



THE PSYCHOLOGICAL SOCIAL AND HEALTH IMPACT OF DIVORCE ON CHILDREN AND ADULTS

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Abstract:

The aim of the current study is to know the social, psychological and health effects of divorce on children and adults, what are the problems resulting after divorce, especially children and adults, what are the effects of divorce on the psychology of children and adults. A questionnaire was created using the Google Drive program to design it, and then it was distributed to residents form 25-55 years. (knowing the effects of divorce between spouses on children and adults), where it was distributed via the social networking network (WhatsApp) in the amount of 600 questionnaires, and responses were obtained in 580 questionnaires, in(west region), and they were analyzed, using frequency tables, and creating histotrophic drawings, and the results presented before you were obtained.

Keywords: psychological, social, and health impact of divorce, children and adults

1-Introduction:

Divorce (also known as decay of wedding) is the operations of ending a marital link or marital unity ⁽¹⁾. Divorce usually entails the cancel or reorganization of the lawful duties and responsibilities of wedding and thus the dissolution of the marriage ties between spouses under the law of a particular country or state. Divorce laws vary greatly around the world⁽²⁾, but in most countries divorce request the intervention of a tribunal or other power in the juristic proceedings which may include issues of property distribution, child custody, alimony, visitation/or incoming to children, and time allotted for the father/mother to see the children. Providing child backing and dividing expenses ⁽³⁾⁽⁴⁾. In most countries there is a law that request persons to be monogamous, so a divorce under this law let each ex-partner to marry someone else. The reasons for divorce vary greatly from one country to another. Marriage may be viewed as a contract, a social legal status, or a combination thereof. When marriage is viewed as a contract, the refusal or inability of one spouse to perform the obligations stipulated in the contract may constitute grounds for the other party to file for divorce. On the other hand, in some countries (such as Sweden, Finland, Australia, and New Zealand) ⁽⁵⁾⁽⁶⁾⁽⁷⁾⁽⁸⁾ there is what is called (no-fault divorce), which means that it does not matter what the reasons are behind the individuals/couples' desire to separate, Spouses can separate of their own free will without the need

for one party to prove the other party's fault or negligence. Recent studies have indicated a variety of long-term economic, mental health, physical, and social impacts of divorce, although the full extent of these impacts remains a matter of considerable debate⁽⁹⁾⁽¹⁰⁾. There are reports that children are not always so poorly off, and that divorce can help children who live in homes with a lot of conflict and problems such as those suffering from domestic violence. While a variety of studies and articles have offered many ideas about how best to reduce the effects of divorce on children, the issue always depends on the divorce itself⁽¹¹⁾⁽¹²⁾⁽¹³⁾. Children of divorced parents (who almost always come from unhappy families) are said to have a greater chance of behavioral problems. Studies have also indicated that these children are more likely to suffer from maltreatment than children in healthy families, and they often suffer from extreme poverty⁽¹⁴⁾⁽¹⁵⁾⁽¹⁶⁾. Children of divorced parents may have lived in unhappy homes, but they may also have had many unhappy experiences. Many subjects said things like: "I saw some of the things my parents did, and I know I shouldn't do that to my marriage. I saw the way they treated each other, and I know I shouldn't do that to my wife and kids. I found that divorce made me more committed to my husband." And my children"⁽¹⁷⁾. Some studies have revealed that people who have been in divorced families have higher rates of alcohol and other drug addiction. Robert Coombs reviewed more than 130 studies measuring the impact of marital status on personal happiness⁽¹⁸⁾⁽¹⁹⁾⁽²⁰⁾⁽²¹⁾⁽²²⁾⁽²³⁾⁽²⁴⁾⁽²⁵⁾⁽²⁶⁾⁽²⁷⁾⁽²⁸⁾⁽²⁹⁾⁽³⁰⁾. Some studies have also claimed positive correlations between divorce and rates of: Infectious diseases, digestive diseases, parasitic diseases, respiratory diseases. Cancer - Married cancer patients are also more likely to recover than those who are divorced Stroke⁽³¹⁾⁽³²⁾⁽³³⁾⁽³⁴⁾⁽³⁵⁾⁽³⁶⁾⁽³⁷⁾. Behavioral Problems. Children of divorced or separated parents exhibit increased behavioral problems,⁽³²⁾ and the marital conflict that accompanies parents' divorce places the child's social competence at risk. Even in intact families that have low to medium levels of conflict, children still have "fewer behavior problems than those in the high-conflict, disrupted families."⁽³³⁾ Another study suggests that parental conflict affects the outcomes of children's behavior problems, regardless of parents' marital status, and sometimes "there is no statistical difference in the level of behavior problems observed for children whose parents separated or divorced and for children whose parents remained together."⁽³⁴⁾ During a divorce, conflict between parents is often accompanied by less affection, less responsiveness, and more inclination to punish their children, which leaves their children feeling emotionally insecure.⁽³⁵⁾ These children are more likely to perceive their social milieu as unpredictable and uncontrollable.⁽³⁶⁾ Children who engage in fighting and stealing at school are far more likely to come from broken homes than are well-behaved children.⁽³⁷⁾ Other studies have confirmed that children of divorced parents exhibit more behavioral problems than do children.

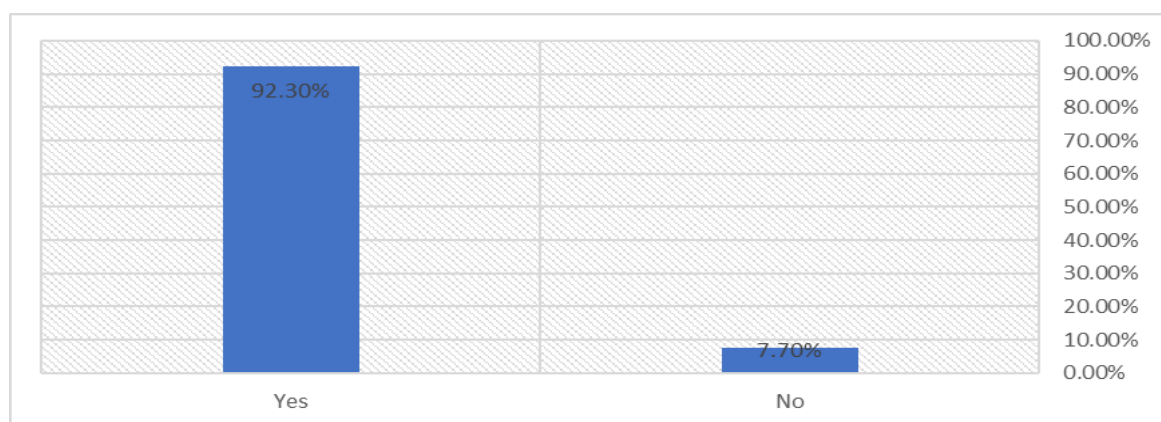
2-Material and Methods:

The study started in (the holy city of Mecca and Jeddah in Saudi Arabia), began writing the research and then recording the questionnaire in June 2023, and the study ended with data collection in October 2023. The researcher used the descriptive analytical approach that uses a quantitative or qualitative description of the social phenomenon (The psychological, social and health impact of divorce on children and adults). This kind of study is characterized by analysis, reason, objectivity, and reality, as it is concerned with individuals and societies, as it studies the variables and their effects on the health of the individual, society, and consumer, the spread of diseases and their relationship to demographic variables such as age, gender, nationality, and marital status. Status, occupation⁽³⁸⁾, And use the Excel 2010 Office suite histogram to arrange the results using: Frequency tables Percentages⁽³⁹⁾. A questionnaire is a remarkable and helpful tool for collecting a huge amount of data, however, researchers were not able to personally interview participants on the online survey, due to social distancing regulations at the time to prevent infection between participants and researchers and vice versa (not coronavirus participation completely disappearing from society). He only answered the questionnaire electronically, because the questionnaire consisted of ten questions, all of which were closed. The online approach has also been used to generate valid samples in similar studies in Saudi Arabia and elsewhere⁽⁴⁰⁾

3- Results and discussion:

The percentage of participants who agreed to answer the questionnaire questions was (100%), and their age percentage was as follows: 25-34 years old (36.8%), 35-44 years old, 45-55 years old (31.6%), and their gender was as follows: administrative 32.4%, technicians 67.6%. As for the educational status of the participants, it was as follows: holders of a primary certificate 0%, intermediate 0%, secondary school 3.8%, diploma 12%, university 50%, master’s 34.2%, doctorate 0%. When moving to the questionnaire questions and their responses, the answers to the questions were as follows: The first question: Are there side effects of divorce between spouses? Yes, 97.4% and no, 2.6%. This means that many of them are aware of the danger of divorce to the family in general. The second question: Are there side effects on children and adults resulting from divorce between spouses? Yes 94.7% and no 5.3%. The third question: Did the loss of the family’s breadwinner as a result of divorce lead to devastation and psychological devastation among children and adults? Yes 78.4% and no 21.6%. Participants’ responses indicate their awareness of the seriousness of divorce. The fourth question: Is one of the effects of divorce a loss of focus among children and adults on their academic achievement? Yes 89.5% and no 10.5%. The fifth question: Are the effects of divorce the frequent incidents of theft in public and commercial stores and banks? Yes, 63.2% and no, 36.8%. Question Six: Are the effects of divorce a loss of the family’s reputation among the surrounding community and society? Yes 64.9% and no 35.1%. The seventh question: Is one of the effects of divorce a loss of psychological control over children and adults? Yes 81.6% and no 18.4%. Question Eight: Does divorce affect children and adults socially, psychologically, and health-wise? Yes 92.1% and no 7.9%. The ninth question: Is divorce considered the ideal solution to get rid of marital pressures and problems? Yes 55.3% and No 44.7% (Figure No.1).

Figure No.1: Opinions and attitudes of participants in the questionnaire regarding the psychological, social, and health impact of divorce on children and adults



4-Conclusion:

Divorce has devastating effects on the family first and on society second, as it makes the psychological and health very detrimental and they are the only ones who fall prey to it, as this results in the loss and destruction of the family, young and old, and therefore, parents are required to have wisdom and patience, in order to spare their children the scourge of divorce and its effects. So that they do not fall victim to bad companions and other undesirable matters, they must create a healthy and sound environment, and not discuss their affairs in front of their children, except with kind and kind words.

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