

# Research Paper: Evaluating the Factors Affecting Marital Success with Emphasis on Social Networks in the Rural Areas of Mashhad Metropolis in Northeastern Iran

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## ABSTRACT

**Purpose:** This study aimed to assess the factors influencing successful marriages, focusing on social networks in the peripheral rural areas of Mashhad city in northeastern Iran.

**Methods:** This applied study utilized a qualitative-quantitative approach. The research methodology was descriptive-analytical. Data was collected through researcher-made questionnaires. The statistical population consisted of single and married men and women aged 20 to 50 in the rural areas of Mashhad city. Out of 314, subjects were selected using a random sampling method. The sample size was determined using the Alpha Chronbakh coefficient. Data were analyzed using SPSS Software.

**Results:** The results indicated the effect of the factors, including family environments, friendships, neighborhood relationships, familiarity at engagement ceremonies, workplace environments, and educational institutions, on the success of marriages. Family support, the way and environment of familiarity, age, education, and parents' relationship explained the success in marriage. The mentioned five variables predicted the outcome of pre-marital relationships in rural areas of Mashhad with 89.3% accuracy.

**Conclusion:** The overall results suggest that the family institution plays a fundamental role in creating social and cultural conditions, making it the most significant player in marriage for children in peripheral rural areas of Mashhad City.

## 1. Introduction



villages, as structures, require dynamism in their elements for their survival (Fir-

ouzabadi et al., 2018: 1). Development in general, and rural development in particular, is perceived as a process that is set in motion by the dynamism of its structural elements. Rural development necessitates the regeneration of rural areas and the vitality of their elements.

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Some of the rural areas existing today around the country's industrial centers are those where the regeneration cycle has been disrupted, leading to halts and even deviations in the process. The current status of these rural areas indicates that the social forces are not engaged in regenerating the components and social elements of rural life (Habibpour Gatabi & Safary Shali, 2011: 9).

Rural families represent the embodiment of cultural development in any society. Their social stability is achieved through the sustainability of their lifestyle (Biron, 1996: 24). The family can be considered the primary and most fundamental institution in rural society, having positive social functions for the entire social system and other institutions (Noghani et al., 2013: 3). Although, in modern society, some of the functions of the family have been delegated to other institutions, the family still plays its primary roles such as procreation, generational continuity, and creating an emotional environment to meet human needs and child-rearing (Motahari Varmazani et al., 2022: 3). A healthy family is the cornerstone of a healthy society, and the secret to the overall betterment of society lies in the improvement of families through marriage. On the other hand, marriage, as the socially accepted behavior for emotional needs and acquiring security, has always played a crucial role in an individual's transition to adulthood and is the essential step a person takes in life (Mohammadi et al., 2017: 140). Today, rural society is culturally transitioning from traditional to modern standards, and consequently, traditional marriage practices are evolving. Unlike traditional courtship, where marriage is considered a family task and collective responsibility, personal choice and independent acquaintance outside the family have emerged. Nonetheless, it appears that marriage is still carried out based on existing social relationships and an individual's network of connections. Therefore, the concept of social capital continues to play a significant role in marriage, whether in traditional or modern rural societies. According to Bourdieu, social capital consists of real or potential resources derived from a durable network of relationships, mutual familiarity, or, in other words, membership in a group. A network in which each member benefits from collective support and validates them (Abbaszadeh et al., 2012: 245). The formation and development of marriages within various networks have a significant impact to the extent that each marriage takes place within a network where the potential spouse is a provider of acquaintance or recognition. In other words, the broader an individual's social network is effective in making a marriage, and the more they are in contact with individuals suitable for marriage within that network, the greater their chance and success in getting married

(Adabi et al., 2015: 4). If we consider marriage as a vital aspect of rural society, one of the significant actions in this regard is the selection of a spouse. Mate selection involves examining and evaluating the characteristics and foundation of a prospective spouse from various aspects, such as physical attributes, income, socio-economic status, educational level, and other factors. Combining these attributes shapes selecting a spouse (Sadeghi Deh Cheshme et al., 2019: 3).

The marital status in Iran is undergoing tangible spatial changes. Understanding this area's spatial patterns and behaviors provides better insight into the prevailing state of marriages and Iran's population's future dynamics and transformations. It also aids family planning and management (Faraji Sabokbar et al., 2015: 352). According to official statistics, marriage in Iran witnessed a 36% decrease from 2011 to 2020, while divorces increased by 28%. In 2021, 134208 marriages were registered, and one out of every three marriages ended in divorce. On the other hand, the number of bachelors and spinsters within the conventional marriage age range in Iran has reached approximately 9.6 million, with 340,000 being over 50 years old, which is considered the absolute single category. The absolute singleness, which was about 1.3% for men and 1.2% for women in 1996, has increased to 2.3% for men and 3.7% for women in 2016 (Inanlu, 2022). Considering the importance of familial issues that lead to social problems, a deep understanding of family relationships and reducing social issues is important.

The current situation in rural areas around the metropolis of Mashhad regarding marriage and childbearing is not suitable due to economic and cultural conditions. Therefore, it is necessary to identify the factors involved to address this cultural challenge through long-term planning. Given that most of the research has paid less attention to the role of social relationships, courtship, and family support in marriage, this research aimed to validate the factors influencing success in marriage with an emphasis on social networks in rural areas around the metropolis of Mashhad. It seeks to determine the impact of social networks (courtship spaces, the extent of an individual's social relationships, and family support) on their success in marriage.

## 2. Literature Review

Today, the sustainability of rural families in terms of lifestyle and social development is paramount. Given that the instability of families in these areas directly impacts overall social sustainability, it is necessary to in-

investigate the relationship in this area to promote social stability and lifestyle in rural areas (Khorshidi Zaglojeh et al., 2018: 283).

Marriage is considered one of the essential events in any society, with a direct effect on the structure, composition, and demographic changes of the population of that region. Understanding the spatial patterns of marriage plays a crucial role in spatial planning and monitoring the future population changes in a region (Faraji Sabokbar et al., 2015: 351). This concept is studied in various fields such as sociology, law, family studies, psychology, economics, healthcare, etc. “the geography of marriage” refers to the study of general behaviors and patterns of marriage and family systems and their spatial and temporal changes in society (Lundh, 2013: 323). The social network is among the most influential factors in marriage and the family system. In sociology, it can be defined as a set of individuals who are in social relationships (according to the subject of this study, they have an impact on the process of choosing a spouse) (Noghani et al., 2013: 3). Social network refers to a collection of actors and the relationships between them (Mizuruchi, 1994: 330; Felmlee & Sprecher, 2000: 367; Otte & Rousseau, 2002: 442; Butts, 2008: 14; Felmlee & Faris, 2013: 457). Social networks play a crucial role in the process of a couple’s choice and can lead to the formation of a family or marriage) (Noghani et al., 2013: 5).

There are some studies on the subject of this study. For example, Xu et al. (2003) investigated the determinants of the timing decisions of marriage for young men and women in rural areas of China. This study was conducted through a survey in six provinces in China. The results showed the benefits of marriage, search costs, and job complexity as significant determinants of the timing of marriage. Marriage is often delayed for men and women with higher incomes. Additionally, higher education delays young people’s inclination to get married. Regional economic growth generally reduces the inclination to marry men and women in rural areas. However, access to social networks facilitates marriage for all young people. Faraji Sabokbar et al. (2015) conducted research that involved an exploratory analysis of spatial marriage data in rural areas of Iran. Their research findings indicated spatial inequalities in marriage patterns in rural regions of the country, and spatial trends were influenced by spatial hierarchies. Adabi et al. (2015) examined the influence of membership in virtual social networks on pre-marital tendencies and beliefs. It was a qualitative study with a contextual approach. The results of this research showed that participation in social

networks significantly influenced the beliefs and pre-marital tendencies of females, leading to a noticeable reduction in their inclination and desire for marriage. Tajik and Mogadasi (2017) studied the relationship between virtual social networks and the marriages of young people in Tehran. The findings indicated no significant relationship between the level of use of social networks and the criteria for mate selection among young people in Tehran. The hypothesis regarding the relationship between social networks and the criteria for mate selection among young people in Tehran was confirmed. The findings showed that the marriage criteria do not differ significantly between the gender groups. Khorshidi Zaglojeh et al. (2018) studied the interaction between a sustainable lifestyle and the sustainable development of rural families. The findings revealed a correlation between a sustainable lifestyle and the economic and social sustainability of rural families, with a higher correlation between a sustainable lifestyle and the economic stability of the families. On the other hand, in the economic aspect, the sustainable lifestyle of families had the highest correlation with sustainable development. Tajabadi Farahani et al. (2019) studied the relationship between the performances of virtual social networks and mate selection methods. Data analysis showed a significant relationship between the expansions of the public sphere, the formation of communicative understanding, increased awareness, and social mobility with mate selection methods. Kouladoum and Ngouhouo (2020) investigated the impact of socio-economic characteristics of men and women on marriage decisions in urban and rural areas of Chad. The study was carried out on 300 couples. The research revealed various factors affecting marriage decisions for men and women. Socio-economic factors and the age of women increase men’s decisions to marry. At the same time, lack of education for men delays their decision to marry. The age range and socio-economic factors improve women’s decisions to marry. However, the lack of education for men and the socio-economic status of the woman’s family (father’s managerial position) delay women’s decisions to marry. Higher levels of education for women significantly reduce their inclination to marry. Motahari Varmazani et al. (2022) investigated the role of the internet and virtual social networks in changing mate selection patterns in Kermanshah City. The research findings indicated that respondents used the Internet and social networks for an average of 2.86 hours daily. Approximately 13% of the respondents have become acquainted with their spouses through virtual social networks. This percentage was higher among men, individuals with self-employment, and those with higher incomes. Additionally, getting to

know one's spouse through the virtual space was more common among women aged 20-30 years, university-educated individuals, and those from higher social classes. There was a significant correlation between the use of virtual space and the familiarity index with spouses in the virtual space at 0.32 level.

### 3. Methodology

This study is classified as applied research in terms of its objective and follows a qualitative-quantitative approach. It employed a descriptive-analytical framework and utilized survey methodology for data collection. Data were collected using interviews and questionnaires. Initially, The research was carried out with in-depth semi-structured interviews to explore the narratives of married individuals and those who have embarked on the path of marriage but have not succeeded. The aim was to identify the factors and reasons contributing to successful marriages. Subsequently, based on the qualitative findings, the questionnaire was designed. The statistical population included both single and married men and women

aged 20 to 50 in the rural regions of Mashhad (including Koshaf, Dostabad, Zarkesh, Manzelabad, Dehroud, and Gorji Sofla). The total population comprises 1,728 individuals. A sample size of 314 individuals was randomly selected using the Cochran formula. Data was analyzed using SPSS Software.

Mashhad is a megalopolis city in northeastern Iran and serves as the capital of Razavi Khorasan Province. During the Afsharid dynasty, it was the capital of Iran. Mashhad, with 13 urban districts, is the third-largest city in Iran regarding land area, covering approximately 351 square kilometers, following Tehran (with a city area of 735 square kilometers) and Isfahan (with a city area of 551 square kilometers). Furthermore, according to the 1395 census, Mashhad, with a population of approximately 3,001,184 individuals, is the second-most populous city in Iran after Tehran and ranks as the fifth-most populous city globally (Statistical Yearbook of Khorasan Razavi Governorate, 2022). This study was conducted in six rural areas near Mashhad (including Koshaf, Dostabad, Zarkesh, Manzelabad, Dehroud, and Gorji Sofla).

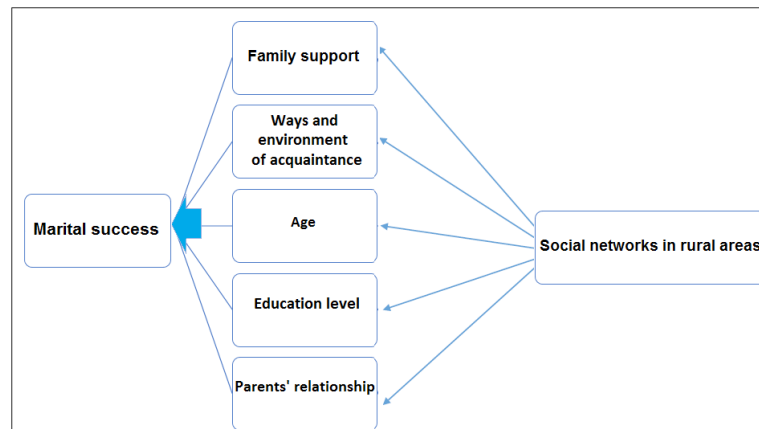


Figure 1. Conceptual model of the study

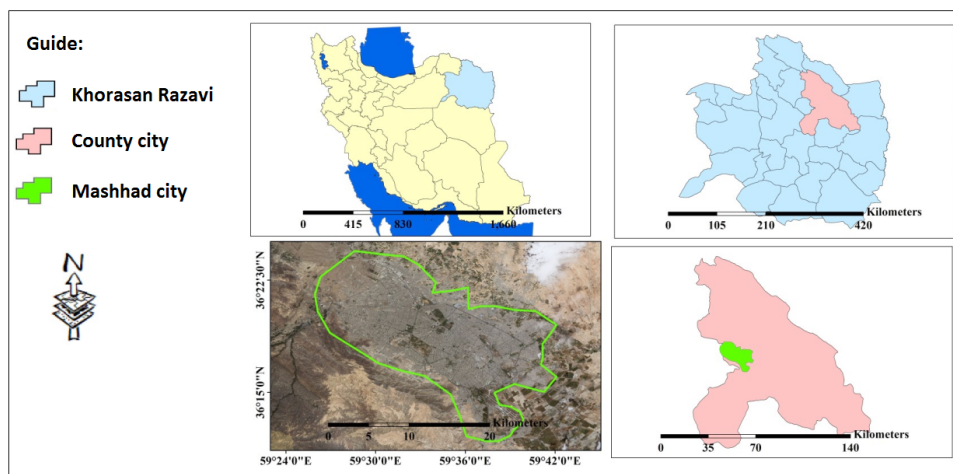


Figure 2. Study area. Reference: Authors, 2023



## 4. Findings

### Descriptive Findings

Of the 314 respondents, 159 and 155 were female and male, respectively. The average age of single individuals in this research was 23 years old. Single individuals in this research were categorized into 20-50 age group, similar to married individuals. The age group of 20-30 included 98 individuals, constituting 71.5%. In the age group of 31 to 40 years, there were 28 individuals, making up 20.4% of the respondents. The age group of 41 to 50 years included two individuals, representing 1.4% of the total. Among the 136 single individuals, ten individuals did not disclose their age. More than 70% (71.5%) of the single respondents were between the ages of 20 to 30 years. The average age of married individuals in this research was 32 years old. Married individuals in this research were divided into age groups, with 33 individuals (19.1%) falling in the 20 to 30-year age group, 87 individuals (50.5%) in the 31 to 40-year age group, and 49 individuals (28.4%) in the 41 to 50-year age group. More than half (50.5%) of the married respondents were in the 31 to 40-year age group.

### Analytical findings

The social environment (network) suitable for marriage in the peripheral rural areas of Mashhad is investigated in this section. This variable is assessed using the question: “In what environment did you get to know your spouse (your chosen option for marriage)?” or “How did you get acquainted with your spouse (your chosen option for marriage)?” Table 1 shows the social environment of married individuals’ acquaintance with their spouse.

One-fourth of the married individuals got acquainted with their spouse through courtship, while 12.9% did so through intermediaries, and more than a third of them got married through “prior acquaintance.” Other methods of getting acquainted, such as family and social gatherings, workplace, university, virtual spaces, and online environments, each constituted less than 10% of the methods leading to marriage. In other words, three-fourths of marriages have resulted from courtship, intermediaries, and prior acquaintance. Marriages based on prior acquaintance refer to cases where the individual was familiar with their spouse through family or kinship relations, neighborly interactions, or pre-existing friendships. Such marriages were primarily conducted under parental supervision, including several conversations or visits to each other’s homes, ultimately leading to courtship and marriage.

The study then examined the relationship between the type and the environment of individuals’ acquaintance and their success in marriage in the peripheral rural areas of Mashhad. The results showed a significant relationship between the type and the environment of acquaintance with the success of marriages. Cross-tabulation Table 2 displays the relationship between the environment of acquaintance and the success of prior acquaintance-based marriages.

As shown in Table 2, 83.8% of individuals who got acquainted with someone during family gatherings with the intention of marriage ultimately married that person. In contrast, 16.2% of such acquaintances did not lead to marriage. In other words, the success rate of marriages in this acquaintance environment is 5.7 times higher than the failure rate. The chi-squared test demonstrated that the distribution of variables in this type of acquaintance is not random and is statistically significant.

Table 1. The environment of acquaintance of married people with their spouses in rural areas

Valid Percent	Percent	Frequency	Acquaintance environment	
36.3	36.0	62	Previous acquaintance	
24.0	23.8	41	Courtship	
12.9	12.8	22	Through the intermediary of familiarity	
9.9	9.9	17	Workplace	
5.8	5.8	10	University and place of study	Valid data
4.1	4.1	7	Friendly and family gatherings	
3.5	3.5	6	Public environments	
3.5	3.5	6	Cyberspace	
100	99.4	171	Total	
-	0.6	1	Systemic	Invalid data
-	100.00	172	Total	-

Reference: Research results, 2023

According to Table 2, in cases where individuals got acquainted during courtship ceremonies, 95.3% of them eventually got married to each other. In 4.7% of cases, the courtship ceremony did not lead to marriage. Furthermore, the marriage success rate in this group was 20.2 times higher. The chi-squared test confirmed the significance of the relationship between marriage success and acquaintance during courtship ceremonies.

There was a successful marriage in 40% of individuals who got acquainted for marriage in universities and educational institutions. However, the relationship between 60% of those who got acquainted in this environment did not lead to marriage. The marriage success rate was also 0.6, lower than the other two methods: proposals and family acquaintance. The Chi-square test does not confirm the relationship between marriage success and acquaintance in universities and educational institutions.

In virtual networks, 35.7% of relationships resulted in marriage. However, the Chi-square test does not confirm a relationship between marriage success and acquaintance in virtual spaces.

The marriage rate was 53.8% for individuals who got acquainted in social gatherings and family events, while 46.2% of these relationships did not lead to marriage. The marriage success rate in this context was 1.1. The Chi-square test does not confirm the relationship be-

tween marriage success and acquaintance in social gatherings and family events.

For individuals who got acquainted in the workplace, 68% of these relationships resulted in marriage (Table 2). The remaining 32% of these relationships did not end in marriage. Additionally, the marriage success rate in the workplace was 2.1. The Chi-square does not show the meaningful relationship between marriage success and acquaintance in the workplace.

35.3% of individuals who got acquainted in public places such as parks and restaurants eventually got married, while 64.7% of relationships formed in these environments, with the intention of marriage, failed. Furthermore, the marriage success rate in these environments was less than 1 (0.5). The Chi-square test does not confirm the significance of the relationship between marriage success and acquaintance in public places.

Another method of getting acquainted is through introductions by intermediaries. As visible in the table, 75.9% of individuals who got acquainted through an intermediary's introduction eventually got married, while 24.1% of those who got acquainted in this manner did not marry. Additionally, the marriage success rate in this type of acquaintance was 3.1. The Chi-square test showed the significant frequency distribution of variables in this type of acquaintance.

**Table 2.** Cross tabulation between Acquaintance environment marital Success

		Cross tabulation									
		Acquaintance environment								Total	
		Previous acquaintance	Courtship	University and place of study	Cyber-space	Friendly and family gatherings	Workplace	Public environments	Through the intermediary of familiarity		
Marriage	Yes	Count	62	41	10	5	7	17	6	22	170
		% within Acquaintance environment	83.8%	95.3%	40.0%	35.7%	53.8%	68.0%	35.3%	75.9%	70.8%
	No	Count	12	2	15	9	6	8	11	7	70
		% within Acquaintance environment	16.2%	4.7%	60.0%	64.3%	46.2%	32.0%	64.7%	24.1%	29.2%
Total	Count	74	43	25	14	13	25	17	29	240	
	% within Acquaintance environment	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	
	luck ratio	5.7	20.2	0.6	0.5	1.1	2.1	0.5	3.1		
	Chi-Square	64.059	35.372	1.000	1.143	.077	3.240	1.471	7.759		
	Asymp. Sig.	.000	.000	.317	.285	.782	.072	.225	.005		

Reference: Research results, 2023



Subsequently, the relationship between the level of family support and marriage success was examined based on a correlation test (Table 3).

The correlation test results showed that family support and marriage success have a coefficient of 0.431. This correlation is significant and generalizable to the population (sig=0.000). Therefore, the more support families provide for their children’s marriages, the higher the chances of success in marriage.

The correlation test results to examine parents’ relationship and marital success in peripheral rural areas of Mashhad showed an inverse relationship between parents and marital success (-0.117). This correlation is significant and generalizable to the statistical population (sig=0.042). This means that the better the relationships between parents, the lower the chances of success in marriage, and the more parents have differences or are separated from each other, the higher the chances of success in their children’s marriages.

Furthermore, the Pearson correlation test results examining the relationship between age and marital success in peripheral rural areas of Mashhad indicated a strong and positive relationship between age and marital success (0.610). This relationship was also significant and generalizable to the statistical population (sig=0.000). Thus, the higher the age, the higher the chances of success in marriage (Table 5).

Additionally, the Pearson correlation test results for investigating the relationship between education level and marital success in peripheral rural areas of Mashhad showed a relatively strong and inverse relationship between education level and marital success (0.285). This relationship was also significant and generalizable to the statistical population (sig=0.000). Therefore, the higher the individual’s level of education, the lower their chances of success in marriage (Table 6).

The relationships between the research variables (level of family support, method and environment of acquaintance, age, education level, and parents’ relationship) were examined using logistic regression.

**Table 3.** The relationship between the amount of family support and marital success in the rural areas of the Mashhad metropolis

		Correlations	
		Marriage	Family support
Marriage	Pearson Correlation	1	0.431**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	308	239
Family support	Pearson Correlation	0.431**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	239	239

\*\* Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Reference: Research results, 2023



**Table 4.** Relationship between parents’ relationship with each other and marital success in rural areas of Mashhad metropolis

		Correlations	
		Marriage	parents’ relationship
Marriage	Pearson Correlation	1	-.117*
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.042
	N	308	301
parents’ relationship	Pearson Correlation	-.117*	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.042	
	N	301	301

\* Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

Reference: Research results, 2023



**Table 5.** Relationship between age and marital success in rural areas of Mashhad metropolis

Correlations			
		Marriage	Age
Marriage	Pearson Correlation	1	.610**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	308	296
Age	Pearson Correlation	.610**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	296	296

\*\* Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Reference: Research results, 2023



**Table 6.** Relationship between education and marital success in rural areas of Mashhad metropolis

Correlations			
		Marriage	Education
Marriage	Pearson Correlation	1	-.285**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	308	307
Education	Pearson Correlation	-.285**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	307	307

\*\* Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Reference: Research results, 2023



**Table 7.** Multivariate relationships: logistic regression

Model Summary			
Step	likelihood	Cox & Snell R Square	Nagelkerke R Square
1	126.834a	.481	.689

a. Estimation terminated at iteration 7 because parameter estimates changed by less than .001.

Reference: Research results, 2023



**Table 8.** Regression results of research variables

Classification Tables					
Observed		Predicted			Percent
		Marriage			
		No	Yes		
Step 1	Marriage	No	52	15	77.6
		Yes	10	157	94.0
Total percentage					89.3

a. The cut value is .500

Reference: Research results, 2023



The regression results (Table 8) showed that 89.3% of the cases can be correctly predicted for the outcome of the relationship for the individual in question using the five variables. The adjusted determination coefficient of this regression test was 0.68, meaning that the five independent research variables collectively explained 68% of the variance in the dependent variable (marital success). Also, 94% and 77.7% of cases can be predicted correctly for marital success and failure, respectively.

## 5. Discussion

This study aimed to validate the factors influencing successful marriage, emphasizing social networks in the peripheral rural areas of Mashhad. Every marriage in rural areas takes place within a network or framework. Even if an individual has suitable conditions, they may face difficulties choosing a spouse and getting married if they are not integrated into an appropriate interactive network.

In this study, which focuses on examining background factors that affect the success of marriage, emphasizing the role of social networks in rural areas, 314 individuals (both single and married) were interviewed through questionnaires. The methods of acquaintance (with their spouse or marriage partner), interaction and capacity within social networks, and parental involvement and support were among the topics explored.

The findings primarily indicated that family and kinship relationships continue to play a significant and influential role in promoting marriage. In more than one-third of the marriages in this research, the initial acquaintance through familial, kinship, and neighborly connections highlights the importance of the family relationship network. More than 80% (83.8%) of individuals who interacted with each other through these channels experienced successful marriages. Furthermore, the traditional courtship and the associated relationship networks still serve as essential factors in shaping marriages. One-quarter of the marriages in this study occurred through traditional courtship. Acquaintance during the engagement ceremonies was predominantly (95.3%) associated with successful marriages. Intermediary acquaintances, which previously were predominantly related to family groups, may facilitate acquaintance between two individuals regardless of their families, playing a significant role in the success of people's marriages. Nearly 13% of the marriages in this study occurred through intermediary acquaintances. The acquaintance and interaction through intermediaries accompanied more than three-

fourths (75.9%) of the marriage cases. These findings indicate the role of family institutions in the marriage.

It was found that family support positively impacts marriage success in rural areas around Mashhad. The more support an individual receives from their family, the greater their chances of a successful marriage. As expected, a strong positive correlation exists between family support for a person's marriage and their success. This correlation can be generalized to the entire population.

In rural areas, a reverse correlation was observed between the relationship of parents with each other and an individual's success in marriage. This means that individuals whose parents lack a harmonious relationship or are separated from each other have a higher success rate in marriage, particularly in the context of romantic relationships and friendships. Analyzing this finding, it can be inferred that individuals whose parents primarily have differences or have separated from each other are dealing with a form of mutual abandonment. Due to post-separation issues, parents may be unable to provide their children with the necessary attention. So, the child may advance their marital matters independently and without consulting their parents, and the family may have less active participation.

Furthermore, a positive correlation was observed between age and marital success in the peripheral rural areas of Mashhad. It is evident that individuals who have not yet fully reached the age of marriage have not married are evaluating their options. However, there was an inverse relationship between education and marital success. In other words, the higher the level of education, the lower the likelihood of marriage. Highly educated individuals have limited options for selecting a spouse because suitable individuals in their educational context are reduced.

The results showed that the five variables, family support, method and environment of acquaintance, age, education, and the relationship between parents, can explain marital success in peripheral rural areas of Mashhad, and the five variables can predict the outcome of pre-marital relationships correctly in 89.3% of cases.

The results of this study are consistent with the findings of Khorshidi Zaglojeh et al. (2018), Tajabadi Farahani et al. (2019), and Kouladoun and Ngouhou (2020).

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## Conflict of Interest

The authors declared no conflicts of interest.

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