

Evaluation of Psycho-Social Factors Influential on Emotional Divorce among Attendants to Social Emergency Services

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Abstract

The purpose of this research was to evaluate psychological and social factors effective on emotional separation among attendants to welfare social emergency centers in the county of Shirvan Cherdval. A number of 40 women attendants were selected as sample. Research instrument included emotional divorce questionnaire used for measurement of variables. Data was analyzed using the SPSS-18 software and using correlation and regression analysis. Results showed that psychological and social factors have a positive correlation with emotional divorce and regression analysis showed that social factors rank first and psychological problems are next in importance when it comes to emotional divorce. Therefore, the results of this research can be applied in the context of prevention and counseling and guidance of couples.

Key words: Social Factors, Psychological, Emotional Divorce, Social Emergency

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Introduction

Divorce in terminology means separation, letting go, resolution and annulment of marriage between couples. Divorce is a discretionary organized method for ending a tie (Abhari, 2003). Most evaluations performed show correlations between divorce and addiction, crime and delinquency, neuroticism, lack of balance of personality, educational and teaching issues, suicide and/or social combat and the like and consider divorce tied with them (Piran, 1980). Numerous studies show that psychological disorders among singles, widowers, separated and divorcee is higher than married individuals and the risk of depression in divorce is higher than in widowhood (Zahireddin & Khodaiifar, 2003).

A look at the situation of divorce in Iran shows that its trend in the two thousandth decade (2001-2009), namely from 2001, has been completely on the rise such that it has increased from 0.95 for each 1.71 per thousand in the entire country. Additionally, the level of divorce in rural areas has more than doubled (from 0.41 to 0.88 in a thousand) and in municipal areas it has nearly doubled (from 1.01 to 2.09 in a thousand) (Kalantari et al, 2011).

Previous Research

Results of research by Dehghani and Nazari (2013) has shown that the variables of unasked for intrusion by relatives in the life of couples, level of difference of socio-economic status among couples, marital satisfaction and positive perception of results of divorce has direct influence on divorce. Additionally, Barikani and Sarbechlou (2011) have listed incorrect initial selection and too much dependence of one of the couple on the family among the most important causes of divorce.

With the purpose of evaluating factors influential on divorce rate, in this research three theoretical outlooks have been integrated: Homogamy theory, Exchange theory and Network theory. The most fundamental pre-assumptions of the exchange theory is that groups are just collections of individuals where their behavior is predicted and explained by studying their motivations and they are driven by virtue

of personal advantage and are intellectual computers of profit and costs. Whenever this balance is destroyed, the person tends towards aggressive behavior based on this theory and ultimately divorce happens. Thus, the perception of the individual of profit and loss in marital life is of importance and one should note what rewards in case of separation will replace others. The same applies to costs and they should ultimately decide in which stage (before or after divorce) profits were higher (Jalilian, 1996).

In the homogamy theory, marriage is recommended among those who are similar in all regards economic, social and cultural. The sides should be completely equal in education, economic status, ethics and other aspects of life. Otherwise, the marriage will not be successful. The non-homogamous marriage theory has been introduced by Veet. He believes in economic and social equality in socio-economic status but inhomogeneity in ethics and mannerism of individuals. In other words, husband and wife should complement each other ethically. A man who has an angry temper and is hasty should make ties with someone calm and perseverant. Otherwise, ties between a hasty and angry man with a women of the same nature will lead to much tension in the family and ultimately gives rise to divorce (Saroukani, 2008).

Cheney and Yamamura believe that the stronger tribal and cultural attachments between husband and wife, risk of separation is much less among them. Overall, the more homogeneous spouses are, their marriage will hold better and in total, it can be stated that it is a more stable end (Saroukhani, 2006). Spouse selection traditions trend towards homogeneous marriages. This by itself can result in transactions and exchange of spiritual values and material assets. The theory of homogamy considers family unity a result of similar traits between husband and wife.

Network theory stands against normative theory. Therefore, in the opinion of network theoreticians, normative outlooks emphasize culture and socialization processes and internalization of norms and values in individuals. In the normative outlook, what keeps people alongside each other is a series of common ideas. Network theory

negates such outlook and states that causality models that connect people in society with each other should be investigated. If husband and wife both belong to networks of such type and these networks are protected, marriage is only enforced on top of the existing relations such that the couple continues outreach towards out of home activities and people. In this situation, roles are separated in a dry and in-flexible way. The reason is that the couple are both able to acquire support outside of the family domain (Segalen, 1997).

Considering previous research, this study aimed to evaluate social, economic and cultural factors influential on emotional divorce between attendants to welfare social emergency centers in the county of Shirvan Cherdavel.

Methods

This research is correlational. Statistical population of the research includes all women who have attended centers for decreased emergent divorce in the county of Shirvan Cherdavel in the first five months of 2011 and their files are still open. A number of 40 women were selected as sample. Next, questionnaires were completed by participants in Access and it was endeavored this way to evaluate factors influential on emotional divorce.

Research Instrument

For data collection, questionnaire was used. This questionnaire in total included 42 items designed in two parts: socio-demographic traits such as age, gender, education level, occupation, income, number of off- spring and independent and dependent research variables (including income level, interest in emotional divorce, intrusion of relatives and friends, aggression and psychological problems). Each item had 5 responses from completely agree=5, agree=4, no opinion=3, disagree=2, completely disagree=1 which were scored based on a Likert scale (off course, scoring of some items were in reverse). To evaluate questionnaire validity and its scales of external validity and for measuring its reliability, Cronbach's alpha was used which was calculated at 0.85 for the questionnaire.

Results

For evaluation of the relationship between psychological problems and social factors with emotional divorce among couples, Pearson's correlation coefficient was used.

Table 1: Correlation between psychological problems of couples and emotional divorce

Pearson's test	Determination coefficient R	Significance level	Number
<u>Emotional divorce factors</u> Psychological problems	0.31**	0.04	40

As shown in Table 1, statistically meaningful correlation exists between psychological problems and emotional divorce and $P=0.04$ is lower than the set $P=0.05$ and the coefficient $R=0.31$. In other words, psychological problems between couples are among causes of emotional divorce and direct correlation also exists between these two.

Table 2: Correlation between causes of psychological problems of couples and emotional divorce

Pearson's test	Determination coefficient R	Significance level	Number
Emotional divorce factors			
Psychological problems	0.69**	0.001	40

**= p<0.001

Based on Table 2 which shows correlation between causes of emotional divorce and social factors, this correlation is meaningful and $P=0.000$ which is less than the set $P=0.05$ and the coefficient $R=0.897$. In other words, social factors are influential on emotional divorce and direct correlation exists between the two.

Table 3: Step by step linear regression modeling of psychological and social factors involved in emotional divorce

Models			Non standard coefficients		Standard coefficients	T	Sig.
	R	R2	B	Std. Error	Beta		
1 Social	.850	.720	1.49	.170	.780	8.77	.0000
2 Psychological	.860	.750	.190	.090	.190	2.12	.040

Results of step by step linear regression analysis of psychological and social factors involved in emotional divorce: the variable of emotional divorce as dependent variable and psychological and social factors as dependent variable were entered into the regression analysis. By selection of step by step model, two exemplifications were chosen as follows. Ultimately, example 2 was entered into the formula as the final model where social factors ranked first and psychological factors second with significance level of $P=0.005$.

Conclusion

This research was performed with the objective of evaluating psychological and social factors influential on emotional divorce between attendants to emergency social welfare offices in the county of Shirvan Cherdavel. Results showed that psychological and social factors have positive correlation with emotional divorce. This result agrees with previous research: The research by Sepehrian in 2000 reported the reason for requesting divorce in 83 percent of cases was lack of behavioral and ethical adaptability and in 10 percent of the cases illness or psychiatric disease in at least one of the couple (Davodi, 1977; Ghotbi, 2004). The level of divorce in a society can be considered to be lack of social stability and since it is the reason for disruption of the family unit we are certainly left with its social consequences.

It is suggested that families provide more situations for their off spring to communicate before marriage. Maybe with increased understanding of each other's psychological, personality, social and economic characteristics as well as timely utilization of specialized counseling in spouse selection, disagreement and marital disputes can be decreased to some extent. Education at various levels for society and parents and guardians can play an important role in prevention of this social concern and promote physical, psychological, social and economic well-being of the country. Research is recommended in the context of evaluating psychological well-being of couples attending family courts, comparative evaluation of causes of divorce

in various provinces, evaluation of the relationship between counseling and divorce prevention in couples attending family courts in the future.

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