**THE REFLECTION OF THE PERCEPTIONS OF MARRIED WOMEN AND MEN ABOUT THE GENDER ROLES ON MARRIAGE ADAPTATION: THE EXAMPLE OF ALBANIA VILLAGE**

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**ABSTRACT**

**Objective:** The aim of this study was to determine how the roles of Albanian people living in rural areas regarding gender perceptions reflect on the adjustment of their marriages.

**Method:** The universe of this descriptive study has created a total of 380 Albanian individuals over the age of 18 living in 10 different villages in a district of the Black Sea Region. Sample selection was not made in the study, and 285 married individuals of Albanian origin who voluntarily accepted to participate in the study at the time of the study were included in the study. The questionnaire form prepared by the researcher, "Gender Perception Scale" and "Marriage Adjustment Scale" were used as data collection tools in the study. Standard deviation, mean, frequency distribution and ANOVA, Indipendent Simple t-test tests were used to evaluate the data.

**Results:** The average age in the study was found to be 52.94 ± 9.37. The average score of the Gender Perception Scale is 75.72 ± 9.56. A significant relationship was found between the gender perception scale and the presence of male and female discrimination at home (p <0.05). The average score of the Marriage Adjustment Scale was found to be 47.24, and the separate averages of the male and female groups are equal. No relationship was found between family type and spouses supporting each other in housework and the Marriage Adjustment Scale (p> 0.05). 82.5% of the individuals participating in the research stated that they spoke the Albanian language at home. 93.7% of the individuals participating in the research stated that they cook Albanian culture meals at home. 73.1% of the women participating in the study stated that their spouses help with housework, and 49.1% of the men at home, 47.4% of both women and men, and only 3.5% of women mentioned. There is a positive correlation between the Gender Perception Scale and the Marriage Adjustment Scale in the study (Correlation = 0.149; p <0.05).

**Conclusion:** High average scores of Gender Perception Scale and Marriage Adjustment Scale indicate that gender perception and marital adjustment are positive. This situation will help to move away from conceptualizing the social status of women as gender. Since the culture of the society in which individuals live includes attitudes, attitudes and values deemed appropriate for men and women, therefore, gender roles are affected by culture. This study shows that the roles of individuals of Albanian origin living in a different culture regarding gender perceptions positively reflect on the harmony of their marriage.

**Keywords:** Culture; Gender; Marriage Harmony; Countryside