

are told that it is disgraceful even to be seen by males, so that gradually they seek to hide themselves whenever any of the male sex appear.

The customs, continued from childhood to old age, result in destroying the family life. A Corean of good taste only occasionally holds conversation with his wife, whom he regards as far beneath him. He rarely consults her on anything serious, and though living under the same roof, one may say that husband and wife are widely separated. The female apartments among the higher classes resemble, in most respects, zenanas of India.

Marriage is something with which a woman has little or nothing to do. After the marriage, women are inaccessible. They are nearly always confined to their apartments, nor can they even look out on the streets without permission of their lords. So strict is this rule that fathers have on occasions killed their daughters, husbands their wives, and wives have committed suicide when strangers have touched them even with their fingers.

It is not proper for a widow to remarry. In the higher classes a widow is expected to weep for her deceased husband, and to wear mourning