3.1 Theoretical Framework

In the “institutional approach,” the institution of marriage and family are taken as variables and are treated as the basics. This approach is applied to look at the changing images and self-perception of women as a consequence of the changes taking place in the institutional framework of the social system.

Engel’s (1884) in the book, “The Origin of the Family, Private Property, and the State” provides adequate ground to develop a theory of patriarchy that attempts to explain both the subordination of women and class domination. He saw female subordination as a result of the emergence of private property, in particular, the private ownership of the forces of production. In the family, children of males are propagated to become future heirs of the male’s private and personal property. The form of marriage changed from polygamy into monogamy. Monogamous marriage developed to protect the institution of private property. Men needed control over women to ensure the undisputed paternity of their offspring. Male dominated monogamous marriage which involved the economic dependence of the wife upon her husband provided this control. The first, class antagonism in history existed between males and females and the first, class oppression coincides with that of the female sex by the male. Thus power is derived from sex and class, and this is manifested materially and ideologically in patriarchy.
Marxian analysis of the material basis of women’s oppression is linked up with the emergence of the patriarchal private property. Patriarchal and capitalism operate effectively together to use women as a profitable source of production and reproduction while keeping control over women’s labour and perpetuating their inferior status. Marriage is a capitalistic instrument to enslave women. Marx (1864) believed that female employment would largely free women from economic dependence upon males. From Marxian perspective, class consciousness and class solidarity are essential, before the subject class can overthrow its oppressors. In terms of the Marxian analogy, gender consciousness and female solidarity are necessary for women’s liberation. Many women are socially isolated and loyal to and dependent on particular men. These factors limit their ability to unite as a group in opposition to a common enemy.

Marxian feminism seeks to understand why women as a group are systematically disadvantaged in most aspects of life. Many feminists particularly in Britain began their attempt to develop theory by adopting a Marxist framework. This involved seeing gender inequality as rooted within the capitalist economic system. According to Marxian feminists, feminism is oppression in society by formulating patriarchy as a process in dialectic interaction with class society. The class system emerged with the expansion of production. In the sphere of production men became dominant, began to control wealth and man’s position in the family improved. Mothers’ right was overthrown, kinship system became patrilineal and men became supreme. So, many feminist writers advocate the abolition of gender roles, with the mother- housewife role being selected as the prime target. Oakley (1974) argues that the following steps must be taken to liberate women. First, the
house wife role must be abolished. Second, the family as it now stands must be abolished. Third, the sexual division of labour must be eradicated in all areas of social life. Oakley argues that “we need an ideological revolution, a revolution in the ideology of gender roles current in our culture, a revolution in concepts of gender identity” (Oakley 1974:399). Thus, men and women must be seen as people, not as gender.

Blumberg (1984) argues that the key factor determining the status of women in the world’s societies is their level of economic power. Where women’s economic power is high, women are able to translate this power into relatively high status; conversely, where the economic power is low, their overall social status is almost invariably low. In other words, enhanced female economic power is proposed as the prime factor in reducing gender inequality. Increased income controlled by women gives them self-confidence, voice and vote in household decisions and control of their ‘life options.’ Further Blumberg (2005) points out ‘Women’s Economic Empowerment as the “Magic Potion” of Development’. The possession of economic power by women means more than simply the capacity to translate this power into high status- into a positive regard and respect for them on the part of men, it means an overall capacity to manage their own lives in ways relatively free from male control. As Blumberg, puts it, economic power gives women substantial “life options”. ‘Life – Options’ include: (1) Voice and vote’ in marriage (whether, when and with whom) and (2) Relative freedom of movement. Further, she indicates that the influence by women in community affairs is an impact of female economic power. Here, community affairs mean all the activities of women in her environment.
The economic power of women allows them to deviate from old cultural norms and select their interested life option. Instead of old institutionalized marriage select singlehood. This new social phenomena is a deviant action from the existing norms and values of the society. In day to day life, the term ‘deviate’ means to stray from an accepted path. Thus deviance consists of those acts which do not follow the norms and expectations of a particular social group. It may be positively sanctioned (rewarded), negatively sanctioned (punished) or simply accepted without reward or punishment. The single women come under the third form of deviance consists of acts which depart from the norms and expectations of a particular society but are generally tolerated, their eccentricities are neither rewarded nor punished by others. They are simply defined as a ‘bit odd’ but harmless and tolerated (Harlambos 2004).

Status - single, married, widowed and divorced, refers to position in a social structure. A role is behaviour expected from individuals who occupy certain position or certain status. Most role theorists use ‘what is called dramaturgical model’. The major idea behind this model is that just as actors play different roles in the stage, so individuals play different roles in everyday life. The first factor in determining the behaviour of the actor on stage is the script. In real life, our behaviour is determined by our roles in society. The second factor for actor’s performance on the stage is the directors’s guidance. In everyday life there are many individuals who have the power to make us act in what they consider to be an appropriate manner. The third factor for the behaviour of an actor on the stage is the performance and abilities of fellow actors. In everyday life, we interact with others, who have reciprocal influence on one another. The fourth factor that determines
the behaviour of an actor on the stage is the reactions of the audience. In everyday life our behaviour is influenced by the response of those with whom we interact. The last factor for an actor on the stage is interpretation of the role. In everyday life the individual’s reaction to each situation is the way each individual interpret the different roles expected of the individual by the society (Phillips 1967). Most role theorists believe that in everyday life an individual behaviour is almost as strictly determined as the behaviour of an actor on stage.

Mead (1934) in his symbolic interactionism emphasizes the processes by which shared meanings are created by actors. This interactionism strongly influenced the labeling theory. The social labels are based on the fact how the person conform to the norms and regulations of the society. The labeling perspective is fundamentally bound up with Becker’s (1963) ‘interactionist theory of deviance.’ As originally formulated by Lemert (1972), acts of secondary deviance are those which come about as a result of society’s stigmatizing of a deviant, following a prior act of original primary deviance. One is struck, by the extent to which labeling scholars, particularly the work of Lemert and Erikson; maintain a commitment to the central message of ‘stigma’ shared by Durkheim, Mead and the Chicago School: Stigmatizing a deviant act serves as a means of generating group solidarity.

Becker (1963) views deviance as the creation of social groups and not the quality of some act or behaviour. According to him, studying the act of the individual is unimportant because it is simply breaking of the rule that is labeled deviant by persons in positions of power. The rule breaking behaviour is constant; the labeling of the behaviour varies. He describes rules as the reflection of certain social norms held by the majority of a society,
whether formal or informal. Schur (1971) modifies Becker’s labeling theory and he argues that women in America are automatically labeled deviant by the male dominated society. Single women accept the deviant label as their master status and limit their life chances.

Through their master status, they try to attain their life goal. They have high expectations in all spheres of life. According to Alex Michalos’ Multiple-Discrepancy Theory (1986), satisfaction is determined by one’s perception of “how things are” vs. “how they should be”. Comparisons between ‘how things are’ and ‘what one wants’, ‘what one had’, ‘what one expected’, ‘what others have’ and ‘what one feels one deserves’ combine to determine life satisfaction. Small discrepancies among these areas result in greater life satisfaction. Large discrepancies among these areas result in lesser life satisfaction.

These major trends are utilized as the theoretical framework to identify the self-perception of the single women about their factors to Singlehood, life satisfaction level and problems with in the socio-economic context of her existence – Kerala society.

3.2 Statement of the Problem

Marriage changes the whole life style of human being. For women, it is a step which changes not only their living style and social economic status but also their own identity. Nowadays, the zest of women for employment has reached such an extent that a small percentage of women opted for singlehood and other alternative patterns to regular marriage systems, which may reduce their so called burden of child bearing and rearing.
Singlehood is seen as a lifestyle capable of successfully fulfilling human needs. In today’s society, more and more people are choosing to live alone. Single living refers to a household consisting of one person. This trend is more common in the United States and other western countries than the Eastern countries and the Indian sub-continent. Even then, we can’t neglect it in our society, as the numbers of successful unmarried single women, who enjoy high status in the fields of professions, are increasing.

In traditional societies, the unmarried single women are expected to rely primarily on their families for economic and emotional support. But due to rapid social changes, position of single women are undergoing changes and there is likelihood of problems of adjustments, of combining traditional role with the new ones, or with the displacement of former with the latter. Even though, single women deviate from the cultural norm of compulsory marriage and prefer an alternative life-long singlehood, they are not necessarily looked down upon. At the same time, there is curiosity to know about their new life style and its consequences on their personal life as well as on society. Singlehood is a multi-dimensional problem. The study is significant at two levels. First and foremost, it is proposed to bring out the factors and problems of singlehood. Secondly, to reveal the relevance of the support system and the life satisfaction level in the life of single women.

3.3 Objectives

(1) To examine the factors that induces women to singlehood.
(2) To identify the motivational factor - chance or choice.
(3) To assess the level of adjustment of Spinsters and Singletons.
(4) To understand the stress and problems faced by single women in the two generations.

(5) To examine the inter relationship between the adjustment process and stress level of the single women.

(6) To identify the support system of single women

(7) To analyse the intergenerational difference in the level of life satisfaction of single women.

3.4 Hypotheses

The two broad hypotheses that may be formulated are:

(1) There is generation differential among single women of Kerala with regard to
   a. the factors that lead to single hood
   b. the process of adjustment
   c. the stress and problems
   d. the support system
   e. Life satisfaction.
   f. The inter relationship between the adjustment process and stress level of the single women.

(2) The motivational factors-chance or choice determine
   a. the process of adjustment
   b. the stress of single women and
   c. the life satisfaction level of single women.
3.5 Clarification of the Concepts

**Single women:** Single women are those who have crossed the marriageable age (35) and are yet not married. In the present study single women belonging to two generations are studied, that is, 65 to 80 and 35 to 50.

**Generation Differentials:** According to Developmental theory, the generation differentials are considered as ‘generation gap.’ In this study, generation differentials mean a relative difference in the ideas of single women belonging to two generations, that is, single women of the age group of 65 to 80 and 35 to 50.

**Spinster:** Single women who are not married and do not belong to any religious organizations, and who belong to the age group of 65 to 80 are referred as spinsters.

**Singleton:** Single women who are not married and do not belong to any religious organizations, and who belong to the age group of 35 to 50, are referred as singletons.

**Adjustment:** It means the way single women deals with the changing environment. It indicates the sort of adjustment single women made in relation to the family members, neighbours, friends, co-workers and in areas related to their day to day life.

**Stress:** The term, ‘Stress’ is resisting force acting against an external force’ (Pareek 1981). In this study it means that individual crisis and daily hassles, or those stresses which are related to the life of single women.

**Support System:** Support system is a multidimensional construct that consists of all types of supports enjoyed by single women in two generations from other sources.
Life Satisfaction: It refers to the overall well-being of the single women in two generations and a retrospective evaluation of their satisfaction of life through self-judgments.

3.6 Variables

Age, education, occupation, religion, region and place of living are considered as independent variables. Stress, adjustment, support system and life satisfaction are the dependent variables. The interplay of these variables are analysed in the following chapters.

3.7 Research Design

The present research work is designed to study the life of single women. So an analytical cum comparative design is adopted- discovering, ‘what is happening’, analysing, ‘what has happened’, inferring, ‘why it is so’ and suggesting ‘what can be done about it’.

3.8 Universe and Sample

The Universe of the study comprises of unmarried single women, not belonging to any religious organisation, of Kerala. The total sample of the study consists of 450 women selected from the unmarried single women in Thiruvanathapuram, Ernakulam and Calicut districts for getting the socio-cultural and geographical representation of the north, south and central parts of the Kerala, with 225 spinsters and 225 singletons. From each district 75 spinsters and 75 singletons, and thus 150 samples are collected from one district. Because of lack of statistical documents/reports about the single women in Kerala, researcher used snow ball sampling. This is the apt name for a technique of building up a list or a sample of a special population by using an initial set of its members as informants. Researcher contacted first
sample for interview and they nominated further samples. The process of identifying the respondents was very tedious.

3.9 Pilot Study

The Pilot study was conducted in Ernakulam district, as it was easy to get both urban and rural single women. The assistance of some single women were sought to identify various problems of single women in Kerala. The informal conversation with them in various fields, their parents and relatives, superiors and neighbours provided a lot of valuable information. On the basis of pilot study research tools were prepared.

3.10 Preparation of Tools and the Processes of Data Collection

The data collection was mainly based on primary and secondary data. Secondary data refers to that ‘already recorded for some other purpose but used in the particular research project’. In this present study secondary data was collected from census reports, seminar reports, pamphlets, journals, periodicals, books, news papers, reports and publications of various associations, and various publications of the central, state and local governments

Primary data is collected from younger and older generation of single women. For collecting the primary data, the researcher developed Interview schedule and three scales as tools.

3.10.1. Interview Schedule

Interview schedule was used to collect all relevant information concerning the respondent’s personal and familial background, social and financial details, educational and occupational levels, religious and health conditions, factors that led to single hood and life satisfaction level of single
women. The items on the interview schedule thus ranged from a general assessment of the family situation of each single woman to the problems she faced in handling situations in other fields.

3.10.2. Scales

The questions in the interview schedule may not reveal the actual adjustment problems or stress faced by single women so the researcher decided to use scales. As there were no suitable tools readily available for measuring the variables under study, that is, the researcher could not find any suitable existing scale for the present study to make a comparative analysis of generation differentials, three scales were developed, incorporating variety of items both positively and negatively toned. Since all the aspects of singlehood could not be included in one single scale, three scales were developed for measuring the different aspects of single hood. They are; (1) Stress scale for single women, (2) Support System scale for single women, and (3) An Adjustment scale for single women.

A. Stress Scale for Single Women

Any human being, man or woman has to face different kind of stress while confronting different situation. One of the objectives of the present study is to explore the different stress in single women’s life. Based on the information, got from preliminary study, review of the research literature and personal interviews- different sources of stress had been identified, covering almost all aspects of a single woman’s life. The total items for the ‘Stress scale for single women’ were grouped under six sections, Viz, section A, B, C, D, E and F captioned as Familial stress, Social stress, Personal stress, Health stress, Occupational stress and future stress respectively.
**Draft scale:** A draft scale incorporating ideas from various tests and covering almost all aspects of a single women’s life was prepared. Initially a large number of statements, more than 20, under each section were prepared. A number of positive and negative statements were included. For eliciting responses from the subjects, for each statement, a Likert type five point scale was adopted. The five alternative responses are the following; A. ‘very much’, B. ‘much’, C. ‘undecided’, D. ‘somewhat’, and E. ‘not at all’.

All the statements in the draft scale were thoroughly screened and edited. Care was taken to make statements as brief and clear as possible, and to phrase items in such a way as to elicit responses, which accurately and completely reflect each respondent’s position. The items, which seemed to overlap were critically examined and revised. In order to avoid language problems and for complete and accurate communication, items were given both in English and Malayalam. The items conveying the ideas quite clearly were retained; ambiguous and vague items were either revised or replaced by new ones. Finally, the draft scale included ‘59’ positive items, under six sections, for measuring the different aspects of stress of single women. All the items thus selected were arranged in a random order, under each section. Necessary instructions for the subjects were given in the front page of the scale itself. After reading each item the respondents were asked to identify the level of stress. Respondent’s doubts were cleared. There were ten items in five sections and nine items in one section in the draft form. All the items were positive.

**Administration of the draft scale**

All the three scales; (1) Stress scale for single women, (2) Support System scale for single women, and (3) Adjustment scale for single women
were standardized on the same sample. The scale was administered as per instructions given in the test.

**Scoring Procedure of the draft scale**

A score of 4, 3, 2, 1 and 0 was given to A B C D and E respectively for each positive and the score is reversed for a negative item. The responses given to each item is added to get the total score of that category. The total scores for stress and the scores for subtest were taken separately.

**Item Analysis**

An internal consistency item analysis was done for each scale. Each item score was correlated with the sub-scale total as well as overall total. Only items with statistically significant correlations and moderate ‘P’ values were selected for the final form of the test.

**Validity of draft scale**

Validity coefficient was established using the method of concurrent validity. The term ‘Concurrent Validity’ is reserved for demonstrations relating a measure to other concrete criteria assessed simultaneously. As Kline (1993) points out, a test is said to possess concurrent validity if it can be shown to correlate highly with another test of the same variable. The scale was thus administered on sample of 100 single women, individually. The total score of the standardized scales were correlated with the total score of the respective developed scales. The process of validity is same for the three scales developed. The coefficient of scales shows that the concurrent validity of three scales is high. The ‘Stress Scale for Single Women’ has been validated against Stress scale of Warrier (2003). This shows that the scale may yield valid measure for various aspects of Stress of the Single Women.
The Correlation result of the Stress scale for single women is significant at the 0.001 level. The correlation (validity co-efficient) obtained is 0.74.

**Reliability of draft scale**

The reliability of scale was obtained using test-retest method. The test-retest reliability was measured by correlating the scores from a set of subjects who took the test on two occasions (Kline, 1993). The scale was administered twice on a same sample of 100 subjects (50 spinsters and 50 singletons) individually. An interval of four weeks took between the two administrations. Two sets of scores were obtained for the different components separately. The r’s between the two sets of scores was calculated using the Pearson Product Moment Method and are taken as the indices of reliability. The reliability was calculated for each sub-section separately, as well as for the overall total scores. The reliability co-efficient of the different components of the scale is given below;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Reliability Co-efficient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Familial</td>
<td>.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Social</td>
<td>.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Personal</td>
<td>.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Health</td>
<td>.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Occupational</td>
<td>.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Future</td>
<td>.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>.92</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above details indicate that the ‘Stress Scale for Single Women’ is a reliable and valid tool for measuring the stress level of single women for this study.
B. Support System scale for Single Women

The behaviour of the individual is determined by his relationships with others. All human beings consider their relationships as a great support system in their life. One of the objectives of the present study is to identify the support system of single women in two generation. For this purpose one support system scale for single women was designed to get the clear idea about the relationships of single women in their life. On the basis of preliminary study different relationships of single women had been identified, covering almost all aspects of a single women’s life. The total items for the ‘Support System Scale for Single Women’ were grouped under five sections, Viz, A B C D and E captioned as family, friends, employment, social participation and leisure activity respectively.

Draft scale

The draft scale included 48 items under five sections. Among the total statements, there are three negative and forty five positive statements. There are ‘9’ items in three sub-sections (A, B and D), ‘10’ items in sub-section C and ‘11’ items in sub-section ‘E’. The five alternative responses are the following; A-‘strongly agree’, B-‘agree’, C- ‘undecided’, D- ‘disagree’, and E-‘strongly disagree’. Procedure for administration was the same as ‘stress scale for single women’.

Scoring procedure of the draft scale

A score of ‘5, 4, 3, 2 and 1’ was given to A B C D and E respectively for each positive and the score is reversed for negative item. The responses given to each item is added to get the total score of that category. The total scores for total support system and the score for the subtest are taken separately.
Validity of Support system scale for single women

The validity was calculated as given earlier in the previous section. The test has been validated against the RSQ (Relationship Scale Questionnaire 1990). The Correlation result is significant at the 0.001 level. This shows that the scale is valid measure of various aspects of support system of the Single Women. The validity co-efficient is 0.82.

Reliability of Support System scale for Single Women

**Table. 3.2** Reliability of Support System scale for Single Women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Reliability Co-efficient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Family</td>
<td>.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Friends</td>
<td>.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Employment</td>
<td>.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Social Participation</td>
<td>.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Leisure</td>
<td>.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>.79</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above details indicate that the ‘Support System Scale for Single Women’ is a reliable and valid tool for measuring the support system level for this study.

C. Adjustment scale for Single Women

The quality of a person’s life depends to a great extent on how efficiently she adjusts to, or copes with her environment. Failure in the above tasks may result in many problems to them. One of the objectives of the present study was to identify the adjustment process of single women in two generation. For this purpose one adjustment scale for single women was designed to get the clear idea about the adjustment process of single women.
in different life situations. On the basis of preliminary study, different adjustment process of single women had been identified, covering almost all aspects of a single women’s life. The total items for the ‘Adjustment Scale for Single Women’ were grouped under five sections, Viz, A B C D and E captioned as health, emotional, self-constraint, familial and social life respectively.

All the procedures for the development of ‘Adjustment scale for Single Women’ are same as the ‘Support System scale for Single Women’.

**Validity of the draft scale of the ‘Adjustment scale for Single Women’**

The validity is calculated as given earlier previous sections. The test has been validated against the ‘Bells Adjustment Inventory’. The Correlation result is significant at the 0.001 level. This shows that the scale is valid measure to evaluate the various aspects of the Adjustment level of the Single Women. The validity co-efficient is 0.79.

**Reliability of the draft scale of Adjustment scale for Single Women**

**Table 3.3 Reliability of Adjustment scale for single women**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Reliability Co-efficient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Health</td>
<td>.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Emotional</td>
<td>.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Self-constraint</td>
<td>.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Familial</td>
<td>.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Social life</td>
<td>.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>.99</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The above details indicate that the ‘Adjustment scale for Single Women’ is a reliable and valid tool for measuring the adjustment level for this study.

3.11 Pre-Test

A total of 100 single women fifty spinsters and fifty singletons were interviewed for Pre-test. The process of administering the tool, took nearly 60 minutes, for completing the interview and administration of scale. The tool was modified based on the experience and the type of response obtained during the time of pre-test.

3.12 Field Work

Regarding the interviews, initially it was very difficult to convince the respondents about the purpose of the study. They were amazed as to ‘why the single women were made a subject of the study?’ Once the task of convincing the respondent was over, the interview was carried out smoothly. The interview schedule dealt with the personal data, life satisfaction on a ten point scale and the factors that motivated them to stay single. The three administered scales measured the stress, the level of adjustment and level of support system of single women. Scale tools were provided to each respondent with instructions. After the stipulated time, completed tools were collected by the researcher. No major problems cropped up during the data collection. The field work for data collection lasted for nearly six months.

3.13 Analysis and Interpretation

A qualitative cum quantitative approach on data analysis has been adopted. It seeks to identify the range and intensity of problems, stress, adjustment, support system and life satisfaction level of single women. The
data collected with the help of interview schedule and scales were tabulated as per the norms of the scales. Chi-square test, Percentages, Man-Whitney test, ‘t’ test and Product Moment correlation were applied to study, the association and difference between the variables. The statistical analysis has been done with the help of Statistical Package for the Social Science (SPSS).

3.14 Scheme of Chapterisation

The first chapter deals with the historical background and changes in the institution of marriage and singlehood. It narrates the picture of singlehood movement from spinster to singleton. The second chapter describes the related literature on the single women and their problems and adjustments. The third chapter deals with the theoretical framework of the study and methodology. The fourth chapter probes the socio-cultural background of the single women in two generations. The factors of singlehood are explained in the fifth chapter. The sixth chapter deals with the adjustment processes and how the lack of adjustment leads to stress and to problematic situations. The seventh chapter sets forth the different support systems of single women. The Life satisfaction level of single women is presented in the eighth chapter and analyse the influence of adjustment and stress on the life satisfaction of single women. The last chapter sets forth a summary of the findings with suggestions and recommendations to raise the status of single women in Kerala.

3.15 Limitations of the Study

The major limitation of the study is the inadequacy of the availability of recorded material, which forced the researcher to use, the Snow ball sampling, which has its own limitation. During the process of data collection, it was observed that some of the respondents especially the spinsters were not
able to fill up the scales themselves. So the researcher did it with the help of them and this took a lot of time. The presence and interference of the relatives and inmates, while the interview was in progress, also posed some problem. Since some of the questions were regarding the respondent’s relationship with members of the family/ institutions, their mere presence contributed uneasiness for the respondent to give reliable response to such questions. The researcher tried to solve this by persuading others to leave the room.