

Divorced Women's Attitudes Towards Remarriage: A Qualitative Approach

Fathima Sahala K.^{1,*}

Abstract

Background: Burnout among healthcare professionals (HCWs) is influenced by individual coping mechanisms and organizational support. However, regional evidence from North India on structural and contextual factors affecting burnout remains limited. This study examined disparities in self-care, burnout, and institutional support across urban and rural settings, with attention to gender and professional differences. **Methods:** A cross-sectional study was conducted from January to December 2023 among 600 HCWs across five North Indian states using stratified random sampling. Burnout was assessed using the Maslach Burnout Inventory, and self-care was assessed using the WHO Self-Care Index. Institutional support included counseling services, mental health leave, and wellness activities. Data were analyzed using SPSS version 28 with ANOVA and regression methods. Effect sizes, odds ratios (ORs), 95% confidence intervals (CIs), and regression coefficients (β) were calculated. Institutional Review Board approval was obtained (IEC/2022/45). **Results:** Urban HCWs reported significantly higher self-care scores than rural HCWs (14.2 ± 3.1 vs. 9.8 ± 2.7 ; $p < 0.001$). Emotional exhaustion was more prevalent among rural HCWs (74% vs. 52%; $p = 0.002$; Cohen's $d = 1.53$), with higher odds of emotional exhaustion ($OR = 2.61$; 95% CI, 1.78–3.84). Urban HCWs had greater access to counseling services (65% vs. 28%; $p < 0.001$). Higher self-care independently predicted lower emotional exhaustion ($\beta = -0.42$; 95% CI, -0.51 to -0.33 ; $p < 0.001$). Rural female HCWs experienced cumulative risk, reflected by a significant gender-by-region interaction ($\beta = 0.18$; $p = 0.02$). Females reported greater work-family conflict and depersonalization than males. Doctors had the highest access to mental health leave (55%), whereas allied staff had the least (18%; $p < 0.001$). **Conclusion:** Burnout inequities among North Indian HCWs reflect significant gender and geographic disparities. Strengthening institutional support and integrating resilience-focused occupational health policies are essential for improving workforce well-being.

Keywords: Attitudes toward remarriage, divorced women, emotional support, financial support, societal perception, challenges, children, family dynamics, personal growth

INTRODUCTION

Background

Marriage is a key form of social support [1–7] with most adults marrying at some point [8]. Divorce, the legal dissolution of marriage, brings significant social, emotional, economic, and personal consequences [9–29]. Women often face financial struggles post-divorce, especially [30–34] if they are economically dependent (Weiss and Willis, [35] 2005), along with emotional distress and identity challenges [2]. They also tend to bear primary caregiving responsibilities [16].

Remarriage can enhance adaptability post-divorce [22]; it also presents challenges, including

*Author for Correspondence

Fathima Sahala K.

E-mail: sahalaabdulla333@gmail.com

¹PG Scholar, Department of Psychology, Nilgiri College of Arts and Sciences, Kannur, Kerala, India

Received Date: January 09, 2026

Accepted Date: February 05, 2026

Published Date: February 12, 2026

Citation: Fathima Sahala K. Divorced Women Attitudes Towards Remarriage: A Qualitative Approach. International Journal of Behavioral Sciences. 2026; 3(1): 1–14p.

financial disagreements, parenting issues, and loyalty conflicts in blended families [15]. Attitudes toward remarriage are shaped by personal experiences, cultural values, and societal norms [9]. Women often face financial hardships post-divorce, experiencing income declines and increased poverty risk [4].

While only approximately 6% of divorced couples remarry each other, 30% of them divorce again [7]. This study explores divorced women's attitudes toward remarriage, considering factors such as past experiences, societal expectations, socioeconomic status, and the presence of children in the household.

Need and Significance

Divorce rates have been steadily rising globally, leading to an increase in the population of divorced individuals, particularly women. Understanding divorced women's attitudes toward remarriage is crucial for several reasons: It sheds light on the psychological and emotional impact of divorce on women, providing insights into their coping mechanisms and resilience during the process. This can help policymakers develop targeted interventions and support systems to assist divorced women in navigating the complexities of remarriage. Studying attitudes toward remarriage can contribute to the broader discourse on family dynamics, marriage, and societal norms [4].

Remarriage and demographic trends in the United States shed light on the significance of understanding attitudes toward remarriage. This suggests a complex interplay between individual desires for companionship, family structure, and social norms that impact remarriage intentions among divorced women (Brown and Manning, [2] 2011).

Attitudes towards remarriage can influence individuals' decisions regarding future relationships and family dynamics. For divorced individuals with children, remarriage can have implications for co-parenting arrangements, blended family dynamics, and the well-being of all family members involved [32]. Understanding individuals' attitudes towards remarriage can help inform interventions and support services aimed at facilitating healthy family transitions post-divorce.

This study examines divorced women's perspectives on remarriage, revealing the factors influencing their attitudes, including past marital experiences, societal norms, financial status, cultural background, and parenting responsibilities. Understanding these perspectives can provide insights into the complexities of remarriage and its impact on women's lives.

Objectives

Major Objective

- To understand divorced women's attitudes towards remarriage.

Specific Objectives

- To identify factors influencing divorced women's attitudes towards remarriage.
- Examine the role of children, social support, and emotional readiness in remarriage considerations.
- To identify challenges faced by divorced women in considering remarriage.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Review of Relevant Literature

A literature review is a piece of academic writing that demonstrates knowledge and understanding of the academic literature on a specific topic in context. A literature review also includes a critical evaluation of the material; this is why it is called a literature review rather than a report. A literature review is usually one of the first tasks carried out after deciding on the topic. Reading combined with critical analysis can help refine a topic and frame research questions. Conducting a literature review establishes familiarity with and understanding of current research in a particular field before carrying out a new investigation [36–38]. After doing a literature review, one should know what research has

already been done and be able to identify what is unknown within the topic (The University of Edinburgh, [39] 2021).

The study includes a literature review and theoretical review.

A study on “Examining the challenges of women’s remarriage and compiling and validating a native educational-counseling package before remarriage” was conducted by Dehghani, Dehghan, Najmeh, and Ali Nazari [12]. This study aimed to create a counseling package for divorced women in Iran. Remarriage is becoming increasingly significant due to rising divorce rates and changing family structures. However, divorced Iranian men and women have lower remarriage ratios than Western women. Despite a high willingness to remarry, women are less likely to remarry after divorce and the death of their spouses, with a gender difference in remarriage rates.

Revealing that remarriages are quick and universal, particularly among divorced and young women. The study conducted by Souza explored “Remarriage timing and factors in rural Malawi” [31]. The median time to remarry is two years for all women, with one year for women aged 15–24 [40]. Overall, the results highlight the importance of previous marriage characteristics above other individual factors in explaining the factors associated with remarriages.

A study on “Sociological Study of Influencing Factors in the Tendency of Divorced Women to Remarry” was conducted by Barzain, Ali and Davoodi [41] (2023). Divorce in Iran has been increasing despite social and cultural policies, with the increasing age of marriage and decreasing age of divorce. Isfahan Province, which has a significant population concentration, has been affected by these changes. A study of divorced women in Isfahan City found that demographic changes were moving towards individualism, with less emphasis on traditional marriage values. Factors contributing to this reluctance include lack of support from families and social structures, social capital erosion, mistrust towards unmarried men and society, negative attitudes towards women, and cultural stereotypes. The study suggests that cultural changes and individualistic values can reduce women’s tendency to remarry after divorce.

Thailand’s marriage system is undergoing significant transformation; however, remarriage trends and their consequences have been less studied. Wiraporn, Bussarawan, and Kaewbuadee conducted a study on “remarriage trends in Thailand, focusing on women’s well-being” [28]. Remarriage is common among Thai women. The study found that remarriage is strongly associated with factors such as birth cohort, education level, place of residence, age at first marriage, and children from prior marriages. Despite studies showing that remarriage positively impacts life satisfaction and health, Thai women report lower levels of satisfaction.

A study on “Remarriage of Elderly Widows: Widows’ Attitude and Fear regarding New Romantic Relationships was conducted by Molefi [24]. This study explores the fears that elderly widows face when choosing between remaining single or remarrying after their partners’ deaths. This research uses a phenomenological approach and semi-structured interviews to understand the factors influencing their decisions. The findings include fear of ostracization, family pressure, poor previous marriages, caregiver roles, inheritance rights, and finding suitable partners. Remarriage is seen as taboo and compromises inheritance rights.

Peng’s study on remarriage in China found that personal resources and family factors significantly influence an individual’s decision to remarry [27]. Based on the China Family Panel Studies (CFPS2010) data, this study adopts the method of event history analysis to explore the cultural logic and impact factors behind remarriage in China. Family size, social network, and family size positively affect remarriage, except for education. However, factors such as gender and urban-rural divisions also impact remarriage differently in different areas.

A study on “qualitative study of women’s challenges in second marriage” (2023). Esmaeel and Razieh investigated the challenges faced by divorced women in their second marriage, considering their initial experiences and personal and family reasons. The study conducted with 21 divorced women in Hamadan city used a phenomenological method and semi-structured interviews. The findings reveal that some divorced women get married again after court and divorce issues have passed, but this comes with complex challenges for the women. Four main categories of challenges related to second marriages were identified: interactions between spouses, couples with children, families, and children with each other. These challenges mainly stem from a person’s failure in their first marriage and negative experiences.

Nasrin, Hossein, and Mehdi explored the “Barriers to remarriage among older people” [26]. The study involved 48 participants, ranging from sex to socioeconomic status of the participants. The barriers were categorized into personal, normative, interactive, and financial factors. The results showed that older people are more concerned about public opinion and social norms surrounding remarriage, making it a vital taboo and concern. As long as these thoughts and norms remain unchanged, remarriage remains taboo.

A study using Canadian longitudinal data examined the impact of divorce and remarriage on children’s cognitive outcomes (2020). Ferrer and Yazhuo Pan, who used data from the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth, found that children who moved to non-intact families had lower reading scores [42]. Although family structure had a small effect on children’s math performance, it had a differential impact across gender and cultural heritage. This study highlights the importance of considering family structure in shaping children’s cognitive outcomes.

Morrison and Amy Ritualo examined the “economic recovery of children and their mothers after parental divorce and separation” [25]. A study found that while remarriage is more economically advantageous than cohabitation, both can restore family income to prior levels.

Cohabiting mothers initially have a weaker economic position and rely more on income from employment and the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC). Cohabitation, even when stable, is a poor mechanism for maintaining economic recovery.

William H. Jeynes conducted a meta-analysis of 61 studies to determine the impact of parental remarriage on children’s academic achievement and psychological well-being [18]. The majority were adolescents, and the study compared children from remarried versus intact families and divorced or widowed single-parent families. The results showed that children from remarried families generally achieved lower academic levels and psychological well-being than those from intact families. The difference was nearly two-tenths of a standard deviation for studies without sophisticated controls and slightly less for those with sophisticated ones.

Using data from the Social Survey from 1998 to 2020, Sangsoo Lee and Jaesung Choi [23] explored gendered trends and attitudes towards remarriage among divorced individuals in South Korea that divorced men are more open to remarriage than divorced women. However, remarriage attitudes have converged over time, driven by a diminishing interest in remarriage among men.

These findings align with recent demographic trends and confirm gendered patterns in the associations between sociodemographic factors and remarriage attitudes.

A survey of 93 women heads of households, aged 26–40, found that the number of children from previous marriages and attitudes towards remarriage are major obstacles in the study “Attitudes of women heads of household to remarriage”. Charati, Jamileh, Nezaratzadeh and Masomeh [10] found that 72% of those around them have a direct impact on their attitudes towards remarriage. Women with higher employment and social status are less likely to remarry, possibly to avoid economic loss or lack

of need. The number of suitors and strong traditions do not effectively change attitudes towards remarriage.

Conducted a study on “Attitudes about remarriage in Malta” [1]. Abela, Casha, Debono, and Lauri examined attitudes towards remarriage among Maltese people, with 67.4% of respondents not considering it. Younger, previously married, non-parents, and those with multiple children were more likely to consider remarriage. The study also found that pro-remarriage attitudes were endorsed by 32.6% of respondents, mainly from non-traditional family forms. This suggests that family life in Malta is no longer governed by normative social imperatives, and the need for legal protection for families headed by cohabiting partners is emphasized.

Theoretical Review

Social Exchange Theory

John Thibaut and Kelley (1959) [34] proposed the social exchange theory, which is an interpersonal attraction theory. According to social exchange theory, relationships are based on rational choice and cost-benefit analysis. If one partner's costs begin to outweigh their benefits, that person may leave the relationship, especially if there are good alternatives available (Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology 1961) [11]. This suggests that individuals evaluate relationships based on the rewards and costs involved, and they may be more likely to consider remarriage if they perceive it as providing greater rewards than costs. Factors such as emotional support, companionship, and shared resources may influence their decisions, and the theory helps analyze the dynamics of these considerations in the context of remarriage after divorce.

METHOD

Research methods are all the methods/techniques used to conduct research. Research methods or techniques refer to the methods used by researchers to perform research operations. In other words, all the methods used by the researcher to study the research problem are termed as research methods (Kothari, [21] 2014).

Research Design

The research design is the arrangement of conditions for the collection and analysis of data in a manner that aims to combine relevance to the research purpose with economic procedure. The research design is the conceptual structure within which research is conducted; it constitutes the blueprint for the collection, measurement, and analysis of data. The design includes an outline of what the researcher will do, from writing the hypothesis and its operational implications to the final analysis of data [21].

Qualitative research was used in the research process. This research design was chosen because the attitude towards remarriage among divorced women will be studied more accurately through this method than through quantitative research. This method can collect more detailed information. By opting for qualitative research, this study aims to venture beyond surface-level understandings, delving into the subjective experiences and emotions of divorced women. It provides a holistic and exact understanding of divorced women's attitudes towards remarriage, capturing the depth and complications of their experiences and perspectives.

Population and Sample

Population refers to the set or group of all the units on which the findings of the researcher are to be applied. It consists of all the units on which the research findings can be applied. In other words, the population is a set of all the units that possess variable characteristics under study and for which the findings of the research can be generalized [30].

The study population comprised divorced women from diverse cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds. This population includes women who have experienced divorce and may hold varying

attitudes, beliefs, and experiences regarding the prospect of remarriage. By considering diverse cultures and socioeconomic backgrounds within the sample, researchers can capture the richness and diversity of attitudes among divorced women, providing a more comprehensive and nuanced understanding of their perspectives on remarriage.

A sample is a subset containing the characteristics of a larger population. A sample should represent the population as a whole and not reflect any bias toward a specific attribute [20]. For this qualitative study, 10 divorced women were selected as the sample.

Sampling

The current study employed purposive sampling to intentionally select divorced women. The purposive sampling technique is a type of non-probability sampling that is most effective when one needs to study a certain cultural domain with experts. Purposive sampling is ‘used to select respondents that are most likely to yield appropriate and useful information’ [19] and is a way of identifying and selecting cases that will use limited research resources effectively (Palinkas et al., [40] 2015).

Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

Inclusion Criteria

- Legally divorced women.

Exclusion Criteria

- Divorced women who remarried.
- Divorced women with language barriers or communication difficulties.

Data Collection Method

This study employed semi-structured interviews to collect data from divorced women regarding their attitudes towards remarriage. Semi-structured interviews are a common data-gathering source in qualitative research studies. In this technique, face-to-face conversations were conducted to gather relevant information. Usually, open-ended questions are used. Like other interviews, it is also pre-planned to some extent, and questions are prepared in proceeding further questions (Wengraf, [36] 2004). By adopting a semi-structured approach, this research delves deeply into the complex interplay of factors influencing attitudes towards remarriage, such as personal beliefs, past experiences, family dynamics, and socioeconomic status.

There were 10 interview questions based on the major and specific objectives. The researchers included only open-ended questions. For detailed information, probing questions were asked. Open-ended questions were used in this study for a comprehensive exploration of divorced women’s attitudes towards remarriage.

Data Collection Tool

Tools are the most important constituents of research design. The selection of the tool for a particular study depends on various considerations, such as the objectives of the study.

Sociodemographic Data

Sociodemographic variables include age, sex, education, migration background, ethnicity, religious affiliation, marital status, household, employment, and income. Different index variables are formed based on sociodemographic variables.

In this study, the sociodemographic data included name, age, education status, occupation, geographical location, length of previous marriage, and children from previous marriage.

Consent Form

The consent form provides potential research subjects with sufficient written information to decide whether to participate in a research study based on an explanation of the proposed research and the

nature of the participation that is requested of them. It is a legal procedure used to ensure that a person is aware of what they agree to do and is also aware of any risks or costs that may exist [33].

Questionnaire

Questionnaires containing open-ended questions relevant to the research objectives will be used as a tool for data collection.

Research Questions

1. Can you share your thoughts and feelings about the idea of remarriage?
2. How does your past experience with divorce shape your view of remarriage?
3. What factors do you think influence your decision to remarry or not?
4. How does your financial consideration influence your decision to remarry or to stay single?
5. How do children from previous marriages factor into your decision to remarry or not?
6. What are the challenges you perceive while deciding to remarry or staying single?
7. What role do your family and friends play in shaping your attitude towards remarriage or remaining single?
8. How do you think society's views affect your thoughts of remarriage or staying single?
9. What are some common misconceptions or stereotypes in society, and how do they shape your attitudes towards remarriage or staying single?
10. How does your age influence your decision to remarry?

Procedure

Semi-structured interviews were conducted to gather rich qualitative data on their experiences. Interviews were audio-recorded with consent. Data analysis involved transcribing the interview recordings verbatim and analyzing them using thematic analysis. Data was coded, categorized, and interpreted to identify recurring themes and patterns, with measures taken to enhance credibility and dependability. The themes will be analyzed in relation to the existing literature, theoretical frameworks, and their implications for practice and future research.

Data Analysis

Thematic analysis is a qualitative data analysis method that involves reading through a data set (such as transcripts from in-depth interviews or focus groups) and identifying patterns in meaning across the data to derive themes. Thematic analysis involves an active process of reflexivity, where a researcher's subjective experience plays a central role in meaning-making from data [13].

In this study, conducting a thematic analysis will help explore a wide range of factors influencing attitudes toward remarriage, understand emotional experiences, examine past marriage influences, and assess concerns about children from previous relationships. Thematic analysis helps identify recurring themes or patterns, offering a rich and detailed understanding of the subject matter.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The study provides the results and discussion of the study, analyzed using thematic analysis. Information was obtained through semi-structured interviews. The results obtained can help in understanding divorced women's attitudes towards remarriage.

Theme Support

This support encompasses various dimensions, including emotional, practical, and relational aspects.

Emotional Support

In question 1, the researcher asked, "*Can you share your thoughts on remarriage after divorce?*" R1 responded, "*I prefer to remarry for getting emotional supporting*". R2 responded, "*I am remarrying with the intention of finding emotional support*".

The majority of participants expressing a desire to remarry for emotional support indicates a deep understanding of the value of companionship in marriage. People who have gone through the divorce of a prior marriage frequently go to a supportive spouse for the companionship, validation, and encouragement that they may offer.

Subtheme: Financial Support

In question number 4, the researcher asked, *“How do financial considerations influence your decision to remarry?”* R4 responded, *“Remarriage is a good decision; I am remarrying to have a partner for financial support”*. R7 responded, *“Remarriage is a fresh start, and I should remarry a partner who can provide financial stability and security”*.

For most respondents, financial support is a primary motivation for remarriage, reflecting the significant impact that economic stability can have on individuals' lives and relationships. For many participants, financial concerns may arise from challenges such as managing expenses, providing for children's needs, or planning for the future.

Subtheme: Friends and Family

In question number 7, the researcher asked, *“How do your families and friends support your decision to remarry?”* R1 responded, *“My parents and friends were supporting my decision to remarry”*. R2 responded, *“I get good support from my family and friends; they want me to remarry immediately”*.

For most participants, families and friends supported their decision to remarry because loved ones often want the best for them and support their decisions if they believe it will lead to happiness and fulfillment.

In addition, R8, R9, and R10 preferred not to remarry. Their family and friends supported their decision not to remarry. They respected autonomy and personal choice by not questioning or pressuring them to remarry.

Theme: Factor

Several factors can influence remarriage, including age, socioeconomic status, and the presence of children from previous marriages [16].

Subtheme: Age

In question number 10, the researcher asked, *“How does your age influence your decision to remarry?”* R2 responded, *“I am too young, so it is perfect for me to remarry. If I get older, it will be difficult to get a perfect partner”*. R6 responded, *“Age is an important factor for remarriage because if we get late for remarriage, it will be difficult to bear children. So, it influences me to remarry”*.

Young women may prioritize companionship and emotional fulfillment in their relationships. Age influences a woman's ability to bear children. If they remarry late, this decline in fertility can lead to challenges in conceiving and an increased risk of miscarriage and pregnancy complications.

Subtheme: Sexual Relations

Question 3 asked, *“What factors influenced your decision to remarry?”* R1 responded, *“I did not experience a sexual relationship with my ex-husband. I am remarrying to fulfill sexual relations”*. R3 said, *“I am remarrying to desire sex and affection from my new partner”*.

The most important thing in marital life is sex. If we did not have sex, we would get angry with our partners and children. In the context of remarriage, individuals who have experienced the dissolution of a previous marriage may seek a new relationship in which sexual fulfillment is a priority, particularly if their previous marriage lacked this aspect.

Subtheme: Minor Children

In question number 5, the researchers asked, *“How do your children from previous marriage influence your decision to remarry?”* R4 responded, *“The main factor influencing me to remarry is my child; she didn’t get affection from her father, providing her a stable family where she can receive the love.”* R7 responded, *“Remarrying gives me hope for a brighter future for my children, where they can experience the love and support of a complete family”.*

When deciding to remarry, they prioritize finding a partner who can contribute positively to their children’s lives by providing support, guidance, and a stable family environment. In many cases, individuals prioritize their children’s well-being over their own personal happiness when considering remarriage.

R8 responded, *“I am not interested in remarriage; now I am focusing on children’s well-being and their security”.* Participants prioritized children’s well-being and stability. The primary reason for choosing not to remarry is their concern for their minor children. It reflects a responsible and caring approach to parenting, prioritizing children’s happiness and security.

Theme: Challenges

An obstacle is appraised as an opportunity rather than a threat. A threat becomes a challenge when the individual judges that their coping resources are adequate not only to overcome the stress associated with the obstacle but also to improve the situation measurably.

Subtheme: Fear of Acceptance

In question number 7, the researcher asked, *“What are the challenges you perceived in deciding to remarry?”* R1 responded, *“the main challenge I faced is thinking about my children. I have that the new partner will accept my children.”* R4 responded, *“the challenging thing is finding partners who accept my children”.*

Most respondents feared that their children from previous marriages would not be accepted by a new partner. Participants worried that their new partners would not fully embrace or support their children.

R5 responded, *“The main challenge I faced in remarriage is adjusting to new family members.”* R2 responded, *“accepting new family culture is challenging for me; also, I fear how this impacts my routine and relationships.”* Respondents feared accepting a new family culture. They are concerned that cultural disparities between new family members may lead to misunderstandings and conflicts.

Subtheme: Emotional Baggage

In question 6, the researcher asked, *“What are the challenges you perceived as challenges?”* R2 responded, *“The emotional scars from my previous marriage make it tough to fully open up in my new relationship”.* R3 responded, *“Now, if I decide to remarry, the past memory influences my thoughts and feelings at the time of the new marriage”.* Respondents may fear that their emotional baggage from past experiences will negatively affect their current or future relationships.

Marriage is complex and intimate, with past experiences influencing present relationships. Fears and trauma from past relationships can make partners more anxious and fear prone. Fears of Past experiences make partners more conscious and anxious. The partner’s personality also plays a role in these influences (Yazdani, Mousavi and Radiey, [37] 2021).

Theme: Social Norms and Stereotypes

Social norms are unwritten rules or expectations that guide behavior within a group or society [11]. Stereotypes, which are oversimplified generalizations about a particular group, serve as cognitive shortcuts that individuals use to navigate complex social environments [3].

Subtheme: Misconceptions

In question 9, the researcher asked, *“What are the common misconceptions about remarriage and how it influences your view on remarriage?”* R3 responded, *“the main misconception I heard remarriage is more likely to end in divorce. I didn’t care what others say, I approach remarriage with open minded”*. R4 responded, *“I am 35; society has misconceptions that remarriage is only for younger individuals. But it is wrong; people of all ages can find love and companionship in remarriage”*. For the participants, remarriage is often misconceived as a sign of failure, perpetuating the belief that individuals who remarry cannot maintain a successful first marriage. These misconceptions can influence attitudes toward remarriage, leading to biases, misunderstandings, and unrealistic expectations. The majority of participants did not care about misconceptions; they may not have perceived them as relevant or significant.

Participants R9 and R10, who were not interested in remarriage, responded, *“the common misconception they heard was that staying single is due to an inability to find a suitable partner”*. This misconception overlooks the multiple reasons why individuals may choose not to remarry, ranging from personal fulfillment in singlehood to prioritizing independence and personal growth.

Subtheme: Societal Perception

In question number 8, the researcher asked, *“How do you think society’s view affects your thoughts of remarriage?”* R1 responded, *“society is hard for me. People around me are concerned about the children; they say I should sacrifice my life to them”*. R7 said, *“society has a negative approach to remarriage; I am living in rural areas, people around me believe that financially backward people are less likely to find a partner.”*

Most participants received negative societal attitudes toward remarriage. So that makes them confused whether to remarry or not. There are two types of people in our society. In many modern societies, remarriage is more accepted and less stigmatized than in the past, leading to common and acceptable practices. Respondents shared that society is difficult for them. They face judgments and criticisms. These negative attitudes can stem from traditional beliefs, cultural norms, and personal biases; for example, some individuals or communities may hold traditional beliefs that view remarriage as disrupting the family unit or causing instability for the children involved.

Theme: Emotional Readiness

Emotional readiness in the context of remarriage encompasses an individual’s psychological preparedness to engage in a new marital relationship following a divorce or breakup [17].

Subtheme: Personal Growth

In question 1, the researcher asked, *“Can you share your thoughts on remarriage after divorce?”* R3 responded that *“remarriage is an opportunity for personal growth”*. R5 responded, *“I decided to remarry for personal development”*. Responded to remarrying for personal growth. Remarrying can be a decision made for personal growth, as it often represents a desire for new experiences, companionship, and emotional fulfillment.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Major Findings

- The majority of respondents had positive attitudes towards remarriage. They expressed a desire to remarry for emotional support.
- Divorced women responded that they desire to remarry for personal growth.
- Respondents reported that remarrying is a good decision because it helps them financially.
- Minorities have negative attitudes towards remarriage. They prioritize self-development and personal growth.

- Fear of repeating the same mistakes in a previous marriage also leads to negative attitudes towards remarriage.
- The main factor leading to remarriage is age. It can influence fertility and the ability to bear a child.
- Younger divorced women have more positive attitudes toward remarriage than older divorced women.
- Divorced women were remarrying for sexual relationships, which they did not have in their previous marriage.
- Children from previous marriages positively influence attitudes towards remarriage. There are several reasons for this, including the desire for a stable family and emotional and financial well-being for children.
- Children from previous marriages influence negative attitudes towards remarriage. There are several reasons for this, including concerns about the acceptance of children by new partners and the well-being and security of children.
- Those who are not interested in remarriage focus on career building, and living independently is more important than remarriage. They perceive remarriage negatively.
- Societal perception of remarriage is negative due to traditional beliefs, cultural norms, and personal biases.
- Children from previous marriages influence society's views. Traditional social views perceive remarriage as stressful for the family or as creating issues for the children concerned.
- Modern society is more open to remarriage without any belief, norms, or biases.
- Society views creating negative or neutral attitudes towards remarriage among divorced women.
- Societal misconceptions led divorced women to adopt a neutral attitude towards remarriage. • According to the respondent, the main misconception about remarriage is that it is a sign of failure. This causes most divorced women to approach remarriage with caution.
- All respondents received support from their family and friends for their decision to remarry or not remarry. Most loved ones often want the best for them and support their decisions if they believe it will lead to happiness and fulfillment.
- Acceptance of new family dynamics is challenging for divorced women for remarrying.

Cultural disparities between the new family members may lead to misunderstandings and conflicts.

- Fear of emotional baggage from past experiences negatively affects current or future relationships. This is a barrier to remarriage.
- Divorced women cope with their difficulties through different strategies, such as engaging in their lives, focusing on education, and seeking support from friends and family.

Implications

Understanding these attitudes can help shape community initiatives, counseling, and therapy to meet the needs and concerns of these women as they consider remarrying.

Policymakers can use the data to establish or modify these programs to ensure that policies related to marriage, divorce, and family support services reflect the experiences and viewpoints of divorced women.

Limitations

- Small sample size.
- Excludes perspectives of divorced men and married individuals.
- Ethical concerns may limit data depth.

Future Scope

- To gather more comprehensive data, allocate a longer time frame for data collection.

- Instead of solely analyzing the divorced women's perspective, consider the viewpoints of divorced men.
- Investigating the role of online dating platforms and social media in shaping divorced women's perspectives on remarriage.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, this study offers a thorough grasp of divorced women's perspectives on getting married again, demonstrating that a mix of social, familial, and personal factors influence their choices. While obstacles such as emotional baggage, fear of acceptance, societal misconceptions, and worries about children influenced negative or cautious attitudes, emotional support, financial stability, and personal development emerged as the main drivers of remarriage. The three main factors that determined whether a person was ready to remarry were age, having young children, and sexual fulfillment. The results emphasize the importance of social networks and family in influencing or limiting decisions about remarriage.

Furthermore, attitudes are still influenced by conventional wisdom and societal perceptions, even though contemporary viewpoints are progressively promoting their acceptance. Remarriage is a difficult decision that requires weighing one's goals, emotional health, the welfare of one's children, and social norms. To support divorced women in remarriage and foster emotional, financial, and social resilience, this study highlights the necessity of counseling services, supportive social policies, and community initiatives. Future studies should examine larger demographics, divorced men, and the influence of online social media on decisions to remarry.

REFERENCES

1. Abela M, Casha A, Debono G, Lauri M. Attitudes about remarriage in Malta: a survey study. *Maltese J Sociol.* 2015;12(1):45-62.
2. Adams J, Brown S. Emotional and identity challenges faced by divorced women. *J Divorce Remarriage.* 2017;58(6):452-470.
3. Allport GW. *The Nature of Prejudice.* Reading (MA): Addison-Wesley; 1954.
4. Amato PR. The consequences of divorce for adults and children. *J Marriage Fam.* 2000;62:1269-1287. doi:10.1111/j.1741-3737.2000.01269.x.
5. Balali E, Ramezani R. A qualitative study of women's challenges in second marriage. *Womens Strategic Studies.* 2023;25(99):165-206.
6. Barzain F, Ali S, Davoodi M. Sociological study of influencing factors in the tendency of divorced women to remarry: a case study in Isfahan city. *J Sociol Stud.* 2023;10(2):145-162.
7. Bieber C. (2024). Revealing Divorce Statistics. [online] Forbes. Available from: <https://www.forbes.com/advisor/legal/divorce/divorce-statistics/>.
8. Bjorksten O, Stewart A. Marriage and social support in the community. *J Marriage Fam.* 1984;46:829-837.
9. Brown SL, Lin IF. The gray divorce revolution: rising divorce among middle-aged and older adults, 1990-2010. *J Gerontol B Psychol Sci Soc Sci.* 2012;67(6):731-741. doi:10.1093/geronb/gbs089.
10. Charati F, Jamileh M, Nezaratizadeh S, Masomeh N. Attitudes of women heads of household to remarriage: a survey study in Iran. *Iran J Soc Stud.* 2015;9(3):321-336.
11. Cialdini RB, Trost MR. Social influence: social norms, conformity, and compliance. In: Gilbert DT, Fiske ST, Lindzey G, editors. *The Handbook of Social Psychology.* Vol. 2. New York: McGraw-Hill; 1998. p. 151-192.
12. Dehghani H, Dehghan S, Najmeh F, Nazari A. Examining the challenges of women's remarriage and compiling and validating a native educational-counseling package before remarriage. *J Divorce Remarriage.* 2023;64(7):520-540.
13. Castleberry A, Nolen A. Thematic analysis of qualitative research data: is it as easy as it sounds? *Curr Pharm Teach Learn.* 2018;10(6):807-815. doi:10.1016/j.cptl.2018.03.019.

14. Ferrer AM, Pan Y. Divorce, remarriage and child cognitive outcomes: evidence from Canadian longitudinal data of children. *J Divorce Remarriage*. 2020;61(8):636-662. doi:10.1080/10502556.2020.1827345.
15. Ganong LH, Coleman M. *Stepfamily Relationships: Development, Dynamics, and Interventions*. New York (NY): Kluwer Academic/Plenum Publishers; 2004. doi:10.1007/978-1-4419-9112-6.
16. Hetherington EM, Kreider RM, Ellis R. *Remarriage in the United States*. Current Population Reports. Series P. Washington (DC): US Government Printing Office; 2011. p. 70-131.
17. Hughes ME, Gable SL. What's love got to do with it? Exploring the impact of emotional readiness on relationship formation and stability in remarriage. *J Soc Pers Relat*. 2013;30(1):99-118.
18. Jaynes WH. The impact of parental remarriage on children's academic achievement and psychological wellbeing: a meta-analysis. *J Fam Issues*. 2006;27(3):310-334.
19. Kelly GF. Cultural domain analysis: a comparative study of Australian and Chinese cultural knowledge of landscape. *J Ethnobiol*. 2010;30(2):317-340.
20. Oribhabor CB, Anyanwu CA. Research sampling and sample size determination: a practical application. *J Educ Res (Fudjer)*. 2019;2(1):47-57.
21. Kothari CR. *Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques*. New Delhi: New Age International; 2014.
22. Kulik L, Heine-Cohen E. Coping resources, perceived stress and adjustment to divorce among Israeli women: assessing effects. *J Soc Psychol*. 2011;151(1):5-30. doi:10.1080/00224540903366453.
23. Lee S, Choi J. Gendered trends and patterns of attitudes toward remarriage among the divorced in South Korea. *Popul Res Policy Rev*. 2023;42(1). doi:10.1007/s11113-023-09760-8.
24. Molefi M. Remarriage of elderly widows: widows' attitudes and fears regarding new romantic relationships. *J Aging Stud*. 2021;58:100949.
25. Morrison D, Ritualo A. Economic recovery of children and their mothers after parental divorce and separation. *J Fam Econ Issues*. 2000;23(2):131-155.
26. Nasrin S, Hossein A, Mehdi R. Barriers to remarriage among older people: a qualitative study. *J Fam Issues*. 2018;39(15):3726-3748.
27. Peng D. Personal resources, family factors, and remarriage: an analysis based on CFPS2010 data. *J Chin Sociol*. 2016;3(1):1. doi:10.1186/s40711-015-0023-9.
28. Pothisiri W, Teerawichitchainan B, Kaewbuadee N. Remarriage in Thailand: a study of emerging trends, correlates, and implications for women's well-being. *J Fam Issues*. 2023;45(5):1217-1241. doi:10.1177/0192513X231155659.
29. Price RH, McKenry PC. *Families in Transition: Divorce, Separation, and Remarriage*. Vol. 24. Beverly Hills (CA): Sage Publications; 1983. p. 4-14.
30. Shukla R. *Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques*. New Delhi: Pragun Publications; 2020.
31. Souza EF. Remarriage timing and its associated factors among women in rural Malawi. *Dev South Afr*. 2023;41:38-52. doi:10.1080/0376835X.2023.2234945.
32. Sweeney MM. Remarriage and stepfamilies: strategic sites for family scholarship in the 21st century. *J Marriage Fam*. 2010;72:667-684. doi:10.1111/j.1741-3737.2010.00724.x.
33. Swarthmore College. (2018). What is a consent form? [online] Swarthmore. Institutional Review Board. Available from: <https://www.swarthmore.edu/institutional-review-board/what-a-consent-form>
34. Thibaut JW, Kelley HH. *The Social Psychology of Groups*. New York: John Wiley & Sons; 1959.
35. Weiss Y, Willis RJ. Match quality, new information, and marital dissolution. *J Labor Econ*. 1997;15:37. doi:10.1086/209864. PubMed PMID: 12146442.
36. Wengraf T. *Qualitative Research Interviewing: Biographic Narrative and Semi-Structured Methods*. London: Sage Publications; 2004.
37. Yazdani A, Mousavi M, Alipour F, Rafiey H. Reconfiguration of relationships during the process of remarriage after divorce: a qualitative study in Iran. *J Med Life*. 2021;14(2):198-204. doi:10.25122/jml2020-0196.

-
38. Hu Y. The impact of marital disruption and remarriage on child well-being in China. *J Fam Issues*. 2020;41(9):1471-1495.
 39. Ayadi N, Ranjbar M, Kasirloo Y, Zarein F. Prediction of pessimistic attitude towards remarriage based on insecure attachment style and fear of intimacy in divorced women. *Int J Psychol (IPA)*. 2021;15(1):205-224.
 40. Palinkas LA, Horwitz SM, Green CA, Wisdom JP, Duan N, Hoagwood K. Purposeful sampling for qualitative data collection and analysis in mixed method implementation research. *Adm Policy Ment Health*. 2015;42(5):533-544. doi:10.1007/s10488-013-0528-y. PubMed PMID: 24193818.
 41. Ghanbari Barzain A, Hashemianfar A, Davodi B. Sociological study of influencing factors in the tendency of divorced women to remarry (case study of Isfahan city). *J Appl Sociol*. 2023;34(1):89-112. doi:10.22108/jas.2023.132909.2277.
 42. Ferrer AM, Pan Y. Divorce, remarriage and child cognitive outcomes: evidence from Canadian longitudinal data of children. *J Divorce Remarriage*. 2020;61(8):636-662. doi:10.1080/10502556.2020.1827345.