**Mate Selection Criteria Among University Students of Bangladesh**

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**A Project report submitted to the Department of Statistics of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Science and Technology University-8100, Bangladesh in partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the degree of Bachelor of Science.**

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###### ABSTRACT

Selecting a life mate is an intricate and intimate choice. It is now a lifetime choice rather than only a social tradition. A happy and successful marital existence requires mutual respect, understanding, and love. Choosing a spouse is a difficult and significant choice, particularly for students attending public universities. This is because, in addition to the pressure to excel in school and the workplace, they are going through a phase in their life where they are investigating their identities and beliefs. Therefore, when it comes to selecting a partner, they could have several competing priorities Furthermore, students at public universities frequently come from a variety of origins and hold distinct cultural beliefs. This may make it much more difficult for them to locate a really matched companion. Finding out what sort of life partner Bangladeshi public university students should select is the aim of this study.

Data were collected using a questionnaire asking about participant’s mate selection criteria high lighting the interplay of Values and Goals, Psychological, Economic, Social, Familial, Cultural, Physical factors in shaping their preferences. Survey samples, including BSMRSTU, DU, RU, JUST, SUST and so on students, were randomly selected through a simple random sampling method with a total of 400 students (168males, 232females). Qualitative research methodologies were used in BAU, BSMRSTU, CU, DIU, DU, HSTU, IU, JNU, JU, JUST, KU, MBSTU, NSTU, NSU, PSTU, PUST, RU, RUET, and SUST. The survey data was then examined using excel, word, SPSS, software. Cross-tabulation Chi-square tests and logistic regression analysis were used in the study to find out the most significant factors promoting mate selection criteria among BAU, BSMRSTU, CU, DIU, DU, HSTU, IU, JNU, JU, JUST, KU, MBSTU, NSTU, NSU, PSTU, PUST, RU, RUET, and SUST. According to the survey results, both male and female listed 20 of the 54 factors were crucial significant selecting a partner, while men thought that just 5of the 54 traits were very important and other traits were important, somewhat important, not important and few traits they remain neutral. while female thought that just 5of the 54 traits were very important and other traits were important, somewhat important, not important and few traits they remain neutral. 58.1% male students view on arrange marriage as strongly positive and 10% as strongly negative. 41.9% female students view on arrange marriage as strongly positive and 90% as strongly negative. 62.2% of male students want to marry a different country. 37.8% of female students want to marry a different country.

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# Chapter One

# Introduction

## 1.1 Background of the study

In the context of biology and human relationships, "mate" refers to a partner with whom an individual pairs for reproduction or for forming a long-term relationship. Relationships are the primary basis of connection among individuals. In humans, the term also extends to romantic life partners, with whom individuals may build emotional, social, and family bonds, in addition to potentially having children. In short, a mate is a partner with whom one shares reproductive, emotional, or life goals.

Mate selection refers to the process by which individuals choose a partner for reproduction. This choice is influenced by a variety of factors, including genetic, social, psychological, and environmental factors. In biology, mate selection often involves traits that are perceived to increase the likelihood of survival and reproduction, such as physical health, strength, or fertility. In humans, mate selection can also be shaped by cultural, personal, and social preferences, such as shared values, personality compatibility, and physical attraction. Human mate selection is more complex due to the influence of emotions, culture, and long-term goals. Factors like love, compatibility, emotional support, and mutual respect play a significant role, alongside biological and evolutionary drivers. Different religions offer distinct perspectives on mate selection criteria, often influenced by cultural and spiritual beliefs. These perspectives shape how individuals approach relationships, marriage, and partnership.

In many societies, mate selection has traditionally been a collective effort, with families and communities playing a significant role. This is particularly true in South Asian communities, where arranged marriages have been the dominant form. In such marriages, families are heavily involved in choosing appropriate partners for their children, considering factors like caste, religion, financial security, and social status. Bangladesh, being part of this cultural context, has long followed these practices. However, in recent years, particularly among the younger, educated generation, there has been a noticeable shift towards more independent mate selection, where individuals take a more active role in choosing their own partners.

And compatibility. However, with increasing modernization and urbanization, love marriages are becoming more accepted among the younger generation, especially university students who are exposed to diverse ideologies and social influences.

## 1.2 Objectives of the study

The main objective of our study is to know and understand the mate selection criteria among public university students. And to know about this, we conducted our study with some objectives in mind, which are as follows:

1. To know the mate selection criteria adopted by the public university students in Bangladesh.
2. To assess the differences between males and females in regard to mate selection criteria.

## 1.3 Outline of the study

The entire study has been segmented into seven chapters. The first chapter is the introductory chapter containing Background of the study, objectives of the research, outline of the study, limitations of the study.

In the second Chapter we discussed about the literature review of mate selection criteria, its definition, and components, summary. In Chapter three we discussed research materials and methods, Study area, Study population, Sample size determination, Sampling technique, Research design and methodology, Survey instrument development, Survey Pre-testing, Data collection, Data analysis, Report writing, Ethical considerations. In Chapter four contains the Univariate analysis of the variable which are used to identify the factor effecting In Chapter five we discussed the Bivariate analysis that is cross tabulation and Chi-square test for testing statistical significance, finally we apply these techniques in our data set for the purpose of study.

In Chapter six we discussed the Multivariate analysis that is logistic regression, Assumptions of logistic regression, logistic regression model, binary logistic regression,

### CHAPTER TWO

### LITERATUR REVIEW

## 2.1 Introduction

Mate selection in Bangladesh is influenced by various factors, including values, goals, and psychological aspects. Public university students, a privileged demographic, have unique preferences and attitudes towards mate selection. This literature review examines the changing dynamics of relationships within the country, focusing on the traditional views of marriage and relationships in a predominantly Muslim-majority country.

## 2.2 Definition of mate selection

Marriage is a crucial, mental, spiritual, and physical connection between two individuals. It is a significant decision made by both men and women and is considered one of the greatest human requirements. Islam values marriage as a source of serenity and an indication of Allah's majesty. Lord Krishna's teachings emphasize the importance of dharma, morality, selflessness, respect, and devotion in marriage, viewing it as a partnership in both spiritual and material worlds. Hindu marriage customs view it as a sacrament promoting responsibility, love, and spiritual advancement.

## 2.3 Literature Review

There have been many studies conducted on this topic.

Beauty was found to be an important mate selection criterion in Pakistani culture (Alvi et al., 2014). Financial prospect was found to be a highly significant mate selection criterion in many cultures (Badahdah and Tiemann, 2009; Buss et al., 2001; Buunk et al., 2002; Maliki, 2009; Shackelford et al., 2005). In many societies, education was proved to be an important mate selection criterion (Acitelli et al., 2001; Kalmijn and Flap, 2001; Maliki, 2009; O'Neil, 2006; Todosijevic et al., 2003).

In many countries, the graduates preferred to marry who were graduates like them (Kalmijn and Flap, 2001; Maliki, 2009).

College students in Serbia chose mates who had both good education and profession (Todosijevic et al., 2003).

## 2.4 Summary

Mate selection in various cultures is influenced by factors such as beauty, financial prospects, education, religion, age, and societal norms. In Pakistani culture, beauty is a key factor, while in Malaysia and Nigeria, financial prospects are highly significant. In some Muslim countries, people expect to marry those with the same religious faith. Age, physical attractiveness, and social status also play significant roles. Culture is the most influential criterion.

Marriage in Bangladesh is primarily based on family and social harmony, with religious customs like nikah and mahr playing a significant role. Economic status also influences the decision, but love and relationship are also crucial. Family tradition and compliance are highly valued in Bangladeshi culture.

In conclusion, selecting a mate is one of the most important decisions individuals make in their lifetime.

### CHAPTER THREE

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND MATERIALS

## 3.1 Introduction

Methodology is an important part of social science research. A successfully research depends on rational research methodology. In our study aimed at analyzing mate selection criteria among public university students, we have chosen a qualitative research method, considering the nature and objectives of the research. Because it seems impossible to properly analyze and bring out the overall situation of the partner selection criteria among public university students following quantitative research methods.

On the other hand, we believe that qualitative research offers a more effective approach to exploring these criteria in depth. For this reason, the research has been conducted using a qualitative methodology.

## 3.2 Sources of data

The data has been collected from two main sources: primary and secondary. The data for this research we used primary data. Here we used questionnaire to collect primary data. Since data collection of this study was dominantly qualitative through questionnaire, survey, and draw sampling unit. Since the primary data has been directly gathered from public university students, we can confidently state that the main data of our research has been collected from primary sources.

## 3.3 Study Area

For collecting primary data for the research, at first, we must choose an area. These areas are called target study areas. Our study area was BAU, BSMRSTU, CU, DIU, DU, HSTU, IU, JNU, JU, JUST, KU, MBSTU, NSTU, NSU, PSTU, PUST, RU, RUET, and SUST.

## 3.4 Study Population

Primary data was collected from Hon’s First year, second year, thir year, fourth year, graduate and postgraduate’s students in BAU, BSMRSTU, CU, DIU, DU, HSTU, IU, JNU, JU, JUST, KU, MBSTU, NSTU, NSU, PSTU, PUST, RU, RUET, and SUST. Out of a total number of respondents, the majority 143(35.8%) of respondents were graduate students, the majority of 107(26.8%) respondents were Hon’s fourth year students the majority of 66(16.5%) respondents were Hon’s third year students and 16(4%), 17(4.3%) respondents were Hon’s first and second years students and 51(12.8%) respondents were post graduate’s students from Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Science and Technology University and others. The number of female respondents is higher than that of male respondents. The number of male respondents were 168 (42%) and female were 232 (57.8%)

## 3.5 Sample size determination

Sample size for the study was determined using the formula for calculating single proportion by Abramson and Gahlinger (Year). The sample size formula is,

n

Determine the sample size necessary to estimate the proportion mate selection criteria of students that identify as vegan with 95% confidence and a margin error 5% and unlimited population size. Here, p=0.5, 1-p= 0.5, z= 1.96 and acceptable margin of error d = 0.05

Now, n = = 384.16

n = 384.16

We considered 95% confidence interval and 5% level of significance in the formula. The formula provided that enough samples were 384.16 for our study, however we have collected the sample of size 400, for better understanding of our study.

## 3.6 Sampling technique

The simple random sampling technique was used for the study. Simple random sampling (sometimes referred as random sampling and unrestricted sampling) is a probability sampling technique in which everyone has an equal chance of being selected and every subset of the population has same probability of being chosen. We have considered all the students of BAU, BSMRSTU, CU, DIU, DU, HSTU, IU, JNU, JU, JUST, KU, MBSTU,

## 3.7 Data Collection

The data should be collected keeping in view the objects of the survey. Data is essential for any research. Without sufficient data, conducting meaningful research is impossible. However, to gather adequate data, a well-planned strategy must be adopted. A lack of proper strategy can often result in insufficient data or failure to extract the desired information. It is crucial to establish a solid data collection strategy based on the type and scope of the research.

The process of data collection depends upon the kind of research generally,

1. Mailing process.
2. Interview process.

The interview process has two parts:

1. Questionnaire process.
2. Focus group discussion.

We have selected the questionnaire process. the participants were willing to participate in the research and complete the questionnaire. The questionnaire was sent to the participants through virtual space and manually.

## 3.8 Data Analysis

After collecting data, we are analyzed using SPSS (IBM SPSS Statistics), version 27.0.1. Descriptive statistics methods and frequency distribution tables were used for describing the characteristics of the study, also to determine the frequency distribution of the studies’ concept in attachment to mate selection criteria, we used two-sided Chi-square test through SPSS software version 27.0.1 at an error level of >0.05.

## 3.9 Report Writing

For clarity and visualization, the report will also include graphical representations of the survey results in addition to an introduction, methodology, results, discussion, and suggestions.

## 3.10 Ethical Considerations

The research should guarantee participant informed consent, maintain respondents' anonymity and confidentiality, and adhere to ethical standards throughout the study.

### Chapter 4

### Univariate Analysis

### 

## 4.1 Introduction

Statistical analysis plays a crucial role in identifying the relationship between various independent factors and the health outcomes being studied. In this research, we utilize multiple statistical methods to determine the key factors influencing mate selection criteria, specifically in relation to the gender, institute. This chapter focuses on conducting a univariate analysis on the dataset to explore the mate selection criteria among university students.

## 4.2 Statistical Techniques

In this study, SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Sciences) version 27 was employed to handle and analysis the primary data. Microsoft Office 2024 was also used to assist with data presentation. For the descriptive analysis, frequency distribution was applied to illustrate the characteristics and trend patterns of both the independent and dependent variables.

## 4.3 Univariate analysis

Univariate analysis refers to the simplest form of statistical analysis, focusing on the examination of a single variable. This method looks at the distribution and characteristics of the variable in question. For example, if the variable being analyzed is "age," the analysis would involve grouping individuals into different age categories to observe their distribution across those groups.

Unlike bivariate analysis, which explores relationships between two variables, or multivariate analysis, which examines multiple variables at once, univariate analysis focuses solely on one variable at a time. It is often used as an initial step in research, providing a descriptive overview before moving on to more complex analyses involving multiple variables.

A basic way of presenting Univariate data is to create a frequency distribution of the individual cases, which involves presenting the number of cases in the sample that fall into

0.5

0.8

3.5

6.8

15.8

29.8

25

10.3

4.8

0.5

0.8

0.8

0.3

0.3

0.3

0.3

100

0

20

40

60

80

100

120

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

35

Total

Valid

Figure 4.1: Bar Diagram of Age of respondent

The age distribution of students shows that the largest group is 24 years old, making up **29.8%** of the total sample, followed by 25 years at **25.0%** and 23 years at **15.8%**. The age group of 27 years accounts for **10.3%**, while 22 years comprises **6.8%**, and 21 years **3.5%**. Younger ages, such as 19 and 20 years, have minimal representation at **0.5%** and **0.8%**, respectively. Ages 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35 collectively contribute between **0.3%** and **0.8%** each. This data indicates a concentration of students primarily in their mid-twenties, especially around ages 24 and 25.

## 4.4.1 Distributions of the gender of students

This chapter explores the gender distribution among university students, examining how various demographic and social factors influence enrolment trends. It notes that disciplines such as nursing and education generally see higher female representation, whereas fields like engineering and computer science tend to attract more males. Additionally, the chapter considers regional differences and cultural factors, offering insights into the changing landscape of gender representation in higher education.

###### Table 4.2: Distributions of the gender of students

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Genders of Students** | |  |
| Gender |  | Frequency(N) | Percentages |
| Male | 168 | 42.0 |
| Female | 231 | 57.8 |
| Others | 1 | .3 |
| Total | 400 | 100.0 |

42

57.8

0.3

100

0

20

40

60

80

100

120

2

. Gender: Male

2

. Gender: Female

2

. Gender: Others

2

. Gender: Total

Figure 4.2: Bar Diagram of Gender of respondent

This table illustrates the gender distribution among students, indicating that females constitute the majority at 57.8%, followed by males at 42.0%, and a small representation of other genders at 0.3%.

## 4.4.2 Distributions of the Father’s education

This chapter analyses the distribution of father’s education among university students, categorizing levels from no formal education to postgraduate degrees. It explores how these educational backgrounds impact student demographics, academic performance, and aspirations. By examining this data, the chapter provides insights into the influence of parental education on student’s educational outcomes and socioeconomic status**.**

rary expectations

## Table 4.11: Distributions of the What is your view on arranged marriages

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **What is your view on arranged marriages** | |  |
| Overview |  | Frequency(N) | Percentages |
| Strongly Positive | 167 | 41.8 |
| Positive | 152 | 38.0 |
| Neutral | 55 | 13.8 |
| Negative | 16 | 4.0 |
| Strongly Negative | 10 | 2.5 |
| Total | 400 | 100.0 |

41.8

38

13.8

4

2.5

100

0

20

40

60

80

100

120

Strongly

Positive

Positive

Neutral

Negative

Strongly

Negative

Total

Valid

11

. What is your view on arranged marriages? Percent

**Figure 4.11: Bar Diagram of What is your view on arranged marriages.**

The table summarizes perspectives on arranged marriages among 400 respondents, revealing a predominantly favorable attitude. A significant 41.8% express a **Strongly Positive** view, while 38.0% feel **Positive** about arranged marriages. Together, these groups represent nearly 80% of the population, indicating strong support for this practice. In contrast, only 4.0% hold a **Negative** view, and a mere 2.5% feel **Strongly Negative**. The **Neutral** category comprises 13.8%, suggesting some ambivalence among a smaller segment. Overall, the data highlights a clear preference for arranged marriages within this demographic.

significant portion, 28.2%, remains uncertain, indicating a nuanced perspective on this topic. Overall, the data reflects a divided opinion, with a slight lean towards skepticism about the comparative success of love marriages, highlighting the complexity of relationship dynamics in the context of personal beliefs.

## 4.4.4 Would you consider marrying someone from a different country

This portion looks at how open participants are to the idea of marrying someone from a different country. Responses are categorized as "Yes," "No," or "Maybe." The results shed light on how students view international marriage, influenced by factors such as cultural differences or personal preferences. A total of all responses is also included to give an overall view of the participants' perspectives.

#### Table 4.13: Would you consider marrying someone from a different country

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Would you consider marrying someone from a different country** | | | |
| Overview |  | Frequency(N) | Percentages |
| Yes | 90 | 22.5 |
| No | 274 | 68.5 |
| Maybe | 36 | 9.0 |
| Total | 400 | 100.0 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 120  100   |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  | 68.5 |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | 22.5 |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  | 9 |  |  |   100  80  60  40  20  0  Valid Yes Valid No Valid Maybe Valid Total |

**Figure 4.13: Bar Diagram Would you consider marrying someone from a different country**

The table reflects the views of 400 respondents on the possibility of marrying someone from a different country. A substantial majority, 68.5%, indicate that they would **not** consider such a marriage, suggesting a preference for cultural or national familiarity. Only 22.5% express a willingness to marry internationally, while 9.0% remain uncertain. This data highlights a cautious approach towards cross-cultural relationships, with a clear inclination towards domestic partnerships among the respondents.

## 4.4.6 What is your view on dowry in a marriage

This part delves into participants' opinions on the practice of dowry in marriage. Responses are classified into four categories: "Strongly oppose," "Oppose," "Neutral," and "Support." The data helps in understanding students' attitudes toward dowry, a culturally significant and often controversial aspect of marriage. The total number of responses across all categories is included to provide a comprehensive view of the participants' collective stanc**e.**

#### Table 4.12: What is your view on dowry in a marriage

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **What is your view on dowry in a marriage** | |  |
| Opinion |  | Frequency(N) | Percentages |
| Strongly oppose | 268 | 67.0 |
| Oppose | 115 | 28.7 |
| Neutral | 13 | 3.3 |
| Support | 4 | 1.0 |
| Total | 400 | 100.0 |

67

28.7

3.3

1

100

0

20

40

60

80

100

120

Strongly

oppose

Oppose

Neutral

Support

Total

Valid

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | No preference | 85 | 21.3 |
| Total | 400 | 100.0 |

19.5

25

34.3

21.3

100

0

20

40

60

80

100

120

Younger by 5-

10

years

Older by 5-10

years

Same age

No

preference

Total

Valid

**Figure 4.16: What age difference do you think is acceptable between you and your partner**

This table examines opinions on acceptable age differences between partners among 400 respondents. The most common view, held by 34.3%, is that having partners of the **same age** is ideal. Meanwhile, 25.0% prefer partners who are **older by 5-10 years**, and 19.5% are comfortable with partners who are **younger by 5-10 years**. Additionally, 21.3% of respondents express **no preference** regarding age differences. This data reveals a diverse range of attitudes towards age in relationships, with a notable inclination towards age parity.

## 4.4.7 Do you believe love marriages are more successful than arranged marriages

This part examines whether participants willingness to marry someone from a rural area despite their urban background. Responses are grouped into "Yes," "No," and "Maybe," providing insight into perceptions of geographical differences in relationships. A total response count is included for a comprehensive view.

#### Table 4.17 Would you consider a partner who lives in a rural area while you are from an urban background

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Would you consider a partner who lives in a rural area while you are from an urban background** | | | | |
|  | Opinion | |  | Frequency(N) | Percentages |
|  | Yes | 263 | 65.8 |
|  | No | 53 | 13.3 |
|  | Maybe | 84 | 21.0 |
|  | | Total | | Total | 400 | |

76.5

7.2

16.3

100

0

20

40

60

80

100

120

Valid Yes

Valid No

Valid Maybe

Valid Total

**Figure 4.18: Bar Diagram of Would you consider relocating for your partner's job or family**

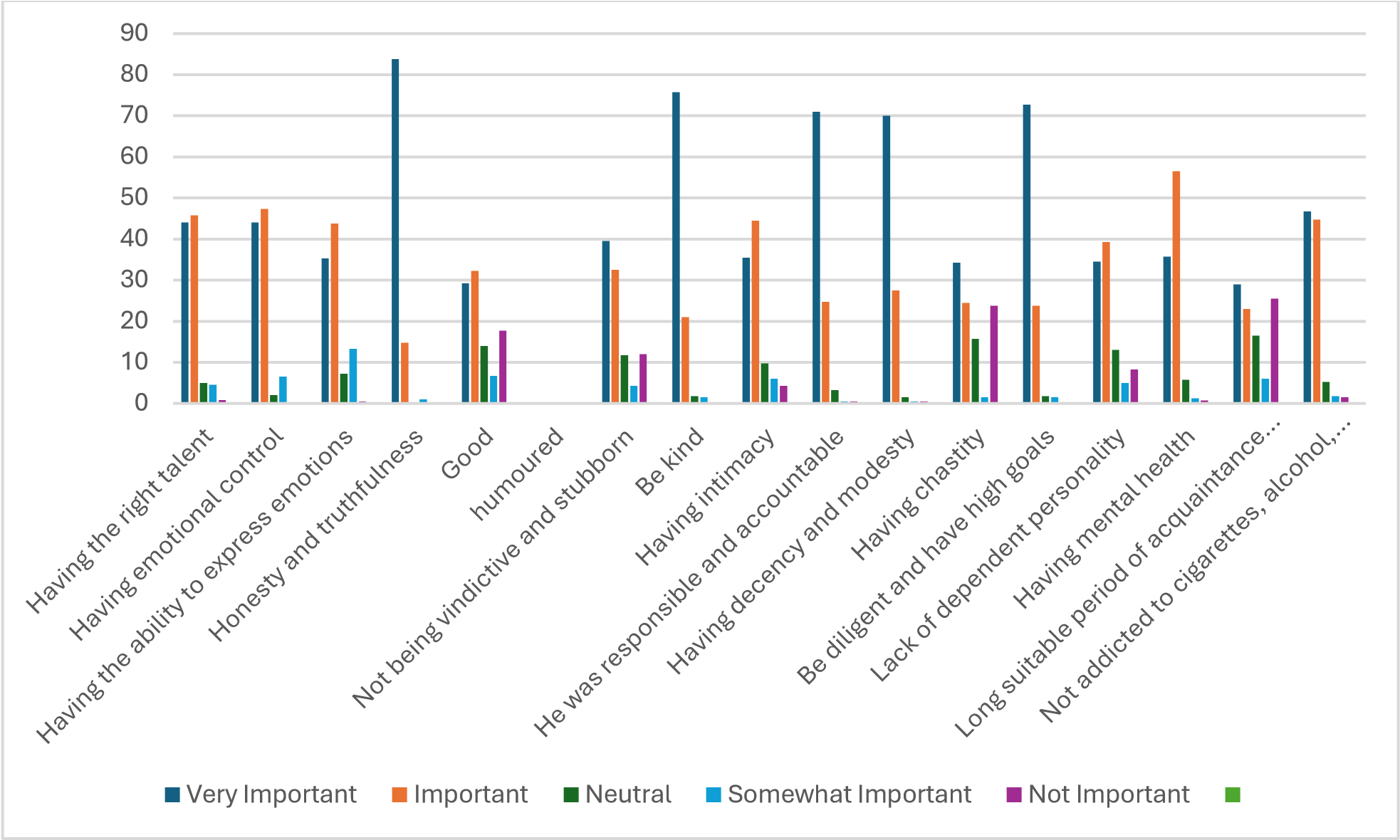
This table presents the views of 400 respondents on the possibility of relocating for a partner's job or family. A strong majority, 76.5%, are **willing** to consider relocation, indicating a high level of commitment and flexibility in relationships. In contrast, only 7.3% would **not** consider relocating, while 16.3% remain uncertain. This data suggests a significant readiness to adapt to circumstances that support a partner's professional or familial needs, reflecting a supportive attitude towards shared life decisions.

## 4.4.8 How important is your partner’s involvement in family matters

This section evaluates how crucial participants believe their partner's involvement in family matters is. Responses are categorized as "Very important," "Somewhat important," and "Not important," offering insights into the value placed on family dynamics in relationships. A total count of responses is included for a comprehensive understanding.

#### Table 4.19: How important is your partner’s involvement in family matters

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **How important is your partner’s involvement in family matters** | | | |
| Opinion |  | Frequency(N) | Percentages |
| Very important | 346 | 86.5 |
| Somewhat important | 40 | 10.0 |
| Not important | 14 | 3.5 |



**Figure 4.22: Bar Diagram of Mate Selection Criteria (Psychological)**

This table outlines the psychological criteria deemed important for mate selection among respondents. The most significant factor is **honesty and truthfulness**, with 83.8% rating it as **very important**. Additionally, **being kind** (75.8%) and **being responsible and accountable** (71.0%) also rank highly. Factors like **having mental health** (35.8% very important) and **not being addicted to substances** (46.8%) are also noteworthy, indicating a preference for emotional stability and a healthy lifestyle. The data reveals a strong inclination towards values that foster trust, respect, and emotional support in relationships.

## 4.4.9 Mate Selection Criteria (Economic)

This analysis explores the significance of financial stability in a partner, focusing on aspects such as "Having the right job," "Decent income," "Housing," and "Other amenities like a car." Participants rate the importance of these factors on a scale from "Not Important" to "Very Important." The responses provide insights into how university students prioritize financial stability in their mate selection criteria.

#### Table 4.23: Mate Selection Criteria (Economic)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Mate Selection Criteria (Economic) |  |  |

**Figure 4.24: Bar Diagram of Mate Selection Criteria (Cultural)**

This table explores the significance of cultural criteria in mate selection among respondents. **Respecting each other's rights** emerges as the most critical factor, with a striking 77.0% rating it as **very important**. Additionally, **having education appropriateness** is also highly valued, with 70.5% considering it very important. The criterion of **having a moral and religious appropriateness** follows closely at 66.5%.

Other notable criteria include **commitment to family** (43.5% very important) and **having an interest in parenting**, indicating a focus on family values and upbringing. Interestingly, the **amount of dowry** is viewed as **not important** by a significant 77.0%, reflecting a shift in attitudes towards traditional practices. Overall, the data highlights the strong emphasis on mutual respect, education, and moral values in the mate selection process.

## 4.4.10 Mate Selection Criteria (Physical)

This Section looks at physical factors influencing mate selection, including "Age difference," "Physical attractiveness," "Genetic counselling," and "Overall health." Participants rate these criteria from "Not Important" to "Very Important," revealing how physical attributes impact university students' partner preferences.

#### Table 4.26: Mate Selection Criteria (Physical)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Mate Selection Criteria (Physical) | | |  |  |
| Question | Very Important | Important | Neutral | Somewhat Important | Not Important |
| Not having a considerable age difference | 101(25.25) | 118(29.5) | 93(23.25) | 36(9) | 52(13) |
| Having proper physical attractiveness and beauty | 65(16.25) | 175(43.75) | 81(20.25) | 43(10.75) | 36(9) |
| Having genetic counselling and no inherited diseases in marriage | 116(29) | 162(40.5) | 84(21) | 22(5.5) | 16(4) |
| No history of disease | 88(22) | 109(27.25) | 135(33.75) | 24(6) | 44(11) |
| Having physical health (not having a specific disease) | 115(28.75) | 175(43.75) | 50(12.5) | 27(6.75) | 33(8.25) |

0

5

10

15

20

25

30

35

40

45

50

Very Important

Important

Neutral

Somewhat

Important

Not Important

Not having a considerable age difference

Having proper physical attractiveness and beauty

Having genetic counselling and no inherited diseases in marriage

No history of disease

Having physical health (not having a specific disease)

**Figure 4.24: Bar Diagram of Mate Selection Criteria (Physical)**

This table evaluates the importance of physical criteria in mate selection among respondents. **Having genetic counselling and no inherited diseases** is regarded as **very important** by 29.0% of participants, indicating a strong concern for health implications in relationships.

**Having physical health** (28.8% very important) also reflects a priority on well-being, suggesting that respondents value partners who maintain good health.

The criterion of **not having a considerable age difference** is considered **very important** by 25.3%, while **having proper physical attractiveness and beauty** garners 16.3% in the same category. Interestingly, concerns about **no history of disease** show a more mixed response, with

33.8% remaining neutral.

Overall, the data demonstrates a significant focus on health-related factors, alongside physical attractiveness, in the mate selection process, highlighting the importance of both physical well-being and aesthetic appeal.

## 4.5 Conclusion

The univariate analysis on mate selection criteria among university students in Bangladesh reveals key insights into their relationship preferences, reflecting a blend of emotional, economic, social, familial, cultural, and physical factors.

1. **Family Involvement**: A significant 86.5% of respondents consider a partner's involvement in family matters as very important, indicating a strong expectation for shared familial responsibilities.
2. **Ideal Lifestyle**: The overwhelming preference for a family-oriented lifestyle (74.5%) demonstrates that stability and familial connections are prioritized over adventurous or urban living.
3. **Conflict Resolution**: A dominant 61.3% prefer a direct and assertive approach to conflict resolution, emphasizing the value placed on open communication in relationships.
4. **Psychological Attributes**: Honesty stands out as the most valued trait, with 83.8% rating it as very important, followed by kindness (75.8%) and responsibility (71.0%), highlighting the significance of trust and emotional support.
5. **Economic Factors**: Financial stability is crucial, with 43.5% deeming it very important, underscoring the role of economic security in relationship decisions.
6. **Social Status and Family Compatibility**: Having a social status (63.0% very important) and familial management skills (42.0% very important) reflect the importance of social dynamics and family compatibility in mate selection.
7. **Cultural Values**: Respect for each other's rights (77.0% very important) and educational appropriateness (70.5% very important) indicate a shift toward valuing mutual respect and shared values, with a notable rejection of traditional practices like dowry.
8. **Health Considerations**: Concerns about genetic counselling and health implications are significant, with 29.0% rating the absence of inherited diseases as very important, emphasizing health’s role in relationship choices.

In summary, the analysis illustrates that university students in Bangladesh prioritize a multifaceted set of criteria in mate selection, with a strong focus on emotional connection, shared responsibilities, and evolving cultural values. These findings provide a foundation for further exploration into how these preferences may evolve in contemporary society.

### CHAPTER FIVE

### BIVARIATE ANALYSIS

## 5.1 Introduction

Bivariate analysis is a fundamental statistical technique that examines the relationship between two variables to understand how they are related and influence each other. It serves as a starting point for uncovering potential associations and patterns in data, which can provide insights for decision-making, research, and problem. Bivariate analysis is a useful technique in this study's setting for analyzing how one variable affects or interacts with another, providing more in-depth understanding of the aspects that influence the choices, actions, and results of the responders.

This chapter explores the use of bivariate analysis to investigate the relationships between variables and patterns in data. It examines the correlations between key variables, such as gender, criteria, and demographic characteristics, to understand the factors influencing respondents' choices, actions, and results that focuses on public university students.

## 5.2 Bivariate Analysis

A statistical technique known as bivariate analysis (also known as asymmetrical analysis) examines two variables at the same time to determine their patterns, relationship or link in the data. Bivariate analysis is an important statistical approach. It focuses on the potential relationships and influences between variables. It examines the relationship between two variables in the absence of a cause-and-effect relationship, or how the dependent ("outcome") variable depends on or is explained by the independent ("explanatory") variable. Regression analysis, cross-tabulation, and correlation are common techniques in bivariate analysis.

## 5.2.1 Cross Tabulation

In statistics, the process of analyzing the association between two or more categorical variables by presenting their frequency distribution in a tabular fashion is known as cross tabulation, often referred to as contingency table analysis.

We stand for contingency analysis, an approach intended to investigate potential relationships between various events. Given a contingency table, where "E" represents the anticipated frequency and "O" represents the observation frequency, the expected frequency under any given hypothesis is.

Where,

Eij = Expected frequency of ith row and jth columns.

Ri = No. of observation at the ith row the respective contingency table

Cj = No. of data at the jth column of the respective contingency table.

N= Total number of observations.

From each contingency table examination of association between the components and the different segment of the component are made by computing Chi-square and using the formula is given by.’

Where,

Oij = The Observed number of data in (i, j) th cell

Eij = the expected number of data in (i, j) th Cell

Finally comparing the calculated value of and tabulated value of and we present the

Contingency tables are fundamental in chi-square tests for association and independent.

## 5.2.2 Chi-square test

A very powerful test for testing statistical significance was given by Prof Karl Pearsons Chi-square test is used to assess two types of comparison: test of goodness of fit and test of independence.

For the validity of chi square test, the following condition must be satisfied

1. The sample observations should be independent
2. Constrains on the cell frequencies if any should linear
3. The total frequency should be large, say greater than 50

The procedure of the test includes the following steps

1. State the null hypothesis and alternative hypothesis

Ho: There is no relationship between two variables. H1:There is a relationship between two variables.

1. Select the level of significance We selected the 0.05 level of significance
2. Select the test statistic

The test statistics denoted by χ2 and given by 𝜒 2 = ∑(𝑂𝑖 − 𝐸𝑖 )2 /𝐸𝑖

Where, 𝑂𝑖 is the observed value and 𝐸𝑖 is the expected value.

d) Formulate the decision rules

* Reject the Null Hypothesis (H₀) if the calculated Chi-Square statistic ( 2 ) is greater than the critical value from the Chi-Square distribution table.
* Fail to Reject the Null Hypothesis (H₀) if the calculated Chi-Square statistic is less than or equal to the critical value.

e) Conclusion:

* If you reject (H₀), this suggests there is a significant association between the variables (Test of Independence) or the observed data does not fit the expected distribution (Goodness of Fit Test).
* If you fail to reject H0, this suggests there is no significant evidence of association or that the observed data fits the expected distribution.

## 5.3 Association between Gender and viewing on arrange marriage

The following table shows the association between respondent’s gender and viewing on arrange marriages. We can interpret from the table that, the priority rate of male students has strongly positive viewing on arrange marriage (the number of percentages is 58.1%) and the female students have strongly negative viewing on arrange marriage (the number of percentages is 90.0%). Here it indicates that a gender-based disparity in selection of mate.

#### Table 5.1: What is your view on arranged marriages

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | Strongly Positive | | Positive | | Neutral | | Negative | | Strongly Negative | | Total | | P value |
|  | | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | 0.001 |
| Gender | Male | 97 | 58.1% | 47 | 30.9% | 20 | 36.4% | 3 | 18.8% | 1 | 10.00% | 168 | 42.00% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Female | 70 | 41.9% | 105 | 69.1% | 35 | 63.6% | 13 | 81.3% | 9 | 90.00% | 232 | 58.00% |  |
| Total | | 167 | 100.0% | 152 | 100.0% | 55 | 100.0% | 16 | 100.0% | 10 | 100.0% | 400 | 100.0% |

From the chi-square test table, we find that, at 5% level of significance our p-value is < 0.001 (i.e.<0.005). where the value of Chi-square is 18.479^a with for the 4 d.f tabulated value is

9.488.

Hypothesis Testing

H0: There is no association between respondent’s gender and not being vindictive and stubborn.

H1: There is association between respondent’s gender and not being vindictive and stubborn.

Comment:

Here, the calculated value of Chi-square test for 5% level of significance is greater than the tabulated value. Hence, we reject the null hypothesis.

So, there is association between respondent’s gender and not being vindictive and stubborn.

Comment:

Here, the calculated value of Chi-square test for 5% level of significance is greater than the tabulated value. Hence, we reject the null hypothesis.

So, there is association between respondent’s institute and housekeeping skills.

## 5.4.2 Association between institute and having the ability to make decisions and communicate socially in critical situation

The study focuses on the selection criteria for mates, focusing on their ability to make decisions and communicate socially in critical situations. The results show that most of the candidates have strong social skills, with a high percentage of BAU, BSMRSTU, CU, CMC, DU, HSTU, IU, JNU, JU, JUST, KU, MBSTU, NSTU, NSU, PSTU, PUST, RU, RUET, and SUST. The overall score for the candidates is 130, with a total of 59.6%. The study also found that most of the candidates have strong social skills, with a high percentage of BAU, BSMRSTU, CU, DU, DU, HSTU, IU, JNU, JU, JUST, KU, MBSTU, NSTU, NSU, PSTU, PUST, RU, RUET, and SUST.

###### Table 5.9: Mate Selection Criteria (Familial) [Possessing housekeeping skills]

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Very Important | | Important | | Neutral | | Somewhat Important | | Not Important | | Total | | P Value |
| N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | 1.00 |
| Your  Institute | BAU | 1 | 0.80% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 1 | 0.30% |
| BSMRSTU | 66 | 50.80% | 133 | 59.60% | 18 | 75.00% | 19 | 90.50% | 1 | 100.00% | 237 | 59.40% |
| BUET | 2 | 1.50% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 1 | 4.80% | 0 | 0.00% | 3 | 0.80% |
| CMC | 1 | 0.80% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 1 | 0.30% |
| CU | 5 | 3.80% | 6 | 2.70% | 1 | 4.20% | 1 | 4.80% | 0 | 0.00% | 13 | 3.30% |
| CUET | 1 | 0.80% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 1 | 0.30% |
| DIU | 0 | 0.00% | 1 | 0.40% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 1 | 0.30% |
| DU | 5 | 3.80% | 10 | 4.50% | 1 | 4.20% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 16 | 4.00% |
| HSTU | 7 | 5.40% | 8 | 3.60% | 1 | 4.20% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 16 | 4.00% |
| IU | 2 | 1.50% | 5 | 2.20% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 7 | 1.80% |
| JNU | 1 | 0.80% | 6 | 2.70% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 7 | 1.80% |
| JU | 3 | 2.30% | 9 | 4.00% | 1 | 4.20% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 13 | 3.30% |
| JUST | 12 | 9.20% | 11 | 4.90% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 23 | 5.80% |
| KU | 3 | 2.30% | 5 | 2.20% | 1 | 4.20% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 9 | 2.30% |
| KUET | 2 | 1.50% | 2 | 0.90% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 4 | 1.00% |
| MBSTU | 4 | 3.10% | 2 | 0.90% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 6 | 1.50% |
| NSTU | 7 | 5.40% | 8 | 3.60% | 1 | 4.20% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 16 | 4.00% |
| NSU | 2 | 1.50% | 5 | 2.20% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 7 | 1.80% |
|  | PSTU | 1 | 0.80% | 6 | 2.70% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 7 | 1.80% |  |
| PUST | 3 | 2.30% | 9 | 4.00% | 1 | 4.20% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 13 | 3.30% |
| RU | 12 | 9.20% | 11 | 4.90% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 23 | 5.80% |
| RUET | 3 | 2.30% | 5 | 2.20% | 1 | 4.20% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 9 | 2.30% |
| SUST | 2 | 1.50% | 2 | 0.90% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 4 | 1.00% |
| Total | | 130 | 100.00% | 223 | 100.00% | 24 | 100.00% | 21 | 100.00% | 1 | 100.00% | 399 | 100.00% |

From the chi-square test table, we find that, at 5% level of significance our p-value is 1.00 (i.e.<0.005). where the value of Chi-square is 51.580^a with for 92 d.f tabulated value is

115.390

Hypothesis Testing

H0: There is no association between respondent’s institute and having the ability to make decisions and communicate socially in critical situations.

H1: There is association between respondent’s institute and having the ability to make decisions and communicate socially in critical situations.

## 5.5 Association between location and long suitable period of acquaintance before marriage (6 or 2 years)

The following table shows the association between respondent’s location and long suitable period of acquaintance before marriage (6 to 2 years). We can interpret from the table that, the priority rate of rural students, it is neutral (the number of percentages is 65.2%) and for the urban students, it is very important (the number of percentages is 63.5%). The study reveals that the psychological criteria for a suitable man before marriage, including a long suitable period of acquaintance, are highly important, with rural and urban locations having varying percentages.

###### Table 5.10: Mate Selection Criteria (Familial) [Possessing housekeeping skills]

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | Very Important | | Important | | Neutral | | Somewhat Important | | Not Important | | |
| N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N |
| Location | Rural | 42 | 36.5% | 41 | 44.6% | 43 | 65.2% | 15 | 62.5% | 61 | 59.8% | 42 |
| Urban | 73 | 63.5% | 51 | 55.4% | 23 | 34.8% | 9 | 37.5% | 41 | 40.2% | 73 |
| Total | | 115 | 100.0% | 92 | 100.0% | 66 | 100.0% | 24 | 100.0% | 102 | 100.0% | 115 |

From the chi-square test table, we find that, at 5% level of significance our p value is 0.001

(i.e.<0.005). where the value of Chi-square is 20.866^a with for 4 d.f tabulated value is 9.488

Hypothesis Testing

H0: There is no association between location and long suitable period of acquaintance before marriage (6 or 2 years)

H1: There is association between location and long suitable period of acquaintance before marriage (6 or 2 years)

Comment:

Here, the calculated value of Chi-square test for 5% level of significance is greater than the tabulated value. Hence, we reject the null hypothesis. Comment:

Here, the calculated value of Chi-square test for 5% level of significance is less than the tabulated value. Hence, we accept the null hypothesis.

So, there is association between respondent’s institute and having the ability to make decisions and communicate socially in critical situations.

## 5.6 Conclusion

The study examines the relationship between gender and various aspects of mate selection. It finds that male students have a strongly positive view of arrange marriage (58.1%), while female students have a strongly negative view (90.0%). This indicates a gender-based disparity in the selection of mates. The study also examines the association between gender and not being vindictive and stubborn (52.1%), financial stability in a partner (88.9%), and having other amenities such as a car (52.5%). Male students prioritize having a car (52.5%), while female students are neutral (73.1%). This indicates a gender-based disparity in mate selection criteria.

The study also examines the association between gender and having previous family originality and honour (59.3%). Male students prioritize having a car (59.3%), while female students prioritize it (73.2%). These findings suggest that gender plays a significant role in mate selection, with male students having a higher priority for having a car and female students having a lower priority for having previous family originality and honour.

The study examines the association between gender and mate selection, revealing a genderbased disparity in the selection of students. Male students prioritize their health, with a high percentage of 60.5%, while female students prioritize their beauty, with a slightly higher percentage of 75.0%. The Chi-square test results show a significant difference in the priority of these factors, with male students having a higher priority than female students. The study also found a significant difference in the priority of physical attractiveness and beauty, with male students having a higher priority than female students. The results support the null hypothesis that there is no association between gender and these factors.

The study examines the selection criteria for mates in universities, focusing on physical attractiveness, beauty, housekeeping skills, and social skills. The results show that most candidates are very important, with a high percentage of candidates at BAU, BSMRSTU, CU,

DIU, DU, HSTU, IU, JNU, JUST, KU, MBSTU, NSTU, NSU, PSTU, PUST, RU, RUET, and

SUST. The study also finds that there is an association between the institution and having proper physical attractiveness and beauty.

The study examines the relationship between location and the long suitable period of acquaintance before marriage (6 to 2 years). Rural students prioritize this aspect 65.2%, while urban students place it very important at 63.5%. The study reveals that psychological criteria for a suitable man, including a long suitable period of acquaintance, are highly important, with rural and urban locations having varying percentages. The Chi-square test results show a p value of 0.001, rejecting the null hypothesis that there is no association between location and the long suitable period of acquaintance before marriage.

The study reveals gender disparities in university student mate selection, with male students favoring arrange marriage (58.1%) and prioritizing car ownership (52.5%). They also prioritize health (60.5%) and beauty (75.0%), with physical attractiveness and beauty being more important than location (6 to 2 years).

Chapter Six

# Multivariate Analysis

## 6.1 Introduction

Multivariate analysis is a set of statistical techniques used to analyse data that involves multiple variables simultaneously. It allows researchers to understand relationships, identify patterns, and make predictions by delving into how different variables interact with each other. Ultimately, it helps in making informed decisions based on complex data sets. Multivariate analysis involves examining multiple variables simultaneously to understand relationships and patterns within data. It helps in identifying how various factors influence outcomes, enabling deeper insights for decision-making in fields like statistics, finance, and social science.

## 6.2 Multivariate Analysis

Multivariate analysis refers to a set of statistical techniques used to analyse data that involves two or more variables. Unlike multivariate analysis, which examines a single variable, or bivariate analysis, which considers the relationship between two variables, multivariate analysis allows researchers to explore complex interrelationships among multiple variables simultaneously.

Uses for multivariate analysis include:

* Regression analysis- the use of regression to make quantitative predictions of one variable from the values of another.
* Design for capability (also known as capability-based design)
* Inverse design, where any variable can be treated as an independent variable
* Analysis of alternatives, the selection of concepts to fulfil a customer need
* Analysis of concepts with respect to changing scenarios
* Identification of critical design drivers and correlations across hierarchical levels.

Multivariate analysis can become challenging when attempting to incorporate detailed physics based models to evaluate the influence of multiple variables in a complex hierarchical system. One common difficulty is managing the high-dimensional data involved in such studies. To address this, researchers often use surrogate models, which serve as simplified yet highly accurate representations of the more intricate physics-based systems. These models, typically expressed as mathematical equations, allow for rapid evaluation and facilitate large-scale analysis.

This simplification significantly reduces computational demands, enabling techniques like Monte Carlo simulations that would otherwise be difficult with full physics-based models. By using surrogate models, these simulations become more efficient and manageable, particularly when the models are represented as response surface equations.

## 6.2.1 Logistic regression

Logistic regression is a classification algorithm. It is used to predict a binary outcome based on a set of independent variables.

A **binary outcome** is one where there are only two possible scenarios either the event happens (1), or it does not happen (0). **Independent variables** are those variables or factors which may influence the outcome (or dependent variable).

So: Logistic regression is the correct type of analysis to use when you’re working with binary data. You know you’re dealing with binary data when the output or dependent variable is dichotomous or categorical in nature; in other words, if it fits into one of two categories (such as “yes” or “no”, “pass” or “fail”, and so on).

There are two main uses of logistic regression:

* The first is the prediction of group membership. Since logistic regression calculates the probability of success over the probability of failure, the results of the analysis are in the form of an odds ratio.
* Logistic regression also provides knowledge of the relationships and strengths among the variables (e.g. marrying the boss’s daughter puts you at a higher probability for job promotion than undertaking five hours unpaid overtime each week) (Agresti, A. (2002)).

## 6.2.1.1 Assumptions of logistic regression

1. **Binary or Categorical Dependent Variable**:
   * The dependent variable must be dichotomous (two categories, e.g., yes/no) or categorical for multinomial logistic regression.
2. **Independence of Observations**:
   * Each observation should be independent of others, meaning the outcome of one observation does not affect another.
3. **Independent Variables**:
   * The independent variables do not need to be normally distributed, linearly related to the dependent variable, or of equal variance within each group.
4. **Mutually Exclusive and Exhaustive Categories**:
   * The categories (groups) must be mutually exclusive and exhaustive; each case can belong to only one group, and all cases must fit into one of the groups.

category, typically coded as 0. The model estimates the likelihood of the outcome for the other category (coded as 1) compared to the reference category.

## 6.3 Dependent and Independent variables

In statistical analyses, the dependent variable is the outcome or response variable that researchers are interested in predicting or explaining. For the topic of mate or spouse selection criteria among university students in Bangladesh, the dependent variable represents the selection criteria itself, which guides students in choosing their partners.

The dependent variable in the context of studying mate or spouse selection criteria among university students in Bangladesh could be operationalized as the specific attributes or preferences that influence the choice of a partner. This variable can be measured through various characteristics such as educational background, socio-economic status, physical appearance, personality traits, and cultural or religious values.

Independent variables are the predictors in a logistic regression model that help explain the variation in the dependent variable. In this analysis, independent variables may include personal characteristics of the potential partners as well as the students themselves, reflecting their preferences and selection criteria in mate choice.

###### Table 6.1: Definition of dependent variable for Logistic regression analysis

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dependent | Variable Categories |
| Location | urban=0, rural=1 |
| Gender | Female=0, Male=1 |

###### Table 6.2: Definition of independent variable for Logistic regression analysis

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Independent | Variable Categories |
| View on arrange marriage | Strongly positive=0, Positive=1, Neutral=2, Negative=3, Strongly Negative=4 |
| Marrying someone from different country | Yes=0, No=1, Maybe=2 |
| View on dowry | Strongly oppose=0, Oppose=1, Neutral=2, Support=3 |
| Partner’s involvement in family matters | Very important=0, Somewhat important=1, Not  Important=2 |
| What is your ideal lifestyle | Family oriented=0, Adventurous=1, City life=2 |
| Participation | Very important=0, Important=1, Neutral=2, Somewhat important=3, Not important=4 |

###### Table 6.3: Logistic Regression Table (Location)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Variables in the Equation** | | | | |  |  |  | |
|  |  | B | S.E. | Wald | d.f | Sig. | Odds | 95% C.I. for EXP(B) | |
| Lower | Upper |
|  | What is your view on arranged marriages? |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Step 1a | Strongly positive (ref) | . | . | 10.202 | 4 | . | 1 | …. | …. |
| Positive | -0.387 | 0.261 | 2.193 | 1 | 0.139 | 0.679 | 0.407 | 1.133 |
| Neutral | -1.110 | 0.362 | 9.431 | 1 | 0.002 | 0.329 | 0.162 | 0.669 |
| Negative | -0.007 | 0.593 | 0.000 | 1 | 0.990 | 0.993 | 0.310 | 3.175 |
| Strongly negative | -0.716 | 0.745 | 0.922 | 1 | 0.337 | 0.489 | 0.114 | 2.106 |
|  | Would you consider marrying someone from a different country |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Yes(ref) |  |  | 2.092 | 2 | 0.351 |  |  |  |
| No | 0.347 | 0.286 | 1.465 | 1 | 0.226 | 1.414 | 0.807 | 2.480 |
| Maybe | 0.591 | 0.466 | 1.609 | 1 | 0.205 | 1.806 | 0.725 | 4.504 |
| What is your view on dowry (Joutuk) in a marriage |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Strongly oppose |  |  | 3.889 | 3 | 0.274 |  |  |  |
| oppose | 0.247 | 0.269 | 0.842 | 1 | 0.359 | 1.280 | 0.755 | 2.170 |
| Neutral | -0.407 | 0.675 | 0.363 | 1 | 0.547 | 0.666 | 0.177 | 2.502 |
| Support | 2.189 | 1.317 | 2.761 | 1 | 0.097 | 8.924 | 0.675 | 117.974 |
| How important is your partner’s involvement in family matters  (e.g., caring for elders) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Very important(ref) |  |  | 1.896 | 2 | 0.388 |  |  |  |
| Somewhat important | 0.540 | 0.398 | 1.839 | 1 | 0.175 | 1.716 | 0.786 | 3.745 |
| Not important | -0.075 | 0.633 | 0.014 | 1 | 0.906 | 0.928 | 0.268 | 3.207 |
| What is your ideal lifestyle |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Family oriented |  |  | 31.904 | 2 | 0.000 |  |  |  |
| Adventurous | -0.962 | 0.371 | 6.743 | 1 | 0.009 | 0.382 | 0.185 | 0.790 |
| City life | -2.030 | 0.379 | 28.730 | 1 | 0.000 | 0.131 | 0.063 | 0.276 |
| Mate Selection  Criteria  (Social)  [Participation] |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Very Important |  |  | 16.038 | 4 | 0.003 |  |  |  |
| Important | 1.031 | 0.317 | 10.583 | 1 | 0.001 | 2.804 | 1.507 | 5.219 |
| Neutral | 1.254 | 0.355 | 12.486 | 1 | 0.000 | 3.504 | 1.748 | 7.026 |
| Somewhat  Important | 0.292 | 0.501 | 0.339 | 1 | 0.560 | 1.339 | 0.502 | 3.571 |
| Not Important | 0.424 | 0.625 | 0.460 | 1 | 0.497 | 1.528 | 0.449 | 5.201 |
| Constant | -0.520 | 0.347 | 2.245 | 1 | 0.134 | 0.594 |  |  |

The logistic regression results indicate that a neutral view on arranged marriages significantly reduces the odds of a positive outcome (p = 0.002), while other views such as positive, negative, or strongly negative are not statistically significant. Neither "No" nor "Maybe" responses to marrying someone from a different country show a significant effect on the outcome. Views on dowry do not significantly impact the outcome, although support for dowry approaches significance (p = 0.097). Regarding a partner’s involvement in family matters, neither "Somewhat Important" nor "Not Important" are significant predictors. However, lifestyle preferences show notable effects, with an adventurous lifestyle (p = 0.009, OR = 0.382) and a city-oriented lifestyle (p = 0.000, OR = 0.131) significantly reducing the odds of a positive outcome compared to a family-oriented lifestyle. Finally, social participation in mate selection is a strong predictor, with both "Important" (p = 0.001, OR = 2.804) and "Neutral" (p = 0.000, OR = 3.504) views significantly increasing the odds of a positive outcome.

###### Table 6.3: Logistic Regression Table (Gender)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Variables in the Equation** | | | | | | |  | |
|  |  | B | S.E. | Wald | d.f | Sig. | Odds | 95% C.I. for EXP(B) | |
| Lower | Upper |
| Step 1a | What is your view on arranged marriages |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Strongly positive (ref) | . | . | 15.253 | 4 | . | 1 | . | . |
| Positive | -0.820 | 0.258 | 10.125 | 1 | 0.001 | 0.440 | 0.266 | 0.730 |
| Neutral | -0.556 | 0.347 | 2.559 | 1 | 0.110 | 0.574 | 0.290 | 1.133 |
| Negative | -1.285 | 0.695 | 3.421 | 1 | 0.064 | 0.277 | 0.071 | 1.080 |
| Strongly negative | -2.635 | 1.245 | 4.479 | 1 | 0.034 | 0.072 | 0.006 | 0.823 |
| Would you consider  marrying someone from a |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Yes(ref) |  |  | 10.963 | 2 | 0.004 |  |  |  |
| No | -0.917 | 0.288 | 10.116 | 1 | 0.001 | 0.400 | 0.227 | 0.703 |
| Maybe | -1.070 | 0.470 | 5.195 | 1 | 0.023 | 0.343 | 0.137 | 0.861 |

The logistic regression analysis reveals several significant predictors regarding attitudes towards arranged marriages. The reference group for "What is your view on arranged marriages?" is "Strongly positive." Individuals with a "Positive" view have significantly lower odds of favouring arranged marriages (B = -0.820, p = 0.001, OR = 0.440), while those with "Neutral" (B = -0.556, p = 0.110), "Negative" (B = -1.285, p = 0.064), and "Strongly negative" views (B = -2.635, p = 0.034, OR = 0.072) also show decreasing odds, with only the latter two approaches nearing significance. Considering the willingness to marry someone from a different country, "No" (B = -0.917, p = 0.001, OR = 0.400) and "Maybe" (B = -1.070, p = 0.023, OR = 0.343) responses significantly decrease the odds compared to the "Yes" reference group. Regarding views on dowry in marriage, while "Oppose" (B = -0.504, p = 0.077) approaches significance, "Neutral" (B = -0.159, p = 0.821) and "Support" (B = 1.352, p = 0.365, OR = 3.867) show varying effects but are not significant. The importance of a partner’s involvement in family matters did not yield significant predictors, with "Somewhat important" (B = -0.422, p = 0.325) and "Not important" (B = -1.022, p = 0.189) showing no significant effects. Lifestyle preferences reveal that an "Adventurous" lifestyle (B = 0.605, p = 0.114) and "City life" (B = -0.413, p = 0.244) did not significantly alter the odds compared to a "Family oriented" lifestyle. Finally, in the context of mate selection criteria regarding social participation, while none of the responses yielded statistically significant results, the overall model constant suggests a favourable attitude towards arranged marriages (B = 1.280, p = 0.000, OR = 3.598).

## 6.4Conclusion

The logistic regression analysis reveals significant insights into the mate selection criteria among university students, shaped by both location and gender.

For **location**, students with a **neutral view on arranged marriages** are significantly less likely to prefer arranged marriages compared to those with a strongly positive view (p = 0.002). Lifestyle preferences also play a critical role, with students favouring an **adventurous** (p = 0.009) or **city-oriented lifestyle** (p = 0.000) being much less likely to consider traditional mate selection criteria compared to those with a **family-oriented** lifestyle. Additionally, **social participation** strongly predicts mate selection preferences, with those placing high importance on participation having increased odds of a positive mate selection outcome (p = 0.001).

For **gender**, male students with a **positive** (p = 0.001) or **strongly negative** (p = 0.034) view on arranged marriages are less likely to favour this option compared to those with a strongly positive stance. Males who are hesitant or unwilling to marry someone from a different country also show significantly lower odds of a positive mate selection outcome (p = 0.001, p = 0.023).

In summary, mate selection among university students in Bangladesh is driven by views on arranged marriages, lifestyle preferences, and social participation. These factors differ significantly by location and gender, providing unique insights into evolving spouse selection preferences.

# CHAPTER SEVEN

# SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The purpose of this study was to investigate the mate selection criteria used by Bangladeshi public university students, with an emphasis on the variables influencing their decisions when choosing a life partner. The study examined several factors that are important in influencing how students make decisions in this situation, including psychological factors, family expectations, social and economic situations, personal preferences, beliefs, and objectives, and physical factors.

A questionnaire that considered socioeconomic characteristics such relationship status, educational background, and family background was used by the research to gather data from students. The study sought to present a comparison of the viewpoints of various varsities on mate choosing in addition to a comparison between male and female students.

**In chapter two, it** reviews the existing literature on mate selection criteria, drawing on previous studies to highlight key factors such as social compatibility, financial stability, and educational background. This chapter provides a comprehensive understanding of the criteria most valued by university students and how these preferences are influenced by societal and family expectations.

**In chapter three, it** represents the different methods and materials applied in this study to make the study more efficient.

**In chapter four,** Univariate analysis involves the examination of a single variable to understand its distribution, central tendency, and variability. In the context of mate selection criteria among public university students in Bangladesh, this chapter focuses on the analysis of individual variables that influence students' preferences when selecting a life partner. These variables include socio-demographic factors (such as age, gender, religion, and highest level of education) as well as personal preferences (such as values and goals, psychological, social, economic, cultural, familial, and physical). Graphical representations were provided to visualize the significance of these factors and their comparison in influencing mate selection criteria. The graphical analysis demonstrated how different factors, such as highest level of education, family values, personality traits,

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