process to find and adopt behaviour and custom that applies in circles of life. The process of adjustment will keep going on until the human die (MohdShohaib M, M. Amin Wani&Sangkar, 2016).

Every individual is strived to persistently adjust along with ages and growth duty as a human being. Within the process, human should be able to face a variety of surroundings condition and different social culture which demands human must be adjusted in order to survive and keep going in his/her surroundings. The marriage adjustment means acceptance between couple of marriage, which then creates a feeling of friendship between the couple about the importance of affection, intimacy, and support from each other (MohdShohaib M, M.AminWani&Sangkar, 2016). Hurlock (2002) stated that the marriage adjustment is important to apply in the life of married couple. Since, this adjustment becomes a process of adaptation between husband and wife to avoid and settle down conflicts that might be existed in household matters. Therefore, the happiness and unhappiness of couple in a marriage is depended on how they could do this adjustment in their relation as husband and wife. Hurlock. 1990) also said that the indicator of success in the marriage adjustment is indicated from the happiness of husband and wife, the good relation between the parent and children, the good adjustment on the children, the contentment of having different opinion, the togetherness, the good adjustment on financial, the good adjustment on couple's family. While, the factors that might be a problem within the process of marriage adjustment are lack of marriage preparation, role in marriage, young marriage, unrealistic concept of marriage, mixed marriage, short time of relationship, romantic concept of marriage, and lack of identity (Hurlock, 2002). However, any sort of marriage is depend on how the couple could adjust themselves after being married (Simegn Sendek Yizengaw, Belay Tefera Kibret, Asfaw Getnet Gebiresilus And Daniel Tsehay Sewasew, 2014).

Matchmaking

Matchmaking or arranged marriage is a decision of marriage that is usually organized by parent. Substantively, the marriage with the background of matchmaking is due to the principle that the parent has their own policy to choose the right couple for the daughter. To choose the right couple, the parent usually choose the individual based on the status of economy, politics, and social, where love, kindness, and appreciation are relatively not significant and well-considered before the marriage, since they assume that those aspects will definitely appear along with the period of marriage life (Simegn Sendek Yizengaw, Belay Tefera Kibret, Asfaw Getnet Gebiresilus and Daniel Tsehay Sewasew, 2014). The practice of matchmaking differs from the concept of forced marriage. In the practice of matchmaking, the selection of couple is organized by the parent, while in the practice of forced marriage, one of the couple might disagree with the decision of marriage, but he/she is being under pressure to obey the order of marriage. As it was happened to the children of María del Mar Pastor Bravo a, Pilar Almansa Martínez a, Ismael Jiménez Ruiz (2014).

Method

This research uses qualitative method. The qualitative method enables the researcher to understand the individual personally and view them as they express their opinion (Purwandari, 2005). The researcher employs interview to the subject in order to figure out the adjustment of marriage that has been done by the subject of research. Further, the research uses the method of semi-structured interview to obtain comprehensive data.

The subjects of this research are woman who have just married and still do not have a child. The first subject is a woman of 21 years old and three months of marriage age. The age gap between the woman and man is nine years. The second subject is a woman of 19 years old and six months of marriage age. The age gap between the man and woman is six years. The selection of both research subjects is focused on the women who have a tradition that demands them to do more adjustment to their marriage. Since, the man has a role to choose a woman whom he will marry, while the woman has to accept the decision from this arranged marriage.

Result

The first subject is a woman with initial name of AN who is 22 years old. She has just been married in three months and lived together with her husband. The age distance between them is nine years. AN is matched by the parent on the request of the man's family who wants to take her as their son's wife. Recently, AN and her husband live in the home of AN's parent. During three months of marriage, the subject of AN admits that she has never have sex with her husband, since she does not like him. She accepted this arranged marriage due to the request and intention from the parent that forced her to accept.

The second subject is a woman with initial name M who is 19 years old. This subject has been married along six months to her husband and the age distance between both of them is six years. The M subject is matched to a man by her parent on the request of the husband's family side. Now, M and her husband live in her parent's home and sometimes both of them visit the home of parent-in-law. M admits that she does not love her husband. During this marriage, she takes a role of a wife just for the sake to obey the husband. Moreover, M confesses that she was helplessly accept her parent's decision to marry and match to this man.

Adjustment of Marriage. The subject of AN showed adjustment by doing several domestic activities as a wife: she serves foods for the husband and clears up after he leaves. Except to this activity, AN does not want to do and be bothered with anything. As for the decision making relates to everything about the household, she gives it over to the husband. If there is a problem, AN will consult with the family to help her by giving suggestion. This couple has only a simple communication by greeting each other. Moreover, the subject of AN also does not want to know more about her

husband in details. Even, she admits that she has never have sex with her husband during the existing period of marriage. Due to the fact, she does not love her husband at all. However, she did not have power to reject this arranged marriage. Indeed, AN realizes this matchmaking from the parent has a good purpose for her, but honestly she could not accept this decision wholeheartedly. Within the process of adjustment, both of the family support them in material and problem solving in order to convince AN to accept and adjust to this marriage. The parent and husband tried to understand and accept her behaviour. But, along this time, the adjustment showed by AN is only in daily activities, except the wife's duty to have sex with the husband.

The second subject, M tries to adjust herself to accept this arranged marriage helplessly. M told that she has tried to keep communication and take the role as a good wife for the husband. Also, she tried to understand the husband if there was a problem. As for the decision making in a family, she gives over this right to the husband, since she regards that the husband is the right person to decide and to be obeyed. The subject M also serves the husband well like to prepare the husband's daily needs. Concerning to the sexual duty, the subject M admits that she served her husband, though there was not any feeling of love that rose from her own. She admitted that she accept to this arranged marriage helplessly and endure this marriage until the time because of the support of both families and problem solving of every problems in her household.

Discussion

According to the research findings, the researcher finds differences and similarities within the process of marriage adjustment from both subjects. What makes it different is the process of matchmaking acceptance. On subject AN, she actually did not accept this kind of matchmaking, then she found difficulties and having a hard time to do the duties of a wife in her marriage. Hurlock (2002) stated that the factor which raised a problem in the marriage adjustment is a lack of marriage preparation, each role of marriage, young marriage, unrealistic concept of marriage, mixed marriage, a short time of relationship, romantic concept of marriage and lack of identities. On the situation of AN, she found it difficult to adjust herself to this marriage, since this marriage did not started by having any introduction of both couple side. Also, she actually has her own concept of marriage that is to marry with a man of the same age. Whereas, subject M is more acceptable and adjustable to this matchmaking, by accepting this marriage, taking a role as a wife, and not having any expectation related to the marriage.

What makes it similar, both parents of the research subjects either from the husband and wife's side give huge support to the subjects, so that they could survive and keep adjusting to their new role as a wife. This finding is in line with the previous research accomplished by Samra Nawaz, Sadia Javeed, Atyia Haneef, Bakhtawar Tasaur & Irna Khalid (2014) which found that

there is a positive relation between social support and success of marriage adjustment. Furthermore, the agreement over the matchmaking of both subjects is the same. Both subjects understood and realized that the decision of matchmaking practiced by their parent was natural and must be accepted, although it did not match to their own intention. As it is stated in the research by María del Mar Pastor Bravo a, Pilar Almansa Martínez a , Ismael Jiménez Ruiz (2014) that woman should obey over the family's decision of arranged marriage, even it means that this decision and condition will break over her own rights.

Conclusion

Based on the research findings, the researcher then draws conclusions that there are some similarities and differences between the two research subjects in the process of adjustment in their marriage life as they are mentioned, the first subject (AN) found difficulties to adjust herself in marriage, since there is no any acquaintance between both sides of couple within the matchmaking and the AN's wish to marry with a man of the same age. Then, the pattern of adjustment which is performed within this couple life is only restricted to the daily activities except the sexual need between husband and wife. While, the second subject (M) was able to adjust herself more in the marriage life, since she has accepted this arranged marriage by her parent. Then, she did not matter with the short time of acquaintance before marriage. Moreover, the subject M did not have any expectation of marriage life, then she could take role as a wife by building short communication, sharing problems, and understanding the husband's condition, and granting for the sexual need of the husband, although she actually did not have a feeling of love. The social support from the family is able to give positive impact to the process of marriage adjustment on both subjects.

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