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الشرائح التقديمية التالية هي ملكية خاصة بالمؤلفين ، ويتم توفيرها في هذا الموقع كخدمة عامة . يرجى عدم نسخ أو توزيع و إعادة نشر هذه الشرائح دون الحصول على إذن كتابي من المؤلفين المدرجين .

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Attitudes Toward Marriage Among Married and Never Married Qatari Women

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- **Several countries around the world have been experiencing a decline in marriage rate**
- **There is an increase in the number of Qatari women are staying single longer or not marrying at all**
- **The rate of marriage 2000-2006 had increased from 31.3 and 30.7 per 1,000 for male and female respectively, reaching its highest peak in 2006 (34.9 per 1,000 for female and 32.2 per 1,000 for males)**
- **Since 2010 the rate has been declining for males (24.1) and for females (23.4).**

- In 2010, 13 percent of Qatari women aged 45-49 were still single compared with only 1 percent in 1986.
 - Women's participation in labor force
 - educational attainment
 - Changes in gender ideologies
 - The belief in marriage as a lifelong commitment
 - **Attitudes and expectations associated with marriage...**
- Studies reported that favorable attitudes toward marriage are associated with a high probability of getting married (Axinn & Thornton, 1992; Clarkberg, Stolzenberg & Waite, 1995)

- **We examined the Arabic literature for an indigenous measure that assesses people's attitudes and expectations associated with marriage.**
- **We found scales from other countries, USA**
- **Specific aspects of marriage such as**
 - **intent to marry (Boyer-Pennington, Pennington, & Spink, 2001)**
 - **readiness for marriage (Carroll et al., 2009)**
 - **desire to marry (Mahay & Lewin, 2007)**
 - **drive to marry (Blakemore, Lawton, Vartanian, 2005)**
 - **expectations to marry (Willoughby & Carroll, 2010)**

- ***The Attitude to Marriage Scale* (Wallin, 1954)**
- ***The Attitudes towards Marriage Scale* (Kinnaird & Gerrard, 1986)**
- **Gibaldi and Rosen (1991) developed the *Attitudes Toward Marriage Scale* -single people**
- **Braaten and Rosen (1998, 2008) *Marital Attitude Scale* - both married and non-married people**

- Data for this study came from the 2013 Qatar Marriage Delay survey, a study funded by the Qatar National Research Fund of Qatar Foundation and conducted by the SESRI of Qatar University.
- This study includes a nationally representative sample of 993 Qatari women (married and never married) aged 25 years and older.
- The median age of the entire sample was 32 (SD =4.69).

Married Women

- The median age was 33 (SD=4.59).
- The majority were unemployed (66.3%).
- The monthly income for the majority (62.8%) was less than never married women (5,000-20,000 Qatari Riyals).
- The majority (67.3%) had high school diplomas or less
- The rest (33%) had a college degree

Never Married

- The median age was 29 (SD=4.488)
- Almost all of them were employed (92%)
- The majority (76.4%) making between 10,000-30,000 Qatari Riyals a month.
- Half of them were college graduates.

- The initial pool of items was drawn from extant literature. The final pool consisted of 13 items.
- Participants responded to these items by using a 4-point Likert-type scale, ranging from 1 (strongly agree) to 4 (strongly disagree).

Item	Subscale	Estimate	Alpha
I have little confidence that my marriage will be a success	Negative View of Marriage	.647	.624
Most people are unhappy with their marriage		.432	
I have doubt about marriage		.591	
Because most of marriages end in divorce, marriage seems futile		.437	
Marriage restricts individuals from achieving their goals		.402	
Marriage is a sacred act	Idealized view of Marriage	.498	.493
Marriage is a loving relationship between a man and a woman		.661	
People should not get married if they do not get the right person		.387	

Item	Scale	Estimate	Alpha
Concerned that marriage might end up in bitter divorce	Concern about Marriage	.548	.792
Concerned that husbands might restrict their freedom		.736	
Concerned about being physically abused by husbands		.865	
Concerned about being verbally abused by husbands		.714	
Concerned that husbands might not care about their feelings and opinions		.443	

- Principle Axis Factor Analysis with Promax procedure ($k = 4$) was used to identify the factor structure of the new scale.
- Factors that loaded less than .35 were deleted as well as items that loaded high on more than one factor.
- Two factors ($r = .18$, $p = .000$) with eight items that explained 28% of the variance in the data were retained. The Cronbach's alpha for the entire scale was .60.
- Five items loaded on one factor which was labeled *Negative View of Marriage*. The Cronbach's alpha was .62.
- Three items loaded on another factor which was labeled *Idealized View of Marriage*. The Cronbach's alpha was .49.

- Items were recoded so *lower scores reflect unfavorable attitudes toward marriage*.
- To assess the *convergent validity* of the new marriage, five items related to concern about marriage (e.g., concern that marriage might end up in bitter divorce, concern that future partner might not considered their feelings) were used.
- All items loaded on one factor that explained 46% of the variance. The Cronbach's alpha was .79.

- There was a difference between never married ($M=3.08$, $SD=.48$) and married women ($M=3.18$, $SD=.56$) on their attitudes toward marriage ($t(48396) = 18.11$, $p = .000$).
- Married women ($M= 3.67$, $SD = .41$) and never married women ($M=3.67$, $SD = .43$) did not differ in their *Idealized view of Marriage* ($t(48225) = .286$, $p = .775$).
- Never married women held *Negative View of Marriage* ($M=2.75$, $SD=.657$) compared to married women ($M=2.89$, $SD= .74$) ($t(48396) = 19.02$, $p = .000$).
- Never married women expressed more *Concern about Marriage* ($M= 2.79$, $SD = .805$) than married women ($M= 2.97$, $SD = .849$) ($t(48396) = 20.36$, $p = .000$).

- This study measured attitudes towards marriage among Qatari ever-married and never-married women aged 25+ years
- Both never married and ever-married women believed that marriage is a sacred, loving and caring union and people should get married if they find the right person.
- Never-married women showed more negative attitudes towards marriage compared to ever-married women. Using the wording of the items used here, we say that never married women expressed their doubt about the likelihood of having a successful future marriage, believed that marriage is restrictive and that most married people tend to be unhappy.

Thank you

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