Abandoned Muslim Wives – Victims of Early Marriage

Appendix I

INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

No.  
Date:  
1. Name of the respondent :  
2. Age :  
3. Education :  
4. With whom do you live :  
5. Husband’s age at the time of marriage :  
6. Husband’s occupation at the time of marriage :  
7. Where was he from :  
8. What was your age at first marriage? ( )  
9. Were you studying at the time of your marriage? ( )Yes ( )No  
10. Did your parents ask your consent for the marriage? ( )Yes ( )No  
11. Did anybody force you into the marriage? ( )Yes ( )No  
12. Were you prepared for marriage at that age? ( )Yes ( )No  
13. Do you feel that you could not enjoy your childhood due to early marriage ( )Yes ( )No  
14. What according to you is the most crucial factor that leads to early marriage of girls in your community? (Say the rank of the following statements according to your priority)  
   a. Early marriage is a deep rooted social custom - a matter of family honour ( )  
   b. Preference for the young girls ( )  
   c. Way to protect girls from sexual exploitation including pre-marital sex ( )  
   d. Low dowry requirement in early marriage ( )
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e. Polygyny

f. Early marriage is an economic strategy for poor parents

15. What made your father to select him as your life-partner?
   a. Low demand of dowry
   b. He had no special demands
   c. He was rich/ employed in Gulf
   d. He was a govt. employee

16. Did you have any sexual/ reproductive health knowledge before marriage? ( ) Yes ( ) No

17. Were you able to play the role of a wife successfully? ( ) Yes ( ) No

18. Did you have any difficulties to adjust with your in-laws? ( ) Yes ( ) No

19. What was your age at the birth of first child? Specify ( )

20. Did you have any of the following difficulties during your pregnancy or childbirth?
   a. Still births ( ) If so then how many times ( )
   b. Misscarriages( ) If so then how many times ( )

21. Were you able to manage the role of a mother at that young age? ( ) Yes ( ) No

22. Have you ever experienced violence at your husband’s home?

I. Physical Violence
   a. Beating/ Hitting ( ) Yes ( ) No
   b. Kicking/ Dragging ( ) Yes ( ) No
   c. Punching with objects/weapons ( ) Yes ( ) No

II. Emotional Violence
   a. Verbal abuse and humiliation in front of others ( ) Yes ( ) No
   b. Controlling behaviour & freedom/ restricting movements ( ) Yes ( ) No
   c. Threatening with harm ( ) Yes ( ) No
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III. Sexual Violence

a. Coerced sex/rape ( ) Yes ( ) No
b. Demanding unwanted sex ( ) Yes ( ) No
c. Forcing to have sex with others ( ) Yes ( ) No

23. Did you ever try to protest against violence from your husband?

24. How long did your marriage last?
   a. Less than 5 years ( )
   b. Five to Nine years ( )
   c. Ten to 14 years ( )
   d. More than 15 years ( )

25. Did you ever have a happy married life
   a. Never had ( )
   b. Less than 6 months ( )
   c. 6 months to one year ( )
   d. 1 to 2 years ( )
   e. 2 to 3 years ( )
   f. 3 to 5 years ( )
   g. More than 5 years ( )

26. What was your age at the time of first abandonment? Specify ( )

27. Did your husband or his family ever complain about you ( ) Yes ( ) No

28. Do you get maintenance from your husband? ( ) Yes ( ) No

29. Did you take any legal step against your husband? ( ) Yes ( ) No

30. If not, then why?

31. If yes, then specify the type of legal assistance you have taken.

32. How long have you been abandoned? ( )
33. What according to you are the causes of wife abandonment?
   (Give them in accordance to the most important reason to the least important one)
   a. Dowry related issues and violence ( )
   b. The culture of polygyny and talaq ( )
   c. Women’s lack of power in early marriage ( )

34. Do you believe that early marriage can lead to early abandonment?
   ( ) Yes   ( ) No

35. What is the biggest problem you encounter after being abandoned?
   a. Financial ( )
   b. Health problems ( )
   c. Psychological problems ( )
   d. Social and Familial problems ( )

36. Of the following, which all problems do you face at your present life?
   I. Physical
      a. Always feel tired ( )
      b. Often fall sick ( )
      c. Back pain ( )
      d. Gynaecological problems ( )
      e. Dizziness ( )

   II. Psychological
      a. Low self esteem ( )
      b. Fear and Anxiety about future ( )
      c. Depression ( )
      d. Stress ( )
      e. Guilt feeling and shame ( )
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III. Social/Familial
   a. Humiliation and Ill-treatment ( )
   b. Isolation/ Lack of social support ( )
   c. Low status in society ( )
   d. Harassment from society ( )
   e. Social stigma ( )

IV. Financial
   a. Food ( )
   b. Household accessories ( )
   c. Education of children ( )
   d. Health care of the family ( )
   e. Personal expenses ( )

37. How many times did you marry? ( ) Specify the no.
38. Do you prefer for a remarriage in future? ( ) Yes ( ) No
39. What is the ideal age for marriage of a girl in your society? ( ) yrs
40. What according to you should be the ideal age of marriage for a girl? ( ) yrs
Appendix II

SOCIO ECONOMIC SCALE

(A modified version of the Scale to measure the Socio-Economic Status in urban and rural communities in India)

1. **House Profile**

   **Land area:**
   a. 5 cents and below ( )
   b. 6 to 15 cents ( )
   c. 16 to 25 cents ( )
   d. 26 to 50 cents ( )
   e. More than 50 cents ( )

   **House type:**
   a. Thatched hut ( )
   b. Brick house ( )
   c. Terraced house (small) ( )
   d. Single floor villa ( )
   e. Mansion ( )

2. **Material Possession Profile**

   **Household gadgets and other possessions**
   a. Total cost below Rs. 10,000/- ( )
   b. Above Rs. 10,000/- but below Rs. 25,000/- ( )
   c. Above Rs. 25,000/- but below Rs. 50,000/- ( )
   d. Above Rs. 50,000/- but below Rs. 1,00,000/- ( )
   e. Above Rs. 1,00,000/- ( )

   **Conveyance facility**
   a. Nil ( )
   b. Below Rs. 5,000/- ( )
   c. Below Rs. 50,000/- ( )
   d. Below Rs. 5,00,000/- ( )
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3. Educational Profile
   a. Illiterate
   b. Up to SSLC
   c. Graduation/Professional
   d. Post Graduate
   e. Highly qualified (Ph.D, M.D, M.S)

4. Occupational Profile
   a. No gainful employment
   b. Private sector/small scale industries
   c. Govt. servant
   d. Professional
   e. Class I or equivalent jobs

5. Economic Profile
   a. Rs. 500/- and below
   b. Between Rs. 500/- and Rs. 5,000/-
   c. Between Rs. 5,000/- and Rs. 7,500/-
   d. Between Rs. 7,500/- and Rs. 10,000/-
   e. Above Rs. 10,000/-

6. Possessed Land/House cost Profile
   a. No land/House
   b. Total cost below Rs. 50,000/-
   c. Between Rs. 50,000/- and 5,00,000/-
   d. Between Rs. 5,00,000/- and Rs. 50,00,000/-
   e. More than Rs. 50,00,000/-
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7. Social Profile
   a. Religious-Cultural - Yes-( ), No-( )
   b. Developmental - Yes-( ), No-( )
   c. Educational - Yes-( ), No-( )
   d. Health promotional - Yes-( ), No-( )
   e. Political - Yes-( ), No-( )
Appendix III

PERCEPTION INDEX

Please give your response against each of the statements regarding early marriage.

A – Agree   B – Neutral   C – Disagree

1. Early marriage is a tradition, to be preserved and followed by the community.  [A][B][C]
2. Early marriage is a religious duty of the parents.  [A][B][C]
3. A girl is to be married within the ideal age at marriage.  [A][B][C]
4. Generally girls attain early maturity so they should be married off earlier.  [A][B][C]
5. When girls marry younger there is high probability to get sons.  [A][B][C]
6. After 18 a girl will be too old for marriage.  [A][B][C]
7. Early marriage is a protection from premarital sex and exploitation.  [A][B][C]
8. Early marriage generates obedient wives thereby bringing better adjustments between a husband and wife  [A][B][C]
9. Dowry requirement will be low in early marriage.  [A][B][C]
10. After the age of 18 parents will have to pay a big dowry so a girl has to be married off earlier  [A][B][C]
11. Early marriage gives poor parents relief from the future economic liabilities of the marriage of daughters.  [A][B][C]
12. Early marriage is a matter of family prestige and honour.  [A][B][C]
13. It is better to marry off girls earlier than to spend money for their education  [A][B][C]
14. Early marriage is an economic survival strategy for poor parents so it is good. [A][B][C]
15. Early marriage is desirable to dispose a daughter since she is a burden to parents. [A][B][C]
16. Early marriage leads to women’s oppression and sexual exploitation of young girls. [A][B][C]
17. Early marriage curtails girl’s education and personality development and also destroys the future of the girl child. [A][B][C]
18. Early marriage is linked with early wife abandonment or divorce. [A][B][C]
19. Early marriage is a form of sexual exploitation of girls. [A][B][C]
20. Early marriage generates economic dependency among girls. [A][B][C]
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Appendix IV

AWARENESS INDEX

The following statements are different forms of violence and exploitation that occur within early marriage. On the basis of each statement, respond whether you are aware of the violence in it.

A – Yes,  B – I don’t know  C – No

1. I lost my adolescence due to marrying earlier. [A][B][C]
2. Since I was married off earlier I lost opportunities for education. [A][B][C]
3. In my marriage I had no freedom at all. [A][B][C]
4. I had very few opportunities in the decision making process at husband’ home. [A][B][C]
5. Most of my health problems are the consequences of early marriage. [A][B][C]
6. I have experienced severe physical violence in my marriage. [A][B][C]
7. More often I was forced by husband to have sex against my will. [A][B][C]
8. I have been humiliated by my husband and his family. [A][B][C]
9. I had no freedom of expression or choice regarding matters related to sex and reproduction. [A][B][C]
10. I lived like a domestic slave in my husband’s home. [A][B][C]
11. Since I was very young, I was not able to protest against the violence in my marriage. [A][B][C]
12. My husband treated me like an object of sexual pleasure. [A][B][C]
13. Husband forced me to engage in unnatural sex. [A][B][C]
14. At husband’s home, usually I faced verbal abuse from my in-laws.  
[A][B][C]

15. I became a mother at a very young age and it has affected my health.  
[A][B][C]

16. I look like a very old woman since I have been through early and repeated pregnancies.  
[A][B][C]

17. During pregnancy I have not received proper food and medicine/caring.  
[A][B][C]

18. In my community there are many girls who are abandoned by their husbands.  
[A][B][C]

19. When girls marry younger, they are abandoned earlier.  
[A][B][C]

20. Early marriage is a form of gender violence by which girls are victimized.  
[A][B][C]

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