

Necessity of Family Formation from Different Perspectives in Asia: A Sociological Appraisal

Sheykhi MT*

Professor Emeritus of Sociology, Alzahra University, Iran

*Corresponding author: Sheykhi MT, Professor Emeritus of Sociology, Alzahra University, Tehran, Iran; E-mail: mtshykhi@alzahra.ac.ir, mtshykhi@yahoo.com

Received date: 07 July 2022; Accepted date: 23 July 2022; Published date: 29 July 2022

Citation: Sheykhi MT (2022). Necessity of Family Formation from Different Perspectives in Asia: A Sociological Appraisal. SunText Rev Arts Social Sci 3(2): 142.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.51737/2766-4600.2022.042>

Copyright: © 2022 Sheykhi MT. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

Abstract

Forming a family is almost a must for the Asian nations. Something like 99% of Asians once in their life between 20 and 30 years of age form a family. Asia as compared with the West is traditional in this respect. Around the age of 20 and over, usually other family members interfere to organize a new family unit for those younger. Such a cycle continues leading to sustainability of young generations. New families formed usually continue for 50 years, or even more until one of the spouses is dead, and the family is dissolved after the death of the remaining partner. The remaining family is so-called "half family". The sustainability of family in old age is worth noting. Such families, or half families face various unforeseen problems needing in-depth sociological studies from beginning to the end, and if not challenges/ problems such as divorce, desertion, emotional divorce and the like appear.

Keywords: Different forms of family; Family from a demographic perspective; Pathology of family; Nuclear family; Sociology

Introduction

Sociologically speaking, family institution is of prime importance in most parts of Asia. It is formed mostly in early 20s year of age for males and females. Family formation in Asia is quite different from that of the Western world. In Asia, it is mainly done with the cooperation of the two families, while in the West families do not so much have role to play to form the marriage of their children. In Asia, marriage is known as the foundation of all customs, traditions, norms and values. Family is the protector of all such values, and it is the family from where the values are transferred to the next generation. Without family formation such a transference does not take place. However, at the age of 20 and over, marriage is expected to take place in Asian countries. In the present article, attempt is made to find the patterns of life through family and marriage. In this process, regeneration takes place; leading to continuity of generations and human life. When talking about the age of marriage at first marriage, average age at marriage is meant (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 1997). The purpose of this chapter is to reflect the family from different perspectives, and a comparative analysis of family trends as a changing institution. Since social and economic development affects the family process

from beginning to end, in this chapter, the family is analysed from different perspectives of population, social work and welfare, social pathology, etc. Family relationships and family life are generally influenced by social policies, and the movement of society in its macro form. At the same time, since family sociology is an interdisciplinary subject, any reform within the family itself is subject to the use of other scientific disciplines. The family as one of the most important social institutions is the foundation of society. In other words, the movement and development of society is largely related to the family. The origin of the institution of the family is largely related to the origin of mankind. Early humans lived for a long time outside the framework of the family. When humans lived in motion, the family had not yet taken shape. With the progress of man, with the settlement of man and with his access to agricultural activities, the family took on a more precise and orderly form. Therefore, the type of human activity is related to the emergence of the family. This process; this means that the family relationship with the job is still ongoing. The closer we get to the present age, the more the family changes. In other words, as far as European sociologists have concerned, since the 1750s, access to industry and social movements, the family has seen more change.

As a result, the relationships of family members, the position of women in the family, etc. have changed under the influence of social and economic changes. Today, the family is analysed and evaluated in terms of its importance in the form of psychology, sociology, economics, etc. The new economic system in the present age is largely based on how the family, the number of members, relationships between people, type of taste and.... Therefore, economy and family have reciprocal relations with each other. Family sociology provides a timely picture of the family by researching the family, family formation, the role of parents, the role of gender in the family, and the breakdown of marriage [1]. The social importance of the family foundation According to McIver 1958, the family transmits cultural elements from one generation to the next, creates unity in human behaviour, controls the role of man, and harmonizes human beings according to circumstances. According to McIver, the various factors of the origin and root of the family are: 1- The problem of satisfying instinctual needs. 2- Birth and rebirth. 3- Economic organization

Method of Research

Methodology used in the present article is of qualitative type. In that, various paradigms have been used to find out about the facts regarding pandemics during the history. Qualitative research usually studies people, events or areas in their natural settings. In finding facts for the research, the researcher engaged in careful data collection and thoughtful analysis of what was relevant. In the documentary research applied for the present research, printed and written materials were widely regarded. The research was performed as a qualitative library-type in which the researcher had to refer to the relevant and related sources. In the current research, various documents were thoroughly investigated, and the needful inferences were made. The data fed by the investigator in the present article is hopefully reliable. Though literature on pandemics is very limited, yet the author tried to investigate many different resources in order to elicit the necessary information to build up the text.

Different forms of family

Form or forms of family are: 1- Mother families, the place where the husband lives in the wife's family. 2. The father's family's place in that woman usually lives in the husband's family, and most families today are the same. 3. A family with a variable residence in which a couple lives with each other's families. The family is also categorized by name into the following shape or forms:

A. Maternal families in which the mother is the basis of inheritance; the mother's thought and power play a big role here.

B- Paternal families in which the father's power and influence dominate. In other words, the family is re-classified in terms of power, which are: 1- Matriarchy in which power is with the mother, which is also called the royal mother. 2. Patriarchal families in

which absolute power is with the father, which is also called the imperial father.

Under the influence of industry and technology, the family has witnessed social changes, migration, and the like, the most important of which is the transition from the extended family to the core. In other words, from a sociological point of view, there are two types of families, which are: a: extended family, b: nuclear family? The extended family is the primary form of the family in which, in addition to the spouse and children, other people live; like grandchildren, and their families. In other words, in an extended family, several generations usually live together at the same time and in the same place. Social, economic and cultural conditions in the past required many families to live together in this way. As long as agriculture was the predominant activity of societies, and the interdependence of individuals was a means of further production, there were large families. With the changes that appeared in the socio-economic patterns of societies, there was a change in the field of family from extensive to nuclear. Nuclear families are the most common type of family today, found in various communities, even in rural areas; That is, settlements where a man and a woman live with their children or without children seeking to marry each other. The conditions that have given rise to nuclear families are generally: migration, employment, division of labour and the like. In view of all these factors, the expansion of industry and technology can be mentioned. More than 90% of households today are nuclear, especially in urban areas. Families, whether large or nuclear, have had commonalities, both in the present age and throughout history, from interaction to satisfying each other's sexual needs [2]. The family is constantly changing in its course under the influence of factors such as aging, marriage, mortality, geographical and social movements, and this is inevitable. In this way, families are broken and newer families are formed within them, and even at a time of aging, as empty nests that remain (2008: Liu). Many religions, including Islam, place great emphasis on and encourage family formation. In some religions, such as Hinduism, it is stated that no one can complete his religious practices without having a family, or in other words, without a wife. Such a mind-set has spread and strengthened the family foundation in India. Such thinking is still prevalent in India and many other countries. While in industrialized societies and countries, under the influence of the development of industry and technology, and with the emergence of new perceptions among the younger generation, family formation in the traditional sense, which is based on the legal contract of marriage, is weakening.

Family from an economic point of view

Family behaviour had not received much attention from economists until the 1950s. Recently, however, their knowledge and awareness of the family is rapidly expanding. Following their

focus on the family, economists and economic demographers have analysed the system of consumption, production, the behaviour of family members, and the family structure itself. Hence, the family is considered from an economic point of view today as an important, important and growing discipline [3]. The family has long been the centre of economic activity, and is still more or less the same. In traditional societies, men have been engaged in agriculture in the form of families, and women have been engaged in matters related to food processing, cooking, poultry farming, animal husbandry, etc. Although new industry and technology have greatly changed this way of life, the family economy is still the same for more than 70% of the world's population.

The family also supports the disabled, children, etc.

Essential characteristics of the family are: 1- Permanent relationship between husband and wife, 2- Meeting instinctual needs, 3- Dependence on blood relationship; In other words, creating a blood relationship between members in this way, 4- financial support for members, 5- cohabitation, and the same culture. The organization of society depends on the family, and also the socialization of individuals arises from the family. Traditions are also passed down from the family, human society can be controlled through the family, and ultimately human beings learn the language, which is the most important means of communicating with the larger community, from the family. In order to have a more complete, productive society, as well as to have a society in which there is self-reliance at the national level, or in its economic form, a high level of self-sufficiency, it is necessary to Invest in the family. This investment is in the areas of education, health, nutrition, education, and the promotion of women. Women's rights advocates place great emphasis on promoting the status of women in the family; That is, by promoting the status of women as far as literacy and education, health and nutrition are concerned, future generations will have more guarantees. Such a sequence leads to economic, social and cultural prosperity for societies.

Family from a demographic perspective

The science of demography, which is itself derived from sociology, is closely related to the family. Using demography, the family can be better known quantitatively and qualitatively and judged. Demographics; That is, the science that deals with demographic change is based primarily on the family. The family itself is studied by the demographer as the smallest social unit. Demographic change; that is, births, deaths, and family-induced migration occur within the family, and have their own significant effects on the family, as noted earlier. The science of demography, which is used in conjunction with sociology, has been exploited for more than a hundred years. Sociology, however, was founded nearly two centuries ago by the Frenchman Auguste Kent. Today's families are more productive, especially in industrial societies formed under

the influence of various sciences, including sociology and demography, and the generations in which they are raised are more efficient. Mortality and fertility cases have been among the major factors that have mainly affected the family during the twentieth century. In the past, high and widespread deaths reduced the life expectancy of families. As a result, with the loss of a major family member or family member, the family became somewhat fragmented. The situation has changed dramatically today, with families increasingly guaranteed access to more medical and pharmaceutical services. Fertility, on the other hand, has coincided with mortality throughout history. Fertility as the most important factor that many family counsellors pay attention to, Rain hygiene, social workers, educational science experts and the like have attracted attention. Fertility used to be natural, but today it is controlled. This movement of nature and potential takes place over a period of 30 years for women. Nowadays, under the influence of family counselling, and providing other health services and family planning, promoting literacy and awareness of men and women, fertility is lower than normal. Today in industrial, urban and civilized societies fertility up to the surrounding ages; it occurs in the 30s, and for others it can last as long as 40s and older. At the same time, the educational progress and education of parents, which is also reflected in their children, have a significant impact on how their families are [4]. Today, a new demographic culture is spreading to developing societies and the Third World. As far as fertility is concerned, there is a major difference between urban and rural areas, between educated and illiterate people, and so on. What is certain is that it is very difficult to control the fertility and spread of such a culture at the community level. The population increases further through two factors; that is: 1- through reducing mortality, 2- through uncontrolled fertility. The first is inevitably welcomed by the people; That is, individuals and populations try in every way to prevent their diseases, which eventually lead to death. This has led to a very low mortality rate, or in other words, the worldwide mortality rate, even in third world countries. This index is very close today between industrial and non-industrial countries; That is, it has reached about 6 to 9 deaths per thousand population per year. (PDS: 2007). While the fertility rate is now a problem for many Third World societies, industrialized countries have more or less controlled their fertility over the past hundred years, and thus have been able to bring their standard of living within Promote your family and the community at large. Counsellors and social workers play a major role in lowering the fertility rate in society; by referring to families, they can largely provide principled and scientific methods in relation to the number of children in the family. It should be noted that changing the culture of fertility, or in other words, controlling fertility, in society and among families is not so simple. It depends on the religious, cultural, literacy, urban and rural areas, the type of economic activity, the freedom of women in society, pay attention to it, and address it. The issue of

women's literacy. In any case, illiterate women, who make up a significant portion of the population in developing countries, may be encouraged to become literate. Literacy factor has an effective role in fertility control in communities. This is clearly seen in urban and rural areas. Also, with broader planning related to other factors, employment opportunities should be provided for women. In this way, too, nature can control fertility, and ultimately make families happier in terms of quality. It should be noted that lowering the fertility rate for the reasons mentioned above is not an easy task. As a family counsellor and educational officer, it is necessary to pave the way for counselling and educational counsellors in relation to the family to become more and more quantitatively and qualitatively in the society; In order to make the issues of family planning, better educational fields, and access to jobs as possible as possible, and the problems related to housing, economic disorders and the like to be eliminated. Another way that can be controlled and controlled by large populations in families and at the community level is to raise the age of marriage or at least advise people to do so.

Family Planning and the Role of Counselling in Family Sociology

Family planning is now recommended as an important tool by family affairs agents, health assistants and family counsellors to families in various forms, in order to achieve families with desired dimensions. In general, family planning tools are advanced and have been used for about sixty years. The most widely used of these tools today are industrial societies, and the least used by many African societies. They pay. The success of family counsellors depends on the resources provided by the government, and the investment made by the government and health organizations. Family planning is used in various ways such as: sterilization, pills, physical equipment, and the like. According to statistics obtained in 2007, more than 68% of the world's population follow family planning. In it, India (56%), Iran (74%), China (87%) and other developing Asian countries (66%), Latin America (71%), and Africa (about 28%) used family planning tools (2007: PDS). It reflects the people's acceptance of family planning programs on the one hand, and government support and necessary investments on the other. Family counsellors as intermediaries have an effective role in this regard. As mentioned earlier, the issue of family counselling, as far as family hygiene and planning are concerned, started earlier in the industrialized countries, and gradually spread from those countries to other Third World countries. Macro-socio-economic changes in industrialized countries, with the literacy of men and women, women's employment and the like, spontaneously pursued comprehensive population control. In these societies, family counsellors today do not pay much attention to the demographic issues of the family, but in return, to solve the mental

and psychological problems of individuals, to solve the problems of the elderly, and so on. On the other hand, this trend is a priority in developing countries and Third World societies today; this means that family counsellors should, as far as possible, provide the necessary guidance and advice on population and family issues. Industrial societies today have population growth rates of less than 1%; in some cases, these countries have zero population growth; that is, the population has become stable, or even declining. In a situation where the population is also declining, it is the duty of family counsellors to encourage population growth among families. Conversely, Third World societies have annual population growth rates of 3% or more. In the 60 years since family planning, social services, and family counselling programs were introduced, many Third World communities have somehow been able to slow their population growth, thereby gaining access to better socioeconomic status. Have. Family sociology, family planning, and the principled use of family counsellors in relation to population and family issues change the economic and social status of families and society as a whole, or in other words, such a situation improves the quality of life between individuals. And different social groups.

Urbanization and social development

Urbanization itself has a major impact on how families are built and built. With the spread of urbanization, many patterns of behaviour of individuals; both men and women change; That is, immigrants and newcomers to urban areas largely adapt to urban society, urban patterns, and the majority of people. Similarly, their fertility behaviour changes, and greatly decreases, under the influence of urban patterns, urban economic conditions, and urban socio-cultural dynamics. Such a situation has occurred in different parts of the Third World. Literacy is also related to the household size or the average number of people in the family. According to studies conducted in 1986, in which the literacy rate in District 6 of Tehran was 5.91%, in contrast to the household dimension in the same district, 9.3 people were obtained; While in the 19th district of the same city in that year, when the literacy was about 70%, the families of this district had a household size of 3.5 people (1986 census). This means that the higher the literacy rate in an area, the lower the average family size, and vice versa. It is noteworthy that the quantity of its total fertility index has an effective role in how the family's status, women's quality of life, their health, their life expectancy, etc. This transformation leads to the social and economic development of the society. Also, following the decrease in fertility among women, fewer families are formed in the future, and as a result, more guarantees are provided for families in the future.

Sociology of the Family and Social Work

Today, social work is used and exploited as one of the fields or branches of social sciences by using the principles and theories of sociology, biology, economics, etc., in order to solve the problems of family members. Or minimize. Social workers, like family counsellors, face problems. Perhaps the difference between a family counsellor and a social worker is that social workers deal with the person and family who have the problem, while family counsellors may deal with ordinary families; That is, families that do not seem to have much of a problem. The helper tries to identify the person's problem by identifying the case or the person with the problem (client), and thus correcting him / her. The social worker also makes a fundamental change in the family by correcting the person with the problem; In other words, such a situation does not put the family in a worse situation. In Iran, the Welfare Organization is in charge of matters related to social work and providing services to people with disabilities, and so on. The development of social service programs largely through these individuals; That is, social workers are implemented. As a result, social work causes family's problems to spread exponentially; It should not be transmitted from one person to another, and thus physical and mental illnesses, economic problems, etc. should not be transmitted from one generation to another. What is certain is that in a society like Iran, there is a need to invest as much as possible in the field of social work in relation to families; however, due to various bottlenecks, this is achieved to a very limited extent. For more than a hundred years, industrial societies have been in contact with social service institutions, social security, social work, support for the elderly, support for the homeless, etc., and have thus been able to identify many of their problems, and Remove. Social work and counselling make use of all the potential of individuals in the community. However, in the absence of timely social work, social services and counselling, many of the capabilities of individuals remain unknown, and as a result are not exploited.

Deviations and Disorganization in New Families

The changes that have taken place in the families have led to the following conditions, which are:

- Lack of unity in the family in relation to the goals, desires, ideals and thinking of individuals and members).
- Decrease in family control: In such situations, no one wants to be guided and advised by another.
- Conflict and strife: With the decrease of control in the family, disorganization and convulsions in the family increase or, fortunately, a kind of deviation is observed in the families.
- Weakness and weakness in marriage laws (marriage rules)
- Decreased mental security: This situation follows the conflict and seizures in families and within families.

Comparison of extended and nuclear families

Extensive families are functionally in the following situations: The family is of two types: 1-extended, 2-nuclear. Weaknesses of nuclear families

Family from different perspectives

Extensive include

- Inhibiting population growth; large families often impede self-reliance, which in turn affects members' personality development.
- Unfavourable conditions for women; in large families, women do not live in optimal conditions due to the feuds that usually occur between members. Problems arising from inappropriate interventions create such a situation.
- Mere reproduction; in large families, much attention is paid to the quantity and quality of children.
- Poverty in various fields, lack of self-reliance, prevention of creativity and initiative, financial and economic dependencies can be evaluated under this heading.

Changes in the new family (nuclear)

New families, or in other words nuclear, are generally in the following situation:

- Reduction in economic duties of life
- Decrease in other family activities Many different family activities
Decreased)
 - Increase in family entertainment
 - Weakness in sexual relations based on legal marriage (negative point) that increases divorce.
 - Change in the relationship between men and women (with their legal equality)
 - Increase in the importance of children; (The number has decreased, but they have become more important; in other words, the human race has become more important.
 - Decrease in the importance of blood relations, weakened sibling relations; in general, emotional relationships have faded.
- Disorganization of large families
- Emergence of smaller families (declining family).
- Family disorganization; I mean the circumstances that have led to an increase in divorce.
- Instability in the family, which goes back to many previous cases.

New Family Issues

New areas or issues of the family today appear in various forms. In other words, the family is moving or continuing in a way it has rarely seen in the past. These include:

- Frequency of marriages based on romantic love)

- The emergence of discrete marriages
- The issue of working women or finding employment for women, which itself has a significant impact on family relations.
- Weakness in family control
- Conflict and conflict in the family.
- Controlled births or birth control (controlled reproductive behaviour).

Causes of new family instability

Influenced by various economic, socio-cultural, industrial, etc. factors, new families have adopted new methods. This means that the way of life and quality of life within new families are influenced by the above factors very differently from the past. The causes of instability of the new family can be classified as follows:

- Less social protection and supervision in family crises; (Before, problems and family issues were resolved by the elders, etc.).
- Replacing patriarchy and male domination with cooperation and legal equality and things like that.

With all the changes that have taken place and are happening in the family, it is predicted that the family will always remain, both because of its long history and because of its adaptability to different conditions [5]. In any case, with all the changes that have taken place, the Yanhadi family family remains.

Pathology and Sociology of the Family

Urban and civilized life today has brought with it problems that social pathologists have identified, identified, and addressed. In other words, family problems cannot be solved only through medical referrals and health and medication measures, but also social pathology has been able to identify and solve many family problems [6]. Lemert, an American social pathologist, was perhaps the first to come up with the idea of eliminating many social ills in general, and's family's in particular, through cognition, analysis, and the use of scientific methods. Industry has created self-revolution in social life. Industry, which has affected family life, subsequently raised the standard of living, as well as the overall stability of the social structure. Today, the social structure and institution of the family have become more vulnerable than ever before. Industrialization has increased urbanization, and as a result cities have grown exponentially. Industrialization has turned extended families into nuclear families, which itself calls for more social oversight, more social control, more police intervention, and so on. In other words, such a change has increased human needs; all of this has weakened family ties. Industrialization has also increased individualism, and as noted earlier, this trend has reduced traditional patterns and contexts (such as counselling within the family. Industrialization has given women more freedom, and

made them economically more Industrialization has made life dynamic, but in the face of psychological crises and material problems, it has left housing and similar problems for societies, so social pathology is used to overcome many crises. Deviations, juvenile delinquency, etc. Finally, one of the problems that is common in families today, and should be considered by family counsellors, social reformers, helpers and pathologists in general, the phenomenon of divorce and Family breakdown has led to more than 40% (divorce) within families in industrial societies, a much lower proportion in Third World and developing societies [7-13].

Conclusion

The tradition of family through marriage has been kept alive for countless countries based on traditions of culture and religion. Every corner of Asia has its own value system, so far as marriage is concerned. It is only through the marriage contract that family is formed. Earlier, and in ancient times, the new born married couples used to live with their in-laws for years, and in some cases to the end of their lives (extended family). That is why shortage of housing was not felt as today. Similarly, the elderly people were easily handled and taken care of in such extended families. But, through modernization in general, values changed, and independent families became a priority which led to increasing social problems such as scarcity of land and housing, increase of divorce, and aging care/ protection. Currently, the increasing number of new families need to be synchronized with new housing plans and at the same time, nursing homes for the elderly. Newly-formed families and marriages need to be followed by new schools, and more schooling. At the same time, more social and family advisors are needed to be arranged to help the growing families and couples.

References

1. Quah S.R. Families in Asia. London Routledge. 2008.
2. Cheal D. Families in Today's world. A Comparative Approach, London, Routledge. 2008.
3. Becker G.S. A Theory of the Allocation of Time. *Eco J.* 1965; 299: 493-519.
4. Feinstein L, Duckworth K, Sabates R. Education and the Family. London, Routledge. 2008.
5. Locke J. An Essay Concerning Human Understanding (1689), Oxford, Clarendon Press. 1975.
6. Lemert E. Human Deviance, Social Problems and Social Control, Englewood Cliffs, NJ. Prentice Hall. 1972.
7. Australian Bureau of Statistics, Retrieved, Family Formation Age at first marriage, Australian Soc Trends. 2021.
8. ESCAP Population Data Sheets, UN Publications. 1983-2008.
9. Juan L L, Gua Q. Life Satisfaction in a sample of Empty-nest Elderly: A Survey in the Rural Areas of a Mountainous Country in China. *Quality of Life Res.* 2008; 17: 823-830.



10. Maciver R.M, C.H. Page. Society: An Introduction Analysis, London, Macmillan. 1959.
11. World Population Data Sheet, Washington DC. PRB Pub. 2007.
12. World Population Data Sheets, Washington DC. PRB, Publications. 2000-2003.
13. General Population and Housing Census Publications, Statistics Center of Iran. 1986.