

Views of Maharashtra postgraduate students about premarital counselling and types of readiness for successful marriage

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ABSTRACT

Three hundred Maharashtra postgraduate students in the age range of 21-26 yrs. were chosen at random from purposely selected seven colleges of Parbhani town, Maharashtra state. Seventy two per cent of the sample PG students hailed from middle SES group and the remaining 23 per cent from low SES. The information from them was collected through personal interview based on interview schedule-cum-checklist. Irrespective of SES, majority of the Maharashtra PG students expressed favourable opinion about the need of premarital counselling for many benefits which in turn indicates their awareness and modern outlook. Irrespective of SES all the PG students stated physical and mental maturity, skills for proper communication and problem solving were essential followed by financial sufficiency, good interpersonal relationships and normalcy in sexual behaviour are must for successful marital life.

KEY WORDS : Successful marriage, Premarital counselling, Readiness

Patnam, Vishala and Badami, Sumangala (2010). Views of Maharashtra postgraduate students about premarital counselling and types of readiness for successful marriage, *Adv. Res. J. Soc. Sci.*, 1 (2) : 101-103.

INTRODUCTION

Marriage is an institutionalized system which is meant for the good of the individual and the society. Marriage is essentially a fellowship between a man and a woman who seek to live together in creative partnership for the pursuit of great objectives of life. Thus, marriage is the union of soul and body so closely and so firmly established. One expects that it will last as long as the life lasts. The ability to make collaborative decisions, to understand self and others are equally important dimensions of marriage. Proper selection of mate plays an important role in fulfilling the aims and objectives of marriage. Marriage is regarded not only as the union of two individuals, but also as the union of two families, making them almost like blood relatives. Marriage is like an insurance policy in that it offers protection against poor health, financial insecurity and deviant behaviours. The winds of socio-cultural changes affect marriage and mate selection. Marriage is the backbone of society. Marriage like a successful career requires various preparations. A mature approach to marriage requires an understanding of its various aspects like psychological, sexual, social, economical and spiritual.

It matures with time and grows sweeter with age. The responsibilities of the parents are greater today than in the past as the conditions are changing. As values and trends are changing very rapidly, it is the need of the time to understand youth.

METHODOLOGY

Three hundred Maharashtra postgraduate students in the age range of 21-26 yrs. were chosen at random from purposely selected seven colleges of Parbhani town, Parbhani district, Maharashtra state. Out of the seven colleges, three colleges belonged to Swami Ramanand Tirth University and the remaining four to the Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani. The data pertaining to the study were collected personally interviewing the PG students in their respective college campus based on the interview schedule-cum-checklist. The SES of PG students was assessed by administering revised socio-economic status scale of Kuppaswamy (2009). The collected data were pooled, statistically analyzed and discussed below. Seventy two per cent of the sample PG students hailed from middle SES group and the remaining

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