**#Assignment 3**

**Multiple Partner Relationships**

Marriage is a creation of strong bond between two persons, and it is regulated in all cultures differently. Multiple partner marriages or relationships are well known from past times. There are different things that I got from the readings that I done from my book and the resources cited below which describes the different kinds of multi-partner marriages and its status in current and future Canada. Firstly, The main term that we use to describe this type of marriage is Polygamy which is further classified into polygyny and polyandry. Talking about polygyny in this one man is married to several women which is quite common in Muslim religion and the polyandry is opposite to it in which one woman is married to several men. Polygamy give birth to various kinds of problems which includes social and cultural. As per a podcast “This is Why.”, the polygamy was considered as illegal and a person named Blackmore was sentenced because he married to multiple wives who were even 17, 16 and 15 years in age. This was bringing the charges of child abuse which led to the prosecution considering polygamy charges although this violated the protection of religious freedom. This was actually a case of sexual exploitation of young children (girls under age 16) and this was even impacting badly on the boys as well because they are even not ready to marry the girl who was ordained as bride and hence lead sexual assault on them as well concluded by Khan. (Reitmayer, 2018). There is a complete timeline about the different times where polygamy was practiced, or the actions were taken. This starts from 1890 and ends till 2018 which shows that at the polygamy was considered as illegal and the two people accused for this were sentenced. (“A Timeline of Polygamy”, 2018). The same case is mentioned in the Maclean’s magazine which also shows that it led to the sexual abuse, child trafficking and plural marriage. The two men Blackmore and Oler were sentenced to six- and three-months house arrest after this. (“House Arrest for polygamy pair”,2018). The polygamy/ multiple marriages should be penalised because of all the things discussed above. Moreover, In polygamous societies, there are circumstances of the fights among co-wives which is very normal but is quite bad for the society. According to a study of The University of British Columbia, the societies evolving from polygamy are causing various social problems. It is causing problem for young men because they are denied wives by older and wealthy men and these young men then creates the problem for everyone in society. They said, “Monogamous marriage reduces crime” because it reduces the number of unmarried young men, and this reduces the rates of theft, murder and abuse which come from young men because of the lack of investment in family life. (Copeland, 2012). This shows that polygamy should not be practiced anymore.

Putting emphasis on the Canada Law’s and social attitudes, it can be concluded from the readings that I cited below that polygamy needs to be eradicated because of it’s a lot of harmful consequences on the society. The law that put charges on the people for this is already being passed. In 2011, B.C. Supreme Court Chief Justice Bauman upheld the criminal law prohibiting polygamy as polygamy is inherently harmful “to women, to children, to society.” But the views of different feminist workers differ on this because some of the religious leaders believe that this is against the religious rules. But they also agree that women in polygamous relations are somehow not able to be free concluding that polygamy is not good at all.(Browne, 2014)

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