



Early Marriages and Women's life Afterwards (By Rathnapura Divisional Secretariat)

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Abstract

Early marriage is a complex social problem in Sri Lanka, especially in rural areas. Early marriage is defined as the marriage or union between two people in which one or both parties are younger than 18 years of age. Early marriages also lead to increase in gender-based violence, health problems as well as increase in divorce levels due to lack of maturity by the girl child. The problem of this research is found what are the social and economic problems that women face in their family environment after getting married at such early age. The major objectives of this research are to uncover the social problems that may arise due to early marriages. Moreover, this study aimed to uncover how early marriage occurs and its causal factors in rural communities. This research was conducted in a village community in Rathnapura Divisional Secretariat. The data was obtained using qualitative research methods. Therefore, this research was conducted using twenty-five (25) women who were married before the age of 18 were included to obtain the research data. Primary data collection methods and secondary data collection methods were used in this research for collecting data. Questionnaires and in-depth interviews were used to collect primary data. As well as, books, newspapers, journals, articles were used to collect secondary data. The study also found that the main causes of early marriages and the consequences of early marriages are increase in social problems in modern society. With the fast-developing globe, marriages early age became catastrophic. However, these studies are necessary to change the existing attitudes about early marriage and contribute to the awareness of the society about it.

Keywords: Early marriage, Young, Women, Social problem, Family

