



ABSTRACT

The society changes all the time. New laws appear and they are either similar or different to those that people have practiced long ago. In this work, the issue of polygamy will be differentiated from the perspective of its unreasonable character and the damage it causes. The traits of this phenomenon will be observed in the past and related to the modern times.

Polygamy is a widespread phenomenon that we meet quite often in our society nowadays. It relates to the relationships between people, particularly the relationships between one man and many women and one woman and many men. The core of this notion lies in the nature of people and their desires. It causes a lot of problems in the course of life. Our paper is argumentative and we will try to enlighten all the drawbacks of the problem and turn to some examples, in order to show the right decisions and a way out.

THESIS

Polygamy is ruining relationships between two people. It will be proved turning to the facts of emotional influence of women, the core of health and happiness of the families.

INTRODUCTION

Turning to the facts from the history, it is seen that “polygamy is a very hot and debatable issue in the society. It is rather old since it has been practiced by some Hindus, Mormons, Muslims, and other cultural and religious groups”. Polygamy has been also found in the Bible. The grandson of Adam and Eva, Lamech is an example of it. Such retrospective to the past helps to

understand the roots of the problem and try to find the way out from it.

The opponents of polygamy offer similarly unconvincing arguments. One example is the 1878 case of *Reynolds v United States*, where the US Supreme Court denied Mormons an exemption from laws criminalizing polygamy because of their religious conviction. Polygamy was considered to be a betrayal and was to be punished.

Nowadays polygamy is found in the number of the families, when men, marrying women find mistresses in some time. It is considered that such men are looking for emotions that are faded in the family life. Such kind of relationships brings a lot of misunderstanding to the lives of people and they are considered to be betrayed.

MATERIAL

There exist polygamy relationships where a man has several women and monogamy relations where a man has one woman but a mistress as well. The mistresses in this case have no rights. Such polygamy turns people only to sexual relations, when the marriage, on the contrary includes such factors as responsibility, support, understanding, property alliance, rising children, duties in relation to the other spouse.

Marriage is the union of two people who are in charge of each other and who make all possible to create a happy family with healthy children. It is rather a moral union than a legal one with an idea of shared life. The spouses select their parts for the whole period of their future life and they take a decision once and forever. The desire to be together with exactly this person is a driving force to the creation of the family.

The norms that the spouse will follow will depend on what people will favor for their ideal marriage. Different spouses have different favors. Some of them want their sexual life to stay emotional, to the others the life of their children is on the first place and they have obligations, connected with

raising them. However, some of the demands are connected with social norms more than with the likes and dislikes of the couple. "On this hub-and-spoke model, even the ideal central spouse will have more marital rights and less marital obligations than each peripheral spouse. This inequality is not a contingent vice of modern polygyny but a structural feature of polygamy itself".

Nowadays it is allowed for the men – it gives the right to marry several wives, while the women can have only one husband. This humiliates women and cuts their rights in the society. This fact makes the man higher in the society than the woman; it makes her feel humiliated and realize having an inferior personality.

Here exists an opinion that women have the right to be polyandry (have several men), the problem of unfairness will be taken away. However, the fact is that the women do not want to have several men. They are monogamous by their nature.

DISCUSSION

Polygamy makes an impact on the development of the personality of the woman. The difference between women who are in polygamy marriages differ from those who are in traditional relationships and it lies in the fact of first suffer from low self-esteem that can even turn to depression. It may cause a number of problems. These women suffer from less material satisfaction and depression. It is harder for them to grow children and to strengthen their position in the society. The burden of the understanding that she is not unique for her man makes her depressed.

Women who are involved in such marriages tend to bare such marriage only with the aim of bearing children. It is difficult for such women to find jobs and work outside home. They are like imprisoned in the cave of polygamy.

The issue of health also relates to the polygamy as women who are in such

kind of relationships are more likely to have different diseases such as AIDS. The study is based on the investigation of 1 153 men and women from Nigeria. The results showed that the men who had three wives were the source and transmitters of the sexual diseases. Men who had only one wife reduced the risk of infecting. Therefore, the conclusion is that it is safer to be involved in the monogamy marriage.

Polygamy does not only humiliate a woman; it causes a lot of difficulties and harms the further development of children and their future. The conclusion is that polygamy should be banned.

The status of the woman in the relationships should be the same that the man's status. Children should be brought-up in the equal families with love and understanding between spouses. The polygamy marriages are no tenable in the frames of the modern society. Nowadays people want to have respect from their spouses and they do not want to share their wife or husband with the other people.

People consider polygamy to be the kind of humiliation and they really do not accept it. Here we find the problem. This phenomenon is accepted in the society; however, it ruins relationships – the basics of society. Therefore, it appears to be a dead end, because women do not accept it and they do not want to live as the second or third wife. If the polygamy is not approved in the definite society and the man finds mistresses, women also do not like it and divorce. In such cases, children are brought up in the atmosphere of the continuous tension and arguments that influence their further life greatly.

CONCLUSION

In the research, we focused on the phenomenon of polygamy and turned to the thesis that it ruins relationships. In support I presented the facts that the basic drawback of polygamy is its inegalitarian character. It humiliates woman in her rights and makes the man interior. It reduces the women's functioning in the society and makes her life more difficult. It brings the

woman into the risk of the obtaining different diseases, starting from moral traumas and finishing with such disease as AIDS. The harmful effects of such marriages are well known, so the decision to stop it should be accepted in the society. Even punishments should be provided if the man cheats on his wife with a mistress. This will help to reduce the risks of humiliating women and create stronger families. The society creates some laws and provides some rights that make people suffer and even ruin their lives. It is better to avoid such kind of decisions because happy society can be created only when each person is happy.