

The main aim of the study was to investigate the psychosocial and mental health determinants of females in polygamous marriages. Purposive sampling was used in the study. Five pairs of first and second wives were recruited for data collection. Data was collected by administering the semi-structured interview. Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis (IPA) was used for data analysis. Total 3 models were developed after analysis. The first model of the study contained themes of first wives. Superordinate themes of the first model included perception of polygamy, bodily reactions, economic conditions, the attitude of wives and others towards second marriage, and coping strategies. Multiple factors were associated with the perception of polygamy, such as life satisfaction, quality of relationship with husband after the second marriage, satisfaction with marital life, causes of the second marriage, future assumptions, and perception about a romantic relationship of husband. The attitude of wives and others include how people reacted to the polygamous practice of participants and women's response towards them. Major elements in economic conditions were financial and housing conditions. Distraction and religious coping were basic approaches used by first wives. In model II, superordinate themes of second wives included general perception, economic conditions, the attitude of wives and others towards second marriage, and coping strategies. Basic aspects linked with the perception of polygamy included relationship with husband, future, assumptions, self- perception, marital and life satisfaction, and the reaction of being the second wife. Mainly two subordinate themes, financial and housing conditions included in economic conditions. While main factors associated with the attitude of wives and others were remarks of people on this practice of participants, and the answers of participants to these comments, and emotional expressions of women linked with this practice. Second wives were using religious coping, distraction and other techniques. In III integrated model, themes were explained and discussed in the reference of both wives. Superordinate themes included perception of polygamy, bodily reactions, economic conditions, the attitude of wives and others towards second marriage, and coping strategies. Multidimensional factors were associated with the perception of polygamy including nature of the relationship between spouses, life and marital satisfaction, perception about a romantic relationship of husband, future assumption, and causes of second marriage. Bodily reactions were determined by emotional and physiological reactions. In economic conditions mainly two factors were described, including housing and financial status. The attitude of wives and others linked with the reaction of people towards second marriage and responses of wives, and emotional expressions of wives linked with two marriages of their husband. For coping, both of the wives were using distraction, religious coping and other methods.