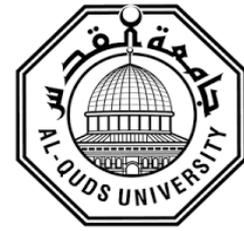


**Deanship of Graduate Studies  
Al-Quds University**



**Child Marriage in the Gaza Strip:  
Triggers and Consequences**

**Samah Elamassie**

**MPH thesis**

**Gaza-Palestine  
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# **Child Marriage in the Gaza Strip: Triggers and Consequences**

**Submitted by:**

**Samah Taysier Elamassie**

**BSc. of Medicine- Islamic University- Gaza, Palestine**

**Supervisor: Dr. Bassam Abu Hamad**

**PhD, Associate Professor- School of Public Health**

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Deanship of Graduate Studies  
School of Public Health



## Thesis Approval

### Child Marriage in the Gaza Strip: Triggers and Consequence

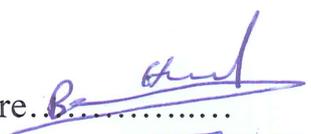
Prepared By: Samah Taysier Elamassie  
Registration No.: 21610998

Supervisor: Dr. Bassam Abu Hamad

Master thesis submitted and accepted. Date: / /

The names of signatures of the examining committee members are as follows:

1. Head of committee: Dr. Bassam Abu Hamad

Signature. 

2. Internal examiner: Dr. Yehia Abed

Signature. 

3. External examiner: Dr. Areefa Alkasseh

Signature. 

Jerusalem – Palestine

1440 / 2019

## **Dedication**

To my beloved father, who is the soul of my life, and supported me in each steps in my life.

To the biggest, heart my mother, who works hard for our future and our achievement

To all of my sisters and to my brother Mohammed.

To all those who encouraged, supported and helped me all the way

I dedicate this research for all of them

Samah Taysier Elamassie

## **Declaration**

I certify that this thesis submitted for the degree of master is the result of my own research, except where otherwise acknowledged, and that this thesis or any of its parts has not been submitted for higher degree to any other university or institution.

**Signed:**

**Samah Elamassie**

**Date:**...../...../.....

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The researcher gives continues great thanks words to Dr. Bassam Abu Hamad, for his patience, support and continues education.

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Sincere thanks to data collectors, who worked hard enough to reach to this result.

The main great thanks to participants, without them, this thesis could not be achieved.

Appreciate thanks, to all of my family, father, mother, sisters and friends.

*With respect;*

Samah Elamassie

## Abstract

Universally, child marriage remains a prominent public health concern with many consequences on married girls and their families particularly their siblings. This study explores the consequences and triggers of child marriage in the Gaza Strip.

The design of this study is methodologically triangulated one. The quantitative component was carried out, through face-to-face household surveyed questionnaire for 406 participants who were married before reaching the age of 18 and currently they are less than 25 years old were selected through random a multistage sampling approach. A mix of self-constructed and standardized tools were used and the response rate was high (99.5%). Quantitative data were analysed using the SPSS software and the qualitative data were analysed using open coded thematic technique.

Findings showed that the median parents (of the early married) family size was 9, their parents have poor education level, 73.6% were receiving social assistance. Regarding education, of the respondents, 74.8% were out of school at marriage time, from them, 44.8% left school after being engaged and only 11.7% of them continued education. After marriage, the socioeconomic conditions did not improve as 64.3% reported that their husbands were not working and 77.6% of them reported receiving social assistance. Nearly half of respondents (45.6%) had been exposed to at least one type of violence, and 18.7% of the respondents were depressed.

The study concluded that the most commonly reported drivers for child marriage were family norms (82.5%), community norms (73.9%), religious beliefs (53%) and consanguinity (52.5%). Less frequently reported triggers include; poor economic conditions (36.2%), having many sisters in the family (34.7%), low school achievement (25.1%) and previous exposure to violence (14.3%).

The mostly frequently reported consequences of child marriage were leaving school (67.5%), increased stress and anxiety level (66.5%), losing privacy (58.6%), and forgone opportunities to work (54.9%). Less frequently reported factors include an increase in family conflict (36.9%), deterioration of health status (12.6%), having divorce thoughts (10.8%) and inability to take care of their children (9.6%).

Only 15.5% of participants never got pregnant, and 39.9% from those who got pregnant complained form pregnancy complications. Additionally, 27.9% of participants reported that their children had chronic diseases and or recurrent hospital admissions, from them; 14.4% had congenital anomalies, 22.2% had low calcium level and 42.2% had gastroenteritis that led to hospital admission.

With regard to the wellbeing assessment, nearly half (54.7%) had an average wellbeing status and (5.9%) had low wellbeing status. Moreover, about one third (32.8%) of participants had notable dissatisfaction on the couple satisfaction index. Regarding agency, most of the participants were not allowed to go outside their households alone, mostly they need permission from their husbands.

The study concludes that child marriage is driven mainly by cultural and family norms and results in catastrophic consequences on education, agency, physical, and psychosocial wellbeing. More multi-sectorial efforts are needed to change community social norms about early marriage and to lobbying for changing the legal age of marriage, in addition to specifically and proactively target and support married girls.

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## List of Abbreviations

<b>ACERWC</b>	African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
<b>ACHPR</b>	African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights
<b>ACPF</b>	African Child Policy Forum
<b>CSI</b>	Couple Satisfaction index
<b>FGD</b>	Focus Group Discussion
<b>GAGE</b>	Gender and Adolescence: Global Evidence
<b>GBV</b>	Gender Based Violence
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic products
<b>GEM</b>	Global Entrepreneurship Monitor
<b>HIV</b>	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
<b>ICRW</b>	The International Center for Research on Women
<b>IPPF</b>	International Planned Parenthood Federation
<b>IPV</b>	Intimate Partner Violence
<b>IUD</b>	Intra Uterine Device
<b>IWHC</b>	International Women's Health Coalition
<b>MCH</b>	Maternal and Child Health
<b>MOH</b>	Ministry of Health
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organizations
<b>PCBS</b>	Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics
<b>UHWC</b>	Union of Health Work Committees
<b>UNFPA</b>	United Nations Population Fund
<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations Children's Emergency Fund
<b>UNRWA</b>	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
<b>UNSD</b>	United Nations Statistics Division
<b>WEMWBS</b>	Warwick Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale
<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organization

# Chapter One

## Introduction

### 1.1 Research Background

Being early-married means one of the couples is younger than 18 years old so before physically, physiologically and psychologically being mature (United Nations Population Fund -UNFPA, 2014b). This means violation of free and full consent. UNFPA defined marriage by "*Choosing when and who to marry, is one of life's most important decisions. No one else, however, has the right to make that decision on behalf of someone. Decision to marry should be freely made, informed decision that is taken without fear, coercion, or undue pressure. It is an adult decision, and a decision that should be made, when ready, as an adult*" (UNFPA, 2014, p. 1a).

In the same way, being married in a healthy status, in proper age, is a worthwhile goal. Adding to that, marriage is about life long relationship it is about commitment, communication and be a good manager to any conflict.

In contrary, it will be a life killer if it happens before 18 years old, not only because of the health consequences, but also because the interference in the normal life trajectories (World Health Organization-WHO, 2013). Early marriage among girls may reach to 40-50% in many countries as in India; and in Niger, it is as high as 75% (Lemmon & ElHarake, 2014). While early marriage prevalence in Palestine is significantly less, as detailed later.

Because of the negative consequences of early marriage, many organizations are working hard to face this problem such as the African Commission on Human and People Right's, which put a rule that prohibited marriage prior 18 years old. The Convention on the Rights of the child, which is an international charter that defines the civil, political, economic, and cultural rights of children, it forbids child marriage before their 18 years birthday. This is according to the African Commission on Human and Peoples Right's (ACHPR) and the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC).

The result of this hard work was so weak and the prevalence of early marriage is still high especially at developing countries. WHO reports that in 2014 the top 10 countries with high percentage of early marriage as the following Niger75%, Chad and Central African

Republic 68%, Bangladesh 66%, Guinea 63%, Mozambique 56%, Mali 55%, Burkina Faso and South Sudan 52% and Malawi 50% (WHO, 2013), So early marriage is an important problems worldwide.

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) indicates that 777 girls have been married in 2015 at age of 14 or less, and 20,330 of girls married at age between 15 to 19 years old in 2016 from 49,930 a total marriage contract . The prevalence of child marriage in the Gaza Strip was 23.7% (PCBS, 2016b). This figure reflects the large huge bulk of early marriage among girls, still many less than African countries (PCBS, 2016a).

As detailed later, this study tackles early marriage among girls in order to understand the different socioeconomic, cultural, and social drivers for it as well as the consequences of it including health, economic, social, educational, and psychosocial status.

The researcher tries to address this issue in a comprehensive way that considers the health and socioeconomic aspects of the issue, in order to provide recommendations that contribute to combating this phenomenon.

## **1.2 Research problem**

Globally, about 39,000 girls below 18 years old marry each day (WHO, 2013), which means 28 girls marry every minutes and one girl marries every 2 second. In the Gaza Strip the percentage of women age 15-19 and married is 12.8, the percentage of women age 15-49 and first married prior 15 years is 2.6 and the percentage of women age 20-49, and first married prior 18 years old is 28.6% (PCBS, 2015c).

While the prevalence of early marriage in the Gaza Strip is somewhat well known, nevertheless the drivers for early marriage and its consequences are still less known. Some local studies have tackled the pregnancy outcome of women married early (Stavridis, The Problems of Early Marriage in Palestine, 2004), others studies have tackle other triggers and consequences, but still the other wider consequences of early married such as psychosocial and economic ones have not been studied adequately in the Gaza Strip yet.

Thus, this study answers two key unanswered questions; what are the drivers for early marriage in the Gaza Strip and what are the consequences of it in a holistic way, thus it fills important gap in knowledge in this regard. It is anticipated that the knowledge derived from this study will be helpful to a wide array of audiences including important

stakeholders such as policy makers, planners, human rights activist, woman activists, and the wider community as well particularly girls.

### **1.3 Justification of the study**

Early marriage among girls is a public health issue in the Gaza Strip. According to official reports, nearly half of marriage consent are for girls married under 19 years old (PCBS, 2016a), *“No girl should be robbed of her childhood, her education and health, and her aspirations, yet today millions of girls are denied their rights each year when they are married as child brides”* (WHO, 2013). This study addresses a commonly spread phenomenon, therefore the benefit will affect a large number of the population.

In addition, the study has human rights oriented value as being young at marriage time is a violation of human rights, as it prevents girls from passing the natural developmental trajectories at the psychological, physiological, mental, and sexual aspects. Moreover, this study explores drivers for early marriage, an issue that have been studied limitedly before and the study complement the work was done by other researcher.

Adding to that, the early marriage is worldwide problem mainly in developing countries including Palestine. This study aim to focus on both consequences and triggers factors, of early marriage. Additionally, combating early marriage will be helpful in improving economic and educational status, improving the health status of the women, the family, and the wider community. It also, the study findings will be useful for women organizations, as these findings give strong evidence for programming and advocacy efforts.

In addition, the information generated from this study will be beneficial to decision makers to set polices as it will constitute an important evidence based tool for advocacy. Also this study will be a base for other studies in the future in order to continue working on this issue. Additionally, Being the researcher a service provider at (United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East-UNRWA), this study will help her to better understand drivers which motivate people to early marry girls and will also help researcher to better understand the consequences of early marriage. Thus, deal with these in more effective way. It will be also beneficial to other service providers at researcher organization and at others.

## **1.4 Research aim and objectives**

### **The research aim:**

The aim of this study is to explore the main driving factors for early marriage among girls and the consequences of that phenomenon in order to contribute to advocacy and policy development for the reduction of these phenomena thus improving the physical and psychological wellbeing of adolescences, their families, and communities.

### **Objectives:**

- 1- To identify the main socio-demographic and economic factors contributing to the early marriage among girls.
- 2- To identify the contextual and cultural factors, which contributing to early marriage.
- 3- To assess the consequences of early marriage on physical and psychosocial wellbeing status of early married girls.
- 4- To recognize the consequences of early marriage on the empowerment of early married girls (education, participation, voice and agency and economic status).
- 5- To identify differences in triggers and consequences of early marriage in reference to characteristics and structural related variables.
- 6- To develop recommendations for combating and managing early marriage consequences.

## **1.5 Research questions**

- 1- Does economic status increase the occurrence of early marriage?
- 2- Do social factors motivate families to marry their daughters early?
- 3- Do demographic factors trigger the occurrence of early marriage?
- 4- Do culture factors push families to marry their daughters early?
- 5- Do different types of violence prompt early marriage?
- 6- Do policies and regulations in the Gaza Strip contributed in the reduction of early marriage?
- 7- What is the physical health related consequences resulted from early marriage?
- 8- What are the psychosocial and wellbeing health related consequences resulted from early marriage?

- 9- What is the education related consequences resulted from early marriage?
- 10- What are the economic related consequences resulted from early marriage?
- 11- What is the voice and agency related consequences resulted from early marriage?
- 12- What are the possible interventions need to be done as an estimation to tackle early marriage incidence, and the consequences?

## **1.6 Context of the study**

### **1.6.1 Political Context**

Palestine is considering a small area of land that has been attacked by many people and empire from many centuries ago.

Since ever, Palestine has been an important country for invaders, the real surface area is 27,009 km<sup>2</sup> after Nakpa in 1948 77% of land was occupied which lead to two divided area the Gaza Strip and the West Bank with 365 km<sup>2</sup> with a coastline of 40 km and 5,655 km<sup>2</sup> respectively (Courbage, Abu Hamad, & Zagha, 2016).

The Gaza Strip is a small enclave that host huge number of population who are facing many crises including lack of electricity; close the cross border, high prevalence of unemployment, and poor economic status for many families. Moreover, in the past 10 years Gaza Strip was exposed to three aggression, the last one in 2014 as a result 2,131 Palestinian were killed with 108,000 people became homeless (Courbage, Abu Hamad, & Zagha, 2016), all this aggression may lead to negative effect upon family, children and community. Adding to that, this might affect the psychological situation for population connection and lead to split in each family relationship.

As aforementioned, all the previous might led to child marriage and so need to be test.

### **1.6.2 Demographic context**

The estimated midyear population in the Gaza Strip was 1,899,291 million from this 950,765 males and 924,582 females (PCBS, 2018a), the estimation percentage of population in urban area was 73.9% and the estimation percentage in rural area 16.6%, the remaining estimation percentage is for those who live in the camp with 9.5% (PCBS, 2016b). The expected population in 2050 in the Gaza Strip 4.8 million, exceeding the expected population in West Bank 4.7 million (Courbage, Abu Hamad, & Zagha, 2016). In

the Gaza Strip, the population density is very high with 5,203 person per one km<sup>2</sup> (PCBS, 2018a). Though huge density might played role in the occurrence of child marriage.

Regarding female in Palestine, the participation rate in labour force was 10.3% in 2001 increasing to 19.3% in 2014 and these figures were suspected to be 28% in 2030 and 32% in 2050, for the Gaza Strip the estimation female participation in labour force in 2015 was 11.7 percent (Courbage, Abu Hamad, & Zagha, 2016). While for the illiteracy rate, 3.3% which represented three and half times higher than male (PCBS, 2016b). There are 23,205 female illiteracy from a total of 70,937 female (PCBS, 2018a).

Thus, the illiteracy rate of female and the low participation on labour force foster the need to study some of main issue affect female on the Gaza Strip society including early marriage.

### **1.6.3 Socioeconomic context**

The economic status in the Gaza Strip is characterized by poor and low income, most female in the Gaza Strip are living dependent on their family, which lead to limitation of decision-making and freedom (International Planned Parenthood Federation-IPPF) (IPPF, 2006). In the same way, unemployment in the Gaza Strip was 48.2% (PCBS, 2018a), higher than in 2016, which was 41% (UNRWA, 2016), for youth the percentage of unemployment was 60% (UNFPA, 2017a).

Further, the poverty rate in the Gaza Strip was 37.6% much higher than West Bank 21.3% (PCBS, 2017a), this percentage was limitedly decreased from 38.8% in 2011 (PCBS, 2017c). Adding to that, this status of poverty rate differ from area to area for example in the Gaza Strip, Khan Younis possessed the highest rate 45.9%, while north Gaza was the lowest rate in poverty with 28.2% (PCBS, 2017a), this reflect the poor economic situation Gaza Strip has faced. Also, 67.1% of population living in the Gaza Strip are under poverty line from them 21.1% living under extreme poverty (Courbage, Abu Hamad, & Zagha, 2016).

Adding to that, education is one of the important step to improve Gaza Strip economic status, about 37.9% of youth in the Gaza Strip enrolled in education. Although, in general female enrollment in university education are higher than male, but the role in economic family responsibility is for male and so female labour force is low (Courbage, Abu Hamad, & Zagha, 2016).

In a conclusion, one fourth of Palestinian families live in food insecure, with higher insecurity among Gaza strip compared with West Bank reached to about 47%, so many Gazans population dependence on Humanitarian aid (PCBS, 2016c). In congruent with UNRWA data, 80% of Gazans population were under the international assistance, with food aid were given to 80,000 of Palestinian refugee in 2000, and to one million in 2011 (UNRWA, 2016).

These are stressing factors that might affect the psychological status of population, and so it may be one of triggers factors for child marriage. This need to be test as factor might affect child marriage.

#### **1.6.4 Socio-cultural context**

Traditions and norms is one of the main determinant for the Gaza Strip culture, part of them affected the female enrollment in the society, as for example; the male seen as source of family power and protection while female seen as a housewife. In addition, female feel that their opinion and participation were with limited value and the female luxury were mainly at home (Courbage, Abu Hamad, & Zaghera, 2016). All this may affect child marriage.

Moreover, the female in the Gaza Strip society were a vulnerable group under the possibility for (Gender Based Violence-GBV), in 2018 in the Gaza Strip survey 40% of female were exposed to psychological violence and 25% were exposed to physical violence, from them 61% believed that the blockage and electricity cut attributed to higher rate of violence (UNFPA, 2018). So is there a connection between child marriage and violence exposure.

Further, in the Gaza Strip, the law permits the marriage for girls at the age of 16.5 years old and above and if females have good bodybuilding before their 16.5 years old, the permission of marriage can be obtained. About 30% of girls in Gaza Strip become pregnant before their 18 years old and in 2014, 12.8% of girls within the age group 15-19 years old are getting early married (Courbage, Abu Hamad, & Zaghera, 2016).

Regarding the Fertility rate in the Gaza strip, it was 6.9 in 1997, decreased to 4.5 within the year 2011-2013 (PCBS, 2017c), this associated with our culture, religion and society supporting the higher fertility rate (WAFSA, 2016). Also early marriage is an important issue to be studied as health of mother is an important as health of their children, according

to (Ministry of Health-MOH) in 2014 registered 30.6 maternal mortality per 100,000 pregnant lady (Courbage, Abu Hamad, & Zagha, 2016). The maternal mortality rate remarkably decline to 5 per 100.00 in 2017 (UNRWA, 2018). This challenge Gaza Strip health system to research for early marriage girls in order to insure the healthy responsible care needs for the mother and to their children.

One also determinant for Gaza Strip culture is consanguinity marriage, as consanguinity marriage represents 45.2% of marriage in previous generation and 39.9 %in current generation, with Gaza governorate recorded there was 36.9 % in current generation compared with 42.1 % in the previous generation (Sirdah, 2014).

All the pervious interacting factors are one of the Gaza Strip contexts that might affect the occurrence of child marriage, so it most of those factors were studied in this thesis to define the effect on occurrence of child marriage, and the consequences that might resulted.

## **1.7 Operational definition**

### **1.7.1 Early marriage**

Being early-married means that one or both of the marriage partners is younger than 18 years old (UNFPA, 2014a). In this proposal, the researcher will look for the female younger than 18 years old. It is recently has a synonym, which is child marriage, has used in recent times because it reflect the negative meaning of early marriage (International Women's Health Coalition -IWHC, 2019).

### **1.7.2 Early childbirth**

Is when the girls first got birth prior her 18 birthday.

### **1.7.3 Adolescent**

It is a period of age between childhoods to adulthood categorizes from 10 to 19 years old, that the most important change physically, physiologically, psychologically, knowledge achievement, social, biological and behavior change (WHO, 2018).

#### **1.7.4 Third degree relative**

It means three steps away from the individual, which include, great grandparents, great grandchildren, great uncle/aunt, and first cousin (LII, 2008).

#### **1.7.5 Fourth degree relative**

It means four steps away from the individual, which include, great-great grandparents, great-great grandchildren and second cousin (LII, 2008).

#### **1.7.6 Subfertility**

Is the liability of couples to get pregnant but with less than normal, sometimes bind it with a causes like addiction, the female partner has a disease, recurrent miscarriage or not regular intercourse ( Beekhuizen & Sharma , 2009).

#### **1.7.7 Agency**

The relation between early-married women and the surrounding individual, in the way that they are under the control of surrounding individual.

### **1.8 Study Layout**

The study consists mainly form five chapters: introduction, conceptual framework and literature review, methodology, results and discussion, conclusion and recommendations.

The first chapter presented general introduction to the study, started with brief background for the study, followed by showed the research problem, justification of the conducting study, the main and the specific objectives, research questions, context of the study and detentions of terms.

The second chapter included two parts: conceptual framework and literature view, for the conceptual framework the researcher provided a diagram for the concept of the study, for the literature review it represented the study topic, variables that most of them used in the study. This by the use of researches, reports and books related to child marriage.

The third chapter represented the methodology including study design, population, sample, instruments, pilot, ethical considerations, and statistical procedure.

The fourth chapter presented the study results and discussion. This represented by table figures for the variable used in the study, in order to be easy understand.

Finally, the fifth chapter, which the researcher represented conclusion, recommendations, and suggestion for further research that related to study results.

## **Chapter Two**

### **Conceptual framework and literature review**

The chapter summarizes the different arguments about triggers and consequences of child marriage by extensive literature review; this then was summarized as a conceptual framework.

According to the literature, many triggers factors have been recognized as contributing factors to early marriage, which results in different interrelated consequences. Most of these factors were explored in this study.

#### **2.1 Conceptual framework**

The researcher draw the conceptual framework based on literature review, it shows what a researcher is going to study, which variable were explored, it consist from three domains; the main possible triggers factors, the main possible consequences and access to service and information.

##### **2.1.1 Drivers**

###### **2.1.1.1 Demographic factors**

Are the factors used to define the characteristics of a person or a population that might affect the happening of early marriage such as education level, occupation, age, type of family and household size, marital status, refugee status and others. These were assessed as drivers for early marriage, as these might affect families' decisions.

###### **2.1.1.2 Sociocultural factors**

These factors were consisted from norms, tradition, dominant pattern of behavior and religion. It include general attitudes and position from the dominant culture, influence of religion on child marriage and level of social support, level of entertainment and leisure activities, etc. These factors were thought to reflect part of the contextual influence at the individual and family levels on the occurrence of child marriage.

### **2.1.1.3 Economic factors**

Economic factors, which represent financial status, and includes income and wealth, affordability of basic services and goods, dependency on external aid, sources of aid, major economic concerns, etc. These factors are testing for their effect on the occurrence of child marriage.

### **2.1.1.4 Violence**

Violence factors, it assesses the percentage of violence within parents' home including all different type of violence and it has bound with the occurrence of early marriage. This theme will focus on type of violence that may triggers the occurrence of early marriage include violence at HH, violence at the community and political violence.

### **2.1.1.5 Policies and regulation**

It includes laws, regulations and mechanisms in place to control the system of working in the Gaza Strip associated with the way of implementation the law to the ensure the compliance of each individual living in the country. This part focuses on the early marriage law including policies and decision-making and doctors' examination to assess their suitability for marriage.

### **2.1.1.6 Access to services and information**

These are factors related to the population easy reach to health care and information in proper and optimal way such as any defect in access to service or information related to marriage, method of contraception use, consequences result from early marriage and it effect on the occur of early marriage.

## **2.1.2 Consequences**

### **2.1.2.1 Health status**

It define as person characteristics related to body physical condition and the capability of function associated with absent or present of diseases (Currie, 2016). This them incorporates perceptions about; both physical and mental aspects of health status. This includes self-judgment on physical and mental health status, by child marriage participants on themselves and on their child heath.

### **2.1.2.2 Psychological status**

Psychological status, it is related to change in mental and emotional state for the individual as result of early marriage such as depression, change in wellbeing status, anxiety, stress, and post-traumatic stress symptoms. This part will focus on psychological change; types of violence, positive feelings, thinking, learning, self-esteem, body image and negative feelings, which may happen as consequences from early marriage.

### **2.1.2.3 Voice and agency**

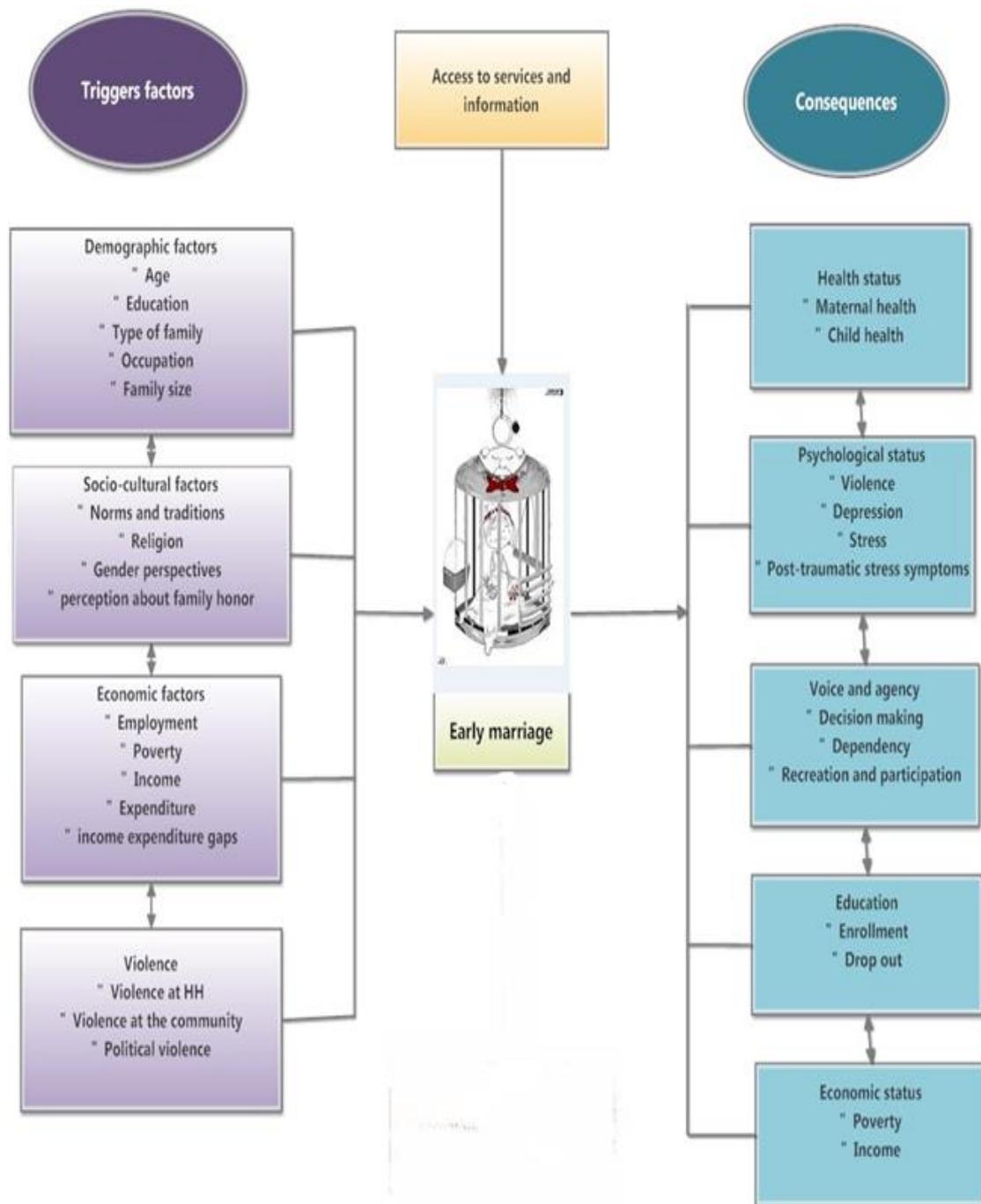
It reflects on oneself ability to control her/his decisions. It includes mobility, activities of daily living and ability to work. Which include: Decision-making, dependency and recreation with participation such as the ability to negotiate about using contraception, number of children to have, where to live, sexual acceptance and refused and the permission needs to get out from home.

### **2.1.2.4 Education**

It include hypothetical relationships between child marriage and education level, it includes enrollment in education level for participants and participants' husband, associated with the time the participant left the school after engagement/married and assessment for desired to retain back to school.

### **2.1.2.5 Economic status**

Economic status result after child marriage, represent financial status and includes income and wealth, affordability of basic services and goods, dependency on external aid, sources of aid, employment, major economic concerns, perception about poverty, etc.



**Figure (2.1): Conceptual framework**

*Conceptual framework is self-developed based on the literature; image was credited by (Alkhateeb, 2015).*

## **2.2 Literature review**

### **2.2.1 Introduction**

As aforementioned, child marriage is the marriage before 18 years old for one of the couples, worldwide it is more happening among girls (WHO, 2013). Another wider definition with the same meaning define early marriage as marriage by formal or informal manner for one or both parents prior 18 years old before the girl is physically, physiologically, and psychologically ready to shoulder the responsibilities of marriage and childbearing (IPPF, 2006).

A legislative law to prevent marriage before 18 years old was approved in many countries and the response to this law is very limited. While other countries accept the marriage age for girls above 15 years old (Johansson, Child Marriage-The underlying Reasons and Possible Solutions, 2015), and 6 countries include Equatorial Guinea, the Gambia, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen have not determine any limited age for accepting the marriage (Guay, 2017).

Legally, the acceptance age of marriage is different among countries, as Cameroon allow the girls to get married at their 15 years old, in chad they permit the girls to marry at 17 years old (African Child Policy Forum-ACPF,2013) then Chad law changed recently to be 18 years old (Johansson, Child Marriage-The underlying Reasons and Possible Solutions, 2015). Adding to that for Arabic countries; in Egypt the minimum age of marriage is 18 years old, while in Libya the minimum age of marriage for both gender is 21 years old with a permission to get married earlier if benefit from marriage are suspected to achieve (ACPF, 2013).

In the Gaza Strip, the acceptance age of marriage for girls is 16.5 years old (Courbage, Abu Hamad, & Zaghera, 2016). This also encroachment if the bodybuilding for the female is looking more than her age.

### **2.2.2 Magnitude of the problem**

The number of girls getting married before complete their 18 birthday is not limited, about one third of girls married worldwide were under 18 years old and one in nine of marriage girls were younger than 15 years old (Lemmon & ElHarake, 2014). Adding to that, according to UN estimation there are 70 million women in 2011 married before their 18

years old and in 2014 the number reached to about 140 million and half of them were married before complete their 15 birthday (WHO, 2013). Moreover, by 2020 the suspected early marriage number for girls under 15 years old is 50 million (UNFPA, 2013).

If the prevalence of early marriage remain with the constant happening, this mean 14.2million girls will marry annually and 39000 girls daily with calculation this lead to result of 1625 child marriage each hour, 27 child marriage every minutes and so each nearly 2 seconds one girls married early worldwide (WHO, 2013). This depend on, the suspected number of early married girls from 2011-2020 is 140 million girls from them 50 million suspected to marry prior their 15 years old (WHO, 2013).

Although, there is a decline in early marriage worldwide still this decline is very slow and the number of early marriage girls suspected to reach to 1.2 billion in 2050 (Girls Not Bride, 2018a).

The most prevalence of early marriage are higher among both Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, with second higher in other Asia region, South Africa and Middle east, also it is suspected to be higher than the figures were recorded due to under registered of early married girls (United Nations Children's Emergency Fund-UNICEF, 2015a). In Palestine 2015 the early married girls represent 20.3 % of total marriage consent, with 23.7 percent in Gaza Strip and 19.7 % in West Bank, this represent by one fifth girls prior 18 years old (PCBS, 2016d), it then decrease to 15% by UNICEF report (UNICEF, 2018).

Also, the Palestinian law determined the minimum age of marriage, as in West Bank for male is 16 and for female is 15, while in the Gaza Strip the minimum age of marriage is 18 for male and 17 for female (Stavridis, The Problems of Early Marriage in Palestine, 2004). Adding to that, even with the Palestinian law for cut age of marriage, early marriage were higher among Gaza Strip, and also some girls being married to as young as 12 years old (Protection Cluster, 2016).

Child marriage in Palestine was higher, then decrease, as a survey was done by Palestinian health survey in 2010 revealed that early marriage is 40 % among girls age between 20-24 from them 20 % get birth prior 18 birthday (UNFPA, 2017a), one year before an assessment to child marriage, was done to total population which revealed 22.9% (PCBS, 2011c). Adding to that, other studies the result revealed that 30 % of girls in Gaza Strip

were pregnant before they get their 18 years old and half of them become pregnant before get 20 years old ( PCBS, 2017d).

PCBS in 2016 revealed that the girls were less likely to marry before 15 years old compared with oldest age women (45-49) years old with( 1 % vs. 4%), and less likely to marry before 18 years old compared with same age group(16% vs. 27%). Moreover, Gaza Strip had higher prevalence of early marriage compared with West Bank (6.8% vs. 12.8%) (Pettit, Marshall, & Abu Hamad, Adolescent Girls in Gaza the State of the Evidence, 2017). The distributions of early marriage were different between the area and village with the highest percentage in Gaza city 41% and the lowest percentage in Deir Al-Balah 7.1% from 21.6% in Gaza Strip (PCBS, 2018b).

Aforementioned, the prevalence of child marriage changed in the Gaza Strip with 22.9% in 2009, increased to 23.7% in 2016, then decreased to 15% in 2017 and re-raised again to 21.6% in 2018.

### **2.2.3 Early marriage drivers**

The trigger factors for early marriage are complex, and interfering between each other, there are different studies done to discover the triggers factors for early marriage in the Gaza Strip, the result of studies in women affair center explored poverty, have multiple daughters and norms as the main leading factors for early marriage in Gaza Strip.

#### **2.2.3.1 Demographic factors**

##### **2.2.3.1.1 Education**

The result of the studies revealed that increase year of education would lead to increase the possibility to marry at older age this interpret due to increase female awareness ,increase female desire to be independence from male(Global Entrepreneurship Monitor-GEM) (GEM Report, 2014).

Regarding years of education, in Senegal no education were 8 times likely to get married earlier than the educated girls, also in in Chad the prevalence of girls finished their secondary school and married prior 18 years old was reach to 37 % this prevalence increase to 78% for girls not complete their primary education (Johansson, Child Marriage-The underlying Reasons and Possible Solutions, 2015). Moreover, in Nicaragua 45% of

early married girls had no education, 28 % had primary education, 16% had secondary education and 5% had higher education. For another example result by (The International Center for Research on Women-ICRW) in Mozambique 60% of early married girls were not educated, 10% finished secondary education and just 1% finished higher education (ICRW, 2006a). Adding to previous, same in Liberia the median age for married girls and were not educated is 17.4, while for those who achieved secondary education and higher education level was 4 years older than the compare group (UNICEF, 2015a). For a wider view in a study was done in 18 countries the result obtained, girls with secondary education were six time less to marry early compared with girls with little or no education (ICRW, 2006a).

Other studies bound the education with contraception's knowledge; if the girls have knowledge about contraception use, it would also support the female desire to delay her marriage (UNICEF, 2015b).

In other studies elsewhere found that increase female education is less attractive and desired by male partner in addition if female school achievement was low it found to be triggers stimulation for families to enforce their daughter for marriage (UNICEF, 2015b).

For the spouse education, child marriage is higher in women with illiterate husband, in a study done at India, 77.1 % of early married girls their husband had no formal education and the other 33.7% their husband had some higher education (Sah, et al., 2014). Further, in Bangladesh revealed that women with husband had only primary education were 1.132 times more liable to get married after 15 years old compared with those who were illiteracy, and for husband with secondary education women were 1.145 times liable to get married after 15 years old compared with husband with no education (Sultana, Hossain, & Hoq , Factors Affecting on Early Marriage of Women in Rural Areas, Bangladesh, 2015). So education for both girls and their husband have an effect on the happening of early marriage.

In addition, uneducated parents have higher possibility to let their girls married earlier compared with educated parents, and for educated parents the liability of early marriage increased if the groom for parents' daughters was one of their relatives ( Nur, Mberia, & Muturi, URL: <http://www.ejbss.com/recent.aspx-/>, 2016).

In the Gaza Strip, lower level of education for girls were explored by GAGE to be triggers factors for early marriage (Pettit, Marshall, & Abu Hamad, Adolescent Girls in Gaza the State of the Evidence, 2017).

#### **2.2.3.1.2 Household size**

Household size was an important part to search for, as increased household size led to increase labiality of early marriage (Wagner, Schubert, & Schubert, 2001).

This included the number of daughters the family have alone, number of unmarried older sister, number of total household. UICEF study was done on Jordan in 2014 determined that families who had four daughters and above, this girls were at higher risk to get married early (UNICEF, 2014a).

#### **2.2.3.1.3 Residency**

Early marriage found to be more in rural area compared with urban area, comparing urban and rural area in Niger 2006 (42% vs.84%), in Chad 2004 (65% vs.74%) (Johansson, Child Marriage-The underlying Reasons and Possible Solutions, 2015), and for age group between 20-24 girls married early in rural area were twice than urban area (Johansson, Child Marriage-The underlying Reasons and Possible Solutions, 2015).

In the Gaza Strip, urban area had highest percentage of early marriage, this fact reversed to literacy as in rural area 5% of marriage consent is for earl marriage while in camps 11% and in urban 10% (Pettit, Marshall, & Abu Hamad, Adolescent Girls in Gaza the State of the Evidence, 2017).

#### **2.2.3.1.4 Occupation**

Type of work, in Bangladesh type of works did affect early marriage and those male that work in agriculture, service and business married girls within their 15 years of age or younger, and women whose husband work in service were 1.145 times more liable to married girls after 15 years old (Sultana, Hossain, & Hoq , Factors Affecting on Early Marriage of Women in Rural Areas, Bangladesh, 2015).

## **2.2.3.2 Socio-culture factors**

### **2.2.3.2.1 Gender perspectives and perception about family honor**

Socially, many factors recognized as triggering factors include the believe that females are unimportant in the society, others encourage marriage of their daughters to prevent sexual assault, to prevent sexual transmitted diseases (Johansson, Child Marriage-The underlying Reasons and Possible Solutions, 2015), adding to that the low awareness level for consequences and risk resulted from early marriage would keep the situation as it (UNICEF, 2014a).

Regarding girls, some girls believed that marriage is for the protection, support, safe and security achieve by husband, which cannot achieved by other ways. However, other girls believed that marriage bring love, good food, beautiful clothes, and the capability to visit different places and travel to different area. Adding to that, others determined early marriage as one of their achievement in life, inequality between gender is also a point was mentioned include; educate male not female, male is the guardianship for the family and the women must obey men (Johansson, 2015).

### **2.2.3.2.2 Norms and traditions**

This domain reflect the effect of three main interconnecting factors with each other's in the same family and to the country itself - the tradition and culture varies- some look at the girls post the menarche as a marriage time, some afraid from sexual assault and abuse (UNFPA,2014a). UNFPA mentioned in 2014, 18 years old spouse child said *“My family do not trust anybody; they believe that girls should marry earlier than boys, they think that girls need to be protected and marriage protects them”* (UNFPA, 2014b, p. 5).

Mostly, they determined marriage as a save of their honor, preventing daughters from being single for lifelong. Others connected the marriage to spouse economic condition and living condition and so the acceptance on marriage depends on higher of both previous conditions, they recognized girls as housewife and were created in life for one purpose being married and raising up children (Johansson, Child Marriage-The underlying Reasons and Possible Solutions, 2015).

Adding to the previous, even if the law prevent girls marriage prior 18 years old, some families might have special approval from judge and so the marriage can be done to as young as 13 years old and with delay the registration.

Also the consequences of culture effect on early marriage girls, lead to pressure to get their daughters marry early which mean the form of generation of child marriage.

#### **2.2.3.2.3 Religion**

The Islam and the Christen religion affiliation are the most religion available worldwide, ICRW analysis recorded that there was no correlation between a specific religion and child marriage across the world (Johansson, Child Marriage-The underlying Reasons and Possible Solutions, 2015), the debate it is related to underlying doctrine of same religion.

In another study, it revealed that conservative Protestants were more likely to let their girls married earlier than mainline Protestants and Catholics (Uecker, 214). In the other hands, some approved Islam sharia as a triggering factors for early marriage, the study mentioned that Islam sharia defined the marriage age if female body were big enough she could get marriage at 16,15 or even 14. As the definition of maturity sometimes defined by three parts: maturity of body, maturity of mind and maturity of size as for example in Nigeria once the girls reach to puberty they are ready for marriage (Sani, 2013).

In an a study done at Pakistan a citation about Islam was as follow “*Although there is nothing in Quran about child Marriage, pre Islamic Arab customs that allowed child marriage played a major role in introducing child marriage to Islam*” (Butt & Naveed, 2015, p. 169).

In Bangladesh rural area in 2015 a result of a study revealed that Non-Muslims are less liable to get married early compared with Muslims, as in Non-Muslims 41.3% of girls married prior 15 years old and for Muslims 59.7 were married (Sultana, Hossain, & Hoq , Factors Affecting on Early Marriage of Women in Rural Areas, Bangladesh, 2015).

#### **2.2.3.3 Economic status**

The low economic status of the family or in the country were recognized as one of the main triggers factors for early marriage; the family recognized their girls as economic burden and once they get married the family would loss the economic responsibility and so became free from burden (Johansson, Child Marriage-The underlying Reasons and

Possible Solutions, 2015). Others added, some families get their children married for economic gain by take their daughters dowry, also the low (gross domestic product–GDP) situation for the country led to higher prevalence of early marriage e.g. in Chad GDP 1.600\$ and the prevalence of early marriage was 71%. While, in South Africa GDP 11.100\$ and 8% of child marriage was happening (Johansson, 2015).

Approximately, in all developing countries the prevalence of child marriage was higher among poorest area compared with wealthiest area, and so girls were living in poor household were at higher risk to be an early married girls compared with girls were living in better household (ICRW, 2006b). For example; in Liberia child bride were 2.5 times higher in poorest household compared with richest household (UNICEF, 2015b). In Senegal girls who were living in the poorest 20% area were four times likely to get married compared with girls were living in 20% richest area (ICRW, 2006b), and girls who were living in poor families are twice risk to married early compared with girls who were living in wealth family (ICRW, 2006b).

UNICEF also compared early marriage between different quintile; female who were living in poorest quintile were 2.5 time liable to get married at childhood compared with female who were living in wealthiest quintile (UNICEF, 2014b). While, in others country like chad the prevalence of early marriage between richest areas compared with poorest area was only one percent lower but in Liberia those who were living in poorest area were twice higher in early marriage compared with richest area (Johansson, Child Marriage-The underlying Reasons and Possible Solutions, 2015). Comparing between countries, poorest quintile had higher rate of early marriage compared with wealthiest quintile (UNICEF, 2014b).

Looking in different view, the groom paid fewer dowries if the marriage bride were younger in their age, so male proposed to younger brides.

In addition, unemployment for one of the parents raised the possibility of daughters' early marriage. although, some girls asked for marriage to escape from poor economic living conditions and they thought that being married increased the possibility to wear good clothes and to have better economic situations (Johansson, 2015), but if the girls were living independent this would lead to delay in the marriage age (Sah, et al., 2014).

Many programs were done to pay cash money for the families in order to improve the economic situations and the aim was to decrease early marriage, but even with the cash money there was no change in child marriage prevalence between Mali and Faso with dramatic decrease in early marriage in Nigeria and Chad.

In Palestine in a study done in 2015 by Women Affairs Center explained that the economic status was recognized as one of the main triggers factors for early marriage. With family force their daughters for marriage in order to get rid from economic burden, as the percentage for early marriage was higher among poor household 32% compared with better household which was 21.6% (Protection Cluster, 2016).

#### **2.2.3.4 Violence**

##### **2.2.3.4.1 Family Violence**

Many pressure in the society led to early marriage from the family itself to neighbors and to the culture they live at, associated with gossip as following; some girls recognized marriage as the protection method from home violence, home perversion, home heavy girls workload and bad girls family relationship. Further, if the girls had stepfather or stepmother the girls thought that marriage would be the way to escape, also some others girls believed or family believed that the father or even the brother had the responsibility to take the decision and the power to force.

One more factors; connected early marriage to arranged marriage, pressure of the consanguinity played an important role to force marriage, in a community study article; 12 percent of early marriage girls had consanguinity with their husband (Ud giri, 2017).

The last view of pressure, if rape happened, the society enforced the girls to get married from the rapist and the law in developing countries supported this (UNICEF, 2014a), also if the father died, relatives controlled the marriage of the girls.

##### **2.2.3.4.2 Political Violence**

Countries under conflict recognized by many research as a risk factors for early marriage, as a study done by UNICEF at Jordan before 2011 about 95% of early marriage girls was for Jordan girls and little percentage for both Palestinian and Syrian refugee. While, after 2011 dramatic increase of the prevalence of early marriage for Syrian refugee, which was

registered from the total of early marriage at Jordan by 0.5 in 2011 to 1.7% in 2012 then reached to 7.6% in 2013 (UNICEF, 2014a). For Syrian refugee girls in Lebanon, the early-marriage estimated to increase four times, and this represent by 24% of girls between 15 to 17 years old were married early. Else, survey was done for different age for girls and the result prescribed that one third of girls their age between 20 to 24 were married early (UNFPA, 2017b). The top ten countries in early marriage were recognized as fragile countries.

In Palestine, a longitudinal study was done and revealed that early marriage increased in political crises and conflict (Protection Cluster, 2016).

#### **2.2.3.5 Policies and regulations**

In Palestine, the limited age for girls' marriage in the West Bank was 14.5 years old and for Gaza Strip 16.5 years old (Courbage, Abu Hamad, & Zagha, 2016). This is a law that permits child marriage.

Worldwide, response to legal age of marriage was so weak, and so other organizations work hard to achieve the law; cash money paid in India for families when their daughters reached their 18 years old if not married. Despite this the family response was so limited and for those who response, they waited to take money then let their daughters get married after it by sometimes few days or few months (Kelly, 2015).

#### **2.2.3.6 Access to services and information**

In a study in Pakistan, the majority of early married were not aware of the consequences of early marriage before getting married ( Nasrullah, et al., Knowledge and Attitude Towards Child Marriage Practice Among Women Married as Children-a Qualitative Study in Urban Slums of Lahore, Pakistan, 2014), while In Zambia study, result revealed the lack of parents and community awareness and information about consequences of early marriage will drove to early marriage (Yowela, 2016). Else, in Tanzania study they found that media with the globalization effect of internet, television and mobile lead girls to see marriage as a good life only, and so increase female desired to get married (Jouhki & Stark, 2017).

## **2.2.4 Consequences of early marriage**

According to the Center for Law and Social Policy, 2017' *Compared to girls who marry later, teenage brides have less schooling, less independence, and less experience of life and work*' (Younes, Consequences of young love: Teens who get married, 2012). Therefore, once early marriage happens the consequences are lead to deep-rooted effect on the girls themselves, on the family, on the children and to our country, so focusing on such an issue is our aim to discover the optimal solution.

### **2.2.4.1 Health status**

Regarding mother health, early marriage negatively affect the health of mother and their offspring it might led to death of mother during delivery as girls age 10-14 years old were 5 times higher risk to die compared with girls get birth at 20-24 (Biresaw, 2014).

Early marriage girls were less possible to receive proper care, that is pregnant women were less likely to attend the four need provider visit during pregnancy (UNICEF, 2014b). Besides, young mother increased the possibility to have gestational diabetes, pregnancy induced hypertension, premature fetal delivery, obstructed labour, increase the possibility of vaginal fistula with bladder or intestine, hemorrhage, Eclampsia. In the same way, affect fetal outcome as Intrauterine Growth Restriction to fetal death and stillbirth (UNFPA, 2014b).

Moreover, it increase mother liability for have sexual transmitted diseases and (Human Immunodeficiency Virus –HIV) as according to UNFPA 2014 the younger the marriage girls the older the spouse would be and so the spouse mostly might have had a history of multiple sexual intercourse which increased the risk for sexual transmitted disease (UNFPA, 2014a).

Fertility rate, increased due to marriage during a long time of reproductively years. Similarly, in Nepal for girls' age group of 20-24 years, compared between those who married prior 15 years old and those who married in an older age, the prevalence of having three or more children was 30% for early-married girls to 1% in the older married girls (UNICEF, 2014b). The younger the age of the mother the higher the fertility rate as mother age 13 years old has 26% higher fertility compared with mother age 18 years old or older. Likewise, even for the mother age one year younger 18 years old the fertility rate will be

17% higher compared with girls age 18 years old. Furthermore, if child marriage end, the national rate of fertility rate would decrease by 11%, however, marrying early would led to decreased in the use of contraception, though if ending child marriage had happened the overall use of contraception would had not been change (Wodon, et al., Economic Impacts of Child Marriage:Global Synthesis Report, 2017).

In the same way, early marriage increase the possibility of back pain and back problem in addition to more possibility of smoke exposure and so respiratory problems (Biresaw, 2014), also the early married girls were unable to take care upon themselves.

Shedding the lights on children health, decrease the capability of mother to care for their children, the prevalence of diarrhea increased, the understanding of how to use oral rehydration solution was low, and the care during fever, cough, and any other illness was also low. Adding to that, they were less care for nutritional status or improvement nutrition, and so the possibility of malnutrition and short stature, similarly less educated mother were less able to recognize the immunization schedule and the importance of time to start it (Wodon, et al., 2017). Regarding children under five years old and their mothers were younger than 18 years old, compared with same age group children and older age mother the death were 3.5% higher and the stunting were 6.3% higher for early married mother. As 0.3% of death for children, less than five years were attributed to early marriage girls while 1% of children less than five years with stunting were attributed to similar cause (Wodon, et al., Economic Impacts of Child Marriage:Global Synthesis Report, 2017).

#### **2.2.4.2 Violence and Psychological statutes**

##### **2.2.4.2.1 Violence**

There are different type of violence the early marriage girls might expose it by (intimate partner violence-IPV), this was categorize as physical, sexual, psychological and verbal violence. Generally, early-married girls were at higher risk for domestic violence and rape (ICRW, 2006c).

Similarly, early-married girls were twice than the normal married girls, to expose to violence like slapped or threaten, and the early-married girls were three times more to expose to sexual violence in the previous six months at time of data collection (Girls Not

Bride, 2018b). Child bride were two times likely to exposed to violence compared with older bride (Williamson, 2014), by the National Research on Domestic Violence Against Women in 2008, as the youngest age group of girls 15 to 24 were the most group exposed to physical and sexual violence compared with older age married girls (IPPF, 2006).

Acceptance of violence among early married girls were higher than other older married girls, about 36% of early married girls found justification for violence compared with 20% in the older married girls (ICRW, 2006). The sexual violence might led to irreversible physical damage and psychological consequences, early married girls were three times more risk for marital rape (Tangri, 2013).

Another type of violence girls married at early twenty may exposed to social violence resulted as a consequences of this age of marriage increase the possibility of divorce, separation and being widowed as their husbands often are older (Office For National Statistic, 2017).

In the Gaza Strip, 63% of early-married girls were at least exposed to one type of violence compared with 51% for older girls (Protection Cluster, 2016).

#### **2.2.4.2.2 Psychological status**

The early married girls had higher stressful life events in the past 12 months compared with older married girls, it recorded 48.4% of early married girls had one to two stressful life events and 53.09% had a history of mental disorder (Le Strat, Dubertret, & Le Foll, 2011). In addition, early-married girls also had many mental disorder and the most common were major depressive disorder, antisocial personality disorder. They also found that the prevalence of nicotine dependence were higher among early married girls.

Also most of early-married girls were socially isolated with no support from their friends, family or relatives (UNICEF, 2014b), with nearly 30% of early-married girls had no friends (Marshall, et al., 2016).

#### **2.2.4.3 Voice and Agency**

Regarding independency, they became more dependent to male, decreased decision making, had little role in contraception use. Likewise, for a study in Turkey 62.4% of recently married girls between 15-19 years old used in some times contraception method, it

revealed that the youngest married girls the less using of family planning than older age (UNFPA, 2014b).

Other result revealed that 93% of early married girls not used contraception method after marriage at all, with only 2% use (intra uterine device-IUD) (Udgiri, 2017), so unwanted pregnancy happened.

In addition, the early-married girls had higher prevalence rate for divorce and widow compared with older married girls. Also the difference age between the girls and their husband was found to be higher, which decreased the possibility of communication and sharing idea, in Mauretania 60% for girls' adolescent pregnancy are at least 10 years younger than their partner (UNICEF, 2015a). Similarly, in Turkey in 2008, the girls who married prior 18 years old found to be 6.6 years younger than their partner (UNFPA, 2014b), also in Nigeria half of adolescent girls with age between 15-19 their husband are older by at least 10 years (UNICEF, 2014b).

Furthermore, many early-married girls inter in polygamy marriage e.g. one in three in Guinea-Bissau, one in four in Burkina Faso and one in five in Benin and Cameroon (UNICEF, 2015a), and married husband with multiple wife led to complex family relationship.

In Palestine, most of early-married girls were married to a man older than their age by many years as 60% of early married girls their husband are 5 years older and 13% of early married girls their husband are 10 years old (Pettit, Marshall, & Abu Hamad, Adolescent Girls in Gaza the State of the Evidence, 2017). That led to increase the liability of misunderstanding and poor communications.

#### **2.2.4.4 Education**

Regarding early-married girls' education, it had negative effect on female education, for each one-year the female younger the literacy decrease by 5.6 percentage (African Union, 2015). Similarly, in Nigeria the mean schooling year for girls married at age older than 18 was 9.3, on the contrary for those girls married at younger than 18 the mean schooling year was 2.5 (Williamson, 2014).

In Nepal 68.8% of earl-married girls, were dropped out from school, and for those who were not educated or only finished primary education were 4.5 times possible to drop out

from school compared with those who completed secondary education or higher (Sekine & Hodgkin, 2017). As a general figures women with no education married at median age of 15.9 and those with primary education median age 17.9, while girls who completed secondary education the median age reach to 19.9 (Marshall, et al., 2016).

Related to children for early-married mother, they had higher risk to achieve poor school achievement. On account of this, the average number of children who could do division and subtraction in math increased with mother age increase (Sekhri & Debnath, 2014). Adding to that, in this study they also concluded for each one year delay in girls marriage the probability that her children would be able to perform higher level cognitive tasks would be increased by 3.5 percentage points and also the early married girls had less possibility to send their children to private school (Sekhri & Debnath, 2014).

#### **2.2.4.5 Economic**

Although, the early-married girls also happened in a countries with poor economic situation, but the economic status for early-married girls was much worse due to most of early-married females are a housewife, and not participate in countries workforce. Under the circumference of liability of early married earning in adulthood; if ending child marriage had happened the national population productivity and earning would have increased by 1% (Wodon, et al., Economic Impacts of Child Marriage:Global Synthesis Report, 2017). Well then, if the early marriage incidence stop many changes were suspected to occur including; decrease fertility rate in 106 countries, increase welfare to 22 billion \$ in 2015 and 566 billion\$ in 2030, decrease mortality of children under five years and prevent stunting. Aforementioned, the decrease mortality and prevent stunting will lead to economic benefits, the estimation economic benefit in 106 countries was 42 billion \$ in 2015 to 82 billion \$ in 2030 and 9 billion \$ in 2015 to 16 billion in 2030\$ respectively. While, the education achievement if mothers not married early led to 26 billion \$ benefit (Wodon, et al., Economic Impacts of Child Marriage:Global Synthesis Report, 2017).

## **Chapter Three**

### **Methodology**

This chapter presents information about the methods used to apply this study, by describes the design of proposal study, the study population, sample and sampling selection, piloting, the data collection, data analysis and the study period, it also determines the inclusion criteria and the exclusion criteria we already used with finally the limitation we faced in the study.

#### **3.1 The study design**

The design of the study is triangulated, descriptive, analytical, cross-sectional study. Descriptive research used to obtain information concerning the current status, which means describe what already exist, what the characteristic for common population, while analytical research critical understanding for what exist to generate new knowledge and produce new relation between variables (Garg, 2018). Cross-sectional study has a specific advantage in compare with other studies, as it is rapid, quick, and good for prevalence, represent mostly at time of collection and can be done for large numbers of variable (Thelle & Laake, 2015).

In this study, data has collected by both quantitative and qualitative data collection to validate finding from one by other, the data has collected from the girls/women who married early, themselves, from their families and from girls who married after 18 years of age. The use of qualitative method was for explore more information and, for insure what we were obtained from quantitative part of data collection have the same directions.

#### **3.2 Study population**

The population was different according to way of data collection

##### **3.2.1 Quantitative part**

Are early-married girls who were living in the Gaza Strip at time of data collection. This includes girls whose age at married time was less than 18 years old and whose current age is less than 25 years old. With estimation from PCBS reports, the population for this study is 22173 early-married female in the Gaza Strip from both (PCBS, 2017d) and (PCBS, 2016e).

### **3.2.2 Qualitative part**

This part consisted from the following population groups:

- The early-married girls, whose current age was less than 25 years old.
- The early-married girls, whose current age was more than 25 years old.
- Parents of early-married girls.

### **3.3 Setting of the study**

The study was conducted at early-married girls' household for the quantitative part, while for the qualitative part the study was conducted at the premises of the in Union of Health Work Committees.

### **3.4 Study period**

The study consumed around 11 months; it started in May 2018 and finished in April 2019. This study started after proposal submitted on May 2018. Then the researcher designed and prepared requires tools for the study. After questionnaire has been revised multiple times between researcher and supervisor, then the researcher has consulted a group of 10 experts for nearly 2 months. In September 2018, a pilot part was conducted and the questionnaire has been revised again with supervisor, in November 2018 the tool was ready for data collection, training for data collector was done with a brief definition for medicals terms was given to all of the data collectors.

Inferential data analysis of quantitative data was done between January 2019 to March 2019, the researcher extracted findings, did descriptive and analytical analysis with creation of tables and graphs, that showed the idea in more clearly way.

After finished quantitative part, qualitative data collection started in March 2019. The draft of thesis has been frequently revised, and enriched by research supervisor, and then final draft was obtained in April 2019.

### **3.5 Eligibility criteria**

#### **3.5.1 Inclusion criteria**

- Quantitative part
  1. Girls married prior their 18 years old
  2. Age less than 25 years old.
  3. Duration of early married is at least one year, included widowed, married, and divorced girls.
- Qualitative part:
  1. Women/girls married early as above and their parents
  2. Woman married early and the age at data collection time above 25 years

### **3.6 Sample size and sample process**

#### **Quantitative part**

The researcher used the sample size calculator of the Epi info, to estimate the sample size using the following parameters:

- Total eligible population 22173
- The confidence interval 95%.
- Margin of error 5%.
- Response distribution 50%.
- Maximum acceptable percentage points of error (confidence interval) 5%.

Annex 1 shows the sample calculation, the minimum number of sample this study needed is 378. The researcher increased the study sample size to 406 early-married girls, to compensate non-respondent and to increase statistically power.

The sample type is multistage probability sample, collected from the five regions of the Gaza Strip. This was done by taking the names of early-married girls/women from PCBS, with the percentage of early-married in each region (proportionate stratified), then we determined according to percentage the percent needs for each area related to sample desired number, then systematically randomly selected early married girls was done. For whom who accepted to participate questionnaire, interview was done with them.

**For qualitative part:** 40 people were purposively selected, and called on voluntary basis to participate in seven focus groups. Each group consisted mostly from 6-10 acceptable participants and was seen in one session. Focus groups participants were selected in a way that ensures they represent mother, father of early-married girls, and the early-married girls themselves.

The idea of including this sample is to dig deeply and understand in-depth the descriptive analysis of quantitative sample analysis. The qualitative component was carried out after the quantitative one in order to explore issues that emerge from the quantitative data. Focus groups were distributed as:

- One FGD with early-married girls, their age less than 25 years old, this did by discussion the triggers factors and the consequences they faced.
- Two FGDs with fathers of early married girls this to discover the effect of them on their daughters.
- Two FGDs with early married girls that their age at time of data collection was older than 30 years, focusing on consequences resulted from being older related to their offspring and to discover if triggers factors were changes
- Two FGDs with mother of early married this to discover the effect of them on their daughters.

### **3.7 Study instruments**

#### **Quantitative part**

The quantitative instruments consisted from face to face interview structured construct questionnaire, all the question asked to the girls in the same way, no explanation was more for one participant compared with others to insure random error, this questionnaire consisted from the following main items, see (Annex 3):

- The first part of the questionnaire consisted from demographic information, it was divided in to two parts one prior marriage and one after participant marriage, for after marriage the participant were asked about her age, date of birth, residency, marital status at data collection times, and etc. The second part of demographic status prior marriage, focused on residency, age of parents at their marriage time

and at her marriage time, education and dropped out from schools, parents employment status etc.

- The second part was focusing in to participant perception about marriage prior their marriage associated with their felt after getting married.
- The third part was consisted from the possible triggers factors for child marriage, then violence exposure before marriage and details about the dowry.
- The fourth part was consisted from details about consequences of child marriage, started by participant felt about their marriage, having children, getting pregnant, complications of pregnancy, health status of participants' children, family planning, permission, exposure to violence, behavior done after being exposed to violence and then followed by a table that include the possible consequences for child marriage.
- The fifth part was a depression scale, which was the PHQ-9 questionnaire; it is nine-item depression scale. A powerful tool to assist and screening for depression and monitoring treatment response (University of washington, 2019).
- The sixth part was the Warwick Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale (WEMWBS), it is a core questionnaire for measuring wellbeing, it can be used as mentoring, evaluation, or follow up scale also can be used as self-wellbeing assessment questionnaire. The score range from 14 to 70. For details; for those who got 14-32 the score result is low and they must see a doctor for mental assessment, score from 32- 40 the score is below average they need support, score form 40-59 their score is average score and always there is a capability to improve, score from 59-70 the score is above average.
- The seventh part was the couple satisfaction index (CSI), it consisted from 16-items, psychometrically optimized, self-report scale assessing relationship satisfaction. The score range from 0 to 81, higher level indicates higher level of relationship satisfaction and scores falling below 51.5 suggest notable relationship dissatisfaction (Funk & Rogge, 2007). Each item has it codes number and this was summation for each participant, to explore the general satisfaction for the participants.
- The eighth part focusing in if any law procedures were needed before marriage contract accepted.

- And finally the ninth part about the feeling of the participant at data collections time, which includes; desired of divorce, hopeless marriage, the desired to continue their marriage, ideal age for daughters marriage, and the ideal age for girls marriage in general.

### **Qualitative part**

This instrument was built as semi-structured questions. Those questions asked by the researcher, then discussion were encouraged and every participant had the chance to speak freely with no pressure. FGDs seek participants' views and opinions about what was their idea about comparison with peers, who have similar age but not married early? What were the possible solutions for stopping or decrease child marriage? In addition to triangulate the initial findings concluded from the questionnaire analysis through digging to obtain multi-perspective explanations from the FGD participants, Annex 5 and Annex 6 shows the questions that were used in the focus groups.

## **3.8 Pilot study**

### **3.8.1 Quantitative part**

This session was done by connect with 10 early married girls with the inclusion criteria, by the same questionnaire prepared for data collection to insure understanding of the meaning, quick, and simplicity, and also to recognize any misinterpretation question.

The time took for participant to fill the questionnaire was calculated and to so to expect response rate, let the researcher trained in data collections. Following this steps a meeting prepared and summarization to the main obstacles was done, which was really helped in do modification to the questionnaire to be more clear and remove any misleading data, this changed was done and led to achieve the final prepared questionnaire for the data collector, after some rephrasing and explanation were added.

This pilot was done to achieve best understanding of the questionnaire, best data achieved by the question and give futuristic view for the study.

### **3.8.2 Qualitative part**

One FGD was conducted with three female's mother participants in Gaza City. As a result, questions were rephrased and ordered differently.

### **3.9 Ethical consideration**

The researcher showed commitment to all the ethical considerations, as an official letter had sent to many organizations and an acceptance to start work was received. This include a letter sent to Helsinki for ethical approval, and same formal letter for academic approval from Al-Quds university school of public health, a third letter to MOH to obtained their approval and finally a fourth letter had sent to Union of Health Work Committees-UHWC. The researcher received an approval from all f previous mentioned.

The ethical consideration achievement obtained also during the study, as every participant told an explanation of what was planned for thesis for example; the aim of thesis, the method will be done and the time need from him or her during questionnaire interview. Furthermore, WEMWBS scale need permission, an formal electronic registration was done, and a formal acceptance was received.

All this was done to insure the participation was optional and the data obtained was confidential, and for qualitative group part, their permission was asked to record in-depth interview, for both the quantitative and qualitative participant data was collected from them after verbal approval.

### **3.10 Method of data collection**

#### **3.10.1 Quantitative part**

After the pilot study, data collectors received five-training hours in a formal training setting. The training consisted from; a refresher on sampling and an orientation on the study objectives, explaining key concepts, terms, and ideas of the questionnaire in order to unify data collectors understanding, language, and method as a step for quality assurance. In addition, a detailed instructions sheet was annexed to the questionnaires to guide data collection process and to unify the way of presenting the study to respondents to obtain their voluntary consent. This instruction sheets was included mainly the medical terms and

definitions. This training is for the aim of understand the method of collect the data in same way with same explanation, with unify method to ask the question for insuring complete the questionnaire prior leave, and minimize error of data obtained.

After choosing the targeted female from by random selection method, the address obtained and data collector visited the home of target girls. In addition to that, data was collected by face-to-face interviews, and took place at home of early married girls participants after obtaining their verbal consent acceptance of participation and data collector told the participants that they can drop out once they want. An interview with the respondent was done for a duration of 45 to 60 minutes, during the interview the data collector summarized to respondent what understand to insure that respondent express their opinion in clear way, also data collector emphasized the confidentiality of work and the free to drop out once need to. In addition, data collector emphasized to the respondent the goal of this study and positive achievement might achieved by their participant on our society and our countries. In case if no respondent happen or in complete answers the data collector went to next target girls, using the same method of data collection.

### **3.10.2 Qualitative part**

In this part data collected by semi structured questions by the researcher. Each focus group conducted for 70-90 minutes, 80 minutes in average and had 6-10 participants; during focus group, the researcher welcomed the participant, introduce herself and insure verbal consent for participation.

Introductory question was prepared at the beginning of the focus group to initiate the exploration of participants thought, idea, and perspective and once they started an enhancement to each other achieved. Then researcher did a brief introduction for study objective to insure not direct and influence the thought and idea of the participant, after participant explore idea many short questions asked and between each question and other await time was available to insure that all participant input their idea about the asking question.

During the focus group we insured that everyone explore their idea, and the discussion continued until no information can achieved more with no exhaustion. After finishing each focus group, a rapid data notes called debriefing report was prepared by the researcher about the meeting understanding result and participant expression, gesture and tone.

### 3.11 Scientific rigors and trustworthiness

#### 3.11.1 Quantitative part

##### Reliability

Many steps had done to insure reliability:

- Training data collector; in the questionnaire steps, the way to ask question and the way to explain for the participant early marriage girls, in order to obtain standardization of data felling.
- Continues checking of the questionnaire and insure complete felling.
- The data entry followed the data collection rapidly to re-check the data and re-modified some misunderstanding in the questionnaire.
- A 5% of data entered re-entered again for re-checking and insure no error.
- Then another 10% of date re-entered and re-analyses to insure no error.

The scales of the questionnaire was tested through the statistical analysis software Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) and indicated high reliability (Chronbach's Alpha coefficient)

**Table (3.1): Reliability estimates for domains and the entire scale**

Domain	Chronbach's Alpha
Patient Health Questionnaire (9 questions)	0.774
Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale (14 questions)	0.928
Couple satisfaction index ( 16 questions)	0.958

##### Validity

The questionnaire constructed in best way to meet all the study objectives, then it evaluated by experts (Annex 2), to assess its relevance who advised regarding internal content validity, and their comments were taken in consideration.

Translation revised by one relevant individual prior to piloting, and the format of the questionnaire was kindly done to insure face validity this include entice layout, logical structured and series of the question, the question had to be clear, easy and understandable and the instruction in the questionnaire had also to be clear. Adding to that, a pilot study conducted before the actual data collection to examine clients' responses to the questionnaire, how they understand it. This would enhance the validity of the questionnaire as it modification depend on pilot result to be better understood.

### **3.11.2 Qualitative part**

The trustworthiness of the qualitative part of the study had achieved and the following steps checked it:

- A peer check for the in-depth questionnaire was done.
- Supervisor was consulted to insure relevance and convenience of the tool.
- The interview prolonged for the period of time need to obtain all data might be achieved and to cover all items need to be discovered.
- The meeting time recorded to re-check the information and insure accuracy, and also the record kept to let other tracking the information.

### **3.12 Data entry and analysis**

#### **3.12.1 Quantitative part**

The researcher reviewed the questionnaire in continues basis, this also was done by data collector, they revised all the questionnaires one by one, the data numerated and coded so descriptive analysis achieved.

The data entered in SPSS after being designed the model by SPSS 23 version, this checked mutable times in order to omitted discrepancies, or error. This did again in re-entry test for about 5 percent of the entered data, and then data cleaning was done through checking frequencies of the variable and looking for illogical value, for the first 10% then for the 50% then for all the data entry.

General frequency was done so we can determine the percentage, response and identify missing data for each question, negative phrase question converted so the overall of the question was in the same direction.

Advance statistically analysis used to explore the relation among the study variables, which includes;

- Independent t-test was done to assess whether the means of two groups are statistically significant different from each other. For example comparing the age of early married girls mean score with two dependent categorical variable such as employed/unemployed.

- One-way analysis of variance –ANOVA test, used to determine whether there are any significant differences between the means of two or more independent groups. For example, age of girls married in relation to residency.
- Person correlation test was used to determine the relationship between two continuous variables such as wellbeing scores and depression score.
- Chi-square test was used to determine the relation between two categorical variables, for example permission and violence exposure, education level and violence exposure.
- P value equal or below 0.05 was considered as statistically significant difference.

### **3.12.2 Qualitative part**

This was done after listen to transcript and record, revised the debriefing notes, then the data summarized in to categorize, the data coded and entered on excel sheets this helped to indicate the frequency for each theme. Debriefing notes revised and debriefing report wrote with include the facial expression, silence, refused answer, over talk, posture, gesture and drop out within the time of focus group discussion.

The qualitative part is an important part, which dig deep for data and looked for answer from silence. Moreover, it looked for the way of drinking after asking specific question, the change of tone for each question being angry, happy, not connection idea and thought. And also refused to answer or even leave after specific question and drop out from the focus group discussion, the way of discussion if logic or not with prove or unbalanced talk, the way of finish the discussion, how question change and etc.

All this was under researcher consideration and was noticed in the result as deep rooted important part of analysis. So researcher made a connection and overlap between themes and we obtained rich meaningful information.

### **3.13 Limitations of the study**

Due to the age of participants and the years of marriage in both quantitative and qualitative parts, the data obtained was under the effect of recall bias, many participant might have forget the situations happened and the condition surrounding prior to get married. Moreover, the study was limitedly done for girls rather than male. However, the choose for girls was depending in many reasons including; the minimum age of marriage in Palestine

for boys were 16 in West Bank and 18 in the Gaza Strip (UNICEF, 2017), older than the legal age of marriage for girls. Additionally, the prevalence of early marriage in the Gaza Strip among boys was remarkably less than the prevalence of early marriage among girls with (0.8% vs. 23.7%) respectively (PCBS, 2015b).

Although, being used international questionnaire is better than self-introduced, but researcher created most parts of tools, so to minimized the invalidity, the questionnaire was revised by 8 experts, and the tools was translated to Arabic language to be easily understood and to insure straight forward data collector easily collection. Moreover, a general limitation for all researchers in the Gaza Strip, such as electricity cuts.

## Chapter Four

### Result and Discussion

#### 4.1 Introduction

The chapter present the results of the statically analysis of the data and the interpretation of thesis result. Descriptive analysis represent the demographic characteristic for early married girls before and after marriage, followed by descriptive analysis for the consequences of participants marriage and triggers factors, with assessment of possible depression and assessment of their wellbeing status, finally detailed about couple satisfaction index.

#### 4.2 Descriptive statistics

##### 4.2.1 Demographic characteristics

The surveyed population consisted of 406 early-married women, who were married during their childhood before they reached the age of 18. The median respondents' age at the time of their first marriage was 16 years.

**Table (4.1): Distribution of responses by demographic characteristics (N=406)**

<b>Items</b>	<b>Categories</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Age group at time of first marriage</b>	Up to 15 years old	101	24.9
	16 Years old	143	35.2
	17 years old	162	39.9
	<b>Mean 16</b>	<b>Median16</b>	
<b>Details for participant age of marriage</b>	14 years old	17	4.2
	15 years old	82	20.2
<b>Place of residency before marriage</b>	North Gaza	108	26.6
	Gaza	157	38.7
	Deir Al Balah	25	6.2
	Khan Younis	67	16.5
	Rafah	49	12.1

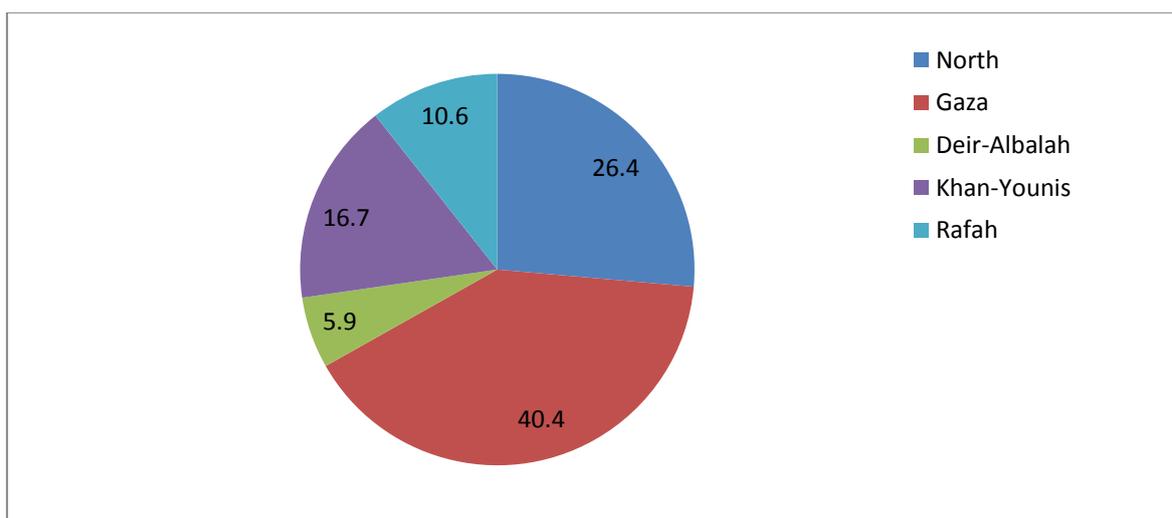
<b>Place of residency after marriage</b>	North Gaza	107	26.4
	Gaza	164	40.4
	Deir Al Balah	24	5.9
	Khan Younis	68	16.7
	Rafah	43	10.6
<b>Refugee status</b>	Refugee	277	68.2
	Non-refugee	129	31.8
<b>Location of residency place</b>	Outside camp	350	86.2
	Inside camp	56	13.8
<b>Parent's Family size</b>	Up to 7	106	26.1
	8-10	184	45.3
	More than 10	116	28.6
	<b>Mean 9.38</b>	<b>Median 9</b>	
<b>Family size</b>	Up to 3	94	23.2
	4-6	178	43.8
	7-10	73	18
	More than 10	61	15
	<b>Mean 6.35</b>	<b>Median 5</b>	
<b>Type of family</b>	Nuclear family	247	60.8
	Extended family	159	39.2
<b>Current marital status*</b>	Married	392	96.6
	Divorced	13	3.2
	Widowed	1	0.2
<b>Age difference in years between early married and their husbands</b>	0 to 5 years	175	43.4
	6 to 10 years	193	47.9
	More than 10 years	35	8.7
	<b>Mean 6.36</b>	<b>Median 6</b>	
<b>Early marriage among parents</b>	Mother	335	82.5
	Father	108	26.6

\*Divorce means at current time, see table 10 as it mentioned in discussion

Table 4.1 shows that 24.9% of respondents had married when they were 12-15 years old, 35.2% married when they were 16 years old and 39.9% married when they were 17 years

old. The median age marriage among the respondents (quantitative) was significantly less than the universal median age marriage in Gaza, which was 19.2 in 2007 (PCBS, 2009), 19.9 years old in 2010 and 20.2 in 2015 (PCBS, 2017e). Of the respondents, 68.2% were refugee which is congruent with the proportion of refugees in universal Gazans population (PCBS, 2016f), 86.2% were residing outside refugee camps and 13.8% inside camp and only 60% of them were living in nuclear families which was significantly less than the total Gazans population as more than 79% were living in nuclear families (UNFPA, Palestine 2030 Demographic Change: Opportunities for Development, 2016).

Regarding residency, 26.6% were living in the North Governorate, 38.7% in Gaza Governorate, 6.2% in Deir Al Balah, 16.5% in Khan-Younis and 12.1% in Rafah Governorate; the percentage has slightly changed after marriage. From PCBS in 2015 the average age of marriage for female was less in two areas North Gaza and Gaza with 19.4 years old and 19.7 years old consecutively, which is congruent with the high percentage of child marriage in the Gaza and North of Gaza as seen by figures 4.1.



**Figure (4.1): Distribution of child marriage by governorates**

Table 4.1 also illustrates the marital status among the early married participant at the time of data collection time with 96.6% of early married were still married and 4.4% became divorced from them 3.2% remained divorced and the other re-experienced a second or third marriage. In compared with general population in the Gaza Strip, the percentage of divorced among child marriage was significantly higher than the total population of married and unmarried women as the crude divorced rate was 1.6 in 2014 1.8 in 2015 and 1.7 in 2017 (PCBS, 2017b). While it was less than the prevalence of divorce among married girls in the Gaza population, the proportion of divorce in total marriage contract

contributed by 16.5% in 2010, 17% in 2011, and 16.3% in 2012 (Abu Hamad, Gercama, & Jones, 2017).

In Palestine, divorced or separated are home bound, and their movement outside the house is culturally restricted (Abu Hamad, Gercama, & Jones, 2017). Similarly, to divorced early married women from FGD *‘I never go outside, my husband prevented me to even visited my parents, and after I got divorced I refused to re-experiences marriage again because of my fear and because of people whisper around me’*(42 years old, early married women, FGD).

Table 4.1 shows also, the age difference between participants and their husbands, were more when compared with the general population. As girls who married early were younger than their husband by 0-5 years in 43.4% of the participants and nearly same percentage of participant their husbands were older by 6-10 years old and 8.7% of participant were younger than their husbands by more than 10 years. Aforementioned in literature review, this is might increase conflicts between couples.

Further, participants’ parent had married early by 82.5% of the mothers and 26.6% of fathers, which was mentioned in literature review as one of the possible triggers factors for child marriage.

Shifting the light on the family size, participants’ parent family median household size was nine; this household size became 6.35 after participants had gotten married. Comparing with other studies in the Gaza strip, the median family household size in the Gaza Strip in 2017 was 5.6 (PCBS, 2018a), and in 2015 the family average household size was 5.7 (PCBS, 2016f). Additionally, in MICS study the average household size in Palestine was 5.5 in 2014 (PCBS 2015a), It means that early marriage happened in large household family size. So females who are living in families with large median family size must be targeted to prevent child marriage.

Only 60.8% of participant were living with their nuclear family, compared with PCBS resulted witch revealed that around 84.7% of general population once married live with their husband alone (PCBS, 2016f), which mean even after participant got married, they live with more occupied place.

In conclusion, these results reflect the context of the demographic status around child marriage starting by living in large family size to high prevalence of parents child marriage. Then married with median age of 16 years old, with husbands who were older

by many years compared with girls who were not married early, and living with husband's family in higher percentage than not early married .

#### 4.2.2 Schooling:

**Table (4.2): Distribution of responses by school related variables (N=406)**

<b>Items</b>	<b>Responses</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Mother education level</b>	University/college	11	2.7
	Secondary	51	12.6
	Less than secondary level	344	84.7
<b>Father education level</b>	University/college	41	10.1
	Secondary	94	23.2
	Less than secondary level	271	66.7
<b>Participant's education level</b>	Illiteracy	6	1.5
	Elementary	58	14.3
	Preparatory	318	78.3
	Secondary	23	5.7
<b>Education level before marriage</b>	Was good	200	49.5
	Not good and not bad	140	34.7
	Was bad	66	16.0
<b>Being In education at time of engagement/ marriage</b>	Yes	333	82
	No	73	18
<b>Among those who were in education N=333</b>			
<b>Left the school based on early married girls desire</b>		176	52.9
<b>Left the school based on husband desire</b>		129	38.7
<b>Left the school based on family desire</b>		40	12
<b>Continue school as usual</b>		39	11.7
<b>Continue school but their grads affected negatively</b>		11	3.3
<b>Left the school due to school regulation</b>		1	0.3
<b>Timing of leaving the school N=333</b>	Immediately after being engaged	142	44.8
	Directly after marriage	89	28.1
	Few months after marriage	52	16.4
	Few years after marriage	34	10.7
<b>Last educational attainments</b>	Illiteracy	5	1.2
	Elementary	54	13.3
	Preparatory	270	66.5
	Secondary	69	17
	University/college	8	2

Although 49.5% of child marriage reported that, their marks were good at school, 34.7% mentioned that their marks were middle in average, but 18% of participants were out of schools at the time of their engagement/ marriage. This phenomenon was obviously notable for all the qualitative participant girls as all of them were out of school at time of marriage and some of them never went to school. PCBS data indicated that 1.2% of the total population were dropped out from education (Abu Hamad, Gercama, & Jones, 2017). More precisely, among female in the Gaza Strip in 2011 8.7 % of female age between 12-17 were dropped out from school and this percentage decreased to be 8.1% in 2017 for the same age group (PCBS, 2017f). Moreover most of girls who dropped out from school were home bound and so get lower wellbeing status and lived in isolation ( Abu Hamad, Gercama, Jones , & Al Bayoumi, 2018), all previous data result revealed that this thesis had higher level of dropping out from school.

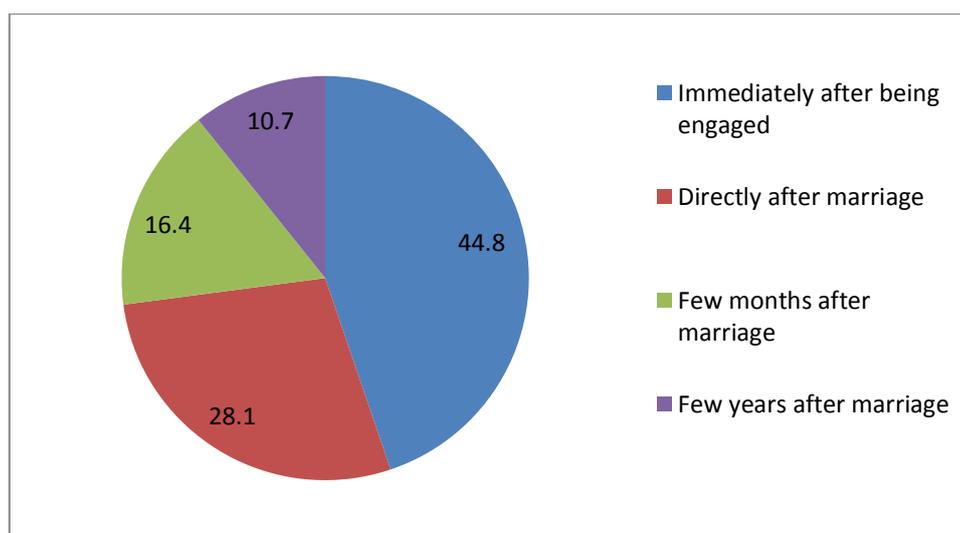
After marriage, level of education has dramatically changed, as only 2 % finished their university education, secondary school changed from 5.7% to 17 %. These results were consistent with FGD results. As no one reach to university level, limited numbers finished secondary education and the remaining left their schools once they got married. This was insisted by many early married women as example, one said *'Completing education is the main corner of females life, that I did not achieved'*(46 years old, early marriage women, FGD). Another early married women said that *'Marriage at young age prevent me from complete my education, and let anybody intervene in my life'* (42years old women, FGD). This percentage was far away from PCBS study which was done in 2014 for girls who were married early and their age at study times was between 20-24 as 42.3% achieved less than secondary education, 30% achieved secondary education and 13% achieved higher education level ( Abu Hamad, Gercama, Jones , & Al Bayoumi, 2018). Among the universal, in the Gaza Strip, for girls, 26.3% in 2015 finished their secondary education (PCBS, 2016b). This also similar to the total population in Palestine as 25.8% finished secondary school in 2014 (PCBS, 2015b), and MICS 2014 support this point as they found that 29.4% of women aged between 15-49 were finished their secondary school and also 34.3% of the same sample had finished higher education level (PCBS, 2015a).

Hence, this directed two meaning in this thesis; those who married early achieved lower level of education, and education level affected by the year of marriage, which might raise the possibility of economic status and political situation effect.

GAGE reported that early marriage decreases girl’s access to university education (Abu Hamad, Gercama, & Jones, 2017). Which also revealed that about half of female achieved only basic education level, were married before 18 years old? In addition, those who finished secondary school 22.7% of them were early married and 4.3% in those who finished university education (Abu Hamad, Gercama, & Jones, 2017).

Regarding child marriage women who were not dropped out at time of engagement the 82%, a significant changing happened, 52.9% left the school based on their desired, 12% left the school based on their family desired, and 38.7% left the school based on husband desired, 0.3% left the school after forced by the school. While, only 11.7 continue the school as usual, with other 3.3% continue the school but their grads were affected negatively. Compared with participant in FGD, most of the participant left their school once they got married. One of participants at FGD said *‘Once we got married, this mean no continues of education, because a wife must stop their education once they get married, as one of our tradition and norms, whatever years of education they reached’* (49 years old women, early married, FGD).

The remaining 82% of child marriage in the school, had left their education at some points after marriage, the time of left their school was as following 44.8% immediately after engagement, 28.1% directly after they had gotten married and 16.4% few months after they had gotten married, while only 10.7% left the school few years after the marriage.



**Figure (4.2): Percentage of school left after married/engagement**

The education level of early married parents, 84.7% of participants' mother had an education level below than secondary school and only 2.7% had had university education level, while 66.7% of participants' father were education level, below secondary school and only 10.1% had had university education level. This reflect a huge defect in participant's parents education level.

#### 4.2.3 Housing characteristic

**Table (4.3): Distribution of responses by housing characteristics (N=406)**

Item	Response	N	%
<b>Housing ownership current status</b>	Self-owned house	290	71.4
	Family-owned house	94	23.2
	Rented house	22	5.4
<b>Parent's house status in general</b>	Good	322	79.3
	Not good	84	20.7
<b>Current house Status in general</b>	Good	282	69.5
	Not good	124	30.5
<b>Parent's house type</b>	House	256	63.1
	Apartment	147	36.2
	Karvan	3	0.7
<b>Current house type</b>	House	138	34
	Apartment	261	64.3
	Separated room	4	1
	Karvan	3	0.7

Surprisingly, only 71.4% of participants were living in their owned house, 23.2% were living in family's house and 5.4% were living in rented house. The reported percentage is less than the general population. For example in the MICS 2014 study revealed that 82.5% were living in their owned house, 17.5% the house they lived in was not their house and 9.1% lived in rented house (PCBS, 2015a). This result was similar to qualitative analysis as all of early-married cases were living in the beginning years of their marriage with husband's family. One woman said that *'I will never let my siblings married in our home; they have to live alone in separated house with their new families. I was living with my*

*husband's family for years, those years were the most disasters years in my life' (42 years old, early marriage women, FGD).*

The percentage of participants who became living in an apartment increased from 36.2% to 64.3%, with some child-married participant became living in separated room represented by 1%. The PCBS 2015 analysis in the Gaza Strip reveals that, 26.7 % were living in house and 71.8% were living in apartment. While, in this thesis after participant marriage, 34% were living in house, 64.3% were living in apartment and 1% was living in separated room and 0.7% in Karvan. That explained the percentage different between general population and child marriage in nuclear and extended family (PCBS, 2016f).

In conclusion, early-married women were living in more extended family and so more liable to conflict life and complex living situations.

#### 4.2.4 Employment status and sources of income

**Table (4.4): Distribution of responses by employment and income**

Item	Response				N	%
<b>Mother's work status</b>	Working				6	1.5
	Not working				400	98.5
<b>Father's work status</b>	Working				229	56.4
	Not working				177	43.6
<b>Husband's work status</b>	Working				261	64.3
	Not working				145	35.7
<b>Participant's work status</b>	Working				4	1
	Not working				402	99
<b>Before versus after marriage economic related selected variables</b>	<b>Before marriage</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>After marriage</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Receiving social assistance</b>	Yes	299	73.6	Yes	315	77.6
<b>Source of social assistance*</b>	UNRWA	206	69.1	UNRWA	244	77.5
	MOSA	133	44.6	MOSA	40	12.7
	Others	30	10.1	Others	57	18.1
<b>Completely meeting basic needs for food</b>	Yes, completely	205	50.5	Yes, completely	142	35
	No or not completely	201	49.5	No or not completely	264	65
<b>Completely meeting basic need for transportation</b>	Yes, completely	149	36.7	Yes, completely	108	26.6
	No or not completely	257	63.3	No or not completely	298	73.4

<b>Completely meeting basic need for medication</b>	Yes, completely	149	36.7	Yes, completely	94	23.2
	No or not completely	257	63.3	No or not completely	312	76.8
<b>Completely meeting basic need for clothes</b>	Yes, completely	146	36	Yes, completely	94	23.2
	No or not completely	260	64	No or not completely	312	76.8
<b>Completely meeting basic need for electricity and water</b>	Yes, completely	136	33.5	Yes, completely	82	20.2
	No or not completely	270	66.5	No or not completely	324	79.8
<b>Completely meeting basic need for school needs</b>	Yes, completely	151	37.2	Yes, completely	48	11.8
	No or not completely	255	62.8	No or not completely	358	88.2
<b>Monthly household income per ILS</b>	Up to 1000	216	53.2	Up to 1000	331	81.5
	1001-1500	87	21.4	1001-1500	47	11.6
	1501-3000	94	23.2	1501-3000	27	6.7
	More than 3000	9	2.2	More than 3000	1	0.2
	<b>Mean 1310.34</b>			<b>Mean 815.99</b>		
	<b>Median 1000</b>			<b>Median 700</b>		
<b>Monthly household expenses per ILS</b>	Up to 1000	108	26.6	Up to 1000	251	61.8
	1001-1500	146	36	1001-1500	103	25.4
	More than 1500	152	37	More than 1500	104	25.6
	<b>Mean 1540.39</b>			<b>Mean 1067.73</b>		
	<b>Median 1500</b>			<b>Median 1000</b>		
<b>Attribution of economic status to early marriage</b>	Bad economic status (alone) is key reason for early marriage				61	15
	Bad economic status together with other factors are behind early marriage				65	16
	Bad economic status did not contribute to early marriage.				110	27.1
	The participant economic status was good				170	41.9

\*it means possible more than one option

Table 4.4 that illustrates the economic status of respondents shows that, 98.5% of participant's mother never worked and 43.6% of participant's fathers not working. While, after participant had gotten married; 35.7% of husband were not working and 99% of the participants were not working. Alternatively, PCBS in the general population for

Palestinian individuals who were above the age of 15 years old found that 24.4% of male were unemployed and 40.1% of female were unemployed (PCBS, 2018a). In addition, PCBS revealed that for male unemployment percentage was lower than this thesis (20.6 %) in 2013 increased to (23.9%) in 2014 and (22.5%) in 2015. Also, for female, unemployment lower than this thesis (35%) in 2013, (38.4) in 2014 and, (39.2%) in 2015 with 19.1 of female in labor force (PCBS, 2016f). Additionally, another youth survey was done in 2014, which revealed that 26.6% of general population was unemployed, 51% of youth graduated student were unemployed, and for the Gaza Strip reached as high as 60% (PCBS, 2015b). Arising from previous mentioned, the early married girls was living in bad economic status more than the general population and re-lived in another poor economic status.

Also, the female participation in Palestine was improved from labour force 10.1% in 2001 to 17.4% in 2014 (PCBS, 2013), this remarkably was limited in this thesis, only 1% of the participant was working at time of marriage and this not means at all that they shared any important part of labour force!.

Regarding social assistance, the participants' parent received about 73.6% social assistance, distributed to 69.1% from UNRWA, 44.6% from MOSA and 10.1% received from others social assistance resources. This needs was increased after participants had gotten married as 77.6 % were received social assistance from them 77.5% received it from UNRWA, 12.7% from MSOA, and 18.1% received social assistance from other resources.

On the same way, there was different capability to secure completely the basic need of life in their parents' home; 50.5% of food and 36.7% of transportation and medication, 36% of clothes, 33.5% of water and electricity, and 37.2% of schools need. After marriage, the ability to complete secure basic needs were significantly worsen after participant had gotten married as they became able to completely secure basic needs of the following; 35% of food, 26.6% of transportation, 23.2% of clothes and medication, 20.2% of water and electricity and only 11% for school needs. Moreover, these figures insure the poor economic status the participants were living in it after they had been gotten married. In the same way, this was congruent with nearly all the participant. In qualitative part of thesis, it insure the worsen condition after they had gotten married.

One of early married women after crying and there was many pause times during her speaking, she continue her speaking' *Many negative results were due to my early marriage including; not studying, poor economic status, not established the basic needs of life mainly the clothes and the food. As sometimes we continue for one week without cooking*

*for example we eat lentils, rice, and hibiscus because we received it from social assistance or because it is the cheapest in the market. In addition, as was mentioned before we can not secure basic needs of clothes and it is difficult for me to tell you who we provide to us the clothes we need, as our neighbors throw a clothes to us every few months, we clean it and used it. Moreover, I usually lie to my children; we said to them, we buy those clothes from the market' (49 years old female, early marriage, FGD).*

On account of the income, for participant's parents it was very bad as 53.2% received up to 1000 LIS per month with median of 100 LIS. While, the expenses per month were up to 1000 for nearly 26.6% and 36% expenses were from 1000 to 1500, with median of 1500. Compared with qualitative part, early-married women who their age at time of data collection 30 years old and above parents economic status in general was good. However, those who married prior 30 years old similar to thesis their parents' economic status was poor. The bad economic condition become worse after participants had gotten married as up to 81.5% received up to 1000 LIS per month with median of 700 LIS and mean 815.99. Similar with qualitative participant as the monthly income also bad, while the expenses was up to 1000 LIS among 61.8% per month with median of 1000. Comparing with other studies, in the general population in 2015, it revealed that the less average for income was 7581 for those who are 60 years or older, followed by age groups 30-44 their average monthly income was 9709. Adding to that, the average monthly income depends on education level and those with lower education less than secondary level, represented the less average monthly income by 8300 (PCBS, 2016f).

Explaining the effect of economic condition on decision of marriage, 15% of participant said that the bad economic status was the key reason for their marriage decision, and 16% of them said that the bad economic status associated others reasons contributed to their marriage decision. While, 27.1% said that bad economic status was not the reason for their marriage.

Aforementioned, introduce the meaning of worsening economic condition for child marriage after they got married; by lower husband working status, less capability to completely secure the basic needs for different type of basic needs and the median of income was poor.

#### 4.2.5 Context of marriage

**Table (4.5): Distribution of responses related to the context at which early marriage had occurred**

Items	Responses	N	%
<b>Freedom of choice</b>			
<b>Father forced this marriage</b>		205	50.5
<b>Mother forced this marriage</b>		124	30.5
<b>Extended family members forced this marriage</b>		29	7.1
<b>Accept marriage alone without any force/encouragement</b>		27	6.7
<b>Brother and sisters forced this marriage</b>		21	5.2
<b>Had been exposed to violence at parent's household</b>	Yes	198	48.8
	No	208	51.2
<b>Had been exposed to violence at the community</b>	Yes	37	9.1
	No	369	90.9
<b>Had been exposed to school violence</b>	Yes	29	7.1
	No	377	92.9
<b>Consanguinity</b>	Yes	225	55.4
	No	181	44.6
<b>Type of consanguinity (N=225)</b>	Third degree relative	148	65.8
	Fourth degree relative	60	26.7
	Same family, but not close relatives	17	7.6
<b>Number of sisters</b>	0-2	102	26.4
	3-4	186	45.8
	5-7	84	20.7
	8 and more	29	7.1
	<b>Mean 3.72</b>	<b>Median 3</b>	
<b>Participant's order among their sisters</b>	1	147	36.2
	2	99	24.4
	3-5	140	34.5
	6-10	20	4.9
<b>Number of unmarried older sister</b>	0	329	81
	1-2	70	17.2
	3-4	7	1.7
<b>Having at least one sister that married early</b>	Yes	228	43.8
	No	178	56.2
<b>Having a step mother</b>	Yes	78	19.2
	No	328	80.8

Context of marriage revealed the situation of living surrounding early married participants, associated their forcing or not to marriage.

The family members who enhance the occurrence of marriage is an important person to explain household status. In related to this, we found that about half of the participant their

father were the main source of force for their marriage. While, mothers contributed by 30.5 % of the force, others family members contributed by less percentage as extended family members represented by 7.1%, brothers and sisters together represented by 5.2%. Only 6.5% of participants accept the marriage alone without any enhancement encouragement or force. Regarding qualitative part the marriage force was mainly from father with some married without force and other their grandfather was the main pressure. Those who mentioned grandfather was the women with the eldest age at time of FGD. Focusing in father influence, some mentioned it as a shocked stories other try to escape from answer, then re-mentioned their father force, some denial the availability of pressure but with time they began telling stories about their marriage force.

Furthermore, obedience to father decision was one of the main parts as many say. One woman mentioned her story; *'I was forced to this marriage by my father and my grandfather, parents decided alone and told me their decision. Then she added I have no choice except acceptance. Moreover, if father decide anything in our life, we must said yes, even with marriage, when he decided to let me married, he decide, then I have no role to accept or refuse, I must obedience with his decision'*(52years old women, early marriage, FGD). Likewise, another girl mentioned that *'My father married 10 days prior my marriage and he wanted to decrease the household numbers. Then she added, so he decided to let me married' (30 years old women, early married, FGD)*. Similarly, another women was laughing when she remembered her father influence, she stopped speaking many times, and said some unrelated words while she spoke, she said that *'My father forced me to marriage. Furthermore, any decision my father take I must do it, whatever his decision. Then she added my marriage was one of his decision, though I was the oldest among his daughters'*(44 years old women, early married, FGD). In the same way, another women added *'I got married at my 16 years of age'*. She stopped for a while then added, *'I remembered that day clearly as I retained back to parent's home and my father told me, the next day will be my marriage contract day. My mother sulked due to this, as trial to prevent him, but he decided and we must obedience, I felt at that time extremely unhappy'* (55 years old women, early married, FGD).

The force of marriage affect the women realization of time that they got married as 35 years old women said *'I forced to this marriage, I suddenly found myself married'*(35 years old women, early married, FGD).

Father of eight daughters and all of them were married early focusing on his father pressure (the grandfather for early married girls), as he said that *'I have no role in my daughters early marriage, my father decided and I had to accept. I was so young, I married early, and I did not understand how to deal with life conflicts or needs. For this reason, every simple decision in my life my father decide up till now, and I can not project, I have to say yes whatever he decided, this obedience was a must'*(63 years old male, father of early married women, FGD).

Alternatively, there was no forced marriage in some said, as a mother insisted that *'I let all of my eight daughter married early, between 14- 15 years old, their husband are our relatives, so once they proposed I accept. Further, all of neighbors let their daughters married early, it is part of our traditions and norms, I did not force them; they became happy once they knew that a man proposed to their for marriage purpose'* (52 years old women, early marriage, FGD).

Shifting to consanguinity, 55.4% of marriage couples were relative and from them; 65.8% were third degree relative (this represent by 36.5% from the participants), 26.7% were fourth degree relative and 7.6% were relative from the extended family members. Similarly, in FGD part, this insured the high percentage of consanguinity between early-married girls and their husbands. In addition, comparing with other studies, age group between 20-24 years in the same study revealed that 28.3% were first cousin and 14.3% were relative from the same family (UNICEF & UNFPA, Palestinian Family Health Survey, 2006, 2007). In 2010, PCBS revealed that 30.2% of married women their ages were between 15-19 had had relativeness with their husband (PCBS, 2014).

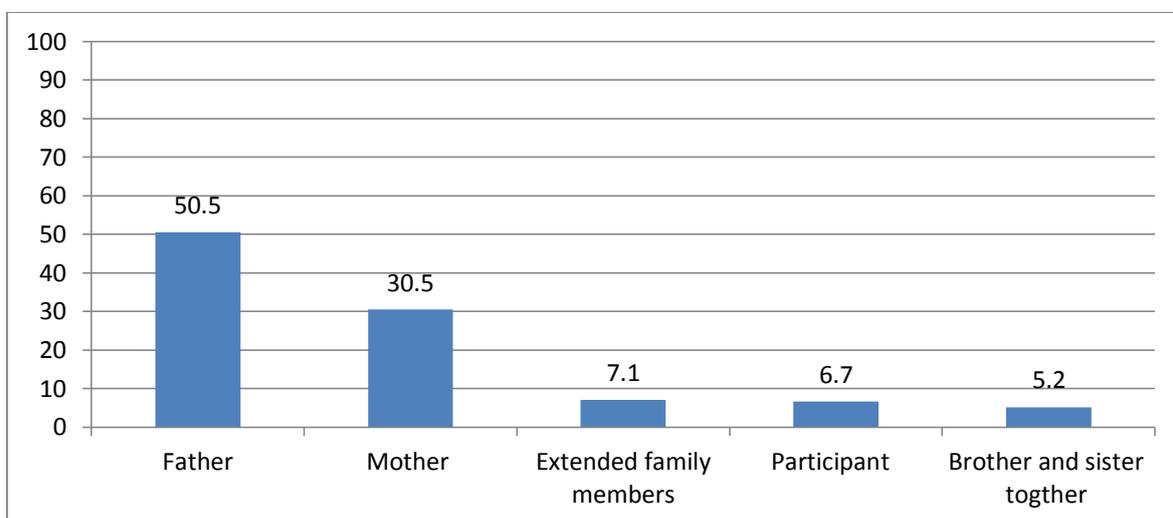
Table 4.5 also shows that, 36.2% of participants were the oldest between their sisters, 94.8% have up to one older unmarried sister, and 72.2% of participant has up to four sisters. In FGD, all of early-married girls have more than five sisters.

Related to violence, about 48.8% of participant had been exposed to violence by their parents, this percentage found to be less in community by 9.1% and in school by 7.1%. Moreover, FGD revealed that they were also exposed to violence in high percentage. While, those who their age at time of FGD were older than 30 years old, they denial any exposure to any type of violence. The findings of this study are similar to what is reported by PCBS in 2011 (59.4%) of 12-17 years old were exposed to violence (PCBS 2011b).

This means that the exposed to violence for general population in the same age group is nearly the same and the site of violence mostly the home.

On this study, 19.1% of participant had stepmother, which tested for triggering marriage.

So revising all previous mentioned data, the consanguinity between early-married women compared with other women was higher and nearly half of the participants had sisters who married early. With about two third of participants had more than 3 sisters. Additionally, most of early-married participants were forced to marriage and most of the forced marriage was by father, some of the participants were forced to marriage by their grandfather even if their fathers refused.



**Figure (4.3): The family members who forced the occurrence of marriage**

#### 4.2.6 Triggers factors for child marriage:

**Table (4.6): Distributions of responses by triggers factors for child marriage\* N= 406**

Items	N	%
Family norms	335	82.5
Community norms	300	73.9
Interpretation of religion	215	53.0
Consanguinity	213	52.5
Having relatives who married early	202	49.8
Parents married early	184	45.3
Family decision	172	42.4
Love story	160	39.4
Poor economic conditions	147	36.2

Items	N	%
<b>Having many sisters</b>	141	34.7
<b>Low school achievement</b>	102	25.1
<b>Desired to break social isolation</b>	79	19.5
<b>Afraid to be median</b>	76	18.7
<b>Bad treatment at school</b>	72	17.7
<b>Previous exposure to violence</b>	58	14.3
<b>Poor parents education level</b>	48	11.8
<b>Unmarried older sister</b>	41	10.1
<b>Honor as triggers factor</b>	38	9.4
<b>Death of father</b>	17	4.2
<b>Rich groom</b>	14	3.4
<b>Had sick members at family home</b>	14	3.4
<b>Death of mother</b>	11	2.7
<b>Having step mother</b>	10	2.5
<b>The family need the dowry</b>	5	1.2

\*for the mentioned details in discussion see annex 7

In general, the most common perception in quantitative part of study was, wanting to established a family which represented by 43.3%, while the most perception of marriage for qualitative FGD was bound to the accessories, wearing white dress and gold.

The other perceptions about marriage for those young women, 41.4% believed that marriage is their final destiny, 7.6% married to live in better economic conditions and 17.5% look for better quality of life, while 1.7% married to finished their suffering from family violence and 16.3% married to be more happy and less distress. In the same way, FGD mentioned these points, as woman said *'I thought marriage for picnic, go special places, visiting friends, live lovely. And once I got married I realized that marriage is a tight conditions, responsibility, and far away from my previous perception about marriage'* (46years old women, early married, FGD).

Other perception was looking at marriage as promising future, 7.6% thought that, and after finishing FGD, most of the participant mentioned that they already lost their future, after they thought marriage is promising future. Adding to that, a woman mentioned this point ' I lost my future, then after marriage I realized that; I lost my possibility to work, I lost the capability to continue my education. I am now lost, I lost my life forever' (49 years old women, early married, FGD).

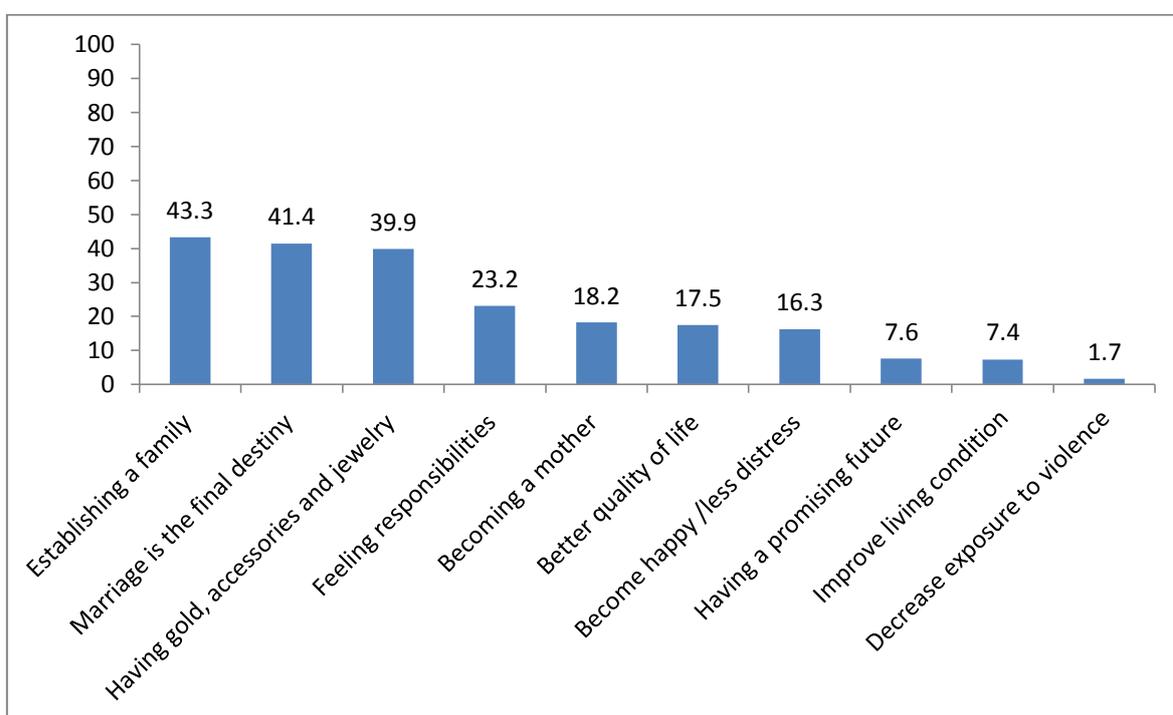
The third most perception, was represented by 39.9% thought that marriage means wearing gold, accessories and white dress. This meanings, was clearly represented most of the participants in FGD, 64 years old mother, who married eight of her daughters early, she said that *'my daughters perception about marriage before they got married was bound with the meaning of white dresses, accessories and gold'*(64 years old mother, FGD). Additionally, this meaning insured by early married women who said that *'I usually dream fake dreams about marriage, for me marriage meaning was white dress, gold and accessories, I thought marriage is like playing, which means not serous steps in female life, not related to responsibility at all. Adding to that, I thought marriage means buy things, live happily. But after marriage my thought about marriage changed it has the meaning of responsibility and load'* (47years old women, early married, FGD). Focusing in the same point, another woman also said *'I saw other female marriage who worn white dresses, looks happy, and I thought marriage has this meaning'* (42 years old women, early married, FGD). Another women insured this and said *'I thought marriage is wearing white dress, visiting beautiful places. I saw my brother's wife worn a beautiful dresses so I thought that marriage will bring to me those things, but after marriage I realized that marriage is a disaster, it is a responsibility that can not be tolerated'*(30 years old women, early married, FGD).

Some of the participant saw marriage as the way to become a mother by 18%, and they married for this purpose only.

Form the participants only 23.2% answered that they were feeling that marriage is a responsibility step in their life. This was insured by only one participant in FGD, as 49 years old female said that *'Marriage is important step in the life to live in stable, to not continue life alone after death of parents, to be responsible an create a family'*(49 years old women, FGD).

Others, thought marriage was not part of responsibility *'I thought that marriage is happy step in life, it means accessories and gold, I was happy at time of marriage decision. But after marriage I realized that marriage is a responsibility. Additionally, I want to retain back and continue my education, to have knowledge, to be 25 years old then to get married'*(49 years old women, early married, FGD), but others describe marriage by disasters and shocked steps in their life.

Unaware about the meaning of marriage was notified clearly in qualitative study and not mentioned by quantitative part, this mainly recognized for those who married less than 15 years old, a 54 years old women said that *‘The perception of marriage before I got married is nothing, I were not aware’*(54 years old women, early married, FGD). In the same way, another woman insured this and said that *‘ I did not have any meaning or perception about marriage, I was unaware what marriage means’*(42 years old women, early married, FGD). Focusing on this a woman said *‘I have no perception about marriage, my thought was focusing on completing university education, but I could not’* (52 years old women, early married, FGD).



**Figure (4.4): Perception about marriage before the participants being married**

Table 4.6 shows that the most common triggers factors for child marriage were family norms, community norms, religion, and consanguinity. This result was similar to FGD as the most common triggers factors for early marriage was family norms and community norms, some FGD mentioned another triggers affected their marriage, which were forced marriage, consanguinity and had many sisters/siblings. In addition, some others mentioned others factors which were; psychological illness of early-married girls’ father, poor economic conditions, get rid from parents’ home. Comparing this result with women affairs center results in 2015, which the triggers factors for child marriage were;

socioeconomic factors related to having multiple daughters, poverty and the groom is first cousin. Additionally, they define it as a family choice (PCBS, 2016g).

Norms was the main leading factor for child marriage, 82.5% said that family norms was the main triggers factors, while community norms contributed by 73.9% as trigger factor. Similar to FGD, this played a main triggers factors as a women said *'my triggers factor for marriage were family and culture norms. In addition, my father married one month before my marriage and so he wanted to get rid of me and the husband was a one who was living on the same area of our living'*(46years old women, early marriage, FGD). Moreover, another woman said that *'the tradition was one of the factors that trigger my marriage'* (46 years old women, early married, FGD). This was insured by another women who said *'I hate the time when I got married, there was no way other than gotten married as all of my relatives married early, in my family if you do not married before 15 years old you will loss the possibility to get married. Oh, I think early marriage like a disease; all girls in my living area must marry early'* (40 years old women, early married, FGD). Another women said *'I married early due to family and community tradition and norms, once girls in the place I was living in become 15 years old, men started to proposed to her. She added, and if she is not married she will loss the possibility to marry. But this now is mildly changed families wait till girls finished her secondary education and then men proposed'* (25 years old women, early married, FGD).

From those who were exposed to violence at parent's household, school and community 73.4% of them said that exposed to violence triggering their marriage, this represented by 14.3% of triggers factors in all the participant. Violence in FGD was denial by most of the participants. Further, father violence against participants' mother or other types of parents' conflicts that create an environmental of conflicts and crisis.

Related to home conflicts, one of the participant mentioned that, her desired for marriage was for escaping from parent's home as she said *'I have no idea what marriage means, I just thought that I want to escape from parent's home, the environmental of my parents' home was full of conflicts'*. She stopped then added *'my mother was exposed to violence multiple times in front of me and my sisters. Moreover, I thought whatever they said it was always wrong, and I must do the opposite, so my decision was to escape to another better home. In addition, I thought that marriage could change this situation, but after I got married I realized that I was living in bad house and then I became living in a worst*

*home*'(46 years old women, early married, FGD). Similarly, another women said that *'My father violate my mother, physically and verbally, so I felt boring and I decided to marry in order to live independent in another house, which is not happened'*(42 years old women, early married, FGD). Furthermore, another view of home conflicts was mentioned *'The main triggers factors to my marriage were; my mother was married early, my aunt also was married early. Additionally, my father left the home and travel abroad and this led to a huge responsibility on my mother with the effect of traditions and norms in the community'*(23 years old women, early married, FGD). Adding to that, one participant bound the marriage of her daughter as a protection from their father; *she said 'I let all of my daughters married early due to my husband psychological illness, I want them to get rid of their fathers' home and the second reason was the beauty of my daughter so many men proposed to them'*.

Shifting to another triggers factors, death of one of participants' parents and shifting the responsibility to another person, was recognized as triggers factors for child marriage. For who had a mother passed away, before marriage a total of 9 participants their mother died 66.6 % of them said that this affect the decision of marriage this represented by 2.7% from the total participants. While, for participant who faced death of their father before they had gotten married from a total of 29, 58.6% of them said that their loss contributed to the decision of child marriage which represented by 4.2% from the total population.

Alternatively, about consanguinity, 52.5% of participants bound their marriage to consanguinity. Likewise FGD proved this; a women insured this by said *'The main reason for my marriage were relativeness with husband and conflicts at home'* (46 years old women, early married, FGD). In addition, another women said *'The tradition of the community and the family was the main reason of my marriage, the other triggers factors is the relativeness with my husband'* (49 years old women, early marriage, FGD). This was insured by another women who said *' he was my cousin, do you understand what that means, my parent must accept or a families conflicts will happens, he was my cousin, he was my cousin'* (30years old female, early marriage, FGD).

Related to marriage force 42.4% of participants their decision for marriage was forced by their parents, and it represented a second main triggers factors in qualitative part. Moreover, a women insisted the effect of force marriage by said *'the main factors that encourage my marriage was father and grandfather force'* (52years old women, early

*married, FGD), she then re phrase her speaking and said that 'Norms and tradition affected my grandfather who then forced my father and my father forced me to this marriage'. In the same way, also a mother of early-married girls inured this, by said 'the reason for my daughters early marriage is my husband, he forced them to marry, and I could not do any things. Additionally, I must accept his decision, though; I am suffering from early marriage' (71 years old women, mother of early-married girls, FGD).*

Religion represented one of the factors that contributed to early marriage, 53.1% of total participant bound their marriage to religion, in FGD there was a debate about religion effect on their marriage and most of them denial it effect.

Parents early marriage was tested for possible effect on participants early marriage, 50.9% of participants who have had parents who married early said that their parents early marriage had an effect on their acceptance for child marriage, which represented by 45.3% of all participant.

Regarding unmarried older sisters, 50.6% of participants insisted that such a condition contributed to their marriage, which represented by 49.8% for all participant.

Shifting to another triggers factors, 49.8% of participant accepted the marriage because one of their relatives had married early. While, 39.4% of participant their love feeling toward their husband contributed to the acceptance of marriage.

For participant who have more than 2 sisters, 39.2% of them said that having sisters contributed to marrying them early, which represented by 34.7% for all the participant, in FGD all of participant had more than 5 sisters, and for parents more than 5 daughters, and most of them bound marriage decision to this reason. In the same way in FGD, a women married early said that *'I have 10 sisters and so my father decided that they want to let us married as soon as possible. The older sister of me; my father said if a dogs came and proposed to her I will let her married it' (35 years old women, early married, FGD), her sisters also married early and she said 'my father married 3 wives, and he has 17 siblings this might have affected our early marriage'*

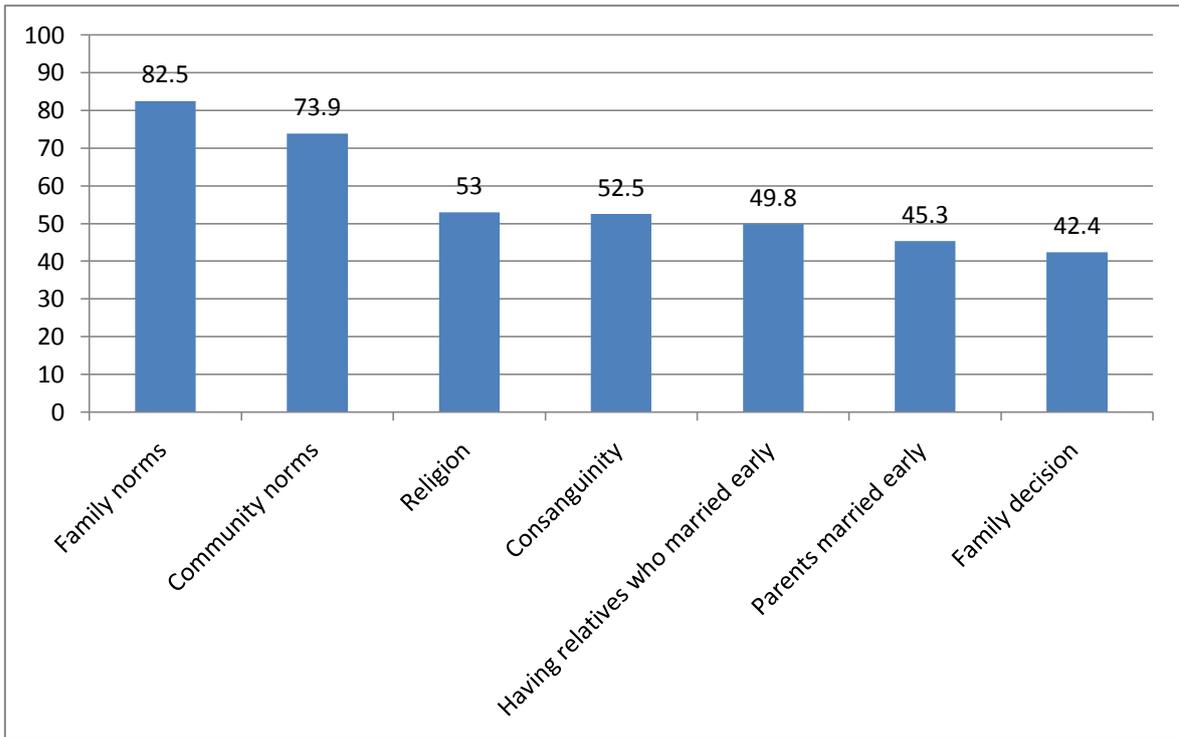
Although, as we mentioned before participants were living in poor living and economic condition and about 73.6% of their parents received social assistance but only 36% of them said that this condition contributed to their marriage decision. This in FGD has a debate about effect of economic status on decision of marriage. additionally, many participants

said that their parents' economic status was good and it had no role in their marriage as a women said ' *our parent's economic status was good and has no role in my marriage* ' (46 years old women, early married, FGD). In the other hand, other insisted that poor economic status affect the decision of marriage as a women said ' *The main triggers factors for my daughters marriage was our poor economic conditions. We could not tolerate their needs so we thought that marriage would decrease their economic burden and also will let my daughter live better, but that thought was a fake thought* ' (55 years old women, early married, FGD). This percentage was similar to women affairs center, the prevalence of childhood in poor household was 32% (PCBS, 2016g).

In addition, there were many factors that triggers marriage for limited percentage, 25.1% bound the marriage decision to poor school achievement and the others factors; desired to break social isolation, afraid to be median, bad treatment at school, poor parents education level, honor, having step mother, had sick members at parent's home.

The least triggers factors for child marriage was families need the participant's dowry which represented by 1.2%, another triggers factors was rich groom by 3.4% but we had mentioned before that husband economic status was generally not good and 77.6% of married ladies received social assistance, so this factor cannot be asset by this sample.

From all the previous data we can recognize that child marriage causes is rooted in our society as the main causes of their marriage was related to norms and traditions, whether it is from community or from surrounding relatives. Also religion played an important encouragement for marriage. Therefore, if we want to stop child marriage it means we need to change our culture direction.



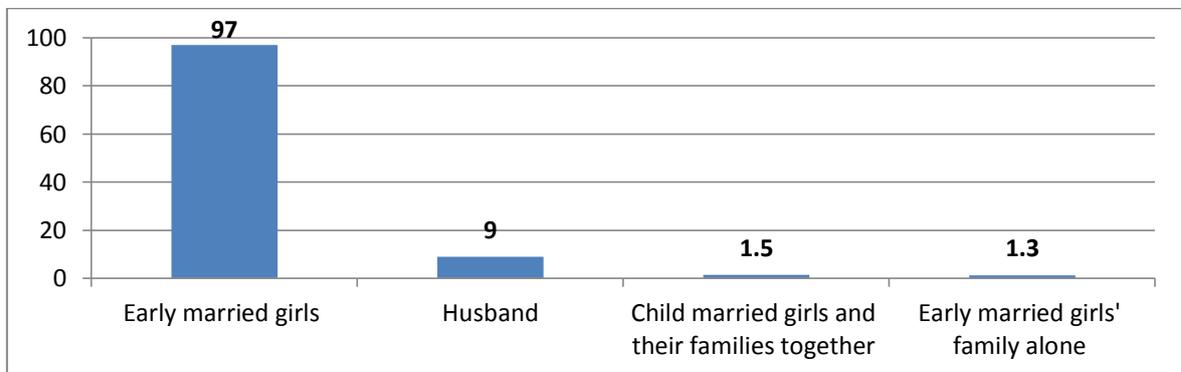
**Figure (4.5): The most common triggers factors for child marriage**

#### 4.2.7 Person who benefited from participant's dowry

Dowry is one of Islamic marriage role to achieve the optimal contract, the amount of dowry are different between families.

From the 400 participant who received dowry only 1.3% of participants' parents benefit alone from their dowry, and 1.5% of participants parents benefit from dowry with them, and 9% of the husband benefit from their dowry.

We can clearly notified that the participant mostly received their dowry this represented by 98.5% of the 400 participant.



**Figure (4.6): The person who benefited from early-married women dowry\***

\*possible more than one choices

#### 4.2.8 Consequences of child marriage:

**Table (4.7): Distribution of responses by consequences of child marriage N= 406**

Items	N	%	
Left the school	264	67.5	
Increase stress and anxiety	270	66.5	
Loss of privacy	238	58.6	
Loss of opportunity to work	223	54.9	
Dependency	216	53.2	
Basic needs are not satisfied	214	52.7	
Decrease access to recreation	209	51.5	
Poor economic conditions	207	51	
Decrease socialization and participation	185	45.6	
Restriction in movement	181	44.6	
Exposure to violence	177	43.6	
Feeling that they loss their future	166	40.9	
Increase in family conflicts	150	36.9	
Deterioration in health status	51	12.6	
Recurrent hospitalization for their children	49	12.1	
Having divorced thought	44	10.8	
Poor school achievement	41	10.1	
Inability to take care of their children	39	9.6	
Participant describe their health in general	Good	388	95.6
	Uncertain	6	1.5
	Bad	12	3

The most common consequence for child marriage in quantitative part was left participants their school and not continued their education, which was congruent with qualitative part.

In quantitative part, the most others consequences were; increase stress and anxiety, loss privacy and loss their opportunity to work. FGD results, others consequences were somewhat the same in type but with different in their prevalence of occurrence which were

obedience and agency, decrease recreation, increase stress and anxiety, exposure to violence and loss their childhood life and so not having ranking in the community.

Moreover, the most disaster speech was for one woman who generalized the consequences for her whole life by said; *'the most common consequences of my early marriage is the early marriage itself, all part of my marriage is a consequences'* (42 years old women, early married, FGD). Another woman generalized all marriages as bad related to her experiences; *'All marriages are the same, all bad with many conflicts'* (22 years old women, early married, FGD).

Regarding education, Table 4.7 shows that the most consequences of child marriage was that 67.5% of the participants left their school and only 10.1% said their remaining at school led to poor school achievement. While, all participants in qualitative part, said that low education level was resulted from early marriage as a women said *'I left school once I got married, I have to left the school. In my region every married woman has to leave the school'* (33 early married women, FGD). Additionally, a women recognized loss her daughters ability to continue education as main consequences of their marriage by said ; *'My daughters marriage consequences is related to their education, they did not continue their education and stop education once got married'*(50 years old women, mother of early married girls, FGD).

In the same way, not being educated bound by early marriage women to different result, one as they loss ranked in community as a women said that *'My early marriage led to loss my chance to complete my education level, prevent me to be independent, to have social rank. If I have been finished my university education, I would have been better than this life conditions. In addition, also if I have been married older than my married age I would have built a connected with many people'* (49 years old women, early married, FGD). Moreover, others bound being not educated, led to changing of mother-in-law behavior, as a women said *'husband's family think that I am for serve. But once my husband's brother married to older age an educated girls, they chose the word to speak with her, they respect her, they told me she is educated not like you, I was surprised'* (42 years old women, early married, FGD).

Focusing on the economic status, 54.9% said that their marriage led to loss their opportunity to work and as we mentioned before only 1% were working. While in FGD, there was debate about the economic status in FGD, some said that there was no effect of early marriage, but most of participant said that there economic status would had become

better if they had not had married early. A women insisted in that by said *‘My husband always talk to me, if I had had married a teacher, my economic situation will never be like this, it will be better. So yes, if I had married older I would have completed my education and have the opportunity to work.* In the same way another women insisted, she said *‘our economic status is so poor, when my grandson ask for one shackles, I started crying, when my married daughter come for visit I can not cook a good food for them, our economic status is so poor. If I had had married later, I would had improved our poor economic status’* (49 years old women, early married, FGD). This explained the result obtained by thesis questionnaire, as 52.7% could not achieved the need of basic needs and 51% their marriage led to poor economic status.

Agency is one of the factors that many women mentioned it; 44.6% said that their marriage led to restriction of their life, FGD clearly prescribed this as one of their consequences. In same direction, one women said *‘ I wed at young age, so I obedience for all their request, I never raise my voice in front of husband or husband family, I never object, I always said yes. For this end, this all because of marrying at young age, but if I had been wed at 20 years old, I would have been more capable to inter in a conversation to build up my mind’*(42 years old women, early married, FGD). She then added *‘I accepted any type of mistreatment, as I always response to any type of improper behavior by silence’*. In addition, another women said *‘When we married young we live with husband family, this means; the role of life, the decision, the permission all under husband’s family role’* (23 years old women, early marriage, FGD). Also 53.2% of quantitative participants said that they were depending on the surrounding people for made decision.

In the home, 58.6% said that they lost their privacy, 51.2% said that their marriage led to decrease recreation, 36.9% bound the early marriage with increase family conflict, 45.6% said that their marriage decrease socialization and participation, and this marriage also led to stress and anxiety by 66.5% and 58.6% said that they lost their privacy.

Violence was one of the notable consequences after child marriage as 43.6% said that their marriage increase the liability of exposure to violence. While, in FGD, half of the participants said they were exposed to violence others keep silent and others insisted that there was not exposure to violence at all even verbal violence. With regard to violence in FGD, a women said *‘I never exposed to violence neither in my parent’s home, nor from my husband’* (42 years old women, early marriage, FGD), for those who exposed to violence, one 30 years old women said that *‘I was exposed to violence by my husband, he mostly hit*

*my ears. In addition, many times I complained from ears pain and bleeding post being hit. Moreover, sometimes I felt pain at my ears before being hit, when I know he will hit me, it is like a hallucination. There is no reasons for his violence, sometimes he just hit me due to their parents gave an idea different from our decision' (30 years old women, early married women, FGD).*

While 95.6% of participant said that, their health was good this percentage is nearly the same as other thesis. As adolescent girls from 15-29 years old who 85.9% of them prescribed their health as excellent or very good (Abu Hamad, Gercama, Jones , & Abu Hamra, 2017), but 12.6% insisted that their marriage decrease their health status.

Regarding their children health, 12.1% bound their marriage with recurrent admission of their children to hospital which can be connect with the 9.6% who said that they were not able to take care of their children.

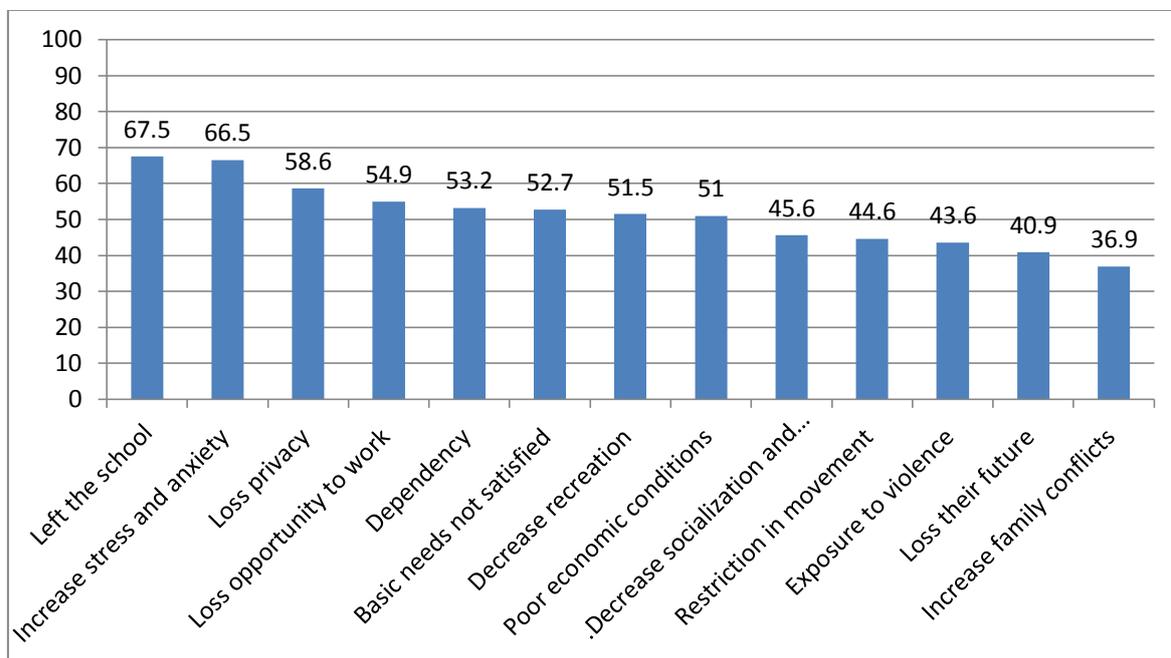
Form all the previous consequences, only 10.8% had divorce thought.

Living there childhood is one of the factors that many participant insisted that they loss it, associated with loss experiences and not building there characteristic. A woman said *'If I had not had married in young age I would have built my characters, be myself, had life experiences in life, understand life more'*(25 years old women, early married, FGD), another women said *' the most common consequence of my early marriage is lost my personality, become weak'*(20 years old women, early married, FGD).

Fear from marriage was mentioned by FGD as one of the consequences, one of participant speech was so painful, she felt full of fear from her first experience, she got divorced and not married again related to her fear. She said ; *'I married at 14 years old of my age, and then I got divorced when I became 16 years old, after that, I did not marry again because I felt full of fear to repeat such an experience, my family let me marry him because he is my first cousin'*(49 years old women, early married, FGD). Additionally, another women said; *'the most common consequence of marriage is I always full of fear'* (25year old women, early married, FGD).

In Palestine, some of the consequences the child marriage girls faced even if they achieved higher education level, which include; decrease work opportunity, greater care for the reproductive women function over others, increase gendered culture roles, dropped out from school, psychosocial stress, increase possibility of abuse and decrease liability of make choices (Abu Hamad, Gercama, & Jones, 2017).

All the previous data represented low education level the participant achieved, as the most consequences for their early marriage, other main consequences were; dependency, loss privacy, loss opportunity to work and loss their future.



**Figure (4.7): The most common consequences resulted from early marriage**

Shifting to the possible solutions, related to these consequences, early married women in the FGD were discussing about the possible solutions and the solution related to participant perception were education in different way, family, or by law, while others loss their hope for any proper solutions.

Regarding education; the important of education and increase awareness was the main solute that defined by most of the participants '*education of the girls is one of the main corners to protect from acceptance early marriage*' (42 years old women, early married, FGD). Some early married women expected that brushers would help in stop early marriage '*I am not with early marriage, and to stop it we can do brochures to educate population about child marriage, via television series about child marriage and it's consequences*' (49 years old women, early married, FGD).

Continuing in education, others bound the education to schools, a woman said '*schools are the main site to stop early marriage, because it make the girls more aware and understand well. For example, my daughter's teacher gave the class a lecture about early marriage,*

*the complication that may occur, the side effect all this was right and have positive result in girls awareness. Adding to that, also girls' family have main corner in build the girls in such way that they understand the risk of being married early' (42 years old women, early married women, FGD).*

Another way of education television, as a women said *'The best way to prevent early marriage is by present early marriage female problems to the population via television without name to not hurt the people. This will really help' (24 years old women, early married, FGD).*

Most of the participants recognized family as the main way to prevent early marriage, as the main corner for girls' education and increase awareness *'the main way to prevent early marriage is by family, by increase their daughter awareness. In addition, if not by increase awareness then by prevent the marriage; by educate the girls' (20 years old women, early married, FGD).*

Additionally, another women said that *'family is the main domain in the community to prevent early marriage, my aunt daughter is 16 years old and family told me to proposed for her to my son, but I refused, she is so young. What would I need from young girls; what she understands about marriage to take her, she has future to build it' (42years old women, early married, FGD).* Moreover, another women bound education to UNRWA by said *'UNRWA present a stories for female with early marriage, and it focus on the consequences of child marriage and the result of marriage if the girls had not married early, they would had continued their education, the stories can help in increase community awareness and so help in stop early marriage'.*

So this means that in participant's perception view the best way to stop early marriage is by education this step can be achieved by brochure, television, increase teacher awareness, increase students awareness, other solution was bound to family as it is the main corner of refused.

#### 4.2.9 Exposure to different type of violence after marriage:

**Table (4.8): Distribution of response by early-married women exposure to violence after they had gotten married**

Items	Reponses	N	%
<b>Exposed to violence</b>	Yes	185	45.6
	No	221	54.4
<b>Place of violence (N=185)</b>			
<b>At home</b>		177	95.7
<b>Community</b>		15	8.1
<b>Parent's home</b>		8	4.3
<b>School</b>		2	1.1
<b>Street</b>		1	0.5
<b>The perpetrator for violence (N=185)</b>	Husband	174	94.1
	Mother in law	32	17.3
	Father in law	7	3.8
	Husband's brother	5	2.7
	Husband's sister	5	2.7
	Service provider	3	1.6
<b>Type of violence N = 185</b>			
<b>Verbal violence</b>		172	93
<b>Physical violence</b>		85	45.9
<b>Psychological violence</b>		69	37.3
<b>Economic violence</b>		15	8.1
<b>Health violence</b>		12	6.5
<b>Social violence</b>		5	2.7
<b>Sexual violence</b>		2	1.1
<b>The change of violence over years of marriage</b>	Increase	35	18.9
	Same	63	34.1
	Decrease	87	47
<b>Reaction in response to violence</b>	Left the house to parent house	88	47.6
	Did not tell anybody	68	36.8
	Talked to relative/friends	47	25.4
	One of your relative present to you and fixed the problem	4	2.2
	Went to women organization for help	1	0.5

\* For the details mentioned in the discussion , see annex 8

Table 4.8 shows that the exposure of the early married to violence was 45.6%, which is nearly similar than other studies was done in the Gaza Strip; PCBS 2005-2006 found that Percentage of ever married women who exposed to different types of violence from husband was 31.9% (PCBS, 2006). Additionally, in another study was done in 2011 they found that Percentage of ever married women who exposed to violence from husband was 51% (PCBS, 2011d). The result of FGD were range between those who were exposed to different type of husband's violence, those who were exposed to mother-in-law verbal violence and father-in-law verbal violence and those who never exposed to violence. In the same way, for those who were exposed to violence some of them the exposure to violence decrease , others continue the same and others stopped; *'I used to exposed to physical violence in the first years of my marriage, but then it stopped and now I exposed to verbal violence'* (35 years old women, early married women, FGD).

The most type of violence in this thesis was verbal violence as 93% were exposed to it, then physical violence by 45.9%, followed by psychological violence by 37.3%. Moreover, to less extent for other types of violence 8.1% were exposed to economic violence, 6.5% were exposed to health violence, 2.7% were exposed social violence, and 1.1% were exposed to sexual violence. Comparing with PCBS 2011 sexual violence represented by 11.8% (PCBS , 2011d).according to PCBS 2011, women were exposed to it by their husband was economic violence by 88.4%, then social violence by 78.9%, followed by psychological violence by 76.4%, then 34.8% were exposed to physical violence and 14.6% were exposed to sexual violence (PCBS, 2011b).

The one who did this violence was almost always their husband except in social violence which all of husband, husband's mother, nurse, husband's brother contributed by 6.5% and the community was the main source of social violence by 80%.

For those who exposed to violence, sometime there was a one or more person who trigger the violence to occur, in this thesis 94.1% the perpetrator of violence was the husband, while the mother in law contributed by 17.3%. Additionally, to less extent for other surrounding people father in law 3.8%, husband's brother 2.7%, husband's sister 2.7%, and service provider by 1.7%. In the same way, in FGD, all the participants who were exposed to violence said that the husband was the man triggers for violence and he was the one who did it. While, others bound their exposure to mother-in law associated with husband, a

women said ‘ Oh, it is my husband, he hit me without a need for outside stimulus’ (22 years old women, early married, FGD).

Regarding place of violence, 95.7% of violence occurred at home, 8.1% in the community, 4.3% in parents’ house, 1.1% in the school, and 0.5% in the street. Comparing with result from FGD all participants who exposed to violence, exposed to violence in their home, a women said , ‘ I used to bit in home, sometimes in front of my husband’s father and my husband’s mother, but most of the times my husband hit me in our home’(25years old women, early married, FGD).

Related to prevalence of violence within years of marriage, the occurrences of violence decreased throw years of marriage by 47%, and continue at the same average by 34.1% for the women exposed to violence, while increased with 18.9% of participant who exposed to violence.

Obviously, For those who were exposed to violence, the reaction was as following; 0% call organization for help, 0.5% went to women organization for help, 2.2% one of family members present and help to fix the atmosphere post violence exposure. Additionally, to higher percentage 25.4% of child-married women called their friends for help and advice, 36.8% did not tell anybody and 47.6% left the house and went to parent’s house for help. In the same way, with PCBS results for women behaviors after being exposure to violence, in 2005 found that 1.7% went to women organization center for counseling and in 2011 decreased to 0.7%, other called an organization for counseling via phone in 2005 the percentage was 3% and in 2011 decrease to 0.4%. in addition, many married female left the house and went to the house of their father, brother or relatives by 30.4% in 2005 and 30.2% in 2011. Moreover, the most percentage was found to be that 65.5% in 2011 of married women did not tell anybody about the violence, and only 3% went to medical center for medical treatment (PCBS, 2011a). Another study, 65.3% of women who exposed to violence preferred to remain silent and those who sought help from institutions did not exceed 0.7% (PCBS, 2011a).

All the previous data revealed that, the child-married women were better in calling their friends and ask for advice, but the total view revealed a culture of society that not standing well with those women who exposed to violence.

#### 4.2.10 Agency

**Table (4.9): Distribution of response related to early-married women agency**

Variables	Responses	N	%	From whom the permission							
				Husband		Husband's father		Husband's mother		No need for permission	
				N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
<b>Permission to visit friends</b>	Never go	169	41.6	390	96.1	4	1	26	6.4	0	0
	Not alone	102	25.1								
	Alone	126	31								
<b>Permission to go to the religious places</b>	Never go	155	38.2	233	57.4	21	5.2	0	0	7	1.7
	Not alone	32	7.9								
	Alone	63	15.5								
	Not applicable	156	38.4								
<b>Permission to go to the community center</b>	Never go	108	26.6	399	98.3	12	3	62	15.3	3	0.7
	Not alone	178	43.8								
	alone	120	29.6								
<b>Permission to go just outside the home</b>	Never go	106	26.1	397	97.8	9	2.2	50	12.3	3	0.7
	Not alone	224	55.2								
	Alone	75	18.5								
<b>Permission to go to the market</b>	Never go	91	22.4	401	98.8	13	3.2	79	19.5	0	0
	Not alone	219	53.9								
	Alone	96	23.6								
<b>Permission to go to the health center</b>	Never go	4	1	395	97.3	6	1.5	70	17.2	7	1.7
	Not alone	150	36.9								
	Alone	252	62.1								
<b>Permission to visit family</b>	Never go	4	1	389	95.8	6	1.5	38	9.4	14	3.4
	Not alone	162	39.9								
	Alone	240	59.1								
<b>Freedom of movement index</b>	Up to 50			70	17.2						
	51-74			106	26.1						
	75-93			108	26.6						
	More than 93			122	30						
<b>Used family planning with acceptance of their husband</b>				Yes				127	95.5		
				No				6	4.5		
<b>Change in trends of freedom of movement</b>				Increase				43	10.6		
				Same				333	82		
				Decrease				30	7.4		

Agency is one of indicator for freedom of movement and dependency, this study tried to discover the ability of participant to move outside the home in related to different places, to explore if the places had had any effect on their ability of movement or there was a general situation happened.

In general, we discovered that most of child-married women were not liable to go outside home alone and with need of permission from their husbands. Women from FGD insure this results, one women said that *'mothers must teach their girls the best way to deal with their husband including; prepared food, listen to mother in law, do what mother in law want her to do, be deafness, blindness and muteness, compliance with the order and requests'*(52 years old women, early married, FGD).

The FGD results were consistent with quantitative part, as the permission mostly took from husband and mother-in-law as second percent, others had very limited role, and also most of early married girls prevented from go outside their homes, and sometimes inter in interrogation. In the same way, a woman said *'I took permission from my mother-in-law, she is the main person in the home that I must take permission from. But even with permission if father-in-law saw me in the street outside the home, he started screaming in my face, and do interrogate in the street; where I was, how much time I spent, why am I late and etc.'* (25 years old women, early married women, FGD). The obedience to mother in-law was clear, as a women with long time of silence said that *'Take permission from my mother-in-law and my father-in-law is part of respect'* (52 years old women, early married, FGD), she then added *'Obedience to mother-in-law is the way to live well'*.

Specifically, 41.6% never visit their friends and for those who could visit 25.1% could not visit their friends alone and 31 % could visit their friends alone, with 96.1% of them ask their husband for permission to go.

For religious places 38.2% never go, 7.9% went to religious places but not alone and 15.5% was able to go alone, and 57.4% took the permission from their husband. Other site, if the participant want to visit community places 26.6% never given a permission to go, and for those who had permission to go outside 43.8% could not go outside alone, and 29.6% could visit community places alone, and 98.3% took the permission from their husband. For those who want to go just outside home, 26.1% never able to go, and for those who had permission to get outside 55.2% were able to go but not alone and 18.5% could go alone, and 97.8% they took their permission from husband.

Continuing in other places, for participant who wanted to go to the market we found that 22.4% never permitted to go, and for those who had the acceptance to go 53.9% could not go alone, 23.6% could go alone, and 98.8% took their permission from husband. For visited health center 1% prevented to go and for those who had the acceptance to go 36.9% never go alone, 62.1% went alone, and 97.3% took the permission from their husband.

Some participant said that whatever the places, they could go if they had a chaperon; *'I never permitted to go outside the home without a chaperon, most of the time she was my husband's sister as a security!'*(21 years old women, early married, FGD). In the same direction, others said that need for chaperons was needed for the permitted places also, as a women said; *'I prevented from go outside the home without a chaperon, this could be my son, daughter, sister and husband's sisters. I never go to my friends; I have no friends, even if I ask he will say to me what the meaning to go visit your friends is. Many places I prevented to go to it for example wedding for neighbors, even if I want to walk alone in the street I have to walk with a chaperon'*(32 years old women, early married, FGD).

Parents visiting, of the participants 1% reported prevented from going to their parents, but 39.9% of participant they had to go not alone, and 59.1% went alone, for those 95.8% took their permission from their husband. In the same way, in FGD, the permission also needs for vesting their parents, a women said; *'If I decided to go any place, my ex-husband prevented me to go even to my family. Additionally, when I decided to visit my family I went to them as a sulk, one of the times I went to my family for a long period about 9 months, and finally I got divorced'* (49 years old women, early married, FGD). Similarly, another woman said that *'I used to get out from home with chaperon even to my family, the chaperon were husband's mother or husband's sisters. Additionally, even if I am sick, I must not go outside alone'* (44 years old women, early married, FGD). Additionally, another women insured previous mentioned, as she said *'I prevented to go outside the home wherever the place was, even to my family; my husband's family put a schedule for visiting my family, the permission was to visit them every three months and with a chaperon. Though, my family live in place near to my husband's family, as the distance between the two houses is by one street, I sulked as a trial to change their restriction. additionally, my father negotiate with them, there was limited changes and after I retain back from visiting of my family, I suffered from days of bad treatment, mugged in front of my face by husband's family'*(30 years old women, early married, FGD).

Not only visiting parents affected, but also time of visit, a women said; *'My husband's family believe that once female married then she must care only for her husband and children, nothing more, and no role for visiting or go outside the home. Moreover, the visiting is like an attack not to exceed more than two hours and if I stayed in visiting my family more than two hours they sent my husband to end the visit time and retain me back to their home'*(40 years old women, early married, FGD).

Shifting to another point, 95.5% used family planning with the acceptance of their husband.

Permission was one of main part to assess agency, comparing with quantitative; qualitative part discovered those who never took permission to some places, as they already known the husband will refuse. A women said, *'prevented from go outside home, vesting my family must be with a chaperons, many places I did not ask for permission because I deeply know that my husband will refuse. Adding to that, this restriction have been changed 5 years ago, when I change the place of living from living with husband's family to live alone, in a rented apartment, and we started to pay for rented house, which is better than living with husband's family. As they were having the controls of my life, the role of every step I was do, the permission of going outside home wherever the place was, I felt that I was living in bad communicating and interlacing house'*(22years old women, early married, FGD). This free of movement, one women bound her free to go wherever places to her obedience to mother-in-law, as a women said; *'due to my obedience to husband's mother I could go outside my home, the acceptance must be from her, once they accept I can go wherever I want. Adding to that, once she refused I obeyed to her prevention, my husband has had no role in permission, all the role is from my mother in law'* (52 years old women, early married, FGD).

Also the permission during marriage years could be change, so in this thesis, 10.1% of participant the need for permission increase, 88% of them continues with the same permission need since first days of marriage, and only 7.4% of participant decrease their permission average needs.

Comparing this result with female general situation in the Gaza Strip, 60% of female in the Gaza Strip made decision with others, while 20% made their decision alone.

The permission for adolescent girls in the Gaza Strip were nearly the same as child marriage, which mean that age is important effect factor for the permission, as in adolescent girls they forbidden to go to café, public transporter and sport clubs due to mix gender. Moreover, many other places also adolescent girls not allowed to go like gynecologist doctor, health center and many times after the girls got the permission to go, they then not permitted, most of girls complains from their ability to made decision as they were not heard (Abu Hamad, Gereoma, & Jones, 2017).

All the previous figures come with the result of; child marriage led to loss capability to move freely and more it restricted the movement.

#### 4.2.11 Psychosocial status for early married

Assessment of early-married women psychological status is an important step for assessment of early marriage effect, this study focus on screening for depression, wellbeing status, couple satisfaction, perception about marriage, and participants felt about marriage. This will be details in two following tables.

**Table (4.10): Distribution of responses about feeling post marriage, depression scale, and mental wellbeing scale**

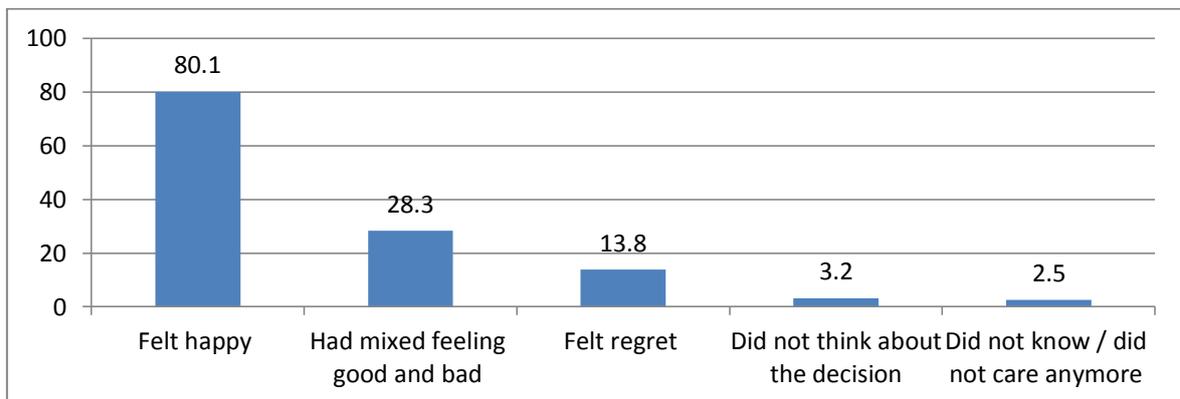
Items	Responses	N	%
<b>Participants' feeling after marriage *</b>			
Felt happy		325	80.1
Had mixed feeling good and bad		115	28.3
Felt regret		56	13.8
Did not think about the decision		13	3.2
Do not know / do not care anymore		10	2.5
<b>Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9)</b>			
Little interest in doing things		218	53.7
Insomnia or hypersomnia		207	51
General fatigability and weakness		176	43.3
Poor appetite		143	35.2
Feeling down, depressed, hapless		133	32.8
Decrease concentration		101	24.9
You would be bettered of dead or hurting yourself		58	14.3
Felt that you are a failure		50	12.3
Restless		37	9.1
Overall status	Having depression	76	18.5
	Not having depression	330	81.3

<b>Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale</b>								
<b>Item</b>		<b>None of the time</b>	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Some of the time</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>All of the time</b>	<b>Mean out of 5</b>	<b>Percent of mean</b>
<b>Felt optimistic about the future</b>	<b>N</b>	21	40	97	145	103	3.66	73.2
	<b>%</b>	5.2	9.9	23.9	35.7	25.4		
<b>Felt useful</b>	<b>N</b>	8	21	48	154	175	4.15	83
	<b>%</b>	2	5.2	11.8	37.9	43.1		
<b>Felt relaxed</b>	<b>N</b>	28	77	134	116	51	3.21	64.2
	<b>%</b>	6.9	19	33	28.6	12.6		
<b>Felt interested in other people</b>	<b>N</b>	9	26	66	138	167	4.05	81
	<b>%</b>	2.2	6.4	16.3	34	41		
<b>Had energy to spare</b>	<b>N</b>	16	57	125	118	90	3.51	70.2
	<b>%</b>	3.9	14	30.8	29.1	22.2		
<b>Was able to deal with problem well</b>	<b>N</b>	11	56	112	152	175	3.55	71
	<b>%</b>	2.7	13.8	27.6	37.4	18.5		
<b>Thought clearly</b>	<b>N</b>	18	56	102	147	83	3.54	70.8
	<b>%</b>	4.4	13.8	25.1	36.2	20.4		
<b>Participant felt Good about herself</b>	<b>N</b>	4	24	30	166	182	4.23	84.6
	<b>%</b>	1	5.9	7.4	40.9	44.8		
<b>Felt close to other people</b>	<b>N</b>	11	32	54	150	159	4.02	80.4
	<b>%</b>	2.7	7.9	13.3	36.9	36.2		
<b>Felt confident</b>	<b>N</b>	7	22	35	130	212	4.28	85.6
	<b>%</b>	1.7	5.4	8.6	32	52		
<b>Could Made up participant mind about things</b>	<b>N</b>	14	47	80	155	110	3.74	74.8
	<b>%</b>	3.4	11.6	19.7	38.2	27.1		
<b>Felt loved</b>	<b>N</b>	17	18	40	117	214	4.21	84.2
	<b>%</b>	4.2	4.4	9.9	28.8	52.7		
<b>Had been interested in new things</b>	<b>N</b>	17	25	69	147	148	3.95	79
	<b>%</b>	4.2	6.2	17	36.2	36.5		
<b>Felt cheerful</b>	<b>N</b>	19	23	61	124	179	4.04	80.8
	<b>%</b>	4.7	5.7	15	30.5	44.1		
<b>Overall mean</b>							3.875	77.5
<b>Mental wellbeing status (score range from 14-70)</b>			Low wellbeing(14-32)				24	5.9
			Wellbeing is below average (32-40)				20	4.9
			Average wellbeing(40-59)				222	54.7
			Above average wellbeing(59-70)				140	34.5
<b>Suicidal thought</b>			Yes, to some extent				2	0.5
			No				404	99.5

\*More than one choice

After marriage regarding general feeling post marriage; 80.1% of child marriage felt happy, 28.3% had mixed feeling, 13.8% felt regret, 3.2% did not think about this decision, and 1.5% of them did not know how they felt. In FGD, most of the participants felt regret but they explained this feeling after denial. In FGD, all the participant felt regret that they married early which was different from quantative result; *'I felt regret about my early marriage, due to two main reasons I do not continue my education and I do not live my life, my childhood'*(25 years old women, early married, FGD).

In the same way, another early married women at data collections time her age 71 years old said that *'I regret that I married early because of many reasons; having children early, live with husband brother's wife, husband's family not loving me, I spent all my years of marriage and I never live any good days, all my marriage days was bad'*. This also insisted by a mother of early married women *'My girls are regret that they married early. But I feel that my decision is right they got rid form their father he is a bad man, has mental disease, he is insan. I do not want my husband to affect my daughters, so they must marry early'*(49 years old women, mother of early married girls, FGD).



**Figure (4.8): Participants feeling about to their marriage**

Using depression questionnaire; 53.7% of participant had little interest in doing things, 51% of them had insomnia or hypersomnia, 43.3% complains from general weakness an fatigability, compared with wellbeing adolescent assessment in the Gaza Strip as 40% of them were very often or always full of energy ( Abu Hamad, Gercama, Jones , & Al Bayoumi, 2018). Adding to that, 35.2% complained from poor appetite, 32.8% were feeling down, depressed and hopeless, and 24.9% had impairment on their concentration level. The result for assessment of their depression revealed that 18.5% of the participant

had depression. Comparing with prevalence of depression worldwide, which was 17.3% (WHO, 2014).

Shifting to wellbeing assessment, one-half of the participant had normal wellbeing, 5.9% had low wellbeing status 5.9% and 34.5% had above average wellbeing status. In details, the resulted for each question; 52.7% felt they were loved by someone, 44.2% felt good about their self, 44.1% felt useful, 43.1% felt they were interested in other people, 39.2% felt they were close to other people and 36.5% felt they were interested in new things for all of the time, other part of assessment had less percentage. Comparing with other studies in the GAZA Strip for adolescent girls, girls had low wellbeing status.

**Table (4.11): Distribution of responses about couple satisfaction index**

Item		Responses						%	N
<b>Couple satisfaction index</b>									
<b>Degree of happiness</b>		Happy						187	46.1
		Very happy						95	23.4
		Extremely happy						34	8.4
		Perfect						6	1.5
		Little unhappy						33	8.1
		Fairly unhappy						32	7.9
		Extremely unhappy						19	4.7
<b>Things between participant and their husband are going well</b>		All the time						71	17.5
		Most of the time						132	32.5
		More often than not						82	20.2
		Occasionally						89	21.9
		Rarely						18	4.4
Never						14	3.4		
<b>Items</b>		<b>Not at all</b>	<b>Little true</b>	<b>Somewhat true</b>	<b>Mostly true</b>	<b>Almost true</b>	<b>Completely true</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Mean percent</b>
<b>Marriage was strong</b>	<b>N</b>	22	19	37	90	108	130	3.56	71.2
	<b>%</b>	5.4	4.7	9.1	22.2	26.6	32		
<b>Marriage made participant happy</b>	<b>N</b>	24	21	45	96	110	110	3.42	68.4
	<b>%</b>	5.9	5.2	11.1	23.6	27.1	27.1		
<b>Marriage was warm and comfortable</b>	<b>N</b>	24	24	48	106	109	95	3.32	66.4
	<b>%</b>	5.9	5.9	11.8	26.1	26.8	23.4		
<b>Marriage built a team with participant husband</b>	<b>N</b>	30	17	68	75	113	103	3.31	66.2
	<b>%</b>	7.4	4.2	16.7	18.5	27.8	25.4		
<b>Rewarding marriage</b>	<b>N</b>	25	26	51	98	114	92	3.30	66
	<b>%</b>	6.2	6.4	12.6	24.1	28.1	22.7		

<b>Marriage met need</b>	<b>N</b>	27	30	82	105	93	69	3.02	60.4
	<b>%</b>	6.7	7.4	20.2	25.9	22.9	17		
<b>Marriage met original expectations</b>	<b>N</b>	45	29	66	95	106	65	2.94	58.8
	<b>%</b>	11.1	7.1	16.3	23.4	26.1	16		
<b>Participant Satisfied with their marriage</b>	<b>N</b>	26	20	34	84	129	113	3.5	70
	<b>%</b>	6.4	4.9	8.4	20.7	31.8	27.8		
<b>Participant description of their marriage</b>									
<b>Scale</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Mean percent</b>
<b>Boring- Interesting</b>	<b>N</b>	14	15	25	76	151	125	3.75	75
	<b>%</b>	3.4	3.7	6.2	18.7	37.2	30.8		
<b>Bad-Good</b>	<b>N</b>	14	14	29	72	167	110	3.71	74.2
	<b>%</b>	3.4	3.4	7.1	17.7	41.1	27.1		
<b>Empty-Full</b>	<b>N</b>	8	11	33	79	160	115	3.77	75.4
	<b>%</b>	2	2.7	8.1	19.5	39.5	39.4		
<b>Fragile- Sturdy</b>	<b>N</b>	10	8	30	68	168	122	3.83	76.6
	<b>%</b>	2.5	2	7.4	16.7	41.4	30		
<b>Discouraging_ Hopeful</b>	<b>N</b>	12	12	33	72	151	126	3.76	75.2
	<b>%</b>	3	3	8.1	17.7	37.2	31		
<b>Miserable- Enjoyable</b>	<b>N</b>	10	11	26	63	149	147	3.9	78
	<b>%</b>	2.5	2.7	6.4	15.5	36.7	36.2		
<b>Couple satisfaction index</b>				Less than 51.5 which mean notable dissatisfaction				133	32.8
				More than 51.5 which mean satisfaction				237	67.2

With the used of couple satisfaction index, 32.8% of participant's marriage had notable dissatisfaction about their marriage. In more details, 46.1% of the participant they felt happy about their marriage, and 8.4% they was extremely happy, 20.7% their feeling was unhappy distributed in different level for unhappiness little, fairly and extremely unhappy. In adolescent girls in the Gaza Strip the happiness of girls for their general living were distributed by 67% somewhat happy and 15% were very happy ( Abu Hamad, Gercama, Jones , & Al Bayoumi, 2018).

For participant feeling about the situation between them and their husband were going well or not, 17.5% felt that this feeling was all the time, 32.5% said that this feeling was most of the time, 20.2% said that this feeling was more often than not. Additionally, 21.9% said that this feeling was occasionally, 4.4% their feeling was rarely, and 3.4% never felt that their status with husband was good.

Under the exploration, for found the degree of marriage satisfaction between participant and husband. For those who answered that they were completely felt like this was as

following: 32% said they had strong marriage, 27.8% said they were satisfied by their marriage, 27.1% said that they were completely happy by this marriage, 25.4% said they were living with their husband as a team. In addition, 23.4% said that their relation was comfortable and warm, 22.7% said that their marriage was rewarding, 17% said that their marriage met needs and 16% said that their marriage met the original expectation they were expect before they had gotten married. In this way, one third of participants were unsatisfied with their husband, as the prevalence of happiness was less than the girls in general populations. This can be more clear by a women said in FGD ‘ can we retain the time back, no, what would be changed if I said that I am not happy with my life, what would be changed if I got divorced, nothing, so I am happy and satisfied by my life’ (52 years old women, early married, FGD).

**Table (4.12): Prospective of marriage**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Responses</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Ever divorced</b>	Yes	18	4.4
	No	388	95.6
<b>Wishing to continue marriage</b>	Strongly agree	220	56.7
	agree	155	39.9
	Not know	3	0.8
	Disagree	6	1.5
	Strongly disagree	4	1
<b>If participants had not been married, would she had marry again</b>	Yes	75	18.5
	No	331	81.5
<b>Having divorce related thought</b>	Yes	27	6.7
<b>Feeling hopeless from their marriage</b>	Yes	37	9.1
	No	369	90.9
<b>Desire to marry their daughters at young age (less than 18)</b>	Yes	32	7.9
	No	374	92.1
<b>Preferable age to marry their daughters (for those who would marry their daughters early)</b>	15	3	9.1
	16	7	21.2
	17	22	66.7
	18	1	3
<b>Perspective about the ideal age of marriage</b>	19-21	188	46.3
	22-25	141	34.7
	18	64	15.8
	15-17	13	3.2
	<b>Mean</b> 20.42		<b>Median</b> 20

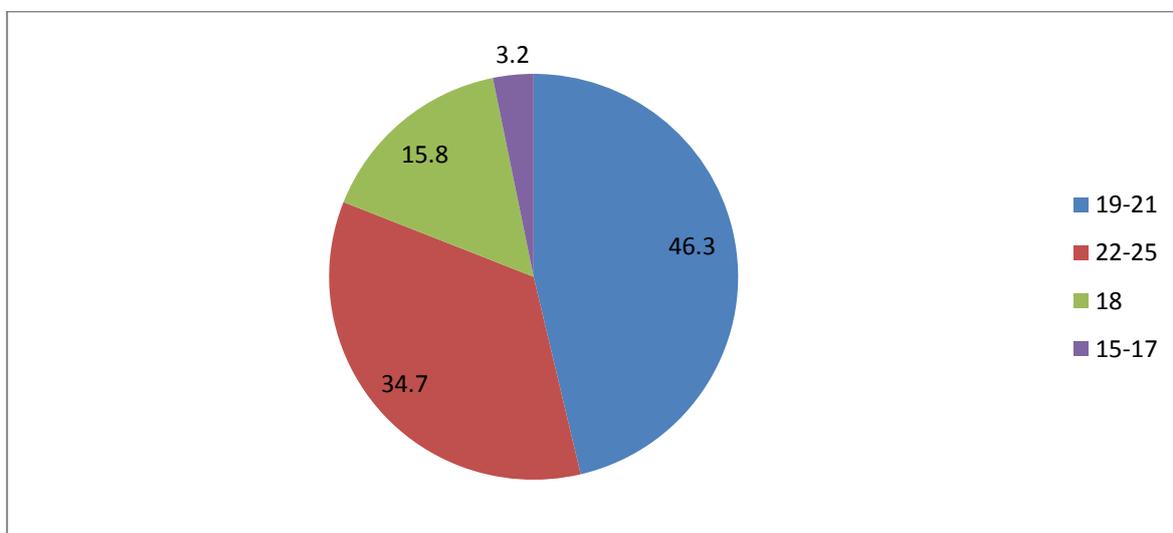
Related to context after years of marriage, 4.4% had divorced thought, 81.5% if they had not had married, they would have not repeated these experiences again, and 92.1% said that they would not let their daughter married early. For the 7.9% ladies who said that they

might let their daughter married early 66.7% of them might married their daughter at 17 years old, no one said they might married their daughter younger than 15 years old. Comparing with FGD, only one early married girls was still with early marriage; *'I am with early marriage, because the behavior of girls depend on raise them up'*.(50 years old women, early married, FGD). All others were against early married, a women said; *'I am not with early marriage, and I prevented my daughter from married early, because I want them to continue their education, to understand life better, to be aware'*.(45 years old, mother of early married girls).

Shifting to another point, the ideal age of marriage regarding participant idea was with mean 20.42 and with median of 20 compared with youth survey in it the appropriate age for female marriage was 20.9 in the Gaza Strip (PCBS, 2015b). Adding to that, the ideal age of marriage regarding participants' perception was similar to the mean of female marriage in the Gaza Strip in 2015 which detected as 20.2 and in 2014 the female average age of marriage was also 20.2 and also in 2013 the female average age of marriage was 20.1 years old (PCBS, 2016f). This congruent with FGD, said that the ideal age of marriage above 20 years old and most of them said that they would prevent their daughters' early marriage. In the same way, a women said *'I will prevent the marriage of my children at young age, because I want to prevent them from inter in my bad experience, I do not want them to live in depression that I faced'* (42years old women, early married, FGD). Others said that they hope to prevent early marriage of their daughters, but the decision is for the father and she has no role in decision-making.

Moreover, mothers of early married women in FGD, had different idea some of them said that marriage between 16-17 is acceptable, but not to marry younger than 16 years old, others said marriage is better than after 17 years old. For fathers of early married girls, most of them said the ideal age of marriage is between 16-17 years old, a father said *'I did not agree child marriage in the age between 14-15 years old, but I am with age of marriage between 16-17 years old. Adding to that, girls at younger age are with few experiences, can not cook, can not tolerate responsibility and can not tolerate pressure'*(50 years old man, father of early married women, FGD). This meaning was deeping by father of early married girls, who said ; *'I do not feel regret, I get rid of them, I am feeling relaxed after they got married'* (61 years old male, father of early married women, FGD), he then added *'I feel happy that all of my daughters are married, I did not feel regret at all'*.

Although there were low desired to get divorced and low percentage for those who already got divorced, but only low percentage accept early marriage and all others felt regret, adding to that the median of ideal age of marriage related to their perception was 20.



**Figure (4.9): The ideal age of marriage in related to early-married women perception**

#### 4.2.12 Health status

This section explores the presence of complications happened to the participants.

**Table (4.13): Distribution of response by maternity health**

Items	Responses	N	%
<b>Having children</b>	Yes	322	79.3
	No	84	20.7
<b>Number of children the participant have</b>	1-2	206	64
	3-4	105	32.6
	5-6	11	3.4
	<b>Mean 1.73</b>	<b>Median 2</b>	
<b>Ever got pregnant</b>	No	63	15.5
	Yes	343	84.5
<b>Ever using family planning method</b>	Yes	133	32.8
	No	273	67.2
<b>Type of family planning were used among (N=133)</b>	Intra uterine device	64	48.1
	Oral contraceptive pills	46	34.6
	Condom	16	12
	Others	7	5.3
<b>Ever experiencing complications during pregnancy/ies (N=343)</b>	Yes	137	39.9
	No	207	60.1

Items	Responses	N	%
<b>Ever delivered by cesarean sections (N=343)</b>	Yes	22	6.4
	No	321	93.6
<b>Type of complications (N= 343)</b>			
<b>Anemia</b>		50	14.6
<b>Pregnancy induced hypertension</b>		29	8.5
<b>Obstructed labour</b>		22	6.4
<b>Preterm labour</b>		17	5.00
<b>Low birth weight less than 2500</b>		15	4.4
<b>Hemorrhage</b>		10	3.00
<b>Gestational diabetes</b>		8	2.3
<b>Premature rupture of membrane</b>		8	2.3
<b>Very low birth weight less than 1500 gm.</b>		7	2.04
<b>Ectopic pregnancy</b>		6	1.7
<b>Infant death</b>		6	1.7
<b>Birth injury</b>		5	1.5
<b>Neonatal death</b>		5	1.5

Generally, 79.3% of the participant had children, 20.7% did not have children, 15.5% never get pregnant and the minimum years of marriage were 3 years, which means that all of these 15.5% had some sort of infertility. Similarly in FGD, many women delayed in got pregnancy, one women said that *'The main consequences of my marriage was my delayed in getting pregnant for 7 years' (52 years old women, early married, FGD)*.

For those who had children 64% had 1 to two children, 32.6% had 3-4 children and 3.4% had 5- 6 children with median of 2 children.

Focusing in complications during pregnancy, 39.9% of those who got pregnancy complained that they faced at least one type of complication during their pregnancy. In details about complications, 14.5% had anemia this is much lower than other studies done in the Gaza Strip as the prevalence of anemia for pregnant women was recorded by 44.9% (Khader and et al., 2009). Adding to that, 8.2% faced pregnancy-induced hypertension from them only 0.6 had history of Eclampsia. In addition, 6.40% had history of obstructed labour, 5.00% faced preterm labour, 3.00% complained from hemorrhage and from them 0.3% this hemorrhage that led to surgical repair, 2.3% had history of gestational diabetes, 0.6 had history of hyperemesis gravidarium, 2.03% had history of preterm rupture of membrane.

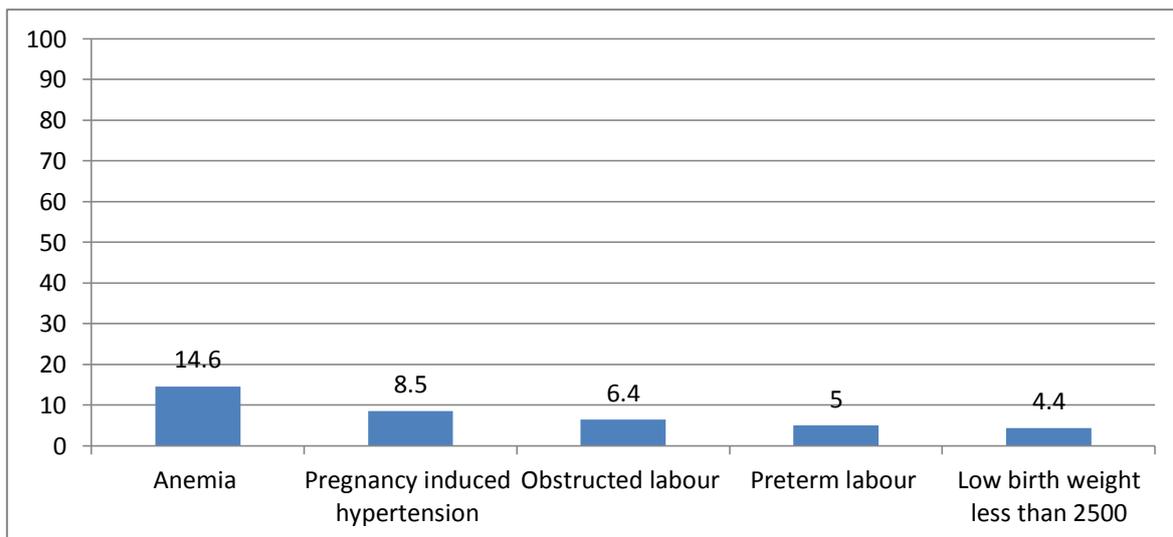
For baby weight, about 2.04% delivered a baby with very low birth weight less than 1500 and 4.4% of participant had baby with low birth weight baby less than 2500. Comparing with MICS 2014, women whose age between 15-49 years old had children with low birth weight reached up to 8%. This percentage is so important because it reflects the whole health status for mother, their children, and incoming future for those children, nutrition status etc. (PCBS 2015a).

Moreover, in this thesis 6.4% had delivered at least one of their delivery by caesarian section this is percentage was nearly half the prevalence of cesarean section in the Gaza Strip. Compared with last study in the Gaza Strip prevalence of caesarian section increased for women whose age 35 years old or above which congruent with low percentage of caesarian section in this thesis ( Abdul-Rahim, Elias, & Wick, 2009). Cesarean section was half the prevalence in total population in the Gaza Strip, and the prevalence of low birth weight was tightly bound with the prevalence of cesarean section ( Abdul-Rahim, Elias, & Wick, 2009).

Moreover, 1.5% had birth injury, 1.7% had history of infant death, and 1.5% had history of neonatal death. Many complications happened after delivery, in this thesis, 0.7% had urine incontinence started after delivery, and 0.2% complained from stool incontinence.

Regarding the use of family planning, nearly one third of participants using family planning at least once in their life, from them the most method was intra uterine device by 48.1% and the next method was the oral contraception pills by 34.6%, to the less percentage was use of condom by 12%. Comparing with another study, which check the use of family planning at time of data collection women age 15- 49 years old in Palestine and they found that 57% used family planning and the most method was like this study IUD by 26%. Additionally, the percentage of use was more limited among adolescent by 16% compared to 38% for those women whose their age was between 20-24 years old (PCBS, 2015a).

All the previous data insured the higher rate of infertility among participant, lower prevalence of using family planning, the prevalence of complications during pregnancy was limited, low prevalence of low birth weight, and only 14.5 had anemia during pregnancy.



**Figure (4.10): The most frequently reported complications experienced during pregnancy**

#### 4.2.13 Health status of children of the early-married women

**Table (4.14): Distribution of responses by health status of the early marrieds' children**

Items	Responses	N	%
Experiencing recurrent diseases among children of early married	Yes	90	27.9
	No	233	72.1
<b>Type of complications (N=90)</b>			
Acute gastroenteritis		38	42.2
Anemia		23	25.55
Low calcium(rickets)		20	22.22
Congenital anomalies baby		13	14.44
Prolonged jaundice		11	12.22
Sudden infant death		2	2.2
Child death		2	2.2
Health status of children in general	Good	313	97.2
	Not good	9	2.8
Ability to seek health care for their children (N=322)	Could take care of their children	282	87.6
	Not experienced enough to take care of their children	31	9.6
	Could not take care of their children	9	2.8

While 97.2% of child married participant said that the general health of their children were good, but 27.9% said that their children complained from type of medical condition that led to recurrent admission to hospital.

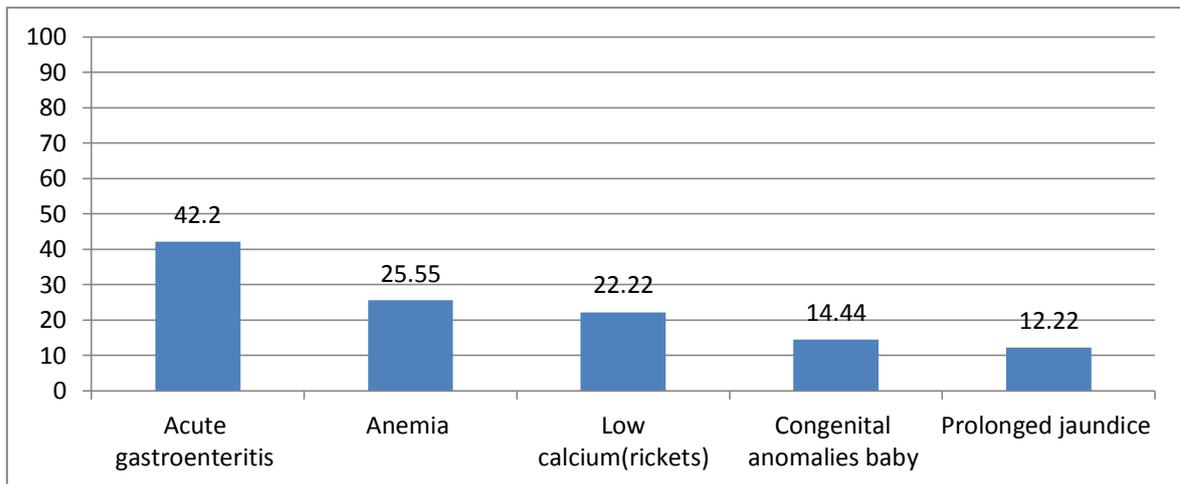
From the all the participants who had children the most frequently complications were acute gastroenteritis by 42.2%, the question was related to if the child was faced watery diarrhea three times per day for less than 14 days at one times of their life and this attack led to hospital admission. While, in MICS 2014 the question was if there was an attack in the previous 2 weeks and the result was 28.6% (PCBS, 2015a).

Followed by anemia by 25.55% this is lower than the prevalence of anemia in the Gaza Strip explored in 2015 as the prevalence of anemia for children whose age 2-5 years old was 59.7%. Additionally, another thesis was done in 2013, in the Gaza Strip for the same age group 2-5 years old, with prevalence of anemia nearly 50% (Radi, et al., 2013).

Followed by rickets, by 22.2%, this percentage is clearly higher than the prevalence of rickets for children in the Gaza Strip as 4.1% of children in the Gaza Strip were suffering from osteomalacia or rickets (MOH, 2007). Additionally, then congenital anomalies recorded by 14.44%, this is much higher than the prevalence of congenital anomalies for all the population in the Gaza Strip as it was recorded by 14/1000 (Naim, et al., 2012). Shifting to other complications, 12.22% had a neonate complained from prolonged jaundiced, 2.2% one of their infant died as sudden infant death, 2.2% had at least one of their children died before complete their 5 years of age.

Related to ability of participants to take care their children, 87.6% said that they could take care of their children, 9.6% said that they were not experienced enough to take care of their children. This was cleared more in FGD, as most of the participants insisted that they were lack of experiences to take care of their children. Likewise a women said '*when my children became sick, I had no idea how to deal with them, I always do improper behavior that increase their sickness and worsen their conditions*' (52 years old women, early married, FGD). In addition, a second women added ' I was young, I had not had any experience how to deal with my children when they became sick, sometimes I cried because of my hopeless feeling' (42 years old women, early married, FGD). The remaining 2.8% said that they could not take care of their children.

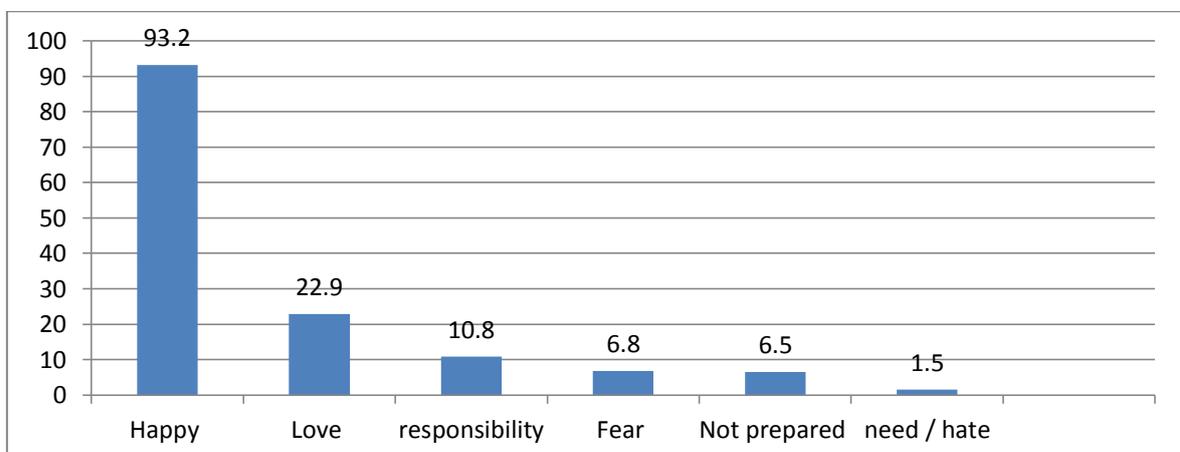
Previous figures insured the poor capability of child married women to take care for their children, as their children had a high percentage of admission to hospital due to gastroenteritis, high prevalence of rickets compared with children for the general population and high prevalence of congenital anomalies compared with Gazans general population.



**Figure (4.11): The most complications affected early-married women's children**

#### 4.2.14 Participants feeling immediately after becoming mothers

The feeling post first delivery was different among participants, with most of them about 93.2% said that they felt happy, to less percentage only 22.9% said that they felt in love with their baby, 10.8% felt that this delivery was a responsibility. In addition, 6.8% felt with fear once they got birth and 6.5%, they felt that they were not prepared enough to be a mother, 0.9% felt on need and 0.6% felt they hate their baby.



**Figure (4.12): Responses feeling when they became a mother.**

#### **4.2.15 Comparing with peers**

This part was done by FGD only, this done by ask early-married girls to compare themselves with others women, who were not early married.

In details, some said they would had understand life better, a women said *'Comparing with peers who married at older age, they are better because they understand life well, they can tolerate pressure, they can be responsible'* (20 years old women, early married, FGD). In the same way, another women said *'female who married older have strong personality compared with us, and we cannot change the status now, even for my husband, it becomes a tradition of living'* (49 years old women, early married, FGD).

In addition, others said they could be able to deal with conflicts *'females who were married older can deal with conflicts, problems. I used to cry when I faced any problems and I spent many years of my life to be able to deal with problems'* (42 years old women, early married, FGD).

Further, others said that they would had strong personality, and others said they would continue their education *'when I saw girls who married after 20 years old, I felt jealous. They continue their education and I am not'* (24 years old women, early married, FGD).

Additionally, the last said they would built better economic status *'Comparing with peers who married older, their economic status are better, they continue their education, I wish I studied, and also I do not remember anything from my childhood I lost it'*(49 years old women, early married, FGD).

All the participants in FGD, focus in the same direction that compared with life of their peers they are worse, and if they had had married older, they would had lived better related to education, economic status, personality, dealing with conflicts and building their characteristic in best way.

#### **4.3 Inferential analysis**

This part to determine the relation of variable between each other's such as employment status, violence, schooling, perception of marriage, dowry and etc. by the use of multiple type of analysis method include T-test, ANOVA and correlation. Results were grouped and compare with other global result associated with explanation.

### 4.3.1 Demographic

Table (4.15): Differences in age at marriage and demographic related variables

Variables	N	Mean age of marriage	Stander deviation	Factor	Value	Sig
<b>Education levels for the participant</b>						
Illiteracy	6	15.33*	1.366	F	25.991	0.000
Elementary	58	15.34**	1.001			
Preparatory	318	16.19	0.814			
Secondary	23	16.91*/**	0.288			
<b>Poor school achievement at school before marriage</b>						
Yes	102	15.77	0.932	t	4.222	0.000
No	304	16.20	0.874			
<b>Residency</b>						
Gaza*/**	157	16.29	0.817	F	4.530	0.001
North*	108	15.88	0.934			
Middle	25	16.28	0.891			
Khan-Younis**	67	15.90	1.061			
Rafah	49	16.14	0.764			
<b>Having sisters married early</b>						
Yes	228	16.03	0.877	t	1.647	0.1000
No	178	16.18	0.940			
<b>Refugee status</b>						
Refugee	277	16.16	.881	t	1.933	0.054
Non refugee	129	15.97	.951			
<b>Camps</b>						
Inside camps	56	15.96	0.914	t	1.171	0.242
Outside camps	350	16.12	0.906			
<b>Received social assistance</b>						
Yes	299	16.08	.899	t	0.05	0.047
No	107	16.13	0.932			
<b>Experiencing bad economic status</b>						
Yes	146	15.92	0.990	t	8.286	0.004
No	260	16.19	0.844			
<b>Economic status affect marriage</b>						
Bad economic status alone	61	15.98	1.088	F	3.921	0.009
Bad economic status with other factors*	65	15.82	0.900			
Bad economic status not affect the marriage	110	16.10	0.948			
No bad economic status*	170	16.24	0.781			
<b>Family benefited from their daughters dowry</b>						
Yes	5	15	1.414	t	2.744	0.006
No	395	16.11	0.859			

\*significant relation and \*\* significant relation

All previous data revealed that, increase level of education could protect the female from early marriage, and those who had poor achievement at schools were significantly married earlier than those whose school achievement were better. Additionally, the age of marriage affected by different variable as it increased significantly in Gaza compared with North and Khan-Younis, and it affected partially significant by refugee status compared with non-refugee with P 0.054.

Moreover, the age of participants affected by many variable; those who were living in poor economic status with others factors married earlier than who were living in good economic status. Additionally, those who received socially assistance married earlier than those who did not receive any social assistance. Adding to that, participants' parent who used their dowry married earlier than whom their family did not benefited from their dowry.

Finally, participants' family who had bad economic status married earlier than families whose economic status was better.

#### 4.3.2 Triggers factors

**Table (4.16): Differences in the common triggers for early marriage in reference to demographic variables**

<b>Chi square</b>							
<b>Family bad economic status</b>		<b>Refugee status</b>					Sig: 0.013
		Refugee			Non refugee		<b>Total</b>
Yes	N	110			36		146
	%	39.7			27.9		
No	N	167			93		260
	%	60.3			72.1		
<b>Family norms</b>		<b>Refugee status</b>					Sig: 0.178
		Refugee			Non refugee		
Yes	N	233			103		336
	%	84.1			79.8		
No	N	44			26		70
	%	15.9			20.2		
<b>Family norms</b>		<b>Camps</b>					Sig: 0.075
		outside camps			Inside camps		
Yes	N	294			42		336
	%	84			75		
No	N	56			14		70
	%	16			25		
<b>Relative groom</b>		<b>Residency</b>					Sig: 0.000
		North	Gaza	Middle	Khan-Younis	Rafah	
Yes	N	49	78	15	35	36	213
	%	45.8	47.6	62.5	51.5	83.7	
No	N	58	86	9	33	7	193
	%	54.2	52.4	37.5	48.5	16.3	

Table 4.15 shows the main triggers factors affect whom more, comparing with demographic factors.

Bad economic status triggers early marriage in refugee more than non-refugee with P equal 0.013 While, family norms triggers early marriage with no significant difference between refugee and non-refugee and no significant difference between those who were living inside camps with those who were living outside camps.

Moreover, consanguinity one of the main triggers factors for child marriage, it discovered to affect participants who lives in Rafah and middle area more than participants who were living in Gaza, North or Khan-Younis

### 4.3.3 Consequences of child marriage

**Table (4.17): Differences in the common consequences for early marriage in reference to demographic variables**

<b>Chi square</b>							
<b>Drop out from school</b>		<b>Refugee status</b>					Sig: 0.733
		Refugee			Non refugee		
Yes	N	185			89		274
	%	66.8			69		
No	N	92			40		132
	%	33.2			31		
<b>Drop out from school</b>		<b>Residency</b>					Sig: 0.000
		North	Gaza	Middle	Khan-Younis	Rafah	
Yes	N	73	130	14	39	18	274
	%	68.2	79.3	58.3	57.4	41.9	
No	N	34	34	10	29	25	132
	%	31.8	20.7	41.7	42.6	58.1	
<b>Increase stress and anxiety</b>		<b>Exposed to household violence</b>					Sig :0.000
		Exposed to violence			Not exposed to violence		
Yes	N	145			125		270
	%	78.4			56.6		
No	N	40			96		136
	%	21.6			43.4		
<b>Increase stress and anxiety</b>		<b>Refugee status</b>					0.214
		Refugee			Non refugee		
Yes	N	190			80		270
	%	68.6			62		
No	N	87			49		136
	%	31.4			38		

<b>Loss opportunity to work</b>		<b>Residency</b>					Sig:0.047
		North	Gaza	Middle	Khan-Younis	Rafah	
Yes	N	27	103	20	37	36	223
	%	25.2	62.8	83.3	54.4	73.7	
No	N	80	61	4	31	7	183
	%	74.8	37.2	16.7	45.6	16.3	
<b>Loss opportunity to work</b>		<b>Camps</b>				Sig:0.249	
		Outside camps		Inside camps			
Yes	N	188		35		223	
	%	53.7		62.5			
No	N	162		21		183	
	%	46.3		37.5			
<b>Loss opportunity to work</b>		<b>Refugee status</b>				Sig:0.014	
		Refugee		Non refugee			
Yes	N	164		59		223	
	%	59.2		45.7			
No	N	113		70		183	
	%	40.8		54.3			

Table 4.16 shows whose suffers more as consequences of child marriage, related to specific demographic factors.

The most common of consequences was dropping from school, which is not statistically significant difference related to refugee status. In the other hand, it is statistically significant difference between different residency site, affecting more in Gaza and North and the least effect on Rafah.

Adding to that, those who were exposed to violence were liable to be more stressful in their marriage life compared with those who were not exposed to violence; this difference was statistically significant with P 0.000. While for refugee status, catch stress and anxiety was not statistically significant difference between refugee and non-refugee status

Loss opportunity to work was one of the main consequences, it was determined as a consequences for participants marriage in those who were living in Middle and Rafah region more than participants who were living in other region in the Gaza strip by statistically significant difference P 0.047. While participants who were living inside camps were not statistically significant difference in determine loss opportunity to work as a consequences from those who were living in outside camps. Moreover, refugee participants were determined loss opportunity to work as consequences more than non-refugee P equal 0.014.

#### 4.3.4 Violence

**Table (4.18): Differences in the exposure to violence for early marriage in reference to demographic variables**

<b>Chi square</b>							
<b>Were exposure to violence</b>		<b>Refugee status</b>					Sig: 0.042
		Refugee		Non refugee			
Yes	N	136		49			185
	%	49.1		38			
No	N	141		80			221
	%	50.9		62			
<b>Were exposure to violence</b>		<b>Residence</b>					Sig: 0.003
		North	Gaza	Middle	Khan-Younis	Rafah	
Yes	N	48	64	13	29	31	185
	%	44.9	39	54.2	42.6	72.1	
No	N	59	100	11	39	12	221
	%	55.1	61	45.8	57.4	27.9	
<b>Were exposure to violence</b>		<b>Age of marriage</b>					Sig :0.132
		12-15		16	17		
Yes	N	51		70	64		185
	%	50.5		49	39.5		
No	N	50		73	98		221
	%	49.5		51	60.5		

The table 4.17 illustrates that those who were exposed to violence were statistically significant more among refugee compared with non-refugee with P 0.042. Additionally, participants were exposed to violence in Rafah more than other region in the Gaza Strip

with P 0.003, but participants with different age of marriage were exposed to violence with no statistically significant difference in violence exposure between them.

#### 4.3.5 Agency

In frequency analysis, there was difficulty for the young women to get outside from their home alone, so an inferential analysis was done to insure if any factors affect this status. This was calculated by the summation of all variables in the permission question, and then create continues percentage variable for those who had the capability to go outside home alone (the high number means better capability to go outside home alone).

**Table (4.19): Differences in degree of freedom in reference to characteristic variables**

Variables		N	Mean	Stander deviation	Factor	Value	Sig
<b>Camps</b>	Inside camps	56	77.2143	11.097	t	0.354	0.723
	Outside camps	350	76.0045	11.98			
<b>Refugee status</b>	Refugee	277	76.57	23.488	t	0.582	0.561
	Non refugee	29	78.08	24.245			
<b>Residency</b>	North	107	83.8785	17.8308	F	30.837	0.000
	Gaza*	164	63.3765	21.5828			
	Middle	24	83.8542	23.81118			
	Khan-Younis	68	87.5919	22.90713			
	Rafah	43	91.7151	19.656			
<b>Consanguinity</b>	Yes	225	79.8611	23.44824	t	2.686	0.008
	No	181	73.5497	23.63575			
<b>Age of marriage</b>	12-15**/**	101	84.7153	19.47505	F	7.756	0.000
	16**	143	75.9178	24.39810			
	17***	162	73.2639	24.52232			
<b>Type of house</b>	Owned**	290	75.3017	23.20935	F	7.791	0.000
	Rented ***	22	67.3295	27.61150			
	Husband's Family owned **/**	94	84.7074	22.61130			

\*significant with all others variables, \*\* significant relation between variables and \*\*\* significant relation between variables

**Table (4.20): Correlation with agency variable**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Person correlation</b>	<b>Sig</b>
Number of children	0.152	0.002
Monthly household income	0.045	0.276
Participant's husband age	-0.112	0.024
Depression grade	0.036	0.468
Wellbeing scale	0.143	0.004
Couple satisfaction index	0.273	0.000

Tables above shows that those who were living in Gaza were the worst in agency with statistically significant relation compared with other area. Additionally, participants with relative groom had better agency compared with those who their husband not relative.

Moreover, those who had better agency had better wellbeing status, better couple satisfaction index and more children.

#### **4.3.6 Health**

Health status of the participants affected by their early marriage, in order to that, inferential analysis was done to bound health with other variables.

**Table (4.21): Correlation with age of marriage**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Person correlation</b>	<b>Sig</b>
Number of children	-0.105	0.034

**Table (4.22): Differences in health in relation with other variables**

<b>Chi square</b>							
<b>Complications during pregnancy</b>		<b>Age of marriage</b>					Sig: 0.047
		12-15		16		17	
Yes	N	40	53	44			137
	%	46	44.5	31.9			
No	N	47	66	94			207
	%	54	55.5	68.1			
<b>Complications during pregnancy</b>		<b>Residency</b>					Sig: 0.003
		North	Gaza	middle	Khan-Younis	Rafah	
Yes	N	30	46	9	29	23	137
	%	34.5	33.1	42.9	46	67.6	
No	N	57	93	12	34	11	207
	%	65.5	66.9	57.1	54	32.4	
<b>Participants children with illness</b>		<b>Age of marriage</b>					Sig: 0.978
		12-15		16		17	
Yes	N	23	32	35			90
	%	27.4	28.6	27.6			
No	N	61	80	92			233
	%	72.6	71.4	72.4			
<b>Anemia for participants</b>		<b>Camps</b>					Sig: 1.000
		Inside camps			Outside camps		
Yes	N	43			7		50
	%	14.5			14.4		
No	N	253			41		294
	%	85.5			85.4		
<b>Anemia for participants</b>		<b>Residency</b>					Sig: 0.000 df4
		North	Gaza	Middle	Khan-Younis	Rafah	
Yes	N	14	10	4	12	10	50
	%	16.1	7.2	19	19	29.4	
No	N	73	129	17	51	24	294
	%	83.9	92.8	81	81	70.6	
<b>Ever had children with anemia</b>		<b>Camps</b>					Sig: 0.000
		Inside camps			Outside camps		
Yes	N	21			2		23
	%	7.6			4.4		
No	N	257			43		300
	%	92.4			95.6		

As other thesis proved that fertility increase with young age of marriage(mentioned in literature review), this study also support this idea as the number of children increase with decrease participant age with statistically significant relation as sig. 0.034

Complications during pregnancy affected by age of participants marriage, as it statistically significant difference between participants with age between 12-15 years old compared with participants who were married at 16 or 17 years of their age. While age of participants marriage were not statistically significant affected the happening of participants' child illnesses.

Adding to that, participants who were living in Rafah had complications during pregnancy more than other Gaza Strip area with statistically significant difference with P 0.003. This was notified clearly, as participants who had anemia were statistically significant difference more in Rafah compared with other Gaza Strip regions.

Additionally, children who were living inside camps were got anemia more than who were living outside camps, with statistically significant difference p 0.000

#### 4.3.7 Who suffers more

**Table (4.23): Differences in psychosocial status and other contextual factors**

Variables		N	Mean	Stander deviation	factor	Value	Sig
<b>Depression related scores</b>							
<b>Exposed to violence</b>	Yes	185	3.74	2.58502	t	8.460	0.000
	No	221	1.9	1.64103			
<b>Age group</b>	Up to 15	101	2.94	2.4691	F	0.777	0.461
	16	143	2.832	2.20			
	17	162	2.28	2.28			
<b>Refugee status</b>	Refugee	277	2.8520	2.396	t	1.103	0.271
	Non-refugee	129	2.5814	2.07			
<b>Camps</b>	Inside camps	56	2.000	1.89	t	2.07	0.007
	Outside camps	350	2.88	2.338			

<b>Income</b>	Up to 1000	331	2.855	2.3465	F	1.377	0.254
	1001-1500	47	2.3191	2.05			
	More than 1500	28	2.464	2.099			
<b>Expenses</b>	Up to 1000*	251	2.9721	2.42553	F	3.620	0.028
	1001-1500*	103	2.2524	1.8456			
	More than 1500	52	2.7885	2.37193			
<b>Received social assistance</b>	Yes	315	2.8476	2.37334	t	1.331	0.184
	No	91	2.4835	2.01895			
<b>Forced to marriage</b>	Fully forced*	47	3.7660	2.3145	F	5.922	0.003
	Finally accepted	122	2.8443	2.02451			
	Not forced*	237	2.5247	2.30058			
<b>Governorates</b>	North*	107	3.0654	2.646	F	5.888	0.000
	Gaza**	164	3.1646	2.052			
	Middle	24	2.166	2.97331			
	Khan-Younis*/**	68	1.750	1.839			
	Rafah	43	2.4419	1.9968			
<b>Consanguinity</b>	Yes	225	2.542	2.4255	t	2.195	0.029
	No	181	3.0442	2.11035			
<b>Number of children</b>	0 -1	193	2.5337	2.289	F	2.243	0.107
	2-4	202	2.9455	2.3012			
	5-6	11	3.5455	2.25227			
<b>Wellbeing</b>							
<b>Refugee status</b>	Refugee	277	53.1	10.89	t	2.845	0.005
	Non refugee	127	56.3	9.3			
<b>Camps</b>	Inside camps	56	52.5	9.032	t	1.235	0.218
	Outside camps	350	54.4	10.3			

<b>Residency</b>	North*	107	55.691	9.955	F	4.848	0.001
	Gaza	164	53.32	9.6083			
	Middle*/**	24	48.41	15.96441			
	Khan-Younis**	68	57.2500	9.48900			
	Rafah	43	51.6977	11.19			
<b>Exposed to violence</b>	Yes	185	49.5	12.1	t	6.256	.000
	No	221	57.9	6.9			
<b>Income</b>	Up to 1000	331	53.882	10.9007	F	0.567	0.567
	1001-1500	47	55.191	9.68557			
	More than 1500	28	55.500	6.45497			
<b>Forced to marriage</b>	Fully forced */**	47	47.8273	12.510	F	12.436	0.000
	Finally accepted**	122	53.303	10.1125			
	Not forced *	237	55.8228	9.7864			
<b>Consanguinity</b>	Yes	225	54.5111	10.823	t	0.781	0.435
	No	181	53.6906	10.12990			
<b>Number of children</b>	0-1	193	54.606	11.09	F	0.450	0638
	2-4	202	53.802	9.952			
	5-6	11	52.363	10.707			
<b>Age group</b>	12-15	101	54.363	11.048	F	0.031	.969
	16	143	54.111	9.704			
	17	162	54.037	10.917			
<b>Couple satisfaction index</b>							
<b>Age group</b>	12-15	101	55.37	19.889	F	0.571	0.565
	16	143	54.48	18.165			
	17	162	56.75	18.406			
<b>Consanguinity</b>	Yes	225	56.61	18.751	t	1.210	0.227
	No	181	54.35	18.617			
<b>Camps</b>	Inside camps	56	52.59	15.747	t	1.301	0.194
	Outside camps	350	59.09	19.086			

<b>Refugee status</b>	Refugee	277	53.88	19.056	t	2.744	0.006
	Non refugee	129	59.30	17.353			
<b>Residency</b>	North*/***	107	59.99	16.759	F	6.277	0.000
	Gaza**/***	164	51.91	18.108			
	Middle	24	56.25	19.006			
	Khan-Younis**	68	61.40	18.892			
	Rafah*	43	49.23	20.465			
<b>Income</b>	Up to 1000	331	55.39	18.541	F	0.164	.849
	1001-1500	47	57.09	19.934			
	More than 1500	28	55.64	18.776			
<b>Forced marriage</b>	Fully forced*	47	41.04	23.337	F	23.306	0.000
	Finally accept *	122	53.23	18.29			
	Not forced *	237	59.71	16.10			
<b>Exposed to violence</b>	Yes	185	46.20	21.840	F	9.872	0.000
	No	221	63.48	10.345			

\*significant between groups, \*\* significant between group and \*\*\* significant between group

Table 4.22 shows the different factors that might affect the wellbeing, couple satisfaction degree, and depression degree.

As we can conclude, increase amount of household expenses increase the liability of got depression, but had no effect in wellbeing status.

Related to governorate, participants who were living in Middle area had significantly the lowest wellbeing mean compared with North and Khan-Younis. While, those who were living in Gaza and North area had significantly the highest depression scale scores compared with Khan-Younis.

In the same way, participants who were forced to marriage had significant worse in wellbeing score and in depression scale scores. But for participants who's the husband was

their relative, this significantly decrease depression scale scores, with no effect on wellbeing.

Shifting to couple satisfaction index, the participants had significantly better wellbeing if they ever never were exposed to violence, not forced to marriage, were living in Khan-Younis compared with participants who were living in Gaza, were non-refugee and being lived in North of Gaza compared with Rafah.

In addition, some factors were not significant in effect to couple satisfaction, which were consanguinity, were living in camps and income status.

## **Chapter Five**

### **Conclusion and recommendations**

#### **5.1 Conclusion**

The study is carried out for exploring triggers factors and consequences of child marriage; it was done by quantitative and qualitative instrument used together in order to deeping the result. It used all of the following in quantitative part for assessment; the demographic factors before and after marriage, the Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9) questionnaire for depression screening, Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale for child marriage wellbeing assessment, couple satisfaction index and many others questions for recognize the triggers and consequences of child marriage.

Demographic factors for participants, most of them received social assistance and economic status was not good, as the prevalence of not working husband was higher than the Gazans general population.

Moreover, education level achievement was below secondary level in most of parents, husband, and the participant. Additionally, most of the participant left the school directly after engagement/ marriage.

Many factors have been determined as the main triggers factors for child marriage including; family norms, community norms, religion, consanguinity, had relatives who married early and had parents who married early and also family decision played an important role for the occurrence of marriage. This result was consistent with other results thesis obtained, which determined by their believed that marriage is the final destiny and to having gold, accessories and worn white dress.

Regarding the consequences of child marriage, it mainly recognized by left the school and increase stress and anxiety. Additionally, the other consequences were not limited and around half of early-married girls complained from the following which were; lost their privacy, lost opportunity to work, dependency, basic needs were not satisfied, decrease recreation, has been living in poor economic conditions and decrease socialization.

Shifting to health, there was many abnormal health conditions affect participants' children, which include acute gastroenteritis, anaemia, congenital anomalies and prolonged jaundice.

Moreover, the prevalence of congenital anomalies among participants is remarkably higher than Palestinian general population.

Additionally, almost all participants determine their health as good, and more than two third mentioned that they could take care their children. In the same direction, 15.5% of participants never got pregnant, the most common pregnancy complication were, anaemia, pregnancy induced hypertension, obstructed labour and preterm labour.

Focusing on violence exposure, many of participants were exposed to violence at parents' home; from the early- married women many of them bound their exposure to violence as one of triggers factors to their early marriage. Additionally, those who were exposed to violence the main preparatory were the husband and the most type of violence was the verbal violence. For those women who were exposed to violence nearly half of them went to parents home for support, the second behaviour was that they did not tell anybody, one went to organization for women saving and no one called the women organization.

The early married women were prevented from go outside home alone in most places, whatever the times and whatever the age, this status were also happened remarkably, if they visiting their family.

Psychological assessment become one of the main part of health world-wide, for child married women nearly half of participants had average wellbeing status and about one fifth of the participants had depression.

The ideal age of marriage related to participants view was with nearly similar to other studies. Additionally, nearly all of the participants refused to marry their daughter early and had regret feeling about their early marriage.

The qualitative result was consistent with the previous result as we discovered that; the most triggers factor for their early marriage was family norms and community traditions, followed by father force, there was no role for mother force, limited numbers mentioned the relation of consanguinity with early marriage comparing with nearly half of quantitative bound the early marriage with consanguinity.

Regarding consequences of early marriage, the most consequences resulted by qualitative part of thesis analysis was the same as quantitative part which was left their schools and not continue their educations level.

The qualitative part of analysis add another important knowledge which is the suspected solution for stopping early marriage which were; create education session to the community, educate the teachers in the school to let them increase students awareness. In the same way, encouragement the use of law and put a law for a legal age for marriage more than 18 years old, some participant who were the parents of early married women determined the legal marriage age is to be 16 years old.

## **5.2 Recommendations**

### **5.2.1 General recommendations**

- Although, child marriage has been identified in many countries as an issue that must be completely eliminated, still in Palestine it is still prominent. Efforts to re-classified early marriage as a priority topic and girls marry while they are still children, should be regarded as a vulnerable group who needs appropriate support.
- Lobbying for changing the legal age of marriage and setting by-laws to reinforce the implementation of these by-law.
- Intensive effort should be done to increase the community awareness about the consequences of child marriage, using media outlets is highly important.
- Heavily investing in girls' awareness, about the consequences of marriage.
- Investing in inducing progressive change in social norms through e.g. media outlets, schools, universities and NGOs.
- Involve men, community leaders and religious organizations, as they are influential in combating early marriage.
- Supporting girls secondary and university education, and proactively targeting school dropouts e.g. offering alternative education.
- Great effort should be done in schools, to combat the girls dropping out from schools, by increasing teachers and students' awareness about child marriage and its consequences.
- Initiate programs to promote economic empowerment for married girls including education and job creation.

### **5.2.2 Specific recommendations**

- Targeting the currently early-married girls; to assess their vulnerabilities particularly psychosocial vulnerabilities.
- Introducing health and social services for early-married including screening, counseling and appropriate interventions.
- The most common triggers for early marriage are; family norms, community norms, consanguinity, religion, and to less effect family decision and economic status, these should be heavily addressed through multidisciplinary interventions.

- The most vulnerable for early marriage are girls of parents who married early, relatives who married early, having many sisters, living in poor economic status and those who were dropped out from school, these categories need to be specifically targeted
- The mostly reported negative consequences of early marriage are; drop out from school, increase stress and anxiety, loss opportunity to work, dependency, basic needs not satisfied, decrease access to recreation and led to poor economic condition, these need to be specifically targeted through multidisciplinary interventions.

### **5.2.3 Recommendation for new area of research**

- National study on early marriage with larger samples.
- Studying specific categories of early marriage like those exposed to violence, divorced early married.
- In depth study of psychological status among early-married including, depression, post traumatic symptoms, stress, and anxiety.
- A cross-sectional study regarding triggers and consequences of child marriage among boys.
- Longitudinal study to monitor the consequences of early married.

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## Annexes

### Annex (1) Sample size calculation

# Sample Size Calculator

How many people do you need to take your survey? Even if you're a statistician, determining survey sample size can be tough.

Want to know how to calculate it? Our sample size calculator makes it easy. Here's everything you need to know about getting the right number of responses for your survey.

## Calculate Your Sample Size:

Population Size:	<input type="text" value="22173"/>
Confidence Level (%):	<input type="text" value="95"/>
Margin of Error (%):	<input type="text" value="5"/>

**CALCULATE**

Sample Size:

378

## Annex (2) List of arbitrators

	<b>Name</b>
1.	Dr. Yehia Abed
2.	Dr. Zoheir El Khatib
3.	Dr. Randa Zaqout
4.	Dr. Taysier Elamassie
5.	Dr. Abdul Qader Habil
6.	Osama Abueita
7.	Amal Siam
8.	Dr. Swasan Hamad

### Annex (3) the study instrument Arabic

#### الزواج المبكر في غزة: المسببات والنتائج المترتبة عنه

مرحباً: أنا الطبيبة سماح العمصي أعمل في وكالة الغوث لتشغيل اللاجئين منذ عامين، وأدرس الآن صحة عامة في جامعة القدس - أبو ديس مساق علم الأوبئة ومن أجل تحصيل درجة الماجستير أقوم الآن ببحث حول الزواج المبكر في قطاع غزة.

تجري هذه الدراسة من أجل اكتشاف أسباب وتبعيات الزواج المبكر وذلك بسبب الزيادة الملحوظة له في الآونة الأخيرة، ولذلك فإن هذه الدراسة ستساعدنا في الحد من هذه المشكلة وخلق توصيات مناسبة لمواجهتها.

سيتم اختيار 400 سيدة تزوجن قبل سن الثامنة عشر، ولقد تم اختياركم عشوائياً (بمحض الصدفة) للمشاركة في هذه الدراسة حيث أنكم ضمن معايير الإدراج في العينة، ولذلك فإننا نقوم بهذه الزيارة لأسرتك. الغرض من هذه الزيارة هو جمع المعلومات التي من شأنها أن تساعدنا كباحثين على فهم أفضل للآثار المترتبة والأسباب المؤدية للزواج المبكر.

المشاركة في هذه الدراسة طوعية ويمكنك اختيار عدم الإجابة على أي سؤال و / أو على جميع الأسئلة، رغم أننا نقدر كثيراً مشاركتك حيث إجاباتك مهمة. المشاركة في الدراسة يتطلب الإجابة على مجموعة من الأسئلة وسندخل ردودكم إلى الجداول مباشرة.

تستغرق تعبئة الاستبيان حوالي 40-45 دقيقة من وقتك الثمين. المعلومات التي ستعطيها لنا ستكون موضع السرية ولن يطلع عليها سوى فريق البحث ولن يتم ذكر اسمك للسلطات وأي جهات أخرى. مرة أخرى، إن مشاركتك طوعية وبإمكانك القبول أو الرفض الكلي أو الجزئي للمشاركة..

لك حق الموافقة على المشاركة من عدمها، كما لك الحق التام بالانسحاب، ولكن عليّ أن أخبرك أن مشاركتك سوف تضيف قيمة للبحث ولذلك أتمنى مشاركتك الكاملة.

كل الشكر.

سماح العمصي

1. اسم الباحث	سماح العمصي	2. اسم المشرف	د. بسام أبو حمد
3. الرقم المتسلسل		4. تاريخ تعبئة المقابلة	...../...../.....
5. وقت المقابلة	.....		
البيانات الشخصية المتعلقة بالوضع الحالي:			
أ. 1. تاريخ ميلادك:...../...../.....			
2. وضح كم كان عمرك عند الزواج:	.....	3. أ. كم كان عمرك عندما جارك الطمث ( الدورة الشهرية)؟	.....
4. المحافظة؟	1. شمال غزة	2. غزة	3. وسطى
5. موقع السكن؟	1. داخل المخيم	2. خارج المخيم	3. لاجيء
6. مواطن	1. لاجيء	2. مواطن	3. لاجيء
7. أ. حدي الحالة الاجتماعية حالياً؟	1. متزوجة	2. مطلقة	3. أرملة
8. أ. وضح مع من تعيشين؟	1. زوجك	2. عائلتك (عائلة الأهل)	3. عائلة زوجك
9. أ. حدي إذا كنت حالياً متزوجة هل هذا الزواج؟ (المن أجابوا ب 1 على سؤال رقم 7)	1. الزواج الأول	2. الزواج الثاني	3. الزواج الثالث أو أكثر.
10. أ. في زواجك المبكر، هل أنت الزوجة الثانية، الثالثة أو الرابعة؟	1. فيلا	2. بيت باطون (دار)	3. شقة
11. أ. في زواجك المبكر ما هو نوع الوحدة السكنية التي تعيش فيها الأسرة؟	4. غرفة منفصلة	5. خيمة	6. كرفان (باركية/بركس)
7. غير ذلك/حدد.....			
12. أ. ما مدى رضاك بالمجمل عن حالة إقامتك الحالية؟	1. جيد	2. غير جيد	3. لا
13. أ. إجمالي عدد أفراد الأسرة بما في ذلك أنت (الشخص الذي تجري معه المقابلة)؟	.....		
14. أ. ما هو نوع السكن؟	1. ملك للأسرة	2. مستأجر	3. ملك للعائلة الممتدة
15. أ. عمر الزوج عند الزواج الأول؟	.....	16. أ. عمر الأم إذا كانت على قيد الحياة؟	.....
17. أ. عمر الأب إذا كان على قيد الحياة؟	.....	18. أ. عمرك؟	.....
19. أ. وضح إذا كان والديك على قيد الحياة؟	1. نعم (أ. 24.)	2. لا (أحدهما أو كلاهما)	3. لا
20. أ. إذا كانت الإجابة السابقة ب لا من من والديك فقد الحياة؟	1. الأب	2. الأم	3. كلاهما
21. أ. حدي الوقت الذي فقدت به أحد والديك؟	1. قبل الزواج	2. بعد الزواج	3. لا (أ. 24.)
22. أ. وضح إذا كان هذا فقدك قد ساهم في حدوث زواجك المبكر؟	1. نعم	2. لا (أ. 24.)	3. لا
23. أ. كيف أدى فقدك لأحد والديك الى زواجك المبكر، الرجاء ذكر ثلاث أسباب؟	1.	2.	3.
24. أ. حدي عدد سنوات دراستك حالياً؟	.....		
25. أ. حدي عدد سنوات دراسة الزوج حالياً؟	.....		
26. أ. وضح آخر درجة علمية حصلت عليها؟	1. غير متعلم (أمي/ملم)	2. ابتدائي	3. اعدادي
27. أ. وضح آخر درجة علمية حصل عليها الزوج؟	1. غير متعلم (أمي/ملم)	2. ابتدائي	3. اعدادي
28. أ. وضعك الوظيفي الحالي؟	1. غير موظف وذلك بسبب:	2. موظف: مع التوضيح.....	3. لا
29. أ. وضع الزوج الوظيفي الحالي؟	1. غير موظف وذلك بسبب:	2. موظف: مع التوضيح.....	3. لا
30. أ. هل أنت وزوجك أقارب؟	1. نعم	2. لا (أ. 32.)	3. لا
31. أ. إذا كانت الإجابة السابقة نعم حدي درجة القرابة؟	1. قرابة درجة ثلاثة (ابن العم)	2. قرابة درجة رابعة	3. غير ذلك
32. أ. هل تتلقين حالياً أي مساعدات مالية أو غير ذلك.	1. نعم	2. لا (أ. 34.)	3. لا

أ.33. إذا كانت الإجابة بنعم حددي المصدر؟	1. وكالة الغوث	2. وزارة الشؤون الاجتماعية	3. غير ذلك
أ.34. وضحى قدرتكم على توفير الاحتياجات الأساسية من خلال اختبار احدى الخيارات التالية (تقرأ الاسئلة)؟ 1. نعم، بشكل كامل. 2. نعم، بشكل جزئي. 3. لا. 4. لا ينطبق	1. الأدوية والرعاية الصحية.	2. مستلزمات المدرسة	<input type="checkbox"/>
	3. الطعام.	4. أجار البيت.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	5. الملابس.	6. المواصلات	<input type="checkbox"/>
	7. الكهرباء والماء.	8. غير ذلك./ وضحى.....	<input type="checkbox"/>
أ.35. الانفاق بالمعدل الشهري (بالشيكل)	.....	أ.36. الدخل بالمعدل الشهري بالشيكل؟	.....
البيانات الشخصية قبل الزواج:			
ب.1. المحافظة السابقة؟	1. شمال غزة	2. غزة	3. وسطى
ب.2. موقع السكن السابق؟	1. داخل المخيم	2. خارج المخيم	4. خان يونس
ب.3. ما هو نوع الوحدة السكنية التي تعيش فيها الأسرة سابقاً؟	1. فيلا	2. بيت باطون (دار)	3. شقة
	4. غرفة منفصلة	5. خيمة	6. كارافان (باركية/بارك (س)
	7. غير ذلك/توضيح.....		
ب.4. ما مدى رضاك بالمجمل عن حالة إقامتك السابقة؟	1. جيد	2. غير جيد	
ب.5. إجمالي عدد أفراد الأسرة بما في ذلك أنت (الشخص الذي تجري معه المقابلة)؟			
ب.6. وضحى عمر الأم وقت زواجها الأول؟	.....	ب.7. وضحى عمر الأب وقت زواجه الأول؟	.....
ب.8. وضحى عمر الأم وقت زواجك الأول؟	.....	ب.9. وضحى عمر الأب وقت زواجك الأول؟	.....
ب.10. حددي إذا كنت في المدرسة وقت الخطوبة/الزواج؟	1. نعم	2. لا (ب.15)	
ب.11. إذا كانت الإجابة السابقة نعم حددي ماذا حدث لدراستك بعد الخطوبة/الزواج؟ (يمكن اختيار أكثر من اجابة) وذلك بوضع دائرة حول الاجابة المناسبة لك	1. تركت المدرسة، بناء على رغبتى. 2. تركت المدرسة، بناء على رغبة الوالدين /العائلة. 3. تركت المدرسة، بناء على رغبة الزوج. 4. أكملت التعليم كما أنا. 5. أكملت التعليم، ولكن تحصيلي أقل من السابق/الدرجات أقل من السابق. 6. تم اجبارك على ترك المدرسة من المدرسة نفسها. 7. غير ذلك/ مع التوضيح.....		
ب.12. حددي الوقت الذي تم ترك المدرسة بعد الخطوبة/الزواج وذلك بوضع دائرة حول الاجابة المناسبة لك؟	1. بعد الخطوبة مباشرة. 2. بعد الزواج مباشرة. 3. بعد الزواج بعدة أشهر. 4. بعد الزواج بعدد من السنين.		
ب.13. حددي المدة الزمنية بالسنوات التي تركتي المدرسة/التعليم خلالها بعد الزواج/الخطوبة؟	.....		
ب.14. وضحى إذا كانت لديك رغبة بالعودة الى المدرسة؟	1. نعم	2. لا	
ب.15. حددي عدد سنوات الدراسة وقت الزواج؟	.....		
ب.16. وضحى الدرجة العلمية التي حققتها وقت الزواج؟	1. غير متعلم (أمي/ملم)	2. ابتدائي	
	3. اعدادي	4. ثانوي	
ب.17. حددي تقدير درجاتك في المدرسة؟	1. جيدة	2. بينهما	2. غير جيدة
ب.18. وضحى الدرجة العلمية التي حققتها والدتك وقت زواجك؟	1. غير متعلم (أمي/ملم)	2. ابتدائي	
	3. اعدادي	4. ثانوي	4. جامعي فأكثر
ب.19. حددي وضع والدتك الوظيفي وقت الزواج؟	1. غير موظف وذلك بسبب: 1.1. ذوي احتياجات خاصة/عدم القدرة على العمل 2.1. في السجن. 3.1. غير ذلك.	2. موظف: مع التوضيح.....	.....

ب.20.وضحي وضع والدك الوظيفي وقت الزواج؟		1.غير موظف وذلك بسبب: 1.1.ذوي احتياجات خاصة/عدم القدرة على العمل. 2.1.في السجن.3.1.غير ذلك.		2.موظف: مع التوضيح.....
أ.21.حددي الدرجة العلمية التي قد حققها والدك وقت الزوج؟		1.غير متعلم	2.ابتدائي	3.اعدادي
ب.22.حددي عدد أخواتك؟		4.ثانوي	5.جامعي	
ب.23.حددي ترتيبك بين أخوتك(البنات) ابتداء من الأكبر الى الأصغر؟		.....		
ب.24.حددي عدد أخواتك(البنات)الاتي أكبر منك سنا وغير متزوجات؟		.....		
ب.25.هل لديك أي أخت تزوجت زواجا مبكرا(قبل ال18)؟		1.لا	2.نعم، كم عددهم.....	
ب.26.هل لديك زوجة أب؟		1.نعم	2.لا	
ب.27.هل كنتم تتلقون أي مساعدات مالية او غير ذلك.		1.نعم	2.لا(ب.29)	
ب.28.إذا كانت الاجابة بنعم حددي المصدر؟		1.وكالة الغوث	2.وزارة الشؤون الاجتماعية	3.غير ذلك
ب.29.وضحي قدرة أهلك على توفير الاحتياجات الأساسية لكم من خلال اختيار احدى الخيارات التالية(تقرا الأسئلة)؟		1.الأدوية والرعاية الصحية	2.مستلزمات الدراسة	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.نعم، بشكل كامل.		3.الطعام.	4.أجار البيت.	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.نعم، بشكل جزئي.		5.الملابس.	6.المواصلات.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.لا.		7.الكهرباء والماء.	8.غير ذلك/توضيح.....	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.لا ينطبق				
ب.30.الاتفاق بمعدل الشهر(بالشيكل)؟		ب.31.الدخل بالمعدل الشهري بالشيكل؟		
ب.32.حددي ما تأثير الوضع الاقتصادي للأهل على قرار الزواج (لا تقرا الاختيارات)؟ وذلك بوضع دائرة حول الاجابة المناسبة				
1.الوضع المالي السيء هو السبب الرئيس في زواجي المبكر.				
2.الوضع المالي السيءمع أسباب أخرى مصاحبةهي السبب في زواجي المبكر.				
3.الوضع المالي السيء لم يؤثر أبدا في قرار زواجي.				
4.وضعنا المالي كان جيدا.				
مفهوم الزواج				
ج.1.وضحي مفهومك للزواج (لا تقرا الاختيارات ويمكن اختيار أكثر من اختيار) وضع دائرة حول الاجابة المناسبة				
1.تحسين الوضع المعيشي.		2.الايمان بأن الزواج هو المصير النهائي للفتاة		3.تحسين الوضع في الحياة،مثلا، مزيدا من الحرية
4.الحصول على الذهب، المجوهرات وارتداء الفستان الأبيض.		5.الشعور بالمسؤولية		6.تأسيس عائلة
7.تقليل التعرض للعنف		8.امتلاك مستقبل مشرق وطموح		9.أن أصبح سعيدة
10.أن أصبح أما		10.غير ذلك/توضيح.....		
ج.2.حددي إذا تم اجبارك على الزواج أم لا؟				
1.أجبرت على هذا الزواج ولم يكن خيارى		2.أجبرت على هذا الزواج ولكن في النهاية وافقت		
3.لم يتم اجبارى أبدا ، كان الزواج بخياري		.غير ذلك/توضيح.....		
ج.3.وضحي الشخص الذي أجبرك/ساهم في زواجك المبكر؟				
1.الأب		2.الأم		3.الأخت
6.الجيرة		7.الأصدقاء		8.غير ذلك/توضيح.....
5.شخص آخر من العائلة		4.الأخ		
الأسباب /المحفزات التي أدت الى الزواج المبكر تبعا للخبرات والتجارب التي مررتي بها				
د.1.عددي الثلاث أسباب الرئيسية التي أدت الى زواجك المبكر، أذكرها بالترتيب حسب الأكثرهم تأثيرا؟				
1.....				
2.....				
3.....				

د.2. حددي أي من الأسباب التالية قد أدت الى زواجك المبكر وذلك من خلال اختيار احدى الخيارات التالية: 1. أجل لدرجة كبيرة، 2. أجل لدرجة متوسطة/بسيطة، 3. غير قابل للتطبيق، 4. لا أعلم، 5. أرفض الاجابة. (تقرا لاختيارات)					
1. وضع العائلة الاقتصادي السيء	2. الحفاظ على شرف العائلة	3. مستوى تحصيل دراسي سيء داخل المدرسة			
4. لذي عدد من الأخوات	5. الزوج قريب	6. زواج أقارب مبكر			
7. أنا يتيم/من.....	8. العيش مع زوج أب/زوج أم، من.....	9. الديانة			
10. عادات العائلة	11. عادات المجتمع	12. رغبتك بالزواج من زوجك			
13. التعرض للعنف في منزل الاهل	14. الزوج رجل غني	15. تعرضت سابقا للتحرش الجنسي			
16. العزلة داخل منزل الأهل	17. الخوف من العنوسة	18. العائلة تحتاج الى استغلال المهر			
19. معاملة سيئة داخل المنزل	20. شخص من العائلة يعاني من مرض مزمن وعصي، من.....	21. تحصيل دراسي سيء للأباء			
22. زواج مبكر للأباء	23. أمك أخت تكبرني و غير متزوجة	24. قرار من أحد أفراد العائلة، من.....			
25. غير ذلك/توضيح.....					
د.3. حددي إذا كنت قد تعرض للعنف مثال: عنف جسدي ، عنف جنسي أو عنف من خلال الاهانة.					
عنف داخل المنزل:		عنف في المجتمع والمحيط:		عنف في المدرسة:	
1. نعم عدة مرات		1. نعمعدة مرات.		1. نعم عدةمرات.	
2. نعم مرات قليلة		2. نعم مرات قليلة.		2. نعم مرات قليلة.	
3. لا		3. لا.		3. لا.	
د.4. وضح من الذي استفاد من مهرك(الصداق) أكثر من خيار					
1. أنت وحدك	2. العائلة فقط	3. أنت والعائلة	4. الزوج	5. أهل الزوج	6. غير ذلك
النتائج الناتجة من الزواج المبكر					
م.1. وضح شعورك حيال زواجك المبكر؟ (تقرأ الاجابات) ضعي دائرة حول الاجابة المناسبة					
1. أشعر بالندم من زواجي		2. لدي شعور جيد وسيء تجاه الأمر		3. لا أهتم لهذا القرار	
4. أشعر بالسعادة		5. لا افكر بزواجي ولا أفكر بقراري		6. لا اعلم ماهي مشاعري تجاه الأمر	
م.2. إذا كنت تشعرين بالندم أخبريني الثلاث أسباب الرئيسية التي أكسبتك هذا الشعور بالترتيب:					
1. ....					
2. ....					
3. ....					
م.3. إذا كنت تشعرين بالسعادة أخبريني الثلاث أسباب الرئيسية التي أكسبتك هذا الشعور بالترتيب:					
1. ....					
2. ....					
3. ....					
م.4. وضح كيف هو وضعك الاقتصادي الحالي؟					
1. جيد		2. غير جيد			
م.5. هل لديك أطفال؟					
1. نعم		2. لا(م.10)		م.6. كم عددأطفالك؟	
م.7. متى كانت أخر ولادة؟					
.....		م.8. كم مرة حدث حمل في حياتك(تشمل الاجهاض)؟		.....	
م.9. حددي أعمار أطفالك بالسنوات بالترتيب؟ 1.....2.....3.....4.....5.....6.....7.....8.....9.....					
م.10. وضح إذا حدث معك أي مضاعفات خلال الحمل؟					
1. نعم لا (م.12) 3. لم يحدث حمل (انتقل الى م14)					

م.11. إذا كانت الإجابة السابقة بنعم حددي أي من المضاعفات الآتية حدثت معك مع توضيح عمرك أثناء الحدوث وإيضاح ترتيب الطفل الذي حدثت معه المشكلة .			
المضاعفات	1.نعم/2. لا	عمرك لحظة الحدوث	ترتيب الطفل
1. ضغط الحمل			
2. تشنج الحمل (الناتج بعد ضغط حمل)			
3. نزيف خلال الحمل			
4. سلس البراز			
5. تمزق الغشاء قبل 37 أسبوع			
6. حمل خارج الرحم			
7. معوق الولادة (تعسر الولادة، استخدام جهاز شفط فاكوم...)			
8. إزالة للرحم			
9. سكر حمل			
10. موت طفل قبل العام			
11. التقيء الحمل (أدى إلى دخول مستشفى، أو الحاجة إلى محاليل)			
12. سلس البول			
13. فقر الدم			
14. جراحة عاجلة بعد حدوث نزيف			
15. إصابات الولادة			
16. ولادة مبكرة			
17. طفل منخفض الوزن الشديد لحظة الولادة (أقل من 1500)			
18. ولادة قيصرية			
19. غير ذلك/مع التوضيح.....			
م.12. وضحى إذا كان أطفالك قد أدخلوا المستشفى عدة مرات أو يعانون من مشاكل صحية ؟ 1.نعم 2. لا (م.14)			
م.13. إذا كانت الإجابة السابقة بنعم حددي من ضمن الاختيارات التالية نوع المشكلة الصحية الذي حدثت لابنك مع تحديد ترتيب هذا الطفل وعمره أثناء حدوث المشكلة الصحية:			
المرض	1.نعم /2. لا	عمر لحظة الحدوث	ترتيب الطفل
1. موت الطفل قبل بلوغ الـ 28 يوما من الولادة			
2. تشوه خلقي (م. تشوه كلى، قلب، دماغ...)			
3. موت الطفل قبل بلوغ عمر السنة وبعد تجاوز 28 يوما			
4. فقر الدم (أقل من 11)			
5. اسهال متكرر (أكثر من ثلاث مرات في اليوم)/نزلة معوية			
6. موت الطفل قبل بلوغ عمر الـ 5 سنوات وبعد السنة			
7. اصفرار مستمر لأكثر من أسبوعين			
8. طفل منخفض الوزن لحظة الولادة (أقل من 2500)			
9. غير ذلك/مع التوضيح.....			
م.14. وضحى مشاعرك عندما رزقت بأول طفل: (يمكن اختيار أكثر من خيار)			
1. الخوف 2. العار 3. الكره 4. عدم الجهوزية الكافية 5. الحب 6. المسؤولية 7. الحاجة 8. السعادة 9. لم أرزق بطفل (م.17)			
م.15. صفى صحة أطفالك بشكل عام؟	1. جيد	2. لا أعلم	3. سيء
م.16. حددي قدرتك على رعاية أبنائك؟	1. لا أستطيع الاعتناء بأطفالي		
	2. ليس لدي الخبرة الكافية للاعتناء بأطفالي		
	3. يمكنني الاعتناء بهم جيدا		
م.17. وضحى إذا كنت تستخدمين وسائل منع حمل؟	1. نعم	2. لا (م.20)	
م.18. أي نوع من وسائل منع الحمل تستخدمين (مثال: لولب، عازل، حبوب...)?	.....		

م.19. حددي إذا كان استخدامك لوسائل منع الحمل بعد موافقة زوجك أم لا؟		1. نعم	2. لا
م.20. صفني وضعك الصحي بشكل عام؟			
1. جيدة		2. لا أعلم	3. سيء
م.21. وضح مقدار اعتمادك على زوجك وذلك من خلال تحديد امكانية الخروج من المنزل من عدم الخروج تبعاً لاماكن عدة مع ارتباط الخروج بوجود رفيق أو عدم وجود رفيق ، حددي ممن تطلبين الاذن من الاختيارات القادمة ويمكنك اختيار أكثر من اختيار:			
1. الزوج / 2. والدة الزوج / 3. والد الزوج / 4. أخت الزوج / 5. أخ الزوج / 6. غير ذلك/مع التوضيح / 7. لا أحتاج الى طلب اذن			
المكان الذي ستذهبن اليه	غير مسموح بالخروج بتاتا	الخروج مشروط بوجود شخص آخر	الخروج لوحدهم
1. الذهاب الى السوق			
2. الذهاب الى الرعاية الصحية			
3. الذهاب الى اماكن قريبة /أماكن مجتمعية.			
4. الذهاب الى المسجد/الكنيسة			
5. فقط الخروج من المنزل			
6. الذهاب الى البنك			
7. زيارة العائلة			
8. زيارة الأصدقاء			
م.22. وضح بشكل عام ،طلب اذن الخروج يكون من من، من الاختيارات التالية؟(يمكن اختيار أكثر من اختيار وضعي دائرة حول الاجابة الصحيحة)			
1. الزوج		2. أخ الزوج	
3. والد الزوج		4. لا حاجة الى اذن	
5. والدة الزوج		6. أخت الزوج	
7. غير ذلك/مع التوضيح.....			
م.23. إذا كنت تأخذين اذن للخروج هل تغير مقدار ذلك، خلال سنوات الزواج، إذا لا تأخذين اذن (م.24)؟			
1. نعم، عدة مرات		2. لم يتغير شيء	
3. لا (م.30)		3. نقصان	
م.24. هل تعرضت للعنف خلال زواجك؟			
1. نعم، عدة مرات		2. نعم،مرات قليلة	
3. لا (م.30)		3	
م.25. إذا كانت الاجابة السابقة بنعم حددي نوع العنف الذي تعرضتي له والشخص الذي أحدث هذا الأمر من الاختيارات التالية(يمكن اختيار أكثر من اختيار، ضعي دائرة حول الاجابة المناسبة)؟			
1. عنف جسدي		2. عنف نفسي	
3. عنف لفظي(م.الشم)		4. عنف جنسي	
5. عنف مالي(لا يعطي لك مال أو يأخذ راتبك)		6. عنف مجتمعي	
7. عدم الاعتناء بك وقت المرض /منع الذهاب للرعاية للعلاج			
1. الزوج، 2. أب الزوج، 3. والدة الزوج، 4. أخت الزوج، 5. أخ الزوج، 6. غير ذلك/توضيح			
الشخص: 1.....2.....3.....4.....5.....6.....7.....			
م.26. حددي المكان الذي تعرضت للعنف فيه؟ (يمكن اختيار أكثر من خيار)			
1. المنزل		2. منزل العائلة	
3. المجتمع		4. الرعاية الأولية	
5. المدرسة		6. الشارع	
7. غير ذلك/مع التوضيح			
م.27. حددي الشخص الذي يساهم في تعرضك للعنف ،ضعي دائرة حول الاجابة المناسبة ، يمكن اختيار أكثر من خيار؟			
1. الزوج		2. أخ الزوج	
4. والدة الزوج		5. أخت الزوج	
7. مقدم الخدمة		6. والدك	
8. غير ذلك/توضيح		3. نقصان	
م.28. هل تغير مقدار تعرضك للعنف خلال سنوات الزواج؟			
1. زيادة		2. لم يتغير	
3. نقصان		1. الذهاب الى مراكز حماية المرأة.	
2. الاتصال باحدى المراكز المساعدة وطلب مساعدة عبر الهاتف.		3. أذهب للحديث مع أحد الأقارب/الأصدقاء.	
4. الذهاب الى منزل الأهل.		5. الامتناع عن الحديث بما حدث.	
6. الذهاب الى الرعاية الصحية من أجل العلاج.		7. زيارة أحد الأقارب لك للتخفيف عنك.	
8. غير ذلك/مع التوضيح.....		2. لا (م.34)	
م.30. وضح إذا تم توضيح علاقتك(العلاقة الجنسية) أنت وزوجك قبل الزواج؟			
1. نعم		2. لا (م.34)	

31. إذا كانت الإجابة السابقة <u>نعم</u> ، حددي من قام بتعليمك؟ (يمكنك اختيار أكثر من خيار)	1. والدتك	2. أختك	3. زوجك
	4. أصدقائك	5. والدة زوجك	6. التلفاز
	7. لأحد	8. المدرسة سواء مدرسين أو طلبة	
	9. غير ذلك/توضيح		
32. وضحى إذا كانت المعلومات كافية؟	1. نعم	2. لا	
33. حددي الوقت الذي تلقيت المعلومات حول علاقتك (العلاقة الجنسية) مع زوجك قبل الزواج؟	1. قبل مجيء الدورة	2. بعد مجيء الدورة	
	3. قبل الخطوبة	4. بعد الخطوبة	
	5. يوم الزواج	6. غير ذلك/توضيح	
34. حددي العوارض الجانبية التي حدثت معك و ناجمة عن الزواج المبكر وذلك باختيار مقدار حدوثها باحدى الاختيارات التالية: 1. أجل ، بدرجة كبيرة 2. أجل ، بدرجة بسيطة 3. لا يمكن تطبيقه 4. لا أعلم 5. رفضت الإجابة (تقرأ الخيارات)			
ضياح المستقبل	التعرض للعنف	العيش في وضع اقتصادي سيء	
عدم القدرة على توفير الاحتياجات الأساسية للمنزل	تردي الوضع الصحي لك	عدم القدرة على الاعتناء بالأطفال	
تحصيل دراسي سيء	ترك المدرسة/الجامعة	قلة المشاركة مع العائلة وقلة الانضمام للمشاركات	
الاعتماد/عدم القدرة على أخذ قرار	تكرار دخول أطفالك للمستشفى	قلة الفرص من أجل الإبداع وخلق أمور جديدة	
مشاكل عائلية	قلة فرص العمل	زيادة الضغط/التوتر	
الرغبة في الطلاق	قلة الحركة(غير اجتماعية)	لا حرية في شؤون الحياة	
غير ذلك/توضيح.....			
ن. من أجل الكشف عن مقدار الحزن المصاحب لك نتمنى الإجابة عن الأسئلة القادمة حيث أنها تتكون من تسع أسئلة كل سؤال يعبر عن جانب من مشاعرك <u>خلال مدة الأسبوعين السابقين</u> ، حددي أي الأسئلة تمتلك خلال الإجابة بنعم أو لا .			
1. قلة المتعة في انجاز مهماتك /أمورك الخاصة؟			
2. التفكير أنه من الأفضل لو كنت ميتا/قمت بإيذاء نفسي؟			
3. عدم القدرة على النوم/نوم زائد عن اللزوم/الاستيقاظ أكثر من مرة خلال النوم؟			
4. الشعور بالأسى ، الحزن، اليأس؟			
5. عدم الرغبة في الأكل وفقدان الشهية؟ /زيادة الأكل؟			
6. الشعور بالدونية تجاه النفس، أنك فاشل، لا تصلح لشيء، لا تستطيع عمل شيء؟			
7. الشعور بالارهاق والتعب العام ، حتى بعد عمل بسيط لا يجهد؟			
8. فقدان القدرة على التركيز، مثل تذكر الاسماء، لصعوبة في القراءة واكمال مشاهدة التلفاز أو قراءة جريدة؟			
9. الحركة والحديث ببطيء شديد بحيث يمكن ملاحظتها من الآخرين أو عدم القدرة على الاستقرار بحيث تتحرك أكثر من الازم وتحدث بسرعة؟			
هـ. الأسئلة القادمة هي من أجل قياس مقدار الرفاهية والسعادة للسيدة المشاركة في هذا البحث.			
هـ. 1. من أجل فحص الرفاهية /السعادة لديك سوف نطرح عليك 14 سؤالاً يجب أن يتم اختيار أحد الاختيارات التالية بما يتناسب معك: 1. لم يحدث أبداً 2. حدث أحيانا 3. حدث بعض الوقت 4. حدث معظم الوقت 5. يحدث دائما			
1. أشعر بالتفاؤل تجاه المستقبل	2. أشعر بأنني مفيدة وأستطيع أن أساعد		
3. أشعر بالاسترخاء والراحة	4. أشعر بالاهتمام بالأشخاص الذين حولي		
5. لدي طاقة اضافية/نشاط اضافي	6. أستطيع التحكم بالمشاكل بشكل جيد		
7. أستطيع التفكير بوضوح	8. أشعر بأنني شخص جيد		
9. أشعر بأنني قريبة من الأشخاص الذين حولي	10. أشعر بالثقة بنفسي		
11. أستطيع أن أكو رأي الخاص حول الأمور المحيطة	12. أشعر بالحب		
13. أشعر بالاستمتاع بالأمور الجديدة	14. أشعر بالسعادة/المرح		

ز. مؤشر لقياس درجة الرضا بين الزوجين.							
1. ما مقدار سعادتك بزواجك؟ (لا تقرا الاختيارات)		1. عدم السعادة بشدة		2. عدم السعادة بشكل متوسط			
		3. عدم السعادة بشكل قليل		4. السعادة			
		5. السعادة الكبيرة		6. السعادة الشديدة			
		7. في أحسن الأحوال / ممتاز					
2. حددي كم مرة شعرتي أن الأمور بينك وبين زوجك جيدة وذلك فيما يتعلق بنقاشاتكم الدائمة، مشاكلكم، ظروفكم، حيواتكم ...		1. كل الوقت		2. معظم الوقت			
		3. أكثر الأوقات		4. من حين لآخر			
		5. نادرا		6. لا أشعر بذلك أبدا			
3. حددي أي من الخيارات التالية تمثلك باحدى الخيارات التالية: 1. ليس صحيحا تماما 2. يملك قليلا من الصحة 3. صحيح بعض الشيء 4. غالبا صحيح 5. معظم الوقت صحيح 6. صحيح بشكل كامل							
1. زواجنا قوي/صلب		2. زواجي سعيد					
3. علاقتي مع زوجي هادئة ومريحة		4. أنا وزوجي عبارة عن فريق متكامل					
5. كم هي علاقتك مع زوجك غنية		6. كم هي علاقتك مع زوجك تلبي احتياجاتك					
7. كم وصل هذا الزواج من توقعاتك السابقة		8. بشكل عام كم قدار رضاك بزواجك					
4. وضح أي من الخيارات التالية أكثرها تمثيلا عن مشاعرك تجاه زواجك، على أن يكون الاختيار بناء على اول انطباع تشعرين به.							
1. مثير للإعجاب	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2. سيئة	5	4	3	2	1	0	1
3. ممتلئة	0	1	2	3	4	5	2
4. قوية	0	1	2	3	4	5	3
5. غير مشجعة	5	4	3	2	1	0	4
6. ممتعة	0	1	2	3	4	5	5
الإجراءات القانونية التي حصلت قبل عقد الزواج							
ل. حددي فيما إذا طلبت المحكمة من طبيبة بفحصك لتأكد من ملائمتك لهذا الزواج؟		1. نعم		2. لا (ل.3)			
ل. حددي إذا قامت الطبيبة بفحصك بشكل جدي ؟		1. نعم		2. لا			
ل. حددي إذا تم تغيير تاريخ ميلادك قبل عقد الزواج ليصبح عمرك أكبر ويتم العقد؟		1. نعم		2. لا		3. لا أعلم	
مشاعرك الحالية							
ق. هل أنت مطلقة / منفصلة؟ 1. نعم (ق.3) 2. لا							
ق. حددي إذا كنت ترغيبين في أن يستمر هذا الزواج ، بوضع دائرة حول إجابة واحدة فقط؟		1. أرغب بشدة		2. أرغب		3. لا أعلم	
		3. لا أعلم		4. لا أرغب		5. لا أرغب بشدة	
ق. وضح فيما لو لم يحدث هذا الزواج هل كنت ستتزوجين مرة أخرى مبكرا؟		1. نعم		2. لا			
ق. وضح إذا كنت تفكرين بالطلاق؟		1. نعم		2. لا (ق.6)			
ق. إذا كانت الإجابة السابقة نعم ، حددي المدة الزمنية بالسنوات ؟							
ق. هل مشاعرك تجاه هذا الزواج أنه بلا أمل؟		1. نعم		2. لا			
ق. حددي إذا كانت لديك رغبة لتزويج ابنتك مبكرا؟		1. نعم		2. لا (ق.9)			
ق. إذا كانت الإجابة السابقة بنعم، حددي العمر المناسب لزواجها؟							
ق. 9. ماهو العمر المثالي للزواج حسب رأيك الخاص؟							
ق. 10. هل لديك أي أفكار انتحارية / أوددت محاولات للانتحار؟							
1. نعم ، بدرجة كبيرة		2. نعم ، بدرجة متوسطة		3. لا			

شكرا جزيلاً....

نتمنى لكم حياة مليئة بالسعادة....

## **Annex (4) the study instrument in English**

Dear participant:

I am Dr. Samah Elamassie, a student at the Master Degree of Public Health program,- Epidemiology Track, at Al Quds University, conducting a research study about child marriage in the Gaza Strip. The study is part of the requirements for the fulfilment of the master degree of public health.

The study aims to explore the main driving factors for early marriage among girls and also the consequences of that phenomenon in order to contribute to advocacy and policy development for the reduction of these phenomena thus improving the physical, social and psychological wellbeing of adolescences, their families and communities. The study is looking ultimately to provide policy makers with recommendations that might help in decreasing the occurrence of early marriage.

Approximately 400 early married girls will participate in this study and you have been randomly selected because you met the selection criteria. Participation in the study involves filling an interviewed questionnaire about your experiences and other will be interviewed individually or in groups. There is no right or wrong answers, answer as you feel/perceive. Filling the questionnaire takes approximately 30 minutes of your valuable time.

Although participation in this study is voluntary and you have the right to participate or not to participate, your participation is highly appreciated. You are free to participate or to withdraw at any moment.

Confidentiality will be maintained, and your name and contacts will not be mentioned at all, and the information you will provide will only be used for the research purposes. Again, I would like to thank you for agreeing to participate.

**Samah Elamassie**

1. اسم الباحث	سماح العمصي	2. اسم المشرف	د. بسام أبو حمد
3. الرقم المتسلسل		4. تاريخ تعبئة المقابلة	...../...../.....
5. وقت المقابلة	.....		
البيانات الشخصية المتعلقة بالوضع الحالي:			
أ. 1. تاريخ ميلادك: ...../...../.....			
أ. 2. وضحى كم كان عمرك عند الزواج:		أ. 3. كم كان عمرك عندما جانك الطمث ( الدورة الشهرية؟) .....	
أ. 4. المحافظة؟	1. شمال غزة	2. غزة	3. وسطى
أ. 5. موقع السكن؟	1. داخل المخيم	2. خارج المخيم	أ. 6. هل أنت لاجيء؟
أ. 7. حدي الحالة الاجتماعية حالياً؟	1. متزوجة	2. مطلقة	3. أرملة
أ. 8. وضحى مع من تعيشين؟	1. زوجك	2. عائلتك (عائلة الأهل)	3. عائلة زوجك
أ. 9. حدي إذا كنت حالياً متزوجة هل هذا الزواج؟ (لمن أجابوا ب 1 على سؤال رقم 7)	1. الزواج الأول	2. الزواج الثاني	3. الزواج الثالث أو أكثر.
أ. 10. في زواجك المبكر، هل أنت الزوجة الثانية، الثالثة أو الرابعة؟	1. نعم/حدد..... 2. لا		
أ. 11. في زواجك المبكر ما هو نوع الوحدة السكنية التي تعيش فيها الأسرة؟	1. فيلا	2. بيت بطون (دار)	3. شقة
	4. غرفة منفصلة	5. خيمة	6. كرفان (باركية/بركس)
	7. غير ذلك/حدد.....		
أ. 12. ما مدى رضائك بالمجمل عن حالة إقامتك الحالية؟	1. جيد	2. غير جيد	
أ. 13. إجمالي عدد أفراد الأسرة بما في ذلك أنت (الشخص الذي تجري معه المقابلة)؟	.....		
أ. 14. ما هو نوع السكن؟	1. ملك للأسرة	2. مستأجر	3. ملك للعائلة الممتدة
أ. 15. عمر الزوج عند الزواج الأول؟	.....	أ. 16. عمر الأم إذا كانت على قيد الحياة؟	.....
أ. 18. عمرك؟	.....	أ. 19. وضحى إذا كان والديك على قيد الحياة؟	1. نعم (أ. 24.) 2. لا (أحدهما أو كلاهما)
أ. 20. إذا كانت الإجابة السابقة ب لا من من والديك فقد الحياة؟	1. الأب	2. الأم	3. كلاهما
أ. 21. حدي الوقت الذي فقدت به أحد والديك؟	1. قبل الزواج 2. بعد الزواج		
أ. 22. وضحى إذا كان هذا الفقد قد ساهم في حدوث زواجك المبكر؟	1. نعم 2. لا (أ. 24.)		
أ. 23. كيف أدى فقدك لأحد والديك إلى زواجك المبكر، الرجاء ذكر ثلاث أسباب؟	1. 2. 3.		
أ. 24. حدي عدد سنوات دراستك حالياً؟	.....		
أ. 26. وضحى آخر درجة علمية حصلت عليها؟	1. غير متعلم (أمي/ملم)	2. ابتدائي	3. اعدادي
	4. ثانوي	5. جامعي فأكثر	
أ. 27. وضحى آخر درجة علمية حصل عليها الزوج؟	1. غير متعلم (أمي/ملم)	2. ابتدائي	3. اعدادي
	4. ثانوي	5. جامعي فأكثر	
أ. 28. وضعك الوظيفي الحالي؟	1. غير موظف وذلك بسبب: 1.1. ذوي احتياجات خاصة/عدم القدرة على العمل. 2. في السجن. 3. غير ذلك.		
أ. 29. وضع الزوج الوظيفي الحالي؟	1. غير موظف وذلك بسبب: 1.1. ذوي احتياجات خاصة/عدم القدرة على العمل. 2. في السجن. 3. غير ذلك.		
أ. 30. هل أنت وزوجك أقارب؟	1. نعم 2. لا (أ. 32.)		
أ. 31. إذا كانت الإجابة السابقة نعم حدي درجة القرابة؟	1. قرابة درجة ثلاثة (ابن العم)	2. قرابة درجة رابعة	3. غير ذلك
أ. 32. هل تتلقين حالياً أي مساعدات مالية أو غير ذلك.	1. نعم 2. لا (أ. 34.)		

أ.33. إذا كانت الإجابة <b>نعم</b> حددي المصدر؟		1. وكالة الغوث		2. وزارة الشؤون الاجتماعية		3. غير ذلك	
أ.34. وضحى قدرتكم على توفير الإحتياجات الأساسية من خلال اختيار احدى الخيارات التالية (تقرأ الاسئلة)؟		1. الأدوية والرعاية الصحية <input type="checkbox"/>		2. مستلزمات المدرس <input type="checkbox"/>			
1. نعم، بشكل كامل.		3. الطعام. <input type="checkbox"/>		4. أجار البيت <input type="checkbox"/>			
2. نعم، بشكل جزئي.		5. الملابس. <input type="checkbox"/>		6. المواصلا <input type="checkbox"/>			
3. لا.		7. الكهرباء والماء <input type="checkbox"/>		8. غير ذلك / وضحى..... <input type="checkbox"/>			
4. لا ينطبق							
أ.35. الاتفاق بالمعدل الشهري (بالشيكل)		.....		أ.36. الدخل بالمعدل الشهري بالشيكل؟		.....	
<b>البيانات الشخصية قبل الزواج:</b>							
ب.1. المحافظة السابقة؟		1. شمال غزة		3. وسطى		4. خان يونس	
		2. غزة		5. رفح			
ب.2. موقع السكن السابق؟		1. داخل المخيم		2. خارج المخيم			
ب.3. ما هو نوع الوحدة السكنية التي تعيش فيها الأسرة سابقا؟		1. فيلا		2. بيت باطون (دار)		3. شقة	
		4. غرفة منفصلة		5. خيمة		6. كارافان (باركية/باركس)	
		7. غير ذلك/توضيح.....					
ب.4. ما مدى رضاك بالمجمل عن حالة إقامتك السابقة؟		1. جيد		2. غير جيد			
ب.5. إجمالي عدد أفراد الأسرة بما في ذلك أنت (الشخص الذي تجري معه المقابلة)؟		.....		.....			
ب.6. وضحى عمر الأم وقت زواجها الأول؟		.....		ب.7. وضحى عمر الأب وقت زواجه الأول؟		.....	
ب.8. وضحى عمر الأم وقت زواجك الأول؟		.....		ب.9. وضحى عمر الأب وقت زواجك الأول؟		.....	
ب.10. حددي اذا كنت في المدرسة وقت الخطوبة/الزواج؟		1. نعم		2. لا (ب.15)			
ب.11. اذا كانت الإجابة السابقة <b>نعم</b> حددي ماذا حدث لدراستك بعد الخطوبة/الزواج؟ (يمكن اختيار أكثر من اجابة) وذلك بوضع دائرة حول الاجابة المناسبة لك		1. تركت المدرسة، بناء على رغبتى.		2. تركت المدرسة، بناء على رغبة الوالدين /العائلة.		3. تركت المدرسة، بناء على رغبة الزوج.	
		4. أكملت التعليم كما أنا.		5. أكملت التعليم ،ولكن تحصيلي أقل من السابق/الدرجات أقل من السابق.		6. تم اجبارك على ترك المدرسة من المدرسة نفسها.	
		7. غير ذلك/ مع التوضيح.....					
ب.12. حددي الوقت الذي تم ترك المدرسة بعد الخطوبة/بعد الزواج وذلك بوضع دائرة حول الاجابة المناسبة لك؟		1. بعد الخطوبة مباشرة.		2. بعد الزواج مباشرة.		3. بعد الزواج بعدة أشهر.	
		4. بعد الزواج بعدد من السنين.					
ب.13. حددي المدة الزمنية بالسنوات التي تركتي المدرسة/التعليم خلالها بعد الزواج/الخطوبة؟		.....					
ب.14. وضحى اذا كانت لديك رغبة بالعودة الى المدرسة؟		1. نعم		2. لا			
ب.15. حددي عدد سنوات الدراسة وقت الزواج؟		.....					
ب.16. وضحى الدرجة العلمية التي حققتها وقت الزواج؟		1. غير متعلم (أمي/ملم)		2. ابتدائي		3. اعدادي	
		4. اعدادي		4. ثانوي			
ب.17. حددي تقدير درجاتك في المدرسة؟		1. جيدة		2. بينهما		2. غير جيدة	
ب.18. وضحى الدرجة العلمية التي حققتها والدتك وقت زواجك؟		1. غير متعلم (أمي/ملم)		2. ابتدائي		3. اعدادي	
		4. اعدادي		4. ثانوي		4. جامعي فأكثر	
ب.19. حددي وضع والدتك الوظيفي وقت الزواج؟		1. غير موظف وذلك بسبب:		2. موظف: مع التوضيح.....		.....	
		1.1. ذوي احتياجات خاصة/عدم القدرة على العمل		2.1. في السجن		3.1. غير ذلك.	

ب.20. وضح وضع والدك الوظيفي وقت الزواج؟		1. غير موظف وذلك بسبب: 1.1. ذوي احتياجات خاصة/عدم القدرة على العمل. 2.1. في السجن. 3. غير ذلك.		2. موظف: مع التوضيح.....
أ.21. حددي الدرجة العلمية التي قد حققها والدك وقت الزوج؟		1. غير متعلم	2. ابتدائي	3. اعدادي
ب.22. حددي عدد أخواتك؟		4. ثانوي		
ب.23. حددي ترتيبك بين أخوتك(البنات) ابتداء من الأكبر الى الأصغر؟		5. جامعي		
ب.24. حددي عدد أخواتك(البنات)الاتي أكبر منك سنا وغير متزوجات؟		.....		
ب.25. هل لديك أي أخت تزوجت زواجا مبكرا(قبل ال18)؟		1. لا	2. نعم، كم عددهم.....	
ب.26. هل لديك زوجة أب؟		1. نعم	2. لا	
ب.27. هل كنتم تتلقون أي مساعدات مالية او غير ذلك؟		1. نعم	2. لا(ب.29)	
ب.28. إذا كانت الاجابة بنعم حددي المصدر؟		1. وكالة الغوث	2. وزارة الشؤون الاجتماعية	3. غير ذلك
ب.29. وضح قدرة اهلك على توفير الاحتياجات الأساسية لكم من خلال اختيار احدى الخيارات التالية(تقرا الأسئلة)؟		1. الأدوية والرعاية الصحية <input type="checkbox"/>	2. مستلزمات الدراسة <input type="checkbox"/>	
1. نعم، بشكل كامل.		3. الطعام. <input type="checkbox"/>	4. أجار البيت. <input type="checkbox"/>	
2. نعم، بشكل جزئي.		5. الملابس. <input type="checkbox"/>	6. المواصلات. <input type="checkbox"/>	
3. لا.		7. الكهرباء والماء <input type="checkbox"/>	8. غير ذلك /توضيح..... <input type="checkbox"/>	
4. لا ينطبق				
ب.30. الاتفاق بمعدل الشهر(بالشيكل)؟		ب.31. الدخل بالمعدل الشهري بالشيكل؟		
ب.32. حددي ما تأثير الوضع الاقتصادي للأهل على قرار الزواج (لا تقرا الاختيارات)؟ وذلك بوضع دائرة حول الاجابة المناسبة				
1. الوضع المالي السيء هو السبب الرئيس في زواجي المبكر.				
2. الوضع المالي السيء مع أسباب أخرى مصاحبة هي السبب في زواجي المبكر.				
3. الوضع المالي السيء لم يؤثر أبدا في قرار زواجي.				
4. وضعنا المالي كان جيدا.				
مفهوم الزواج				
ج.1. وضح مفهومك للزواج (لا تقرا الاختيارات ويمكن اختيار أكثر من اختيار) وضع دائرة حول الاجابة المناسبة				
1. تحسين الوضع المعيشي.		2. الايمان بأن الزواج هو المصير النهائي للفتاة		
3. تحسين الوضع في الحياة،مثالا، مزيدا من الحرية		5. الشعور بالمسؤولية		
4. الحصول على الذهب، المجوهرات وارتداء الفستان الأبيض.		6. تأسيس عائلة		
7. تقليل التعرض للعنف		8. امتلاك مستقبل مشرق وطموح		
10. أن أصبح أما		10. غير ذلك/توضيح.....		
ج.2. حددي اذا تم اجبارك على الزواج أم لا ؟				
1. أجبرت على هذا الزواج ولم يكن خيارى		2. أجبرت على هذا الزواج ولكن في النهاية وافقت		
3. لم يتم اجباري أبدا ، كان الزواج بختياى		غير ذلك/توضيح.....		
ج.3. وضح الشخص الذي أجبرك/ساهم في زواجك المبكر؟				
1. الأب		2. الأم		3. الأخت
4. الأخ		5. شخص آخر من العائلة		
6. الجيرة		7. الأصدقاء		
8. غير ذلك/توضيح.....				
الأسباب /المحفزات التي أدت الى الزواج المبكر تبعا للخبرات والتجارب التي مررتي بها				
د.1. عددي الثلاث أسباب الرئيسية التي أدت الى زواجك المبكر، أذكرها بالترتيب حسب الأكثرهم تأثيرا؟				
1.....				
2.....				
3.....				

د.2. حددي أي من الأسباب التالية قد أدت الى زواجك المبكر وذلك من خلال اختيار احدى الخيارات التالية: 1. أجل لدرجة كبيرة، 2. أجل لدرجة متوسطة/بسيطة، 3. غير قابل للتطبيق، 4. لا أعلم، 5. أرفض الإجابة. (تقرا لاختيارات)			
1. وضع العائلة الاقتصادي السيء	2. الحفاظ على شرف العائلة	3. مستوى تحصيل دراسي سيء داخل المدرسة	
4. لذي عدد من الأخوات	5. الزوج قريب	6. زواج أقارب مبكر	
7. أنا يتيم/من.....	8. العيش مع زوج أب/زوج أم، من.....	9. الديانة	
10. عادات العائلة	11. عادات المجتمع	12. رغبتك بالزواج من زوجك	
13. التعرض للعنف في منزل الأهل	14. الزوج رجل غني	15. تعرضت سابقا للتحرش الجنسي	
16. العزلة داخل منزل الأهل	17. الخوف من العنوسة	18. العائلة تحتاج الى استغلال المهر	
19. معاملة سيئة داخل المنزل	20. شخص من العائلة يعاني من مرض مزمن وعصي، من.....	21. تحصيل دراسي سيء للأبء	
22. زواج مبكر للأبء	23. أملك أخت تكبرني و غير متزوجة	24. قرار من أحد أفراد العائلة، من.....	
25. غير ذلك/توضيح.....			
د.3. حددي إذا كنت قد تعرض للعنف مثال: عنف جسدي ، عنف جنسي أو عنف من خلال الاهانة.			
1. نعم عدة مرات	2. نعم مرات قليلة	3. لا	د.3. حددي إذا كنت قد تعرض للعنف مثال: عنف جسدي ، عنف جنسي أو عنف من خلال الاهانة.
1. نعم عدة مرات	2. نعم مرات قليلة	3. لا	د.4. وضح من الذي استفاد من مهرك(الصدوق) أكثر من خيار
1. أنت وحدك	2. العائلة فقط	3. أنت والعائلة	4. الزوج
5. أهل الزوج	6. غير ذلك		
النتائج الناتجة من الزواج المبكر			
م.1. وضح شعورك حيال زواجك المبكر؟ (تقرأ الاجابات) ضعي دائرة حول الاجابة المناسبة			
1. أشعر بالندم من زواجي	2. لدي شعور جيد وسيء تجاه الأمر	3. لا أهتم لهذا القرار	4. أشعر بالسعادة
5. لا افكر بزواجي ولا أفكر بقراري	6. لا اعلم ماهي مشاعري تجاه الأمر		
م.2. إذا كنت تشعرين بالندم أخبريني الثلاث أسباب الرئيسية التي أكسبتك هذا الشعور بالترتيب:			
1. ....			
2. ....			
3. ....			
م.3. إذا كنت تشعرين بالسعادة أخبريني الثلاث أسباب الرئيسية التي أكسبتك هذا الشعور بالترتيب:			
1. ....			
2. ....			
3. ....			
م.4. وضح كيف هو وضعك الاقتصادي الحالي؟			
1. جيد	2. غير جيد		
م.5. هل لديك أطفال ؟			
1. نعم	2. لا (م.10)	م.6. كم عدد أطفالك؟	.....
م.7. متى كانت آخر ولادة؟			
.....	م.8. كم مرة حدث حمل في حياتك (تشمل الاجهاض)؟	.....	
م.9. حددي أعمار أطفالك بالسنوات بالترتيب؟ 1.....2.....3.....4.....5.....6.....7.....8.....9.....			
م.10. وضح إذا حدث معك أي مضاعفات خلال الحمل؟			
1. نعم 2. لا (م.12) 3. لم يحدث حمل (انتقل الى م.14)			

م.11. إذا كانت الإجابة السابقة بنعم حددي أي من المضاعفات الآتية حدثت معك مع توضيح عمرك أثناء الحدوث وإيضاح ترتيب الطفل الذي حدثت معه المشكلة .			
المضاعفات	1.نعم/2. لا	عمر لحظة الحدوث	ترتيب الطفل
1. ضغط الحمل			
2. تشنج الحمل (الناتج بعد ضغط حمل)			
3. نزيف خلال الحمل			
4. سلس البراز			
5. تمزق الغشاء قبل 37 أسبوع			
6. حمل خارج الرحم			
7. معوق الولادة (تعسر الولادة، استخدام جهاز شفط فاكوم...)			
8. إزالة للرحم			
9. سكر حمل			
10. موت طفل قبل العام			
11. التقيء الحملي (أدى الى دخول مستشفى، أو الحاجة الى محاليل)			
12. سلس البول			
13. فقر الدم			
14. جراحة عاجلة بعد حدوث نزيف			
15. إصابات الولادة			
16. ولادة مبكرة			
17. طفل منخفض الوزن الشديد لحظة الولادة (أقل من 1500)			
18. ولادة قيصرية			
19. غير ذلك/مع التوضيح.....			
م.12. وضحى إذا كان أطفالك قد أدخلوا المستشفى عدة مرات او يعانون من مشاكل صحية ؟ 1.نعم 2. لا (م.14)			
م.13. إذا كانت الإجابة السابقة بنعم حددي من ضمن الاختيارات التالية نوع المشكلة الصحية الذي حدث لابنك مع تحديد ترتيب هذا الطفل وعمره أثناء حدوث المشكلة الصحية:			
المرض	1.نعم/2. لا	عمر لحظة الحدوث	ترتيب الطفل
1. موت الطفل قبل بلوغ الـ 28 يوما من الولادة			
2. تشوه خلقي (م. تشوه كلى، قلب، دماغ....)			
3. موت الطفل قبل بلوغ عمر السنة وبعد تجاوز 28 يوما			
4. فقر الدم (أقل من 11)			
5. اسهال متكرر (أكثر من ثلاث مرات في اليوم)/نزلة معوية			
6. موت الطفل قبل بلوغ عمر الـ 5 سنوات وبعد السنة			
7. اصفرار مستمر لأكثر من أسبوعين			
8. طفل منخفض الوزن لحظة الولادة (أقل من 2500)			
9. غير ذلك/مع التوضيح.....			
م.14. وضحى مشاعرك عندما رزقت بأول طفل: (يمكن اختيار أكثر من خيار)			
1. الخوف 2. العار 3. الكره 4. عدم الجهوزية الكافية 5. الحب 6. المسؤولية 7. الحاجة 8. السعادة 9. لم أرزق بطفل (م.17)			
م.15. صفى صحة أطفالك بشكل عام؟			
1. جيد	2. لا أعلم	3. سيء	
م.16. حددي قدرتك على رعاية أبنائك؟			
1. لا أستطيع الاعتناء بأطفالي			
2. ليس لدي الخبرة الكافية للاعتناء بأطفالي			
3. يمكنني الاعتناء بهم جيدا			
م.17. وضحى إذا كنت تستخدمين وسائل منع حمل؟			
1. نعم 2. لا (م.20)			
م.18. أي نوع من وسائل منع الحمل تستخدمين (مثال: لولب، عازل، حيوب....)؟			

م.19. حددي إذا كان استخدامك لوسائل منع الحمل بعد موافقة زوجك أم لا؟		1. نعم	2. لا
م.20. صفني وضعك الصحي بشكل عام؟		1. جيدة	2. لأعلم
م.21. وضحني مقدار اعتمادك على زوجك وذلك من خلال تحديد امكانية الخروج من المنزل من عدم الخروج تبعاً لاماكن عدة مع ارتباط الخروج بوجود رفيق أو عدم وجود رفيق ، حددي ممن تطلبين الاذن من الاختيارات القادمة ويمكنك اختيار أكثر من اختيار:		3. سيء	
1. الزوج / 2. والدة الزوج. / 3. والد الزوج / 4. أخت الزوج/ 5. أخ الزوج / 6. غير ذلك/ مع التوضيح / 7. لا أحتاج الى طلب اذن			
المكان الذي ستذهبن اليه	غير مسموح الخروج بتاتا	الخروج مشترط بوجود شخص آخر	الخروج لوحده
1. الذهاب الى السوق			ممن تحصلين على اذن الخروج
2. الذهاب الى الرعاية الصحية			
3. الذهاب الى اماكن قريبة /أماكن مجتمعية.			
4. الذهاب الى المسجد/الكنيسة			
5. فقط الخروج من المنزل			
6. الذهاب الى البنك			
7. زيارة العائلة			
8. زيارة الأصدقاء			
م.22. وضحني بشكل عام ،طلب اذن الخروج يكون من من، من الاختيارات التالية؟(يمكن اختيار أكثر من اختيار وضعي دائرة حول الاجابة الصحيحة)		1. الزوج	2. أخ الزوج
		3. والد الزوج	4. لا حاجة الى اذن
		5. والدة الزوج	6. أخت الزوج
		7. غير ذلك/ مع التوضيح.....	
م.23. إذا كنت تأخذين اذن للخروج هل تغير مقدار ذلك، خلال سنوات الزواج، إذا لا تأخذين اذن (م.24)؟		1. زيادة	2. لم يتغير شيء
م.24. هل تعرضت للعنف خلال زواجك؟		1. نعم، عدة مرات	2. نعم، مرات قليلة
		3. لا(م.30)	3. نقصان
م.25. إذا كانت الاجابة السابقة بنعم حددي نوع العنف الذي تعرضتي له والشخص الذي أحدث هذا الأمر من الاختيارات التالية(يمكن اختيار أكثر من اختيار، ضعي دائرة حول الاجابة المناسبة)؟		1. عنف جسدي	2. عنف نفسي
		3. عنف لفظي(م.الشم)	4. عنف جنسي
		5. عنف مالي(لا يعطيك لك مال أو يأخذ راتبك)	6. عنف مجتمعي
		7. عدم الاعتراف بك وقت المرض /منع الذهاب للرعاية للعلاج	
1. الزوج، 2. أب الزوج، 3. والدة الزوج، 4. أخت الزوج، 5. أخ الزوج، 6. غير ذلك/توضيح			
الشخص: 1..... 2..... 3..... 4..... 5..... 6..... 7.....			
م.26. حددي المكان الذي تعرضت للتعنيف فيه؟ (يمكن اختيار أكثر من خيار)		1. المنزل	2. منزل العائلة
		3. المجتمع	4. الرعاية الأولية
		5. المدرسة	6. الشارع
		7. غير ذلك/ مع التوضيح	
م.27. حددي الشخص الذي يساهم في تعرضك للعنف ،ضعي دائرة حول الاجابة المناسبة ، يمكن اختيار أكثر من خيار؟		1. الزوج	2. أخ الزوج
		4. والدة الزوج	5. أخت الزوج
		7. مقدم الخدمة	8. غير ذلك/توضيح
م.28. هل تغير مقدار تعرضك للعنف خلال سنوات الزواج؟		1. زيادة	2. لم يتغير
م.29. حددي الفعل الذي كنت تقومين به حين تعرضك للعنف من الخيارات التالية (تقرأ الاختيارات ويمكن اختيار أكثر من اختيار، وذلك بوضع دائرة حول الاجابة المناسبة .)		1. الذهاب الى مراكز حماية المرأة.	3. نقصان
		2. الاتصال باحدى المراكز المساعدة وطلب مساعدة عبر الهاتف.	
		3. أذهب للحديث مع أحد الأقارب/الأصدقاء.	
		4. الذهاب الى منزل الأهل.	
		5. الامتناع عن الحديث بما حدث.	
		6. الذهاب الى الرعاية الصحية من أجل العلاج.	
		7. زيارة أحد الأقارب لك للتخفيف عنك.	
		8. غير ذلك/ مع التوضيح.....	
م.30. وضحني إذا تم توضيح علاقتك(العلاقة الجنسية) أنت وزوجك قبل الزواج؟		1. نعم	2. لا(م.34)

م.31. إذا كانت الإجابة السابقة <u>نعم</u> ، حددي من قام بتعليمك؟ (يمكنك اختيار أكثر من خيار)		1. والدتك	2. أختك	3. زوجك
		4. أصدقائك	5. والدة زوجك	6. التلفاز
		7. لأحد	8. المدرسة سواء مدرسين أو طلبة	
		9. غير ذلك/توضيح		
م.32. وضحى إذا كانت المعلومات كافية ؟		1. نعم	2. لا	
م.33. حددي الوقت الذي تلقيت المعلومات حول علاقتك (العلاقة الجنسية) مع زوجك قبل الزواج؟		1. قبل مجيء الدورة	2. بعد مجيء الدورة	
		3. قبل الخطوبة	4. بعد الخطوبة	
		5. يوم الزواج	6. غير ذلك/توضيح	
م.34. حددي العوارض الجانبية التي حدثت معك و ناجمة عن الزواج المبكر وذلك باختيار مقدار حدوثها بأحدى الاختيارات التالية: 1. أجل ، بدرجة كبيرة 2. أجل ، بدرجة بسيطة 3. لا يمكن تطبيقه 4. لا أعلم 5. رفضت الإجابة (تقرأ الخيارات)				
ضياح المستقبل	التعرض للعنف	العيش في وضع اقتصادي سيء		
عدم القدرة على توفير الاحتياجات الأساسية للمنزل	تردي الوضع الصحي لك	عدم القدرة على الاعتناء بالأطفال		
تحصيل دراسي سيء	ترك المدرسة/الجامعة	قلة المشاركة مع العائلة وقلة الانضمام للمشاركات		
الاعتماد/عدم القدرة على أخذ قرار	تكرار دخول أطفالك للمستشفى	قلة الفرص من أجل الابداع وخلق أمور جديدة		
مشاكل عائلية	قلة فرص العمل	زيادة الضغط/التوتر		
الرغبة في الطلاق	قلة الحركة(غير اجتماعية)	لا حرية في شؤون الحياة		
غير ذلك/توضيح.....				
ن. من أجل الكشف عن مقدار الحزن المصاحب لك نتمنى الإجابة عن الأسئلة القادمة حيث أنها تتكون من تسع أسئلة كل سؤال يعبر عن جانب من مشاعرك <u>خلال مدة الأسبوعين السابقين</u> ، حددي أي الأسئلة تمتلك خلال الإجابة بنعم أو لا .				
1. قلة المتعة في انجاز مهماتك /أمورك الخاصة؟				
2. التفكير أنه من الأفضل لو كنت ميتا/قمت بإيذاء نفسي؟				
3. عدم القدرة على النوم/نوم زائد عن اللزوم/الاستيقاظ أكثر من مرة خلال النوم؟				
4. الشعور بالأسى ، الحزن، اليأس؟				
5. عدم الرغبة في الأكل وفقدان الشهية؟ /زيادة الأكل؟				
6. الشعور بالدونية تجاه النفس، أنك فاشل، لا تصلح لشيء، لا تستطيع عمل شيء؟				
7. الشعور بالارهاق والتعب العام ، حتى بعد عمل بسيط لا يجهد؟				
8. فقدان القدرة على التركيز، مثل تذكر الاسماء، لصعوبة في القراءة واكمال مشاهدة التلفاز أو قراءة جريدة؟				
9. الحركة والحديث ببطيء شديد بحيث يمكن ملاحظتها من الآخرين أو عدم القدرة على الاستقرار بحيث تتحرك أكثر من اللازم وتحدث بسرعة؟				
ه. الأسئلة القادمة هي من أجل قياس مقدار الرفاهية والسعادة للسيدة المشاركة في هذا البحث.				
ه.1. من أجل فحص الرفاهية /السعادة لديك سوف نطرح عليك 14 سؤالاً يجب أن يتم اختيار أحد الاختيارات التالية بما يتناسب معك: 1. لم يحدث أبدا 2. حدث أحيانا 3. حدث بعض الوقت 4. حدث معظم الوقت 5. يحدث دائما				
1. أشعر بالتفاؤل تجاه المستقبل	2. أشعر بأنني مفيدة وأستطيع أن أساعد			
3. أشعر بالاسترخاء والراحة	4. أشعر بالاهتمام بالأشخاص الذين حولي			
5. لدي طاقة اضافية/نشاط اضافي	6. أستطيع التحكم بالمشاكل بشكل جيد			
7. أستطيع التفكير بوضوح	8. أشعر بأنني شخص جيد			
9. أشعر بأنني قريبة من الأشخاص الذين حولي	10. أشعر بالثقة بنفسي			
11. أستطيع أن أكو رأي الخاص حول الأمور المحيطة	12. أشعر بالحب			
13. أشعر بالاستمتاع بالأمور الجديدة	14. أشعر بالسعادة/المرح			

ز. مؤشر لقياس درجة الرضا بين الزوجين.							
ز.1. ما مقدار سعادتك بزواجك؟ (لا تقرا الاختيارات)							
1. عدم السعادة بشدة		2. عدم السعادة بشكل متوسط		3. عدم السعادة بشكل قليل		4. السعادة	
5. السعادة الكبيرة		6. السعادة الشديدة		7. في أحسن الأحوال / ممتاز			
ز.2. حددي كم مرة شعرتي أن الأمور بينك وبين زوجك جيدة وذلك فيما يتعلق بنقاشاتكم الدائمة، مشاكلكم، ظروفكم، حيواتكم ...							
1. كل الوقت		2. معظم الوقت		3. أكثر الأوقات		4. من حين لآخر	
5. نادرا		6. لا أشعر بذلك أبدا		3. حددي أي من الخيارات التالية تمثلك باحدى الخيارات التالية: 1. ليس صحيحا تماما 2. يملك قليلا من الصحة 3. صحيح بعض الشيء 4. غالبا صحيح 5. معظم الوقت صحيح 6. صحيح بشكل كامل			
1. زواجنا قوي/صلب				2. زواجي سعيد			
3. علاقتي مع زوجي هادئة ومريحة				4. أنا وزوجي عبارة عن فريق متكامل			
5. كم هي علاقتك مع زوجك غنية				6. كم هي علاقتك مع زوجك تلبى احتياجاتك			
7. كم وصل هذا الزواج من توقعاتك السابقة				8. بشكل عام كم قدار رضاك بزواجك			
ز.4. وضحى أي من الخيارات التالية أكثرها تمثيلا عن مشاعرك تجاه زواجك، على أن يكون الاختيار بناء على اول انطباع تشعرين به.							
1. مثير للإعجاب	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2. سيئة	5	4	3	2	1	0	1
3. ممتلئة	0	1	2	3	4	5	2
4. قوية	0	1	2	3	4	5	4
5. غير مشجعة	5	4	3	2	1	0	5
6. ممتعة	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
الإجراءات القانونية التي حصلت قبل عقد الزواج							
ل.1. حددي فيما إذا طلبت المحكمة من طبيبة بفحصك لتأكد من ملائمتك لهذا الزواج؟							
1. نعم		2. لا (ل.3)		ل.2. حددي إذا قامت الطبيبة بفحصك بشكل جدي ؟			
1. نعم		2. لا		ل.3. حددي إذا تم تغير تاريخ ميلادك قبل عقد الزواج ليصبح عمرك أكبر ويتم العقد؟			
مشاعرك الحالية							
ق.1. هل أنت مطلقة / منفصلة؟ 1. نعم (ق.3) 2. لا							
ق.2. حددي إذا كنت ترغيبين في أن يستمر هذا الزواج ، بوضع دائرة حول اجابة واحدة فقط؟							
1. أرغب بشدة		2. أرغب		3. لا أعلم		4. لا أرغب	
5. لا أرغب بشدة		ق.3. وضحى فيما لو لم يحدث هذا الزواج هل كنت ستتزوجين مرة أخرى مبكرا؟					
1. نعم		2. لا (ق.6)		ق.4. وضحى إذا كنت تفكرين بالطلاق؟			
1. نعم		2. لا (ق.6)		ق.5. إذا كانت الاجابة السابقة نعم ، حددي المدة الزمنية بالسنوات ؟			
1. نعم		2. لا		ق.6. هل مشاعرك تجاه هذا الزواج أنه بلا أمل؟			
1. نعم		2. لا (ق.9)		ق.7. حددي إذا كانت لديك رغبة لتزويج ابنتك مبكرا؟			
1. نعم		2. لا (ق.9)		ق.8. إذا كانت الاجابة السابقة بنعم، حددي العمر المناسب لزواجها؟			
1. نعم		2. لا (ق.9)		ق.9. ما هو العمر المثالي للزواج حسب رأيك الخاص؟			
ق.10. هل لديك أي أفكار انتحارية / أو حدثت محاولات للانتحار؟							
1. نعم ، بدرجة كبيرة		2. نعم ، بدرجة متوسطة		3. لا			

## Annex (5) Focus group questions for early-married women

<b>Introduction</b>	Tell me about yourself and your family ( probe for: age , number of living, education level, living place, economic status) When we mention marriage, what comes to your mind first How satisfied you are about life, your marriage, general PSS condition
<b>First part</b>	What were your perceptions about marriage before you got marriage? How you feel now? Tell my why you feel that way?
<b>Second part</b>	What motivates you to marry at that age? Whose decision was that? Probe for forced marriage? role of parents, relatives, violence Among the factors that have been mentioned, which ones were the strongest in influencing your decisions? Our survey confirmed that the main triggers factors were relative husband, force marriage, parent’s bad economic status, culture norms was exposed to violence and family norms, how you agree with that
<b>Third part</b>	Did your early married led to any consequences? Give me examples? How is your household economic status? Did your husband bet you? What are the challenges facing you in your life now, after the marriage? Which ones affects you the most., probe for health, agency, PSS, economic, education-ask them to tell examples or stories Our survey confirmed that not continue education, increase stress and anxiety, loss privacy and loss opportunity to work, <b>dependency</b> (decision making, solve problem), basic needs not satisfied and loss recreation were the main effects of marriage, how you agree with that
<b>Fourth part</b>	How you see the future of your marriage? Explain why and how?
<b>Fifth part</b>	How you are different from your peer who did marry early as you? Probe for education, health, economic, agency, PSS? How you different from peer who did marry not early?
<b>Sixth part</b>	What could be done to control early marriage? by government, families, communities, associations, girls themselves

## Annex (6) Focus group questions for parents of early-married women

<b>Introduction</b>	Tell me about yourself and your family (probe for: age, number of living, education level, living place, economic status)  When girls ideally should marry? why
<b>First part</b>	What were the main factors that led to that marriage? Economic , poor school achievement, relative groom, norms, all relatives daughter marry their daughter at that age or even younger, you forced her to that marriage  From the previous mentioned what were than main factors led to marriage
<b>Second part</b>	How your life and your family life have changed after marriage? Give examples?
<b>Third part</b>	How your daughter live nowadays? What are the consequences to her marriage?
<b>Fourth part</b>	How do feel about their marriage? –what makes you feel that way, give examples, If time goes back, are you going to do it again? Why  Regret, happy
<b>Fifth part</b>	What could be done to control early marriage? by government, families, communities, associations, girls themselves

**Annex (7) Triggers factors for early marriage, between those who were exposed to this factors**

<b>Relative grooms as triggers factor (N= 225)</b>	Yes	203	90.2
	No	22	9.8
<b>Previous exposure to violence (N= 203)</b>	Yes	54	73.4
	No	149	26.6
<b>Death of mother as triggers factor (N=9)</b>	Yes	6	66.6
	No	3	33.3
<b>Death of father as triggers factor (N=29)</b>	Yes	17	58.6
	No	12	41.4
<b>Parents married early (N=348)</b>	Yes	177	50.9
	No	171	49.1
<b>Unmarried older sister (N=77)</b>	Yes	39	50.6
	No	38	49.4
<b>Having many sisters as triggers factor (N=357)</b>	Yes	140	39.2
	No	217	60.8
<b>Having step mother as triggers factors (N=77)</b>	Yes	4	5.2
	No	73	94.8

## Annex (8) Violence after marriage in more details

Items	Reponses	N	%
<b>Type of violence</b>			
<b>Verbal violence</b>	Yes	172	93
	No	13	7
<b>The person who did the violence</b>	Husband	155	90.1
	Husband's father	8	4.7
	Husband's mother	25	14.5
<b>Physical violence</b>	Yes	85	45.9
	No	100	54.1
<b>The person who did the violence</b>	Husband	83	98.8
	Husband's father	1	1.2
	Husband's mother	2	2.4
<b>Psychological violence</b>	Yes	69	37.3
	No	116	62.7
<b>The person who did the violence</b>	Husband	51	82.3
	Husband's father	5	8.1
	Husband's mother	12	19.4
<b>Economic violence</b>	Yes	15	8.1
	No	170	91.9
<b>The person who did the violence</b>	Husband	15	100
<b>Health violence</b>	Yes	12	6.5
	No	173	93.5
<b>The person who did the violence</b>	Husband	12	100
	Mother in law	2	7.7
<b>Social violence</b>	Yes	5	2.7
	No	180	97.3
<b>The person who did the violence</b>	Husband	1	6.7
	Husband's brother	1	6.7
	Nurse	1	6.7
	Husband's mother	1	6.7
	Community	12	80
<b>Sexual violence</b>	Yes	2	1.1
	No	183	98.9
<b>The person who did the violence</b>	Husband	2	100

**Annex (9) an official letter of approval from Helsinki Committee in the  
Gaza Strip**

**المجلس الفلسطيني للبحوث الصحي**  
**Palestinian Health Research Council**

تعزيز النظام الصحي الفلسطيني من خلال مأسسة استخدام المعلومات البحثية في صنع القرار  
Developing the Palestinian health system through institutionalizing the use of information in decision making

**Helsinki Committee  
For Ethical Approval**

**Date: 2018/06/04** **Number: PHRC/HC/390/18**

**Name: Samah Taysier Elamassie** **الاسم:**

We would like to inform you that the committee had discussed the proposal of your study about: **نفيدكم علماً بأن اللجنة قد ناقشت مقترح دراستكم حول:**

**Child Marriage in the Gaza Strip: Triggers and Consequences**

The committee has decided to approve the above mentioned research. Approval number PHRC/HC/390/18 in its meeting on 2018/06/04 **و قد قررت الموافقة على البحث المذكور عاليه بالرقم والتاريخ المذكوران عاليه**

**Signature**

**Member** **Member**

**Chairman**

**Genral Conditions:-**

1. Valid for 2 years from the date of approval.
2. It is necessary to notify the committee of any change in the approved study protocol.
3. The committee appreciates receiving a copy of your final research when completed.

**Specific Conditions:-**

**Annex (10) Distribution of early-married girls per governorate (From PCBS)**

<b>Residency</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Percent of early marriage</b>	<b>Participant</b>
North of Gaza	45565	26%	107
Gaza	78939	41%	164
Deir Al-Balah	32387	6%	24
Khan-Younis	42473	16%	68
Rafah	27890	10%	43