

**Socio-Marital Adjustment of Literate Women in Hindu and Muslim Family: A Study**

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**Abstract**

Socio-Marital adjustment has become a very important topic of research. How successfully and individual will adjust to the social group will depend largely upon how closely he conforms to the approved patterns of behavior of the group. Every social group has its own social values which are strong influences on the social behavior of the members of that group. Social adjustment of an individual depends up on the socio-economic similarity between the two. In most of the researches it has been found that the persons, who are of equal socio-economic, status, are more socially adjusted.

**Keywords:** Adjustment, Individual, Behaviour, Social group, Values

**Introduction**

Socio-Marital adjustment has become a very important topic of research. How successfully and individual will adjust to the social group will depend largely upon how closely he conforms to the approved patterns of behavior of the group. No individual can hope to fit in the social group and be accepted by the members of that group unless he/she is willing to learn to conform to patterns the group approves of. In our Modern society, there is no place for the “rugged individualist” who defies conventions and who disregards the mores of the group. He may, and unquestionably will, attract attention, but the attention will be of an unfavorable sort. The individual who learns to conform to socially approved patterns of behavior by contrast is accepted by the group and achieves status in the group. Through group interaction he then learns to adjust to other people and thus become a socially well adjusted individual.

Every social group has its own social values which are strong influences on the social behavior of the members of that

group (wit ryot, 1950). For example, the upper class, stresses family background and bisure pursuits. The upper-Middle class has values oriented toward the upper class, thus putting importance of money and position in the community. The working, or lower-middle class, by contrast, rejects the ideal of advancement through individual achievement in favour of the ideal of collective action for social gains. The lowest class does not expect to advance their through individual or collective efforts and thus places stress on the importance of enjoying what one has (Gold Schmidt, 1950).

Social adjustment of an individual depends up on the socio-economic similarity between the two. In most of the researches it has been found that the persons, who are of equal socio-economic, status, are more socially adjusted. In this context it is notable that “friendship and relation is always harmonious in equal socio-economic status”. With regard to the socio-marital adjustment it has been found in most of the researches that where the

couples are of the same socio-economic status, socio-marital adjustment is better. Socio-marital adjustment depends upon the mental makeup and socio-economic conditions of the family. In addition to this socio-marital adjustment depends upon the mentality of the couple'. 'Marital adjustment' depends first on the nature of the couple. Secondly on the fulfillment of the family.

**Results**

As mentioned earlier, the main purpose of this study was to investigate the effect of religion and religious family back-ground on socio-material adjustment in relation to extraversion and neuroticism, Four

hypotheses were formulated and for the verification of which two tests were administrated to a sample of 200 literate Hindu and Muslim women of Muzaffarpur town.

Before making an attempt to ascertain the relationship between religious family back-ground and socio-material adjustment, it was considered desirable to first test the normality of distributions of socio-material adjustment scores for the two groups, namely, literate women of Hindu and Muslim family. For this purpose the Chi-square test was applied and an attempt was made to see whether the distribution of scores departed significantly from the normal distribution.

**Table – 1**

**Chi-Square Test of Normal Distribution of Material**

**Adjustment scores of Literate Hindu Women (S=100)**

<b>Class Interval (M.A. Scores)</b>	<b>Fo</b>	<b>Fe</b>	<b>Chi-square (x<sup>2</sup>)</b>
30-34	4	5.29	
25-29	14	14.54	
20-24	24	28.16	
			1.68
15-19	37	27.99	
10-14	14	16.98	
5-9	7	6.99	

Mean = 23.45, S.D. = 6.98, df = 3\*, P. Value = N.S.

\* The df was determined by subtracting 3 from the number of categories (Guill ford, less, p. 246)

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It is obvious from Table 1 that the range of scores for literate Hindu women (L.H.W.) on marital adjustment inventory (M.A.I) ranged from 05 to 30. Theoretically the

possible spread of scores is 01 to 30. Thus, we find that the upper-limit of the distribution for literate Hindu women is similar to theoretical range. The X<sup>2</sup> value (Chi-square value) for the distribution is statistically not significant Hence the distribution is considered not to depart significantly from the normal distribution.

**Table – 2**

Chi-square ( $X^2$ ) Test of Normal Distribution of Marital Adjustment scores of literate Muslim women (N = 100)

M.A. scores Class interval	Fo	Fe	Chi-Square ( $X^2$ )
27-31	7	8.21	
22-26	18	12.17	
17-21	34	22.25	
			1.49
12-16	17	28.88	
7-11	15	19.26	
2-8	9	9.21	

Mean – 19.55, S.D. = 6.72, df = 3\*, P.Value = N.S.

\* The df was determined by subtracting 3 from the number of categories (Guilford, 1965, p.246).

It is clear from table 2 that the range of scores for the literate Muslim women on marital adjustment Inventory ranged from 02 to 27. Theoretically, the possible spread of scores is 01 to 30. Thus, we find that the upper limit of the distribution for literate Muslim women is below the theoretical upper limit but the lower limit of the distribution is slightly higher than the theoretical lower limit. The chi-square ( $X^2$ ) value for the distribution is statistically insignificant and hence the distribution is considered not to depart significantly from the normal distribution. It was predicated that there will be a significant difference between marital

adjustment scores of literate number of studies (Dalal, 1990, Mrinal, 1989, Meera Verma, 1989). It was thought that literate Hindu women would exhibit better marital adjustment (High scores on M.A.I.) contention the marital adjustment mean scores of literate Hindu women and literate Muslim women were compared by calculating 't' ratio, because the distribution of M.A. scores are normal, not showing any significant departure from the normalcy (Table 1.1 and 1.2). The comparison of Means for the literate Hindu and Muslim women's Marital Adjustment has been summarized in Table 3.

**Table 3**

Comparison of Literate Hindu and Muslim women in Term of Mean scores on Marital Adjustment (N = 200, One Hundred in each copy)

Group	Mean	S.D.		
S.E.M.	t	df		
P.Value				
Literate Hindu			23.45	6.98
			.97	
			12.11	198
			.01	
Literate Muslim			19.55	6.72
Women			.99	

An inspection of Table 3 shows that the mean scores on Marital Adjustment for literate Hindu women (23.45) is higher than the mean for literate Muslim women (19.55). It may be recalled that high score on marital adjustment inventory is indicative of high marital adjustment,

(Kupuswamy, 1973, 1976). The mean difference is statistically significant ( $t=12.11$ ,  $df = 198$ ) as such hypothesis is retained and the literate Hindu women are actually found high on marital adjustment than the literate Muslim women.

**Table – 4**

Chi-square Test of Normal Distribution of social Adjustment Scores of Literate Hindu women (N = 100).

S.A. Scores	fo	fe	Chi-square ( $X^2$ )
18-20	6	5.39	
15-17	14	14.44	
12-14	24	28.66	
			1.67
09-11	33	26.82	
06-08	16	17.44	
03-05	7	7.21	

Mean = 16.27, S.D. = 5.87,  $df = 3^*$ , p. value = N.S.

\* The  $df$  was determined by subtracting 3 from the number of categories (Guilford, 1965, p.246).

It is indicative from table 4 that the range of scores for literate Hindu women on social adjustment Inventory (S.A.I.) ranged from 03 to 18. Theoretically the possible spread of scores is 01 to 20. Thus, we find that the upper limit of the distribution for literate Hindu women is lower but nearer to theoretical upper limit and the lower limit of the distribution for literate Hindu women is higher than the theoretical range. The chi-square ( $X^2$ ) value for the distribution is statistically insignificant and hence the distribution is considered not to depart significantly from the normal distribution.

It is visible that the range of scores for the literate Muslim women on social adjustment inventory (S.A.I.) ranged from 2 to 17. Theoretically the possible spread of scores is 01 to 20. Thus, we find that the upper limit of the distribution for literate Muslim women is below the theoretical upper limit but the lower. Limit of the distribution is slight higher than the theoretical lower limit. The chi-square ( $X^2$ ) value for the distribution is statistically insignificant and hence, the distribution is considered not to depart significantly from the normal distribution.

It was predicated that there will be a significant difference between social

adjustment scores of literate Hindu and Muslim women in our society. As found in a number of studies (Mrinal, 1990, Dalal, 1991, Srivastava, 1989, Kupuswamy, 1968), it was thought that literate Hindu women would exhibit better social adjustment) (Higher scores on M.A.I.) than the literate Muslim women. In order to verify this contention social adjustment means scores of literate Hindu women and literate Muslim women were compared by calculating 't' ratio because the distributions of S.A. scores are normal not showing and significant departure from the normalcy.

#### **Conclusion:**

The nature of distribution of socio-marital adjustment scores for our sample is higher than that reported by Dalal (1992) for his

samples. The mean (23.45) of marital adjustment and (16.27) of social adjustment scores for literate Hindu women obtained for our sample is higher than the mean scores for college students (Dalal, 1990). However, the mean scores (19.55) of marital adjustment and (16.36) of social adjustment for literate women of Muslim family obtained for our sample is also higher than the mean scores for college students (Dalal, 1990).

Since, scores for literate Hindu women are indicative of high socio-marital predisposition, However, scores for literate Muslim women are indicative of low socio-marital disposition than those of the low socio-marital disposition than those of the subjects of college students (Dalal, 1990), Sample .

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