

# A Comparative Study On Marital Adjustment Of Working And Non-Working Married Women In Relation To Age Difference

Surabhi Hazarika

Associate Professor, Dept. of Home Science,  
Lakhimpur Girls' College, North Lakhimpur

*Abstract: The study on “Marital adjustment of working and non-working married women in relation to age difference” was conducted with the objective to find out the impact of age difference on marital adjustment of working and non-working married women. Quality of Marital Relationship Scale (QMRS) developed by Dr.Sweta Singh and a self-structured interview schedule was administered for collecting information’s. In the present study two age groups were considered first group was having 0 – 5 years age difference and the second group was having above 5 years age difference, their age ranged between 25 to 65 years. Correlation co-efficient between the average mean of the respondent and their husbands were calculated. Then the correlation value was tested for significance or non-significance. Results of the study revealed that age difference between the spouses has positive impact on marital adjustment.*

*Keywords: Marital Adjustment, age difference.*

## I. INTRODUCTION

Marriage is one of the deepest and most complex web of social institution. It is the universal social institution. It is the universal social institution. It is also the most essential part of the society and social system as well.

Marriage is legal contract between a woman and a man that conveys certain rights and privileges including sexual exclusivity, legitimating of any children born of the union, and economic responsibilities.

Marital Adjustment refers to complex set of compromises and changes each partner make to accommodate the other and to fulfil the obligations of marriage. There are many areas where adjustability is required. Psychologists defined the areas such as religion, social life, mutual friends, in laws, money and sex. As researchers indicate that age difference is another important factor involved in marital adjustment, so “the comparative study on marital adjustment of working and non-working married women in relation to age difference” was undertaken to see the impact of age difference on marital adjustment.

## OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

To find out whether the age difference of husband and wife affect marital adjustment.

## II. METHODOLOGY

### ✓ SELECTION OF SAMPLE

Lakhimpur District of Assam was selected purposively to conduct the study. For the purpose of the study 20 married working women and 20 non-working married women were selected by random sampling technique.

### ✓ TOOLS AND TECHNIQUE OF DATA COLLECTION

Background information of the respondents was collected by a self-structured interview schedule. Quality of Marital Relationship Scale (QMRS) developed by Dr.Sweta Singh was administered among the respondents and their husbands for collecting information’s about their marital relationships. The tool contained 50 questions and considered eight

dimensions of marital adjustment. Dimensions studied were support, intimacy openness, autonomy, empathy, love, dominance and conflict.

✓ STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

Data collected by the QMRS was first coded together and were statistically analysed and results obtained were tabulated.

Correlation co-efficient between the average mean of the respondent and their husbands were calculated. Then the correlation value was tested for significance or non-significance. The calculated value for “t” were then compared to the table value for (n-2) degrees of freedom at 1 and 5 percent level of significance.

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The data collected were processed and analysed in the light of the objectives. The findings of the study and relevant discussions there on have been presented in the table Table-1.

	Age Difference	Dimensions															
		Support		Intimacy		Openness		Autonomy		Empathy		Love		Dominance		Conflict	
		r value	t value	r value	t value	r value	t value	r value	t value	r value	t value	r value	t value	r value	t value		
WORKING	0-5	.70	3.11*	.76	3.96**	.6	2.37 <sup>NS</sup>	.6	2.70 <sup>NS</sup>	.6	3.02 <sup>NS</sup>	.81	4.41 <sup>NS</sup>	.6	2.94 <sup>NS</sup>	.7	3.11*
	5 Years above	.79	3.17*	.60	1.84 <sup>NS</sup>	.8	4.35 <sup>NS</sup>	.0	0.82 <sup>NS</sup>	.9	5.78 <sup>NS</sup>	.04	.098 <sup>NS</sup>	.5	1.70 <sup>NS</sup>	.7	3.08*
NON WORKING	0-5	.82	3.81 <sup>NS</sup>	.46	1.37 <sup>NS</sup>	.5	1.79 <sup>NS</sup>	.7	3.19 <sup>NS</sup>	.3	0.89 <sup>NS</sup>	.34	0.96 <sup>NS</sup>	.4	1.50 <sup>NS</sup>	.5	3.18 <sup>NS</sup>
	5 Years above	.33	1.05 <sup>NS</sup>	.53	1.87 <sup>NS</sup>	.4	1.55 <sup>NS</sup>	.0	1.23 <sup>NS</sup>	.3	1.08 <sup>NS</sup>	.57	2.08 <sup>NS</sup>	.2	0.77 <sup>NS</sup>	.5	2.28*

\* – Significant at 5 percent level

\*\* – Significant at 1 percent level

N.S. – Non Significant

Table 1: Correlation between marital adjustment and age difference of working and non-working married women

From the Table-1., it has been observed that there was a positive correlation between age difference and marital adjustment among both working and non-working married women. Only in the dimension of autonomy in the working class whose age difference is above 5 years has shown negative relationship. In the dimension of support in the working class in both age difference group it is positively significant at 1 percent level. The result reveals that in good marital relationship both the spouses must support each other. Positive significant relationship was observed in the dimension of conflict in both the groups. But among the non-working class it is positively significant at 5 percent level where the age difference is above 5 years. Whereas in the

working class when the age difference is 0 – 5 years it is positively significant at 5 percent level and when the age difference is above 5 years it is positively, significant at 1 percent level. So the result reveals that the age difference plays an overall positive impact on resolving marital conflicts. This result can be supported by the findings of ChanchalSinha (2016), where the study revealed that marital adjustment improves with the increasing age of spouse.

IV. CONCLUSION

The study concluded that there is no significant difference between marital adjustment of working and non-working women in relation to age difference between their husbands. The result of the study revealed that there was a positive correlation between age difference and marital adjustment. Only in the dimension of autonomy in the working class whose age difference in above 5 years has shown negative relationship. This may be due to women’s economic independence allows her to control her personal relationship. Finally it can be concluded that age difference plays an overall positive impact on marital adjustment.

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