

DYNAMICS OF IDEAS ABOUT FUTURE MARRIAGE AMONG YOUNG WOMEN WITH DIFFERENT MORAL ORIENTATION OF PERSONALITY

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Abstract

The problem of implementing reasoned education of students in the field of self-determination in marriage and family relationship raises the question of what psychological determinants contribute to the formation of complete and harmonious ideas about marriage which perform a guiding function when mastering a new social role.

The purpose of the study is to identify the features of ideas about future marriage depending on the moral orientation of young women at different stages of age development: adolescence (from 17 to 19 years), early adulthood (from 20 to 22 years).

In the study there was used review and generalization contents psychological and pedagogical literature; psych diagnostic method; comparative analysis of statistical data. 322 female students took part in the cross-sectional study.

There are no general substantive characteristics in the ideas about future marriage in adolescence. In the group of young women with egocentric orientation when forming ideas about their own marital behavior, such an element of the cognitive component as the fulfillment of duties is actualized, in the emotional component a positive attitude towards family as a social institution, their own family, future marriage partner, themselves, romantic love is revealed. Among young women with a group-centric orientation in the image "I am a future wife" there is empathy, a positive attitude towards romantic love, an attitude towards personal autonomy. Among young women with a humanistic orientation in thinking about the future marital roles there are the basic elements of cognitive, partially emotional and behavioral components. In the group of young women with a world-creating orientation the content of the image "I am a future wife" is characterized by the completeness of the representation of the cognitive component, saturation with such elements of the emotional component as a positive attitude towards family as a social institution, their own family, future marriage partner, themselves, future children, romantic love, leadership and responsibility in the family.

In early adulthood compared with adolescence there is a tendency to reduce the number of meaningful characteristics in the image "I am a future wife" among young women with egocentric, humanistic and world-creating orientations. The invariant characteristic is a personal independence in the studied image. Young women with egocentric, humanistic and world-creating orientations have such elements as caring, patience, respect for other people, balance.

Keywords: *Ideas about marriage, moral orientations.*

1. Introduction

Currently, the socio-economic situation is rapidly changing, which obviously leads to significant changes in the characteristics of the modern family (Zhuravlev & Kupreichenko, 2007). Exploring marriage motivation for representatives of different ages, Kharchev (1986) states that concordance of motive for marriage positively correlates with increase of spouses age, so the motivation of marriage can be a condition for the success and harmony of family relations. In this case, we will focus on the comparative aspect of ideas about future marriage among young women with different moral orientation of personality, which is of interest for finding ways to achieve the stability of marriage. A study directly devoted to the readiness of young people to marry was conducted by Obozov (2001), Filyukova (2016), Trapeznikova & Volkova (2012), Dubrovina (2015). However, one can observe the absence of modern research on this problem, since the true meaning of marriage is the acceptance of a new status, with a new

set of privileges and responsibilities, and the recognition of this new status by others, recognized rights and responsibilities.

In the psychological literature, concepts such as psychological readiness for parenthood (Ovcharova, 2003), psychological readiness for motherhood (Meshcheryakova, 2000; Filippova, 2002; Ovcharova, 2005), psychological readiness for fatherhood (Spivakovskaya, 2000; Ovcharova, 2005; Demchuk, 2006) have been widely studied. But the ideas about the future marriage of young women with different moral orientation are insufficiently studied. A theoretical analysis of the research has shown that young people's ideas about family life and marriage use such concepts as "readiness for marriage", "ability to marry", "the need to create a family and raise children", and others. The definition of the attitude towards marriage and family relations can be interpreted as the basis for creating a family and controlling family relations, as an active state of personality that causes activity in organizing marriage and family relations, as a result of family education, psychological training and psychological mobilization (Volkova & Trapeznikova, 2012).

The resolution of the contradiction between the need of modern society in the formation of ideas about future marriage among young women with different moral orientation determines the problem of the study. The obtained research results served as the basis for the development and implementation of a program of psychological and pedagogical support for the development of ideas about future marriage.

2. Objectives

The purpose of the study is to identify the features of ideas about future marriage depending on the moral orientation of young women at different stages of age development: adolescence (from 17 to 19 years), early adulthood (from 20 to 22 years).

3. Methods

The dominant moral orientation of the personality is determined using the methodology "Moral Self-determination of Personality" by A.E. Vorobieva, A.B. Kupreichenko (Zhuravlev & Kupreichenko, 2007).

Using a modified version of the semantic differential technique (Solomin, 2001) we determined the valuable attitude of young women towards the concept of "I am a future wife." We have established the importance of such personal qualities as fulfillment of duties, caring, personal independence, responsibility, sexuality, patience, diligence, respect for another person, balance, success, empathy which formed the content of the cognitive component of ideas about marriage. The projective technique "Incomplete Sentences" (Yanjshin, 2021) allowed us to study the elements of the emotional component of ideas about marriage: the attitude towards family as a social institution, one's own family, future marriage partner, oneself, future children, romantic love, sex, family conflicts, divorce, leadership and responsibility in the family, rights and duties of spouses, family rest and leisure. As a result of using the questionnaire "Role Expectations and Claims in Marriage" by A.N. Volkova (Volkova & Trapeznikova, 2012) we identified the attitudes of female students towards their own personal readiness to fulfill family duties in the household, parental-educational, emotional-psychotherapeutic, intimate-sexual spheres, social activity, external attractiveness (role claims) which formed the behavioral component of ideas about marriage.

Further, through correlation analysis we have identified meaningful characteristics of ideas about the future role of a wife depending on the dominant moral orientation and age of female students. To this aim we calculated the correlation coefficients between the image "I am a future wife" and the elements of cognitive, emotional and behavioral components. For quantitative variables whose distribution corresponds to the normal law (established as a result of calculating the Kolmogorov-Smirnov criterion for one sample, the Shapiro-Wilkes criterion) we calculated the Pearson linear correlation coefficient (r). For ordinal and quantitative variables, the distribution of which significantly differs from the normal law, is Spearman's rank correlation coefficient (r_s). The results were used at the level of statistical significance $p \leq 0.05$; $p \leq 0.01$ for the final conclusions. The ranking procedure by the value of the correlation coefficient allowed us to determine the hierarchy of meaningful characteristics in the ideas about the future marital role from the most important to the less significant.

The study was conducted on the basis of Astrakhan State University, the Astrakhan branch of the Russian Academy of National Economy and Public Administration under the President of the Russian Federation. The study involved 389 female students. The total sample was divided into age cohorts in order to conduct a comparative analysis: adolescent age (from 17-19 years) with 190 people (48.8%), early adulthood (20-22 years) with 199 people (51.2%).

4. Study results

Using the methodology "Moral Self-determination of Personality" by A.E. Vorobieva, A.B. Kupreichenko it was established that 7 people (3.7%) have egocentric orientation, 13 people (6.8%) have group-centric orientation, 47 people (24.7%) have humanistic orientation, 87 people (45.8%) have world-creating orientation, 36 people (18.9%) have mixed orientation in the adolescence group. 25 people (12.5%) with egocentric orientation, 24 people (12.1%) with group-centric orientation, 30 people (15.1%) with humanistic orientation, 89 people (44.7%) with world-creating orientation, 31 people (15.6%) with mixed orientation were identified in the age group of early adulthood.

The concept of "I am a future wife" consists of 6 elements of cognitive and emotional components among young women with egocentric orientation in adolescence. The following hierarchy of meaningful characteristics is observed: 1) positive attitude towards romantic love ($r_s = 0.927$ at $p = 0.003$); 2) positive attitude towards one's own family ($r_s = 0.908$ at $p = 0.005$); 3) positive attitude towards future marriage partner ($r_s = 0.881$ at $p = 0.009$); 4) positive attitude towards family as a social institution ($r_s = 0.825$ at $p = 0.022$); 5) performance of duties ($r_s = 0.801$ at $p = 0.03$); 6) positive attitude towards oneself ($r_s = 0.761$ at $p = 0.047$). In early adulthood in the typological group under consideration the image "I am a future wife" consists of 5 elements of the cognitive component which form the following hierarchy: 1) caring ($r_s = 0.648$ at $p < 0.001$); 2) patience ($r_s = 0.615$ at $p = 0.001$); 3) balance ($r_s = 0.596$ at $p = 0.002$); 4) respect for other people ($r_s = 0.47$ at $p = 0.018$); 5) personal independence ($r_s = 0.443$ at $p = 0.027$). The content of the cognitive and emotional components of the ideas about the marital role does not coincide in the image "I am a future wife" in adolescence and early adulthood.

The following hierarchy of meaningful characteristics is observed among young women with group - centric orientation in adolescence age in the image "I am a future wife": 1) empathy ($r_s = 0.727$ at $p = 0.005$); 2) positive attitude towards romantic love ($r_s = 0.632$ at $p = 0.02$); 3) setting for personal autonomy since a negative correlation with the scale of personal identification with a spouse was revealed ($r_s = -0.555$ at $p = 0.049$). In early adulthood the image "I am a future wife" consists of 3 elements of the cognitive component which form the following hierarchy: 1) success ($r_s = 0.467$ at $p = 0.021$); 2) personal independence ($r_s = 0.451$ at $p = 0.027$); 3) performance of duties ($r_s = 0.427$ at $p = 0.038$). The elements of cognitive (empathy), emotional (positive attitude towards romantic love) and behavioral components (attitude towards personal autonomy) of ideas about the future marital role characteristic of adolescence are absent in early adulthood.

Among young women with a humanistic orientation in adolescence ideas about their own future marriage include 13 elements of cognitive, emotional and behavioral components that form the following hierarchy: 1) respect for other people ($r_s = 0.556$ at $p < 0.001$); 2) personal independence ($r_s = 0.521$ at $p < 0.001$); 3) caring ($r_s = 0.516$ at $p < 0.001$); 4) sexuality ($r_s = 0.512$ at $p < 0.001$); 5) diligence ($r_s = 0.498$ at $p < 0.001$); 6) patience ($r_s = 0.473$ at $p = 0.001$); 7) role claims in the household sphere ($r_s = 0.33$ at $p = 0.033$); 8) responsibility ($r_s = 0.326$ at $p = 0.026$); 9) positive attitude towards future children ($r_s = 0.317$ at $p = 0.03$); 10) success ($r_s = 0.314$ at $p = 0.032$); 11) positive attitude towards one's own family ($r_s = 0.311$ with $p = 0.034$); 12) personal identification with a spouse ($r_s = 0.309$ at $p = 0.046$); 13) positive attitude towards family as a social institution ($r_s = 0.298$ at $p = 0.042$).

During the transition from adolescence to early adulthood the emotional and behavioral components are subject to the greatest changes in the content of the image "I am a future wife". The content of the cognitive component of the ideas about the future marital role practically coincides but the hierarchy of elements changes. In early adulthood young women's image "I am a future wife" includes 12 meaningful characteristics that form the following hierarchical structure: 1) performance of duties ($r_s = 0.771$ at $p < 0.001$); 2) diligence ($r_s = 0.702$ at $p < 0.001$); 3) success ($r_s = 0.684$ at $p < 0.001$); 4) respect for other people ($r_s = 0.681$ at $p < 0.001$); 5) balance ($r_s = 0.658$ at $p < 0.001$); 6) responsibility ($r_s = 0.521$ at $p = 0.003$); 7) patience ($r_s = 0.497$ at $p = 0.005$); 8) role claims in the emotional and psychotherapeutic sphere ($r_s = 0.45$ at $p = 0.012$); 9) caring ($r_s = 0.428$ at $p = 0.018$); 10) personal independence ($r_s = 0.426$ at $p = 0.019$); 11) role claims in the household sphere ($r_s = 0.405$ at $p = 0.026$); 12) role claims in the parental and educational sphere ($r_s = 0.371$ at $p = 0.044$). In early adulthood such meaningful characteristics as responsibility, diligence, and success become more important. At the same time the importance of caring, personal independence, patience, respect for other people, role-playing claims in the household sphere decreases. The image "I am a future wife" is complemented by such characteristics as fulfillment of duties, balance, role claims in the emotional-psychotherapeutic and parental-educational spheres. At the same time there are no elements of cognitive (sexuality), emotional (positive attitude towards family as a social institution, one's own family, future children) and behavioral (personal identification with a spouse) components inherent in the image "I am a future wife" in adolescence. In early adulthood young women with a humanistic orientation of personality revealed a close relationship between ideas about the future marital role and motherhood.

Among young women with a world-creating orientation in adolescence self-image in the role of a wife consists of 18 elements of cognitive and emotional components. The meaningful characteristics of the image "I am a future wife" form the following sequence: 1) diligence ($r_s = 0.527$ at $p < 0.001$); 2) caring ($r_s = 0.521$ at $p < 0.001$); 3) sexuality ($r_s = 0.409$ at $p < 0.001$); 4) patience ($r_s = 0.392$ at $p < 0.001$); 5) responsibility and personal independence ($r_s = 0.374$ at $p < 0.001$); 6) positive attitude towards future children ($r_s = 0.354$ at $p = 0.001$); 7) respect for other people ($r_s = 0.346$ at $p = 0.001$); 8) performance of duties ($r_s = 0.339$ at $p = 0.001$); 9) positive attitude towards romantic love ($r_s = 0.323$ at $p = 0.002$); 10) positive attitude towards future marriage partner ($r_s = 0.306$ at $p = 0.004$); 11) positive attitude towards oneself ($r_s = 0.302$ at $p = 0.005$); 12) balance ($r_s = 0.298$ at $p = 0.005$); 13) success ($r_s = 0.279$ at $p = 0.009$); 14) empathy ($r_s = 0.253$ at $p = 0.018$); 15) positive attitude towards family as a social institution ($r_s = 0.234$ at $p = 0.03$); 16) positive attitude towards one's own family ($r_s = 0.227$ at $p = 0.035$); 17) positive attitude towards primacy and responsibility in the family ($r_s = 0.225$ at $p = 0.037$).

In this typological group at the next stage of age development the emotional and behavioral components are subject to the greatest changes in the content of the image "I am a future wife", the content of the cognitive component of the ideas about the future marital role coincides but the hierarchy of elements changes. The image "I am a future wife" includes 17 meaningful characteristics that form the following hierarchical structure: 1) caring ($r_s = 0.732$ at $p < 0.001$); 2) personal independence ($r_s = 0.594$ at $p < 0.001$); 3) respect for other people ($r_s = 0.577$ at $p < 0.001$); 4) balance ($r_s = 0.564$ at $p < 0.001$); 5) diligence ($r_s = 0.503$ at $p < 0.001$); 6) sexuality ($r_s = 0.486$ at $p < 0.001$); 7) responsibility ($r_s = 0.485$ at $p < 0.001$); 8) performance of duties ($r_s = 0.453$ at $p < 0.001$); 9) patience ($r_s = 0.446$ at $p < 0.001$); 10) success ($r_s = 0.388$ at $p < 0.001$); 11) positive attitude towards future marriage partner ($r_s = 0.362$ at $p = 0.001$); 12) positive attitude towards romantic love ($r_s = 0.34$ at $p = 0.001$); 13) empathy ($r_s = 0.32$ at $p = 0.002$); 14) positive attitude towards sex ($r_s = 0.279$ at $p = 0.008$); 15) external attractiveness ($r_s = 0.279$ at $p = 0.008$); 16) role claims in the parental and educational sphere ($r_s = 0.255$ at $p = 0.016$); 17) positive attitude towards one's own family ($r_s = 0.2222$ at $p = 0.037$). In early adulthood such personal qualities as caring, personal independence, respect for other people, balance, success, empathy become more important. The image "I am a future wife" is complemented by a positive attitude towards sex, role-playing claims in the parental and educational sphere, external attractiveness. The role of such meaningful characteristics as responsibility, sexuality, patience, diligence, a positive attitude towards one's own family, a future marriage partner, and romantic love is decreasing. At the same time there is no positive attitude towards family as a social institution, oneself, future children, leadership and responsibility in the family, characteristic of the image "I am a future wife" in adolescence.

5. Conclusions

The formation of ideas about the future marital role among young women aged 17 to 19 years is associated with the dominant moral orientation of the personality. No common substantive characteristics were revealed in the ideas about future marriage in adolescence. In the group of young women with egocentric orientation when forming ideas about their own marital behavior such an element of the cognitive component as the fulfillment of duties is actualized, in the emotional component a positive attitude towards family as a social institution, their own family, future marriage partner, oneself, romantic love are revealed. Among young women with a group-centric orientation in the image "I am a future wife" empathy, a positive attitude towards romantic love, an attitude towards personal autonomy. Young women with a humanistic orientation in thinking about the future marital roles are the basic elements of cognitive (caring, personal independence, responsibility, sexuality, patience, diligence, respect for others, success), partly emotional (positive attitude towards the family as a social institution, a family and future children) and behavioral (personal identification with her husband, the role of claims in the domestic sphere) components. In the group of young women with a world-creating orientation the content of the image "I am a future wife" is characterized by the completeness of the representation of the cognitive component, intensity with such elements of the emotional component as a positive attitude towards family as a social institution, one's own family, future marriage partner, oneself, future children, romantic love, primacy and responsibility in the family.

In early adulthood compared with adolescence there is a tendency to reduce the number of meaningful characteristics in the image "I am a future wife" among young women with egocentric, humanistic and world-creating orientations. In the studied image the invariant characteristic is personal independence. Young women with egocentric, humanistic and world-creating orientations have such elements as caring, patience, respect for other people, balance. Among young women with group-centric, humanistic and world-creating orientations the common components are the fulfillment of duties, success. In the group of young women with a humanistic orientation the content of the image "I am a future wife"

is supplemented with elements of cognitive (responsibility, diligence) and behavioral (role claims in emotional-psychotherapeutic, household and parental-educational spheres) components. Among young women with a world-creating orientation ideas about future marriage differ in the completeness of the formation of the cognitive component, the actualization of elements of emotional (positive attitude towards their own family, future marriage partner, romantic love, sex) and behavioral (role claims in the parental and educational sphere, external attractiveness) components.

So, in the group of young women with egocentric and group-centric orientations the dynamics of self-image in the future marital role is characterized by the instability of the formation of cognitive, emotional and behavioral components in adolescence and early adulthood. The content of the image "I am a future wife" young women with humanistic and world-creating orientations have a greater fullness and intensity of elements. In the typological groups under consideration the content of the image "I am a future wife" in adolescence is distinguished by the presence of a positive attitude towards future children, in early adulthood there is by orientation to one's own responsibilities in raising children. Consequently, among young women with humanistic and world-creating orientations ideas about the future marital role are inextricably linked with motherhood. The cumulative formation of cognitive and individual elements of the emotional components of self-image in the marital role is characteristic of young women with a world-creating orientation at the considered stages of age development. Thus, the purposeful upbringing of students of a world-creating orientation will contribute to the completeness of the formation of the cognitive component, the stability of the elements of the emotional component (a positive attitude towards their own family, a future marriage partner, romantic love) of ideas about the future marital role in adolescence and early adulthood.

The results raised a number of questions: are there any differences in the content and hierarchical structure of the image "I am a future wife" and the ideas about the ideal spouse among young women depending on the moral orientation of the personality in adolescence and early adulthood? Do the ideas of the role of the wife among young men and young women coincide with the same moral orientations of the personality in the considered stages of age development? The prospect of further research should be the study of the connection between moral orientations and ideas about marriage among young men in adolescence and early adulthood.

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