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The World's Largest Matrimonial Service



*Shaadi Aaj Kal*



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## Introduction

***"There is no more lovely, friendly and charming relationship, communion or company than a good marriage."- Martin Luther***

A friend and colleague recently challenged me with the question, ***"What is the institution of marriage - Is it still as divine or has it today turned into more of an evolution than an institution? If it is indeed an institution, who wants to spend their life in an institution?"***

The debate could continue on the pros on cons, but Marriage was always meant to be a social union or legal contract between people.

It was established by God at the beginning of human history when He "created the heavens and the earth" and hence cannot be regulated according to personal whims.

Or can it?

Marriage is an evolving institution and the modern world through its pressures and pleasures has changed it irreversibly from the way it was even a decade ago. This change is particularly accelerated in urban India because of the rapid social and economic changes brought about by liberalization and globalization.

But traditions still hold sway and arranged marriages are still the norm, albeit through the Internet!

This study among married respondents that Shaadi.com conducted in association with IMRB International takes you through this divine institution. What principally makes marriages tick and in some instances, what are the key reasons of an unhappy marriage. What are the things that make people want to commit, and what are the key do's and don'ts that make it bliss!

Shaadi.com, India's best matrimonial services provider & IMRB International, India's premier market research agency, on the occasion of Shaadi.com's 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is excited to address all your queries on this blessed union.



## Key Findings

Some of the major findings of the IMRB-Shaadi.com survey among married men and women across India are summarized as follows –

- ✓ The pressure to conform to societal norms is still one of the major reasons that drive Indian men and women to tie the knot followed by the desire to make their parents and families happy.
- ✓ When asked for what makes for a successful marriage, trust between partners, shouldering the responsibility of raising children and willingness to compromise came up as the most important factors.
- ✓ Children are still central to the lives of Indian couples with an overwhelming majority of them saying that children are an indicator of a successful marriage.
- ✓ Finances and home ownership are still in the domain of males with a majority of respondents saying they don't have a joint account or own a house jointly with their spouse.
- ✓ Hanging out at home, going out to movies and restaurants and spending intimate time with each other are three preferred ways for Indian couples to bond with each other and unwind from the busy and stressful life of the metros.
- ✓ Getting hitched seems to put a dampener on the active social life of the pre-marriage days for both males and females with both genders reporting a sharp fall in the frequency of meeting friends post marriage. This drop is even more pronounced in the case of women.
- ✓ Women in India feel neglected by their husbands with large numbers claiming their husband spends more time at work and talking to others on the phone and on the Internet. Clearly there is an expectation gap here.
- ✓ Household duties are still allocated along traditional gender lines with men taking care of finances, bills and household repairs while women focusing on cooking, cleaning and bringing up children.



## Respondent Profile

Respondents from different cities and towns spread over India were chosen for this exclusive survey. Married individuals, both men and women were part of the survey. These included those living in the Top 4 Metros (Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata and Chennai) as well as smaller metros as Bangalore, Hyderabad and Ahmedabad. Respondents from smaller cities such as Ludhiana, Lucknow and Cochin were also interviewed.

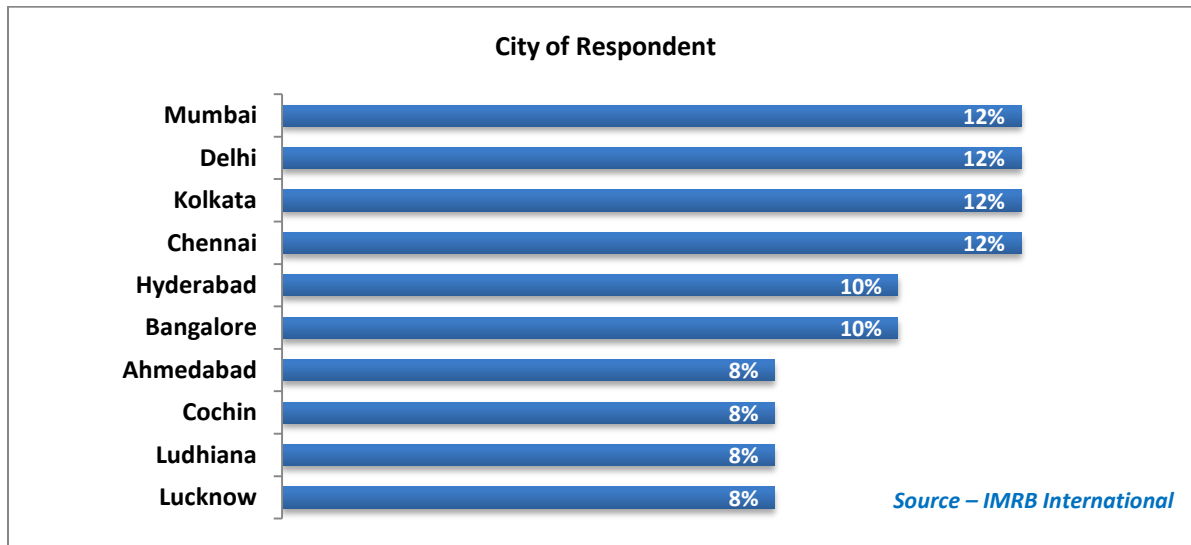


Figure 1 – Cities Part of the Survey

In terms of the town class, almost half (**48%**) of the respondents belonged to the Top 4 Metros followed by the other and smaller metros.

The respondents belonged to Socio Economic Classification A (SEC A) which is the top classification among all.

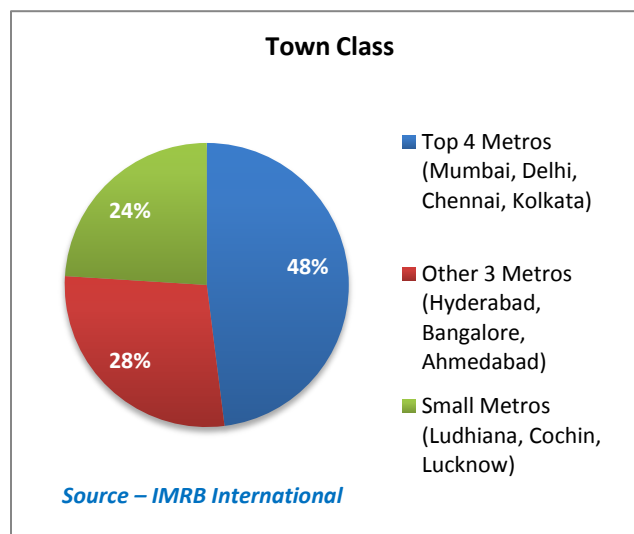


Figure 2 – Town Classes in which the study was conducted



In terms of gender, almost an equitable distribution between males and females was obtained (see below). In addition, people married for different tenures of marriage were included as part of the survey. The graph below further illustrates this.

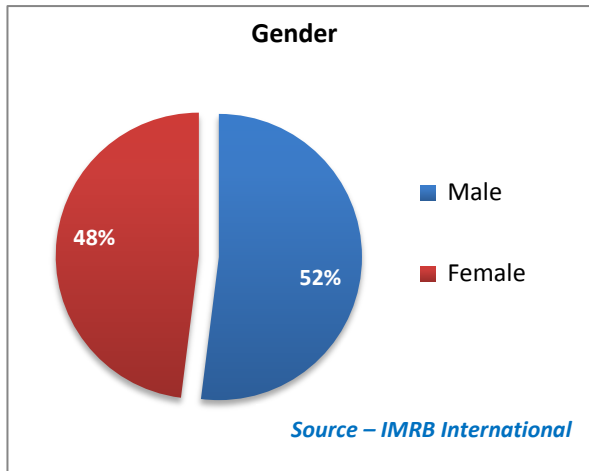


Figure 3 – Gender of the Survey Respondents

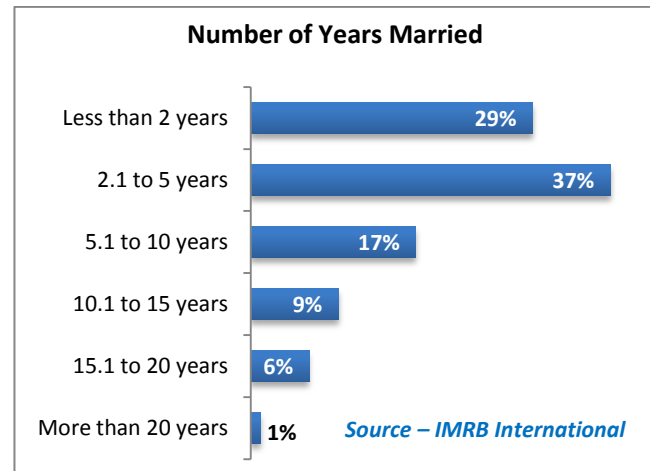


Figure 4 – Number of Years for which Respondents are Married

Also, to make the findings more relevant to wider audience of SEC A families, couples having different number of children were included as part of the survey. Majority of these respondents (**43%**) had a single kid. Also, as part of the survey, about **84%** of the respondents had an arranged marriage as compared to just **16%** who had love marriages.

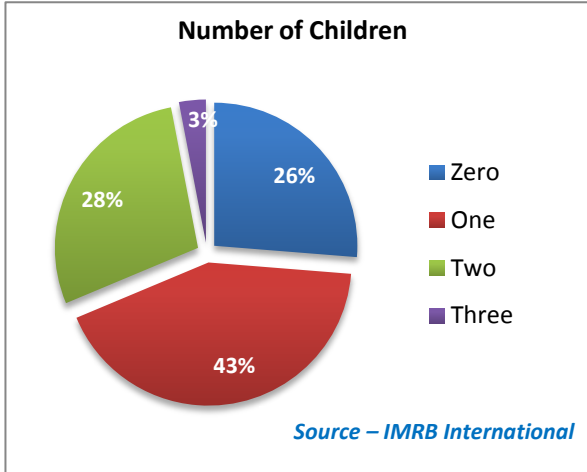


Figure 5 – Number of Children that Respondents have

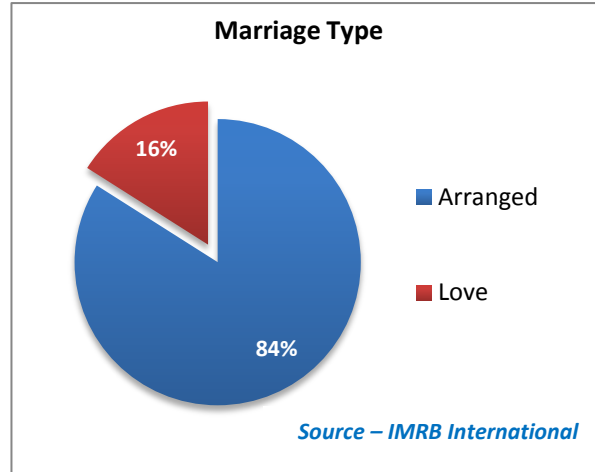


Figure 6 – Type of Marriage Respondent Had

The education, occupation and household income of the surveyed respondents are illustrated by the graphs below.

**Average HH Income per Month (SEC A): Rs. 26,500**

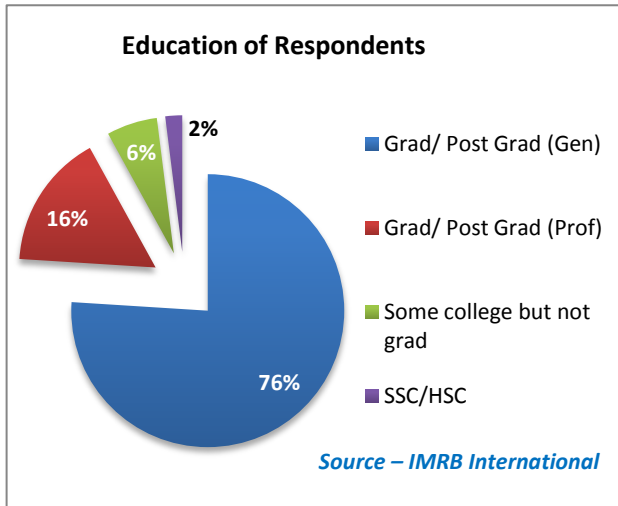


Figure 7 – Highest Qualification of the Respondents

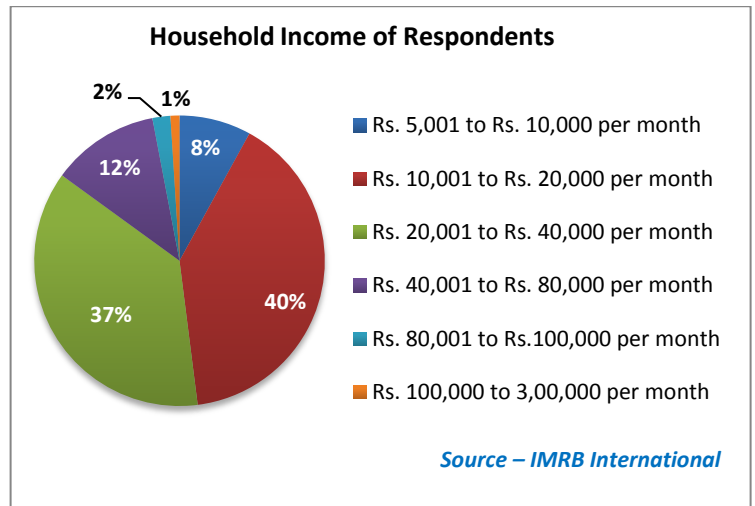
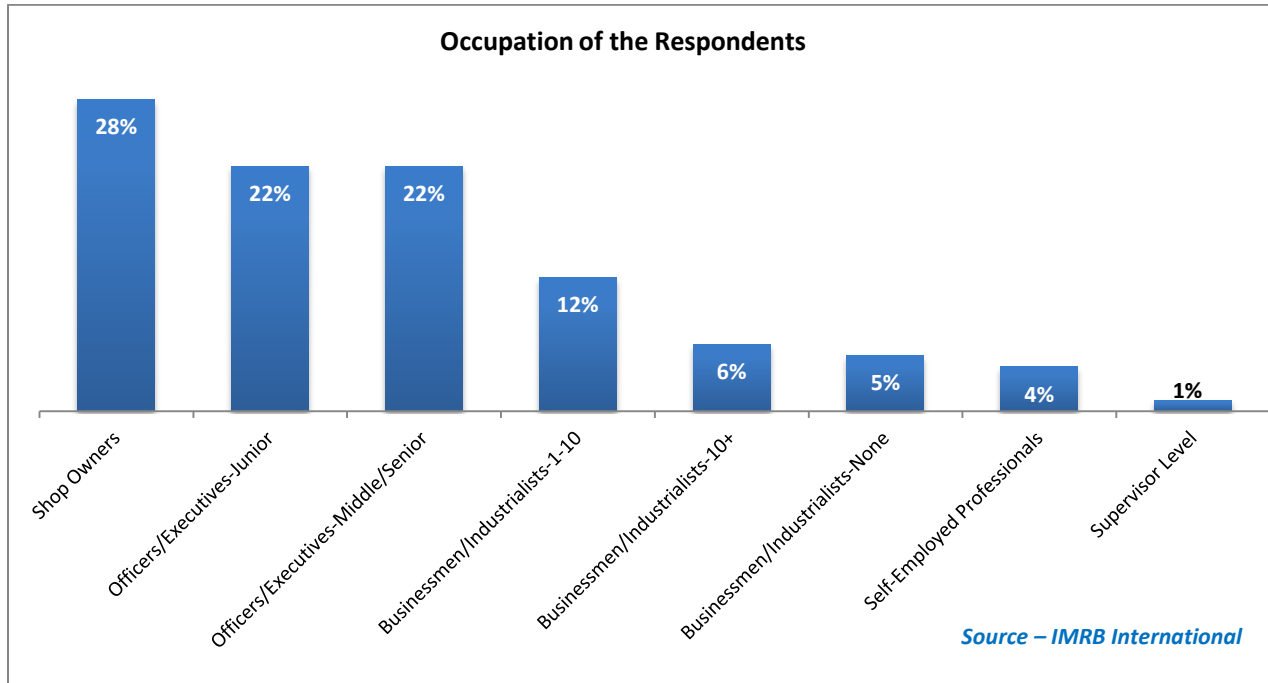


Figure 8 – Household Income of Respondents



**Figure 9 – Occupation Distribution of Survey Respondents**





## Reasons for Marriage

Marriage has been the foundation of Indian society for time immemorial. It is therefore important to understand the primary drivers of Indian marriages today.

### Top Reasons

As per the survey findings, adhering to societal norms of marriage by a certain age (**65%**) is widely seen as the primary reason why people get married. In other words, to be well accepted in Indian society even today, a marriage serves as an entry license.

Top Reasons for Marriage	All Respondents
I wanted to adhere to societal norms of marriage by a certain age	65%
I wanted to fulfill wishes of parents and close relatives	63%
I wanted to attain a level of stability in life	60%
I wanted someone to share everyday thoughts and experiences with	37%

Table 1 – Top Reasons cited by respondents for why they got married

Societal perception of an individual is often based on whether he/she is married. Interestingly, both males and females cited this reason relatively equally, with **63%** of males and **67%** of females saying so.

Other important reasons for getting married include fulfilling wishes of parents and close relatives (**63%**), and wanting a feel of stability in life (**62%**).



### **Love vs Arranged**

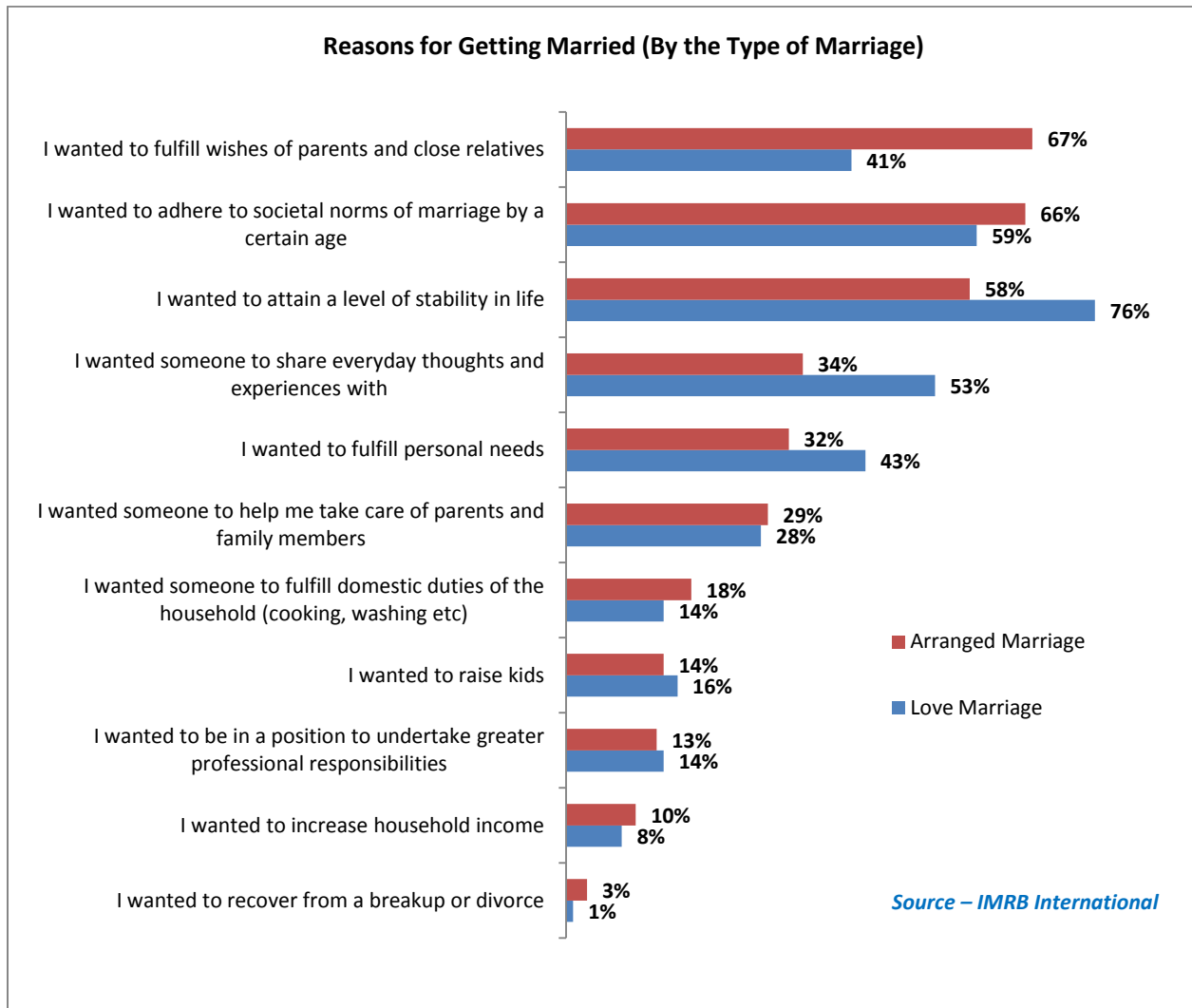
People who had arranged marriages seem to view the institution from a societal and family oriented perspective with **67%** of respondents saying so. In contrast, only **41%** of respondents who had love marriages got married to fulfill the wishes of their parents and/or close relatives.

Top Reasons for Marriage	Respondents that had an Arranged Marriage	Respondents that had a Love Marriage
I wanted to fulfill wishes of parents and close relatives	67%	41%

**Table 2 – Difference in Attitude towards Marriage by the Type of Marriage**

As far as sharing everyday thoughts and experiences are concerned, it is interesting to note the difference in opinions based on the type of marriage couples had. About **53%** of respondents who had a love marriage said so, as compared to only **34%** of people who had arranged marriages.

It therefore clearly suggests that other reasons are more important for couples who had an arranged marriage. The graph below illustrates the reasons for marriages contrasted between arranged marriage and love marriage respondents.



**Figure 10 – Comparing the Reasons for Marriage by Respondents’ Type of Marriage**

**Other Insights**

Compared to only **20%** of women, **37%** of men said they got married because they needed someone to help them take care of parents. This could suggest that in a traditionally male dominated country like India, males often marry to obtain a support system that can take care of domestic duties as well as their family members.

The percentage of men citing this reason was highest in the North (**56%**) indicating a more traditional attitude towards marriage.



## Ways to Unwind

Married couples in India today unwind from their busy and stressful life through various ways. Spending time with one another at home (**75%**) tends to be most preferred way to relax. Outing to a restaurant and/or movie theatre ranks as the next best option with **68%** of all respondents mentioning so. Quite interestingly, sex as a means to unwind is the third highest ranked (**52%**) ahead of outstation travel (**40%**) and others. It's definitely cheaper!

### **Male vs Female**

A very interesting finding to have emerged from the survey results suggests that a greater percentage of men (**73%**) enjoy a theatre/movie outing than that of women (**63%**). While one may think that an outing would provide women some time away from their household duties, the survey findings seem to suggest otherwise. More women prefer to spend time at home (**78%**) as compared to men (**72%**).

Ways to Unwind	Males	Females
Outing to a restaurant and/or movie theatre	73%	63%
Spending time at home	72%	78%

Table 3 – Contrasting Ways to Unwind/Relax by Gender

More than **50%** of respondents felt that spending intimate time with their partners was a great way to unwind. While **48%** of males felt physical intimacy was a way to relax, **56%** of the women indicated so.

### **Love vs Arranged**

As per the survey findings, the type of marriage is also an indicator of how Indian couples like to spend their leisure time. About **49%** of respondents who had love marriages preferred outstation travel as compared to the **38%** of respondents who had an arranged marriage.

Further, Indian couples who have had arranged marriages are more family oriented as compared to couples who have had a love marriage. Survey findings reveal that nearly **50%** of respondents that had an arranged marriage like to spend time with their spouse's close family as compared to **42%** of



respondents who had a love marriage. Couples that have had a love marriage therefore seem slightly more independent in comparison to those that have had an arranged marriage.

In other words, people who have had love marriages might be keener to enjoy their privacy rather than utilizing that time to mingle with their spouse's family. In fact, survey results also accentuate these findings with **59%** of love marriage respondents enjoying physical intimacy as a form of relaxation as compared to **51%** of arranged marriage respondents.

Ways to Unwind	Arranged	Love
Outstation Travel	49%	38%
Spending intimate time with spouse only	59%	51%
Spending time with my spouses close family	42%	50%

Table 4 – Comparing Ways to Unwind/Relax by the Type of Marriage

### By Age Group

Respondents falling in the middle age group i.e. 30-34 years enjoy outing to a restaurant and/or movie theatre the most among various age groups. The inclination of married couple to go out for a movie or restaurant increases till the age of about 34 years and slightly decreases thereafter with added responsibilities of children, parents as well as in-laws.

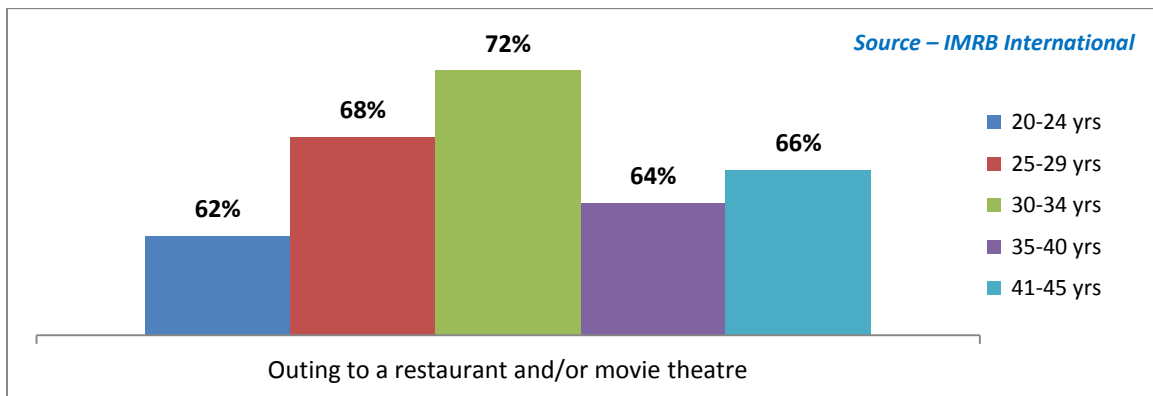


Figure 11 – Contrasting Outing to a Restaurant/Movie by Different Age Groups



### By Number of Years Married

Inclination of a married couple to go out to a restaurant/movie decreases after several years of marriage and conversely spending time at home with spouse and family is considered as a better form of relaxation.

Ways to Unwind	Married for Less than or Equal to 2 Years	Married for 2.1 to 5 Years	Married for Greater Than 5 Years
Outing to a restaurant and/or movie theatre	73%	67%	64%
Spending time at home	72%	75%	78%

Table 5 – Relaxation / Ways to Unwind Depending on the Number of Years Married

### By Type of Metro

Respondents residing in Small Metros (Lucknow, Ludhiana, Cochin) mentioned spending time at home (**90%**) is their preferred form of relaxation. In contrast, **62%** of people from Metros like Bangalore, Hyderabad and Ahmedabad feel an outing to a restaurant and/or movie theatre is the best way to unwind.

It is also interesting to note that **78%** of the people living in the Top 4 Metros also feel spending time at home is better than any other way to relax. With people in the Top 4 Metros pressed for time, this finding is quite plausible.

Outstation travel, particularly with friends, is a preferred way to socialize for people residing in the Top 4 Metros, probably because of higher disposable incomes as well as a wider variety of day trip options available around big metros. Going out of town with friends is not as prevalent in the Other 4 Metros and Smaller Metros.

Ways to Unwind	Top 4 Metros (Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai, Kolkata)	Other 4 Metros (Hyderabad, Bangalore, Ahmedabad)	Small Metros (Ludhiana, Cochin, Lucknow)
Outing to a restaurant / movie theatre	70%	62%	72%
Spending time at home	78%	56%	90%
Outstation Travel	49%	29%	33%
Outstation Travel with friends	34%	22%	23%

Table 6 – Comparing Relaxation / Ways to Unwind by the Type of Metro to which Respondent belongs



## Frequency of Activities

Marriage is about the big milestones – the ceremony, the honeymoon, the birth of a child, buying a home, and so on. It’s also about the day to day activities like spending time at home, going out for an evening, fighting for the TV remote, spending time with friends separately. We asked respondents some questions regarding these everyday activities and findings are as follows.

### Relaxation/Unwinding Activities

Spending time daily with spouse (**77%**) and family (**65%**) is the usual way to unwind for most Indian married couples. A visit to in-laws, spending time with close family and family outings take a back step considering the busy daily lives of Indian married couples residing in various metros.

Relaxation/Unwinding Activities	All Respondents Citing Frequency as Everyday
Spending time with spouse	77%
Spending time with family at home	65%
Meeting my in-laws	19%
Spending time with spouse and his / her close family	17%
Socializing with my friends alone	10%
Outing with family	6%

Table 7 – Top Relaxation/Unwinding Activities Done on a Daily Basis

Males are more likely to spend time socializing alone with their friends everyday compared to women whereas women are more likely to spend time with family at home, with their in-laws and spouse’s close family. This might be because many women live with their in-laws or the family tends to visit the husband’s parents more often than the wife’s family.

Interesting differences emerge by marriage type. Respondents, who had a love marriage spend more time with their spouse and family at home, tend to socialize alone with their friends and go on family outings more often. People who had arranged marriages meet their in-laws more often and spend more time with their spouse’s family.



Relaxation/Unwinding Activities	Males Citing Everyday	Females Citing Everyday	Arranged Marriage Respondents Citing Everyday	Love Marriage Respondents Citing Everyday
Spending time with spouse	75%	78%	76%	79%
Spending time with family at home	60%	69%	64%	70%
Meeting my in-laws	5%	33%	19%	14%
Spending time with spouse and his / her close family	10%	24%	17%	13%
Socializing with my friends alone	12%	9%	9%	17%
Outing with family	6%	6%	6%	9%

Table 8 – Top Daily Relaxation/Unwinding Activities Compared by Gender and Type of Marriage

## Disagreements

Only about **9%** of the respondents mentioned that they had daily disagreements. More women reported having arguments with their spouse more frequently as compared to men.

Having Disagreements	All Respondents	Males	Females
Everyday	9%	7%	12%
4-5 Times a Week	11%	13%	9%
2-3 Times a Week	11%	11%	12%
Once a Week	13%	12%	13%
2-3 Times a Month	13%	13%	14%
Once a Month	19%	20%	18%
Less than Once a Month	22%	23%	22%

Table 9 – Comparing Frequency of Disagreements Collectively and by Gender

Those who had love marriages seem to have less frequent disagreements than those that have had arranged marriages. As seen below, only **12%** of love marriage couples fight 4-5 times a week or more often, as compared to **22%** for arranged marriage respondents.





Having Disagreements	Arranged Marriage Respondents	Love Marriage Respondents
Everyday	10%	6%
4-5 Times a Week	12%	6%
2-3 Times a Week	11%	14%
Once a Week	12%	15%
2-3 Times a Month	13%	16%
Once a Month	19%	18%
Less than Once a Month	22%	24%

Table 10 – Frequency of Disagreements by the Type of Marriage

### Watch TV Programs of Your Choice Separately

Television is an everyday habit for most people living in urban areas nowadays. Considered together, about **30%** admitted to watch different TV programs on a daily basis individually. Another **17%** mentioned so for about 4-5 times a week. In other words, about **47%** of the respondents watched TV programs separately at least 4-5 times a week.

Housewives or women homemakers quite predictably are able to do so with a host of programs that they could watch when their husbands are away at work.

Watch TV Programs of Your Choice Separately	All Respondents	Males	Females
Everyday	30%	24%	37%
4-5 Times a Week	17%	16%	18%
2-3 Times a Week	18%	20%	16%
Once a Week	12%	13%	11%
2-3 Times a Month	7%	9%	5%
Once a Month	7%	8%	5%
Less than Once a Month	8%	8%	9%

Table 11 – Comparing Frequency of Watching Television Programs Separately (Collectively and by Gender)



## Personal Interests/Hobbies

As far as personal interests/hobbies are concerned, couples today seem to be increasingly providing each other the time to pursue separate interests. **25%** of respondents said they spent time alone doing what they liked every day.

Females have more leisure to pursue individual activities as compared to men possibly because many of them are homemakers and have the time to indulge in leisure activities while their husbands are out working.

Spend Time Doing What You Like	All Respondents	Males	Females
Everyday	25%	22%	29%
4-5 Times a Week	17%	15%	18%
2-3 Times a Week	14%	15%	13%
Once a Week	17%	15%	19%
2-3 Times a Month	10%	13%	7%
Once a Month	10%	11%	9%
Less than Once a Month	6%	8%	5%

Table 12 – Comparing Frequency with which Respondents undertake Individual Hobbies/Interests (Collectively and by Gender)



## Meeting Friends Before / After Marriage

**44%** of all respondents said that they met their friends every day before marriage. In contrast, only **10%** of all respondents said they meet their friends every day after marriage.

Meeting Friends Before Marriage	All Respondents	Males	Females	Arranged Marriage Respondents	Love Marriage Respondents
Everyday	44%	50%	36%	41%	57%
2-3 Times a Week	25%	24%	25%	25%	21%
Once a Week	15%	13%	17%	16%	9%
2-3 Times a Month	8%	6%	10%	8%	5%
Once a Month	5%	5%	6%	5%	4%
Once in Three Months or Less	4%	2%	6%	0%	1%

Table 13 – Comparing Frequency of Meeting Friends before Marriage (Collectively, by Gender and by Type of Marriage)

Meeting Friends After Marriage	All Respondents	Males	Females	Arranged Marriage Respondents	Love Marriage Respondents
Everyday	10%	17%	3%	9%	16%
Once a Week	24%	37%	10%	24%	24%
Once a Month	24%	30%	18%	25%	21%
Once in Three Months	13%	9%	18%	13%	15%
Once in Six Months	8%	3%	14%	8%	9%
Once a Year or less	20%	4	36%	21%	13%

Table 14 – Comparing Frequency of Meeting Friends after Marriage (Collectively, by Gender and by Type of Marriage)

The differences emerge very sharply between the two sexes. While **50%** of males said they met their friends daily before marriage, only **36%** of females said that. After marriage, only **17%** of males and shocking **3%** of females still meet up with their friends every day. After marriage, **36%** women said they met their friends once a year or less which could be because many of them move to different towns than the ones they grew up in and slowly get consumed by the pressures of everyday living.



Even marriage type had a bearing on the frequency of meeting friends. A higher percentage of people who had a love marriage reported meeting their friends every day before marriage (**57%**) compared to **41%** of respondents who had an arranged marriage. After marriage also the difference persists with only **9%** of respondents with arranged marriages saying they met their friends daily compared to **16%** of those who had a love marriage.

In sum, the frequency of meeting up with friends decreases precipitously after marriage even after considering different parameters and categories of respondents.



## Sex & Relationships

The success of a married relationship often depends on the sex lives of a couple. In simple words, if the partner is able to satisfy his/her partner in the best possible way, the partner is likely to do more for him or her in other walks of life. A mutually satisfying and symbiotic relationship could then develop between the two individuals.

One of the factors contributing to healthy sexual life is the manner in which the partners take care of their appearance. The survey findings suggest that **85%** of all respondents feel that their partner takes care of his/her physical appearance. **88%** of males feel that their partner tries to look good for them compared to **83%** of women.

Sex and Relationships	All Respondents saying Yes	Males saying Yes	Females saying Yes
Do you feel your spouse takes care of his/her appearance for you?	85%	88%	83%
Do you think your partner gives you adequate physical attention i.e. do you enjoy a good physical intimacy?	91%	93%	89%
Do you feel you have the same level of physical intimacy with your partner like the early years of your marriage?	86%	88%	84%

Table 15 – Comparing how respondents perceived their physical relationship with their partners

Quite interestingly, of the sample respondents surveyed, **91%** said that their partner gives them adequate physical attention. An appreciable **86%** also agreed that they enjoy a level of physical intimacy similar to their initial years of marriage.

In other words, people today realize that sex is a very important component of a happy married life. Also with numerous distractions, people today feel it is important to keep their partners sexually satisfied.

### By Gender

However, there is more to marriage than sex. Equally or even more important are the time and attention given by partners to each other. It seems Indian males are seriously lacking in this aspect as nearly a fourth of women surveyed said they felt their husband spent more time on the phone or Internet than with them.



More than half of women surveyed felt their husbands spent more time at work than with them. More than a quarter of the men surveyed (**28%**) also feel their wives spend more time at work but the percentage is much less compared to women (**59%**).

Sex and Relationships	Males saying Yes	Females saying Yes
Do you feel your spouse spends more time on the phone or Internet talking to others than you?	9%	22%
Do you feel that your spouse spends more time at work than with you?	28%	59%

Table 16 – Comparing perception of attention given by spouse by Gender

Indian women today expect to be more valued by their partners. Once the husband is at home, they expect more love, attention and conversation on a frequent basis. Males on the other hand, could argue that they need a bit of personal space after a long day at office after which they can spend entire time with their spouse.

### By Number of Years Married

People married for a greater number of years feel that their spouse should shower more attention on them and not take them for granted. Additionally, in a mature relationship, spouses tend to spend more time at work rather than at home. This could arise from an inherent desire or need to be a better provider of facilities/amenities to the family.

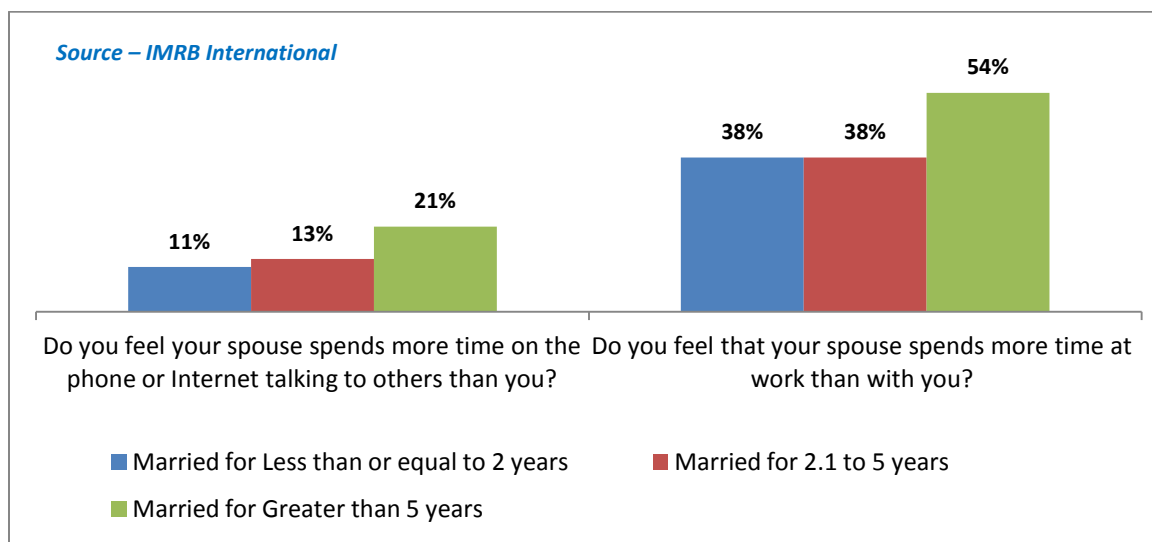


Figure 12 – Comparing perception of attention given by spouse by the Number of Years the Respondent has been Married



## Family Responsibilities

Marriage brings with it the responsibilities of building and maintaining a home. With both husband and wife working, especially in the Top metros, household responsibilities should be shared among the couple. But the findings show that the more things change, the more they remain the same with wives primarily responsible for cooking, cleaning and taking care of children & in-laws. On the other hand, the husbands are responsible for paying bills, planning investments and planning vacations & movies.

The following table summarizes how these responsibilities are shared. We asked respondents who (Husband or Wife) played a greater role in each of the responsibilities below and found that the division of labour is the same irrespective of city type.

Family Responsibilities	Overall		Top 4 Metros		Smaller Metros	
	Respondents saying Husband	Respondents saying Wife	Respondents saying Husband	Respondents saying Wife	Respondents saying Husband	Respondents saying Wife
Financial Investments	96%	3%	97%	2%	95%	5%
Contribution to Household Income	94%	5%	98%	2%	94%	6%
Bill Payments	88%	8%	90%	9%	92%	5%
Household Repairs	85%	14%	87%	12%	92%	7%
Movie and/or Restaurant Outings	81%	18%	86%	13%	85%	15%
Vacation Plans	74%	24%	77%	21%	73%	24%
Taking Care of Parents and In-laws	22%	76%	24%	74%	23%	74%
Taking Care of Children	11%	71%	11%	75%	13%	62%
Completion of Children's Homework	8%	71%	11%	72%	4%	66%
Cooking	3%	96%	1%	98%	5%	95%
Cleaning / Washing Responsibilities	2%	98%	2%	97%	1%	99%

Table 17 – Comparing Family Responsibilities at an Overall Level and by the Type of Metro Respondent Belongs to



In addition, when asked about the happiness with regards to undertaking various family responsibilities, the following responses were elicited.

Family Responsibilities	Very Happy	Quite Happy	Indifferent	Not So Happy	Not At All Happy
Movie and/or Restaurant Outings	53%	36%	9%	1%	0%
Contribution to Household Income	51%	36%	10%	1%	1%
Taking Care of Children	49%	40%	9%	1%	0%
Cooking	49%	32%	14%	3%	1%
Vacation Plans	47%	43%	8%	2%	0%
Taking Care of Parents and In-laws	47%	30%	6%	2%	1%
Bill Payments	42%	40%	13%	4%	1%
Financial Investments	40%	37%	17%	4%	1%
Household Repairs	37%	38%	12%	8%	5%
Completion of Children's Homework	35%	33%	11%	3%	2%
Cleaning / Washing Responsibilities	33%	35%	17%	11%	4%

Table 18 – Happiness Quotient with regards to Undertaking various Family Responsibilities

By the findings above, it is clear married couples find relaxation activities the most interesting. **53%** of the respondents were very happy with regards to planning and taking their family out for a movie/restaurant outing. Quite interestingly, cooking also is regarded as a pleasurable activity for many. However, cleaning/washing responsibilities understandably are the least liked activities. In addition, married couples seem increasingly burdened by the added responsibility of completing their children's homework.





## Career Related

After marriage, the career development of Indian men and women differ. After marriage, males tend to pursue greater professional opportunities perhaps because they see themselves as providers and also because marriage adds a degree of stability to their lives. **86%** of men surveyed said marriage had bettered their personal career.

Marriage has bettered my personal career	Males
Strongly Agree	52%
Agree	34%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	7%
Disagree	3%
Strongly Disagree	1%

Table 19 – Career Development after Marriage

Women on the other hand have to forego their professional careers as their role as a homemaker starts taking precedence.

Work Status	Males	Females
Did you work before marriage?	85%	36%
Do you continue to work after marriage?	86%	24%

Table 20 – Work Status Before and After Marriage

Of the **36%** of female respondents who said they worked before marriage, only about **24%** continue to work after marriage. When asked why they had to give up their jobs, most women said they could not devote enough time to their children (**24%**), other family responsibilities (**19%**) and were excessively tired managing both work and home (**18%**).

### *Love vs Arranged*

A greater percentage of women who had a love marriage worked before marriage with **53%** as compared to the **33%** of women who had arranged marriages. Also, a greater percentage of women who had love marriages continue to work after marriage (**42%**) compared to only **21%** of women who had arranged marriages.



Work Status	Women who had Love Marriages	Women who had Arranged Marriages
Did you work before marriage?	53%	33%
Do you continue to work after marriage?	42%	21%

Table 21 – Work Status Before and After Marriage among Women by Type of Marriage

### Career after Marriage

An overwhelming majority of respondents felt that marriage had bettered their personal career. In other words, they have found a partner who takes care for them and provides a degree of stability, which has enabled them to forge ahead in their work life.

Career After Marriage	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Marriage has bettered my personal career	51%	32%	8%	5%	2%
Marriage has bettered my spouse's career	39%	41%	13%	4%	2%
Marriage has allowed me to pursue greater professional opportunities	33%	31%	16%	15%	5%
Marriage has allowed my spouse to pursue greater professional opportunities	32%	30%	17%	13%	6%
Marriage has limited my professional travel	22%	30%	14%	20%	12%
Marriage has limited my spouse's professional travel	18%	31%	15%	22%	12%

Table 22 – Level of Agreement with various statements pertaining to Career after Marriage

Although there were not too many notable differences in the responses of males and females for most statements, females (**41%**) did feel that marriage has allowed their husbands to pursue greater professional opportunities compared to only **25%** of men who said marriage has allowed their wives to pursue greater professional opportunities.

Career Development after Marriage	Males	Females
Marriage has allowed my spouse to pursue greater professional opportunities	25%	41%

Table 23 – Career Development after Marriage by Gender



## Ingredients of a Happy Marriage

An Indian marriage is a union of not only two souls but also two families. Each family usually has its own unique set of customs that it follows. The lives of the husband and wife are usually shaped by these set of set of trials and tribulations. In other words, the ingredients that go in to a successful marriage constitute of various factors each having varying degrees of importance, and are influenced by various individuals.

As per the survey findings, a caring nature of the spouse is the most important quality that Indians look for today.

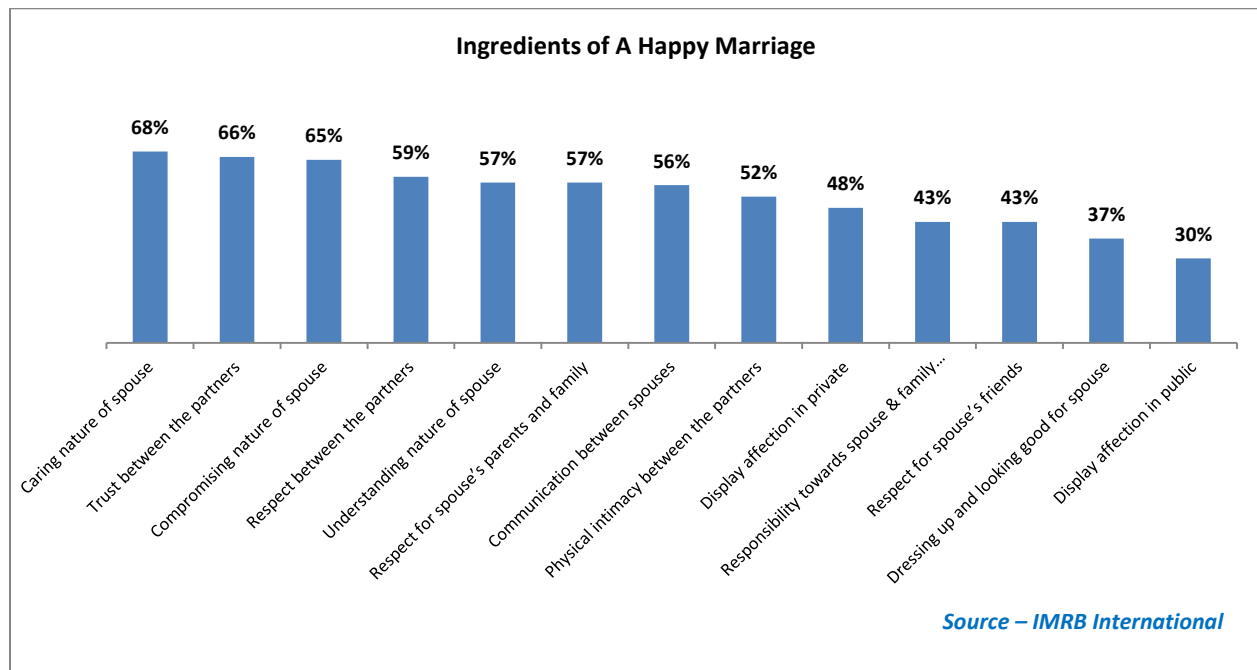


Figure 13 – Factors considered Important for a Happy Marriage

Trust between the partners (**66%**) and a compromising nature (**65%**) are the other very important factors that serve as a basis for a happy marriage. Interestingly, the tenure of marriage does not seem to affect what seem to be basic three requirements of keeping a marriage stable and happy.



Quite interestingly, the least important factors comparatively are dressing up and looking good for spouse (**37%**) and public displays of affection (**30%**). Physical intimacy however is quite important with **52%** of the respondents mentioning so.

### **Male vs Female**

Whereas caring nature of their husbands is the most important factor for women (**72%**), for men it's the trust between the couple (**70%**). In other words, this finding suggests the different emotional benefits that men and women each seek from marriage.

Ingredients of Happy Marriage	Males	Females
Caring Nature of Spouse	65%	72%
Trust Between the Partners	70%	63%

Table 24 – Comparing Ingredients of a Happy Marriage by Gender

### **Love vs Arranged**

Couples that have had love marriages clearly have greater expectations from their marriage than those that have had arranged marriages. By observing some of the data points below, we can easily infer this finding. Interestingly, trust between couples that have had a love marriage (**79%**) is significantly higher than those that have had an arranged marriage (**64%**). Additionally, an understanding nature and not taking things for granted is also appreciably higher for couples that have had a love marriage.

Ingredients of Happy Marriage	Arranged Marriage Respondents	Love Marriage Respondents
Caring Nature of Spouse	68%	73%
Trust Between the Partners	64%	79%
Understanding nature of spouse	56%	63%
Physical intimacy between the partners	51%	57%

Table 25 – Comparing Ingredients of a Happy Marriage by Type of Marriage



### **By Number of Years Married**

With greater maturity in the marriage, the importance of a couple displaying affection in public and private life decreases.

<b>Ingredients of Happy Marriage</b>	<b>Married for Less than or Equal to 2 Years</b>	<b>Married for 2.1 to 5 Years</b>	<b>Married for Greater Than 5 Years</b>
<b>Display affection in private and public</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>25%</b>

Table 26 – Comparing Ingredients of a Happy Marriage by the Number of Years Respondents have been married



## Expectations from Spouse

The degree of importance of various spouse expectations is pretty much in line with the top ingredients of a happy marriage. However, it is quite interesting to note the importance placed by individuals to each of these ingredients.

While gauging importance on a five point scale ranging from ‘Very Important’ to ‘Not at All Important,’ respondents were asked to indicate how important they found each of the following attributes. Trust between partners, taking joint responsibility for raising children and compromise and understanding came up as the three most important ingredients of a successful marriage.

Expectations from Spouse	All Respondents saying ‘Very Important’
Trust between the spouse	81%
Responsibility towards children’s education, upbringing and overall development	70%
Compromise and understanding between spouses	70%
Attention to Spouse and his / her needs	67%
Celebrating Festivals and family functions as per tradition	65%
Communication between spouses	63%
Respect for spouse’s immediate family	63%
Physical Intimacy	62%
Maintaining a lifestyle as per spouses expectations	56%
Adherence to family customs	55%
Contribution to domestic household chores	51%
Provider of recreational activities to family members	50%
Dressing up and looking good for spouse	50%
Respect for spouse’s friends	47%

Table 27 – Expectations from Spouse regarded Important to Marital Success

### By Gender

Communication between the couple, attention to spouse and his/her needs and respect for spouse’s immediate family are very important in the eyes of married Indian women.

Females place greater importance on their spouse respecting their immediate family as compared to males. Thus although India is still very much a male dominated society, increasingly the importance of women is rising in society along with their expectations.



Expectations from Spouse	Male Respondents saying Very Important	Female Respondents saying Very Important
Attention to Spouse and his/her needs	65%	70%
Communication Between Spouses	60%	65%
Respect for Spouse’s Immediate Family	60%	65%
Provider of Recreational Activities to Family Members	54%	46%

Table 28 – Comparing Expectations from Spouse regarded Important to Marital Success by Gender

Interestingly, a greater percentage of males feel it is the responsibility of a female to be the provider of recreational activities to the family members.

### **Love vs Arranged**

Couples that have had a love marriage do not feel the need to dress up and look good as often as the couples that have had an arranged marriage. Conceivably, love marriage couples could take their partners for granted slightly as compared to what arranged marriage couples might. Also, celebrating festivals is not as important for couples that have had a love marriage as compared to those that have had an arranged one.

Expectations from Spouse	Arranged Marriage Respondents Coding Very Important	Love Marriage Respondents Coding Very Important
Dressing up and looking good for spouse	51%	42%
Celebrating Festivals and family functions as per tradition	66%	60%

Table 29 – Comparing Expectations from Spouse regarded Important to Marital Success by the Type of Marriage

### **By Number of Years Married**

In terms of expectations of married couples over time, the importance of most parameters doesn’t change significantly.

However with the arrival of kids, clearly the responsibility of partners towards the kids’ education, overall development and upbringing is of very high importance with **76%** mentioning so.



Expectations from Spouse	Respondents Saying Very Important		
	Married for Less than or Equal to 2 Years	Married for 2.1 to 5 Years	Married for Greater Than 5 Years
Responsibility towards children's education, upbringing and overall development	64%	70%	76%

Table 30 – Comparing Importance of Responsibility towards Children by Number of Years Married





## Children

Any marriage is characterized by ups and downs. Unfortunately at times, the number of ups is not as high as the number of downs. As a consequence, couples ponder if divorce is an option if they should consider. Yet, what is it that holds these marriages together? Yes, it is the children more often than not. Over generations children have been this binding glue, at least as far as Indian marriages are concerned. Married couples have left their egos aside and have tried to overcome their differences for the sake of their children.

The pie chart here showcases the typical number of children that Indian couples living in the metros have today.

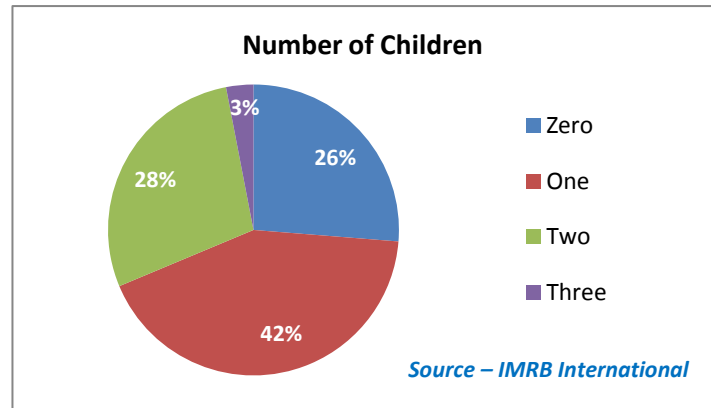


Figure 14 – Number of Children that Survey Respondents Had

Of course, it should be noted that about **30%** of the respondent sample include people married for less than two years.

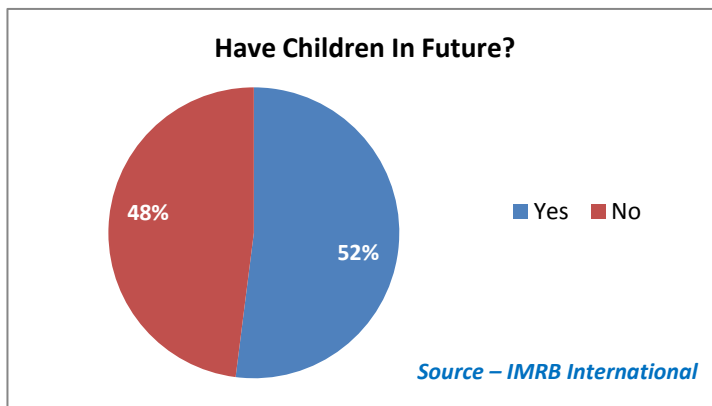


Figure 15 – Future Plans for Having Children

The respondents when asked if they would have children in future elicited responses showcased by the pie chart on the left.

About **52%** mentioned that they would have children in future.

Among the top challenges for raising children include, the time investment (**64%**) necessary as well as the monetary commitment (**55%**) for raising a child are the important ones.

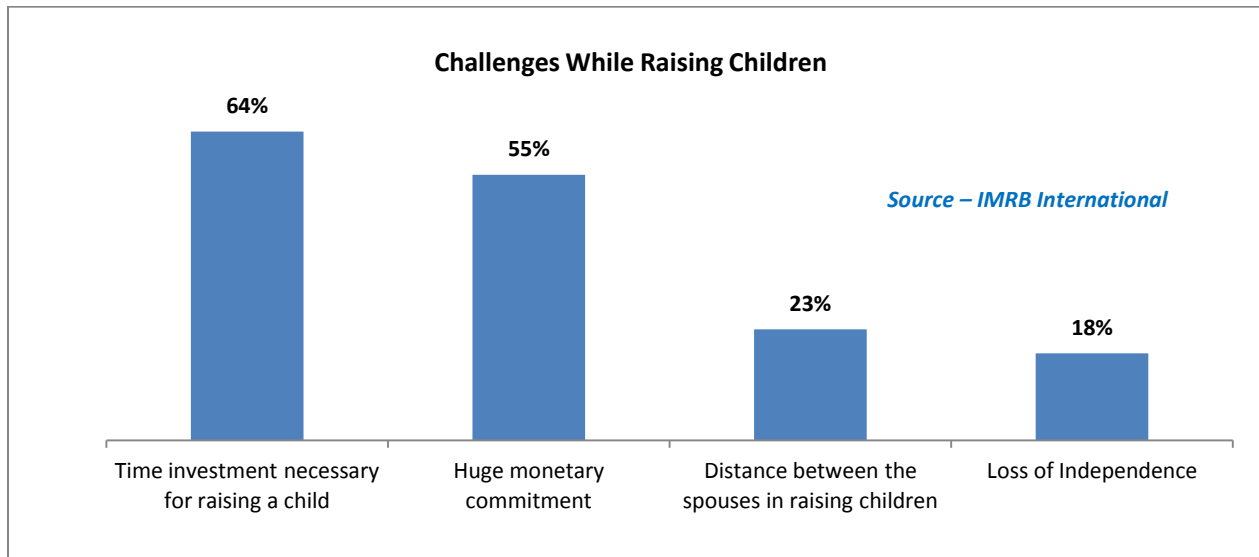


Figure 16 – Challenges Cited by Respondents for Raising Children Today

Interestingly, a significant majority (**60%**) of respondents felt that two is the optimum number of children today.

Respondents who prefer a single child said that due to various commitments managing even a single child is difficult (**50%**). In addition, if a couple has a single child, the couple will be able to provide the best to that one child (**49%**).

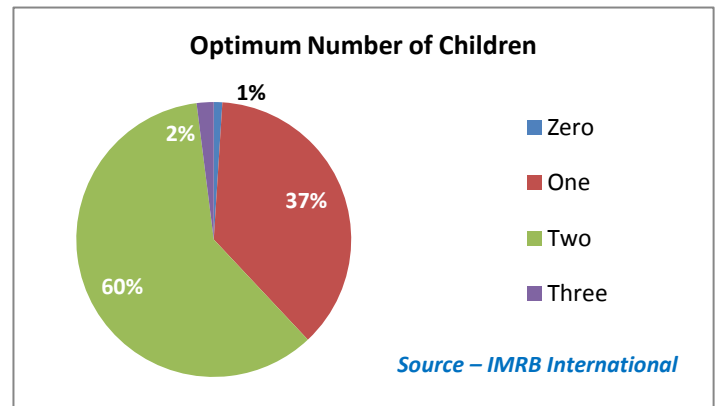


Figure 17 – Ideal Number of Children Cited by Respondents Today

Respondents that cited wanting multiple kids did so as they wanted to raise a son as well as a daughter (**67%**) primarily. Other reasons cited were the couples’ desire of raising a big happy family (**45%**).



Finally, about **97%** of all respondents feel that children serve as an indicator of a successful marriage. The reasons stated are illustrated by the graph below.

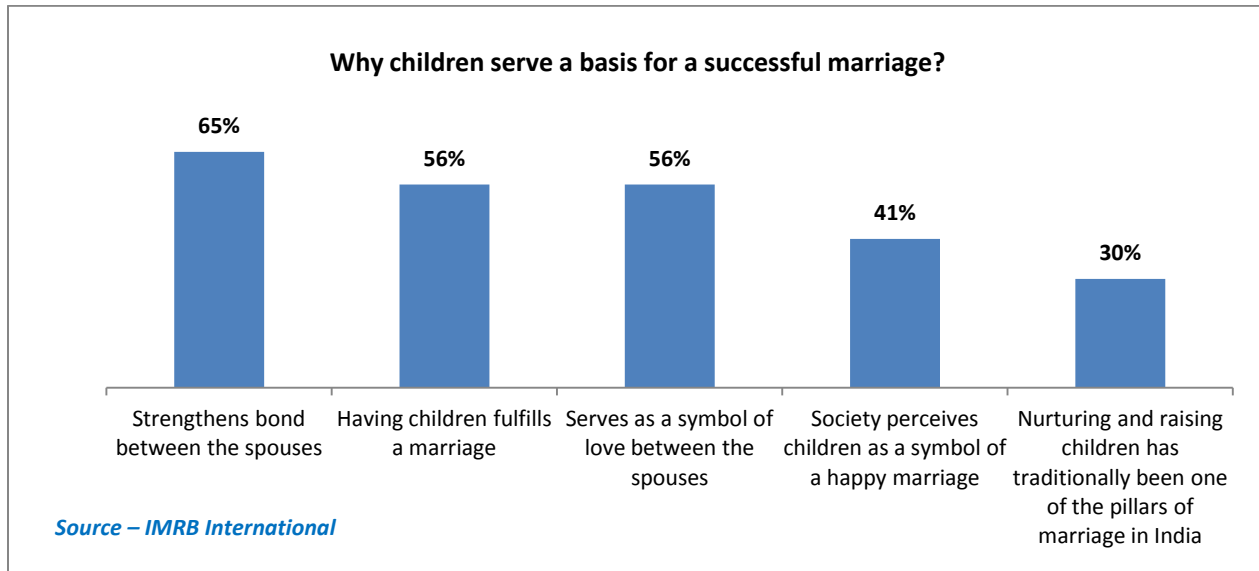


Figure 18 – Reasons Mentioned by Respondents when Asked Why Children serve a basis for a Successful Marriage

### Male vs Female

Males are likely to want more children in future as compared to women.

Children - Future Plans	Males saying Yes	Female saying Yes
Have Children in Future?	57%	46%

Table 31 – Comparing the Desire to have Children in Future by Gender

Understandably, females that traditionally take care of children at home are less likely to want more children (**46%**) as it is a huge time investment (**70%**) as well as an emotionally draining experience raising children.

Challenges in Raising Children	Males	Females
Time investment necessary	59%	70%
Huge monetary commitment	53%	56%

Table 32 – Comparing Challenges Cited by Respondents to Raise Children by Gender



### By Number of Years Married

Couples married for over 5 years are not likely to plan for children (**27%**) in future as compared to those married for less than 2 years (**80%**).

Children - Future Plans	Respondents saying YES		
	Married for Less than or Equal to 2 Years	Married for 2.1 to 5 Years	Married for Greater Than 5 Years
Have Children in Future?	80%	52%	27%

Table 33 – Comparing the Desire to have Children in Future by the Number of Years Married

Those couples married for more than 5 years feel that the optimum number of children is two with **70%** of the respondents mentioning so. On the other hand, those married for less than or equal to 2 years feel that one child is optimum with **48%** of the respondents saying so. Thus considering the responses of couples that are recently married it is increasingly probable that Indian marriages will see one child couples, especially in the metros where living space is another concern for couples today.

Optimum Number of Children	Married for Less than or Equal to 2 Years	Married for 2.1 to 5 Years	Married for Greater Than 5 Years
ONE	48%	39%	26%
TWO	49%	59%	70%

Table 34 – Comparing the Optimum Number of Children by the Number of Years Respondent is Married

### Love vs Arranged

Couples that have had a love marriage feel that the optimum number of children that a couple should have is one (**49%**), where as couples that have had an arranged marriage feel two is optimal (**62%**).

Optimum Number of Children	Arranged Marriage Respondents	Love Marriage Respondents
ONE	35%	49%
TWO	62%	48%

Table 35 – Comparing the Optimum Number of Children by the Type of Marriage



## Past Life and Relationships

We have seen that Indian marriages the foundation of a marriage is laid on trust, a compromising attitude and an understanding nature. With such parameters in place, sharing of details about past life and relationships before marriage is seen as a means to build trust between the potential partners.

Approximately half (**47%**) are of the view that sharing one's past life and relationships can lead to greater trust and confidence among potential partners. In today's modern times, people are increasingly accepting that their potential partners could have had relationships in the past but would like to start afresh. In fact, they themselves could have been involved in similar broken relationships and expect a similar experience when it comes to their partner.

### *Love vs Arranged*

People with love marriages were more likely to be honest about their past with **56%** sharing it with their spouse before marriage when compared to **45%** people who had arranged marriages.

Past Life and Relationships	Arranged Marriage Respondents	Love Marriage Respondents
Shared Past Life and Relationships that respondents had before marriage?	45%	56%

Table 36 – Comparing whether Past Life and Relationships were shared with partner before marriage by Marriage Type

### *By Gender*

Both males and females were equally forthright about disclosing their previous relationships with almost half of them saying they have discussed their past with their spouse before marriage.

Past Life and Relationships	Males	Females
Shared Past Life and Relationships that respondents had before marriage?	48%	46%

Table 37 – Comparing whether Past Life and Relationships were shared with partner before marriage by Gender



### By Number of Years Married

It is quite interesting to note that people married for a period greater than 5 years were more likely to be totally honest upfront of their past relationships to avoid any misunderstandings in future (**77%**).

Reasons for sharing Details of Past Life	Respondents who said that they shared their past with their partners before marriage		
	Married for Less than or Equal to 2 Years	Married for 2.1 to 5 Years	Married for Greater Than 5 Years
To be totally honest upfront and avoid any misunderstandings in future	69%	71%	77%

Table 38 – Reason cited by respondents for sharing past life with partner before marriage by Number of Years Married

### Reasons for Talking About Their Past Life

The main reason cited by people who said they had disclosed their previous relationships to their partners was to avoid any misunderstandings in future, with **72%** of the respondents mentioning so. Also, **63%** of the respondents did so to ensure that their potential spouse’s past relationships did not affect their future life together.

People in the Top 4 Metros feel more strongly towards being open and honest and cite the desire to avoid any future misunderstanding with their spouse as the reason why they disclosed their past relationships before marriage.

Reason for sharing past life with partner before marriage	Overall	Top 4 Metros (Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai)	Other 3 Metros (Bangalore, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad)	Small Metros (Lucknow, Ludhiana, Kochi)
To be totally honest upfront and avoid any misunderstandings in future	72%	80%	57%	77%
To confirm that my spouse’s past relationships should not affect our future life in any way	63%	72%	54%	58%

Table 39 – Reason cited by respondents for sharing past life with partner before marriage (Overall and by Town Class that respondent belonged to)



### **Reasons for NOT Talking About Their Past Life**

On the other hand, the respondents who didn't discuss their past life with their spouses before marriage said they didn't do so because they didn't want to create any doubt in their spouse's mind in future. More than a third of respondents also felt that there was no need to disclose details about their past lives because their past should have no bearing on their future.

People consider marriage as a fresh start, the first step towards a happy and stable life and are afraid to taint the new beginning with previous experiences.

People in smaller metros were more likely to be defensive about their past as indicated by their insistence that their past does not affect their future.

Reason for NOT sharing past life with partner before marriage	Overall	Top 4 Metros (Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai)	Other 3 Metros (Bangalore, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad)	Small Metros (Lucknow, Ludhiana, Kochi)
To avoid losing out on a potentially good spouse	20%	23%	18%	15%
My past has no bearing on my future with my spouse	38%	24%	42%	65%
I did not want my spouse to doubt me in the future	52%	62%	35%	48%

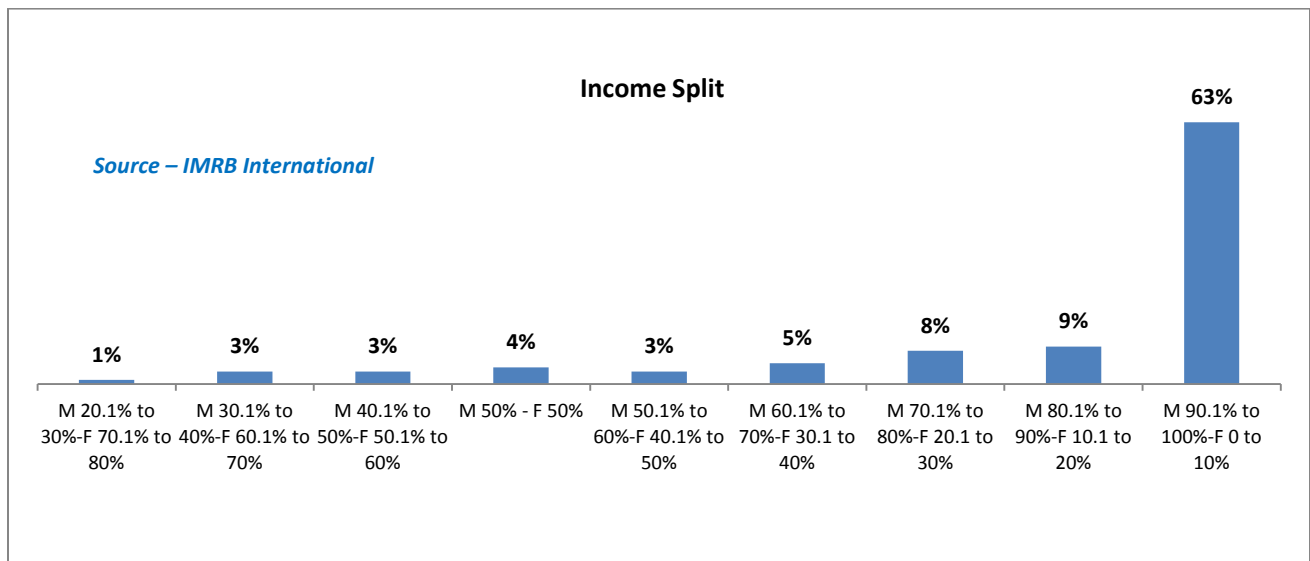
Table 40 – Reason cited by respondents for NOT sharing past life with partner before marriage (Overall and by Town Class that respondent belonged to)



## Finances of Household

India is a male dominated society with majority of the finances provided by the men. However, with a greater number of Indian women pursuing higher education than ever before, Indian women today are increasingly leading major organizations and are change agents. With such a changing scenario, the finances of a household are shared between a husband and a wife.

About the **63%** of the couples surveyed are dependent on their husbands for providing majority of their income. Only about **4%** of the couples reported an equitable share of income i.e. both husband and wife contributing equally to the collective income.



**Figure 19 – Manner in Which Income is Split between Husband and Wife**

**25%** of all respondents have a joint bank account with their spouses while **18%** of the respondents have a home that is registered in both husband and wife’s names.

Finances of Household	All Respondents
Joint Bank Account with Spouse	25%
Joint Ownership of House	18%

**Table 41 – Statements pertaining to Household Finances**





### **Male vs Female**

Females tend to have a joint bank account with the spouse (**29%**) as compared to men (**21%**). Along similar lines, **22%** of males tend to have joint ownership of the house as compared to **14%** mentioned by women. House ownership if at all, is usually in the name of the male (**29%**) when compared to women (**5%**).

Finances of Household	Males	Females
Joint Bank Account with Spouse	21%	29%
Joint Ownership of House	22%	14%
House Ownership in the Name of	29%	5%

Table 42 – Statements pertaining to Household Finances by Gender

### **Love vs Arranged**

People who have had love marriages are more likely to have a joint account than those with arranged marriages.

Finances of Household	Arranged Marriage Respondents	Love Marriage Respondents
Joint Bank Account with Spouse	22%	37%

Table 43 – Statements pertaining to Household Finances by Type of Marriage

With greater maturity in the marriage and trust developing, it is likely that a greater percentage of couples with an arranged marriage also would have joint bank accounts.



## Fitness and Grooming

Fitness and grooming are increasingly commonly heard buzz words among Indian people, especially among those residing in the larger metros. The importance of both is gaining momentum and is likely to not only increase further but also percolate to people residing in smaller Indian metros/towns.

While comparing factors important for a happy marriage, personal appearance is not as highly ranked as the others. The survey findings for a happy marriage are reaffirmed after questioning the respondents regarding involvement in a Gym/Yoga/Fitness activity regularly before marriage. Only **25%** of all respondents mentioned that they were involved in some fitness activity before marriage. The percentage that undertook such activities further dropped to **15%** after marriage, demonstrating the importance placed by married couples on fitness.

However, when questioned of the visits to men's salon / women's beauty parlour after marriage, the findings were encouraging. While **54%** mentioned that they visited such salon/beauty parlours for beauty treatment before marriage, **55%** continue to do even after marriage!

Regular salon and parlour visits are more common among younger men and women.

### **Male vs Female**

**35%** of men and **14%** of women said they exercised regularly before marriage, compared to **19%** and **11%** respectively after marriage.

Fitness Activities	Males	Females
Fitness Activity Before Marriage	35%	14%
Fitness Activity After Marriage	19%	11%

Table 44 – Comparing Fitness Activities by Gender



50% men said they went to a men’s salon regularly before marriage for facials, clean ups etc. while 59% of women said they went to a beauty parlour regularly before marriage. The percentage of men going to salons regularly drops to 48% after marriage and goes up to 63% for women. This suggests that women are taking greater care of themselves to look good after marriage as compared to the men.

Grooming Activities	Males	Females
Facial Clean Ups / Salon / Beauty Parlour Before Marriage	50%	59%
Facial Clean Ups / Salon / Beauty Parlour After Marriage	48%	63%

Table 45 – Comparing Grooming Activities by Gender

#### By Number of Years Married

Of the 25% of all respondents that participated in some fitness activity before marriage, a greater percentage of couples (77%) married for a period greater than 5 years did so as compared to those married for less than or two years (72%). In simpler terms, people married for a longer duration seem to take fitness more importantly than those that are recently married.

Along similar lines, of the 15% of all respondents that participated in some fitness activity after marriage, couples belonging to the 2.1 to 5 years group do so the most (85%).

Fitness Activities	Married for Less than or Equal to 2 Years	Married for 2.1 to 5 Years	Married for Greater Than 5 Years
Respondents who indulged in Gym/Yoga/Fitness Activity regularly before Marriage	72%	75%	77%
Respondents who indulged in Gym/Yoga/Fitness Activity regularly after Marriage	82%	85%	84%

Table 46 – Comparing Fitness Activities by Number of Years that Respondents have been Married



### **Love vs Arranged**

Interestingly, marriage type i.e. arranged or love had no bearing on people wanting to look good for their spouses.

### **Frequency of Dressing Up**

The majority of respondents said they dress up to impress their spouse only while going out or on special occasions such as birthdays and anniversaries. This is understandable considering the survey findings so far i.e. with respect to the importance placed on dressing up in comparison to the other ingredients of a happy marriage.

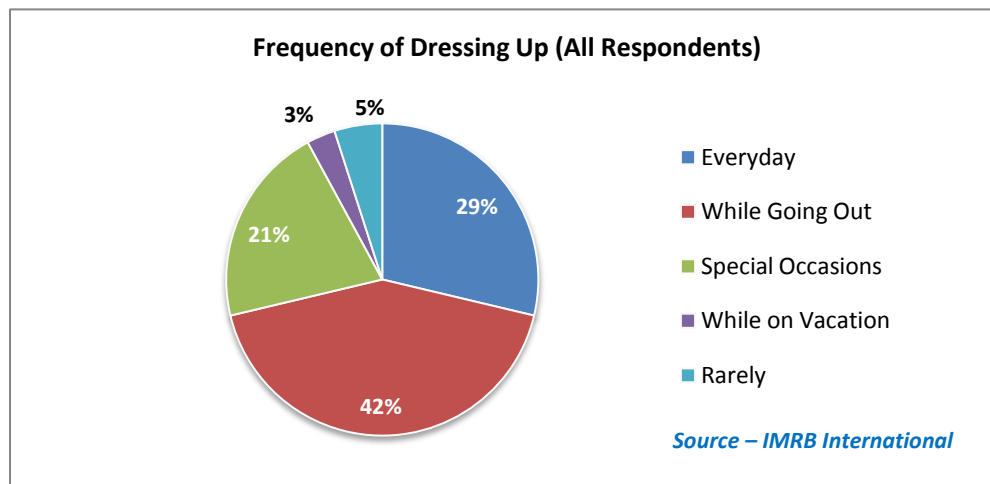


Figure 20 – Frequency with which the respondents dress up to impress their spouses



## Wedding Expenses

Indian weddings are probably the greatest of expenses that a family incurs over an entire lifetime. So it is quite important and interesting to know how these expenses are shared between the husband’s and wife’s family.

As per the survey findings, about **32%** of families equally share the wedding expenses. About **12%** of respondents said that the female’s family took care of entire wedding expenses. Above all, it is most interesting to note that about **8%** of the respondents mentioned that the husband’s family was responsible for the wedding expenses. These findings are illustrated in the graph below.

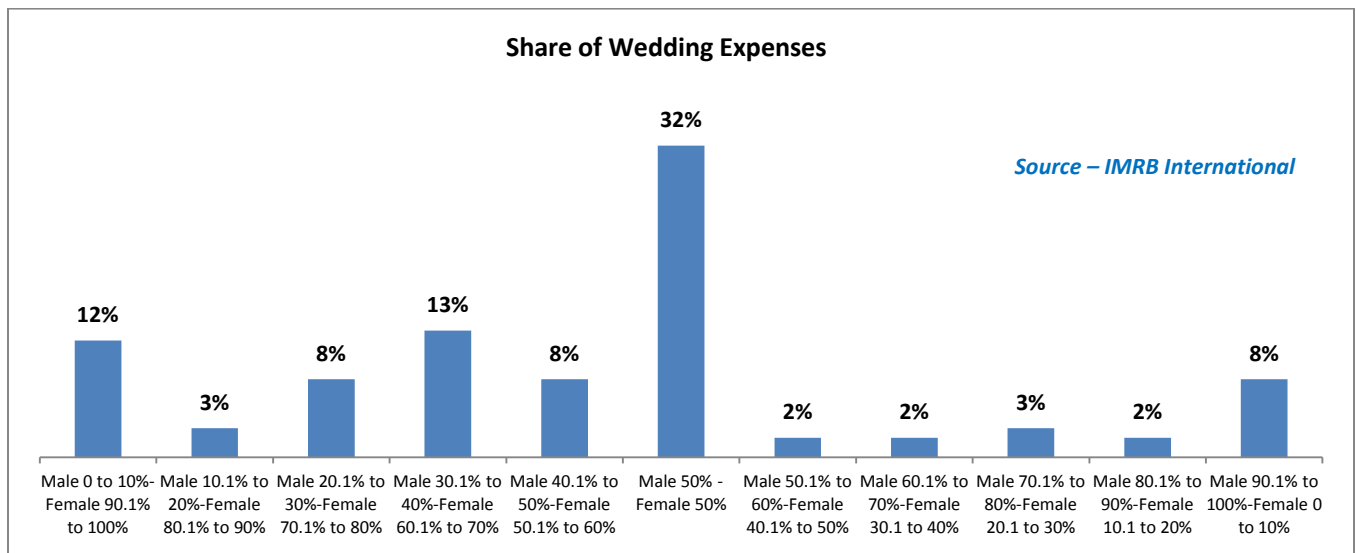


Figure 21 – Share in Wedding Expenses by the Husband and Wife’s Families

About **94%** of all respondents agreed that their families had exchanged gifts as part of the wedding.

In other words, gifts are often exchanged between families as a way in which social norms are fulfilled as well as serve extension of warmth. In short, one may always not associate dowry with gift exchanges.

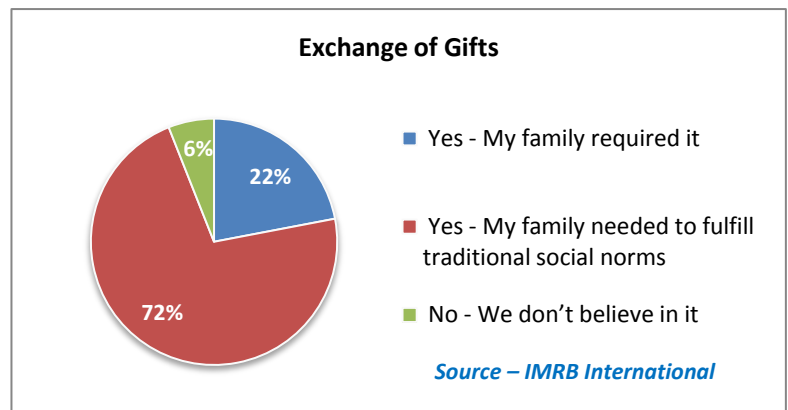


Figure 22 – Did the Husband and Wife’s Families Exchange Gifts?



### Gifts Exchanged

Typical gifts exchanged between the two families are Saris (81%), Shirts (79%) and Jewellery (76%).

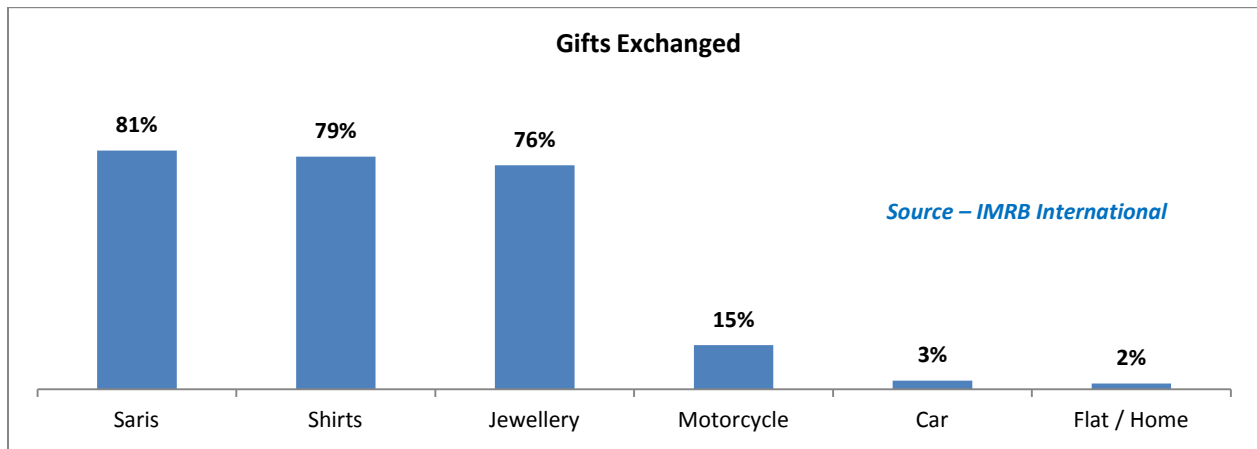


Figure 23 – Type of Gifts Exchanged by the Two Parties



### **Male vs Female**

Most males as well as females mentioned that various gifts were exchanged as part of wedding. The difference in the percentage of males and females mentioning so wasn't much. Of course, the main reason why gifts were exchanged was to fulfill traditional social norms.

<b>Gifts Exchanged as part of Wedding?</b>	<b>Males</b>	<b>Females</b>
<b>Yes - My family required it</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>23%</b>
<b>Yes - My family needed to fulfill traditional social norms</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>74%</b>

**Table 47 – Comparing Gender wise Responses with regards to Exchange of Wedding Gifts**

### **Love vs Arranged**

The exchange of gifts was slightly more commonly observed for people that had arranged marriages as compared to those that had love marriages.

<b>Gifts Exchanged as part of Wedding?</b>	<b>Arranged Marriage Respondents</b>	<b>Love Marriage Respondents</b>
<b>Yes - My family required it</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Yes - My family needed to fulfill traditional social norms</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>68%</b>

**Table 48 – Comparing responses of respondents by the Type of Marriage with regards to Exchange of Wedding Gifts**

In other words, respondents having love marriages probably can dictate certain aspects to their families i.e. as far as gift exchanges are concerned.



## In Laws

Indian marriages are deeply rooted on strong family ties. Therefore a natural outcome of such a base is the relationship that married individuals have with each other's in-laws. Quite naturally, the happiness of a marriage is also affected by the relationships with in-laws.

As per the survey findings, only about a third of respondents (**32%**) actually stay with their in-laws. Of course these findings are for men and women considered together. Yet these numbers point out the increasingly nuclear kind of setup today, where the sons and daughters may stay in the near vicinity but not necessarily under the same roof.

Also it is quite encouraging to know that about **90%** of the respondents agreed to have a good relationship with their in-laws. A happy marriage can help this relationship to evolve while a healthy relationship with the in-laws also makes relationship between the couple better. In addition, increasingly since the turn of the century, a greater number of couples are not having more than two children. In fact, as per the survey findings, **96%** of the respondents surveyed had less than or equal to two kids i.e. only about **4%** had more than two children. As a consequence, in-laws are increasingly treating their son-in-laws and daughter-in-laws as their own sons and daughters respectively.





**Male vs Female**

About **52%** of females said that they stayed with their in-laws as compared to **14%** of males. On the other hand, a relatively equal percentage of males (**91%**) and females (**88%**) agreed to have a good relationship with their In-laws.

Questions/Statements Pertaining to In Laws	Males	Females
Stay with In-laws	14%	52%
Good Relationship with In-laws	91%	88%
Good Relationship with in-laws is dependent On – ME	34%	44%
Good Relationship with in-laws is dependent On – COMPROMISE AND UNDERSTANDING OF ALL PARTIES	30%	24%

Table 49 – Comparing answers of respondents pertaining to In-Laws by Gender

A greater percentage of women feel that a good relationship with in-laws is more in their own hands as compared to **34%** stated by men. Men on the other hand, feel that all parties must be compromising to a certain extent and it is not only one individual that can make a difference. While the finding is fairly valid, it is also in line with the male ego that will usually not take the responsibility entirely.

**By Number of Years Married**

Quite interestingly, people married for a greater number of years tend to NOT stay with in-laws. A good relationship with in-laws stays the same relatively over time.

Also, with greater tenure of marriage, couples mature and feel that it is their own responsibility to have a good relationship with in-laws, more than they earlier felt.

Questions/Statements Pertaining to In Laws	Married for Less than or Equal to 2 Years	Married for 2.1 to 5 Years	Married for Greater Than 5 Years
Stay with In-laws	35%	34%	28%
Good Relationship with In-laws	90%	91%	88%
Good Relationship with in-laws is dependent On – ME	36%	39%	41%
Good Relationship with in-laws is dependent On – COMPROMISE AND UNDERSTANDING OF ALL PARTIES	29%	27%	26%

Table 50 – Comparing answers of respondents pertaining to In-Laws by the Number of Years Respondents have been Married



### **Love vs Arranged**

People who have had love marriages are less likely to accept that a good relationship is dependent on them alone (**32%**). In other words, people with love marriages feel that a good relationship with in-laws is dependent on the compromising and understanding nature of all parties (**32%**).

Questions/Statements Pertaining to In Laws	Arranged Marriage Respondents	Love Marriage Respondents
Good Relationship with in-laws is dependent On – ME	40%	32%
Good Relationship with in-laws is dependent On – COMPROMISE AND UNDERSTANDING OF ALL PARTIES	26%	32%

**Table 51 – Comparing answers of respondents pertaining to In-Laws by Type of Marriage**

Such a finding is in line with the pre conceived notion that people who had love marriages have very high expectations from their marriages. As a consequence some love marriages could fail as well.

On the other hand, respondents who have had arranged marriages could set their expectations lower and therefore are ready to take the onus on themselves rather than leaving it to their in-laws.