



THE EFFECTS OF DIVORCE ON MODERN SOCIETY

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ANNOTATION: in this article the consequences of divorce and its negative impacts on society are analyzed. What kind of difficulties divorced family members may face during their lives are mentioned as well.

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Divorce can change the whole family dynamic and can be a source of contention for all involved. Family members and friends may have difficulty maintaining relationships with the divorced parties as they feel forced to take sides. It makes some relationships awkward. To compare, in the past divorce was seen as wrong, even though it was legal. Those who divorced were looked at negatively. While divorce is no longer a stigma in today's society, it comes with consequences.

Firstly, most people tend to overlook financial consequences. Sure, one party may get the house in a divorce, but they still have to make the mortgage payments, and that can be difficult with just one income. Instead of one house on two incomes, there are now two houses on two incomes. Money does not stretch as far as it used to. Divorce breeds poverty, particularly in women with children. Many fathers fail to pay child support, so it is not uncommon for mothers to work multiple jobs in order to survive. Moreover, divorce can be hard on children because they go without the essentials. Many of them blame themselves for their parent's divorce, which can create sadness and guilt. However, the effects of divorce go far beyond the child's feeling. Also, it can also have a negative effect on the child's education, resulting in slowed academic progress. Many children also perform poorly in school. Many suffer emotional and behavioral problems caused by the divorce. And it disrupts their lives as they are constantly shuffled from one home to another. Their parents are busy and unable to help them with their homework. That's why many children of



divorce drop out of school or do not attend college. In addition, research has shown that they tend to experience developmental issues, which impacts their emotional and behavioral well-being. Children from divorced families are more likely to experience behavioral problems, low self-esteem, anxiety, and depression.

Due to the depleted finances and significant changes to the family dynamics, children from single-parent households often exhibit riskier behaviors than those from households with both parents. For example, many of these children tend to experiment with alcohol, drugs, and sex. They are also very likely to be suspended from school, use weapons, and run away from home. Such behavioral issues can result in teenage pregnancies or criminal acts. Moreover, without a good marriage model during childhood, these children may experience their own relationship issues later in life.

Divorce also has social consequences for both adults and children. When a couple gets a divorce, their social circle will also suffer. The relationship with other couples they befriended during marriage changes and, as a result, their social circle will narrow. The former spouses might find themselves losing their married friends and be forced to find new single friends to whom they can better relate. Oftentimes, situations like this leads to feelings of isolation which, in turn, can result in depression. Also, members of the extended family might also find it difficult to maintain a relationship with the divorced couple as they might feel forced to take sides. Children suffer too as they're shuffled from one house to another. However, this doesn't mean that couples should stay in a bad marriage just for the sake of the children. Bear in mind that only a happy marriage is good for children. If the spouses are constantly fighting, it can be damaging to children too. By divorcing amicably, you can significantly reduce the stress your children are experiencing. If you and your spouse work to give your children love and put an effort to share some words of wisdom about the situation you're all in, they can grow up as healthy and happy as kids with married parents.

The negative impacts of divorce can extend to the workplace as well. According to a study, about one in ten employees will separate or divorce in any given year. Employed people going through a divorce can exhibit higher levels of presenteeism, absenteeism,



anxiety, stress, and other health issues. During a divorce, most people experience a substantial decrease in energy and productivity levels. This is mostly because they face a number of tasks, from dealing with solicitors to coming up with childcare arrangements, many of which need to be done during working hours. Moreover, divorce has an impact on turnover as well. Many employees can't handle the stress resulting from their new living arrangements, especially in cases of childcare responsibilities that used to be shared. For example, one study found that nearly 10% of employees had to leave their job or knew a coworker who had done so.

Divorced women are also more likely to receive public assistance than divorced men. According to statistics, more than 70% of women who apply for welfare benefits do so because of a divorce or separation. Furthermore, even though divorce will leave both parties worse off financially, women's finances and living standards are more impacted than men. Divorce impacts the workplace as well. Employees going through a divorce can experience higher levels of absenteeism, presenteeism, stress, anxiety, and health issues. These factors might lead to them exhibiting poorer performance and lower productivity when they are at the office. And a distracted, depressed, or unengaged employee negatively impacts an employer's cash flow. A recent study by the Global Corporate Challenge found that presenteeism—being present at work but not performing—costs U.S. businesses ten more times than absenteeism. Worrying about child support or who gets the house can easily distract an employee. Admittedly, the effects of divorce on employees can extend for years. Many employees experiencing emotional distress increase errors or exhibit poor lack of judgment. Additionally, the emotional upheaval of a divorce can create anxiety, causing additional health problems. These health issues might result in additional time away from work, ultimately affecting an employer's bottom line.

When it comes to social negative effects, it has a strong relationship with a given country's customs and traditions, showing significant differences according to their level of development. Numerous studies have identified multiple factors associated with the divorce. The following factors have become increasingly important cases: all social and cultural changes and their reflections on families, the increased rate of urbanization, the



complexity of the daily life, communication technology and the spread of mass media, changes in consumer culture, individualization trends, the economic independence of the spouses, the social structure differences, the traditional role expectations, occupational and income levels change in divorce cases, the individual, the community and the family.

On the other hand, religion, belief and racial differences are among the major causes of divorce. Acceleration of social life, as well as relocation, has allowance of random marriages such as between different religions or races and or different social classes. Ultimately, the marriages without love are not long-lasting ones. Especially families which were created eventually after a short period of time when partners got to know to each other, or the ones created despite the rejection from the part of relatives, or without their approval, face with major obstacles and are not also long-lasting marriages.

Moreover, the increase of divorce is a negative effect on young generations. It has been revealed by statistics that the children of divorced individuals carry out a high rate of divorce in their marriages too. In such marriages, at the time of even the slightest disagreements between children and their parents, the easiest solution they are going to find is eventually a separation. In recent years, almost all societies have experienced significant increases in divorce rates, as a result of the changes in family structure in parallel with the development of the technological, social and economic areas.

In conclusion, owing to the rapid changes in the process of developing new social conditions affecting the family institution deeply, it leads to the emergence of a variety of changes in the structure. The family is not a static institution. In recent decades, marriage rates have fallen down, divorce rates have risen, and the defining characteristics of marriage have changed.

Divorce is a complex process that can be viewed from different perspectives. It may unsettle couples economically, abuse mentally and affect their status in society. The negative impact of divorce on children reveals very complex problems. Thus, divorce causes social, psychological and economic destruction not only on divorced couples, both also all family members. Divorce emerges as an important social problem leading to disintegration



of families raising healthy and happy individuals in future understanding the divorce process can help alleviate stress and anxiety, on both the divorcing couple and the children. If a marriage can't be saved, a couple can work together to end the marriage amicably, allowing for a more straightforward, less stressful, and less costly divorce. With all of the negative effects caused by divorce, it's helpful to understand what's to come so damages can be minimized. The effects of divorce can be far-reaching and linger for years. Divorce can have a negative effect on the emotional state, social circle, and economic status.

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