

The Effect of Parenting Approaches On Child Bride Wealth Practices That Influences Marital Quality Among Divorced Females

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Introduction

Parenting approaches shapes children psychosocial outcomes this influence life-course trajectories which includes timing of marriage and exposure to certain needs and expectancies related to our social customs. These pathways ultimately back into marital quality, stability which leads to divorce especially in the basis of cultural context. Certain needs and expectations of the groom and the family is basically depends on the after marriage life. This can also leads to physical abuses and other abuses to the bride without focusing to particular reasons but this indirectly points the brides financial status and other abilities which can impact on the marital satisfaction. Nowadays in India the population related to certain issues is becoming high especially in the current trends of marriage.

Our cultural institution explain that marriage is influenced by social, familial, and economic customs. This custom is followed in the form of bride wealth practices. Asian and African cultures, exhibit this custom as sign of respect, marriage validity etc. (Ansell,2001; Goody, 1973). Therefore this custom practices is a strict implementation, especially when it comes to economic constraints and the creation of gender biases which finally leads to divorce.

Parenting styles plays a vital role in this cultural practices which is transmitted to their future generations. There are four main categories which are permissive, authoritarian, authoritative, and neglectful (Baumrind, 1991; Darling, & Steinberg, 1993).

Bronfenbrenner Ecological System Theory which holds the nested systems of relationships, like macro systems have a great effect in child development.

The values of notion which is pertained to marriage customs are passed down through generations and which also influences future relationships and results is further supported by Family Systems Theory.

Also we consider the factors such as communication, trust, affection, and conflict resolution are the components of marital quality.

Therefore here parenting approaches, child bride wealth practices, marital quality are the variables which makes the study more relevant.

Parenting Styles

Parenting varies different across families also from different cultural backgrounds with a significant role in molding family patterns and child rearing practices.

Our culture define a shared pattern of values, social norms, language and behavior which indirectly influences the parenting.

Types of parenting

- Authoritative parenting
- Permissive parenting
- Uninvolved parenting

Parents plays a major role in child's behavior actions and the emotional development for the further growth. They also develops cultural competence, rule- setting practices and discipline style. Each parents follow a unique approaches in the bases of interactions, guidance, shaping the moral values principles and related behavior.

Marital Quality

Marital Quality explains the satisfaction and whole state of a marriage which compiles both positive aspects including love and support also the negative aspects like conflict and strain. Marital quality can also asses through self- reports, partner rating and the level of interactions.

Components of marital quality

Positive and negative components included feelings of love, emotional support, mutual appreciation and satisfaction with the relationship and the negative components like conflicts, demands and tensions within the marriage

Bride wealth practices

Bride wealth practices defines transfer of wealth from the bride's family to groom's family as a part of marriage agreement in the form of money, livestock or other property.

Key aspects of bride wealth

- Compensation
- Legitimization
- Symbolism
- Forms of payment

Important considerations

- Contrasting with dowry
- Potential for control and abuse
- Evolution of practice

Parenting approaches and child outcome

Research basically demonstrates that parenting approaches can affect their future life quality in all aspects especially their emotional stability, decision making capacity also this is marked by affection, low conflict, and consistent parenting nowadays parents are mostly concentrating to their materialistic needs apart from their qualitative needs and satisfaction low level of emotional understanding, trust are basic factors which is lacking in day to day parenting. Low conflict, affection, and consistent parenting is linked with better educational attainment which build them with psychosocial resilience and delayed marriage for children. Also the Authoritative parenting is associated with reduced risk of early marriages because early marriages for females will create more conflicts in their marital life with immature decisions which leads to certain negative consequences and other impacts such as suicidal risk factors number of cases are reporting on the basis of such situations. Also high marital quality strengthens protective factors against such practices.

Bride Wealth Practices and Parental Influences

Bride wealth customs in patriarchal societies, are closely interconnected with both the economic and relational goals of the family. Parental socio-economic status, value of education, and the quality of parent-child relationship influences the bride wealth bargains in stronger way also supportive families tending to postpone child marriage and practices more negotiation over such custom practices based on their financial status. Mainly Research in South Asia and Africa consistently connects lower parental support, poverty, and rural residence with the illegal practices like child marriage often mediated by bride wealth needs. Nowadays it is practiced in whole over the world especially in normal marriages.

Interplay Between Parenting, Bride Wealth and Marital Quality

Parental influence on marital discord or divorce increases negative outcomes for children relationally. Children from homes with low quality of parenting enter into early or transactional marriages characterized by bride wealth this later leads to intense issues in the life of the children which comes into divorces this will create a huge distress and trauma. Early marriage without providing proper education or any other kind of needs is a risk factor for marital breakdown later perpetuates into instability. Authoritative parenting, supportive partner and promotion of education and financial independency buffer children from being pushed into such situations thereby indirectly reducing the marital dissolution .

Marital Quality Among Divorced Females

Research shows that socio cultural practices often compounded by authoritative or harsh parenting predicts both quality and longevity of the females in their marriage life. Basically females with strong family background with parental support will survive the situations without facing any mental health issues or

any emotional instabilities strong parental warmth, mutual respect and less adherence to bride wealth customs report better outcomes post – divorce and a healthiest version of parental support. Thus parental emotional support and understanding also with proper guidance will able the females to lead a quality life without depending upon the marriage.

Review of literature:

Caldwell et al., (1999) examines that parental influence and marital quality directly influence the child outcomes including educational attainment and early marriages potentially impacting bride wealth practices. Also the study results that affection and resources within the family could delay early

Orthner et al., (2004) examines the family literature emphasizing how marital quality affects the children and adolescents development. The study highlights the relational assets and deficit function as resilience factor for child development and marriage related behaviors.

Yabiku et al., (2009) examines the interactions of educational opportunities and parental involvement in child marriage timing were it results that higher parental resources can delay child marriage and modify bride wealth practices.

Degler et al., (marriage.2010) examines the kinship systems and bride wealth recognized that parental roles in negotiating their child marriages highly depended on marital satisfaction and family dynamics.

Becker et al., (2013) examines that parental investments to improved child outcomes and postponement of marriage indirectly influences the bride wealth negotiations and marital quality.

Addo & Lichter (2013) examines that bride wealth and marital stability suggests parental economic status influences child likelihood of maintaining marriages a factor relevant in bride wealth societies.

Tunney & Ziegler (2015) highlights that parents approach, whether egocentric, affect decisions of marrying underage girls, which is linked to certain norms of marriage and health outcomes of brides. This study explains or proves how parents balances the benefit of the marriage and the further risks in the marriage which influences the social expectations which relates the bride wealth and subsequent marital quality.

Eads & Tach et al., (2016) examines how marital quality is tied with wealth and parental behavior which also results in bride wealth practices shapes marital outcomes.

Bhan et al., (2019) research proves that adolescent parent-child relationships with warmth and support will reduce the risks of early marriages especially among the girls. Also with effective parenting approach will reduce the bride wealth practices which later improves the marital quality of the child.

Muchomba et al., (2020) research exhibit that maternal economic resources will reflect in the ownership of the personal asset to decrease daughters childhood marriage of likelihood. This proves that parenting resource distribution and control will influence the child bride wealth practices which later affect the marital stability and quality outcome.

Pfeffer & Schoeni (2024) examines and results that family assets and financial stability emerges from parental approaches which indirectly contribute to marital stability which forms as a safeguards against divorce.

Kidman et al., (2024) research highlights that social, economic and family norms with parental approach and attitudes with economic pressures is correlating with bride wealth this will later leading to divorces.

Boserup et al., (2025) examines the ongoing impacts of bride wealth , family dynamics and parenting approaches which influences on marital quality which emphasizes their continued relevance for females marital quality.

Jagatheeswaran et al., (2025) research explains how low income families indulge into maternal parenting practices which effect the child temperament on behavioral and academics. Which results that negative parenting is correlating with worse child outcomes this later influences in marriage relationships.

Methodology

Aim

To examine the effect of parenting approaches on child bride wealth practices that influences the marital quality among divorced females.

Objectives

1. To study how parenting approaches influences the marital quality of divorced females.
2. To study how bride wealth practices among divorced females affects the marital quality.

Hypothesis

Relationship between parenting approaches on child bride wealth practices and marital quality among divorced females.

Inclusion Criteria

1. Studies published between 1999 and 2025 related to parenting approaches, bride wealth practices and marital quality.
2. Studies focusing on parenting approaches which affect the child marital quality.
3. Research mainly involves divorced females.

Exclusion Criteria

1. Studies unrelated to parenting approaches and marital quality.
2. Articles or studies which is not related to divorce.
3. Lack of publications or theoretical support

Procedure

The review followed a descriptive and qualitative approach. Studies published between 1999 and 2025 were identified through the searches in Google Scholar, Research Gate, Science Direct using the keywords Parenting approaches, child bride wealth practices and marital quality.

Over above 100 studies were initially reviewed. Only evidence-based and with proper theoretical background relevant to the topic was reviewed and analyzed on both quantitative and qualitative backgrounds by following the systematic procedure for the analysis later synthesis and future recommendations are also included.

Search Strategy Summary

The literature search included empirical and theoretical studies published between 1999 and 2025. The studies related to parenting approaches, which connects bride wealth practices and marital quality especially for females were widely studied. After screening the abstracts, methods, results, and conclusion of the full text are analyzed and other unrelated and duplicate studies were excluded. The final set of studies was synthesized descriptively to identify the connections between parental approach which affect the marital quality of females and also the indirect involvement of bride wealth practices.

Discussion

The empirical studies implies that parenting approaches significantly involves in bride wealth practices which later affect the marital quality of the females through pathways of investment, relational quality and sociocultural negotiation. Early studies like Caldwell et al., (1999) emphasized that higher parental marital affection drives resource allocation towards child marriage. Also the later studies implies that marital strengths foster child resilience against developmental risks, including premature entry into bride wealth practices influenced unions that elevate divorce vulnerability. The other researches later finds that parental prioritization of schooling to postponed marriage timing, indirectly reshape bride wealth negotiations by enhancing daughters bargaining power and marital prospects. Orthner et al., (2009) explains that authoritative parenting with stable parental marriages effects psychosocial deficits that propagate marriages and unstable bride wealth marriages. Yabiku et al., (2009) signify that how elevated parental resources affect the child marriage on the basis of bride wealth practices which improves long-term relational outcomes for women. Eads & Tach et al., (2016), Pfeffer & Schoeni et al., (2016,2024) and Eads et al., (2023) finds that wealth disparities shaped by parenting approaches predict marital dissatisfaction with stable parental models mitigating bride wealth induced strains. Also the later studies done in the year 2025 reveals that marital quality depends on cultural practices by parents later which affect the marital quality. Therefore studies implies that marital quality enhances investments that delay bride wealth practices fostering resilient daughters less prone to marital failure. Also the gaps persist in direct empirical tests among divorced females, targeting the studies related to bride wealth. Basically the overall studies are done on the basis of mixed procedure which includes both quantitative and qualitative analysis

Conclusion

A systematic review of the literature from 1999 onwards exhibit that parenting approaches and marital quality are both factors which is deeply intertwined with bride wealth practices were bride wealth practices are indirectly focusing on marital quality. Also these not only influence the risk of marital life and marital dissolution but also present level intervention, which emphasize the strength – based approaches and policies that target both parental and other structural factors. The unavailability of standard scale in bride wealth practices lacks the research studies in the phase of quantitative approach.

Implications

1. Interventions should prioritize on the basis of family education which promote authoritative parenting for the future marital stability of the child.
2. Programs targeting marital quality and bride wealth practices should be established in educational settings and other Governmental institutions.
3. Campaigns challenging cultural norms through supportive parental guidance promote female autonomy and long-term marital health.

Limitations

1. Lack of direct empirical evidence regarding the bride wealth practices and the marital quality of the females.
2. Inability of standardized scale in bride wealth practices lacks the statistical analysis of the research.

Synthesis and Recommendations

These evidence underscores the immediate need for interventions that support marital quality which comes under positive parenting and by providing alternatives such proper education and other emotional and social support for their safety and security to maintain a qualitative life without depending on marriage also to avoid such cultural practices which effects the marital quality because relational skills among parents can disrupt such practices by improving their parenting.

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