

Comparison of Predisposing and Effective Factors on Divorce Application between Men and Women

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Abstract

Objective: With regard to his human and social nature, sympathy is required that men and women live together in peace and rest. Since that family is manifestation and expression of life and love, divorce is a critical that consequences and undesirable effects on individuals, families and society. The present study based on gender People requesting a divorce in the family courts in Tehran has paid during the years 2006-2007.

Materials and methods: The sample included 300 people referred from the courts, and cross-sectional study approach, with structured interview was conducted. Causes and reasons for divorce after the interview and identified as economic factors, psychological, cultural - social, sexual problems, physical, addiction, violence and marriage. With this classification and statistical methods using chi-square, Fisher and Mann - Whitney two groups were compared.

Results: Results showed that although most divorcers noted both gender causes (84.4% of women and 90% of men) such as lack of understanding and compromise, but women were more influenced by socioeconomic status ($P < 0.001$), violence ($P < 0.001$) sexual problems ($P = 0.048$) and addiction ($P = 0.001$), while men had more cultural and social problems ($P = 0.023$).

Conclusion: The results suggested premarital counseling in order to aware couples is an important task in the field of professional advice and can prevent the occurrence divorce.

Keywords: divorce, gender, psychological causes, violence, sexual problems

Introduction

Divorce is associated on marriage and family that is the most important institutions of human society. Divorce causes disintegration of personal, family and

social and destructive in most cases it works very severe on women than men. The first legal forms of divorce can be recognized in law Hammurabi, around 2300 BC that women were considered as male property and assets and if her husband have desired without obvious reason he was allowed to divorce his wife. Among the Jews also the right of divorce, especially were considered on benefit of males. Based on Roman primary law, husband was quite right broken to the marital relationship and eschews family responsibilities, although there were some

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limitations in this way. After the emergence of Christianity, Roman law about divorce was modified considerably, until the second half of the fourth century AD; divorce was possible with the agreement of the parties (1).

Shiite jurisprudence, and its adherence to the rights of Iran, man has authority on divorce. This Civil Code Article 1133 of this expression is: "every time a man will do he can divorce his wife." The meaning of terms such right, Iranian women's rights are not able to divorce. However, cases the legislator has predicted in certain conditions, women can get divorce (2).

Weizmann (1975) divorce is a process that begins with couples experiencing emotional crisis

It will be end with try to resolve marital conflicts through separation, with entry into a new position with different roles and lifestyle (3).

The first of social results that man or woman will experience after the separation, loss of some basic social identity, mental and emotional symptoms of divorce such failure, rejection mourning, anxiety, panic, anxiety, fear, anger, etc. Parties set in the situation of vulnerability (4). Also divorce means that to divide capabilities, assets and capital that couple have accumulated during marital life. Financial problems, not only in divorce, but can affect long after on couples (5).

Results of National Study Plan divorce Australian Family Research Institute (1997) has shown that the financial hardships experienced by the mother head of household, older women and women who have been violent by their spouses is higher. Dykstin (1986), Iemp, Stern berg and Thompson (1999), Path Vampvld, Vagan Ternez and Cole (1999) have found that many of the women who got divorce they have experienced increasing distress, depression, loneliness, anger, regret, lack of control and helplessness. The psychological symptoms of acute reactions are not relevant to stress of divorce, but many of emotional problems, continues after the many years of separation (6).

Stressor factors that during and after divorce experienced, cycle of problems emerged require changes and coping with them. Consequences of these changes will eclipse all areas of life, from everyday to economic status, social, psychological, and even the identity of male and female targets (7). In this study, couples in the court's remarks on men and women studied and investigated. Considering the increasing incidence of divorce and reduce the

occurrence rate of marriage (8) was not comprehensive or lack of studies about the consequences of divorce and comparative studies of normal men and women getting a divorce in the community increasing of divorce, doing so will require research.

Materials and methods

Performance

This project is a cross sectional descriptive study. Interviewer interviewed in court with divorce applicants, during the study period of two days a week. All applicants for a divorce were invited to interview and who were willing to cooperate and inclusion criteria had the interview was done according to the cooperation of individuals and the average interview time per day three or four people that were interviewed.

Study Population

The study population includes all persons who the applicant was divorced in the years 2006 to 2007 the family courts in Tehran (Shahid Mahalati - Vanak). Sampling in this study were consecutive sampling and available. Thus, people who gone to court and were willing to cooperate were investigated. The total sample size was 300 people.

Tools

Demographic characteristics of research tools including questionnaires and interviews have been structured. Demographic questionnaire contains questions about education, occupation, duration of marriage, economic status, number of children, family support and there were some sexual problems. Search through library and internet resources possible causes of divorce in Iran was determined and was organized as a list. The above list by 5 professors of university to determine face and content validity questionnaire were evaluated and modified then one of the professors of psychologist was set a structured interview.

Ethical Consideration

In addition to all study participants were told that the information is secret, any time they trend, they can leave the interview and research and if you have tendency to get divorce advice , they refer to Tehran Psychiatric Institute where is free them.

Data Analysis

All findings in men and women were reported which includes mean and standard deviation or frequency and percentage. We are using independent t tests for comparison of age and duration of marriage, to

compare demographic characteristics and causes of divorce among men and women using chi square test and Fisher test. Providing the possibility for comparison between different reasons for divorce first, the reasons for divorce the same factors were then rated each category of factors according to number of reasons, each was standardized. Thus each of the factors scores could range from zero to mean that no one applicant the reasons for divorce do not mean the 100 participants that all the above reasons for divorce was identified to cover. Comparison of standardized scores expresses complex emotions and causes divorce between men and women using the nonparametric test Mann - Whitney.

Results

The average age of divorced men in Tehran applicant 35.5 years, mean age of women 30.5 was that this difference was statistically significant ($P=0.002$). But the average duration of marriage in these two groups were not significant. (Table-1)

Table 1: Comparison of age and duration of marriage on men and women requesting divorce

	Women n = 270		Men n = 30		P-value
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
Age	30.5	8.3	35.5	7.1	0.002
Duration of Marriage	9.2	7.7	7.6	6.8	0.274

Comparison of family and demographic profile of men and women divorced applicant indicated that men living in affluent areas of Tehran had a divorce more than women living in these areas ($p<0.001$). While family income and having children as a reason or any obstacle for divorce did not differ in men and women. The educational level of the applicant divorced men and women were the same in Tehran. The prevalence of sexual problems and the amount of family support also other cases in the two groups showed no significant differences (Table 2).

Among psychological factors, stingy ($P < 0.001$) in female and lack of deference ($P=0.006$) in male were as common as other. As seen in table-3 all economic reasons for divorce in women were more than men.

The most because sexual divorce was unreasonable doubt, libel and slander which the reason these women than men had divorce ($P=0.002$). Psychological violence ($P=0.002$, $P<0.001$), physical and breaking things ($P=0.036$), including violence-related causes was significant way in which women

than men (Table 4). Reasons related to remarriage and physical diseases in men and women were similar. Demands of divorce due to drug ($P<0.001$) and alcohol addiction ($P=0.026$) in women were more than men (Table 4).

Comparison of expressed factors that led to divorce in Tehran (Table 5) showed economic factors and violence in women and in men sexual and social-cultural factors leading to divorce were recognized as the most important. The reasons for divorce were in women economic factor ($P<0.001$), sexual violence ($P<0.001$) and drug abuse ($P<0.001$) than men, and socio-cultural ($P=0.023$) in men than women. Divorce due to factors such as physical problems, remarriage, and psychological and behavioral problems in women and men were equal.

Discussion

In this research mean age of men were more than women. Voydanoff (1990) reported that after 35 years in women divorce reduction is higher in comparison with men; so after 45 years of age only 6.5% of women applicants have been divorced. While the 3.11% of men also sought to end his marriage. Perhaps fear of the future and life after divorce is an important factor in women. Surveys taken in the courts and internal and external published sources, economic issues are the main causes of divorce. The results showed that financial and economic reasons in women compared with men of the most important factors for divorce in Tehran. Generally wealth and assets in the marriage and divorce for women is more than men (9).

Personality characteristics, nervousness, extraversion, openness, consensus, and conscientiousness are predictive of marital adjustment. Namak & Valsn (1999) also by using of five factor model of personality that included:

A - similar to the levels of conscience for women and for husbands are significant relationship with marital adjustment.

B - similar to the characteristics of couples deal are related only with marital adjustment.

C - similar couples in marital adjustment feature nervousness are related only women and not related husbands (10).

Oggins (1993) and Ball (1995) reported that Women's roles are in creating of marital conflicts whereas men have a major role during marital conflicts who maintain marital disputes. Women are starting marital conflict discussions in comparison

Table 2: Comparison of demographic data on men and women requesting divorce

		Women n = 270		Men n = 30		Significance
		Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	
Education	Less than diploma	64	23.7	9	30	0.265
	Diploma	141	52.2	11	36.7	
	More than diploma	65	24.1	10	3.3	
Career woman	Homemaker	189	70	29	96.7	0.002
	Occupied	81	30	1	3.3	
Male jobs	Unemployed, retired	25	9.3	5	16.7	0.025
	Worker	65	24.1	2	6.7	
	Employee	114	42.2	10	33.3	
	Business	66	24.4	13	43.3	
Income	Low	82	30.4	9	30	0.999
	Medium	134	49.6	15	50	
	High	54	20	6	20	
Child	No	110	40.7	12	40	0.938
	Yes	160	59.3	18	60	
Location area	Medium, Low	225	83.3	15	50	<0.001
	Prosperous	45	16.7	15	50	
Type of Marriage	Traditional	168	62.2	19	63.3	0.934
	Compulsory	23	8.5	3	10	
	Romance	79	29.3	8	26.7	
Support of Family	Low	70	25.9	12	40	0.161
	Medium	85	31.5	10	33.3	
	High	115	42.6	8	26.7	
Sexual Problems	Motivation (lust)	111	61	13	72.2	0.480
	Function	25	13.7	1	5.6	
	Orgasm	12	6.6	0	0	
	Sexual Disorders	34	18.7	4	22.2	

Table 3: Comparison of psychological reasons, cultural and economic men and women

		Women n = 270		Men n = 30		Significance
		Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	
Psychological Factors	Lack of understand and compromise	228	84.4	27	90	0.419
	Lack of psychological needs	218	80.7	25	83.3	0.731
	Nasty	132	48.9	8	26.7	0.021
	Personality problems	131	48.5	12	40	0.375
	Psychological problem	109	40.4	11	36.7	0.694
	Stingy	105	38.9	2	6.7	<0.001
	Lack of deference	71	26.3	15	50	0.006
	problem with children	62	23	4	13.3	0.227
	Lack of responsibility	24	8.9	2	6.7	0.681
	Prejudice	12	4.4	0	0.0	0.239
Cultural Factors	Family Interventions	144	53.3	23	76.7	0.015
	Cultural differences	102	37.8	15	50	0.193
	Educational differences	99	36.7	11	36.7	0.999
	Different social classes	89	33	14	46.7	0.134
	Age difference	68	52.2	14	46.7	0.012
	Female employment	32	11.9	0	0.0	0.046
Economic factors	Type of marriage	23	8.5	3	10	0.784
	No welfare needs	169	62.6	4	13.3	<0.001
	Economic problem	161	59.6	11	36.7	0.016
	Non-payment of alimony	152	56.3	0	0.0	<0.001
	Husband's job problem	140	51.9	6	20	0.001

Comparing divorce between men and women

Table 4: Comparison of other reasons for divorce on men and women

		Women n = 270		Men N= 30		Significance
		Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	
Sex Factors	Slander and libel	142	52.6	7	23.3	0.002
	Sexual problem	182	67.4	18	60	0.414
	Non-sexual needs	152	56.3	18	60	0.694
	Illicit relations	101	37.4	10	33.3	0.661
	Treason (adultery)	97	35.9	6	20	0.081
Violence	Psychological violence	193	71.5	13	43.3	0.002
	Misbehavior	133	49.3	15	50	0.939
	Physical violence	133	49.3	1	3.3	<0.001
	Breaking objects	86	31.9	4	13.3	0.036
Physical Factors	infertility	23	8.5	2	6.7	0.728
	Physical illness	18	6.7	2	6.7	0.999
Remarriage	Temporary marriage	45	16.7	2	6.7	0.153
	Second marriage	28	10.4	3	10	0.
Addiction	Addiction	107	39.6	2	6.7	<0.001
	Alcoholism	39	14.4	0	0.0	0.026

Table 5: Comparison of expressed factors leading to divorce for women and men

Factors	Women n = 270			Men N= 30			Significance
	Mean	Median	SD	Mean	Median	SD	
Economic	57.6	50	35.5	17.5	0	23.8	<0.001
Violence	50.5	50	30	27.5	25	27.3	<0.001
Sex	49.9	50	29.8	39.3	40	25.5	0.048
Psychological	40.4	40	18.5	35.3	35	15.3	0.098
Social –Cultural	29.5	28.6	19.8	38.1	42.9	18.9	0.023
Addiction	27	0	34.6	3.3	0	12.7	<0.001
Remarriage	13.5	0	23.5	8.3	0	19	0.259
Physical	7.6	0	18.5	6.7	0	17.3	0.822

with men (11, 12) and the role of men in marital satisfaction and stability or the stability of marriage is more than women (13, 14). Women with less communication and emotional who their husbands are subdued ,Possible conflicts of marriage is higher in women. If there is no controversy and debate verbal lead to better emotional connections by couples and this can be effective in couple therapy (15). Misunderstanding and Failure to satisfy the psychological needs in both couples has been one of the most important causes of divorce in this study.

One of the most important factors, divorce is financial and economic pressure on families.

If the family system, their function is getting impaired such as the financial pressures, sense of belonging and closing of couple to each other will be difficult (Harper and Michel, 1988).

Horvitz (1991) believes that stress - financial for couples is problematic, it may lead to negative and complex consequences involving reduced self-esteem especially in men.

Projection hostility to the spouse, negative emotions confrontation between husband and wife, dictator and disappointing reactions to each other (Carlson - Asprlyn, 1977) (16). In Iran has been shown that the divorce rate in the groups with less professional and technical status than average is more, while divorce among classes of workers and employees of men is more than 17 percent and in these group of women is higher than 57 percent (17). The results of this study showed that women got divorced for economic and financial reasons more than men. But according to the results obtained in this study and other reports, several studies suggest that the economic problems of divorced women compared with men is much higher (18-20) and should be more time to take the work out of home (21-22). But some authors believe that in today's world of severe economic problems divorced women is less in compared with past (23). Amato (1994), has reported the major difference between men and women in the economic consequences of divorce. Especially

mothers are responsible for providing living facilities their children. Meanwhile, in many communities, women after divorce don't have expect of support and return to their original families, effects of divorce on men and women after the divorce, even are not remarried are different. Although women have experience difficult economic conditions but they are greater autonomy and independence and men feel more dependency and helplessness.

Today, with regard to women's employment outside the home, roles of men and women does not have uncertainty and recognition of individual responsibilities during marriage is difficult this could be the source of their anxiety and frustration. Women's employment and functions related to these roles have different effects on quality of life and marital adjustment in men and women (20). Women working hours outside the home and their desire for economic independence is one of the factors get divorced (23-26).

In one study showed that probability in women's employment increased divorce.

In the Study Yazdkhvasty et al (2008) 14 percent of applicants divorced employed women and 86 percent were housewives (27). In another study 77.7 percent of the cases were housewives (28). It be noted by sociologists that the sense of independence in women to increase marital satisfaction. On the other hand; this finding is similar patterns of career women in Iran (27). Nasty, miserly, pessimism, slander and defamation, violence, addiction, alcoholism have been main causes of divorce on women and lack of devotion, family interventions, sexual problems and cultural differences – social were the main cause of divorce in this study in men. This study also showed that the willingness or remarriage, physical diseases and mental and behavioral problems were divorce factors in both groups of gender.

In other studies regarding the causes of divorce in Tehran and in different cities of Iran have been conducted by various researchers show results most of the referrals reason of women to court not financial support by their husbands in 197 cases (44.3 %) and lack of deference of women 39 cases were mentioned in men (51.3%) (37). Mir Ahmadzadeh et al (2003) reported that drug abuse, legal problems, including assaults, trafficking, debt financing, leaving the husbands of alimony according to the applicant divorced women were considered the major cause of divorce.

In this study, about half of husbands had addiction, 227 women (55.2%) had experience verbal dispute led to physical violence. In 142 cases beater was the husband and in 20 cases was husband and his family that women frequently were attacked (29).

With regard to statistics related to men's problem as being sterile and male retardation and beating of women by men, shows that more women are undergoing an unhappy marriage relationship. In fact, women have a life unpleasant and annoying to endure it more time (30). Totally 22% of women during their common lives due to family conflicts are damaged. Violence and physical aggression in men to their wives important factor is the rapture of marriage (31).

The results showed that 20% of couples have been reported their problems due to anger her husband. Husbands were generally reported that distressing feelings, criticizing, disgruntle absence from the home by himself and jealous of wives has caused marital problems.

Women generally, jealousy and abusive behavior of their husbands know cause of marriage problems (11).

Wheez (1979) stated that individuals who are not initiated at reconstruction of their identity as a divorced person can be encounter with difficult. Starter vs. the previous group, they are more control on the process of divorce and have better psychological functioning and emotional (32). Meyers (1989) Men's experiences of divorce examined and states that men are feeling guilty when they are divorced starter and this guilt became psychological separation prevents them from his ex-wife and will have problems with reconstruction of their identity in situations outside the marital relationship (32). Feeling different levels of fault in divorce, depression and anxiety in women and level of stress in men is significantly different. There are Significant and positive relationship between guilt feelings in divorced women with depression and anxiety divorced men. Actually feeling of guilt and rejection in divorce is cause of his or her negative assessment, reduced confidence, low self esteem and lack of control over their environment; finally increase the depression and anxiety.

Other findings showed that desire to divorce is negative relationship with level of depression in women and anxiety in men, In other words, men and women who wish to have separation have been suffered less depression and anxiety. With increasing duration of marriage, anxiety of Men is increasing; it seems that more men than women are

concerned about their future quality of life and family. On the other hand, men in Iranian culture more than women tend to be relate with women or remarriage, and this feeling is effective on anxiety and concern. As women inclined to divorce were less anxiety and depression. In fact, they felt that with manner divorced will be relieved and abandoned from the problems (33).

Some studies show that remarriage, spiritual satisfaction is more positive effects in men compared with women. Effect ion of divorce is less in men; consequently reducing the financial problems also they are observed rapid improvement in psychological distress and suffering. If women are more psychological distress even some of them may be loneliness and addiction and take refuge severe isolation. Psychological injuries are higher in women. If applicant of divorce to be from wife, child maintenance gives to mother leading to lack of self confidence and mental distress is more in men and if there are this situation ,women more to get divorced. There is no difference psychological stress in both sexes after divorce only stressors (e.g. lack of love, low quality of life) is effective at adjustment after divorce (31). Finding of another study in this field has shown that in the middle and lower classes of society, after divorce deal with women is more difficult than men and, generally for the right to remarry divorced women is not allowed (30). The survey results conducted in our country consequences associated with divorce shows that the vulnerability of women and the social consequences of divorce are higher. Economic problems impact on men and women had similar, but concerns about economic future in women had more than men. More women have suffered from emotional -psychological problems than men. Concern about the fate of children and in mothers had been more than fathers. Men and women, difficult process of divorce have experienced similar and later stages, respectively, before and during was difficult for them. More women about said of people have expressed to be anxious than men. Men and women both have been fed up of remarriage. Both sexes had a similar sense of release after the divorces optimistic towards the future (25).

Having children, anxiety, depression and stress will reduce in women. It seems that the presence of children has led to encouraging mothers and possibly children in conflicts between parents are more protective role for mothers. It is important that

mothers feel positive trend at the beginning of divorce, it must be followed that their status after the divorce, because at many studies, including research kali and Valrashtayn (1980) have shown people who are divorced, often about the fate of their children feel guilty .Therefore expected that mothers aware about the process of divorce. After they pass divorce crises then to find a different feel (31). A result suggests that If after the divorce, mothers to be responsibility of economic their children get increasing risk of educational failure, behaviors misdemeanor possess and maternal and child mental health problems(33).

Recommendations and restrictions

Based on the results of this study suggest that families before marriage should consider familiar conditions psychological, personality, cultural and economic and moral higher among boys and girls, perhaps with more knowledge of each other in addition to getting expert advice on choosing a spouse, marital conflict and divorce can avoid somewhat of a divorce. With regard the high divorce women according to existing laws, Researchers and jurisdiction may be able to identify more accurately the factors of divorce and to support laws that can help improve it. The most important limitations at field of research divorce are Lack of cooperation relevant institutions and lawyers at access and reporting in the field.

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