Chapter 2: Review of literature

In order to clarify the conceptual background of the variables under investigation the research literature related to love marriages and arranged marriages comparison on love, trust and marital adjustment were extensively reviewed, similarly association between variables were also reviewed.

Love marriage vs. Arranged marriages:

Marriage is a sacred bond between two souls. It is not union of two human beings but also of two families. Marriages fulfill the primal human needs for intimacy and emotional nourishment.

There are mainly two types of marriages- love marriages and arranged marriages. Both type of marriages have some pros and cons. Love marriages offer more independence and freedom as compare to arranged marriages. In love marriages there is less pressure to conform to potential expectations, taking part in family rituals and traditions. They get ample time to know each other and it has good chance of success because they arise from mutual attraction.

Pros: After some years when novelty wears off, they began to lose interest in each other and try to broaden their horizons with new love interests. Partner’s socio-economical background, financial resources, life goals and aspirations are mismatch, which after sometime becomes a cause of friction and eventually leads to divorce. Divorce rate is quite high as compare to arranged marriages. Arranged marriages offer more protection and security to the women. In financial crises situation couples get the help. Parent’s wise judgment is helpful in choosing one’s partner.

Cons: With some partner emotional bond never develop and one has to carry the family burden throughout life. Caste system barrier, dowry, parental pressure these are cons of arranged marriages. In brief, superiority of love marriages and arrange marriage is a topic of debate.
Marital satisfaction and marital adjustment, marital happiness, suitable mate matching factor’s and personality and temperamental traits, love, trust and loyalty, these factors are extensively studied by researcher in regards to marriage. Due to growing popularity of arrange marriages and due to its long lasting effect many researchers have shown interest and quality of interaction among arranged marriages.

2.1 Marital adjustment and marital satisfaction differences among love marriages and arranged marriages:

Both marital adjustment and marital satisfaction more or less measure the same construct. Marital satisfaction is the subjective feelings of happiness, satisfaction and pleasure which married couples experiences (Zuo, 1992)\(^{19}\). Marital satisfaction refers to a partner’s personal experience of satisfaction or happiness with a marital relationship (Wolf, 1996)\(^{19}\). Marital satisfaction is multidimensional, a number of factors influence marital happiness and couples may be satisfied with some aspects of their relationship and disappointed with others (Wolf, 1996)\(^{19}\).

In USA numerous studies about marital satisfaction reported that lowest marital satisfaction observed when couples have children and higher marital satisfaction observed when children leave the home and couple live in empty nest. In Indian context it might seem completely opposite.

In 1967, Blood conducted survey in Tokyo, Japan that has designed specifically to compare love marriages and arranged marriages. His result shows that in both types of marriages, there was a long-term trajectory towards a decline in the expression of love and lower marital satisfaction. The wives in the love marriage are happier whereas husbands in arranged marriages are more satisfied (Blood, 1967)\(^{85}\). Similar types of findings obtained in China by King, Whyte and Xiache, 1990); they found women in love marriages are more satisfied\(^{85}\).

A study conducted by Lev-Weisel and Al-Krenawi (1999) with regard to marital quality among the Arab Society in Israel, the result Yield that arranged marriages showed a lower level of marital satisfaction compared to love marriages\(^{19}\).
Bin Dost, M. K., Shafi, N., Shaheen, W. A. and Khan, M. A. (2011) they studied regarding love marriage and arranged marriage comparison quoted that people supporting love marriage because it gives importance to partners to know each other better way before marriage. The arranged marriages are more successful than love marriages but love marriages people are spending more happy life than arranged marriages\cite{19, 49}.

Yelsma and Athappilly (1988) studied marital satisfaction and communication practices with 28 arranged married couples, 25 love marriage couple from Kerala (India) and 31 American couple in companionate marriages. They found higher marital satisfaction score among arranged marriage couples than in love marriage couples and companionate marital couples of USA. Furthermore their result indicates that husband and wife of arranged marriage couples from India are more satisfied than USA sample\cite{63}.

Yuji, K., Junich, T., Ikuo, D. and Masanori, I. (2004), compared marital satisfaction of females in arranged and free-choice marriages in China. 586 females (aged 22–70 yrs.) who were married during the period 1933–1987 completed interviews concerning type of marriage, dominant role in mate choice, introduction to husband, dating husband prior to marriage, number of romances, other marital prospects, and degree of feeling in love when married. Results show that the role of parents declined sharply over time, but the transition toward free mate choice has made little further headway in recent years. There was little sign of an emergent dating culture. Wives in love matches were more satisfied with their marital relationships than their counterparts in arranged marriages, regardless of the length of the marriage; this difference was not attributable to the influence of other differentiating background factors. It is concluded that females who had love matches feel better about their marriages than do those who experience arranged marriages\cite{86}.

Dinna, Manisha (2005) compared marital satisfaction among love and arranged marriages using South African Indian sample (N=44 couples, 24 love marriage couples and 20 arranged marriage couples). She gave DAS and KMSS. Her findings reported that couples of love marriages are more satisfied with their marriages than couples of arranged marriages. In her study no gender difference were found on marital satisfaction.
She also reported that experience of love intensity at the time of inception of their marriage was a more powerful predictor of latter marital adjustment\textsuperscript{19}.

Shachar (1991) surveyed 206 young married couples from Israel to determine differences in marital satisfaction in arrange marriages and love marriages, he found that the duration of courtship, cohabitation and pattern of spouse selection (Love or arranged marriage type) were minimally related to marital satisfaction\textsuperscript{71}.

Myers, Madathil and Tingle (2005) studied 22 arranged marriage couples from India and marriage of their choice (love marriages) and measured their marital satisfaction. They concluded that No significant difference were observed among arranged marriage couples from India and marriages of their choice from USA on marital adjustment\textsuperscript{63}.

Anadkat D. S. (2007) studied 74 Indian arranged marriage couples living in India and 29 Asian Indian couples immigrated. In love marriage, couples living in USA, their finding showed no significant differences on marital satisfaction between native Indian and USA immigrated couples\textsuperscript{2}.

2.2 Gender and Marital Satisfaction

Another important variable related to marital satisfaction is gender. Gender differences have been reported in the marital satisfaction literature, but the findings are mixed. Some studies have indicated that husbands tend to be more satisfied in their marriages than wives (Acitelli and Antonucci, 1994; Markman and Hahlweg, 1993; Rogers and Amato, 2000; Vemer, Coleman, Ganong, and Cooper, 1989)\textsuperscript{32}.

A multivariate study by Fowers B. J. (1991) examined the gender differences in marital satisfaction using the multidimensional marital inventory ENRICH. Their study indicated that men are somewhat more satisfied with their marriages than women. As research direction indicate that men obtain greater mental health benefits from marriage than do women \textsuperscript{24}.

Research has substantiated that marriage disproportionately benefits men, with husband reporting higher level of marital satisfaction and well-being than their wives(Bird and Fremount,1991, McRae and Brody 1989, Schumm, Webb and
Bollman, 1998). While other studies have suggested that wives are more satisfied (Karney and Bradbury, 1995; Sternberg and Hojjat, 1997). Many studies report gender differences in other factors that are related to marital satisfaction. For example, Rhoades (1994) found that the strongest predictors of marital satisfaction for men were their relationships to their children, followed by approval of parents and friends regarding the marriage, couple communication, and lastly emotional health. Conversely, the strongest predictors of marital satisfaction for women were couple communication, followed by approval of parents and friends, emotional health, impulsivity, and lastly the parent-child relationship.

With the increase of dual-earner families, couples have been forced to reevaluate their gender and marital roles. Recent research examining the link between gender roles and marital satisfaction has produced inconsistent results. Some research has indicated that individuals who hold more egalitarian perceptions of gender roles are more satisfied in their marital relationship than those holding more traditional roles (Craddock, 1991). Other research (Veroff et al., 1998) found that as men changed or accommodated their wives’ more egalitarian ideals, marital satisfaction decreased for both men and women. Results of the latter study also indicated that having a spouse with higher anxiety and agreeableness increased marital satisfaction for men but not for women. Relatively, several other studies (Lye and Biblarz 1993; Zvonkovic, Schmiege and Hall, 1994) found that couples who prefer traditional gender roles report higher levels of marital satisfaction than couples who possess more egalitarian gender roles and couples who are in agreement on gender roles have higher levels of marital satisfaction than those who disagree. Finally, as might be expected, Thompson and Walker (1989) found that husbands were more satisfied with their marriage if their wives did more than their fair share of housework and childcare, while Barnett and Baruch (1987) found that wives were more satisfied with their marriages if their husbands did their fair share of household work.

Some studies like Atta et al. (2000) Study revealed non-significant gender differences in marital satisfaction.

As a whole, the research on marital satisfaction and gender roles seems to indicate that marital satisfaction is related to the couple’s view of gender roles and gender
expectations. It would appear that partners who have different ideas regarding gender roles and role expectations, in turn have differing levels of marital satisfaction depending on their spouse’s fulfillment of those expectations \[^{32}\].

**Love:** - Love is an axel on which the wheel of whole civilization, literature and art revolves. It is a state of intense longing for union with others. Considering emotional, erotic and commitment dimension researcher proposed different form or styles of love. Rubin (1970) paved the way to study love empirically and constructed first scientist love and linking scale to measure love feeling. Most of the researcher used Hendrick and Hendricks six love style; Sternberg’s love triangular scale; Rubin’s general love scale and Hatfield’s passionate love scale in their studies.

### 2.3 Gender Differences on Love:

Gender differences on love are an equivocal issue. Whether men and women love more (or less) appears to depend on the type of love under consideration how love is measured, and perhaps the lover’s age and life stage of couples.

**Passionate Love and Gender Differences:** In general no gender differences found on passionate love / romantic love (Aron and Henkeneyer, 1995\[^{5}\]; Fehr et al. 2010; Hatfield and Sprecher, 1986\[^{31}\]; Sprecher and Regan, 1998). When men and women are asked specifically how much passionate or romantic love they feel, no gender differences have been found in love felt for partner (Rubin, 1973; Sprecher-Fisher, 1980). There are few exceptional studies which found that women’s have greater degree of passionate love. Grote and Frieze (1994) found that men in dating relationship score lower on PLS than did women. Women have been found to feel more passionately (or romantically) than do men (Dion and Dion, 1973; Kanin, Davidson, and Scheck, 1970; Hatfield and Rapson, 1993). In contrast, Chinese study quoted by Ng and Cheng (2010) stated men score higher on Sternberg passionate component than did women. Studies examining attitudes toward love suggest that men may have a more romantic or passionate view of love than do women (Hatfield and Rapson, 1993; Hobart, 1958; Knox and Sporakowski, 1968; Rubin, 1970) \[^{5}\ and \[^{31}\].
It was found that although newlywed men and women loved with equal passion, women tended to love their partners more companionately than they were loved in return. According to cultural stereotypes, women generally love their partners more than they are loved in return. This stereotype has been echoed by a wide array of feminists, psychologists, and sociologists (see, for example, Firestone, 1983; Langhorn and Secord, 1955; Parsons, 1959; Parson’s and Bales, 1960).

**Gender differences on companionate love:** When it comes to companionate love, however, the results are more clear-cut and more supportive of the cultural stereotype of women as the more loving sex. In general, it has been found that women tend to like and companionately love their partners more than they are liked and loved in return (Hatfield and Rapson, 1993; Knox and Sporakowski, 1968; Rubin, 1973; Sprecher-Fisher, 1980). Alas, all of the preceding studies were conducted with dating couples; we know little about gender differences in love in long enduring marriages. Women in dating and marital relationship reported greater companionate love than did men. Grove and Friege (1994) married women score higher on friendship based love scale than did men. Singh, A. K. studied married and unmarried couples (leaving relationship) and stated that females was significantly high on passionate love and romantic obsession than males. No gender differences reported by Grote and Friege (1994); Fehr Harasymchuk and Gouriluk (2010).

2.4 Love and marital adjustment / marital satisfaction:

Arthur Aron and Lisa Henkemeyer (1995) of USA studied 100 married couples measuring their passionate love and sex relationship relevant variables. They found passionate love was moderately correlated with marital satisfaction. No gender difference observes on passionate love.

Passionate love was the most consistent predictor of marital satisfaction for both husband and wives, across the ethnic categories (Contreras et al., 1996).

Sternberg’s theory of love stated three components of love (i.e. intimacy, passion and commitment) have interaction effect with each other and it mediates the satisfaction in an
intimate relationship. Particularly commitment component shows positive correlation with relational satisfaction (Hendrick, Hendrick and Adler, 1998)\(^{[34]}\).

Eros (Passionate love) correlated highly with marital satisfaction with Mexican, American group (Contreras-Ramos, R. J., 1989)\(^{[14]}\).

Intimacy and commitment are the two important components of companionate love which are closely associated with marital adjustment. Schwartz and Scott (1994) reported that to share true intimacy with one’s partner result in greater satisfaction. Koehne (2000) found intimacy, defined as voluntary closeness to one’s spouse while maintaining distinct boundaries to the self, was the most significant predictor of marital satisfaction for men. On the other hand, commitment, defined as the bond with a spouse characterized by marital stability with little need to monitor and test alternatives, was found to be the most significant predictor of marital satisfaction for women. Commitment is closely associated marital satisfaction (Wolf, 1996)\(^{[19]}\).

Susan Sprecher and Pamela Regan (1998) in their comparative study of companion love and passionate love found companionate love was more highly associated with satisfaction than passionate love\(^{[67]}\).

### 2.5 Trust Review:

Trust is a fundamental component of virtually all social interactions. In the context of a close relationship, trust refers to the level of confidence we have that the other person will act in ways that will fulfill our expectations. This confidence does not merely reflect an intellectual assessment of the likelihood that a partner will act as anticipated, but also an emotionally experienced sense of security and assurance in the partner’s behavior and motives.

John Remple, John Holmes and Mark Zanna (1985), organized expectations along with a dimension from specific concrete behaviors to abstract interpersonal motives. Their trust scale consist three subscales. Predictability (P), it refers to the expectations of a partner’s specific behavior. Dependability (D), it refers the dispositional qualities of the partner which warrant confidence in the face of risk and potential hurt. It is based upon
characteristics such as honesty and reliabilities that identify the partner as trustworthy person. Faith (F) centers on feelings of confidence in the relationship and the responsiveness and caring expected from the partner in the face on uncertain future\[^{68}\].

Robert Larzelere and Ted Huston (1980) have suggested that the most important expectation involve confidence in another person’s benevolence (confidence that one’s wellbeing or something one cares about will be protected and not harmed by the trusted party (Baier, 1986). It is an assurance that other will not exploit one’s vulnerability or take advantage even when the opportunity is available (Cummings and Bromily, 1996) involves a genuine concern for the others welfare and the motivation to maximize positive outcomes. Thus, the core issue of trust in close relationship involved the expectations that the other persons cares and can be believed similarly, Cynthia Johnson – George and Walter Swap (1982) developed a measure of emotional trust openness (the extent to which relevant information is shared), honesty and concern for the others welfare. Thus, the most important aspect of trust is an intimate relationship appears to involve expectations that individuals will be caring and will act in a way that will take the needs and desire of their partner into account, even at the cost to themselves\[^{84}\].

**Gender differences on Trust:**

Most of the studies quoted no gender differences on trust; some of the studies quoted males are higher on trust than women. Because males are more independent and more faithful in regards to interpersonal relationship while female due to their biological limitation females are more cautious in interpersonal relationship. So they in general they have low blind faith and therefore naturally they have low trust as compare to male. Study quoted by Singh, A. K. who studied married and unmarried couples and quoted that in unmarried couples male trusted their partners more than females. While in married couples females trusted more than males.

**2.6 Trust and Love:**

Trust is certainly one of the most desired qualities in any close relationship. It is often mentioned in conjunction with love and commitment as a cornerstone of the ideal relationship (C. Hendrick and S. Hendrick 1983)\[^{34}\].
Trust is the important ingredient of love relationship (Rampel, Holmes and Zanna, 1985)\(^{[68]}\). They reported positive correlation between trust and love; particularly their faith component of trust found highly correlated with love.

Larzelere and Huston (1980) reported that trust tends to be high and strongly related to love for people at the exclusively dating stage. Dion and Dion (1976) found that love and a sense of trust went hand in hand even during the volatile infatuation period experienced by individuals with low self-esteem. But while people may speak of “trusting” a new partner and the relationship with him or her, that trust is often little more than a naïve and fragile expression of hope based upon the assumption that the other has similar feelings about the relationship (Holmes, 1991; Holmes and Remple, 1989). Simpson (1990) used the Remple, Holmes and Zanna scale (1985) to examine level of trust within romantic relationships. He found that avoidant people were characterized by displaying lower levels of trust is such relationships. According to Regan, Kocan and Whitlock (1998), trust is one of the most important components of loving relationship. Also international studies have found trust to be a critical factor and the success of long term marriages (Roizblatt et al. 1999; Sharlin 1996)\(^{[82]}\).

### 2.7 Trust and Marital Satisfaction / Marital Adjustment:

Trust is recognized as an important factor in interpersonal relationships (Gurtman, 1992, Rotter 1980, Cattrell, Neubergand Li 2006) but only few studies have examined the direct link between trust and marital satisfaction / marital adjustment.

Previous research found that female partner’s trust in predictive levels of marital satisfaction (Johnson and Tulitman, 1997) and that interpersonal trust are correlated with marital adjustment (Quinn and Odell, 1998). In couples, discrepancies in reported levels of trust are also linked to lower levels of marital satisfaction (Kelly and Burgoon, 1991). Trust may be important factor in marital satisfaction. The partner trust scale is associated with level of marital satisfaction (Couch and Jones 1997). Relationships are composed of trust and sharing of intimate thoughts and feelings. They are built upon trust, sharing and they get stronger from these things (Finkenauer, kerkhof, Righetti, and Branje, 2009)\(^{[6]}\).
Heller (2000) discussed that trust believes that the person who is trusted will do what is expected. Trust has been recognized as an important factor in interpersonal relationships (Cottrell et al., 2007; Gutman, 1992; Rotter, 1980). In couples, discrepancies in reported levels of trust are linked to lower levels of marital satisfaction (Kelley and Burgoon, 1991). Despite the potentially significant role of trust as determinant of marital satisfaction, there is a dearth of studies pertaining to the relationship between trust and marital satisfaction in Pakistan. The present study is an empirical endeavor in the same direction and hypothesizes that trust would be a significant predictor of marital satisfaction.

Anderson and Emmers-Sommer (2006) studied predictor of relationship satisfaction in online romantic relationship (N=114). Their finding indicates that intimacy, trust and communication satisfaction were found to be strongest predictors of relationship satisfaction for individual involved in online romances. Blanchard finding suggested that trust and marital satisfaction are positively related (r. 57, P<.006). Husain, Akbar, Sharma and Tirtharani (1994) examined the relationship between marital adjustment and trust (N=200), 100 Hindu and 100 Muslim working and non-working women. Marital adjustment score were significantly correlated with trust score among working and nonworking women’s.