

# INFLUENCE OF MARITAL STATUS ON EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE

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**ABSTRACT:** *The aim of the study was to investigate the influence of marital status on emotional intelligence among university teachers of KPK. The hypothesis mainly focused to find out that marital status is a predictor of emotional intelligence among university teachers of KPK. 374 university teachers as Participants were approached conveniently from five Universities of KPK. Self Report Measure of Emotional intelligence scale was used [1]. Findings indicated that there was no significance influence of marital status on emotional intelligence.*

**Key Words:** *Emotional intelligence, University teachers*

## INTRODUCTION

Emotional intelligence predicts success in all walks of life and hence it has gained paramount importance in all the fields [2]. EI involves the ability to perceive accurately, appraise, and express emotions; the ability to access and/ or generate feelings when they facilitate thought; the ability to understand emotion and emotional knowledge and the ability to regulate emotions to promote emotional and intellectual growth [3].

Emotional intelligence is a capacity, ability, skill, or self perceived ability to assess, identify, and manage the emotions of one's self, of others, and of groups. People who have a high degree of emotional intelligence know themselves very well and are also able to sense the emotions of others [4]. Thorndike was the first who recognized the aspects of emotional intelligence called social intelligence, and included it in the extensive range of capacities that individuals possess [5].

Gardner's theory of multiple intelligence has its importance in the beginning of EI; his model has two types of personal intelligence, interpersonal and intrapersonal intelligence. Interpersonal intelligence consists of the ability to understand other people. Intrapersonal intelligence ability is a correlative, ability, turned inward. Emotional intelligence as a proficiency to increase positive way of thinking toward work and compel positive behaviors and better outcomes [6, 7]. Emotional intelligence refers to the personal-management and social skills that allow us to succeed in our interactions with other people. Integrity, intuition, character, motivation and communication and relationship skills are all part of emotional intelligence.

Emotional intelligence draws on two simple concepts: applying knowledge appropriately, and applying feelings appropriately. Being intellectually and emotionally smart or tuned-in to a particular situation or interaction and adjusting our behavior according to what we know and perceive--applying emotional intelligence is considered an important factor in personal and professional success [8]. Emotionally intelligent individuals behave in a very wise way and cope with any stressful situation in adaptive way.

Many renown researchers studied emotional intelligence relationship with others different variables [9-14] and found significant and nonsignificant results. Many Other researchers worked on investigation of emotional intelligence and marital status like [15], emotional intelligence & organizational performance for investigating the difference

among marital status of employee that has an effect on the level of emotional intelligence. The result found non-significant relationship between marital status and emotional intelligence. Means if employees are married or unmarried mean score are same. Scholar studied relationship between emotional intelligence and job stress on nurses [16]. He founded non-significant difference on emotional intelligence according to age, gender and marital status. Scholar conducted study for investigating the teacher's level of emotional intelligence on some of the demographic variables [17]. The finding of the study indicated no meaningful difference, according to gender, age, marital status and status of teachers in the school. An insignificant effect of marital status on the emotional intelligence of the Participants [18]. In contrast scholar conducted study on the investigation of relationship between emotional intelligence and job satisfactions with an occupational burnout level of academicians [19]. Study findings revealed significant differences between marital status and emotional appraisals. An insignificant difference between married and single individuals on Empathic Sensitivity (emotional intelligence [20]. Result of one previous study found an insignificant relationship between emotional intelligence, age, marital status and the working experience in medical services [21]. Emotional intelligence of married individuals has been reported higher than single individuals [22]. Marital status is a best predictor of emotional intelligence [23]. Significant differences in the mean scores of emotional intelligence based on marital status [24].

## METHODOLOGY

The sample for present study comprised of 222 male teachers and 152 female teachers. In this study Self Report Measure of Emotional intelligence scale was used [1]. This scale consisted of 60 items rated on 5-point Likert-type scale (5= Always, 4= Often, 3= Moderate, 2= Rarely and 1= Never) and based on positively phrased and negatively phrased items. The score range for SREMI was from the minimum of 60 to a maximum of 300. High scores on SRMEI reflected better emotional stability. The Cronbach's alpha reliability of SRMEI scale was .91. Before administering the scales, informed consent was obtained from all the participants. Then they were requested to complete demographic information questionnaire. It was followed by SRMEI scale. After collecting data, SPSS 16 version was used for data analysis, independent t-test was applied for testing hypothesis

## RESULTS

Table: 1 marital status effect on emotional intelligence among university teachers

	Married		unmarried		t	p
	(n=225)		(n=149)			
	M	SD	M	SD		
SRMEI	232.00	20.153	228.36	20.783	1.686	.093

Note: SRMEI= Self Report Measure Emotional Intelligence scale. df= 372; p>.05

Table1 shows an insignificant difference of marital status on Emotional Intelligence.

## DISCUSSION

The present study was conducted to find out the influence of marital status on the emotional Intelligence among university teachers of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The hypothesis stating that marital status is a predictor of emotional intelligence mean married individuals have a high level of emotional intelligence than unmarried individuals.

The findings do not support the hypothesis ( $t=1.686$ ,  $df=372$ ,  $p>.05$ )(Table 1) suggesting that there is no significant difference in level of emotional intelligence of married and unmarried individuals. This result is in accordance with the previous findings of scholars which indicated non-significant relationship between marital status and emotional intelligence [15]. Means if employees are married or unmarried mean score are same. Support also come from the one of study of and founded non-significant difference on emotional intelligence, according to age, gender and marital status [16]. No meaningful difference according to gender, age, marital status and status of teachers in the school [17]. Present study findings are inline with previous work which shows insignificant effect of marital status on emotional intelligence of the Participants [18].

## CONCLUSION

This study also confirmed that there were no significant differences in level of emotional intelligence of married and unmarried university teachers. This study reveals that emotional intelligence can be improve among both group through training workshop.

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