

第四十期

Would You Like to Have Two Husbands or Wives?

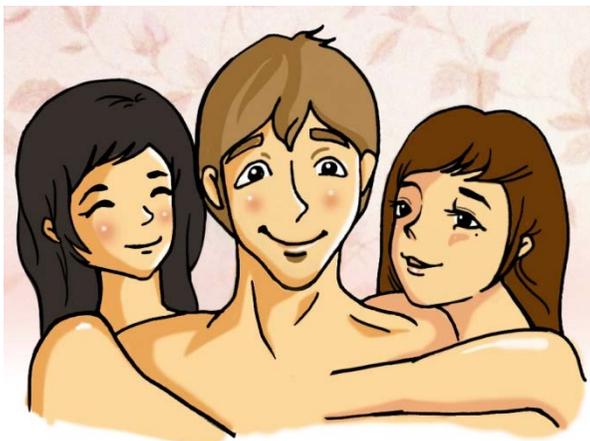
你想要享受齊人之福嗎？

Throughout history, the **concept** of marriage has always meant a lifelong **bond** between two people, right? Well, not exactly. In many traditional societies, people may have more than one husband or wife. This kind of marriage is called **polygamy**.

在歷史上，婚姻的概念一直都指兩個人一輩子在一起，是吧？但並非絕對。在許多傳統的社會中，可能可以擁有超過一個的丈夫或妻子。這種婚姻制度稱為一妻多夫制/一夫多妻制。



There are two kinds of polygamy. The first, and more common of the two, is called polygyny. This **involves** one man with multiple wives. In this past, polygyny was the **norm** in many cultures, including Polynesia and ancient Greece. Today, it is still legal in many African countries and a few parts of Asia. The **arguments for polygyny** are mainly economic: since women do most of the farming in those countries, men with multiple wives can farm more land and achieve greater wealth. For women, however, polygyny is usually **a raw deal**. It can result in jealousy, conflicts, and the spread of diseases such as AIDS.



這種婚姻制度有兩種。第一種，也是最常見的一種就是一夫多妻制。也就是一個男人擁有多位妻子。以前許多文化社會中包括玻里尼西亞及古希臘時代，一夫多妻制是一種常態。現今，一夫多妻制在許多非洲國家及少數亞洲地區仍是合法的。一夫多妻制的論點主要是經濟考量：因為這些國家大多的農事皆由女性操辦，因此能迎娶多妻的男子更能開墾更多的土地，而更能累積財富。對女性來說，一夫多妻制通常都是不公平待遇。而結果就會造成忌妒、衝突以及像 AIDS 等疾病傳播。

The second kind of polygamy, called polyandry, occurs

when a woman has more than one husband. One common case is that a woman marries two or more brothers **at once**. Studies show that this most often happens in places with **scarce** land or resources, such the high mountain regions of China, Nepal, and India. If all the brothers in a family marry the same woman, then their family's land, which is already small, will not be further **divided**.

第二種就是多重伴侶制就是一妻多夫制，也就是一個妻子用有兩個或更多丈夫。其一個常見的例子就是一位女子一次嫁了兩個或更多丈夫。研究顯示，這種制度最常見於貧瘠或資源不足的地區，像中國高山地區，尼泊爾及印度。假如家中所有的兄弟都與同一名女子結婚，那他們家族原本面積就很小的土地，就不會再被分出去了。

Vocabulary 好字精選

1. concept (n) an idea that explains something 概念、觀念

The concept of gravity was first explained by Newton.

地心引力的概念首度被牛頓提出並加以說明。

2. bond (n) a connection 連結

The two colleagues developed a strong bond while working together on the project.

這兩位同事一起為計劃案工作時發展了很深的情誼。

3. involve (v) have or include 涉入、捲入、使專注

The accident involved more than six vehicles.

這場意外包括了六輛汽車。

4. norm (n) what is considered normal is called "the norm" 常態、常規

This band's music was quite different than the norm in the 1960s.

這個樂團的音樂與 60 年代常規的音樂迥異。

5. scarce (adj) lacking or hard to find 缺乏的、不足的；珍貴的、稀少的

Because food and water were becoming scarce in the region, the tribe decided to move their village elsewhere.

因為這一個地區的食物和水愈來愈稀少，這個部落決定將村落搬遷到其他地方去。

6. divide (v) **split or separate**/mathematics word, like 8 divided by four = 2 分開、分隔、劃分；除

The cake was divided into 20 pieces so that everybody would get a piece.

這份蛋糕被分成二十塊，因此每人各得一塊。

Phrases and Sentence Patterns 句型解析

1. argument for/against sth. (phr) an argument that supports or rejects sth. 支持論點、反對論點

There are many arguments against smoking, but the main one is that it can destroy one's health.

有許多的論點都反對抽菸，但主要的是說抽煙有害健康。

2. a raw deal (idiom) an instance of bad or unfair treatment (口)不公平待遇

The new longer working hours were a raw deal for all the employees.

這較長的新工作時間對所有的員工來說都不公平。

3. at once (phr) immediately/**at the same time** 立即、馬上；同時間

It's amazing that James can eat a hamburger, chat with his friend online, and do his homework all at once.

真是太不可思議了，James 可以一邊吃漢堡、在線上和朋友聊天還可以寫作業。



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