



An overview of the factors affecting early childhood marriage and its implications in developing countries

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A B S T R A C T

Early marriage or the phenomenon of childhood is widespread in many parts of the world for many reasons, including poverty, gender inequality, traditional cultural practices affecting human societies, illiteracy and insecurity, leading to lack of education. Correct the next generation, increasing divorce rates, raising maternal and child mortality rates and health problems. Marriage at an early age and before conceptual maturity presents the child with a world of unfulfilled needs and expectations, which overestimates psychological and psychological effects. Due to the fact that these marriages occur before the child reaches mental maturity, the girls are forced to marry at an early age. Because they have not been able to go through their childhood and adolescence, they will become mentally ill over time. Suicide, escape from home, and increasing divorced children in the community as some of the damages of child marriage. In developing countries, one in three girls under the age of 18 and one in nine girls, one is married before the age of 15. They are, in the word sense, converted into young child sex slaves. Early childhood marriage is organized by the child's family in accordance with the custom, and often involves family-friendly pledges and concessions at a time when the children themselves are younger than they decide on these marriages. In both the phenomenon of female genital mutilation and early marriage, consent is taken from others instead of the individual. In some countries, female genital mutilation results in early childhood marriage as a result. In some cases, the child's marriage has occurred in the traditional societies after the occurrence of circumcision.

Keywords: Child Marriage - Divorce - Developing Countries - Legal Age Of Marriage.

INTRODUCTION

International, legal and scientific associations, including UNICEF, consider the child's age to be 18 years of age. According to the Universal Declaration of the Rights of the Child, which states the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of children, a child is aged under 18. Among the issues that endanger children's rights, child marriage is one of the issues that deprives many children of their rights. According to the definition of marriage, marriage is married at the age of 18 years. This article focuses on the experience of life in early marriage and aims those consequences are spousal and the factors affecting it. Meanwhile, although both sexes are subject to early marriages, girls are the most victims of this phenomenon. Forcing the child to marry at an early age While the child is learning to experience the environment and obtain life skills, she is still unable to analyze the complex rules of marital life and how to deal adequately with her husband in different situations of life, discrimination And it's a great

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DOI: [In pressing](#)

To cite this article: Raeisi, Z., Mohammadi Dinani, R. (2019). An overview of the factors affecting early childhood marriage and its implications in developing countries. *Iranian Journal of Positive Psychology*, 5 (1), 37-47.

offense for girls whose experience of their common life will forever be in a hurry of fear and discrimination(Chen, 2005; Park, Lee, & Kim, 2018).

Mandatory marriage is marriage without a valid agreement between either party or both, in which emotional or physical coercion is a major factor(Love, Dank, Esthappan, & Zweig, 2018). From this perspective, because of the fact that anyone under the age of eighteen cannot easily obtain the information necessary to choose a fate, such as marriage, child marriage, in addition to being early, is also a forced marriage(Sabbe et al., 2015; Singh & Vennam, 2016). Early marriage is a phenomenon that exists in different parts of the world. UNICEF reports that in developing countries, more than 60 million women aged 20-24 years have begun marriage before the age of eighteen; each year, 14 million young people are between 15 and 19 years of age, and girls under the age of 15, 5 times over the age of twenty, girls suffer mortality during pregnancy or childbirth. Girls under the age of 18 years, 60 percent more than girls over the age of 19, have seen their mortality in their first year of life, and even if they have a chance of survival, they are more likely to suffer from mild illness, lack of food, and delay in physical and cognitive development (Lee-Rife, Malhotra, Warner, & Glinski, 2012; Nour, 2009). The high age gap between girls and their wives implies domestic work and the limitations of child care and their opportunities. This also reduces women's decision-making power in the household. Experts say one of the most significant negative consequences of such marriages is the lack of readiness a couple or one of them is for the upbringing of a child, if not previously divorced.

The statistics of early marriages in Iran are alarming and require the attention of social workers, sociologists, decision-makers and planners in the fields of humanities, health and politics. According to the National Youth Organization's Studies and Research Department, the highest girls' marriage in the first quarter was between the ages of 15 and 19. The legal and legal representative of the registration organization, also confirming the total number of registered divorces, is the highest figure for the age group of 20 to 24 years for a wife and for the age group of 25 to 29 years for a couple. Also, in the 9 months of 2007, the total number of registered divorces is about 48% of life expectancy. Based on this, the most common life of couples is less than 4 years. Divorce rates are for those who are married at an early age. According to the state registration of the country in 2010, an increase of about 45 percent of marriage and divorce of children from 2006 to 2011 has been reported(Aghajanian & Thompson, 2013).

But what is more shocking is the marriage of children under the age of 10 years, which was 716 cases, and doubled in comparison to three years ago. The statistics for the year 89 show that there are 37,000 children of 10 to 18 years of divorce and widows in the country. Also, according to the statistics from 86 to 89, 800 children aged 10 to 14 years old and 15 thousand children aged 15 to 19 years old in a divorce country are 75 girls or boys less than. According to an active researcher on children's fields, according to the yearbook published by the Center for Statistics of Iran, which relates to the latest census in the year 85, about seven percent of children aged between 10 and 18 years old are married to the country by the year 85, There are about 848,000 children, about 750,000 of whom are girls and the rest of the boy. 25,000 of 848,000 children are divorced at the age of 18 (StatisticalCentre of Iran, 2012).

Early marriages occur at an age where individuals have not reached the stage of intellectual and rational maturity, so couples cannot play a part in choosing their partner so

that after a while, due to their inability to manage life, they decide Divorce and separation. Most researchers believe early marriages have a significant impact on divorce rates. The divorce of these children leads to the continuation and intensification of feminization of poverty, because the poverty that leads to marriage extends and even exacerbates the divorce of the child. Marriage in childhood or adolescence will impose many negative consequences and social damage in the future that cannot be overlooked for the psychological, emotional, social and biological effects that these types of marriages impose on both genders. Child marriage affects their social and individual relationships and, ultimately, the community. Early-age marriage requirements often result in separation from family, friends and relationships, loss of freedom, interaction with peers, and the use of educational opportunities. Most of these girls leave after marriage. According to a study by Ebrahimi and Fakhrayi about the effect of early marriage on the abandonment of education for young women in Iran, with a multilevel approach to women aged 10 to 19 years old, 56% of married couples married due to their school leaving have known (Ebrahimi & Fakhrayi, 2014). Studies show that the marriage of young girls at an early age in families whose fathers are addicted, mentally ill, illiterate, single-parent or parent-child, and socio-economically low-level, marriage at an early age and before adolescence, The child encounters a world of unmet needs and expectations, which overestimates psychological and psychological effects. Due to the fact that these marriages occur before the child reaches mental maturity, the girls are forced to marry at an early age. Because they have not been able to go through their childhood and adolescence, they become psychologically ill over time. Suicide, escape from home, prostitution and the increase of divorced children in the community are considered as some of the damages of child marriage. The lack of physical fitness of children, especially children aged 10 to 15, on the one hand, and the lack of psychological and educational preparation of children in the admission of marriage's will or unwittingly, knowingly or unknowingly, especially the admission of adult or young males by girls of childhood, on the other hand, occurrences It provides many of their physical and mental vulnerabilities. Since 1994, Iran has been one of the signatories to the Universal Childhood Convention. However, according to current Iranian laws, the childhood of girls at the age of 13 and boys at the age of 15 will end. At the same time, according to religious law, boys are at the age of 15 and girls at the age of 9. The conditions that were set out in the law a few years ago and now the law also provides a way to practice religious law means that according to Article 1041 of the Civil Code, the 13-year-old girl and the 15-year-old son are subject to the permission of the parents (and Father's ancestor) or court order. Lawyers' reports on how to certify growth in courts show that courts set forth apparent evidence, and that a girl with a good physical growth has a certificate of growth. The judge asks for a few questions from the child and gives him a verdict of matureness, thus permitting his marriage. If the forensic authority confirms that a person has the ability to marry and have a family physically, even at an earlier age, he will be issued a "Growth Certificate" license. He can marry under this license. Justice attorney Mohammad Seifzadeh says that in most cases, courts do not prevent 9-year-old girls and 15-year-old boys. According to statistics provided by the representative of the judiciary at the meeting of the socio-cultural council of women, 42213 were registered in the year 2006, which increased the marriage of Iranian adolescents with the official permission of the court. Despite the remarkable numbers of early marriage and its implications, it seems that there has been little research in this area so far, and studies that have been carried out indirectly address the consequences of early marriage, such as leaving education and providing statistics in this field has sufficed.

Therefore, considering the various social and cultural dimensions of early marriage is necessary. So, the necessity of this article is to analyze the depth and depth of this phenomenon and examine its various layers.

Historical Origins of Early Childhood Marriage in Iran

As a Middle Eastern country, Iran has always been part of a similar cultural life of other Middle Eastern countries, such as the Arab world. Arab countries are located in the tropics, where high temperatures are the main causes of early puberty among young girls and boys, and this is a sufficient reason for becoming a marriage of children to a socially acceptable pattern approved by clerics and Religious leaders. Early marriage in a tropical climate is explained by the fact that body growth is faster and even more sexual desire. Although Iran is not an Arab country, it has a long-lasting and profound relationship with the Arab world of Islam (Ghodsi, 1993; Tremayne, 2006). The Iranian law is based on the old laws of Islam and, unlike the tribes like Kurds, Turks, Baluchis, Lars, etc. in Iran, who have not yet succeeded in teaching their language in schools as a lesson, Arabic is the language Taught in schools. As a result, to understand the roots of the child's marriage, it is necessary to pay attention to the sensitivity and complexity of the Western world.

Sociological factors of a marriage child

Marriage is an official and socially accepted contract or legal contract between couples, which brings with it rights and obligations between them, their children and their families. Although the definition of marriage varies from culture to culture, it is essentially a global cultural institution in which interpersonal relations become obsolete. In ancient and medieval societies, girls' marriage was prevalent or pre-mature (Haviland, 2002; Haviland, Prins, & McBride, 2013).

In ancient Israel, the contractual agreement on a young girl was a popular favor for the father of the daughter. They were given before the age of 15 and often as soon as they were mature (Laiou, 1998). Studies have shown that there are many references to a child of a marriage in the sixteenth century literature and other sources, in the sense that the childhood marriage was so common that it was practically in the form of a norm, and a twelve-and-a-half year old girl from all aspects and Angles were considered to be adults. In Greece, the early marriage of the girls and the girls were encouraged (Rehm, 2019). In ancient Rome, boys were expected to marry in adolescence, namely girls aged 12 and boys up to 14 years of age. In the middle Ages, under the British Civil Code, a marriage under the age of 16 was common. Also in the Chinese Empire, early marriage occurred. It was only from the twentieth century that the early marriage of children was questioned. The average age of the first marriage rose in many societies, and many countries increased the minimum age for marriage (Kamal, Hassan, Alam, & Ying, 2015).

Age

Many jurisdictions set a minimum age for marriage, which means that a person must have reached a certain age (usually 18 years) to be granted marriage according to the law. The age at which a person can legally marry is different from the age of consent. In legal systems where the age of marriage is lower from consent to marriage, the rules usually ignore it in cases where one

of the couples is below the age of consent, and the marriage age law is superior to the age law of consent (Arthur et al., 2018). Other judicial systems also deny and prohibit all forms of sexual relations beyond marriage regardless of age. The marriage of children is a global scary reality for many teenage girls as a result of factors such as honor and dignity, diversionary perspectives on gender, extreme poverty, and disintegration of family structures, low literacy, low employment opportunities, War and struggle have survived (Rotz, 2016; Utomo, Reimondos, Utomo, McDonald, & Hull, 2016).

Weak infrastructures and violence and sexual assaults, which in themselves reinforce the possibility of early marriage of children, become more severe during wartime and armed conflict. Humanitarian and innovative relief interventions often overlook the early onset of marriage of young girls during war and aggression. In such a situation, a marriage is a fact. Young women and girls who find themselves in the midst of armed conflict and on the way of radical militias such as Boko Haram and Islamic State militants are overcome by the overwhelming threat of gender-based violence; the violence that this Extreme groups are used as terror tactics. The media has issued reports of rape, sexual slavery and child marriage that have been inflicted by extremists, including giving young girls to marriage as gifts to military fighters.

With the increasing likelihood of gender-based violence during times of war and unrest, families resort to early childhood marriage as a way to protect themselves from the militarization of the lives of women and girls. In conflict-affected areas such as Afghanistan, Burundi, northern Uganda or Somalia, a girl may become a marriage of a commander or other proxy who can guarantee that she and her family will remain safe during the war. In Syria, more than half of the estimated 2.5 million Syrian refugees are under the age of 18. According to women and girls asylum seekers, fear of rape is one of the major causes of immigration from Syria. There are many cases of marriage of Syrian girls who have been married to poor families for their families. Is. One of the results of the study was that before the war between 1997 and 2003, the fertility rate of adolescents in Iraq was fixed at 70 births per 1,000 girls between the ages of 15 and 19, however, as soon as the war began, The fertility rate of adolescents increased by more than 30 percent and reached 95 births per 1,000 girls in 2010. According to Kettleley's research, the underlying cause of this rising fertility rate was the increase in early childhood marriage among the leanest corporal children (Gibson-Davis, Edin, & McLanahan, 2005).

- Reports from refugee camps in Jordan show the growing likelihood of young girls getting married to men who are much larger than themselves. They assume that such men can provide material support and stability for them. It's brutal that early childhood adoption for asylum seekers is beneficial. Many teenage girls with early marriage with their Jordanian husbands will have the opportunity to provide safe support. A support that allows her daughter and her family to move outside the camp (Bartels et al., 2018).

- ISIL's Islamic militancy was one of the most terrible crimes against Yazidi Kurds in Iraq, which narrates stories of forced religious Islamism and early childhood marriage. Essentially Yazidi's captives were kept together, but eventually ISIS systematically separated young women and adolescent girls from their families. Early childhood marriage took place quickly. So that many girls were forced to marry ISIL militants and militants. As is commonplace in wars and conflicts, these women were seen as sex slaves and warriors. Women and girls who were

forced to convert to Islam were sold as brides, and those who refrained from doing so were tortured and raped and eventually murdered.

Marriage age in the global context

Many jurisdictional systems consider a minimum age for marriage in the sense that a person must reach this minimum age of 18 to have a legal marriage permit. The age at which a person is able to legally marry can vary from consent age to sex. In those judicial systems where the age of marriage is lower than the age of consent to sexual relations, when one of the couples or both is under the age of consent, the marriage laws usually extend the age-satisfaction laws of sexual intercourse. Some jurisdictions have prohibited all marriages outside of marriage regardless of age. The UNICE report states that there is a strong relationship between early childhood and early childbirth in countries where child marriage is prevalent. For example, only in Asia and the Pacific. About 6 million newborns are born annually from adolescent mothers (Kennedy, Gray, Azzopardi, & Creati, 2011). In the United Kingdom, marriages between men and women over the age of 16, either single, widowed, or divorced, have been lawfully announced. Young people aged 16 or 17 should get their parents' consent to this work.

The minimum legal marriage age in many countries in the West is between 16 and 18 years old. Although compromise has been seen at a younger age, 38 although the exact age of marriage varies from one country to another, but in the West this age is mainly a barrier to sexual intercourse by putting a legal minimum age for sexual consent is considered. After reaching this minimum legal age, sexual relations are considered to be free. Ethiopia, in its 2000 Family Law Act, changed the legal age of marriage to 18 years of age, and required full and informed consent for both couples to marry. In Kuwait and Libya, the age at which women are married has considerably and significantly increased (Hamid, 2006).

In 2012, Malawi raised the age of 18 to both girls and boys. In 2014, Bangladeshi authorities announced that anyone who marries a young girl under the age of 18 years is sentenced to two years in prison. In June of 1395, both Gambia and Tanzania announced the end of early childhood imprisonment for those who continue to do so. Along with the vigilant and promising currents of the enactment of the above laws, there have been conflicts against such practices that were in themselves problematic. In Turkey, the neighboring country of Iran, the constitutional assembly issued the verdict that all sexual acts in relation to children under the age of 15, rape or sexual assault of 13 and 14 years old as sexual abuse. Under the law, children in the ages of 12 minority communities were no longer protected by the law because they were neglected in accordance with the law of their consent to sexual activity (<http://www.express.co.uk>).

The power of religion

Many religions are involved in determining the age of marriage. Religion with its dominant power over the regulation of norms and the shaping of culture is a powerful and impressive factor for the people who put it at the forefront of their fundamental decisions. The power of religion has somehow penetrated the role of the parents who led to their children's ownership by their parents. For example, according to the laws of Islam, even a newborn girl

can marry each man with the consent of her father. Under the Hanbal school law, the girl has the right to accept a girlfriend's bid for a man, even if her daughter is not yet maturing. However, the girl lives with her parents until she reaches puberty, and at the time of puberty she has the right to accept or reject marriage. If they do not accept the marriage, they divorce. However, we have to know that in practice this happens rarely. Obviously, the families involved in this case and the social pressure to accept marriage and parenting in all matters will make it hard for a girl to do so in such a situation. In the Christian community, marital sex is prohibited. By the late eighteenth century, there was little understanding of the concept of childhood, and children were considered only small adults. From the late eighteenth century, and especially in the nineteenth century, attitudes changed. In the mid-nineteenth century, more attention was paid to the sexual abuse of children (Fleming, Mullen, Sibthorpe, & Bammer, 1999).

The controversial policy of the Roman Catholic Church and later the other Protestant churches was the confirmation of secret marriages or marriages without parental consent. In many Northwestern European societies, marriage was rare at an early age. The church ruled that both brides and grooms should be at least 21 years of age to marry their parents without consent. Compared to Islam, even when the geographical and temporal conditions are taken into account, the rules of life for all Muslims in the whole world, both male and female, are to be complied with, including the age of maturity and the age of marriage. Despite all the complexity of age and the types of puberty, various social activities require a certain age. In today's societies, which involve widespread and universal social activities and require increased participation, there is a specific criterion for defining a childhood and adulthood.

From the health dimension

The small amount of information on this phenomenon shows that most girls in a forced marriage are very sad and isolated (Morrison, Guruge, & Snarr, 1999). They have lost contact with their peers. There is nobody talking to each other because all the people who are around them are themselves the witnesses and agents of their situation. Their problems remain unknown to their community and become invisible victims. Inappropriate socialization and the impossibility of continuing education and devastating physical and psychological damage due to successive childbirth are very shocking to them. Their psychological problems are often considered as an inevitable part of their lives with harshness. The statistics on suicide attempts among girls who were proposed to marry were twice as high as girls (McNulty, Wenner, & Fisher, 2016; Moss & Gingles, 1959).

Educational dimension

The internal relationship between early childhood and low education and low education is a cause of poor health and self-esteem and individual isolation. Undoubtedly, early childhood marriage is an ending point for girls' education, especially in poor countries where child marriage is commonplace. The shortening of the curriculum seems to be part of a pattern of traditional social expectations for girls who are given the husband. A girl graduates from the Turkish school upon proper marriage. It should be noted that in the socio-cultural context many of these teenage girls have been raised to marry early and spend their entire lives on domestic work. Many families in traditional societies believe that investing in a girl's education

is a waste of money and will eventually marry and work in another home (Ebersöhn, 2017). In addition, the high cost of their education is an incentive to drop out of these girls. One of the major causes of early childhood marriage is overemphasis on women's virginity and chastity and their ability to control their libido. The feminine libido is associated not only with the prestige of the family, but also with the dignity of the clan, class, race, and ethnic group. The early marriage of children, which involves controlling the girls' desire for sexuality, has lasted for generations and has reached a family from another man's family.

Child divorce

The marriage of children with deep roots in gender inequalities has a greater impact on girls than when it is equal to the age of the couple. Early childhood marriage is usually related to the departure of a marriage. Divorce or abandonment often affects these young girls to more poverty, because she usually has to take responsibility alone for their children (Jayachandran, 2015). Since most of these girls are married at very young ages, while lacking in education, their monetization skills are low, if not null and hence, more impoverished (Delprato, Akyeampong, & Dunne, 2017). Because in a girl child of an age, the age of girls is usually considerably lower than their husbands, they tend to become divorced at an earlier age, therefore, as compared to women who are married at an earlier age, the socio-economic challenges in a deeper and wider dimension. Communities in which common marriage is more prone to early divorces and divorced children. Malek Shahi, head of the Iranian Judiciary Commission, announced that 70 percent of the divorces had been agreed upon for early marriage cases. Many of these people are in court and glorify that they are very early married. While they have no idea about marriage and now they want a divorce. The highest divorce rates were among girls and young women between the ages of 10 and 19, suggesting that divorce in Iran is often due to early marriages. And since your divorce rate in Iran has increased by 74% over the past decade, it's worse. Interestingly, Ali Akbar Mahzoun, director general of the Office of Information, Statistics and Immigration of the Organization of Registry in 1395, announced that the organization would no longer announce monthly divorce statistics, which would be more targeted. He argued that what is vital in life (birth, death, marriage and divorce) will change into three vital statistics from now on, and divorce statistics will be eliminated (Tartari, 2015).

The rules of marriage in Iran

The constitutional aspects, religious beliefs, sexual dimensions, as well as norms and social rituals play a significant role in early marriage in Iranian society. Instead, the law prescribes a certain age, according to which the involvement in sexual activity is declared to the unlawful person. This is sometimes used with other meanings, for example, the age at which a person is able to consent to marry. Most legal systems for sex appeal are between 14 and 18 years old. To protect children against sexual abuse, many countries have set a minimum age for sexual consent, however, the scope of such measures is in. It is not visible within Islamic cultures, since all relationships other than marriage have always been illegal. Before the revolution, according to Article 23 of the Family Protection Act (1975), the marriage of women before the age of 18 and the marriage of men before the age of 20 was prohibited. The change in this age after the revolution in Iran occurred. It was created temporarily and this article was replaced by Article 1041 of the Civil Code. Under Article 1041 of the Civil Code of Iran, the age

of marriage was declared for girls 13 and for boys was 15. However, this law allows a girl to marry under the age of 13 and boys under the age of 15 can be formed on condition of consent of the parent or the court's permission. In addition, if the guardian of the child (father or grandfather) And the court concludes that he has been sufficiently mature enough to be married, the child can marry even at an earlier age(Rotz, 2016).

CONCLUSION

Early marriages occur at an age where people do not reach the stage of intellectual and rational maturity, so couples cannot play a role in choosing their partner, so that after a while due to inability to manage Life decides to divorce and divorce. Most scholars believe early marriages have a significant impact on divorce rates. Divorce of these children leads to the continuation and intensification of feminization of poverty, because the poverty which itself leads to marriage extends and even intensifies the divorce of the child. Iknd Marriage in childhood or adolescence will impose many negative consequences and social damage in the future that cannot be overlooked for the psychological, emotional, social and biological effects of these types of marriages on both genders. Children's marriage affects their social and individual relationships and ultimately the community. Early-age marriage requirements often result in separation from family, friends and relationships, loss of freedom, interaction with peers, and the use of educational opportunities. Most of these girls leave after marriage. Based on the research conducted by Yara-Ahmadi on the impact of early marriage on the abandonment of young women in Iran, with a multi-level approach to women aged 10 to 19 years, 56% of married couples married due to self-education. They are Studies show that marriage of girls at an early age is higher in families whose fathers are addicted, mentally ill, illiterate, or single parent or parented children, and socioeconomically low. Marriage at an early age and before conceptual maturity presents the child with a world of unfulfilled needs and expectations that puts psychological and psychological effects on the person. Due to the fact that these marriages precede the appearance of a child to maturity, the girls who were forced to get married at an early age because of their failure to properly go through their childhood and adolescence have recently experienced a mental illness and Become psychologically Suicide, escape from home, and increasing divorced children in the community as some of the damages of child marriage. Physical disadvantages of children, in particular children aged 10 to 15, on the one hand, and the lack of psychological and educational facilities for adolescents to accept spontaneous or unwittingly, knowingly or unknowingly the marriage, in particular adolescent or young adult male adolescents from childhood, on the other hand The occurrence of many of their physical and mental vulnerabilities. In developing countries, one in three girls under the age of 18 and one in nine girls, one is married before the age of 15. They are, in the word sense, converted into young child sex slaves. Early marriage of children is arranged by the child's family in accordance with the custom, and often involves family-friendly pledges and concessions at a time when the children themselves are younger than they decide on these marriages. In both the phenomenon of female genital mutilation and early marriage, consent is taken from others instead of the individual. In some countries, female genital mutilation results in early childhood marriage as a result. In some cases in traditional societies. Child marriage has occurred after the occurrence of circumcision. Early childbirth and female genital mutilation are

among the most perplexed enemies of the dignity and security of a woman who simultaneously has two protection powers - male domination and a retention of female repression. Both gender-based violence underpins the traditions that have developed over time in a male-dominated culture. Given that these first girls are circumcised and then married, it is inevitable that this tragic conclusion that women's circumcision paves the way for the early marriage of children.

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