

Essay

Forced Marriages in Pakistan: Causes & Consequences.

Introduction :

1 Definition of forced marriage.

1.1 Pakistan rank in the world in child marriage index.

1.2 What Islam says about marriage

1.3 What Pakistan Law Enforcement Agency says about marriages.

2 Causes :

2.1 Cultural and traditional norms

2.2 Deprivation and lack of resources

2.3 Job opportunities and lack of ~~resources~~ education for girls.

2.4 Danger or insecurity especially in conflicting places

2.5 Fear of dishonor.

2.6 Weak legal enforcement.

3. Consequences :

3.1 Maternal or child mortality.

3.2 Exposure to sexually transmitted disease.

3.3 Violence forced by children in two contexts i.e (domestic and sexual)

3.4

Destroyed future and lack
of childhood.

3.5

Violence of human rights.

3.6

International image damage.

4

Conclusion :

"We cannot all succeed when half of us are held back. Forced marriage holds girls back from education and from life itself"

Malala Yousafzai:
Children right activist.

Marriage of an adult male & female without their consent is referred to be forced marriage. In the world, especially in asian continent, is on top regarding forced marriages. Among them Pakistan stands on 6th number in the top ten countries in forced marriages. Forced marriages are done due to lack of resources, lack of awareness the influence of tradition and

and culture which comes out ~~with~~ with ~~with~~ undefined consequences such as maternal or child mortality, Exposure to sexually transmitted diseases and Violance of human rights.

Pakistan is an Islamic state. Islam is the road map of life where its guidance is enough for proceeding in life. Regard marriages there are several verses which states clear indication about consent marriages. There is a verse which says;

"O ye who believe! ye are forbidden to inherit against their will. Nor should ye treat them with harshness."

Sharia prohibits the marriage by force. The free consent of both groom & bride

is essential and of vital importance. Similarly, The girl cannot be forced to get marry against her will or consent.

The legal structure of Pakistan as well as the Courts in Pakistan protect the rights of marriage and protects the citizens from forced marriages. The Constitution of Pakistan provides the right of marriage to its citizens. Forced marriages are the clear violation of the fundamental rights of the citizens of Pakistan protected by the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

The bill passed by the National Assembly of Pakistan which specified 18 years age of male and 16 years age of female for consent marriage.

The National Ambassador

of UNICEF Saba Qamar says.
Only 13% of girls passed
hardly the secondary level in
rural area. According to
the UNICEF report, in
Pakistan 19 million girls
are married under age of
18 years.

The cause of forced marriage is the deep-rooted cultural and traditional norm set by the ~~part~~ patriarchal. The concept of "Watta Satta" the (give & take) exchange in marriages are very common which is an ultimate form of forced marriage.

Deprivation and lack of resources is ~~so~~ ^{one} of the main reasons lead directly to forced marriages. Due to lack of resources and deprivation from basic needs people put their child in wedlock to

to minimize their earning burden.

In rural areas there is no proper access of girls to education which leads to no sources of earning. This makes the headach for family members which ultimately or resultantly get them married.

Female children are considered to the solution of complex conflicts. In most of the time female sacrifice and gave as a solution for conflicts.

The rural and conservative minded people get their child married when they reached puberty due to the fear of dishonor and insecurity. There are some set traditions of child marriages.

Conclusion: Child forced marriage is a brutal act carries out in Pakistan. caused by weak legal enforcement. Fear of dishonor and Danger or insecurity especially in conflicting places. These causes produced a severe consequences of destroyed future and lack of childhood. Violence of human rights and International image damage. which stood Pakistan on 6th position in the top 10 countries which violates the basic human rights and carried forced marriages.