

MORMON Polygamy!



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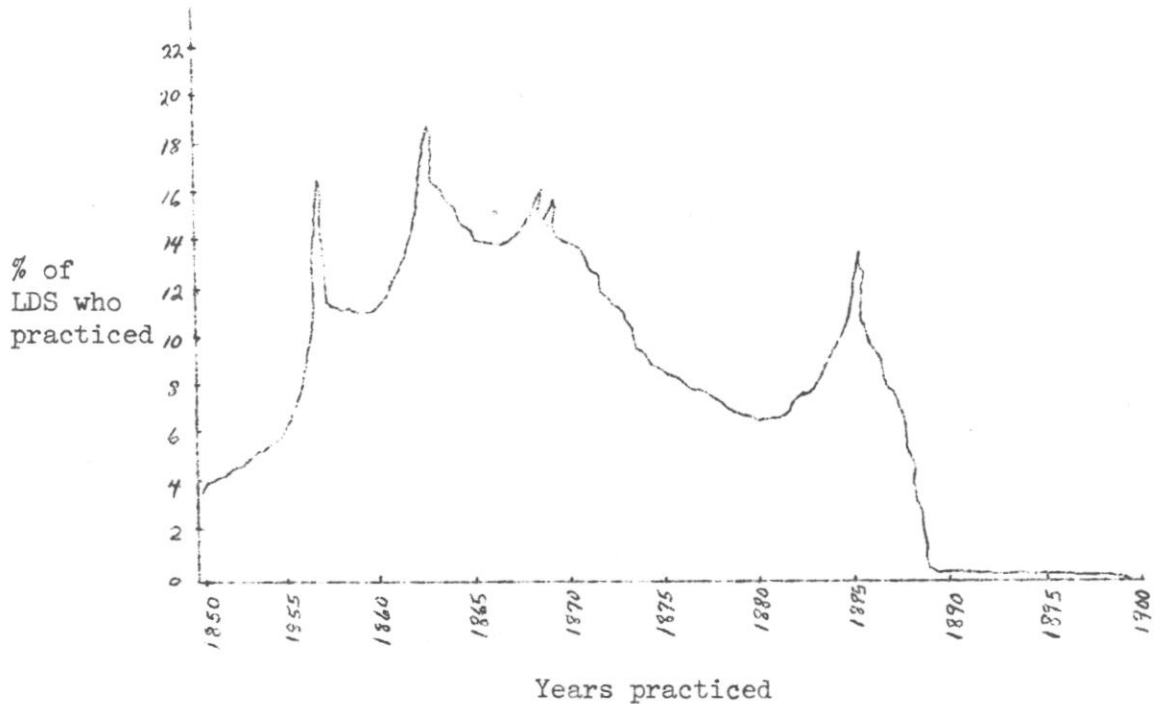
There are no accurate statistics on plural marriages, but the following are fair estimates. (No public records were kept and most private records will never be revealed or compiled.)

A. The high times of plural marriages were:

1. 1856-57 at the reformation period
2. 1862-63 at the passage of the anti-bigamy law
3. 1868-69 at the gentile merchant boycott
4. 1884-85 following the passage of the 1882 Edmunds law.

5.

A SAMPLE CHART FOR PLURAL MARRIAGES



B. How Plural Marriages Were Practiced:

1. 66± % - 1 extra wife
2. 21± % - 2 extra wives
3. 7± % - 3 extra wives
4. 6± % - 4 or more extra wives

C. Approximate % of Marriageable Age Who Practiced Plural Marriage.

1. 15 - 20 % of marriageable age practiced
2. Men -
 - a. Most married last wife before age 25 - about 55-60%
 - b. Some married last wife before age 40 - about 25%
 - c. A few married last wife after age 50 - about 15-20%
 - d. Average marriage age 23 years old

Women -

- a. Some married in their teens . - about 25-30 %
- b. Most married before their 25th year - about 63-67 %
- c. Just about all married before their 40th yr. about 97-99 %
- d. Only 1 out of 100 married after their 40th yr.
- e. Average marriage age was 20 years.

D. Polygamist Family Stats

1. Polygamists wives averaged about 5 children
2. Monogamist wives averaged about 8 children
3. Polygamist families averaged about 15 children

E. Top Ranking Polygamist by numbers of Wives in Order.

In Order Leaders by "Living Wives"

Leaders by "Sealings"

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Joseph Smith Jr., - 60+ | 1. Joseph Smith Jr., - 409+ |
| 2. Heber C. Kimball - 45+ | 2. Brigham Young - 300+ |
| 3. Brigham Young - 27+ | 3. Heber C. Kimball - 300+ |
| 4. John D. Lee - 19+ | 4. Orson Pratt - 200+ |
| 5. John Taylor - 15+ | 5. John Taylor - 200+ |
| 6. Jens Hansen - 14+ | |
| 7. Orson Pratt - 10+ | |

F. False plural marriage Theories

1. The Mormon's practiced plural marriage out of lust.
2. There were large numbers of excess women in the Church. Statistics, both church and census records show otherwise.
3. Plural marriage produced inferior children. Actually most studies show the opposite. (J.E. Hickman, "The Offspring of the Mormon People," Journal of Heredity, Vol. 15, 1924.
4. Mormon women were brain washed into plural marriage by spiritual fears and penalties.
5. That every male polygamist had a favorite wife and was deliberately inconsiderate of the other wives.
6. That only 3-4% of the Mormons practised plural marriage. Actually this would be a fairly accurate figure for total Utah populations. However, 15-20% of marriageable age practised, and 7-9% of total L.D.S. practised.
7. Theories the Church used to justify plural marriage.
 - a. It cut down sexual perversions and immoralities.
 - b. More women than men to marry-surplus theory.
 - c. To raise up rapidly a few righteous generations of L.D.S.
 - d. Because there were no laws against it.
 - e. The Bible sanctioned it.
 - f. It was part of the restoration of all things.
 - g. It was the only means of exaltation of many women.

Note: The only reason we really practised it was because God revealed and commanded it. (D&C 132)

APPENDIX I

The Date of the Revelations on Plural Marriage - 1829 - 1835?

Dates 1827 - 1829

1. Charles L. Walker, Journal of Charles L. Walker, July 16, 1872.
(Supposedly given by Brigham Young in the Fourteenth Ward Meeting House.), pp. 118, 444.
2. Jonathan Baker in Kimball Young, Isn't One Wife Enough, (New York: Henry Holt and Co., 1954), taken from Origin and Development of Polygamy, pp. 89-90. (In his Journal under Date July 16, 1872 - B.Y. Young stated in the 14th Ward Meeting House.)

Dates 1830 - 1835

1. Brigham Young, Journal History, Aug. 26, 1857: July 26, 1872. Church Hist. Office
2. William W. Phelps, "Letter to Brigham Young", Aug. 12, 1861. Church Hist. Office.
3. Orson Pratt, MS, Dec. 16, 1878, 40:788
-----, JD, 13:193
4. Andrew Jenson, Historical Record, S.L.C., Utah 1887, 6:221-233.
5. Benjamin F. Johnson, "Letter to Gibbs," p. 8-13.
-----, My Life's Review, p. 94, 390.
6. Joseph F. Smith, "Deseret Evening News," Feb. 18, 1882.
7. Levi Ward Hancock, "The Life of Levi Ward Hancock," pp. 6-9. Copy in B.Y.U. Library.
8. Mosiah Hancock, "Deseret News," Feb. 21, 1884, 17:4; also
-----, Autobiography of Mosiah L. Hancock, p. 1-2
9. No author - Far West Record, p. 117 (Located in Church Historians Office)
10. Joseph F. Smith, Juvenile Instructor, Dec. 1, 1885, 20:360; also, Sept. 15, 1881, 16:206; JD, 20:29; Journal History, Feb. 17, 1882, p. 3.
11. T.B.H. Stenhouse, The Rocky Mountain Saints, London: Ward, Lock, & Tyler, 1878.), p 193.
12. Elder's Journal, 1, No. 3 (July 1838) p. 43, 45
1, No. 2 (Nov. 1837) p. 28
13. George A. Smith, JD, 7:115
-----, Elders Journal, 1, No. 4 (Aug. 1838) pp. 57 & 59.