### STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF THE CONNECTION BETWEEN MARRIAGE AGE, WELFARE FACTORS, AND RESIDENCE

#### INTRODUCTION

Child marriage (child marriage refers to any formal marriage or informal union between a child under the age of 18 and an adult or another child) is a concerning worldwide issue and stopping it is included in the Sustainable Development Goals (Gender Equality). It is notable that child marriage is more common among girls. “Child marriage is an appalling violation of human rights and sets girls on a path of educational, health, and long-term prospects,” says Babatunde Osotimehin, MD, executive director, UNFPA. “A girl who is married as a child is one whose potential will not be fulfilled, since many parents and communities also want the very best for their daughters. We must work together and end child marriage.” Child marriage can be due to various factors, in this project we decided to discuss health insurance (which is a welfare factor), residence and their connection with marriage age in different areas (South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa) and then we compared the situation between those areas.

#### COMPARING BETWEEN SOUTH ASIA AND SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

### DATA COLLECTION / STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

We collected data from DHS database and used Excel 2019 and SPSS 12 to put it in order. This project is concerning 2015-2018 data, and the countries included in this project are Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Pakistan, Philippines in South Asia and Benin, Burundi, Cameroon, Guinea, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, Zambia in Sub-Saharan Africa.

#### AGE DISTRIBUTION

**CONCLUSION 1:** From this data, it can be seen that the median age of marriage in urban areas is statistically significantly higher than in rural areas.

**CONCLUSION 2:** From this data, it can be concluded that age of marriage in the urban was statistically significantly higher than the rural (p-values: 0.000-0.05).

**CONCLUSION 3:** From this data, it can be said that the percentage frequency of women who were married at a lower age and living in rural areas is higher than those who live in urban areas. It means that child marriage is more prevalent in rural areas than in urban areas. The Mann-Whitney U test is used to compare the differences between these two groups in Asia and Africa.

### GENERAL CONCLUSION

This study leads us to a general conclusion that represents the connection of marriage age with both the residence and health insurance (which is included in welfare factors), it appears that early marriage is more common among the people who don’t have full access to several facilities and they may live in a less improved condition. There’s also a possibility that early marriage is more occurred in areas which have stayed under their old traditions and lack of awareness has affected their people.