

## **Sociological Analysis of Social Modernization and Its Impact on Forming a Family of Educated Youth (Case Study of Students of Golestan Province)**

Mostafa Khosravi <sup>\*1</sup>

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### ***Abstract***

This article seeks to analyze the sociological dimension of social modernization and its effect on family formation among university students in Golestan province. This article is based on data gathered by a survey on 400 young educated students, 18 to 50 years old, from all levels of university education in Golestan province. The stratified random sampling method based on a given volume was used. Required information was collected by a valid and reliable questionnaire. Research findings show that there is a relationship between modernization and family formation. The indices of fit of goodness indicate that the overall effect of modernization of society on the family is approved. This means that people in the life of the factors modernization of society to further the work of slaves have, factors a family in it, and the more you than the other people have been . In other words, marriage and attitudes toward marriage modern than it had been . Although the arrival of some dimensions modernization of social change in a number of areas in the style of life of the people has changed, yet the population under study, compared to the resources of this change and its consequences ( at the level of the individual and society ) are open sighted knowledge and Of particular sensitivity .

***Keywords:*** modernization, social modernization, family, family formation

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<sup>1,\*</sup> Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences, Payame Noor University, Iran, zm.khosravi89@gmail.com

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## **Introduction**

Most sociologists in the field of social change believe that it can be said with certainty that, at no historical juncture, the values and attitudes of individuals and social groups within societies have changed as rapidly as they do today. In parallel to the widespread environmental and structural changes, the value system of societies also responds to it and undergoes a transformation. This is especially true for societies that have experienced modernization processes imported from top to bottom, as traditional and new value systems emerge as rapidly as environmental and structural changes occur and conflict with each other (Roostai, 2006). Therefore, the future of the family, its survival or its collapse, has always been a major concern for sociologists. It seems that the many changes that have taken place in almost all dimensions and functional-family aspects of the family, especially in industrialized countries, are one of the most important causes of these concerns (Azad Armaki, et al., 2002). The results of many studies in Iranian society show that Iranians have changed their values and attitudes (Abdollahian, 1383; Ahmadnia & Mehriar, 2004; Azad Armaki, et al., 2000). One of the areas that has been strongly influenced by attitudinal and value changes is the values around the institution of family and marriage. Extensive research has been done on family and marriage in Iran and around the world. In the meantime, Abbasi Shawazi & McDonald (2007) have emphasized the dominant role of community institutions in changing family patterns and have shown that some characteristics of the Iranian family have changed during the period of society's impact on industrialization and modernization processes. However, some of these traits have also had undeniable continuity (marriage to a relative). Azad Armaki, et al. (2001) and Azad Armaki (2001) have studied the impact of socio-cultural changes on the internal structure of the family as well as intergenerational differences by examining three generations. The results of these surveys have shown that although some of the traditions and values that govern the family and their attitudes toward them have changed over the generations (how to spend their leisure time, dating, interests and needs, and considering family life), but a number of common features are also observed in three generations (Abbasi Shawazi & Torabi, 2006). In addition, other researches on family change in Iran include the study of the structure of family power (Lajevardi, 1997), the transformation of the extended family to nuclear (Sayyed Rabi, 2000), the study of social and cultural developments over three generations, the Tehrani family (Azad Armaki, et al., 2000), the changes in the level and process of kinship marriage (Abbasi Shawazi & Torabi, 2006), the continuity and change of the family in the context of demographic transition (Sarai, 2007). Outside Iran, studies of family change have also been carried out. For example, scholars such as Thornton, et al. (2004), Seltzer, et al. (2005), Lestach (1983), Lestach and Sorkyn (2002), McDonald (2006) study changes in the contemporary system of family planning and the underlying factors have focused on the development and modernization paradigm. These studies have emphasized that the contemporary world is influenced by the elements and process of reconstruction in the contemporary world, using different theoretical and methodological approaches. And it has also undergone a great deal of

functional transformation, with the traditional configuration of the family system being replaced in its modern form.

Current evidence suggests that some of the trends and phenomena that have led to the transformation of families in Western societies in recent decades have now emerged to varying degrees in the Iranian family (Jamshidi, et al., 2012). Understanding the indicators, characteristics, and challenges of marriage can help the country's cultural officials and authorities to get out of the situation in decision-making, planning and policy-making. It is also possible to predict their future behaviors by examining the attitudes of the younger generation toward family formation and ideals of spouse selection (Ahmadnia & Mehriar, 2004). This study aims to investigate the impact of social Modernization on marriage process change among students in Golestan province. Given the lack of any quantitative and detailed research in this area and the lack of qualitative research in Iran, the approach of this paper will be exploratory. The most basic theoretical assumption accepted in this regard is that: the ability to change and the desire to change must be one of the most important components of Iranian society as a modern part of Iran, and in particular in social institutions such as the family (marriage). With this explanation, identifying family and marriage developments in Iran (in particular students), while it may be considered theoretical, will help answer the many questions raised in the context of social change in Iran (Azad Armaki, et al., 2002). Therefore, the main question in this research is: How has the marriage process changed in regard to social modernization? In other words, how has social modernization affected the marriage process in Golestan province students?

### **Research Literature**

This section provides a review of sociological studies of family and marriage in Iran, identifying its history, developments, issues and disputes, both in terms of its status in human and Iranian society and in its role in modernizing human production in Iran.

The author of the book "*Studying Marriage Changes*" (Mahdavi, 1998) deals with the problems of youth marriage in Tehran. The influence of various influencing factors including individual, family, reference group, social base, values, expectations, relative deprivation feeling, and leisure time is studied.

Aazazi (1997) studies family sociology, with emphasis on the role, structure and function of the family in contemporary times, discusses the characteristics of the modern family and the interplay of community and family. In this book, family theories and specific features of the extended family (including three generations and more) are expressed and the causes of life in the extended family are addressed.

In the "*Introduction to Family Sociology*" (Sarukhani, 1991), the evolution of the institution of the family, its types, the role and function of its members, its rituals and its internal relations, etc. from its earliest formation to the present day, are studied and explained. Cases have also been cited on the results of field research.

Zahedi, et al. (2014) have examined the "*Process of Modernization and the Emergence of New Issues in the Family*". According to researchers over the past few

decades, the family institution has faced new issues, some of which represent progress, prosperity, and others reflecting traumatic social issues that, as deterrents, slow the pace of development in society. The findings suggest in urban areas, the relationship between the process of modernization and the attitude toward divorce and family betrayal is meaningful, but in rural areas, this relationship is not significant.

Abbasi Shavazi and Torabi (2006) studied "*Inter-generational differences of kinship marriage in Iran*". The findings of this study suggest that intergenerational differences in individual characteristics did not lead to a decline in desirability and prevalence of kinship marriage among the second generation.

Thorne (2003), in his study of the "*Transition of the Family from the Traditional to the Modern*" explores the forces that influence the change or retention of family patterns. In his view, two types of opposing forces act in relation to the family. Factors that resist change, such as religion, familyism, and political status, and factors that drive change, such as the effects of world culture. As a result, the face of these family changes can be seen in the phenomena of marriage, divorce, fertility, and new formulations of the family.

Hirschman & Minh (2002), in their study of "*The Impact of Modernization on the Spatial Form of Family Fathering in Vietnam*", concluded that despite the process of modernization and the prevalence of non-farming jobs and the rising age of marriage, this type of family pattern changed. It has not become tangible, meaning that intergenerational residence for modernized societies has still maintained its function.

Malhotra and Tsui (1996) also examined the impact of modernization factors on marriage in Sri Lanka and found that modern ideas and norms play a decisive role in Sri Lankan women's marriage.

A review of the empirical literature of research at home and abroad implies that the present study deals with the subject with a slightly refined approach, while previous studies have focused solely on family structure, and less on the issue of marriage. And the marriage process has changed in Iranian society. However, the common aspect of research done on the subject is that contemporary marriage have experienced unprecedented changes and the process of developments is still ongoing, and this commonality in the present study is also the basic default and has been accepted.

### **Theoretical Framework**

The founders and scholars of the modernization school, such as Smelser, Hauslitz, and Eisenstadt discuss the early drivers of modernization, and in particular the process of "structural differentiation" as one of the most important results of the work on patterns. Modernization has been emphasized (Zahedi Mazandarani, 2003). Modernization means the process of modernization. Modernization in general terms means specialization, rationalization, planning, or general progress. Modernization is a multidimensional process that implies a change in all areas of human thought and activity. The main aspects of modernization include urbanization, industrialization, secularization, democracy (democratization), education and access to mass media (Ibid: 11).

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Given that the basis of this study is to investigate the changes in the marriage process and its impact on some elements of Modernization. Therefore, in order to study the impact of modernization on family structure, we try to use modernization theories that have addressed the issue of transition and change in the modernization process. Structural explanations of family change emphasize the changing social, economic, and political structure of society. Structural changes are mainly explained by indicators of industry growth, urbanization, education, income and consumption, transport and communication, and various forms of new technologies (Jaya Kodi, et al., 2007).

Different theoretical approaches have been proposed to explain the process of marriage, including modernization and exchange theories. Modernization theory forms the theoretical basis for much of the research on changes in the family system. William J. Goode (1963) and Peter C. Smith (1980), for example, have examined the impact of modernization on family structural change around the world and have found that the process of modernization, industrialization, and urbanization alters traditional family structure and family development. New European types have been introduced around the world. In this process, the role of the kinship network in family relationships and marriage customs has changed, and there are no mutual requirements between couples and the kinship network. Free choice of spouse, early agreement between husband and wife, and the need for mutual interest between them are the result of family adaptation to modern living conditions (Kanani, 2006). The modernization perspective emphasizes the structural changes of societies, linking family changes to structural changes in social life in line with the emergence of new social forces (i.e. industrialization, urbanization, public education, etc.), and the evolution of marriage and family organization.

In the process of modernization, divisions, disruptions, and weaknesses arise between socially correlated factors, and individuals appear as separate atoms seeking their maximum personal gain, that is, personal concerns. Collective and ethnic interests take precedence, and the shift in people's ideas toward secularity, materialism, individualism and isolationism, ideological pluralism, relativity, changeability, and tolerance takes place, and the family becomes the central person. At the same time, there is some adaptation in marriage and family patterns to new circumstances. This is why Westoff (1978) argues that "*Marriage and Family Transformations*" are signs and symbols of social change. Because economic and social developments in society are associated with the decline of traditional and religious authority, the dissemination and spread of rationality and individualism, universal education for both sexes, increasing gender equality, increasing the likelihood of child survival, and promoting and expanding consumer culture (Weeks, 2002). William Good (1963) also refers to the impact of modernization on the family and marriage patterns by introducing the idea of a 'world revolution in family patterns'. McDonald (2006) also emphasizes the impact of the family on social liberalism (rethinking modernization) and new economic capitalism.

### Parsons Pattern Variables

For traditional and modern societies, Parsons proposes the concept of "model variables". Model variables are important social relationships that are within the context of the cultural system - the most transcendent and most important system within the Parsons theoretical framework - and are enduring and reproducible (Su, 1999). According to Parsons, pattern variables are realities that are universal and reflect the influence of the tectonic features of each social system on individual behavior. Parsons draws on these variables by drawing on the two-sided classifications of the classics, especially the idea of "Tunis" (Azkia, 1998). Parsons, in his famous "Social System," proposes five variables as conceptual pairs. These five conceptual pairs are: 1. Being Emotional - Emotional Impartiality, 2. Self-orientation, 3. Generalism – Specificism, 4. Achievement – Assignment, 5. Feature – Playback (cited in Zahedi Mazandarani, 2003)

Table 1. Parsons Pattern Variables

Modern	Pre-modern	pattern variables
Being neutral	Being emotional	Being emotional - being neutral
Orientation towards yourself	Orientation towards the collective	Orientation
Generalism	Specialism	Generalism - Specialism
Achievement	Assignment	Achievement - Assignment
Feature	Playback	Feature - Playback

### Structural Differentiation of Smelser

Smelser explores structural changes in a structural-functional approach. In his view, social change theory must determine the changes and the causes of this change. He distinguishes between the three concepts of process, cross-sectional, and structural change. In an advanced society, he argues, the functional separation of tectonic elements is fully realized, but the undeveloped community lacks such a separation. Thus, change is focused on segregation and is a process in which independent and specialized social units continue in place of previous units (Papeli Yazdi, 2007). In his view, modernization is about the technical, economic, and ecological changes that are all disciplines that come from within the whole of society and culture. From his point of view, in a society that is undergoing a process of modernization, we can see changes in the following territories. In the realm of politics, tribal and village authority systems are replaced by formal administrative and political systems. In the field of education, society strives to reduce illiteracy and increase economically productive skills. In the family domain, large units of kinship are losing their breadth (Azkia, 2008). Smelser places the most emphasis on structural change among the three conceptions of social change. He discusses the areas in which social processes are shaped and that lead to structural change:

1. In technology: switching from simple and traditional techniques to applying scientific knowledge
2. In agriculture: the evolution of agriculture is from subsistence to commercial production of agricultural products on the market and often agricultural

pay 3. In the industry: the transition from the use of animal and human labor to machine learning. 4. In ecological arrangements, shifting the location and movement of farms and villages to urban centers. These processes often influence social structure in similar ways. All lead to structural changes whose consequences flow throughout society (Smelser, 1963). Smelser believes that large kin units have expanded following the modernization process.

For Smelser, modernization generally involves structural differentiation, because in this process, a complex structure that performs multiple functions is divided into multiple specialized structures, each of which only performs a specific task. This new set of specialized structures generally performs the same tasks as the original structure, except that functions in their new context are performed much more efficiently than before. In modern society, the institution of the family is structurally differentiated. The family has also lost many of its past duties in the new era (Su, 2007). Several related processes have been associated with this structural differentiation and the removal of the family from constraints, such as: 1. In-family training is reduced, 2. Stress against family involvement in workforce management and management increases, 3. Direct oversight of older adults and relatives with the nuclear family is weakened. This situation in structural language reflects the nuclear family's distinction from the extended family. One aspect of this decline in control is the growth of personal choice, the love of its associated statuses as a basis for love or marriage. Structurally, this means the separation of love and marriage from extended kinship. Complex processes are the changing base of women who will no longer be economically, politically and socially obedient to their husbands than in the past (Smelser, 1963 cited in Zahedi et al., 2013). Smelser's theory classifies and examines social change in different areas of the family and kinship system. In his view, the process of social change is structural transformation and functional coordination, meaning that the social structures and functions corresponding to them change and the structures and functions that coincide with them emerge (Vago, 2003). According to Smiles, structural transformations have a holistic character. Thus, change in each dimension of social structure affects the structure and function of other dimensions (Smelser, 1973).

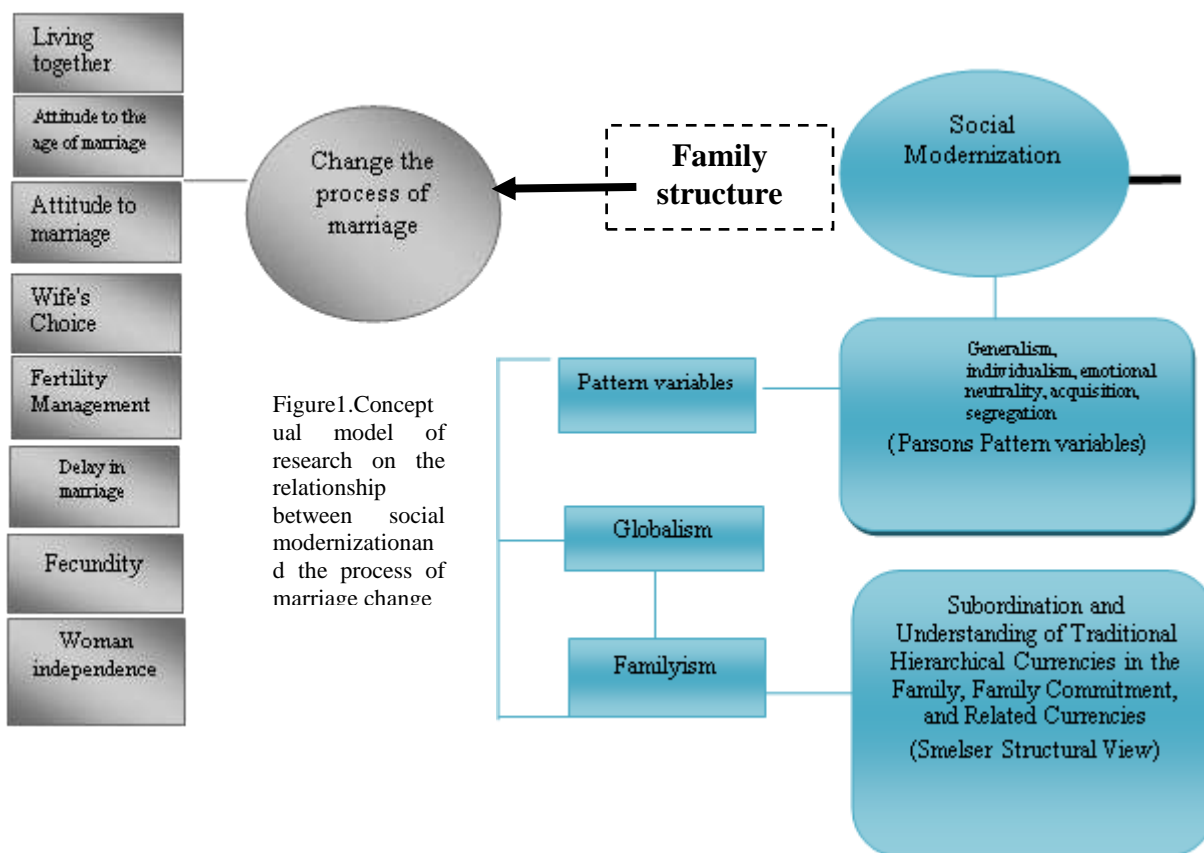


Figure 1. Conceptual model of research on the relationship between social modernization and the process of marriage change

### Research Method

The research method is survey and a questionnaire technique with interview was used to collect data. The statistical population of the study includes all students studying in the universities of Golestan province including state universities, Azad university, and Payam Noor, in the second half of the academic year of 1976-1979, the number of which is 73038, according to the latest statistics (Statistical Yearbook of Golestan Province, 2016). Of these, 39909 are male students and 33129 are female students. To select the sample size, Cochran's general formula was used. According to the formula 382 students were selected. This number has been increased to 400 students to increase confidence in results and reduce measurement error. The sample-to-community ratio was then calculated for each university separately, and in the end the ratio would be multiplied by the number of students in each university (the proportional selection method) in this sampling fraction. It is specific to each class and in the previous example the classes are equal to:

$$\frac{n_h}{N_h} \quad n_h = N_h \left( \frac{n}{N} \right) \quad \longrightarrow \quad \begin{aligned} N1 &= (382/73038) * 10992 = 48/57 \\ N2 &= (382/73038) * 28144 = 147 \\ N3 &= (382/73038) * 9783 = 51 \end{aligned}$$



According to the method of selecting individuals in the proportional allocation classes, 58 questionnaires were distributed among students of the universities of the Ministry of Science, Research and Technology, 147 questionnaires at Islamic Azad University, 51 at non-profit university, 41 questionnaires in applied science university, 49 questionnaires in Payame Noor University. Nine questionnaires were distributed at the Technical and Vocational University and 28 questionnaires at Farhangian University. Content validity (face validity) was used to calculate the validity of the questionnaire. Initially, the initial research questionnaire was designed and the face validity of the questionnaire was prepared by a survey of social science professors and experts. Cronbach's alpha coefficient was used to calculate index reliability. The results regarding the reliability of the questionnaire indices show that the social Modernization variable (0.87) and the dependent variable of the marriage process (0.81) were reliable.

**Table 2. Statistical Population and Statistical Sample of Research**

Statistical Sample Number			Number of student population			University name	Row
total	female	male	total	female	male		
58	34	24	1,992	742	1,250	Ministry of Science, Research and Technology (Public and Daily Universities)	1
147	71	76	2,144	1,177	967	Islamic Azad university	2
51	20	31	978	370	608	Nonprofit university	3
41	21	20	1,827	219	1,608	University of Applied Sciences	4
49	31	18	932	73	859	Payam Noor university	5
9	3	6	1,099	71	928	Technical University	6
28	12	16	531	237	294	farhangian University	7
383	182	201	13,388	3,319	10,069	total	8

The main research hypotheses have been tested using structural equation modeling. Using this technique helps the researcher to deal with the main variables involved in the hypothesis as hidden variables and interferes with measurement errors in estimating the parameters related to the hypothesis test. 21 SPSS software and version 1/8 of LISREL software were used.

Table 3. Cronbach's alpha

Cronbach's alpha coefficients		Number of items	Subscales	scale
scale	Subscales			
<b>0.81</b>	<b>0.84</b>	1	Family	<b>Change the process of marriage</b>
	<b>0.81</b>	2	Living together	
	<b>0.80</b>	4	Attitude to marriage	
	<b>0.79</b>	5	Delay in marriage	
	<b>0.82</b>	3	Independent	
	<b>0.74</b>	3	Fertility	
	<b>0.83</b>	2	Fecundity	
	<b>0.79</b>	3	Wife's Choice	
<b>0.87</b>	<b>0.91</b>	3	Universalism	<b>Social modernization</b>
	<b>0.87</b>	7	Individualism	
	<b>0.86</b>	11	Emotional neutrality	
	<b>0.90</b>	6	Acquisition	
	<b>0.86</b>	5	Separation	
	<b>0.91</b>	5	Globalism	
	<b>0.81</b>	6	Familyism	

### Dimensions of Dependent Variable (Marriage Process)

Marriage is a process of interaction between two persons, a man and a woman (Sarukhani, 1370, p. 23). Marriage as a social center that has expectations, rules, beliefs and customs, marriage is in fact a structure or a model that continuously influences women and their husbands and shapes their behavior (Mohseni, 2003, p. 78). The process is a sequence of changes that occur in the properties of a system or object that can occur naturally or be planned (Wikipedia: Process Topic). Thus, the marriage process is a sequence of conscious and unconscious changes in the laws, beliefs and expectations of individuals in the three stages of marriage: before, during marriage, and after marriage (Turner, 1991).

In the modern era, the nature and forms of marriage affected by industrialization are experiencing a slow pace in developing societies, and the process is experiencing dramatic changes in this regard. From a social psychologist's point of view, the process change does not occur abruptly without any interactions, but the adoption and formation of a particular process can be the result of various factors over time (Willoughby, et al., 2013). Following changes in the normative system of society, changes in values, and the expansion of urbanization, the elimination of restrictions on relations between the two sexes has decreased, which in turn has affected many behavioral patterns, family values, and norms in society ( Sheikh, 2003, p. 54-53).

In this research, we change the process of marriage based on eight dimensions: 1. Attitude to marriage 2. Attitude to marriage age (delay in marriage age) 3. Selecting a spouse 4. Women's autonomy 5. Fertility management 6. Attitudes toward childbearing 7. Number of families 8. Living together has been measured.

**Table 4: Dimensions and components of the dependent variable (marriage process)**

Operating		Dimensions	Variable
Likert scale	Romantic marriage, one must marry, dating a girl and boy before marriage, marrying a family member, being single better than being married, living a better life than single	Attitude to marriage	The process of marriage
Interval scale	Appropriate age for boy marriage, appropriate age for girl marriage and marriage age	Attitude to marriage age	
Nominal scale	Family spouse selection, spouse selection, sufficient knowledge of men and women	Wife's Choice	
Likert scale	Independence of women, employment of women and having a separate bank account	Independence	
Likert scale&Interval scale	The need to have a baby after marriage, the optimal number of children	Fertility	
Likert scale	Having more children, fewer children, and more son preference	Fecundity	
Nominal scale	Number of family members	Family	
Nominal scale	Living with family after marriage, living with family members in the same place	Living together	

### Dimensions of independent variable (social Modernization)

The social Modernization variables include the dimensions of socialism (Likert / Hensel, 2001), individualism (Likert / Behravan & Alizadeh, 2007), emotional neutrality (Likert / Ahmadi spectrum, 2011; Zahedi et al., 2013 / Parsons et al. Schiller, 1962), Acquisition (Likert / Ahmadi Spectrum, 2011; Zahedi et al., 2013 / Parsons: Same), Separation (Likert / Ahmadi Spectrum, 1390; Zahedi et al., 2013 / Parsons: Same), Globalism (Robertson, 2006). Giddens, 1999; Inglehart, 2005) and family orientation (in terms of family values in the Likert spectrum) known as model variables (Azkia & Ghaffari, 1998)

## Findings

### 1) Descriptive findings

46.8% of the respondents were female and 53.2% were male. 130 people (33.1%) between 17 to 23 years; 160 people (40.7%) between 23 to 29 years; 57 people (14.5%) between 29 to 35 years; 13 people (3.3%) between 35 to 41 years and 33 people (33%). 8.4%) were 41 years and older. The highest frequency was in the age group of 23-29 years (160 persons and 40.7%) and the lowest frequency was in the age group of 41-35 years (13 persons and 3.3%). The lowest age was 17 years and the highest age was 50 It's been years. The mean age of the respondents is 26.23 years. 115 (29.3%) were postgraduates, 222 were bachelors (56.5%), 36 masters (9.2%), 16 were PhDs and higher (4.1%). The highest rate and percentage belonged to bachelor's degree holders (222 persons, 56.5%). 49 students (12.5%) were selected from Payame Noor University and 18 were male. Of the Islamic Azad University, 147 students (37.4% / 86 boys and 61 girls), 58 other universities (14.8% / 22 boys and 36 girls), 51

non-profit universities (13% / 31 boys and 20 girls), Applied Science University, 51 Students (13% / 30 boys and 21 girls), Farhangian University, 28 students (7.1% / 16 boys and 12 girls) and Vocational Technical University, 9 students (2.3% / 6 boys and 3 girls) were selected. The highest frequency was related to Islamic Azad University with 147 (37.4%) samples and the lowest frequency was with technical and vocational university with 9 (2.3%) samples. Descriptive findings are also the main independent variables of the research as follows:

**Table 5. Descriptive statistics related to social modernization**

Sig	t	F	beta	B	Variable	Level
./000	۳.۸۴	۵۳.۲۳	./۲۱۷	./۹۴	Emotional neutrality	1
./0۲۹	۲.۱۹	۲۴.۵۴	./۱۰۹	./۷۴	Separation	2
./0۲۶	۲.۲۴	۳۷.۵۹	./۱۰۸	./۳۹۷	Acquisition	3
./0۱۳	۲.۴۹	۲۷.۳۵	./۱۲	./۴۷۵	Universalism	4
./0۰۲	۳.۰۸	۳۷.۲۱	./۱۶۵	./۳۵۴	Individualism	5
./0۳۷	۲.۸۶	۲۹.۳۷	./۱۴۳	./۵۴۷	Globalism	6
./000	۹.۳۸	۸۸.۰۳	./۴۵۹	۱.۴۲	Familyism	7
SED = ۲.۴۶			R = ۰/۴۳۶		F = ۴۱.۹۳	
			Sig(F) = ۰/000		R2 = ۰/۱۹۰	
			Adjusted R2 = ۰/۱۸۸			

**Table 6. Spearman's Correlation Between Dimensions, Components, and the Concept of Social Modernization with the Marriage Process**

Variable	N	Min	Max	Mean	S.E
Universalism	393	1	5	3.05	0.82
Individualism	393	1	5	2.97	0.66
Emotional neutrality	393	1	5	2.77	0.60
Acquisition	393	1	5	2.27	0.72
Separation	393	1	5	3.17	0.61
Globalism	393	1	5	3.46	0.72
Familyism	393	1	5	3.50	0.84
Social Modernization	393	1	4.48	3.27	0.38

## 2) Inferential Findings

According to Table 6, as can be seen, all indicators of social modernization have a direct and positive relationship with the change in the marriage process. Overall, there is a significant relationship between social modernization and marriage process changes. The correlation coefficient of this variable with marriage process changes is 0.42 and this correlation is significant at the significant level of 0.000. The process of marrying people is increasing and people's attitudes are becoming more modern.

**Table 7. Summary of Regression Model of Factors Affecting Dependent Variables**

Social Modernization	Familyism	Globalism	Separation	Acquisition	Emotional neutrality	Individualism	Universalism	Variable
<b>0.41</b>	0.31	0.33	0.48	0.36	0.48	0.33	0.34	<b>Correlation</b>
<b>0.000</b>	0.000	0.014	0.000	0.01	0.000	0.000	0.004	<b>Significance</b>

**Multivariate Hypothesis Test: Multiple Regression Test**

Using multivariate regression, the researcher can study the linear relationship between a set of independent variables with a dependent variable in a way that the existing relationships among independent variables are also considered. The task of regression is to help explain the variance of the dependent variable, and this task is partly accomplished by estimating the participation of variables (two independent variables) in this variance (Curlinger, 1998). For multivariate analysis, multiple regression tests Stepwise variables were used. For this purpose, we first analyzed the variable that had the highest correlation with the dependent variable (emotional neutrality). In this method, we enter variables into the model one at a time and until the significance of the variable reaches 95% (Mansourfar, 2006). Multivariate analysis was performed to statistically control the relationships. By doing this analysis, the familiarity variable gained particular prominence, being able to have the highest share in the dependent variable ,0.459. Thus from the hypotheses presented, in the multivariate regression analysis, all the hypotheses are confirmed and the independent variables of these hypotheses together account for about 46% of the dependent variable changes (Table 7). Changes in the marriage process among university students in Golestan province are caused by other factors that need to be explained.

**Modeling the Variable Structural Equations of the Marriage Process Change**

Structural equation modeling and LISREL software were used to test the hypotheses. In this method, the values of IFI, CFI, NFI, GFI, AGFI are between zero and one, and the closer one is, the better the fit of the model with the observed data (Hooman, 2005). The causal relationship model is reflected in the structural equation model of the effect of social change on the components of marriage process change in Figures 2, 3, and 4.

Figure 2. Estimated Software Chart

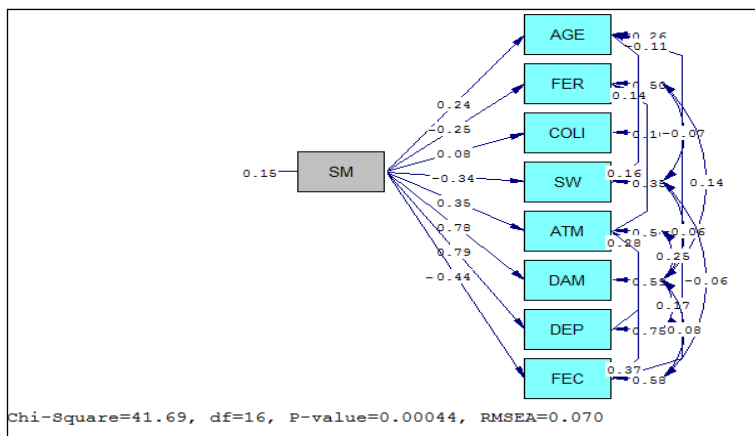
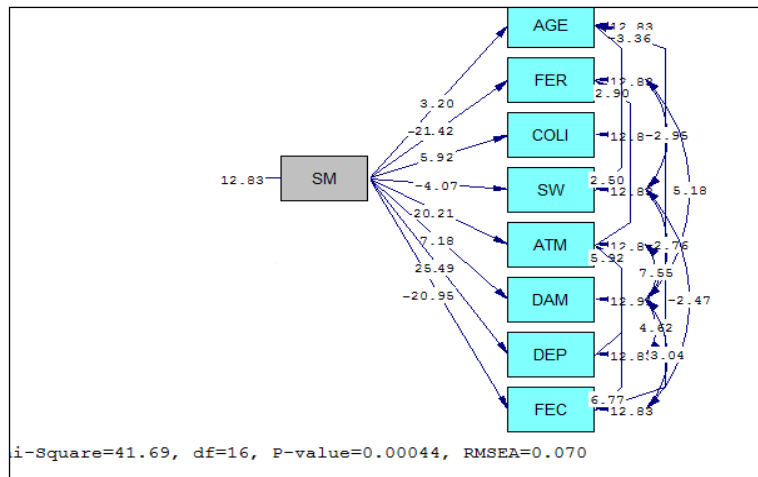
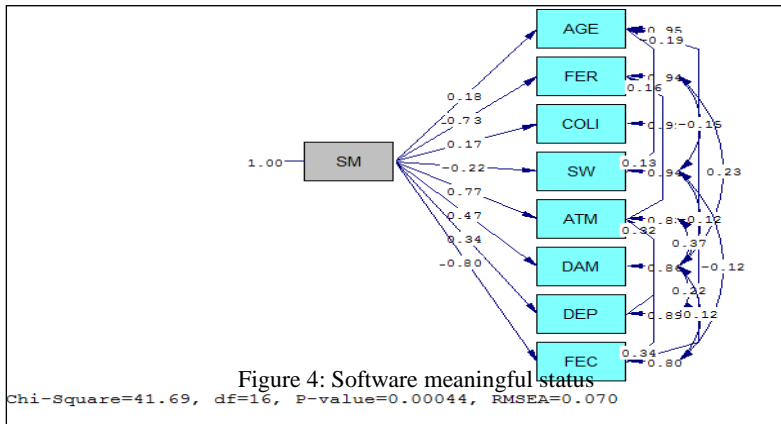


Figure 3. Standard Software Icon



AGE=Attitude to the age of marriage	DAM=Delay in marriage	ATM=Attitude to marriage	FEC=Fecundity
FER=Fertility	SW=Wife's Choice	DEP=Independent	COLI=Living together
SM=Social Modernization			

Diagram 4 shows the model in a significant way. As shown in this figure, all the coefficients obtained from the items are significant. According to the diagram above, it can be seen that the significant values for all indices are greater than 1.96 and -1.96 and as a result these indices are significant. Diagram 3 of the whole questionnaire

measurement model in standard estimation mode shows that since the second root value estimation of the RMSEA approximation error variance for the research measurement models is reported less than 0.08, with diagram 3, it is clear that all Model indices are significant in statistical analysis. It can be concluded that the above model fits well with real-world data, ie, in the overall structural equation model, the effect of social process variableization on the components of student marriage process change has been confirmed and fits meaningfully. The results of Table 8 regarding the impact of social modernization variable on variable components of marriage process among university students are as follows: In all hypotheses, the t-value is greater than the standard coefficient, which indicates the magnitude of this value, is approximately median. The magnitude of this effect was negative in the three variables of childbearing, spouse selection and fertility behavior and in other variables.

**Table 8: Research hypotheses test, independent variable of social Modernization**

The result of the hypothesis	T value	Standard coefficient	Hypothesis	
Verification	3.20	0.18	The process of social Modernization has a significant effect on attitude toward "marriage age."	ϑ
Verification	21.42	-0.73	The process of social Modernization has a significant impact on the attitude toward "child-rearing."	ϒ
Verification	5.92	0.17	The process of social Modernization has a significant impact on the attitude of "living with multiple generations."	ϓ
Verification	-4.07	-0.22	The process of social Modernization has a significant impact on attitude toward "spouse choice."	ϔ
Verification	20.21	0.77	The process of social Modernization has a significant impact on the attitude toward "marriage."	ϕ
Verification	7.18	0.47	The process of social Modernization has a significant impact on the attitude of "postponing marriage."	ϕ
Verification	25.49	0.34	The process of social Modernization has a significant impact on "women's independence."	ϗ
Verification	20.95	-0.80	The process of social Modernization has a significant effect on attitude and fertility behavior.	Ϙ

The results of Table 8 on the impact of social modernization variable on variable components of marriage process among students in the province are as follows:

**Hypothesis 1:** The process of social modernization has a significant effect on attitude toward marriage age. It shows that the value of t is 3.20 and this is a large value of level 2; also its positive intensity is positive and equals 0.18

**Hypothesis 2:** The process of social modernization has a significant effect on the attitude toward childbearing. It shows that the value of t is 21.42 and this is a large value; also its intensity is negative and is -0.73.

**Hypothesis 3:** The process of social modernization has a significant impact on attitudes to living with multiple generations. It shows that the value of t is 5.92 and this is a large value of level 2; its positive intensity is also positive and equals 0.17.

**Hypothesis 4:** The process of social modernization has a significant effect on attitude toward spouse choice. It shows that the t -value is equal to 4.07 and this value is large at level 2; also its intensity is negative and equals -0.22.

**Hypothesis 5:** The process of social modernization has a significant effect on attitudes to marriage. It shows that the value of  $t$  is 20.21 and this is a large value of level 2; also its intensity is positive and is 0.77.

**Hypothesis 6:** The process of social modernization has a significant effect on the attitude of postponing marriage. It shows that the value of  $t$  is 7.18 and that is the magnitude of level 2; also its intensity is positive and moderate and is 0.47.

**Hypothesis 7:** The process of social modernization has a significant impact on women's independence. It shows that the value of  $t$  is 25.49 and that is the big value of level 2; also its intensity is positive and moderate and is 0.34.

**Hypothesis 8:** The process of social modernization has a significant effect on attitude and fertility behavior. It shows that the value of  $t$  is 20.95 and this is a large value of level 2; also its intensity is negative and is -0.80.

**Table 9: Model fit properties**

Model fit index	Value
(NFI) <sup>1</sup>	<b>0.90</b>
(NNFI) <sup>2</sup>	<b>0.89</b>
(CFI) <sup>3</sup>	<b>0.91</b>
(IFI) <sup>4</sup>	<b>0.94</b>
(GFI) <sup>5</sup>	<b>0.92</b>
(AGFI) <sup>6</sup>	<b>0.90</b>
(RMSEA) <sup>7</sup>	<b>0.076</b>
<sup>8</sup> $\chi^2$	<b>41.69</b>
$\frac{\chi^2}{df}$	<b>2.605</b>

## Discussion and conclusion

In recent years, the Iranian family has been affected by the modernization process and its implications, including changes in economic construction, migration of rural families to the city, the growth of public and specialized education to take up new industrial and service jobs, the prevalence of urbanization, cultural diffusion. It has experienced relatively significant transformations in terms of structure, function and social and cultural values (Kazemi & Niazi, 2010). The purpose of this study was to investigate the impact of social modernization on marriage process change among university students in Golestan province. Data were collected through a cross-sectional survey in Golestan province and information on 400 students from universities in Golestan province was analyzed. The experience of modern life in the fields of

<sup>1</sup> . Normed Fit Index

<sup>2</sup> . Non-Normed Fit Index

<sup>3</sup> . Comparative Fit Index

<sup>4</sup> . Incremental Fit Index

<sup>5</sup> . Goodness of Fit Index

<sup>6</sup> . Adjusted Goodness of Fit Index

<sup>7</sup> . Root Mean Square Error of Approximation

<sup>8</sup> . Normal Theory Weighted Least Squares Chi-Square



urbanization, modern education, economics, technology and media as some of the most fundamental indicators of modernization (Mohammadpour, et al., 2009) indicates that other areas of society including marriage also involved a series of changes. New criteria for acquisition-based spouse selection (2.27), rather than assignment, have been proposed as new criteria for marriage and family formation and extroversion (2.39 choice for spouse selection) to enhance nuclear family formation (far Co-living with at least two generations (2.78), the patriarchal system and kinship network (2.27) have much less power over family settings, in addition to reduced kinship (2). 27), increasing women's social power (believing in women's independence from husbands 3.23), paying more attention to children, decreasing traditional marriages (3.10), gender equality (3.28 equality and gender equality), increased individual independence (2.97 individualism), change in emotional and emotional dimensions of life (emotional neutrality 2.76) of the available samples. This study seeks to identify the relationship of components of social modernization with this variable while recognizing the changes in the marriage process and its ups and downs in the context of the student population. Results show that delayed marriage index (3.82) had the highest mean and fertility management index (2.31) the lowest mean. The level of marriage process change in the sample under study is generally higher than the average level (3.19), which reflects modern attitudes toward the marriage process change in the study community. The above results are in line with the findings of Mohammadpour (2001) in the study of modernization process and consequences in families and the findings of Thin Descent (1392), in their study of the impact of modernization process on family structure (comparing urban and rural areas in Mazandaran province, have concluded that the averages calculated for the social dimensions of social modernization show that the level of social modernization in the sample under study is above average (3.02). Households (3.49) had the highest average, acquisition (2.27) had the lowest average. The results showed that there is a significant and direct relationship between social modernization and changes in the marriage process. The correlation coefficient of this variable with marriage process changes is 0.42 and this correlation is significant at 0.000 level. People, though, have incorporated aspects of social modernization into some areas of their lifestyles, and this has had the greatest impact on the family. But in the areas of separation and acquisition it has not been so effective. The results of the research (Azkia & Ghaffari, 1377; Azkia, 1377; Mohammadpour, et al., 2009; Sugar Beigi, 1390; Thorne, 1970; Zahedi et al., 2013) on social modernization are in line with the results of this research. From the point of view of social modernization, the concept of Parsons model variables based on human behavioral value orientations and indicators of globalization and familism has been studied and its relationship with marriage process has been tested in Golestan province. In the structural dimension, the change in the marriage process has manifested itself in increasing numbers of families from nuclear, single parent, single family, etc. (in line with the findings of Azkia & Ghaffari, 1998; Chapel, 2009 ; Schwarzer, 2011).

One of the most significant effects of the modernization process is the gradual decline in fertility, which is understood by other factors such as increased education of

women and a shift in gender roles. The total number of students in Golestan province in the last census was 82499 (44342, 49.3%, male and 38157, 46.3% female). Of these, 5577 were female and 11299 male. (Iran Statistics Center, 1397 ). Lack of population balance can sometimes lead to many ethical, social, psychological, cultural and even demographic problems. The sex ratio of students in Golestan province is 116.2. If the sex ratio breaks down, its first complication is a definite increase in sexuality. The disruption of gender equality will lead to the development of single lives, and this will lead to cultural, social and psychological problems. On the issue of women's work and independence, one should not overlook the fact that today's economic conditions and social constraints have in some cases deprived women of their right to stay at home and that women should enter the family to support their families and spouses and are made to work full-time rather than at home. On the other hand, women's entry into the labor market has an impact on the family, and women are willing or forced to have children later and have fewer children. The Gavin Jones (1981) study illustrates this and shows that the age of marriage for women has increased from 17 years in the 1950s to 21.4 in the 1970s. This has been accompanied by increased urbanization, the expansion of education and education for girls, and the participation of women in the modern economy (Jones, 1981). Much of the emergence of family problems in today's society goes back to the process of modernization and the way in which it happened. The family has an interactive process in which both men and women are responsible for its structure. When this interaction fails and the relationship is one-sided, inequality and changes in the family structure and consequently in the marriage process occur. Modernization theory states that when a society is on the path to social change, it leads to changes such as changes in the family, changes in marriage rules, etc. (Zahedi, et al., 2013). Today, the decline in emotional relationships in the family and the growth of individual choice have affected marriage, divorce, and the like (Sadeqi Fasaee, 2013). The research findings also showed that in terms of spouse selection, the majority of respondents emphasize on the couple's adequate knowledge of each other. On the one hand, it is important that people believe in marriage and good marriage on the basis of adequate knowledge and choice of the right spouse, while at the same time expressing the youth's desire for greater freedom and decision-making and independence in spouse choice; although in Iran, the circumstances that families consider when choosing a spouse are important. There were also significant differences between boys and girls regarding ideals and preferences of spouse selection within or outside of the kinship network, and the findings indicate a declining trend in the desirability of family and kin marriages among the statistical population. Girls were far more likely than boys to support out-of-wedlock marriages, and girls favored non-kin marriages more. The findings of this study are in line with the findings of Askar Nodoushan, et al., who examined the generational differences in marriage ideas and attitudes in Yazd. The results of the research on the year of marriage and birth of the first child showed a significant difference in attitudes. The younger generation (18-23 years old) tends to increase the gap between marriage and the birth of the first child and seeks to delay childbearing. It seems that in the student community in particular and in Iranian society in general, the

relationships associated with the marriage process have been preserved, but their content and nature have changed and became more modern. In general, it can be said that almost most of the old forms of marriage-related rules, traditions, values, and norms have not been completely eliminated, but many have undergone changes from level (sluggishness, deformity) to usage changes have become obsolete with preservation of the template. In the current situation, our society is bound up with a set of old and new behaviors, beliefs, values and norms, but with different domains in terms of efficiency and usefulness. The above findings are in line with the findings of Ermaki, et al. (2003) which studied the process of social and cultural changes in the Tehrani family over three generations. The process marriage change in Iran does not reflect the collapse of this process (and consequently the family), but rather reflects the adaptability of the family structure to the new social environment and its natural and spontaneous efforts to reduce tensions in the context of the changing social system of our society.

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