

Obstacles to Marriage for Jordanian Persons with Visual or Hearing Disabilities from Their Perspectives

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This study explores the obstacles to marriage for persons with physical disabilities (visual or hearing) from the perspective of persons with physical disabilities. To achieve the study's objectives, a questionnaire was developed and administered to a sample of 544 people with physical disabilities (201 female and 343 male). The results indicated that the obstacles to marriage for persons with physical disabilities, according to the participants' perspectives, were of a moderate degree. The most impactful impediments were found to be economic, followed by social and psychological ones, and challenges pertaining to the type of impairment had the least effect. When it came to the sample's responses to the scale's sections on gender, academic standing, marital status, and the existence of a handicap in the family, the results did not reveal any statistically significant differences. However, statistically significant differences were observed based on the specialization variable, in favour of scientific colleges.

Keywords: marriage obstacles, persons with physical disabilities, Jordanians

Jordan has a long history of addressing issues related to disability, and the country has been recognized internationally for its efforts. It is commonly regarded as a pioneer in matters pertaining to disabilities. However, some people with specific disabilities are kept hidden due to the persistent stigma attached to impairments. Many Arab societies have historically had a negative view of disabled people, viewing them as a burden or a disgrace. Furthermore, stigma surrounds health, indicating a lack of understanding of the potential of those with disabilities. Current evidence from Jordan shows that as more positive attitudes about disabilities are adopted, communities are becoming more inclusive. It is believed that biological, religious, and supernatural factors contribute to disability (Alshare et al., 2019; Alwagfi et al., 2020; Alzboon et al., 2022; Banikalef, 2020; Thompson, 2018).

When we discuss the impediments to marriage from the perspective of individuals with visual and hearing impairments, we find that this perspective plays a vital role in shaping the discourse and decision-making in this regard. Each individual among them has unique experiences and beliefs that can significantly influence their outlook and positions regarding marriage, and these perspectives are influenced by various factors such as the conditions of the impairment, personal life circumstances, culture, and surrounding environment (El Rabbaie et al., 2019; Hatamleh, 2021, 20023; 2024). The impediments facing this group may include non-compliance with existing traditions and social restrictions that hinder their freedom to choose a partner and marry freely. For some, personal challenges may include difficulty finding a life partner who understands their challenges and is willing to live with them, while others may have concerns about their ability to conceive and raise children due to the impairment. Therefore, it is of utmost importance to understand and respect the perspectives of individuals with visual and hearing impairments, and to provide them with the necessary support and resources to make independent decisions regarding marriage (Melhim et al., 2023; Obeidat et al., 2022; Wolor et al., 20022, 2023; Yassien et al., 2023). The entire community should work to alleviate barriers and discrimination and promote equal opportunities for all its members, including individuals with visual and hearing impairments, to ensure their marital rights with freedom and dignity (Alazzam et al., 2024; Bany Yassien et al., 2023).

The aim of this study is to explore the challenges and issues in marriage when one partner suffers from hearing or visual impairments. Since marriage cannot be viewed solely through the relationship between the individuals involved, but must also be placed in the context of family and broader social relations, the impact of hearing or visual impairments on the mutual relationships between the spouses and wider networks is a crucial aspect of this study. Such studies help bridge an important gap in our knowledge. Amin et al., (2020) acknowledge that despite the flourishing of social policy research on disability, marriage, and family life, studies on the marriage of individuals with disabilities remain rare, although disability-related literature contains some references to the experiences of married individuals and personal accounts.

The scarcity of research in this field may be related to the interests and focal points of various academic disciplines. Social policy literature has attempted to map out the impact of different disabilities on individuals, particularly the deprivation resulting from societal exclusion. Only after the deprivation aspects are clarified can attention be turned to their impact on relationships, particularly the psychological and social dimensions. Feminist literature also tends to overlook relational processes within families by focusing on the caregiving role of women in the family, exploring further diverse focuses, and showing little interest so far in spouses or in viewing this caregiving process as a mutual endeavour.

In the subject of special education, the question of marriage for people with auditory and visual impairments is a significant social issue. Families, people with disabilities, and the general public all have differing perspectives on this matter. Some people who believe marriage offers numerous interests and benefits are in favour of it for those with physical disabilities (Al Etoum et al., 2024). These views are consistent with the biological and human makeup, since people with disabilities are human beings first and foremost, with aspirations to establish families, procreate, attain social and psychological equilibrium, and lessen feelings of hopelessness and isolation. Even though laws and regulations protect their rights in social and economic domains—such as their ability to conceive and fulfil their sexual desires like any other person—other viewpoints are against their marriage, presumptively declaring it a failure and viewing it as a convoluted and embarrassing matter. Thus, the purpose of this study is to investigate, in the context of several variables, the most significant barriers and issues that prevent people with hearing or vision disabilities from exercising their right to marriage, as seen by persons with physical disabilities themselves.

The Problem of the Study

One of the three significant life events, along with birth and death, is marriage. Gender continuity is preserved, interactions between men and women are given legitimacy, and societal well-being is attained through marriage. It plays a big role in their right to a life of dignity, which is protected by the majority of laws across various nations. Human values are in line with the way these connections are regulated. The topic of marriage and disability is regarded as a marginalised concern in the media, research, and society. Nevertheless, it has not received enough attention or investigation, despite its significance to an extensive range of parents, advocates, and those concerned with their issues in Jordanian society and the Arab world.

The present study aims to identify the main impediments preventing the marriage of a specific category of marriageable disabilities, namely individuals with visual or hearing disabilities. This perspective comes from persons with physical disabilities who are closest to the age of marriage or consider it a stage of stability after completing their studies. The study seeks to raise awareness among persons with physical disabilities about these issues, change their perceptions, and propose solutions to address these hindrances within Jordanian legislation. In light of this problem, the study addresses these questions:

1. What are the obstacles to the marriage of persons with physical disabilities from the perspective of persons with physical disabilities, and which ones have the most significant impact?
2. Are there statistically significant differences ($\alpha \leq 0.05$) in the obstacles to the marriage of persons with physical disabilities from the perspective of persons with physical disabilities based on variables such as gender, specialisation, marital status, academic level, and the existence of disability in the participants' family?

Literature Review

Theoretical Framework

Reliable data on the prevalence of disabilities in Jordan are scarce. According to current official estimates, about 1,100,000 persons, or 13 percent of the population, are estimated to be disabled. Jordan's 2004 census revealed

a 1.23 percent disability prevalence rate. According to data from 2010, the percentage of married people with disabilities (59%) was comparable to that of the general population (59.7%). While testing of a UNICEF-supported disability module revealed a disability prevalence rate of (13 %) for 2010, census statistics from 2015 suggested a disability prevalence rate of 2.7 percent. According to a different source, 11.2 percent of Jordanians who were five years of age or older had a disability, according to the 2015 census. Had children been counted, the predicted rate would have been 12 percent. The reason for this disparity is unclear. According to the Higher Council of Affairs for Persons with Disabilities (2016), the official estimate of the prevalence of disabilities is still 13% (Thompson, 2018).

According to Buchy et al., (2017), there is a sincere desire on the part of the highest authorities in Jordan to enhance the quality of data pertaining to issues related to disabilities. Progress has been made in raising the visibility of individuals with disabilities as a result of this political will; for instance, Jordan hosted a meeting of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics in Amman in 2013, which led to the inclusion of the Washington Group's questions in the 2015 census. Although Jordan has national legislation that upholds the rights of disabled people to participate in society, attitudes held by communities may prevent disabled people from participating as members of the community (Al-Zboon & Hatmal, 2016). In public spaces, schools, colleges, and on the streets, most individuals with disabilities experience prejudice and a lack of accessibility (Jordan Times, 2015a).

According to Jalal and Gabel (2014), there is discrimination, marginalisation, and prejudicial treatment of both men and women with disabilities in Jordan; nevertheless, women with disabilities are more likely to experience abuse and stigma than males. Disability and impairment are often used interchangeably. Some believe that it brings humiliation to the family as a whole (Jalal & Gabel 2014). Children with impairments encounter numerous impediments in their educational journey, one of which is the attitude of their parents (UNICEF, 2015). There are instances of favourable attitudes towards people with impairments, notwithstanding these negative ones. For instance, fifty-four dentists' opinions and attitudes toward people with intellectual disabilities were evaluated in a study conducted in Jordan. Extremely favourable sentiments for people with intellectual disability were noted. It was discovered that the dentists' gender or years of experience had no discernible impact on these opinions (Al-Zboon & Hatmal, 2016). Carr and Utz (2020), however, note that the stigma associated with disability is a serious problem, with cultural norms leading to the exclusion of persons with particular kinds of disabilities.

Previous Studies

One important area of research in the realm of disability issues is attitudes toward dating and marriage for people with disabilities. Angermeyer and Dietrich (2006) sought to present an overview of the previous fifteen years' worth of population-based attitude research in psychiatry. A hand search of the literature and an electronic search utilising Academic Search Premier, Medline, and PubMed was conducted to find studies on public perceptions of mental illness and attitudes toward the mentally ill that were published between 1990 and 2004. There were found to be thirty-three national studies, largely from Europe, and 29 local and regional studies. More recent papers include analyses of historical trends and cross-cultural comparisons, assessments of antistigma interventions, and research testing theory-based models of the stigmatisation of mentally ill persons, even if the majority are descriptive in nature. Psychiatry's attitude research has advanced significantly in the last 15 years. There is still more work to be done, though, in order to give evidence-based interventions aimed at dispelling myths about mental illness and fostering more positive attitudes towards those who suffer from it an empirical foundation.

Cole (2022) stated that Asians make snap judgements on women based solely on appearance. Having a great body has been highly valued by society, with the implication that it equates to being sexual. As a result, it is believed that people with disabilities (PWDs) are asexual, flawed, and incapable of getting married and starting a family. Parents of PWDs contend that they only concentrate on rehabilitation to allow PWDs to reach and maintain their optimal physical, sensory, or intellectual functions because it is deemed more important than other issues, despite complaints from young people with disabilities that their parents rarely talk to them about gender issues or sexuality (Bao, 2020).

Teenagers with disabilities often struggle to make friends and date since they do not know enough about sex education. When their girls approach puberty, many parents become extremely cautious and restricted because they may have to deal with the risk of sexual abuse, assault, and rape; nonetheless, many parents still fail to address this issue (Dadkhah, 2009). Cole (2022) suggest that to solve this issue, people with disabilities (PWDs) should be educated by their family and the community on gender roles, sex education, and sexual health.

PWDs are often hesitant to start a relationship because they believe they are ugly and useless (Howland & Rintala, 2001). After researching dating challenges for single women with physical disabilities, a group of authors

concluded that PWDs always face nervousness, ignorance, or fear of burden when they meet someone with a handicap. Because of how society views physical attractiveness, people with disabilities are also reluctant to ask for or accept dates. Rather than waiting for others to step in, people with disabilities (PWDs) reject their marital rights (Howland & Rintala, 2001). PWDs' views on marriage have been impacted by societal restrictions. Many people with disabilities (PWDs), particularly women with disabilities (WWDs), believe they have no right to marry. Because of their extreme introversion, they occasionally may not have the same opportunities to form relationships (Do, 2011; Howland & Rintala, 2001).

Persons with impairments could have a harder time finding partners and developing intimate relationships than people without disabilities. There are myths and prejudices that say sexual and reproductive rights are unimportant to people with disabilities. PWDs are viewed as a sexually marginalised population group (Dadkhah et al., 2009). This shows that the broader public probably rejects the sexuality of people with disabilities.

Cuskelly and Bryde (2004) studied parents and caregivers, and a community sample of persons with intellectual disabilities were asked about their attitudes regarding the sexuality of adults with intellectual disabilities. A test-retest reliability and internal consistency were found to be good for an instrument that was constructed and included items related to eight elements of sexuality: sex education, masturbation, personal relationships, sexual intercourse, sterilisation, marriage, and parenthood. Attitudes and age were correlated, with people 60 years of age and older having more conservative attitudes. The sentiments of parents were different from those of professionals; parents were more conservative. Although the age disparities between the groups were the cause of this discrepancy, if it is not handled properly, it could cause some uncertainty for adults with intellectual disabilities. When comparing attitudes about motherhood with the remaining items on the scale, the community group's opinions remained unchanged. However, both the parent and staff groups expressed less positivity about parenthood than about other elements of sexuality.

In a similar vein, Jeffreys (2008) examined four common paradigms around the romantic relationships of four handicapped men in China, all of whom came to the same conclusion—that their marginalisation as PWDs makes marriage impossible for them. The study implies that women with disabilities (WWDs) in a traditional society have even fewer prospects for marriage, even though it solely focuses on males with disabilities in China (Jeffreys, 2008). When it comes to dating and their first voluntary sexual encounter, women with disabilities have to wait longer in the queue than men with disabilities.

Williams (2013) elucidates perceptions regarding the worth of marriage and alternatives to marriage among Vietnamese men and women living in rural and urban areas through an analysis of a case study in Northern Vietnam. In Vietnam, the topic of sexual and reproductive health care for people with disabilities has long been marginalised or disregarded. PWDs are not taught about these problems from an early age. According to the study, the majority of individuals view marriage as the milestone that marks each person's passage from infancy to adulthood. Therefore, someone will be viewed as "abnormal" if they are single or marry later than the average age—roughly 30 for women and 40 for men. In particular, single women may be "too ugly, blind, or too weak," whereas single males are "thought to have mental problems or diseases, or they are thought to be incomplete persons" (p. 293).

Dadkhah et al., (2009) study aimed to measure marriage motivation. A questionnaire made by the researchers using Maslow's hierarchy of needs, which contains 45 questions, was used to collect data. The participants consisted of 76 blind and 76 normal individuals. The two groups, with respect to age, sex, education level, employment, and income level, were matched. A statistical examination of the data indicated a substantial difference ($P < 0.05$) between the two groups self-sufficient and respectful aspects of marriage motivation. In light of the findings, it appears that blind people are prepared to act in accordance with their internal values despite the relative deprivation they experience. Therefore, their relationships with others may be the cause of any motivational issues in their marriage.

Do (2011) looked at a few love tales and found that a lot of women with disabilities (WWDs) were insecure and generally believed they did not deserve love, so they did not even attempt. Rather than get married and have their wives desert them, WWDs would prefer to live alone. In a similar vein, people would laugh at how stupid they are if they fought for their rights and attempted to live "normal" lives by finding partners (Kohrman 1999). Several studies have come to the conclusion that there are three times as many married men with impairments as there are women with disabilities (Dadkhah et al., 2009; Lam 2012). According to Chen et al., (2002), college students in the US, Taiwan, and Singapore have different views on the dating and marriage of people with disabilities. US students' views are more favourable than those of Singaporean and Taiwanese students. When it comes to dating and

marriage, Asians seem to have the most negative opinions towards PWDs. Dadkhah et al., (2009) acknowledge that WWDs bear the "double burden of ableism and sexism," while nevertheless affirming that discrimination against them affects people of both genders (p. 112). As a result, if they get married, they probably have a higher probability of experiencing separation or divorce following marriage. It appears that WWDs have a harder time feeling welcomed in Asian cultures when it comes to gender and disability.

Yorgason et al., (2010) carried out exploratory research on clinical guidelines for working with clients whose spouses are deaf. Themes pertaining to couple dynamics, potential hearing loss scenarios in therapy, and associated facets of the therapist-client relationship were revealed in a focus group with marriage and family therapists. Couple dynamics were specifically proposed to be influenced by gender influences, communication processes, and caregiver processes by therapists. Therapists found concerns related to hearing loss that should be addressed in treatment, including changing communication patterns and accepting the loss. They also suggested intervention strategies, including psychoeducation and recognising one's spouse's hearing loss as a systemic issue. Finally, they recommended that healthcare professionals be cognizant of elements in the therapeutic alliance that may mirror or function as a stepping stone to hearing-impaired marital interactions.

McCnokey and Leavey (2013) researched Irish perspectives on marriage and sexual relationships for people with impairments. According to the study's findings, half of the participants thought people with intellectual and autism-related disorders had the right to marry, and a third thought they should be able to have children if they so wanted. A large number of research participants concurred that people with physical, visual, or auditory disabilities are more entitled than those with intellectual disabilities to have children and participate in sexual relationships. When a disabled person meets certain requirements—such as living outside of Dublin, knowing exactly what kind of marriage they want, being unmarried, and having some degree of psychological and financial stability—their acceptance of the right to marry has grown.

Jalal and Gabel (2014) used the experiences and viewpoints of three Jordanian males with physical disabilities to concentrate their study on gender and physical disability in Jordan. The study showed how people with disabilities are frequently stigmatised as asexual by referencing the body of existing material. Because their handicap is so obvious, those with physical impairments experience some of the highest levels of stigma. Women with disabilities experience more discrimination than men do since they are stigmatised on many levels. In addition, disabled women are twice as likely to get divorced from their spouses as they are to get married.

AlTarawneh et al., (2017) study looked at the opinions of Jordanians towards this marriage. The study revealed that the majority of Jordanians support the marriage of people with physical disabilities. The study found statistically significant differences in attitudes towards gender and age, but no differences were found when considering factors like educational attainment or whether the subject's family had a history of impairment.

Manor-Binyamini's (2020) study seeks to understand the reasons behind and significance of Bedouin women's marriages to educated Bedouin males who have intellectual disability (ID). Data were gathered from 15 educated Bedouin women who were married to Bedouin men with intellectual disabilities through in-depth, semi-structured ethnographic interviews. Thematic analysis was used to develop themes. There were six main reasons outlined: age, the need for independence, the desire for children, the necessity to get social protection from one's husband or man, family and societal pressures, and destiny. From the perspective of the women, the research findings provide an intra-cultural understanding of the reasons behind marriages. These explanations stem from societal and cultural norms. These findings offer a useful conceptual framework for comprehending the occurrence of educated Bedouin women marrying intellectually disabled Bedouin males.

Method

Study Approach

The study utilised a descriptive approach, allowing for the description of the phenomenon related to the impediments of marriage among persons with physical disabilities (auditory or visual) from the perspective of persons with physical disabilities and its correlation with certain variables.

The Population and Sample of the Study

The study population consists of people with physical disabilities. The study's sample was made up of 199 male and 401 female persons with physical disabilities, chosen randomly. Table 1 displays the demographic characteristics of the study sample.

Table 1

The sample's demographic characteristics

variable	Category	Number	Precent
Sex	Male	201	36.9
	Feminine	343	63.1
Focus on Specialisation	Scientific colleges	155	28.5
	Colleges of humanities	389	71.5
Educational level	Diploma	334	60.4
	Bachelor's	210	40.6
marital status	bachelor	420	77.2
	married	104	19.2
	separate	20	3.7
The participants' family history of disability	Existing	41	7.5
	unavailable	503	92.5
Total		544	100.0

Rationale for Selecting Individuals with Visual or Hearing Impairment

People who are blind and deaf face unique challenges in the field of marriage and romantic relationships, and these challenges may be influenced by many factors related to culture, education, and social environment. One of the challenges they may face is communication. For individuals with hearing impairments, communication and understanding can be particularly challenging. Effective communication relies on sign language or the use of visual communication methods, and the hearing partner may need to learn these languages or use assistive technology. Another challenge is independence and dependence. Individuals with visual or hearing impairments may face challenges in relying on others in daily life, which can affect the emotional and personal dynamics of the marital relationship.

There are also economic challenges. Economic opportunities may be limited for blind and deaf individuals, which can affect their ability to secure a stable financial future and contribute to marital life. Besides, blind and deaf individuals may face challenges in confronting social bias and discrimination, which can affect their opportunities to find a life partner who understands and accepts their needs and supports them. They may also struggle with understanding and expressing emotions accurately, which can affect the quality of the marital relationship and understanding between partners.

These are some of the general challenges that blind and deaf individuals may face in the field of marriage and romantic relationships. However, these challenges can be mitigated through awareness, education, and providing the necessary support to enable these individuals to build healthy and stable relationships. Choosing blind and deaf individuals as a sample to discuss challenges in the field of marriage and romantic relationships comes from the importance of understanding the challenges they face in society.

Thus, focusing on the challenges faced by this particular group of people can help understand the unique challenges they may face and how to effectively deal with them. By choosing this sample, we aim to understand the unique challenges that individuals with sensory disabilities may face in the field of romantic relationships and marriage, and how support and assistance can be provided to help them successfully overcome these challenges.

Study Instruments

After examining the theoretical literature and other research, the researchers created a questionnaire to evaluate the study's issue and meet its aims. The tool included personal information about the participants' gender, major, degree of education, marital status, and whether or not their family has a history of impairment; and a questionnaire consisting of 26 items, distributed on four domains: physical disability-related impediments, psychological impediments, social impediments, and economic impediments.

Validity of the Instrument

The study instrument was first shown to a panel of six specialised experts, including professors from Jordanian universities that specialise in counseling, psychological and educational evaluation, and special education, to confirm its validity. A total of eight experts provided feedback to confirm the validity of the survey. The domains included physical disability-related impediments, psychological impediments, social impediments, and economic impediments. Pearson's correlation coefficients were computed for every item and its correlation with both the instrument as a whole and the domain to which it belongs to derive indicators of the construct validity of the study instrument. These coefficients had to meet two major requirements: they had to have statistical significance and a corrected correlation coefficient of at least 0.30. To ensure the reliability of the instrument, the researchers calculated the internal consistency coefficient for the domains in the sample using Cronbach's Alpha equation.

Results

In response to the first research question, which asks persons with physical disabilities, "What is the degree of impediments to marriage for persons with physical disabilities, and which ones have the most impact from their perspectives?", the means and standard deviations for the areas of the scale were calculated as illustrated in Table 2.

Table 2

The means and standard deviations for the domains and the overall scale

Rank	Domain	Means	S.D	Degree of approval
4	Impediments associated with the nature of physical disability (auditory or visual)	3.624	0.766	Medium
3	Social impediments	3.602	0.790	Medium
2	Economic impediments	3.302	0.712	Medium
1	Psychological impediments	3.209	0.650	Medium
	Scale of the study as a whole	3.401	0.547	Medium

The means for the study scale's domains ranged from 3. 209 to 3. 624, as Table 2 demonstrates, with reasonable levels of agreement. The means of the impediments pertaining to the nature of physical disabilities, social impediments, and economic impediments were the highest (3.624, 3.602, and 3.302, respectively), while the impediments relating to impediments related to psychological impediments had the lowest (3.209). The scale's total mean was (3.401), which is considered moderate.

The means of the participants' responses on the study scale domains based on study variables (major, gender, marital status, academic level, and the existence of a disability in the participants' family) were compared using a one-way ANOVA, as shown in Tables 3 and 4, in order to address the first research question, which asks, "Are there statistically significant differences at a significance level (≤ 0.05) for impediments to the marriage of persons with physical disabilities from the perspective of persons with physical disabilities ascribed to gender, marital status, academic level, and the existence of a disability in the participants' family?"

Table 3

The one-way ANOVA for variances between the means of the sample's answers on the fields of the scale based on study variables

variable	Level	Statistics	Areas of study tool				
			The First	The Second	The Third	The Fourth	The Scale
			Domain	Domain	Domain	Domain	as a Whole
Sex	Male	SMA	3.344	3.411	3.455	3.566	3.402
		SD	.633	.644	.765	.722	.544
	Feminine	SMA	3.233	3.344	3.566	3.466	3.422
		SD	.624	.711	.788	.766	.622
Specialisation	Scientific colleges	SMA	3.244	3.322	3.566	3.644	3.532
		SD	.641	.683	.789	.723	.583
	Humanities colleges	SMA	3.121	3.242	3.583	3.311	3.188
		SD	.611	.635	.810	.772	.562
Educational level	Diploma	SMA	3.276	3.198	3.462	3.562	3.254
		SD	.634	.734	.789	.754	.576
	Bachelor's	SMA	3.478	3.134	4.167	4.121	3.643
		SD	.322	.421	.489	.543	.365
Marital status	Bachelor	SMA	3.244	3.311	3.425	3.632	3.289
		SD	.624	.690	.798	.782	.547
	Married	SMA	3.423	3.398	3.854	3.765	3.643
		SD	.534	.654	.745	.676	.524
	Separate	SMA	3.125	3.121	3.690	3.789	3.321
		SD	.0889	.373	.412	.434	.232
The existence of a disability in the family variable	Existing	SMA	3.347	3.342	3.534	3.789	3.434
		SD	.668	.754	.756	.645	.579
	unavailable	SMA	3.234	3.321	3.653	3.652	3.298
		SD	.632	.692	.785	.754	.582

Table 3 presents the mean and standard deviation for each variable in each domain of the scale. There seems to be a slight difference in the mean responses between males and females in a large group of scale domains, with females showing slightly lower mean scores than males. However, the differences appear not to be very significant. There is a significant difference in the mean responses between students of scientific and humanities colleges in most domains of the scale. For example, students of scientific colleges generally give higher ratings compared to students of humanities colleges.

Also, there are significant differences between bachelor's, master's, and doctoral students in their mean responses in scale domains. For instance, doctoral students generally give higher ratings than students in lower academic stages. The marital status of individuals seems to influence their ratings in some domains of the scale. For example, married individuals give higher ratings than single individuals in certain domains. There are some slight differences in the ratings of individuals who have a family member with a disability compared to those who do not,

but these differences do not seem significant enough to determine the impact of social status on their ratings. These results provide a general idea of how different study variables affect individuals' ratings in various domains of the scale. This information can be used to better understand individual needs and guide support and services to meet those needs more effectively. Table 4 presents the multiple analysis of variance for the scale's regions based on the study variables (the sum of squares, their means, degrees of freedom, and the value of F).

Table 4

The multiple analysis of variance for scale's regions based on the study variables

Source of variance	Domain	Sum of Squares	DF	Mean Square	F Value	p
Sex	Restrictions about the type of physical disability (auditory or visual)	.162	1	.162	.398	.544
	Economic impediments	.774	1	.774	1.644	.212
	Psychological impediments	3.234	1	3.234	5.233	.022*
	Social impediments	0.633	1	0.633	1.398	0.185
	The scale as a whole	.071	1	.071	.024	.860
Specialisation	Restrictions about the type of physical disability (auditory or visual)	7.655	1	7.655	23.565	.000*
	Economic impediments	8.757	1	8.757	17.866	.000*
	Psychological impediments	10.532	1	10.532	16.142	.000*
	Social impediments	17.766	1	17.766	28.688	.000*
	The scale as a whole	9.712	1	9.712	29.133	.000*
Educational level	Restrictions pertaining to the type of physical disability (auditory or visual)	.031	2	.015	.0399	.899
	Social impediments	.211	2	.096	.224	.798
	Economic impediments	.621	2	.311	.545	.599
	Psychological impediments	1.785	2	.885	1.611	.234
	The scale as a whole	.054	2	.032	.086	.896
Marital status	Restrictions about the type of physical disability (auditory or visual)	4.677	2	2.339	6.533	.002*
	Economic impediments	4.177	2	2.086	4.467	.014*
	Psychological impediments	9.142	2	4.568	7.355	.002*
	Social impediments	2.954	2	1.466	2.637	.074
	The scale as a whole	4.589	2	2.298	7.367	.004*
The existence of a disability in the family	Restrictions about the type of physical disability (auditory or visual)	1.711	1	1.711	4.568	.028*
	Economic impediments	.145	1	.145	.332	.558
	Psychological impediments	.021	1	.021	.023	.946
	Social impediments	.946	1	.946	1.688	.194
	The scale as a whole	.579	1	.579	1.833	.168
The error	Restrictions pertaining to the type of physical disability (auditory or visual)	214.122	588	.362		
	Psychological impediments	266.566	588	.462		
	Economic impediments	356.766	589	.615		
	Social impediments	318.411	611	.541		
The scale as a whole		178.515	611	.313		

*p level ($0.05 \geq \alpha$).

The MANOVA table presents the results related to the differences between study variables in the domains of the study scale. It reveals no statistically significant differences between genders in this domain, as the F-value and significance level do not indicate reliable differences. Regarding psychological impairments, similar to the previous

domain, there are no significant differences between males and females. For social impairments, statistically significant differences appear, as the F-value is greater than 1 and the significance level is less than 0.05, indicating reliable differences. Concerning economic impairments, there are no statistically significant differences between genders in this domain. Regarding specialisation, all domains show statistically significant differences between specialisations, as the F-values are greater than 1 and the significance level is less than 0.05, indicating reliable differences. Concerning educational level, there are no statistically significant differences between educational levels in all domains, as the F-values are less than 1 and the significance level is higher than 0.05. Statistically significant differences appear between social statuses in all domains except for economic impairments, as the F-values are greater than 1 and the significance level is less than 0.05.

For the presence of a disability in the family, statistically significant differences appear in auditory or visual impairments and in the overall scale, as the f-values are greater than 1 and the significance level is less than 0.05. There is a statistically significant error in all domains, indicating internal variability in the data. Overall, the results indicate statistically significant differences between gender, specialisation, social status, and the presence of disability in the family, while the educational level does not seem to play a significant role.

The means of participants' responses on the domains of the study scale regarding hurdles to the marriage of people with physical disabilities (impediments associated with the nature of physical disabilities (auditory or visual), psychological impediments, and economic impediments), and the overall scale, based on the gender variable, do not display any statistically significant differences at ($0.05 \geq$), as can be seen from the preceding tables. In the area of social barriers, however, distinctions were apparent, and these distinctions were in favour of females.

The study scale included domains related to impediments to the marriage of persons with physical disabilities (impediments linked to the nature of physical disabilities (auditory or visual), psychological impediments, social impediments, and economic impediments), and the overall scale, based on the major variable. An analysis of the sample members' responses revealed statistically significant differences at a significance level ($0.05 \geq$). Scientific colleges benefited from the differences, but no statistically significant differences were found at a significance level ($0.05 \geq$) in the means of sample members' responses on the overall scale based on the academic level variable and the domains of the study scale regarding impediments to the marriage of persons with physical disabilities (social, psychological, and economic impediments).

No statistically significant differences at ($0.05 \geq$) were observed in the means of sample members' responses on the domain of economic impediments based on the marital status variable. However, variances emerged in the domains of impediments relevant to the nature of physical disabilities (auditory or visual), psychological impediments, social impediments, and the overall scale based on marital status, and these variances were in favour of the married persons.

The means of sample members' responses on the study scale's domains regarding barriers to the marriage of individuals with physical incapacities (social, psychological, and economic impediments) and the overall scale based on the variable of the existence of disability in the family did not show any statistically significant differences at a significance level ($0.05 \geq$). However, distinctions between the types of physical disabilities—visual or auditory—arose, and persons with a family history of impairment supported these distinctions.

Discussion

The results signposted that the degree of impediments to the marriage of individuals with physical disabilities, from the perspective of persons with physical disabilities, came at a moderate level. Impediments associated with the nature of physical disability (auditory or visual) had the greatest impact, followed by social impediments, and then economic and psychological impediments. The lowest impact was observed for impediments related to impediments and psychological impediments. Scholars attribute this to the general idea among participants that impediments associated with the nature of physical disability are critical in front of individuals who want to marry. The problem becomes more pronounced when the person has a physical disability, as they often face challenges in securing employment and adequate income, especially given the limited provision from foundations and the government for the marriage issues of people with disabilities. These results do not align with Buchy et al. (2017) study, which showed positive and high attitudes towards the marriage of individuals with disabilities, or with the study by McCnokey and Leavey (2013), which found significant societal approval for the marriage of physically-disabled individuals. Additionally, they differ from the findings of Jalal and Gabel (2014), which identified economic difficulties and unemployment as major challenges faced by the wives of individuals with disabilities.

In reference to the findings of the second question, sample members' answers on the study scale's domains concerning barriers to the marriage of people with physical impairments did not show any statistically significant variations (impediments interrelated to the nature of physical disabilities (auditory or visual), psychological impediments, economic impediments), or the overall scale based on the gender variable. Both males and females shared similar views on these impediments. However, differences emerged in the domain of social impediments, in favour of females. This is attributed to female participants' being more aware of the problems faced by disabled females, such as rejection or the lack of acceptance for marriage despite their ability to reproduce and fulfill familial responsibilities. This result is in line with the study by Buchy et al., (2017), which found statistically significant gender-related differences in favour of females, and with the study by Jeffreys (2008), which noted a higher marriage rate for disabled males compared to females. However, it differs from other studies, including those by Williams (2013) and Do (2011), which reported no gender-related differences in attitudes towards the marriage of persons with disabilities.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Due to the stigma attached to disabilities, many people with physical disabilities—visual or auditory—withdraw partially or entirely from social interactions, including marriage. As a result, this study examined the impediments and challenges that people with physical impairments encounter when getting married from the viewpoint of a well-educated group of young people getting ready for marriage. Among these barriers, the most significant ones were economic ones, which were followed by social issues, psychological difficulties, and barriers pertaining to the nature of disability. These results held true for participants' gender, majors, academic standing, socioeconomic position, and family history of physical impairments. The study suggests that, in light of the findings, governmental and private sector organisations should step up to support people with physical impairments in exercising their inalienable right to marriage by offering them moral and financial assistance. The report also highlights the need to correct those who violate or prevent these people from enjoying their legal rights. It also suggests using a variety of media platforms to educate the public about the nature of physical disabilities and the inherent right of those who experience them to marry, start families, and live independently.

The marriage of individuals with visual or auditory impairment is a fundamental issue that affects their quality of life and their ability to participate effectively in society, with marriage being particularly significant in this context. People with visual or auditory impairments face difficulties in social integration due to various factors, including ignorance, bias, and the inability to understand the specific needs of these individuals. When it comes to marriage, individuals with visual or auditory impairments face a unique set of challenges. These range from financial difficulties that may hinder their financial independence necessary for starting a family to social and psychological constraints that impede their ability to form serious and stable relationships.

Economically, individuals with visual or auditory impairments may struggle to find suitable employment opportunities that provide them with the financial independence necessary for marriage and family formation. This situation can increase their level of psychological pressure and tension, making it difficult for them to consider marriage. Socially, individuals with visual or auditory impairments may face challenges in establishing healthy and sustainable social relationships. They may lack suitable opportunities to meet suitable partners or encounter bias and discrimination in public relations. Psychologically, the social stigma and personal challenges may affect their self-confidence and ability to succeed in emotional relationships and marriage. They may feel isolated and marginalised due to society's lack of understanding of their needs and challenges.

To make progress in this regard, raising awareness of the rights of individuals with visual or auditory impairment and ensuring equal opportunities for them in various aspects of life, including marriage and family formation, is essential. It is also important to encourage society to accept and support these relationships and achieve social solidarity by providing the necessary support for these individuals and helping them overcome the various impediments they face.

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