Effect of Education on Age at Marriage in Ankleshwar City

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Abstract:
This paper attempts the effect of education on age at marriage in Ankleshwar city using primary data through questionnaires. This can observe questionnaire was filled up by 75 couples who have married recently. From this study we observe that there is positive relation between education and age at marriage. But in Ankleshwar, education level is not high both in (men and women) and especially in women because many women have studied not only up to SSC level so that in men and women's mean age at marriage is 23.80 and 20.92 respectively.

Keywords: *Age at marriage, Couple, Education level*

1. Introduction
It is often argued that rapid rise in educational attainment of women, an increase in the age at marriage and an increase in their age at which they have their first child are key age at marriage and an increase in their age at which they have their first child are key feature of demography transition in any country. Caldwell (1980) postulates that the demographic transition has happened in both developed countries over the last century and in contemporary developing countries is primarily associated with an increase in educational attainment of women (also see Caldwell, Reddy and Caldwell (1983)). Education is regarded as being the prime catalyst in this process because increases in educational attainment are likely to significantly affect both age at marriage and the duration to first child birth. It is suggested that increased education is likely to open up economic alternatives to getting married and bearing children. Increased education could imply that for women the utility of being single might exceed the utility of being married (Becker (1974)).

2. Literature review
Some studies related to topic are as follows.
- Maitra (2004), on her research "the effect of socioeconomic characteristics on the total fertility rates in Nepal" using a household-level data set examined that postponement of marriage contributes significantly to a reduction in fertility level by shortening the total reproductive span of women. The higher age at marriage was expected to be associated with a rise in the status of women, as they entered their reproductive life with greater maturity and capabilities. An increase in age at marriage for women was also likely to reduce the age differential between husband and wife. This was likely to increase the bargaining power of the wife and reduce the power imbalance within the family. The estimated results emphasized the role of female education in reducing total fertility and increasing age at marriage.
- Lefgren ve McIntyre (2006), using IV methodology and birth month variation to bring about an exogenous change in the level of schooling in the US, arrive at the conclusion that the probability that women ever marry does not change with schooling but that marriage stability is enhanced.

- Brien ve Lillard (1994), has presented jointly model educational attainment, age at first marriage and first child birth for Malaysian women and thereby, account for the endogeneity of education and school enrollment in the latter two equations. The results show that a large part of the difference in age at first marriage among cohorts can be attributed to enrollment and completed education levels. In a similar vein, almost all the variation in age at first conception among women of different birth cohorts stem from delayed marriage among younger cohorts. The authors also note that treating education as exogenous to the timing of marriage and first conception, conditional on marriage, changed the hazards but not in a substantive way.

- Josef and Andreas in their study "Education and marriage- A comparative Study" examined effect of education on marriage behavior in three countries: (U.S., West Germany and the former East Germany) and found out that women's longer education decreased marriage rates both during education and after the degree obtained as well as men's marriage rate also increased.

- Becker, Lands, and Michael (1977), study on marriage instability ``an increase in education has an ambiguous effect on the probabilities of dissolution and remarriage. The reason is the division of labor between mates (thus lowering the gain from marriage) while increasing the gain from any given division of marriage instability is the idea that more educated people are better searcher in the marriage market, forming better matches than less educated people. Becker et al. (1977), using data from SEO survey 1967, finds a weak negative correlation between education and mortal instability.

- Weiss and Willis (1997), using data from the National Longitudinal Study of the High School Class of 1972, find that schooling is important predictor of marriage stability after controlling for other variables, including income. In general a higher level of schooling for either the wife or the husband increase marriage stability. They also find that individuals are more likely to marry if they have similar amounts of schooling. In their data set the correlation of education attainments of the two spouses at the time of marriage is 0.57

3. Objective of the study
1. To study effect of education on age at marriage of women.
2. To study difference of age at marriage between male and female.
3. To understand the education level of male and female.

4. Hypotheses of the study
1. There is no effect of education on age at marriage.
2. There is no difference of age at marriage between male and female

5. Limitation of the study
1. This study is limited to only Ankleshwar area.
2. Efficiency of data depends on respondent.
3. Limitation of statistical tools & techniques are also applied to the study.

6. Collection of data
There are two types of data.
1. Primary data
2. Secondary data

Primary data used for this study through questionnaire. The data of this study were obtained from Ankleshwar city in the year of 2013. A total number of 75 cases are used in the analysis,

representing a selection of married couple. These couples were selected by using purposive sampling.

6. Tool for data analysis
Following tools used for the data analysis:
- χ^2 test
- ANOVA analysis
- Mean

7. Analysis of data and findings

Table 1
sex wise education level in Percentages

Level of education	Male (%)	Female (%)
Illiterate	17.33	42.67
SSC	42.67	38.67
HSC	26.67	14.66
Graduate	13.33	04.00
Total	100.00	100.00

Table no 1 show that higher education level in men is higher than women. Most of the women not complete their SSC only.

Table 2
No. of male and female at age at marriage

Age Group	Male	Female
Below 18	01	22
19-29	70	53
Above 30	04	00
Total	75	75

A table 2 indicates that marriage of female below 18 is high whereas male age is low.

Table 3
Gender wise age at marriage

Gender	Sample	Mean	S.D.	F
Male	75	23.80	0.10	27.36 significant
Female	75	20.92	1.92	

Table 3 indicates that mean age at marriage for women is lower than men and variation in age at marriage at education level of woman is high. There is significant difference in age at marriage.

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Table 4

Value	
χ^2	9.54*
C	0.34
Note:1) C=co-efficient of mean square contingency 2) * indicates significant at 5%)	

Table 4 indicates that the relation between education and age at marriage is positive.

8. Conclusion

From this study, I conclude that the education level in woman is low. Many women studied not only up to SSC level. Moreover men's education level is also not good. The study shows that there is positive relation between education and marriage so education level of both should be increased which will increase the age at marriage.

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