

DIVORCE AND ITS AFFECT ON INDIVIDUAL'S LIFE
(A Sociological Study of Pokhara Sub-Metropolitan city)



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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This is to certify that **Mr. Rajan Raj Subedi** has completed the dissertation entitled "**DIVORCE AND ITS AFFECT ON INDIVIDUAL'S LIFE; (A Sociological Study of Pokhara Sub-Metropolitan city)**" under my supervision and guidance. **So**, I therefore, recommend this dissertation for the final approval and acceptance by the dissertation committee.

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LETTER OF APPROVAL

This Thesis entitled "**DIVORCE AND ITS AFFECT ON INDIVIDUAL'S LIFE; (A Sociological Study of Pokhara Sub-Metropolitan city)**" submitted to Department of Sociology/ Anthropology; Prithwi Narayan Campus by **Mr. Rajan Raj Subedi** in the partial fulfillment of the requirement for the **Degree of Masters of Arts in Sociology** has been approved by the undersigned member of the dissertation evaluation committee. Therefore, we accept this dissertation as a part of the mentioned degree.

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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION BY LANGUAGE EDITOR

This is to certify that I have read through the draft of Dissertation entitled "**DIVORCE AND ITS AFFECT ON INDIVIDUAL'S LIFE; (A Sociological Study of Pokhara Sub-Metropolitan city)**" by **Mr. Rajan Raj Subedi** as a language editor and made necessary correction and improvements there in. I have been impressed by his intelligible presentation of the facts through the medium of plain and correct English.

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March 2012

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am greatly honored to write few words for this report. This report is an outcome of almost one year's long research on Divorce and its effects on individual's life (a study based on the Divorce couple of Pokhara Sub-Metropolitan city of Kaski district). The overall goal of the study was to explore the effects of Divorce on Individual, his or her surrounding and rearing and nurturing of the children

It is a matter of great pride for me to express my sincere gratitude to the research committee, department of Sociology/Anthropology, T.U., PNC, Pokhara, Nepal for providing me an opportunity to present a dissertation on this topic.

I hope findings of this report would be an exciting and useful for readers and researchers whoever is interested to study the Divorce culture in Nepal in general and divorce cases in City areas in particular. I believe that this report will play an important role in sharing and disseminating ideas, opinions and thoughts on the issues of effects brought by the divorce upon an individual and his or her family members. And it will contribute to the stock in the literature of Nepalese cultural issues in Nepal.

I would like to express my profoundest thank to my research supervisor Netra Narayan Poudel, the Lecturer of Sociology/Anthropology for his highly valuable, significant and encouraging suggestions to complete this dissertation. In spite of his other duties and responsibilities, he shared his priceless time and guided me with his astute suggestions, supports and direction to complete this dissertation. This research work would not come out in the present shape without his guidance and counseling.

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**" DIVORCE AND ITS AFFECT ON INDIVIDUAL'S LIFE
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ABSTRACT**

**By:-Rajan Raj Subedi
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Marriage that ends in divorce typically begins a process of unraveling, estrangement, or an emotional separation year before the actual legal divorce is obtained. During the course of the marriage, one or both of the marital partners begin to feel alienated from the other. Conflicts with each other and with the children's intensity become more frequent and often go unresolved. Feelings of bitterness, helplessness, and anger escalate as the spouses weigh the costs and benefits of continuing the marriage versus separating. In Hindu society, marriage is taken as a holy union between a man and a woman for the performance of religious duties. According to religious philosophy, it is indissoluble and it is for all time. Marriage is an immemorial institution which, in some form, exists everywhere. Its main purpose always was to unite and to continue the families of bride and groom and to further their economic and social position

Study Area

The study area of this study had taken the total wards of Pokhara sub-metropolitan city. This study covers an area of Pokhara sub-metropolitan city and its every ward. The research site was selected purposively, due to the fast rate of urbanization and influence of foreign culture.

The researcher had planned to carry this research mainly focusing to search the answer to these questions;

- What types of effects mainly occur in an individual's life?
- Why divorce rate is rapidly increasing in our society?
- Why does the marital relation come to an end?
- What types of problem occur in the family, to their children, neighbors and the entire study?

The Main Goal of the Study

Main objective of this research is to study about increasing rate of divorce and its effects due to the impact of modernization, westernization.

- To find out the causes of divorce (marriage process, education level, number of children, age at marriage, occupation etc.)
- To analyze the social, cultural and economic effect on divorced person & their family, relatives, friends.

The Tools used to collect the data

This study is mainly focused on Divorced individuals and their problems, of the sampled groups of Pokhara sub- metropolitan city. This study had utilized descriptive methodology in the form of social survey. At the first the details of the main elements of the methods to be used was given under. The divorce couple registered in the Kaski district court was taken as universe and had been made the Random sampling method. So, the total population frame was 101 couples and for the study purpose, researcher had taken 25 percent of the universe size and had gone to 25 respondents for the reliability of the data. For the purpose of the study observation, interview schedule, and five of the case studies were adopted as data collecting technique of sociological research to collect qualitative and quantitative data. Thus, the data collected for this

study is dominantly primary. When needed, some of the important secondary data have also been incorporated. The above data collecting tools were devised very carefully in order to ensure their validity. For this purpose, the interview schedule was prepared carefully, instruction of supervisor was included and the questions were refined in the interview schedule. Both structure and unstructured observations were made from time to time while being in the field work process. Key informant's interviews were primary unstructured one. Observations and key informant's interviews have yielded qualitative data, while interview schedule has yielded both types of data. The collected data have been analyzed by using computer program SPSS 16 while qualitative data have been arranged manually and analyzed descriptively. Results of quantitative data analysis have been shown by using various tables, charts and diagrams.

Finding of the Study

- There is wide variation among divorced individuals in their post divorce adjustment, simple comparisons between divorced and non divorced individuals should be undertaken with caution.
- Although cross-culturally property settlements have become more egalitarian, in Nepal these property settlements are largely determined by the future needs of the children. The future needs of spouses typically are not considered, and settlements also ignore any nonfinancial contributions of either party.
- Children, especially older, also can serve as sources of social support for divorcing parents. This is particularly true of women, because they commonly retain custody of children. However, children also can be a source of post divorce stress, as the added complications of maintaining the co-parental relationship can result in stress for the divorcing parents.
- Despite variations in the structure and function of families in different countries, divorce is experienced by an increasing number of families.
- Trends show that though the population density of Brahmin and Chettri is higher in Pokhara valley. Divorce takes place among the Gurung community the most, then followed by Dalits or the untouchables. Couples also got remarried after the divorce. According to the judicial record of the court, many couples come together in the court for divorce and go together after divorce (Paper divorce).
- Divorce rate among the arrange marriage couple is higher due to lack of pre-marital information and parents pressure. They also lack mutual agreement and co-operation between them. According to this research, we can say that education plays vital role to increase the rate of divorce because they are more ambitious and career oriented. Another major finding of this research is that greater the number of children less is the divorce rate and most importantly couples without any children also prefer to live life separately. Earlier the age at marriage highest the divorce rate due to less education, immaturity and dependency, lack of trust, co-operation, lack of mutual understanding and physical and mental torture can also be regarded as the major causes for the occurrence of divorce.
- The divorce rate within the couples who live in nuclear family is higher in comparison to joint family. Longer the duration of marriage lesser the chances of divorce to take place. Economically, divorce rate is higher in the middle economic class.

- Divorced person has to go through lots of trauma and tension even after divorce takes place. He/ she will be looked upon with a suspicion and has to go through insults and humiliation within the society. People started to backbite about the divorced person. Even close friends and relatives start to behave differently. Moreover, in case of female, always men's position and conditions are far better than female. She is always being dominated and suppressed.
- Because of custody relationships, sons and daughters face markedly different situations that have repercussions on their relationship with parents. The parent-son relationship and the parent-daughter relationship have markedly different functions. Because custody is generally granted to the mother, her parents are usually a major source of support.

Thank you and hope for valued comments!

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page No
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	
<i>List of Tables</i>	
<i>List of Figures</i>	
<i>Acronyms</i>	
CHAPTER-I	
INTRODUCTION	1-8
1.1 Background of the Study	1
1.2 Statements of the Problem	3
1.3 Objectives of the Study	4
1.4 Importance of the study	5
1.5 Conceptual Framework	5
1.6 Limitation of the study	7
1.7 Study Area	8
1.8 Organization of the Study	8
CHAPTER- II	
LITERATURE REVIEW	9-18
2.1 Theoretical Overview	9
2.1.1 Divorce in Social and Cultural Context	9
2.1.2 Legal System for Divorce	11
2.1.3 Adjustment to Divorce	12
2.1.4 Adult Adjustment	13
2.1.5 Historical Overview of Divorce	15
2.2 Review of the Related Literatures	16
Chapter-III	
RESEARCH MEETHODS	19-23
3.1. Rational for the selection of the Study Site.	19
3.2 Research Design	19
3.3 Universe and Sampling	20
3.4 Nature and Sources of Data	20
3.5 Primary Data Collection Technique	20
3.5.1 Judicial Court Records	20

3.5.2	Schedule-Cum-Interview	21
3.5.3	Observation	21
3.5.4	Case Study	21
3.5.5	Key Informants	22
3.6	Method of Data Analysis and Presentation	22
3.7	Experience of Data collection and some problems	22

Chapter –IV

DEMOGRAPHIC SITUATION OF THE RESPONDENTS

24-28

4.1.	Cultural Setting of the study site	24
4.2.	Distribution of Respondents by Caste	24
4.3.	Age Composition of the Respondents	26
4.4.	Religion and Situation of Divorce	27
4.5.	Distribution of Divorce in Pokhara sub-metropolitan City	28

Chapter –V

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE

29-43

5.1	Marriage Process and Situation of Divorce	29
5.2	Mutual Agreement before Married Between Male and Females	30
5.3	Pre-Marital Information/Consent	31
5.4	Pre-marital Contacts / Relations	33
5.5	Education Level and Divorce	34
5.6	Number of Children	36
5.7	Age at Marriage	38
5.8	Occupation at the time of Divorce	40
5.9	Level of Misunderstanding	42

Chapter –VI

SOCIO- CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC AFFECT OF DIVORCE

44-53

6.1	Type of Family Structure	44
6.2	Duration of Married Life	46

6.3	Economic Class of the Couples	47
6.4	Distribution of Divorced Couples Children	48
6.5	Condition after Divorce	49
6.6	Affects of Divorce in Relative and Friends	51
6.7	Feeling and Experience of the Divorcee	51
6.8	Problem faced by the Divorcee	52

Chapter –VII

SUMMARY, FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION **54-57**

7.1	Summary	54
7.2	Findings of the Study	55
7.2.1	Factors Influencing Adjustment Discovered from Case Studies	
	56	
7.3	Conclusion of the Study	
	57	

References Cited	58
Case Study I	32
Case Study II	34
Case Study III	40
Case Study IV	42
Case Study V	43
Appendixes	

List of Table

Table No	Title of the Table	Page No
4.1	Distribution of Respondents by Caste	24
4.2	Age Composition of the Respondents	26
4.3	Religion and Situation of Divorce	27
5.1	Marriage Process and Situation of Divorce	29
5.2	Mutual Agreement before Married between Male and Females	30
5.3	Pre-Marital Information/Consent	31
5.4	Pre-marital Contacts / Relations	33
5.5	Education Level and Divorce	35
5.6	Number of Children	37
5.7	Age at Marriage	38
5.8	Occupation	41
6.1	Type of Family Structure	44
6.2	Couple in Family at Divorce	45
6.3	Duration of Married Life	46
6.4	Economic Class of the Couples	47
6.5	Number of Children Who Kept after Divorce	48
6.6	Male and Female settlement after Divorce	50

LIST OF FIGURES

Fig. No	Title of the Figure	Page No.
1.1	Conceptual Framework	6
4.1	Distribution of respondents by Caste and Ethnicity	25
4.2	Distribution of respondents by Age group	27
5.1	Percentage of Educational Status	35
5.2	Percentage of Children's Situation and Divorce	37
5.3	Age of the Respondents at the time of Marriage	39
5.4	Occupation of the Respondents	41

ACRONYMS

A.D.	=	Anno Domini.
B.C.	=	Before Christ.
B.S.	=	Bikram Shammatt.
CBS	=	Central Bureau of Statistics.
CFUGS	=	Community Forest User Groups
DDC	=	District Development Committee
DM	=	Decision Making
Fig.	=	Figure
GAD	=	Gender and Development
GoN	=	Government of Nepal
HH	=	Household
I.A	=	Intermediate in Arts
INGO	=	International Non- Governmental Organization
INSEC	=	Informal Sectoral Service Centre.
NGO	=	Non- Governmental Organization.
No.	=	Number.
S.L.C.	=	School Leaving Certificate.
SPSS	=	Statistical Package for Social Sciences.
T.U.	=	Tribhuvan University.
UNDP	=	United Nation Development Program.
UNICEF	=	United Nation International Children Education Fund
VDC	=	Village Development Committee