

UNVEILING APPREHENSIONS: THE CHANGING PERSPECTIVES OF YOUNG UNMARRIED WOMEN ON MARRIAGE IN KERALA

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the perspectives and apprehensions of young unmarried women in Kerala regarding the institution of marriage. Through a survey of 150 participants aged 18 to 26, the research explores how factors such as societal expectations, career aspirations, personal identity, and family dynamics influence women's attitudes toward marriage. The findings reveal significant concerns among participants related to post-marital adjustment, loss of autonomy, fear of sacrificing personal goals, trust issues, and interference from in-laws. Many women also expressed scepticism about marital happiness and supported the idea of living independently without marriage. Despite these apprehensions, a majority still held hope for lasting marital relationships. The study highlights the need to reconsider traditional marital norms and support women's autonomy in making life choices, emphasizing the broader cultural shift toward gender equality and personal freedom.

KEYWORDS: *Young Unmarried Women, Marriage In Kerala, Attitudes Toward Marriage, Marriage Apprehensions.*

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