Investigating the relationship between family communication patterns and materialism with students' unwillingness to get married (Case study: single students of Tabriz Azad University)

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Abstract

Since the decision to get married is one of the most important decisions and marriage is one of the necessities of human life, it is necessary to study the factors affecting the unwillingness to get married among young people. This study aimed at investigating the effect of family communication patterns and materialism with unwillingness to get married among students. The correlational research method and the statistical population included all single students of Tabriz Azad University in the academic year of 2018-2019, among which 300 people were selected by available sampling method. Assessment instruments included a student marriage willingness questionnaire (Heydari et al., 2004), a family communication model questionnaire (Fitzpatrick and Ritchie, 1994), and a materialism questionnaire (Ritchen and Davoson, 1992). Data were statistically analyzed using Pearson correlation coefficient and regression analysis. The results showed that the dimension of communication and listening of communication patterns were related with the dimensions of success, focus, happiness, materialism and reluctance to get married among students. The results of regression analysis showed that family communication and materialism patterns had the most impact on students' unwillingness to get married, respectively.

Keywords: family communication patterns, materialism, unwillingness to get married.

Introduction

Marriage is an important social and legal institution that supports stable marital relationships by providing a specific set of rights, privileges, obligations, responsibilities, and new expectations. Undoubtedly, such support leads to the survival and continuity of the institution of the family and the social structure. In the Holy Qur'an, marriage and the realization of a relationship between the two sexes are also considered divine signs, bringing peace to both individuals (Ziadi & Shuraydi, 2010). The family is the smallest and at the same time the most important unit of society, which plays an essential role in meeting the physical and mental needs of human beings as well as the health of society. The family system is one of the most important social systems that is formed based on marriage between the two sexes (Aslani et al., 2015).The desire to marry as a student is a

good time for many people; Because a person at university meed a lot of people of the opposite sex, who are more in tune with each other in terms of age, education, mindset, interests, and expectations, at the same time they distance themselves from adolescence. In addition to the benefits of marriages, such as the ease of the marriage process, the effective role in reducing the age of marriage, reducing the generation gap, preventing illegal behavior in academic settings, peace of mind at the peak of physiological and psychological processes of student youth, increasing motivation between student youth in order to study and enter life seriously, etc., student marriages can also have some problems and shortcomings. Accurate knowledge of the dimensions and factors influencing the desire for marriage is doubly necessary because it will be effective in providing the right path for marriage and preventing inappropriate marriage (Bahari, 2012).

Marriage has many purposes, the most important of which are peace and comfort, sexual satisfaction, survival, personal and social development, personal and social health and safety, and ultimately the provision of psychosocial needs. Thus, marriage has a wider and wider scope than other human relationships and has biological, economic, emotional, psychological and social dimensions. Marriage is a multifaceted process that requires psychological, emotional, economic, family, and cultural-social fitness (Schroeder, 2013). In this context, family communication patterns is a factor affecting a person's personality and how people communicate and materialism is an emotional and psychological factor which can be examined in relation to people's desire or reluctance to get married.Materialism means giving importance to material things. At the highest level of materialism, property is central to life and as a source of life satisfaction and happiness (Pilch, 2016). Although materialism has positive effects, such as satisfying the need for discrimination, there is growing research that shows negative consequences, such as depression, low levels of happiness, and dissatisfaction with life. Materialistic people focus on what they don't have and don't consider the positive aspects of life (Zhang & et al, 2014). The founding of the family, which is the cornerstone of society, is sometimes confronted with bottlenecks, the most important of which is extravagance. Either it hinders the family cycle, or it makes it difficult, and the excesses affect its cohesion, and the cause of inconsistency and, consequently, separation.

As material ambitions increase, the structure of the family becomes more difficult. Issues such as continuing education, dowry and the lack of contentment are now deterrents is preventive of marriage and are the factors that are formed due to attention and tendency to materialism and cause reluctance of young people to the important issue of marriage (Sharafi and Taherpour, 2008).The family is a unique communication system that goes beyond other relationships. From Stirler's point of view, in the family system, the element of communication is very decisive (Goldenberg, 2001). Turbulent communication patterns have a significant effect on the mental health of family members. Because any failure in family functioning has an adverse effect on members (Siffert & Schwarts, 2011), how members interact can be a key factor in the family's unwillingness to choose a spouse and start a family.Numerous studies have examined and confirmed the relationship between variables

related to family, social, and economic factors, unwillingness to get married, and areas related to marriage. For example, Jamand et al. (2017), in a study entitled, the relationship between modernism and reluctance to marry among young people in Tehran, showed that among all independent variables (individualism, fashionism, materialism, gender equality, attitude towards the democratic structure of the family and media consumption, there was a positive and significant relationship with reluctance to marry.The results of regression analysis suggested that the gender equality variable had the highest overall effect on unwillingness to get married. The variables of fashionism, individualism and materialism have been influential in the following categories. Babakhani et al. (2015) conducted a study entitled Relationship between family communication patterns and youth expectations of marriage in students of Roodehen University. The results of the Pearson correlation test showed that the communication pattern was directly related to realistic expectations and inversely related to idealistic and pessimistic expectations, but the correlation relationship model was directly related to idealistic and pessimistic expectations. It is inversely related to realistic expectations. The results of multivariate regression also showed that 59% of young people's realistic expectations of marriage were associated with a pattern of communication and were directly and predictably correlated with a pattern of communication. Also, 28% of idealistic expectations and 30% of pessimistic expectations are heard with the communication model, and the opposite is predicted directly with the communication model. Majdi and Rezaei (2011) conducted a study entitled "Assessing the attitude of single male students of Ferdowsi University towards marriage and the factors influencing it." The results of the study showed that several variables such as attitude towards women, life satisfaction, family communication patterns and friends' attitudes about marriage are influential in attitudes towards marriage. Tanhaei and Shokrbeigi (2008), in a study entitled Globalization, Materialism and Family in Iran, "transition or collapse" has examined the evolution of the family in Iran. Documentary and experimental findings indicated that the bedrock of the Iranian family has undergone a transformation due to modernism, and in a sense, it is transitioning from tradition to modernity. Materialism and modernity accept change due to intermediaries such as literacy, urbanization, the rate of foreign travel, and new communication technologies, and reproduce in a dialectical confrontation between tradition and modernity.Ashleyby, Heather, and Jason (2018) conducted a study entitled Money More Than Marriage: The Importance of Marriage as a Mediator between Materialism and Marital Satisfaction. While the negative relationship between materialism and marital satisfaction is well documented, the mediating variables that probably explain this relationship have not been extensively studied. This study examines the understanding of the importance of marriage as a positive mediator between materialism and marital satisfaction. Using a sample of 1,310 married people, we found evidence of partial mediation in which the relationship between materialism and the understanding of the importance of marriage was negative, and this relationship explained in part why materiality has less to do with marital satisfaction. Therefore, it is important for people working with married clients as consultants, therapists, and financial planners

to understand how their clients' materialistic tendencies can affect their relationships.

Jason S., Carol, and Lindsay (2014) conducted research on materialism and marriage. They stated that previous research has shown that being a materialistic spouse with marital satisfaction is negative. However, researchers need to determine whether this relationship is due to value differences between spouses or whether materialism needs to be further studied. They found that materialism was negatively related to marital quality, even when their spouses were united in their materialistic values. Marriages in which husbands reported less materialism were better at qualitative characteristics of marriage than couples who knew one or both wives were highly materialistic.

Since the decision to marry is one of the most important decisions and marriage is one of the necessities of human life (Jabibpourgatbati and Ghaffari, 2011), it seems necessary to study the factors affecting the desire for marriage. Unfortunately, in recent years in our country, the marriage rate has been declining and the phenomenon of divorce has been increasing; Many young people (especially boys) have no desire to get married and prefer to satisfy their sexual and emotional needs in other ways, especially through wandering, friendships and virtual relationships. Various issues point to this bitter social reality, among which we can reduce the marriage rate, increase the relationship outside the framework of girls and boys, increase the age of marriage, especially among girls, increase emotional divorce. Legal issues include declining fertility rates and population growth (Fathia Ashtiani and Ahmadi, 2008). These symptoms and reasons are very worrying and

indicate a dilemma that if it is not thought about and for its prevention and treatment, in the form of national issues, solutions are not found, it will turn into a deep, wide and dangerous crisis. The problem of reluctance and reluctance of young people to marry and start a family is so widespread and obvious that even without the need for statistical research and in the form of personal experience, its effects can be seen around it. Therefore, both from the origin of religious and civil responsibility in the face of social issues and in terms of attention to national interests, explaining the causes and factors of this issue and thinking about prevention and treatment, especially relying on local national, religious and cultural resources, is necessary and inevitable.

Since the decision to marry is one of the most important decisions and marriage is one of the necessities of human life, it is necessary to study the factors affecting unwillingness to get married. So far, no study has been conducted to simultaneously examine family communication patterns and materialism with unwillingness to get married among single students, so according to the above, the main purpose of this study was to determine the relationship between family communication patterns and materialism with unwillingness to get married to single students of Tabriz Azad University.

Research method

The present study was an applied descriptive-correlational study. The statistical population included all single male and female students aged 18 to 35 years in different faculties of Islamic Azad University of Tabriz in the academic year 2018-2019. The number of selected samples was 300 people who have been at the undergraduate and graduate levels

in terms of education. In order to select the sample, the available method has been used. The criteria for entering the study were singleness and the age range of 18 to 35 years, married and older people were not included in the sample.

Data Collection tools

Marriage Desire Questionnaire: Marriage Desire Questionnaire, student version (Prasad) designed and made by Heidari, Mazaheri and Pouratemad (2004) which had 24 items included a 5-point Likert scale and an additional question for the golden age of marriage. This questionnaire was administered to a sample of 779 students from Shahid Beheshti and Tehran universities. Using factor analysis by varimax rotation method, four factors were identified for it, all of which had a specific value higher than 1. These four factors were: feedback on marriage, readiness and desire to get married, attitudes toward the consequences of marriage, and barriers to marriage. Thus, Prasad has 5 points, of which 4 points are for its agents and one total score is for the desire to marry. For each of the questions, 5 options are considered, including strongly agree, agree, no idea, disagree and strongly disagree.

Family Communication Questionnaire (Fitzpatrick and Ritchie, 1994): This questionnaire is a self-reporting tool that uses that degree of agreement or opposition of the respondent in a range of five points (I totally agree: 5 to i totally disagree 1). This tool measures the dimensions of dialogue and conformity in such a way that the first 11 articles are related to the dimension of conformity and the next 15 articles are related to the dimension of dialogue. Querner and

Fitzpatrick (2002) reported the content validity, criterion, and validity structure (Cronbach's alpha and retesting) of this questionnaire. In Iran, Cyrus Nia (2006) has obtained the validity of this tool by Cronbach's alpha coefficient for the dialogue dimension of 87% and for the consistency dimension of 81% and also reported its validity as desirable.

Materialism Questionnaire (Richens and Dawson, 1992): This scale consists of 18 articles and three sub-scales of success (6 items), focus (7 items) and happiness (5 items) and has a total score. The score is based on the Likert range from I completely disagree with (1) to i strongly agree (5).

To analyze the data in this study, first descriptive data methods including graph mapping, frequency calculation, average calculation percentage and standard deviation calculation were done and then to test the hypotheses, Pearson correlation and multiple regression using SPSS software version 20 have been used.

Findings

Descriptive Statistics: The demographic data of the statistical sample of the present study were 102 people aged 24 to 29 years. Regarding the gender of the statistical sample, it can be said that 54.3% of the students were female (163 students). Also, in the field of education, the highest frequency is related to nursing students, which is 40% of the statistical sample, and in the case of education, the highest frequency is related to undergraduate students with 42.3%, of which 127 were students. The following are the mean and standard deviations of the research variables:

Table 1: Descriptive characteristics of research variables

SD	M	variable
0/39669	3/0889	Willingness to get married
0/39257	3/2089	Materialism
0/50239	3/1076	Communication patterns

Using the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test, it was found that all variables were normal; That's why we use parametric tests.

Inferential statistics:

The following will show tests of the hypotheses:

Table 2: Correlation coefficient between family communication patterns and desire to marry among students

communication	Listening	Willingness to communicate		
		1	Pearson	
			Significance level	Willingness to communicate
		300	Number	
	1	0/308	Pearson	
		0/000	Significance level	Listening
	300	300	Number	
1	0/135	0/505	Pearson	
	0/019	0/000	Significance level	communication
300	300	300	Number	

The significance level for Pearson correlation coefficient for the study of the correlation dimension of listening with unwillingness to get married among students is 0.000. (P-

Value ≤ 0.05). Therefore, at 95% confidence level, the statistical null hypothesis is rejected and the opposite hypothesis (H1) is confirmed; As a result, there is a significant relationship between listening and unwillingness to get married among students. Also, the significance level of Pearson correlation coefficient to evaluate the relationship between dimension of communication and unwillingness to get married among students is equal to 0.000. (P-Value ≤ 0.05). Therefore, at 95% confidence level, the statistical null hypothesis is rejected and the opposite hypothesis (H1) is confirmed; As a result, it can be said that there is a significant relationship between the dimension of hearing and not wanting to get married among students.

Table 3: Correlation coefficient of relationship between materialism and desire for marriage among students

happiness	dimensionality	Success	Willingness to get married		
			1	Correlation coefficient	Willingness to communicate
				significance level	
			300	Number	
		1	0/443	Correlation coefficient	success
			0/000	significance level	
		300	300	Number	
	1	0/508**	0/457	Correlation coefficient	dimensionality
		0/000	0/000	significance level	
	300	300	300	Number	
1	0/454*	0/555**	0/492	Correlation coefficient	happiness
	0/045	0/000	0/000	significance level	
300	300	300	300	Number	

The significance level for Pearson correlation coefficient to evaluate the relationship between success dimension and desire for marriage among students is 0.000. (P-Value ≤ 0.05). Therefore, at 95% confidence level, the statistical zero hypothesis is rejected and the opposite hypothesis (H1) is confirmed; As a result, there is a significant relationship between success and unwillingness to get married among students. Also, the significance level of Pearson correlation coefficient for the study of the relationship

between dimensionality and unwillingness to get married among students is equal to 0.000. (P-Value ≤ 0.05). Therefore, at 95% confidence level, the statistical zero hypothesis is rejected and the opposite hypothesis (H1) is confirmed; As a result, it can be said that there is a significant relationship between the dimensionality and lack of inclination and desire for marriage among students, and finally the significant

level of Pearson correlation coefficient of happiness with unwillingness to get married among students is equal to 0.000. is. (P-Value ≤ 0.05). Therefore, at 95% confidence level, the statistical null hypothesis is rejected and the opposite hypothesis (H1) is confirmed; As a result, it can be said that there is a significant relationship between happiness and lack of desire for marriage among students.

Table 4: Multiple regression analysis

Durbin-Watson	SD	Unadjusted R2	R2	Correlation coefficient	Model
1/860	0/31313	0/377	0/381	0/617	2

The value of the correlation coefficient between the variables is 0.617, which shows that there is a very, very strong correlation between the set of independent variables (family communication patterns and materialism) and the dependent variable

(unwillingness to marry among students). Also, the value of the coefficient of determination is equal to 0.381, indicating that the set of dimensions of the independent variable predicts or estimates 38.1% of the variance of the dependent variable).

Table 5: Results of multiple variance analysis table

sig	F	Sum of squares	df	Sum of squares	Model
0/000	91/435	8/965	2	17/931	Regression
		0/098	297	29/121	residuals
			299	47/052	total

Given the significance of the F test (915/435) at the error level of less than 0.001, it can be concluded that the regression model is composed of the dimensions of the independent variable and the dependent variable and the set of dimensions of the

independent variables is able to explain the variable of unwillingness to marry among students.

Table 6: Results for regression effect coefficients

sig	t	Standardized coefficient	SD	Non-standardized coefficient	Variable
0/000	5/463	0/316	0/050	0/273	family communication (X_1)patterns
0/000	6/420	0/371	0/057	0/365	(X_2) materialism

The output of Table 6 shows the regression effects of each independent variable on the dependent variable. Considering the output, it can be said that the independent variable of family communication patterns had the greatest effect on the dependent variable.

Discussion

This study aimed at investigating the relationship between family communication patterns and materialism and unwillingness to get married of single students of Tabriz Azad University. The results showed that communication patterns and materialism have a significant relationship with unwillingness to get married among single students.

According to the tests and analyzes obtained through combined and simple regression and correlation test, the results showed that the value of the correlation coefficient between the homogeneity dimension and the unwillingness to get married among students is equal to 0.000. (P-Value ≤ 0.05). Therefore, at 95% confidence level, the statistical zero hypothesis is rejected and the opposite hypothesis (H1) is confirmed; As a result, there is a significant relationship between listening and unwillingness to get married among students. Moreover, the

significance level of Pearson correlation coefficient for the study of the subsequent relationship was 0.00 (P-Value ≤ 0.05).

Therefore, at 95% confidence level, the statistical null hypothesis is rejected and the opposite hypothesis (H1) is confirmed; As a result, it can be said that there is a significant relationship between the dimension of listening and unwillingness to get married among students. The overall result of the first hypothesis test is that there is a significant relationship between different types of family communication patterns and the level of youth's reluctance to marry. The results of testing this hypothesis are consistent with the researches of Riahi and Khayyatan (1397), Babakhani et al. In justifying this, there is ample research evidence that many factors affect young people's willingness or unwillingness to marry and start a family. One of these factors is family communication patterns. Family communication patterns are a joint effort to maintain balance in the family and to be able to coordinate with change, resolve conflicts and solidarity among members and succeed in applying disciplinary models, adhere to boundaries between people, enforce regulations and principles governing it aimed at protecting the entire family system. In general, family

interactions are one of the most important determinants of mental health in individuals within the family. If the relationships within the family are such that they cause anxiety for the members and endanger their psychological security, this in turn can be the source of many psychological and behavioral problems for them. Meanwhile, the influence of the family on the individual's behavior in any field is not as effective as in the field of communication behaviors such as marriage and cohabitation.

Also, according to the tests and analyzes obtained through combined and simple regression and the value of correlation coefficient, the results showed that the relationship between the success dimension and the unwillingness to marry among students was is equal to 0.000. (P-Value ≤ 0.05). Therefore, at 95% confidence level, the statistical null hypothesis is rejected and the opposite hypothesis (H1) is confirmed; As a result, there is a significant relationship between success and unwillingness to get married among students. Also, the significance level related to Pearson correlation coefficient to investigate the relationship between dimensionality and unwillingness to get married among students is equal to 0.000 (P-Value ≤ 0.05). Therefore, at 95% confidence level, the statistical null hypothesis is rejected and the opposite hypothesis (H1) is confirmed; As a result, there is a significant relationship between materialism and unwillingness to get married among students, and finally a significant level of Pearson correlation coefficient was reported for happiness with unwillingness to get married among students (equal to 0.000, P-Value ≤ 0.05). Therefore, at 95% confidence level, the statistical null hypothesis is rejected and the opposite

hypothesis (H1) is confirmed; As a result, it can be argued that there is a significant relationship between the dimension of happiness in terms of materialism and unwillingness to get married among students.

The results of testing this hypothesis were consistent with the researches of Jamand et al. (2017), Mahdavi et al. (2016), Moghrebian et al.Ashilibi et al. (2018), Normanipi et al. (2015),Jasonas et al. (2014). In justifying this connection, it can be said that materialism can be considered as one of the main causes of young people's reluctance to get married. Materialism means giving importance to material things. At the highest level of materialism, property occupies the main place in life and is considered as a source of life satisfaction and happiness.

Although materialism has positive effects, such as satisfying the need for discrimination, there is growing research that shows negative consequences, such as depression, low levels of happiness, and dissatisfaction with life. Because materialistic people focus on what they don't have and don't consider the positive aspects of life, as material ambitions increase, the structure of the family becomes more difficult. Issues such as continuing education, dowry and the lack of contentment are now deterrents to marriage and cause young people to be uninterested in the important issue of marriage.The results of the combined regression test and the correlation test showed that the value of the correlation coefficient between the variables is 0.617, which shows the relationship between the set of independent variables (dimensions of family communication patterns and dimensions of materialism) and the dependent variable (reluctance to get married). Also, the value of the coefficient of determination is equal to 0.381. It shows that

the set of dimensions of the independent variable predicts or estimates 38.1 of the variance of the dependent variable. Given the significance of the F test (915/435) at the error level of less than 0.001, it can be concluded that the regression model is composed of the dimensions of the independent variable and the dependent variable is a good model and the set of dimensions of the independent variables is able to explain the variable of unwillingness to marry among single university students.

According to the general test of the hypothesis, it can be said that the variable family communication patterns has the most impact and the components of materialism have the least effect on the unwillingness to marry among single students of Tabriz University. The results of testing this hypothesis are consistent with the results of the research of George P. et al. (2017), Monsis et al. (2016), and Schuder (2013). To justify this relationship, it should be acknowledged that male and female students who do not have healthier and more regular family communication patterns and are not mentally and emotionally healthier will be less inclined to marry at the right time and start a family. Therefore, it can be said that the key solution of marriage is in the context of the family and it includes other infrastructural solutions that are planned by the officials and implemented by experts, consultants and educators.This research, like any other research, has limitations that cause the results to be expressed with caution, and the reader needs to pay attention to them when interpreting the results and generalizing them. One of the limitations of the questionnaire is to consider the indicators, which means that we could have considered more indicators to predict the problems of

adolescents' personality, but due to the time constraints of the respondents to answer, finally, three variables were selected for evaluation. Also, the researcher's mentalities, ideas, interests, knowledge, characteristics and knowledge and other personal characteristics such as the power of interaction with others, etc. in hypothesizing, designing questions, compiling a questionnaire, communicating with others and so on works.

In this study, the relationship between family communication patterns and materialism has been investigated with the unwillingness to marry among single students of Tabriz Azad University. The findings of this study indicated that family communication patterns and materialism, respectively, have the greatest impact on the level of desire and reluctance of young people to marry among students. In this regard, it is suggested that family communication patterns should be considered as one of the issues that can remove the obstacles to youth marriage or make it difficult for young people to get married. All family members should be involved in active, dynamic, and frequent communication behaviors related to a wide range of topics related to family members. Family communication patterns are considered as one of the great theories of family communication, because its ability is used for almost all family interactions.

Materialism is one of the things that people often pay special attention to when it comes to choosing a mate. Of course, paying attention to this is not only a problem but also a necessity, as long as it is not considered as a person's goal and motivation for marriage. Some research has shown that materialism has positive effects, such as satisfying the need for distinction, happiness, success, and

life satisfaction, some think that if to form a life together. Paying more attention to the wealth of the other person can achieve all the lofty and lofty goals of marriage, such as happiness and well-being, the compatibility of men and women, family love and affection, and so on. For this reason, wealth is considered one of the main and necessary criteria for marriage.

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