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AN ADMIRABLE WIFE

Tengku Nurul Syahira Binti Abdul Rasheed

Farah Batrisyia Binti Sarizal

Nur Atiqah Fatihah Binti Adnan

Anisa Binti Mamat

Anis Nor Syuhada Binti Kamsani

Faculty of Communication & Media Studies, Universiti Teknologi Mara Melaka

*correspondent: jijihira97@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

*Wife is a married woman, especially when considered in relation to her partner in marriage. This study is done in order to find the main criteria for men to choose a woman as their soul mate. The minimum sample size was determined through G*Power analysis. The study involved 851 respondents, selected through a purpose sampling technique involving three main ethnics in Malaysia. A cross sectional survey and structured questionnaire were used for data collection. All variables were measured through scales previously used by other researchers. SPSS ver. 20 software was used in the analysis. Results of the SPSS indicated that for the main criteria for men to choose a woman as their soul mate are maturity ($M=3.23$) then virginity ($M=3.10$).*

Keynote: wife, marriage, husband

INTRODUCTION

According to Shafi-Q (2013), marriage or wedding is a very demanded thing in Islam. The meaning of marriage in terms of language is met, gathered and mixed. According to Islamic term, 'ijab and qabul' ('aqad) to legalize sex between men and women uttered by words that express the marriage, according to rules determined by Islam. However, many divorce cases often adorn the newspapers, magazines, radio, television and internet. The divorce case is not only applicable to newly married couples. In fact, couples who have been married for 10 years even if there is a divorce after no understanding (Dhia Kamila,2014). According to Dr. Tengku Asmadi T. Mohamad (2017), often exposed in the newspapers about the woman who mistakenly choose the husband in marriage. However, there are also men who mistakenly

choose a wife so that they had to bear the pain occurs when the wife cheating on his back. This thing happened because of the man himself from the beginning do not know how to choose a good wife. Men are more looking at the appearance of the women to make a wife. Therefore, they prefer a woman who is beautiful and sexy to make as a wife without looking at their attitude and personality. According to Norhafzan Jaafar and Saadiah Ismail (2016), in the issue of late marriage not only for the women but these issues also involve men. There are 3 main causes that led to a late marriage. The main causes are financial problems, no suitable partner and prioritise career first. In 2014, 56 percent of men in Malaysia choose as the main cause of the financial problems that led to their late marriage. 18.4 percent of men chose no suitable partner as the main causes that led to their late marriage and 9.4 percent of men chose to put his career first. There are three criteria that are important to the men in choosing a wife. 39.6 percent of men chose women because of religion, 30.4 percent of men prefer women who are responsible and 26.4 percent of men prefer women who are courteous.

According to Shahizatul Farha S Rosli (2012), A total of 90% of divorce cases were recorded in Johor Baru found to have originated from the family background of neglecting prayer. The 3 major causes of many divorce cases in Johor are because of economic problems, the communication gap and dissatisfaction in sexual relations. According to Dr. Nurhidayah Hasim (2016), reported almost 156 Muslim couple's divorce each day and more than 274,000 couples divorced in the last 6 years. If the statistics are true, then it can be said that 156 women became widows per day, 156 men became widowers and how many children lost grew up in a nice home with their mom and dad.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Actually mistaken in choosing mate cases can occur not only to women but also to men. One of the reason that contribute to make a mistake in choosing mate is because a person felt lonely and desperate (Mengapa Kamu Bisa Salah Pilih Pasangan?, n.d). According to Danois (2013), some people argue that long relationship able to ensure a happy and lasting marriage. Thus, they began to take the next step to legalize their relationship. According to Ali Imron H (2016), many mistakes are often happened when men are choosing a soul mate. Therefore, they will have problems in marriage when they mistakenly choosing a partner. Among the common mistakes made by men in choosing a future wife is because they decide to get married at a young age. It's not a mistake to marry at a young age but usually the couple that married at a young age are still immature. In addition, the other mistake is because not recognize the partner's family properly. It is most important to avoid fights or misunderstandings with the in-law later. Then, because most of the men just looked at appearance only.

CRITERIA OF A GOOD WIFE

Based on our reading, there are 4 criteria of a good wife that mostly men look in a woman in order to find a good future wife. These criteria can make the men feel satisfies if they get a wife that have all of these criteria. Those criteria are:

Virginity: According to Dr. Fuad-deen Olabisi Kekere-ekun (2015), keeping virginity before marriage is very importance. Virgin is a person who has never had sexual intercourse. Besides that, The Prophet s.a.w. also recommended men to marry a virgins. Whit that virginity symbols, its means that no one has touched the lady before.

Attractiveness: According to most of the men that the key to a long and happy married is about how attractive women they are married to. Men are more likely to appreciate their attractive wives more. This has been confirmed by Professor Benjamin Karney who studied the same topic in 2008 (Woollaston,2013).

Background Family: Those who were attracted to the opposite mate, they mostly didn't last long because didn't know really well about their mate's family background. Everybody care if our mate's family members was a prisoners (One Thing to Look for in a Mate: Advice from Long-Married Elders,2013).

Maturity: According to Heather (2017), John MacNaughton said, "Maturity begins to grow when you can sense your concern for others outweighing your concern for yourself," mature men is for mature women. Mature person who married immature will face a lot of problems. Immature people will cause a lot of unapologetically childish moments. Mature people have a different view from immature people.

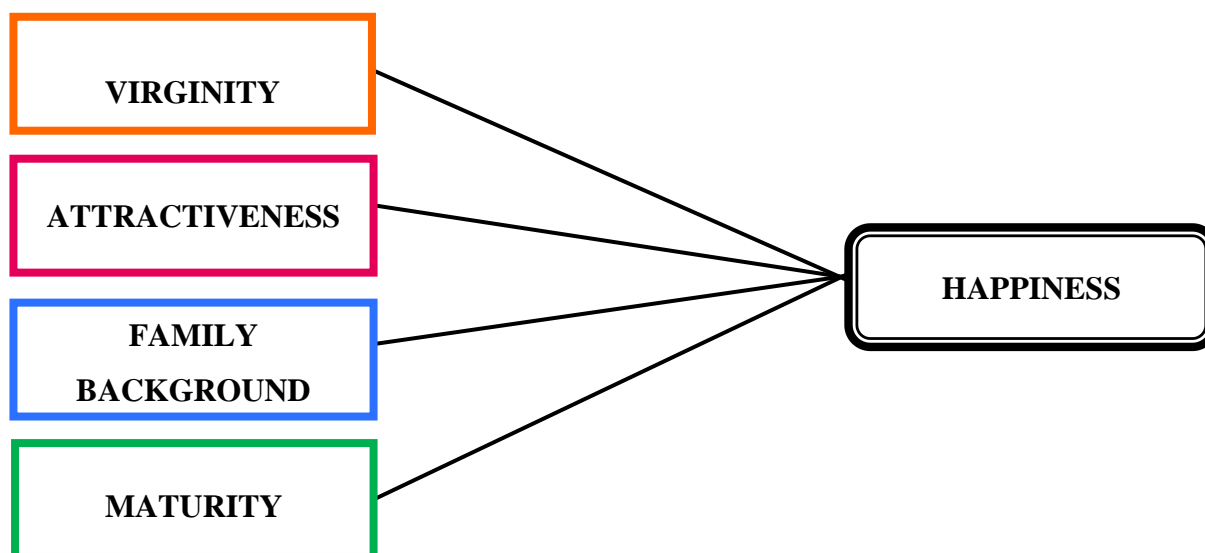


FIGURE 1.1 HAPPINESS STRUCTURE FRAMEWORK

HAPPY FAMILY

According to Kim (2009), being happy as a family is something deeper than simply having fun together or feeling the immediate euphoria of joyful event such as celebrating aid together. A family can be two or more people who share goals and values, have long-term

commitments to one and another. According to Kim (2009), a happy family also have well-organized between parents and children.

HOW TO BUILD A HAPPY FAMILY

Building a happy family is not an easy thing. Every family members should play their role to build it especially parents. So, there are 5 ways to build a happy family. Those ways are:

Working Parent Needs to Balance Work and Home Life: Parents have to be professional in handling their kids and work. Do not bring work problems to home because it can make the bond between them and kids become less because they feel that they being neglected by their parents (Top Ten Tips for a Happier Family, n.d).

Every Family Members Need to Talk: According to Dr. Markham (2017), communication is the key to success and play important role in maintaining a happy family. For example, having dinner together as a family is a good thing because we know eating together can boost achievement in children, lower the chance for eating disorders, lower depression rates in both girls and boys. Simple and humorous rituals are what children remember as adults.

Parents or Any Family Members Need to be Patient: Some children learn to act out or create problems for shock value when they want attention from their love ones. Anger subsides when a child learns effectively communicate their feelings. Learning how to effectively express feelings can reduce the arguing and yelling in a household as well as increase satisfaction and the sharing of feelings (How to Have a Good Family Life,2000).

Every family members need to always communicate even through texting: According to Froeber (2013), in this modern day, we need to always to communicate through texting. A simple question like “how are you?” is an easy way to say without embarrassment. This modern day version of the note in the lunchbox can help keep your family connected.

Parents need to stop fighting in front of their children: Kids often worry about what it means when parents fight. They might jump into conclusions and think arguments mean their parents do not love each other anymore. They might think it means their parent will get divorce. Seeing parents are upset and out of control can make kids feel unprotected and scared (Froeber,2013).

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study employed the quantitative study approach (explanatory study) to identify the level of criteria for men to choose a women as their soul mate among multiethnic in Malaysia. For sampling, by referring to Krejcie & Morgan table, 16.5 million population in Malaysia can be equal to 384 sample of respondents with 95% confidence (The Research Advisors, 2006). The study involving 851 respondents. A cross sectional survey and structured questionnaire

were used for data collection. The data were keyed in and analyzed by SPSS. (Abdul Rauf Ridzuan et al., 2015).

In this study, the sample size used was also determined by two technique namely G*Power analysis (Erdfelder, Faul and Buchner, 1996), and Green (1991) recommendation on using Multiple Regression Analysis. Using G*Power analysis, specifically for *F* – Test in Multiple Regression analysis , the total suggested sample is 138 (effect size $f^2 = 0.15$ (medium); $\alpha = 0.05$; power = 0.95; number of predictors / independent variables = 5). The value of Alpha and power were acceptable for social sciene research. G*Power is a general power analysis program that perform high precision statistical power analyses for the most common statistical test in social science research. Moreover G*Power is design for sample size calculation based on specific statistical analysis used in the particular study (Erdfelder et al., 1996). The data was collected through a survey questionnaire. The method used to distribute the questionnaire is through online and self –administered questionnaires. A likert scale was used for the students to answer questions relating to the criteria for men to choose a woman as their soul mate. Data was key in and analyzed using SPSS version 20.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

a) Profile of the respondents

The profile of the sample is discussed in terms of seven characteristics: age, ethnic, status, state, education, occupation and 6 of general questions.

Table 1: Distribution of the respondents by profile (n=851)

Profile	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Age		
18-25	776	91.20
26-30	44	5.20
37 and above	18	2.10
31-36	13	1.50
Ethnic		
Malay	763	89.70
Others	45	5.10
Chinese	25	2.90
Indian	18	2.10
Status		
Single	618	72.6
In a relationship	185	21.70
Married	43	5.10
Divorce	5	0.60
Occupation		
Student	701	82.40
Working at public sector	67	7.90
Working at private sector	37	4.30

Self employed	24	2.80
Unemployed	22	2.60
State		
Selangor	193	22.70
Johor	112	13.20
Terengganu	82	9.60
Kelantan	79	9.30
Wilayah Persekutuan	70	8.20
Kedah	65	7.60
Perak	50	5.90
Pulau Pinang	38	4.50
Negeri Sembilan	32	3.80
Sarawak	31	3.60
Melaka	30	3.50
Pahang	29	3.40
Sabah	29	3.40
Perlis	11	1.30

Table 1 above shows the profile of respondents from the men of Malaysia. Based from the findings, most of the respondents who answered the questionnaires are aged between 18 – 25 (91%), Malay ethnic (90%), divorce (55%), student (82%). Most of the respondents also are from Selangor (23%).

b) Respondent’s opinions toward their future wife

There are 6 questions that were asked in this section. The reason of asking this questions to the respondents is to know what is their opinions toward their future wife.

Table 2: Respondent’s opinions toward their future wife

Questions	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Is it easy to find a good wife?		
No	710	83.40
Yes	141	16.60
Are you okay if your wife has a better career than you?		
Yes	695	81.70
No	156	18.30
Do you mind if your wife do not know how to do housework?		
Yes	465	54.60
No	386	45.40
Do you prefer to marry a single woman or a widower?		

Single woman	821	96.50
Widower	30	3.50
Do you prefer to marry younger or older woman than you?		
Younger	720	84.60
Older	131	15.40
Do you prefer to find your future wife by yourself or by someone else?		
By myself	783	92.00
By someone else	68	8.00

Table 2 above shows the respondent's opinions toward their future wife. Based from the findings, most of the respondents who answered the questionnaires find that it is not easy (83%) to find a good wife and agree (82%) if their wife has a better career than them. They also mind if their wife do not know how to do housework (55%). Most of the respondents prefer to marry single woman (97%) and younger (85%) than them. They also prefer to find their future wife by someone else (78%).

c) Level of maturity in choosing a wife

From the table 3, respondents think a woman who is matured enough knows how to make good decisions (M=3.38) and maturity is an important aspect in choosing a wife as it is a proof if that the woman is ready to be a wife or not (M=3.25). It shows that respondents mindset that maturity is one of the criteria that they look in looking for a wife. Heather (2017) also stated that mature men is for mature women. Overall, the average mean for maturity is M=3.23.

Table 3: Maturity

Maturity	Mean
I think a woman who is matured enough knows how to make good decisions	3.38
Maturity is an important aspect in choosing a wife as it is a proof if that the woman is ready to be a wife or not	3.25
I want to marry a matured woman	3.23
I think having a matured wife is really important in creating a happy family because if I get married with an immature woman, I will have to face a lot of problems	3.06
Overall	3.23

d) Level of virginity in choosing a wife

The data analysis in table 4 described that respondents think if their partner is a virgin, their family will be happy (M=3.32) and for them, the virginity is very important in the search for a good wife because it proves that the woman know how to take care of herself (M=3.31). The has result has proven that the virginity is the important criteria that men look in a woman to make a wife. In addition, result from similar studies done by Dr. Fuad-deen Olabisi Kekere-ekun (2015) shows that keeping virginity before marriage is very importance. Overall the mean for virginity is M=3.10.

Table 4: Virginity

Virginity	Mean
I think if my partner is a virgin, my family will be happy	3.32
For me, the virginity is very important in the search for a good wife because it proves that the woman knows how to take care of herself	3.31
I am sure that a woman that is still a virgin will be a good mother and wife	2.87
I will marry a virgin woman because I am sure that she is a good woman	2.86
Overall	3.10

e) Level of family background in choosing a wife

Based from the table 5, respondents choose to marry a woman that knows how to communicate in a good way with her family is the highest mean (M=3.61) and followed by respondents will marry a woman that comes from a stable family (M=2.74). It shows that family background is one of the thing that men look in order to look for a future wife. Results from similar studies done by One Thing to Look for in a Mate: Advice from Long-Married Elders (2013), It is really important to know how your mate is. Overall, the average mean for family background is M=2.93.

Table 5: Family Background

Family Background	Mean
I choose to marry a woman that knows how to communicate in a good way with her family	3.61
I will marry a woman that comes from a stable family	2.74
I will choose to marry a woman that comes from a good family only	2.73
I want to marry someone that do not has any prisoner in her family members	2.61
Overall	2.93

f) Level of attractiveness in choosing a wife

The data from table 6 below shows that the respondents prefer a woman that know how to seduce her husband because for them it is attractive (M=3.30). They also think that woman who always take care of her skin and appearance is their choice (M=3.00). As discussed by Woollaston (2013), according to most of the men that the key to a long and happy married is about how attractive women they are married to. The result has proven that men nowadays also look at the attractiveness of a woman to make as a wife. Overall, the average mean for attractiveness is M=2.54.

Table 6: Attractiveness

Attractiveness	Mean
I prefer a woman that know how to seduce her husband because for me it is attractive	3.30
Woman who always take care of her skin and appearance is my choice	3.00
I like woman who always keep up to date with fashion	2.49
I am very attracted to woman who wears make up	2.26
I don't mind my partner wears revealing clothes in public because for me it is attractive	1.69
Overall	2.54

g) Level of happiness among men if they get the wife that have all of the criteria

In terms of level of happiness among men if they get the wife that have all of the criteria, majority of respondents prefer to marry someone that has all of these good criteria will make their life more meaningful, (M=3.35). Many respondents sure that their marriage will be long lasting if they married a woman that has all of these good criteria (M=3.25). It shows that respondents really look at the virginity, attractiveness, family background and the maturity of the women in order to find a future wife.

Table 7: Happiness among men if they get the wife that have all of the criteria

Happiness	Mean
Marrying someone that has all of these good criteria will make my life more meaningful	3.35
I'm sure that my marriage will be long lasting if I married a woman that has all of these good criteria	3.25
I know that my child will be a good person if my wife has all of these good criteria and I will be very happy	3.22
I'm sure that I will have a peaceful marriage if	3.21

my future wife has all of the good criteria	
If I have a wife that has all of these criteria, then I am sure that I will have a happy family	3.20
Overall	3.25

CONCLUSION

Table showed the mean score achieved for all respondents on this dimension is 2.95. It shows the level of happiness among men if they get the wife that have all of the criteria is at high level. The highest mean for criteria for men to choose a woman as their soul mate is maturity (M=3.23) and followed by virginity (M=3.10). It shows that maturity is the main criteria for men to choose a woman as their soul mate. Research done by Heather , (2017) have proven that mature person who married immature will face a lot of problems. Virginity is the one of the top criteria for men to choose a woman as their soul mate. This can be seen through research done by Dr. Fuad-deen Olabisi Kekere-ekun (2015) keeping virginity before marriage is very importance. Besides that, The Prophet s.a.w. also recommended men to marry a virgins. Therefore, the results from this research have proven that maturity is the main criteria for men to choose a wife as their soul mate and followed by virginity.

Table 8: Descriptive statistics of criteria for men to choose a women as their soul mate

Constructs	N	Mean
Maturity	851	3.23
Virginity	851	3.10
Family Background	851	2.93
Attractiveness	851	2.54
Overall		2.95

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