

**GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE, PRAYAGRAJ**  
**WORKSHEET 2**  
**SESSION: 2020-2021**  
**CLASS : 12<sup>th</sup> D**  
**SUBJECT: SOCIOLOGY**  
**CHAPTER: SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS (Marriage & Family)**

**Introduction:** **Family** is the most significant unit of the society and **Marriage** is the foundation of it. Marriage and family, the two social institutions with biological foundations, are supportive of each other. Both have a long standing history of their own. In the Indian context also both the institutions have been in existence since time immemorial. Both have withstood the ravages of time and the shocks of centuries. They are the permanent elements in our social system.

### **I. Marriage**

Marriage is one of the universal social institutions. It is one of the deepest and most complex involvements of human relationships. It is an institution which admits men and women to family life. It is a stable relationship in which a man and a woman are socially permitted to have children implying the right to sexual relation. In almost all the societies one or the other form of marriage exists. It is the very foundation of civil society and has been regarded by all religions as the basis of civilized society, sound moral system and domestic affection.

According to Horton and Hunt, "Marriage is the approved social pattern whereby two or more persons establish a family."

According to H.T. Mazumdar, defines marriage, "as a socially sanctioned union of male and female, or as a secondary institution devised by society to sanction the union and mating of male and female, for purposes of (a) establishing a household, (b) entering into sex relations, (c) providing care for the off-spring."

#### **Rules of marriage:**

1. **Endogamy** (marrying within your caste/social group) and **Exogamy** (marrying outside your caste/group) – according to clan, gotra pravara village and sapinda
2. **Hypogamy- Anuloma Marriage** (a boy from upper varna/caste/class can marry a girl from lower varna/caste/class) and **Hypogamy- Pratiloma Marriage** (a boy from lower varna/caste/class can marry a girl from higher varna/caste/class)
3. **Marriage between Cross Cousin**( marriage between the children of two opposite-sex siblings) **and Parallel Cousin** (marriage between the children of same sex siblings)
4. **Levirate** (forced marriage of a widow to the brother of her deceased husband)**and Sororate** (forced marriage of the sister of a deceased or infertile wife to marry or have sex with her brother-in-law, the widower or husband)

#### **Forms of Marriage:**

1. **Polygamy:** practice of marrying multiple spouses
  - (a) **Polyandry :** When a woman is married to more than one husband at a time
  - (b) **Polygyny:** When a man is married to more than one wife at a time
2. **Monogamy :** Marriage to only one spouse at a time

### **II. Family**

Of all human groups, family is the most important primary group. It is a small social group consisting ordinarily of a Father, mother and one or more children, Historically it has undergone several changes emerging, from a hard and fast social structure or institution and becoming a flexible human relationship, which despite various changes in its form and functions, continue to serve the community.

According to Anderson and Parker: " Family is a socially recognized unit of people related to each other by kinship, marital and legal ties."

According to MacIver : "Family is a group defined by a sex relationship sufficiently precise and enduring to provide for the procreation and upbringing of children."

**MacIver's Features of Family:**

1. Universality
2. Emotional basis
3. Educative role
4. Limited Size
5. Nuclear position
6. Sense of responsibility among the members
7. Social regulation
8. Persistence and change

**Functions of Family:**

1. Socialization
2. Regulation of sexual activity
3. Social Placement
4. Material, Emotional and Financial Security
5. Upbringing of children
6. Transmission of culture

**Types of Family:**

1. Consanguineous & Conjugal family
2. Matriarchal and Patriarchal family  
(a) Matripotestal (b) Patripotestal (c) Avuncupotestal
3. Nuclear & Joint family

**Disintegration of the Joint Family:**

**I. Structural Changes in the Family**

1. Size of Family and Depth of Generations
2. Ownership of Property
3. Exercise of Authority
4. Respectable status of Women
5. Relations among Mother-in-law, Daughter-in-law and Father-in-law
6. Selection of mates and Conjugal Relationships
7. Weakening Family Norms
8. Joint Family taking the Form of Dependent Nuclear Family

**II. Functional Changes in the Family:**

1. Regulation of Sex and Procreation
2. Provision of Common Residence
3. Religious functions
4. The task of upbringing and socializing them
5. Economic functions

**Factors responsible for the changes in the Joint Family:**

1. Influence of Education
2. Impact of Industrialization
3. Influence of Urbanization
4. Change in Marriage System
5. Legislative Measures
6. Influence of Western Values
7. Awareness among women
8. Government Jobs
9. Unmanageable size of the Family

**Small Family Norm:**

The size of the family is a matter of great importance not only for the country as a whole but also for the welfare and health of the individual, the family and the community. It basically connotes over the number of children a couple should have for leading a healthy and decent life.

**Reference Books:**

1. ISC Sociology by Manjir Ghosh
2. Sociology-Principles of Sociology with an Introduction to Sociological Thought by C N Shankar Rao
3. Sociology of Indian Society by C N Shankar Rao
4. An Introduction to Sociology by Vidya Bhushan and D.R.Sachdeva

**Websites:**

1. <https://www.sociologygroup.com/marriage-types-notes/>
2. <https://www.studylecturenotes.com> (Polyandry)
3. <https://www.slideshare.net> (Small Family Norm)

**Note:** Parents please ensure that your ward refers to the Reference Books and Websites for 2 days to read the topics.

**I. Answer briefly each of the following questions:**

- (i) Define Marriage
- (ii) Define Family
- (iii) Define Gotra
- (iv) What is a Joint Family ?
- (v) Write two functions of Marriage
- (vi) What is a Small Family Norm ?
- (vii) What is an Avuncupotestal Family ?
- (viii) Distinguish between Levirate and Sororate
- (ix) What is Consanguineous Family ?
- (x) Mention any two features of Nuclear family
- (xi) What is Monogamous form of marriage ?
- (xii) Mention two disadvantages of Polyandry

**II. Answer the questions in detail:**

1. Examine Polygamy as one of the forms of Marriage.
2. 'Family is a Universal Institution' In this context, discuss the reason for its universal existence.
3. Discuss the meaning of family, with respect to matriarchal societies.
4. Explain hypergamy as a form of marriage and its effects on the Indian society.
5. Discuss Maclver's features of family.
6. Discuss the Structural and Functional changes which led to the disintegration of the Joint Families.
7. 'Marriage is characterized by both Exogamy and Endogamy. Explain this statement with a detailed discussion of these two rules of marriage.
8. Discuss Maclver's Features of Family.

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