

## Practice Paper II

Starting with this unmarked paper, read and consider the type of feedback that you would give this writer. As a tutor, what do you think that you and the tutee should work on? Where would you start?

Polygamy is being practiced almost all around the world and Canada has illegalized it after considering the lives of the other people. According to Bramham, the author of The Secret Lives of Saints, he states that polygamy is a marital practice in which a man has two or more spouses at the same time. Bramham says that a man in a polygamous family has many wives and often also has dozens of children in the name of God. Bramham states that "polygamy has been illegal in Canada and the United States since the 1890s; it still was and is, unfortunately, being practiced today." Many people practicing polygamy illustrate that a majority of the world's cultures and religions have condoned some form of polygamy. As Canada is one of it which claims that polygamy is not a religious thing and made it illegal in Canada. And I am agree with the Canada's policy that polygamy should be illegal because polygamy ultimately led to the economic downfall of many women.

The unequal and unfair distribution of wealth among the wives can also be a result of community practice. It is mentioned by Campbell and others, in the book, Polygamy in Canada that, "women in Bountiful, British Columbia are generally provided with limited economic resources by their husband because of the weak relationship between the community members and the group leaders." Most of the property in Bountiful is owned by the United Effort Plan, which is a trust formed by a group of people from both Bountiful and the United States. Therefore, the

women and children of Bountiful are employed by the group leaders and are usually paid minimum wages. Alean Al states in his journal, "Psychosocial and Familial Functioning of Children From Polygynous and Monogamous Families," that "economic stress makes it more difficult for parents to provide their children with emotional support, meet their other various needs, and function as nurturing authoritative figures." Most of the women and their offspring in Bountiful are economically disadvantaged. For example, in Bountiful, mothers and children of a polygamous family do not get much financial support from their husband or father, so they tend to live in a single bedroom. . Alean Al also says in his article, "Success and Failure Among Polygamous Families: The Experience of Wives, Husbands, and Children," " studies conducted in different countries have shown that polygamy can lead to co-wife jealousy, competition, and unequal distribution of household and emotional resources and can generate acrimony between co-wives and children of the different wives." It is obvious that polygamy is an economic restraint on most polygamous wives and their children.

Polygamy in North America often leads to a disproportionate distribution of wealth, not only between a husband and his family, but specifically between the various wives. Within polygamous families, economically speaking, the differences between senior and junior wives arise from the fact that senior wives are the first female participants in a polygamist's marriage. According to

Alean Al's journal, "Success and Failure Among Polygamous Families: The Experience of Wives, Husbands, and Children," the first marriage, "is usually performed while the couple is young, in a match arranged by the parents," whereas the second marriage is commonly associated with love between the couple. This leads to a situation where the subsequent wives, presumably favored by 'love', are usually provided with more economic resources and also with more social support compared to senior wives. According to the authors of Polygamy in Canada, it is believed "however senior wives experienced significantly greater economic problems than junior wives." Senior wives are usually less educated and also have more children than junior wives. In Polygamy in Canada, it says that forty percent of the junior wives have worked outside the home, whereas the other sixty percent, mainly senior wives, spend their lives doing household work and looking after their children.

However, an opponent might validity note that not all polygamy families are in financial constraints. Bramham mentions in his book that even though polygamy is rare in North America, since the 1890's it has been commonly practiced in Bountiful, British Columbia and other places in the interior of the province, as well as in Hildale, Utah, and Colorado City, Colorado and throughout Arizona in the United States of America. As it is not that financially constraint that's why some places polygamy is still being carried out. Polygamy in Canada also claims

that, “polygamy might actually be advantageous for women given that polygamous husbands in certain societies are obliged to be financially able to sustain multiple families.” By having more children in polygamous families, this means fewer laborers are necessary to maintain the wealth, and they work for other families or businesses thereby bringing income into the household, and also keep the higher standard of living within the community. According to the polygamist’s wives, they are true wives and they are satisfied with whatever has been provided by their husbands. Co-wives work together as a whole family unit in economic transactions to lower the living costs and provide the family as a whole with more income and benefits. Wives in polygamous marriages are always available to provide economic and child care support to their co- wives. Even though the wives are treated so unequally and unethically, they tend to be happy with their lives.

At one hand some women might benefit from polygamous family life, while others are facing with economic problems to survive in the polygamous families. For some wives, their husband’s orders are seen as God’s words, but in reality, these wives have been brainwashed and overpowered. The practice of polygamy can lead to co-wife jealousy, unhealthy competition, and unequal distribution of household resources, but in the end polygamous wives are often satisfied with their way of living because they have no way to compare themselves with other women's lives since they generally have little access to information about the

outside world. This type of control has bound many women in a situation where they must simply follow orders and do as they are told by their husband. These women are led into a life where women's rights, the freedom of choice and free speech are taken away from them and what is provided instead is the increased potential for economic security.