

Forced marriages in Pakistan: Date

Causes and Consequences.

Outline

1. Introduction

a) Hook

b) General statements

c) **Thesis statement:** Forced marriage remains a frontline issue in Pakistan, driven by economic insecurity, cultural traditions, misinterpretation of religion, lack of awareness and weak legal enforcement, resulting in devastating consequences including disrupted education, health and reproductive risks, loss of childhood identity, domestic violence and the continuation of poverty.

2. Causes of forced marriages

2.1. Economic Insecurity

2.1.1. Marriage reduces financial burden

2.1.2. Families prioritise short term survival

2.1.3. Girls viewed as financial liabilities

2.2. Cultural Factors

2.2.1. Family's honour over girls consent

2.2.2. Girls role viewed as domestic

2.2.3. Early engagements

2.3. Religious Misinterpretation

2.3.1. Religion is misused to justify forced marriages

2.3.2. Right of Free will and education in Islam are suppressed

2.4. Lack of Awareness

2.4.1. Widespread neglect of girls education

2.4.2. Parents unaware of health and legal risks

2.4.3. Limited access in rural areas

2.5. Weak legal Enforcement

2.5.1. Laws exist but poorly enforced

2.5.2. Authorities ignore violations under social pressure

3. Consequences of forced marriages

3.1. Disrupted Education

- 3.1.1. School dropouts
- 3.1.2. Loss of skills
- 3.1.3. Economic dependence on in-laws

3.2. Health and reproductive risks

- 3.2.1. High maternal mortality
- 3.2.2. Infant mortality and premature babies
- 3.2.3. Mental Health issues

3.3. Loss of Childhood identity

- 3.3.1. Social disconnect and stolen childhood
- 3.3.2. Early parenthood before maturity
- 3.3.3. Lack of decision making skills.

3.4. Domestic consequences

- 3.4.1. Unprepared marital roles
- 3.4.2. Inter-family tensions
- 3.4.3. Sexual and domestic Abuse

3.5. Continuation of Poverty

- 3.5.1. Unstable jobs due to low qualifications
- 3.5.2. Struggles to meet household needs
- 3.5.3. Cycle of poverty persists.

4. Recommendations.

- 4.1. Raise awareness
- 4.2. Strengthening Education
- 4.3. Effective legal enforcements
- 4.4. Economic reforms

5. Conclusion