

CHAPTER - I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Study

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. Gay C. Kitson's (1992) influential study of marital breakdown describes a distressing process characterized by emotional distance, dissatisfaction, and frequent thoughts and discussions about whether and how to separate. Many unhappy couples explore marital counseling, extramarital relationships, and trial separations with marital happiness fluctuating upward and downward from day to day and year to year as the marital relationship and marital roles are renegotiated.

Divorce is a dynamic series of events as households dissolve, affinal kin (relatives by marriage) are no longer related, and new kin are added with remarriage. The individuals must construct new roles, redefine relationships, and restructure their lives. The relationship between parents and children is particularly interesting, because children assume a new life style that may be at odds with their parents' values. Because most parents try to maintain a non interfering stance, their children usually must take the initiative in seeking help. Most parents may be responsive to the needs of their children and grandchildren, but they resist having to act as a parent in terms of disciplining and fulfilling day-to-day instrumental care.

Human society was a simple society in the past, they used to lead nomadic life but gradually they tend to live in a group. Simultaneously human society had

passed through several stages. According to this, change occurs in the major institution like family, marriage, etc.

Marriage and family are the universal ancient human institutions. Deep powerful sentiments and traditions have grown up around them. It is a stable relationship in which a man and a woman are socially permitted to have children implying the right to have sexual relations (Bhusan, Bidhya and Sachdeva, 1997). “Marriage is a socially acknowledge and sometimes really ratified union between an adult male and an adult female” (Collins Dictionary of Sociology, 1991)

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 in dissoluble and it is for all the birth to come. “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”. (Coser, 1974)

The word ‘divorce’ in English is derived from the Latin word *divortium*, which again is derived from, ‘*apart*’ and ‘*vertere*’ which mean ‘to turn; to dissolve the marriage bond between.

Divorce is the dissolution of marital relations; in this process marriage is completely broken down either in social or legal context. The Black Dictionary of Law has defined divorce as “the legal separation of husband and wife affected by the judgment of degree of a court and either totally dissolving the married relations or suspending”.

Divorce in the proper and strict sense of the term means complete rupture of the marital bond; the persons divorced returning to their original state of being free to many. In the legal language, it might appear as a simple phenomenon but in practical life its implications are massive. Divorce happens when two people who are married decide to end their legal relationship. People decide to

divorce for lots of different reasons to end marriage with (one's spouse) by the way of legal divorce.

According to the Hindu Marriage Act 1955 (amended up to 1976), “Any marriage solemnized whether before or after the commencement of this act, may on a petition presented by either the husband or the wife; be dissolved by a decree of divorce”.

The concept of divorce may be understood as different form such term as:

a) Separation b) Desertion and c) Annulment

The topic of marriage and divorce are so closely connected that the meaning of marriage in any society cannot be understood apart from the conditions under which divorce occurs. The rapidly rising divorce rate depends up on how one views the role of the marriage and family institution in our society. Divorce occurs just because of the failure of the successful happy married life. Various social, cultural, economical and other factors in the married life are responsible for the occurrence of divorce.

Those who see the nuclear family as the norm perceive the rising divorce rate as an indicator of the breakdown of the social structure. Those who believe in the marriage vow of “until death do us part” see the rising divorce rate as a sign of moral decay. Those who see marriage as a choice for personal fulfillment regard the higher divorce rate as a sign that this goal is being accomplished (Shultz, 1962:228).

Therefore, this research basically studies about the causes of divorce in the family, its impacts and implementations in one society as well as its trend how it is affected by the process of industrialization, westernization, modernization etc.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

In Hindu society marriage is taken as a holy union between a man and a woman for the performance of religious duties. Due to religious philosophy therefore, it is indisputable and it is for all the birth to come. But the meaning

from type and function of marriage is not the same today as it is used to be. Different natures of changes occur on social institution, cultural political structure, which is a universal phenomenon. Similarly, meaning and function of marriage change in our Nepali society as well. This has ultimately increased the rate of divorce in the country. Social, economical, cultural, political etc. factors play vital role for the divorce to take place. Moreover, impact of globalization, education, westernization can be regarded as the important causes of divorce.

As a result of divorce, life of two people, their children and ultimately the whole society will get affected. They have to face various troubles, disturbances and challenges. There will be problem of rearing and caring of children. Divorced couple will be mentally tortured; remarriage of the divorced female is very difficult due to complex social structure. However, there are different cases of divorce seen in each and every society.

Therefore, this study has been conducted to find out the unidentified actors responsible for the divorce to take place, its impacts and consequences to the family as well as the entire society. This study also tries to find out the economic, social, cultural, educational status of the divorced couples and its current trend. It also focused on how they are accepted by the society and the problem that they have to face for re-adjustment.

Divorce is the cause of developmental process. What types of effects mainly occur? Why divorce rate is rapidly increasing in our society? How the marital relation ended? What types of problem occur in the family, to their children, neighbours and the entire study? This study mainly tries to seek for the answer of the above mentioned questions.

1.3. Objective of the Study

Main objective of this research is to study about increasing rate of divorce and its effects.

- 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 effects on divorced persons & their family, relatives, friends.

1.4. Importance of the Study

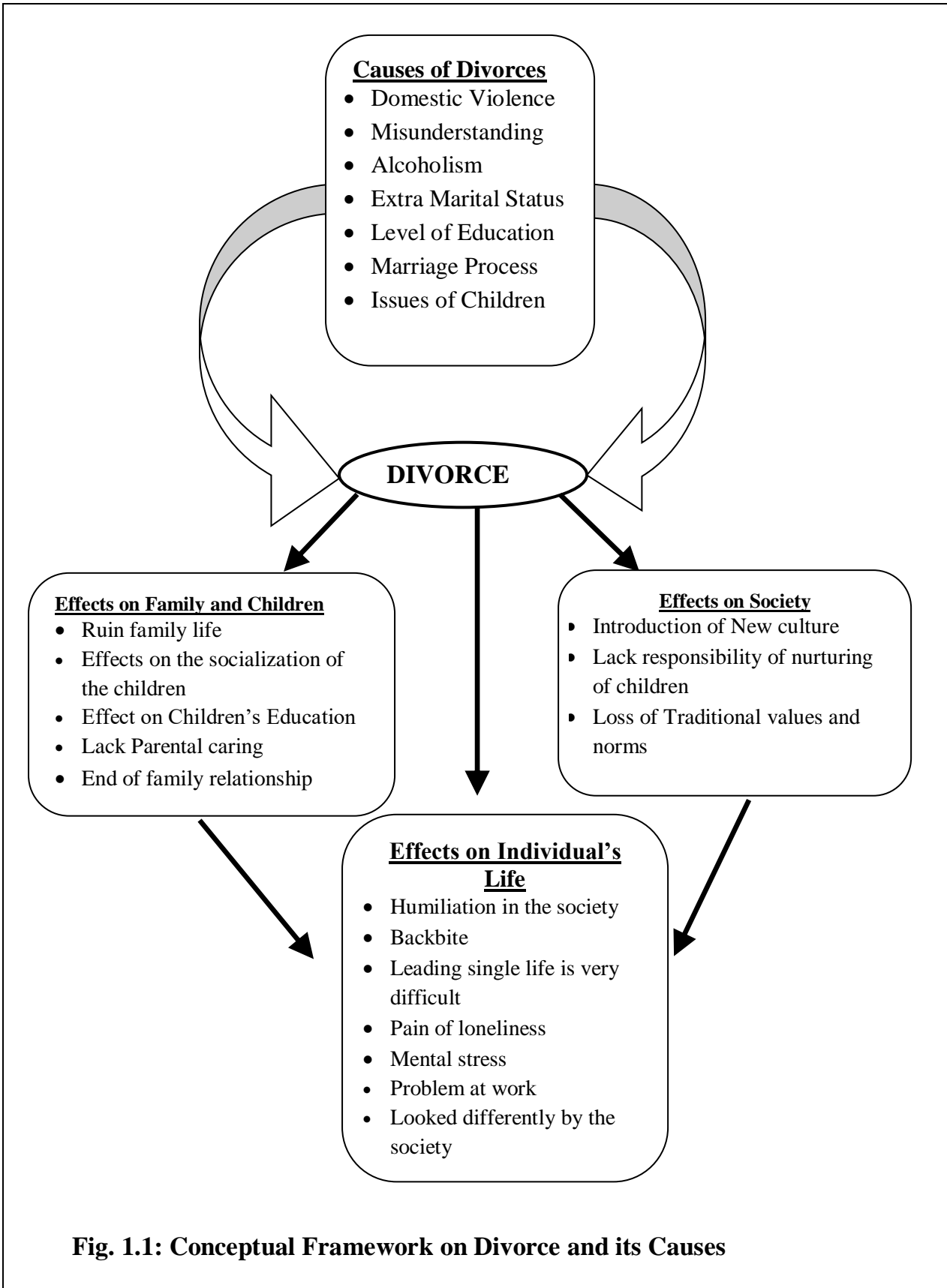
Divorce is one of the social issues. It is not only individual or personal matter. When divorce occurs between husband and wife, directly or indirectly their family as well as the whole society gets affected. Social, economic and the cultural factors may underline behind this. So, this study is a stepping stone to add new idea and knowledge to control the rate of divorce.

Early marriages, dowry system, increasing urbanization, modernization, capitalistic western culture is responsible for the increasing divorce rate are the important topics of this study.

The purposed study expected to contribute theoretically, conceptually and substantively to the Sociological and Anthropological study of divorce. It helps to know about the condition of rapidly increasing pattern of divorce rate so this research will help to analyze the causes of divorce and its implementations on society. This research also helps policy makers to make policy and also to reform the old policy about divorce.

1.5. Conceptual Framework

This framework is helpful to analyze the situation of the couples and the related people before and after the divorce occurs in their life and the adjustment, they have to make. It will further help to analyze the research work from the functional and conflict framework which the researcher has adopted. It also helps to understand the social, economical and cultural status of the divorced couples.



In the above conceptual framework, it has been assumed that there are different factors that determine the process of marriage and adjustment after the marriage. Beside these possible causes been traced out as the main factor of

marriage. Marriage that ends in divorce typically begins a process of unraveling, estrangement, or emotional separation years before the actual legal divorce are 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. Influential study of marital breakdown describes a distressing process characterized by emotional distance, dissatisfaction, and frequent thoughts and discussions about whether and how to separate. Many unhappy couples explore marital counseling, extramarital relationships, and trial separations with marital happiness fluctuating upward and downward from day to day and year to year as the marital relationship and marital roles are renegotiated. Marriage process, education level, number of children, age at marriage, occupation are the causes of divorce or not and do they affect upon the social status, cultural status and economic status. What kind of status are more affected and why? To identify the reality about divorce; its causes and effects are the guidelines of my study.

1.6 Limitation of Study

The major limitations of the study are as follows:

- This study is based on the primary data as well as secondary data collected in Pokhara Sub-Metropolitan City So; its result may not be representative for the whole country.
- This study only focuses on legally divorced person in the district court of Kaski (2060- The end of Mangsir 2068 B. S.)
- The findings of the research may not be universal as the conclusion drawn from the research is only part of the whole social reality.
- There may occur changes in the rate, causes and the factors affecting the divorce over the time laps.

- The name of the respondents may be changed for the ethical purpose, the pseudo names are used.

1.7 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.

1.8 Organization of the Study

The present research is divided into seven chapters, according to the nature of the study. It begins with the introduction and ends with the summary, finding and conclusion. The first chapter deals with introduction of the study along with the statement of the problem, research objective, and conceptual framework. Relevant literature has been reviewed in chapter two, which deals with the theoretical overviews and the review of related literature. The third chapter includes the research methods adopted in this study and the fourth chapter presents the demographic situation of the respondents.

Similarly, chapter five is about Marriage and Divorce, sixth chapter is about the Socio-economic and cultural effect of divorce among an individual and to the society is traced. Likewise, the last or the seventh chapter includes the summary, findings and conclusion. At last schedule used in the study, check list of the observation, etc are presented

CHAPTER - II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Theoretical Overview

2.1.1 Divorce in Social and Cultural Context

Either in social or legal context, The Black Dictionary of law has defined divorce as "the legal separation of husband and wife affected by the judgment of decree of a court and either totally dissolving the married relations or suspending its effect so far as concern the combination of the practices (1994). Divorcees are free to remarry after divorce where as separation may not allow it. Divorce is nothing and in common senses it is taken easily somewhere in which a couple ends their marital relations and starts to remarry, but it may create some vital problems in the family, like adjusting to new life.

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 therefore, it is indissoluble and it is for all the birth to come. Divorce itself is a process, which occurs due to different causes which particularly focus on socio-economic aspect. It has different stages, such as a) Separations-which occurs within family when marital relations is socially broken and clash begins. It is an informal preliminary step of divorce but it is not guaranteed that it leads to divorce. It has probability of reunion between husband and wife, separated couples are not free to remarry b) Desertion-"It is the irresponsible departure from the home on the part of either husband or wife, leaving the family to find for itself" (M Elliott and Merrill 1950:411), c) Annulment –"It is a court decision that the marriage contains some legal flaw (coercion, fraud, unwillingness to consummate the union, nonage, bigamy) (Goode 1963: 401). This study shows that divorce does not suddenly occur between the spouses. Pre-divorce familial contradictions had been arised as found in this study which depended on, immaturity of the partners, cruelty, sexual maladjustment, impotency, quarrelsome disposition of the spouses and

other family members, barrenness and, economic dependency that lead to divorce at final stage. Similarly, the children after the divorce of their parents would face troubles, disturbances and challenges. They would be mentally tortured, Problem of rearing and caring of the children may arise due to the absent of their parents, even as the divorcee may be mentally disturbed. Remarriage of the divorced female is very difficult due to social and cultural practices. However, there are different cases of divorce seen in each and every society either in developed or in underdeveloped, secular or non-secular and in different caste and ethnic groups. But this is true that the ratio of divorce found in modern society is higher than previous one. Secular societies are more tolerant and more open for a divorced woman. "The younger generation is increasingly ignorant of the ritualistic basis of their religion (Metha 1975:125). Due to the social and cultural complexities, mobility for job, impact of secularism, global impact of capitalism, emerging legal grounds, industrialization and urbanization, changing attitudes on traditional norms and value system are causing disintegration of marital relations. Therefore, developed and modern societies have more fertile grounds for divorce. Beside legal procedures and practices on divorce, different customary practices on divorce can be found in different caste and ethnic groups in Nepal. It assumes that invisible divorced conditions are found in the Nepalese society, which are not legally recognized and practiced in the open ground. There are four procedures of customary divorces, which are as follows:

a) *Divorce obtained by some formal action*: Married couples that are going to be divorced, have to go through some formal actions of divorce by custom in front of their community's assembly or kinsmen assembly, for example –tearing of a 'pan' leaf by both the parties indicates the end of a marriage.

b) *Divorce obtained by writing*: Divorce which is obtained by writing on the 'Divorce Form' is called 'Dohoro Likhat Gari Chhornu' or 'Chhuttanama' or 'Ichhapatra' in local language; all meaning divorce.

c) *Divorce obtained by oral pronouncement*: This kind of divorce is prevalent among Musalman communities, which are called (i)Talaque-I-Rajai (ii)Talaque-I-bine (ii) Taakaque-I-Mugallja d) Divorce obtained by "poila" or "Jari" or "Chuman" or "Sagai" form:

When a married woman elopes with someone other than her husband, her first marriage automatically breaks down (Thaplia 1995:29-30). Different customary divorce practices and patterns among different caste and ethnic groups in Nepal which are legally not seen in the public ground can be another crucial research area for sociologists.

2.1.2 Legal System for Divorce

In the Hindu Society, marriage in the Vedic period (1400-1000 BC) was regarded as a religious sacrament and was indissoluble by human action but Narada and Parasara, the two Smirti writers, had laid down that marriage code be dissolved if the husband was impotent. There were five ground of social sanction where the wife was allowed to remarry. A woman could take a second husband if the first was missing or dead or had become an ascetic or impotent or was regarded from the ease (Altekar 1980:134) As Kautilya, an ancient Philosopher/economist, has viewed if the husband and wife hated each other, divorce was to be obtained on the ground of mutual enmity. "The Buddhist literature indicates that divorce was rather unusual in the cultured section of the society, woman points out her husband that thought she did not love him, she refrained from marring again because it was not the custom in the family for a wedding wife to take new husband"(Altakar 1980: 134). During the medieval period (879-1768) remarriage and divorce for women was not allowed in the higher caste. Beside Hindus, marriage is the sacred social institution among the Christians, whether Catholic or Protestant. According to the Holy Bible, the first marriage of human society was performed at the initiative by himself (Poathan 1986:41). However, divorce has been permitted under the special legal provision for Christian. After 1857, the high court of London and after 1912, certain provincial court allowed to grant divorce with adultery as the only

ground (Poathan 1986:41). Similarly, the dissolution of Muslim marriage Act VIII of 1939 has been permitted to divorce on special ground. There are some countries even at present where divorce is not permitted by law, e.g. Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Eire, Paraguay, Philippines, and Republican Spain (Rheintein 1972:8). In this context, legal provision for divorce in Nepal was clearly declared for both husband and wife by the New Legal Code, 2020 B. S. In the first written legal code of Nepal, (Muliki Ain 1910 B.S.) has permitted a man to leave his wife by the method of sinko-kati chhuttinu(to break a small thin stick of bamboo by husband), it indicates legal recognition of divorce. Several provisions are made under two separate headings; 1) *Parpachuke Garnyako*(on Divorce) and 2) *Lognya Swasniko Mahal* (on the Section of Husband and Wife), This legal code has introduced a remarkable change on the women and by the right of divorce and separation. Similarly, the section on Husband and Wife in the *Naya Muliki Ain*(New Legal Code, 2020 B.S.) became effective after one hundred and ten years of first legal code of Nepal. The New Legal Code has provided different provisions for divorce on following circumstances:

1. The wife or husband must have resided at separate location for a period of at least three years.
2. Either the wife or husband must have engaged in a conspiracy against the life of the other or have committed a crime of serious physical assault against them, causing grave injuries.
3. The wife is found to have engaged in extra-marital sexual affairs or to have eloped
4. The wife has made a confession in a competent court that she has had sexual relations with somebody besides her husband (*Muluki Ain*, 10th amendment 2055:135).

2.1.3 Adjustment to Divorce

Numerous theoretical perspectives have been used to explain how adults adjust to divorce including feminist theories, social exchange theory, family systems theory, social learning theory, and socio-biological theories. However, many

researchers apply family stress theory to offer two general models of adult adjustment. The crisis model suggests that divorce poses a crisis for divorcing adults that result in temporary declines in well-being, but from which most individuals ultimately recover. The chronic strain model depicts divorce as setting a number of other stressful events into motion (e.g., moving to a new neighborhood, ongoing conflict between the former spouses, economic hardship) that send divorced individuals into a downward spiral from which they never fully recover. Research supports both models to some degree. In a review of research from the 1990s regarding the consequences of divorce, Paul Amato (2000) found that ‘the crisis model best described the post divorce experiences of some individuals, and the chronic strain model best described the experiences of others. He concluded that both models contained some truth, and that the determination of which model more accurately depicted post divorce adjustment largely which depended upon characteristics of the individuals studied (e.g., education, age, self-esteem), as well as the context in which the divorce occurred (e.g., social support networks, child custody status)’.

2.1.4 Adult Adjustment

Divorce affects the couple economically, mentally, emotionally, and physically. Divorce also influences the current and future relationships of the couple. Despite the predominant belief that only negative outcomes exist (deficit perspective), divorce also benefits some individuals. Best viewed as a process rather than a discrete event, divorce influences individuals before the divorce occurs, immediately following the divorce, and years later.

Economic outcomes: Because divorce divides resources that originally went to one household, an immediate decline in the standard of living for both spouses results. It also is important to understand individuals' perceptions of the degree of economic hardship, as these perceptions affect adjustment more than objective measures of their economic situation. For example, Hongyu Wang and Paul Amato (2000) explained that an objective decline in standard of living

may be viewed positively, if the more limited income also is accompanied by the gain in control over the income.

Mental and emotional outcomes: Studies demonstrate that divorced individuals exhibit higher levels of depression and anxiety than do individuals who are married, and those divorced also tend to have poorer self-concepts and exhibit more symptoms of psychological distress (compared with those who are married). Those with a history of two or more divorces report significantly more depression than either those with one divorce or those who are not divorced (Kurdek 1991), suggesting the cumulative nature of stress from divorce. Research findings are similar in other countries, as Amato (1994) found that two-thirds of divorced women in India suffer severe emotional problems. Further, Sheila Cotten (1999) noted that the common practice of categorizing divorced and widowed individuals into a single group underestimates the actual depression levels of divorced individuals, because widows often exhibit lower levels of depression and psychological distress. Consistent with the crisis model of divorce adjustment, depressive symptoms appear to peak shortly after the divorce and then gradually decline for most.

Physical outcomes: Divorced individuals also have more health problems and higher mortality rates than married or other non divorced persons. Divorced adults exhibit more risk-taking behaviors (e.g., elevated rates of drugs and alcohol use/abuse). Particularly among those recently divorced, there is an increased risk of illness, likely due to poorer immune system functioning from the stress associated with divorce. (Kitson and Morgan 1990).

Positive outcomes: Most studies have looked for, and found, primarily negative outcomes from divorce. The few studies that have investigated the potential benefits of divorce show that, particularly for women, divorce can be a positive experience (Amato 2000). If the marriage is highly conflictual the marriage can relieve stress in all family members. An individual's sense of

having successfully survived divorce is associated with increased self-confidence and efficacy, particularly for women.

2.1.5 Historical Overview of Divorce

There are certain occasions mentioned by Manu, when a wife could be suppressed. But even before doing so, sufficient efforts were to be made. A woman was not to be turned away even in the case of grievous sins. If the wife disregards her husband owing to her insanity, disease or intoxication, she should be deprived of ornaments and abandoned for three months. Drunken, false, rebellious, diseased or mischievous wives are to be superseded. A barren wife may be suppressed in eighth year after marriage; if the children die, in the tenth year; and if she bears only one daughter, in the eleventh year (Manusmriti, ix, 81).

“Narad and Kautilya allow a woman to seek a second husband if the first one is missing, dead, becomes an ascetic, is impotent, or has fallen from the caste”. “Kautilya also speaks of divorce. A divorce may be obtained only in the case of mutual enmity and hatred between the husband and wife. Neither the husband nor the wife could dissolve the marriage against the wishes of the other”.

“The researcher feels that the real reason for divorce in many cases is lack of understanding and communication between the spouses”. After studying 200 cases of divorce in her studies, she also advice “The only way to prevent divorce is to encourage a young people to understand each other and communicate freely so that tensions do not pent up and create irrevocable situations”.(Pothen, 1986:286)

But time and situation is not the same as mention above. Changes take place in the form, function and meaning of marriage. In the present context, man and woman both are given equal importance. Such ritual is not necessary to be performed in the today’s context and causes which are much more important than these mentioned above are responsible for the divorce to be occurred.

2.2 Review of Related Literatures

“A child’s reaction to parental divorce involves a process of adjusting to change rather than a single, simple reaction” (Bigner, 2005, p. 223). This should be noted because not every divorce case is the same; just as every parent is not the same nor is every child. However, the effects can be seen as a constant among children of divorced parents, “the effects of parental divorce on the children may be either short- or long-term and positive or detrimental. For example, Short-term effects include behavior difficulties at home and at school that occur in association with the initial reactions to parental separation. Long-term effects may not appear until adolescence or adulthood when individuals become involved in intimate relationships and experience difficulties in establishing them” (Bigner, 2005, p. 223)

“Divorces were mostly seen in young, moderately poor, and literate or less educated. Divorce rates appear to decline with increasing marital duration. The trend indicates that women education, greater female employment opportunities and changing sex roles of women will increase marital disruption”. (Chaudhary, 1988:165)

I agree with the writer’s view that divorce rate increases due to woman education and changes in the role and status of woman in our society as well.

“No social institution can make a final adjustment of the society, if it wishes to survive. As long as there is social change, so long there will be need for adjustment and readjustment. It is a social change is one phase of culture disrupts the balance that has been maintained and required that a near balance be worked out”. (Baber, 1939:09)

“Among 895 cases had shown that three quarters of his respondents were against dissolution of marriage on the ground of wife’s barrenness. However, more than three quarters of the respondents believed that the marriage ties should be dissolved if either of the partners was incurably insane. A similar response was reported in the case of husband or wife suffering from a virulent and incurable type of leprosy’. (Kuppuswamy, 1957:175)

“Association between divorce and age at starting marital life, child birth, family structure etc. may hold true with controls for such variables as husband and wife’s education, occupation and income, suggestion that factors directly associated with divorce may be a fruitful area for Sociological research”.(Bumpass & Jamesa 1970,37:00754-66)

Sambandha bichhed ko karanka roopma antar pariwarik jhagadaka karanlai aaulai sasubuhari ko jhagada ra paramparagat mannyetalai jimmewar thaniyako painchha (Nepali, 1965). This study mainly focused on Newar community however, it is the first sociological study about family, marriage, kinship, divorce.

All the points mentioned above can be regarded as an important factor for the divorce to take place. In my study I will also consider all the causes mentioned above to find out how much they play a vital role.

Drastic changes of traditional relationship between husband and wife due to development of education, changes in social norms and values, development of capitalistic thinking, industrialization, modernization, urbanization, westernization etc. Development of women education seems to the rights of divorces.

“Economic causes and sexual causes are the common reasons of divorce in every caste system”. (Acharya 2054:88-90). However, besides these causes, several other social, cultural factors may also be responsible for the occurrence of divorce, which has been ignored by this study. Though this study focuses on the case from 2052-2054 of Pokhara Sub-Metropolitan City but fails to reach depth into the actual reality. This study try to analyze the acquired data but fails to draw attention towards the problem arises after marriage. Especially, foreign British Ex-Army is being focuses and only economic factor is being given due attention.

In the study of divorce in Pokhara Sub-Metropolitan City, increasing rate of divorce in the Bramin and Chhetri caste, as well as why condition of divorce occur in arrange & love marriage and its impact on their children are the

findings of the study(Baral, 2054). However, this study is specifically focused on only one group and also fails to present the condition of divorced couples and its causes. It also fails to present in which community rate of divorce is higher.

Kunwar (2058),study is concentrated only in the Kathmandu and Lalitpur valley. And only social, economic & cultural aspects are given due attention. However, several other causes are being ignored.

Several researchers have tried to study and analyze divorce in their own way. However these studies have failed to find out the actual cause and its ultimate effects on the society and give us the genuine conclusion. The effects of divorce have to be faced by the family and society as well in various aspects. That is why causes of the divorce vary and have inter relationship with each other that is why this research tries to find out the unidentified causes and their effects in the family as well as the society.

CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

The methods, adopted in the pursuit of a research study are very significant in order to make it scientific, unbiased and logical. In the Sociological research that is related to social relation and human behavior so this research is mainly based upon the condition of problem and the situation of related aspects.

3.1 Rationale for the Selection of Study Site

By scope, I mean the ingredients or the specific areas of study. This research was basically based upon one of the tourism places of the world, Pokhara (Pokhara sub-Metropolitan city). The data collection of related field had been taken from district court of Kaski but the descriptive study based upon questionnaire, interview, case study, observation method in the related person. The main scopes of the present study are mentioned below:

- Causes of divorce, especially with reference to the socio-economic and cultural status of the couples.
- Consequences of divorce, such as personal problems, family problems, reaction of the community, sexual adjustment and the contacts & the sentiments of the former partner.
- Divorce and children, especially with whom are the children, how are they looked after, and the children's contacts with and attachments to the parents.

3.2 Research Design

This study mainly based on Exploratory and Descriptive research design. In descriptive research, the study based on the information of related Lawyers and in Exploratory the study based on the related person of divorced about the causes of divorce. Its implementation of the socio-economic and cultural aspects was taken into consideration. This study mainly focused to get the information about the condition of divorce increase in Nepal. It also helps to take the decision in policy making level.

3.3 Universe and Sampling

This study is based on the Pokhara sub-metropolitan city along with its 18 wards. In this study, at first, the researcher collected data from Kaski district court. The total numbers of cases were recorded as 48 in the fiscal year 2066/67, while in the year 2067/68, 53 cases were recorded so far as to push. For the study purpose, the researcher had taken 25 percent of the universe and made field study. Then the researcher went to the ward office to identify the respondents. Since husband and wife both were necessary for this research, the researcher to visit both of the party. To fulfill that need the researcher selected those kinds of respondents who were easily available.

3.4 Nature and Sources of Data

In this study, the sources of data collection method mainly based upon Primary and Secondary sources: In primary sources: the divorced couple, their family and related person who know them. And in Secondary sources: records of the court, related documents and other information which helped to study about the divorce.

3.5 Primary Data Collection Techniques

In the study, all the techniques mentioned below were applied to obtain as much information as possible which are discussed below. The following techniques were applied to collect the data.

3.5.1 Judicial Court Records

Each divorce case contains a file in the judicial court. These files are consigned to the record room of the court in bundles of several cases. After taking the permission of the court, the divorce case files were seen. Much time, energy and patience were needed to locate, segregate and go through the individual files. In the case file, different informations (papers) such as: the application of the petitioner, court notice to the respondent, reply of the respondent, statement of witnesses like relatives, friends and others, statement of both parties at the time of the hearing of the cases, including cross-examination and the decree of

divorce by the Honorable judge were studied. Thus, the divorce file of each case gave a lot of information

3.5.2 Schedule-Cum-Interview

In the process of interview the researcher interviewed 25 divorced couples and those persons related to them about family structure, types of marriage, education level, age at marriage, information about children, causes of divorce, life after divorce etc. were asked to fill up the questionnaire as well as direct, and indirect form of question were asked in order to get the information regarding their character, status, education condition and so on.

3.5.3 Observation

Researcher visited the families of the respondents and from the home environment first hand and requisite information was gathered. It provided an opportunity to meet the children, relatives and other associates of the respondents. In this study, the researcher was non-participant observes as well which helped to get information about life style, occupation, children's situation etc. In this research, the researcher also studied about the family background, their behaviors about the children and whole situation through participant observation. This observation was made there too about the behaviors and relationship of divorcees.

3.5.4 Case Study

Case study method is one of the most useful and effective methods. In the case of divorce, it is related to the individual's life so, the case study method is important because of the study about the social unit is the individual case, which is micro universe. Case study of 5 divorced couples was performed according to the judicial court data of Pokhara Sub- Metropolitan city.

The main objective of case study method was why, what and how the ending of marital relation was finding the condition of and their children, family members and divorced persons in the micro and universal level. In the case of case study, there was used structured and non-structured interview method.

Which helps to know about the various aspects of divorce, including background, marital adjustment, ground for divorce, actual cases, effect of divorce, children of divorced couples etc.

3.5.5 Key Informants

In this study, address of informant's, legal process, analysis of information process mainly based upon the information, suggestion and support by the different aspects of society; like teachers, local political leaders, other family members, divorced couple's neighbors, their friends, relatives and lawyers.

About the process of research, I analyzed divorced couple's family and private situation after marriage, couples choosing process, marriage process, family disorganization and the condition of divorce in micro level.

3.5.6 Method of Data Analysis and Presentation

Mainly descriptive method of data analysis was adopted for this study. However, statistical method was also adopted to show the correlation and variation in data. Data were processed in computer using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS. 16 for windows) and the same package was used to analyze the data obtained from field study. Cross tabulation, percentage distribution and frequency tables are the main tools to analyze the data. In order to make it easy to understand, the result of the study, charts line graphs and figures are also used to some variables.

3.6 Experience of Data collection and some problems

Data collection isn't an easy task when one chooses complicated and sensitive topic like divorce. I had to go to lots of trouble and tension while collecting data for my research study. First of all, I got help from court record regarding the name of the divorced couple .But due to haphazard filing of the court record it was very time consuming and troublesome. Secondly, I visited the entire wards in order to find the address of the respondent. I collected data at the time when the entire wards representative were not nominated so I had lots of difficulties in finding the exact address of the respondent. Above all, most of

the respondents did not have their permanent address as they lived in an apartment of rental home. Their address kept on changing frequently. Most of them had gone to abroad for the employment. It was also very hard to find the exact address of the female respondent as most of them had been living with their parents. Sometimes, I had to keep on roaming here and there and came back an accomplishment. It was also very hard to make the respondent understand the purpose behind my research.

Divorce is a very sensitive issue so most of the respondents did not want to disclose their private matters in front of the strangers. I really had tough time. While interviewing the respondents their family members and hovers around the respondents even tried to hide the actual cause of the divorce. So, I had to be very careful and cautious while interviewing the respondents. Most of them had also suspected me that I waas a journalist and hesitated even to talk with me. However, some of the respondents and their family members were very co-operative and friendly which helped me a lot.

CHAPTER - IV
DEMOGRAPHIC SITUATION OF THE RESPONDENTS

4.1. Cultural Setting of the study site

The total population of Pokhara is 1, 56,312 according to Pokhara sub-metropolitan office. This population is including people from various castes i.e. Brahmins, Chhetries, Newars, Thakuries, Gurungs, Magars, Tamangs, Damais, Kamis, Sarkis, etc. Similarly, as per the religious point of view, the people following different religions, such as Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, and Christianity, etc live in the sub-metropolitan city these people belonging to different caste and religions and their own distinct culture. These prove again that Pokhara is a melting pot for different culture. Seeing this fact we can state that Pokhara is a mosaic of various religions and cultures.

4.2. Distribution of Respondents by Caste

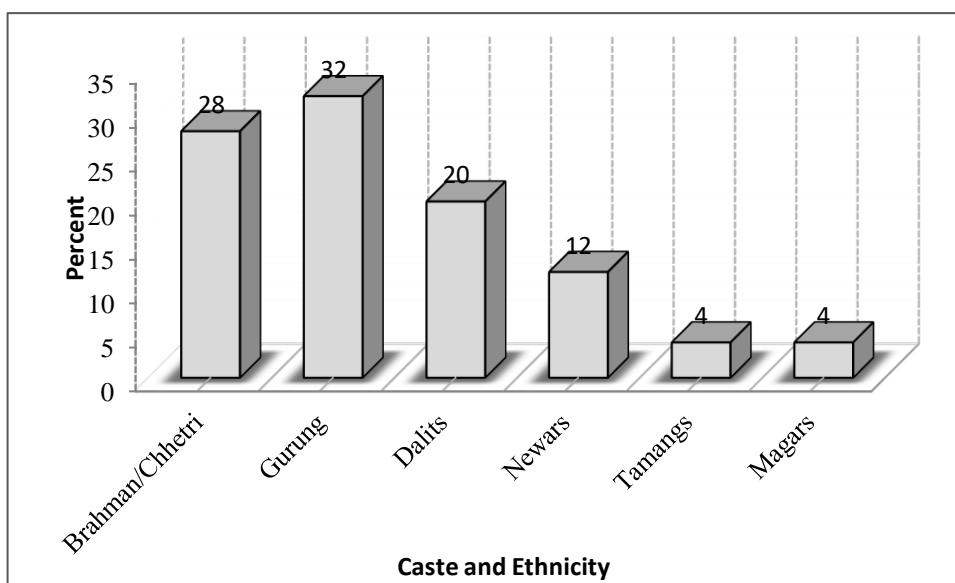
Nepal is a multilingual, multicultural and multi ethnic country. Pokhara renowned for its natural beauty, it is one of the major urban areas, which is directly affected due to rapid urbanization. Different caste groups and ethnic groups dwell here in one singular mosaic form though they differ with each other in many ways so as the level of divorce also differs according to the caste. The level of divorce is high in some caste groups and low in others.

Table 4.1: Caste wise Distribution of the Respondents

| Caste/Ethnicity | Frequency | Percent |
|------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Brahman/Chhetri | 14 | 28 |
| Gurung | 16 | 32 |
| Dalits | 10 | 20 |
| Newars | 6 | 12 |
| Tamangs | 2 | 4 |
| Magars | 2 | 4 |
| Total | 50 | 100 |

Source: Field survey 2012

This table shows the level of divorce in various caste group. In Pokhara sub metropolitan city divorce occurs 32% in Gurungs, 28% in Brahmin/ Chhetri, 20% in Dalits and 20% in others caste groups respectively by the records of Kaski district court. Gurung population of Pokhara sub-metropolitan city is less than Brahin /Chhetri but the level of divorce is 4% high. Similarly, among Dalits (Damai, Kami, Sarki etc.) the rate of divorce is 20% and in other caste groups (Newar, Tamang, Magar) the rate of divorce is 20%. This field survey shows that the level of divorce in Pokhara Sub-metropolitan City is higher in Gurungs (32%) and lower in other (20%) in comparison to whole population. Divorce rate of Dalits (20%) is also higher than Brahmin/Chhetri and other caste group.



Source: Field survey 2012

Fig.4.1: Distribution of respondents by Caste and Ethnicity

Divorce is more in practice among Dalits than in Brahmin/Chhetri and other. In Gurung society, women's role is considered to be an important one. Women play vital role in decision making and in other household activities. She is the leading one. They easily accept remarriage of male and female both. Women's position is comparatively better than in other caste groups. Main cause of increase in the rate of divorce in Gurung community due to the economic condition, the flow of out migration in search of better job and employment at

foreign land. Similarly, divorce rate among the lower caste group (Dalits) is also high. There occur no boundaries for them to remarriage and divorce due to their low economic status.

In contrast, divorce rate in Brahmin / Chhetri is comparatively lower than Gurung and Dalits. This shows that social norms and values play vital role in the occurrence of divorce. However, due to increase in education level, most of the castes have become very liberal towards certain norms and values. In other caste groups such as Newar, Tamangs, Magars both population distribution and divorce rate are very low in the Pokhara valley.

4.3 Age Composition of the Respondents

Age structure refers to the breakdown of the population into various age groups; based on the field survey 2012. The age structure of the respondents shows a heavy concentration in 20s and below 20 years. Age is believed to be the most important variable to determine divorce. And this factor also helps in gaining matured response of the respondents. To gain the in-depth knowledge and information about the issues, researcher of the study had collected the following facts about the age- wise composition of the respondents.

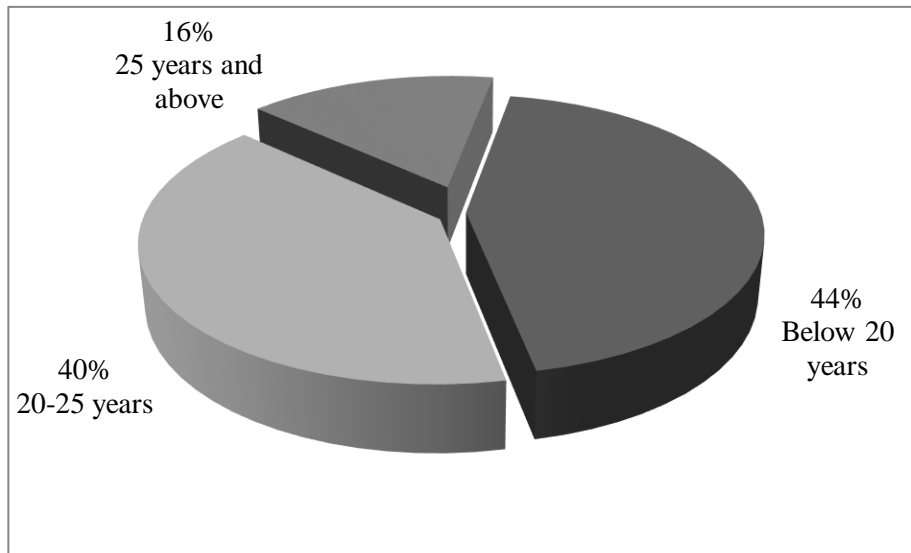
Table 4.2: Age Structure of the Respondents

| Age Groups | Frequency | Percent |
|-------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Below 20 years | 22 | 44 |
| 20-25 years | 20 | 40 |
| 25years and above | 8 | 16 |
| Total | 50 | 100.00 |

Source: Field Survey 2012

The table 4.2 above clearly demonstrates the fact that majority of the respondents was from the age groups below 20 years, which includes 44 (22) percent, those who are the couples, include the age group of 20-25 years, are 20 respondents in composed of 40 percent and Likewise, the least group of

respondents was from 25 years and above, which includes 16 respondents of 8 percent.



Source: Field Survey 2012

Fig.4.2: Distribution of Respondents by Age Group

To sum up, we can say that the respondent's range in the groups was from the level of matured one and can rely on the response that they had reported at the time of investigation.

4.4. Religion and Situation of Divorce

Nepal, though declared secular state, still majority of the people in Nepal is reported of being the follower of Hinduism. And religion is very important in the Hindu oriental state because the term is related with the Hindu context. Hinduism is one of the prime religions of our country. Most of the people are Hindu by religion. More than 60 ethnic groups are the in-habitant of Pokhara sub-Metropolitan City (census 2058B.S) so; Pokhara valley is cultural mosaic of various castes along with their respective culture, religion, Social norms and values.

Table 4.3: Distribution of the Respondents by Religion

| Religion | Frequency | Percent |
|--------------|-----------|------------|
| Hindu | 36 | 72 |
| Buddhist | 14 | 28 |
| Total | 50 | 100 |

Source: Field survey 2012

Hindu religion does not accept divorce socially but according to Muluki-Ain 1992, each and every people has equal legal rights. According to the field survey, 72% of respondents are Hindu and 28% are Buddhist out of 100%. 28% of Gurung community follow Buddhism where as 72% of other caste groups (Brahmins /Chhetries, Dalits, others) believe in Hinduism. Divorce rate in both the religions Hinduism as well as Buddhist is equal. In Hinduism where divorce is not socially accepted, divorce rate is high as well. Main reasons behind the increase in this rate are due to change in the prospectives of people towards divorce, increase in education level, women's empowerment etc.

4.5. Distribution of Divorce in Pokhara sub-metropolitan City

In Pokhara sub-metropolitan City, there were many divorce cases filed. People are divorced through legal process according to the record of Kaski district court. Many people filed the case of divorce at first but it was not continued in the court till the last. More people divorce before the final decision of court. In this condition, private lawyers are more responsible for making agreements with them.

Minimum cases were decided by the judiciary board and maximum cases were finalized without any process of decision by the court. "Many husbands and wives are coming together in court for divorce and go together after divorce." Court is only for the legal center of paper divorce, which is more practiced in Pokhara. It may be the cause of foreign employment.

In district court of Kaski and, in 2067 to 2068 B.S. there were 25 cases were found. The rate of final decision cases is increasing day by day.

CHAPTER - V

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE

5.1. Marriage Process and Situation of Divorce

Divorce Process is not possible without marriage. There is much relationship built up by the process of marriage but that kind of relationship is not stable because many causes help to destroy it. At first marriage, process is more important for the establishment of newly married life. This table shows the types of marriage and its situation upon divorce.

Table 5.1: Types of Marriage and Divorce

| S.no . | Type of marriage | Frequenc y | Percen t | Type of marriage | Frequenc y | Percen t |
|--------|------------------|------------|------------|----------------------|------------|------------|
| 1 | Arrange Marriage | 17 | 68 | Intra- Caste | 19 | 76 |
| 2 | Love Marriage | 8 | 32 | Inter-Caste Marriage | 6 | 24 |
| | Total | 25 | 100 | Total | 25 | 100 |

Source: Field survey 2012

This table shows that 68% of arrange married couples and 32% of love married couples are divorced. On the other hand 24% of inter-caste marriage ends with divorce and 76% of intra-caste marriage. Marriage process is more responsible for the increase of divorce rate. In arrange marriage family role is more important than love marriage and early marriage is also responsible for the divorce. Patent's and relative's pressure is most common factor to increase the rate of divorce. Most of the persons are not able to know about their life in early age. If they get marry with the family pressure; they are able to know every thing about life than they get divorce. Cultural, social and economical differences between husband and wife in love marriage are also responsible factors to destroy the relationship and that kind of relationship is not sustainable.

5.2. Mutual Agreement before Marriage Between Male and Female

Marriage process which not only builds up the relationship between male and female but also helps to build up the relationship between one family to another. It is the most important thing that both male and female must fully agree and support to run their relationship in the journey of marriage. If there is no any kind of support then this relationship can be easily destroyed. This table shows/defines the rate of agreement between male and female in the process of choosing their life partner.

Table 5.2: Male and Female in the Decision Making before Marriage

| Sex | Arrange Marriage | | | | Total | Love Marriage | | | | Total |
|--------------|------------------|--------------|----------|--------------|------------------|---------------|--------------|----------|--------------|-----------------|
| | Yes | | No | | | Yes | | No | | |
| Male | 7 | 20.59 | 1 | 29.41 | 17 (50%) | 6 | 37.5 | 2 | 12.5 | 8 (50%) |
| Female | 2 | 5.88 | 1 | 44.12 | 17 (50%) | 3 | 18.75 | 5 | 31.25 | 8 (50%) |
| Total | 9 | 26.47 | 2 | 73.53 | 34 (100%) | 9 | 56.25 | 7 | 43.75 | 16(100%) |

Source: Field survey 2012

In arrange marriage 20.59% of male candidates get agree for marriage but 29.41% of male do not agree. On the other hand 5.88% of females agree but 44.12% of females are not agreed. So, we can say that family pressure is more responsible in the forceful marriage for female than for male. Female's voice is less effective, within their family member and relatives. Parent's pressure and relatives' willingness are more important than their children's individual life. So, those kinds of force destroy their children's individual life and in future, it hurts their parents also. In love marriage 37.50% of males agree but 12.50% of males did not agree for marriage and 18.75% of females agree but 31.25% of females do not agree for marriage. It shows that male's decision is more forceful than female's for marriage. That kind of condition in love marriage defines that female is dominated by male.

More than 70% of males and females in arrange marriage and more than 40% of males and females in love marriage have married without their personal willingness/interest. Love marriage is better than arrange marriage in the comparison of the percentage of male and female in the decision making before marriage. In both kinds of marriage female voice is less heard than male. They were dominated by their parents, relatives and future husband/ future life partner without personal willingness and interest that kind of relationship will not be sustainable and durable at last.

5.3. Pre-Marital Information/Consent

Marriage is a mutual relationship between husband and wife. Pre-marital information between couple is the most for the durable and transparent relationship. Marriage is a permanent bond which lasts for the lifetime so that pre-marital information between male and female who are going to get married is very important for their durability of married life. Most importantly it is necessary to know everything about their life partner. There should be co-operation and understanding between husband and wife. If there is not any pre-marital information about their partner, then the married life will be uncertain because behavior, habit, level of understanding, co-operation, believes, loyal etc are most important for the sustainable relationship. Human beings have their own dream, planning to lead their life successfully. Knowing each other properly is the best possible way for further help to lead successful married life. Pre-marital information means to know about the family background, education, way of living, unhealthy habits, behavior etc.

Table 5.3: Pre-marital Information/consent

| Sex | Arrange Marriage | | | | Total | Love Marriage | | | | Total |
|--------------|------------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|------------------|---------------|--------------|----------|--------------|------------------|
| | Yes | No | Yes | No | | Yes | No | | | |
| Male | 3 | 11.76 | 14 | 38.24 | 17 (50%) | 8 | 31.25 | 0 | 18.75 | 8 (50%) |
| Female | 1 | 5.88 | 16 | 44.12 | 17 (50%) | 7 | 12.50 | 1 | 37.50 | 8 (50%) |
| Total | 4 | 17.64 | 30 | 82.36 | 34 (100%) | 15 | 43.75 | 1 | 56.25 | 16 (100%) |

Source: Field survey 2012

In arrange marriage 44.12 % of females and 38.24% of males do not have pre-marital information. Similarly, in love marriage 37.50% of females and 18.75% of males do not have pre-marital information. The data shows that the highest percentage of males and females in arrange marriage have no pre-marital information and lowest percentage of males and females in arranged marriage have pre-marital information. On the other hand, 12.50% of females and 31.25% of males have pre-marital information in love marriage. Similarly, 37.50% of females and 18.75 % of males have no pre-marital information in love marriage. The highest percentage of females has no pre-marital information and the lowest percentage of females has pre-marital information in love marriage.

The lowest percentage of females has pre-marital information in both types of marriage and the highest percentage of females has no pre-marital information in both types of marriage. Therefore, female always

Case: 1 (Marriage without pre-Marital information)

18 yrs old Manju Poudel is from outside Pokhara Valley and 43 yrs Bal Bahadur KC has one shop in Pokhara. Both are from Brahmin/Chhetri caste group. Husband's education is intermediate level and wife's is secondary level. At the time, when Manju Poudel had come to Pokhara, her husband saw her and liked her then they got married without the full consent of Manju Poudel. Initially, Manju Poudel didn't know anything about her husband after marriage she came to know that he was already married and had one son also. These causes aroused misunderstanding between them and always caused tension around them. Later, she also came to know that Bal Bahadur KC had already done permanent family planning. Finally, Manju Poudel wanted to leave him and they got divorced. On the other side Bal Bahadur KC blame her to be arrogant, quarrelsome, suspicious and disloyal. They lived together for 5 yrs. Manju Poudel now feel sad for being alone but happy as for living tension free life. She is now living with her friends. Bal Bahadur KC realized that second marriage was a mistake. Manju Poudel does not want to marry again as she believes her first marriage has completely ruined her entire life.

Lag behind in comparison to male. The percentage of pre-marital information in love marriage is doubled than arrange, so the percentage of sharing information is better in love marriage than in arrange marriage. If the couples are joined together in marriage without their consultation and consensus, it is likely to create difficulties later on.

From the above analysis, we can conclude that even today, a good number of arrange marriage are arranged without certaining the wishes of the actual partners involved in marriage. Resulting in marital mal-adjustments and dissolution; women's wishes and choices are more neglected as compared with those of men.

5.4. Pre-marital Contacts / Relations

Marriage is not only the relation between male and female, in broad sense it makes the relations between one family to another. Human behavior is most important for the continuity of family system. Marriage makes one new 'Koutumbik Network'. Pre-marital contacts with male and female are most important to know each other more easily.

Table 5.4: Pre-marital contacts

| Sex | Arrange Marriage | | | | Total | Love Marriage | | | | Total |
|--------------|------------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|------------------|---------------|--------------|----------|-------------|-----------|
| | Yes | No | Yes | No | | Yes | No | | | |
| Male | 3 | 8.82 | 14 | 41.18 | 17 (50%) | 8 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 8 (50%) |
| Feale | 1 | 2.94 | 16 | 47.06 | 17 (50%) | 7 | 43.75 | 1 | 6.25 | 8 (50%) |
| Total | 4 | 11.76 | 30 | 88.24 | 34 (100%) | 15 | 83.75 | 1 | 6.25 | 16 (100%) |

Source: Field survey 2012

In arrange marriage, 47.06% of females and 41.18% of males have no pre-marital contacts/relations. Similarly, 2.94 % of females and 8.82 % of males have pre-marital contacts/relations. In arrange marriage the lowest percentage of women has pre-marital contacts/relations and the highest percentage of women have no pre-marital contacts/relations. On the other hand, in love marriage 50 % of males have pre-marital contacts/relations. Similarly, 43.75 % of females have Pre-marital contacts/ relations but 6.25 % of females do not have pre-marital contacts/relations in love marriage. The level of pre-marital

contacts /relations in love marriage is cent percent in male but females contacts/relations is not so good than males.

Case: 2 Lack of attachment due to distances in relationship

24 yrs Santosh and 20yrs Monica had an arrange marriage and both are well educated. Both of them belong to Gurung community. They didn't know anything about their spouse because their relatives forced for their marriage. Santosh is a lahure and most of the time he stays abroad which causes distance in their relationship. Santosh blames his wife to be an out going, disobedient and stubborn person. Lack of attachment between them gives rise to conflict and eventually separates them. Now, he is not satisfied with his life and feels himself to be mentally weak. He does not want to get married again and go through that same trauma again.

In arrange marriage 88.24 % of males and females have no pre-marital contacts/relations and in love marriage only 6.25 % of females do not have. This shows that the percentage of pre-marital contacts/relations is more better in love marriage than arrange because 83.75 % in love marriage and 11.76 % in arrange marriage have pre-marital contracts/relations.

Only matching of horoscope is important precedent for arrange marriage. The decision is taken by the parents/elders with or without the consent of the marrying couples. It is only after actual ceremony of marriage, a couple will start knowing each other's. A boy and a girl are allowed just to see each other in arrange marriage. Females are always dominated by male because the percentage of male about the pre-marital contacts/relations is better than female in both types of marriage.

5.5. Education Level and Divorce

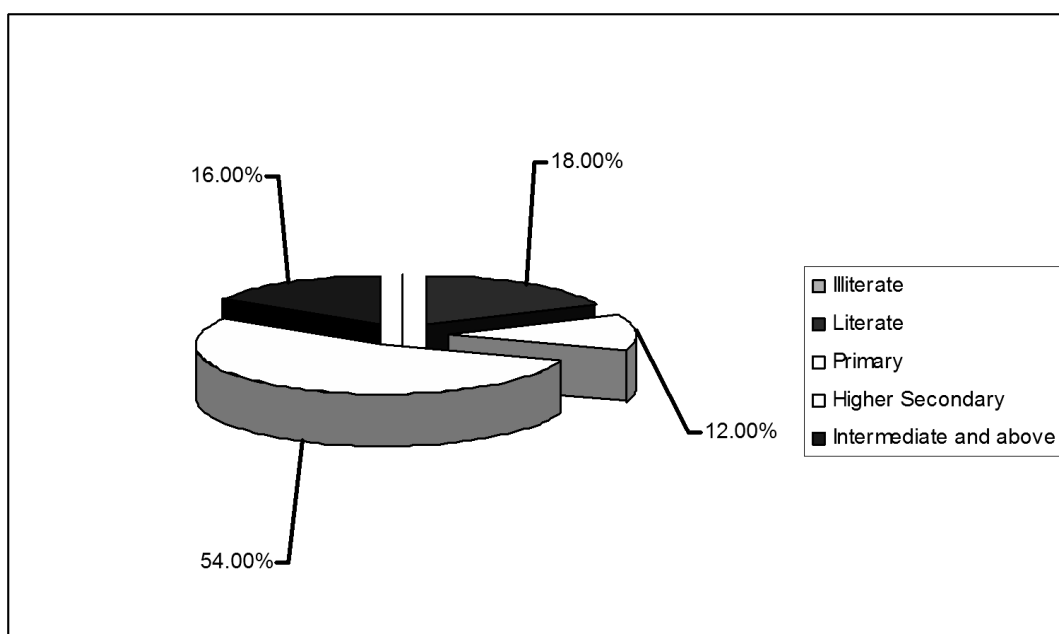
Education helps to develop family relationship, which ultimately affects the divorce rate as well. People are getting educated day by day. More people are aware about their rights which cause more divorce rate. Similarly, divorce occurs in modern society. Merrill and Elliott define "Divorce in terms of

educational roles. Elliot(1961) states that "Education of the husbands and wives is important in the phenomenon of legal divorce. It is not possible to predict whether education exercises any restraining or corrective influence with regard to divorce."

Table 5.5: Educational Status of the Respondents

| Educational Level | Male | | Female | | Total | |
|------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| | Frequency | Percent | Frequency | Percent | Frequency | Percent |
| Illiterate | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Literate | 4 | 16 | 5 | 20 | 9 | 18 |
| Primary Level | 2 | 8 | 4 | 16 | 6 | 12 |
| Secondary | 12 | 48 | 15 | 60 | 27 | 54 |
| Intermediate and Above | 7 | 28 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 16 |
| Total | 25 | 100 | 25 | 100 | 50 | 100 |

Source: Field survey 2012



Source: Field survey 2012

Fig.5.1: Percentage of Educational Status

This table shows that everyone who is literate gets divorced. 60% of female respondents who have higher secondary education and 48% of male in same education level have highest divorce rate. On the other hand, 4% of intermediate and above females and 8% of primary level males are in least divorced group. It defines that 54% of males and female in higher secondary level have the highest rate of divorce. Similarly 18% of males and females who are literate have highest rate of divorce than 16% of males and females in intermediate and above. 12% of primary level studied males and females have least divorced rate.

Higher secondary level studied respondents get more divorced than other educational level so it defines that little knowledge is more dangerous. Male are able to study in higher level than female so lack of similarities in intermediate and above level in male and female is also one of the main cause of divorce. But some education level is more harmful for the destroy of family then other. Higher secondary level males and females of 45% get divorced due to the equal level in knowledge. No one can live under other's domination so the equal education level leads to more dis-satisfaction in every step. Equal level of education also causes the distraction of family. Higher educated people are more aggressive which leads to the destruction of family life than lower educated people. If people get more education then divorce rate increases. Eventually, we can say that education plays vital role to increase the rate of divorce.

5.6. Number of Children

Pothen(1986) states that "The three parts of a family are husband, wife and children. When divorce has been held, Women and children are the worst suffers of divorce, though husbands too suffer. Husbands can remarry, wives also can remarry after divorce, but then where can the children go?"

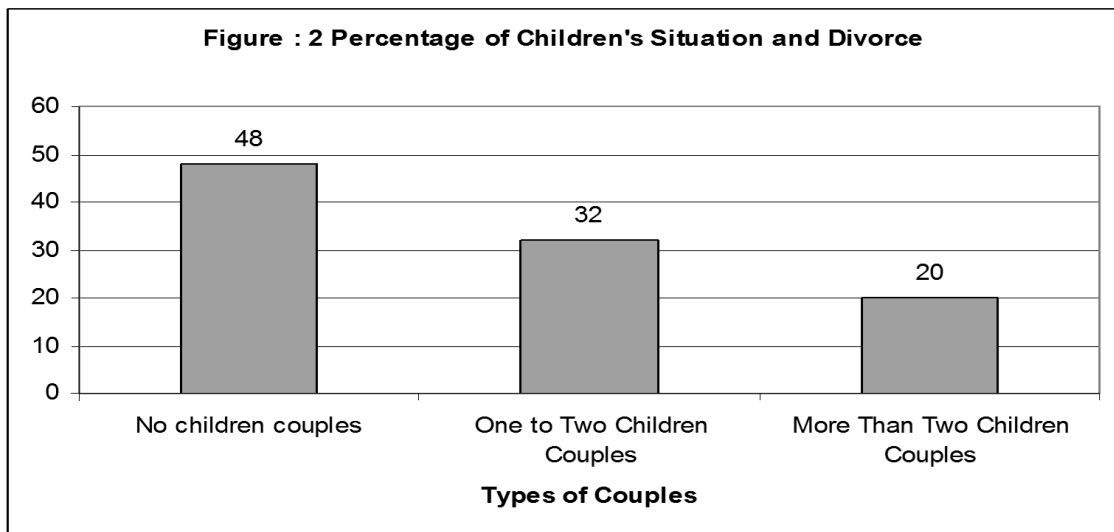
Kinsley Davis (1969) states that, "Divorce is a more serious problem in single family than in joint family, in so far as the children are concerned."

Table 5.6: Children's Situation and Divorce

| Types of Couples | Frequency | Percent |
|------------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| No Child couple | 12 | 48 |
| 1-2 Children Couple | 8 | 32 |
| Couple having more than 2 children | 5 | 20 |
| Total | 25 | 100 |

Source: Field survey 2012

In 48% cases, the divorced couples had no children. 32% of divorcees had one to two children and 20% of divorcees had more than two children. The fact that majority of the couples did not have children which proves that childlessness and divorce have inter-relationship. In other words, childlessness facilitated easy divorce. Usually, both the parents experience thrill and pride in becoming a father or mother.



Source: Field survey 2012

Fig.5.2: Percentage of Children's Situation and Divorce

Birth of a child also affects the time-schedule of a couple. Before the arrival of the child, they have plenty of time and leisure together. With the arrival of the baby, the baby takes up most of the mother's time and she hardly spends time with her husband. The chances for mutual fights are also automatically reduced.

Children may decrease the rate of divorce but not completely. Having fewer children is also one of the factors that may be responsible for divorce. 52% divorcees had children so childlessness is not only the causes of divorce, other factors also play vital role. After divorce, children's condition becomes more critical. So, the main thing is to think about those children's who need legal rights, love, help, and co-operation.

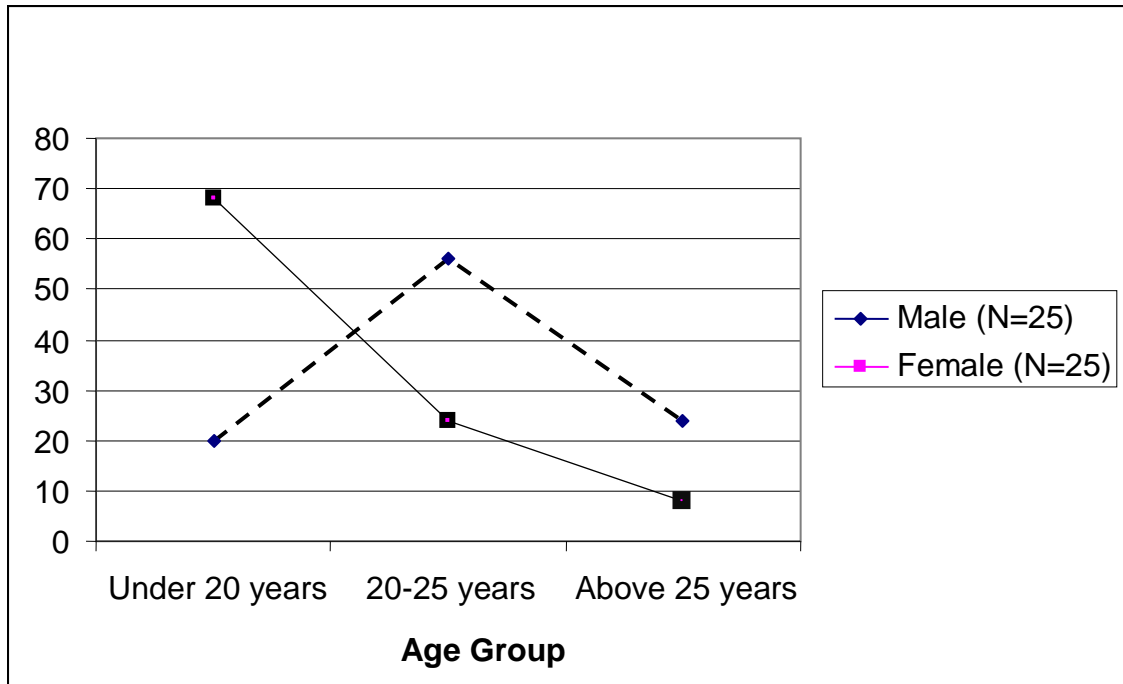
5.7. Age at Marriage

Age at marriage is the important for mutual understanding. Early marriage always helps to increase the rate of divorce because married couple will not reach maturity, understandings and thoughtfulness are most important capabilities which develop gradually. We cannot expect mature behavior from a very young boy or girl. Very late marriages may also create difficulties for adjustment. Many years difference between husband and wife may also create problems. In this study, the condition of age at marriage and divorce, and their relationship is taken into consideration on and studied.

Table 5.7: Age of the Respondents at the time of Marriage

| Age Groups | Male | | Female | | Total |
|----------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| | Frequency | Percent | Frequency | Percent | |
| Under 20 Years | 5 | 20 | 17 | 68 | 22 |
| 20-25 years | 14 | 56 | 6 | 24 | 20 |
| Above 25 years | 6 | 24 | 2 | 8 | 8 |
| Total | 25 | 100 | 25 | 100 | 50 |

Source: Field survey 2012



Source: Field survey 2012

Fig.5.3: Age of the Respondents at the time of Marriage

This table shows that 56% of males got married in 20-25 years but on the other hand 68% of female got married under 20 years. Only 8% of females married at age above 25. Thus, we can say that early marriage is one of the main reasons for divorce where 44% of males and females married at the age under 20 years. Age at marriage and divorce is related so, those early-married couples are mature. Early marriage means less maturity, economically dependent, less education, which also create difference between couples and can also further lead to separation.

Case: 3 Adultery of a husband

22 yrs Hari and 19 yrs Prabati had love marriage. Both were from Tamang community and well educated. He was a police officer so when got transfer in Pokhara he married Parbati. Hari knew everything about Parbati at the time of their marriage but Parbati was completely innocent. He had to roam here and there because of his unstable job. This was the main cause of their divorce. They had one daughter also but Hari didn't accept this had the daughter heightened the tension between them and divorce took place. Prabati blamed her husband to be a liar, fraud. Now, child lives with her mother as Hari got married before. Currently, Prabati lives alone and works in a school and also has one small shop to look after. She does not want to get married again. She very frequently keeps on worried about her little girl.

5.8. Occupation

There is much relationship between occupation and marital life. Occupation helps to increase the economic condition and also plays a vital role in society for social interaction. Daily lives, level of thinking, perspectives also are changed by the occupation. The study of fonseca 1966 in Bombay revealed that "Discord in the clerical and skilled, business, unskilled and employed classes appear to out weigh discord in the professional class" This contain defines about the occupational relationship of divorce.

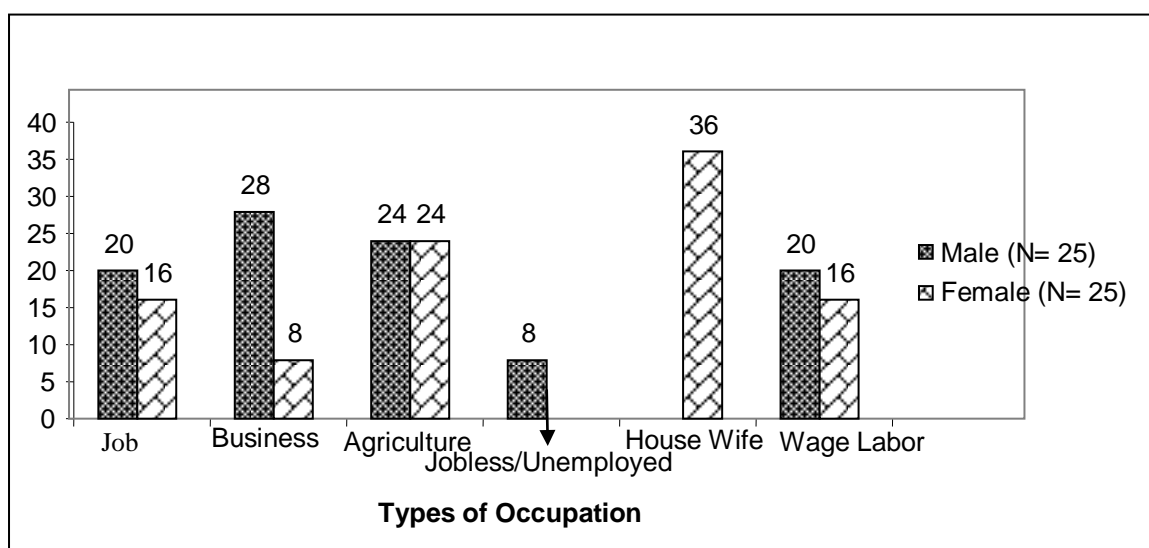
Burgess and Locke observed that " various studies seem to show that divorce is relatively high among persons engaged in occupation necessitating frequent absence from home, involving intimate contacts with the opposite sex, and controlled relatively little by the community." This statement defines if couples engage in different occupation, then lack of love, patience, attraction occurs, different personal contacts help to destroy the family relations which

may be one of the cause of divorce. The information concerning the occupation of the couples is shown below.

Table 5.8: Occupation of the Respondents

| Type of Occupation | Male | | Female | |
|--------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| | Frequency | Percent | Frequency | Percent |
| Services | 5 | 20 | 4 | 16 |
| Business | 7 | 28 | 2 | 8 |
| Agriculture | 6 | 24 | 6 | 24 |
| Jobless/Unemployed | 2 | 8 | 0 | 0 |
| Housewife | 0 | 0 | 9 | 36 |
| Wage Labour | 5 | 20 | 4 | 16 |
| Total | 25 | 100 | 25 | 100 |

Source: Field survey 2012.



Source: Field survey 2012.

Fig.5.4: Occupation of the Respondents

This table shows that 20% of male and 16% of female were engaged in job like government officer, private company and NGOs/INGOs. Similarly 28% of male and 8% of female were engaged in business. Out of total 7 male, one had large-scale business, 2 were shopkeepers and the rest of 4 had their own taxi drive. 1 female had tea shop and one was tailor. Equally 24% males and

females worked in field producing agricultural goods, 8% of males are unemployed and 20% of males are labor in house construction. (36) of females are housewife and 16% female are wage labor in house making. 60% of women are housewife and agricultural worker, which is home, based work. Most of the females do not work outside the home whether they are educated or not. It may be the causes of traditional Nepalese culture.

Case 4: Poverty Leads to Divorce

Shyam at the age of 20yrs and Malati at the age of 16 yrs had love marriage 25yrs ago. They belonged to Dalit (Pariyar) community and were both tailors by profession. They used to live in a joint family. Slowly, Shyam got indulged in taking excessive alcohol and used to beat Malati as well as abuse her verbally. Shyam left for working in abroad for 14 months but returned back earlier. Economic scarcities, lack of mutual understanding, alcoholism were the main reasons for their separation. They lived in nuclear family at the time of divorce. Initially, they felt happier after divorce but now they regard it as a mistake. Their 2 sons are living with their mother. Shyam got remarried in search of a partner to escape out of loneliness. Malati is more worried about her children's future. What scared her thinking that her sons might not indulge themselves in drug addiction of any sort of criminal activities? Now she looks after her own shop, spends her time looking after her two sons.

5.9. Level of Misunderstanding

There occurs lots of misunderstanding between husband and wife which helps to increase the rate of divorce. Lack of education, early marriage, lack of understanding and many other factors create mis-understanding between husband and wife which further ends the relationship legally by the process of divorce. In this study 84% of the respondents had suffered from mental and physical torture, drinks, drugs, beating, family pressure, low rate of income, arrogant, disease etc.

Most importantly, compromise do not exist between husband and wife, both are not ready to support each other. Dowry system is also one of the causes of

mis-understanding. Lack of trust, co-operation between married couple can also create situation of misunderstanding. This can further creates tension among the spouse and further within family. Ultimately, it may lead to the dissolve of relationship and divorce takes place.

Case 5: Divorce due to Domestic violence

Ram 30yrs old husband, B.Com passed is a businessman by profession. Sunita, SLC test passed, 20yrs had arrange marriage through their relatives. Both of them were from different background and Newar community. Ram belonged to the joint family and Sunita came from nuclear family. She got married to Ram being pressurized by her parents. For her, Ram was a complete stranger .She even didn't get chance to speak with him before marriage.Sunita's days of trouble started just after 1 month of her marriage. Her in-laws i.e.: mother –in – law, husband , sister- in- law started beating and verbally abusing her because of the low dowry they received from her parents .Each day she had to go through pain and mental trauma .After 1 yr ,she gave birth to a little girl. Problem became worse when her husband stopped talking with her, did not spend time with her, abused her on top, blame her for being dishonest. They even don't like her to visit her parents. Gradually, this had heightened the level of frustration inside her. After 4 yrs of their marriage they eventually got divorced. Now, she is happier, tension free. Currently, her baby girl is staying with her.Sunita lives with her parents, running small shop. However, Sunita felt that she is not being accepted by the society .People backbite about her in many ways. What worries her most is about their daughter's future and doesn't want to get remarried again whereas Ram still wants to get married and begin his new life.

CHAPTER - VI

SOCIO- CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC AFFECT OF DIVORCE

6.1. Type of Family Structure

Married life starts in family and ends with the dispute within the family members. Husband's and wife's relation is unbalanced due to the different behavior: different thinking, interest, nature etc. Differences in all of these increase the rate of misunderstanding in family. Joint and nuclear family are the most common types of family. One type of family differs with other. Fonseca has pointed out that " the typical kind of joint family on in some cases the extended family has been the cause for a good deal of conflict and has led to dis-satisfaction among many modern couples." He defines that the conflict is not only in joint family, but also in nuclear family there were many dissatisfactions between family members in different causes like money, freedom, believe etc.

Table 6.1: Male and Female in Family before Marriage

| Type of Family | Male | | Female | |
|----------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Nuclear | 6 | 24 | 13 | 52 |
| Joint | 19 | 76 | 12 | 48 |
| Total | 25 | 100 | 25 | 100 |

Source: Field survey 2012

This table defines that 76% male live in joint family before marriage and only 24% males live in nuclear family. Similarly 52% of females live in nuclear family and 48% males live in joint family. The percentage of male in joint family is higher then female respondents and the percentage of male in nuclear family is lower than female respondents. This table shows the dis-balance between male and female in family structure. There is vast different between male and female percentage in joint and nuclear family.

Table 6.2: Couple in Family at Divorce

| Type of family | Frequency | Percent |
|----------------|-----------|------------|
| Nuclear | 16 | 64 |
| Joint | 9 | 36 |
| Total | 25 | 100 |

Source: Field survey 2012

From the above table, it can be condensed that 64% of the spouses lived in nuclear family at the time of divorce and 36% of the spouses lived in joint family. Highest percentage of divorce occurs in nuclear family due to the separation of males from the parental family after the marriage. Spouses get separated from their parents after the marriage so the percentage of divorce in nuclear family is higher.

In nuclear family, divorce occurs due to the husband's and wife's personal behaviors. The spouses are not watched or controlled properly by the elders. A single family is considered to be relatively unstable. Strafes may go on without any effort of reconciliation which finally breaks up the marital bond irrevocably. In the modern setup, problems between individual can crop up at any time.

In joint family, adjustment is needed more. There are many family members live together in joint family and everyone has their own individual willingness so the chances of misunderstanding in family member is high. With all these problems, still marital relation in a joint family is considered to be more stable as compared to that in a nuclear family. In a joint family, marriage is never a bond between two individuals; it is a chain, which links and binds the two families together. There is a strong sense of family bond in the joint family. Lack of communal responsibility, effects of western society, and difficulties of new wife's role in new environment play a vital role in the conversion of joint family to unclear.

6.2. Duration of Married Life

Stability of married life is most important for durable relations between husband and wife. Marriage is a long lasting relationship but many factors can play vital role to end the relations. The first, one to two years of marriage are extremely important in the life of any couple. This is the period when a couple gets time to know each other.

Table 6.3: Duration in Married Life

| Marital Duration | Frequency | Percent |
|-------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 0-4 years | 12 | 48 |
| 5-9 years | 8 | 32 |
| 10-14 years | 3 | 12 |
| 15 years and Above | 2 | 8 |
| Total | 25 | 100 |

Source: Field survey 2012

This table shows that 48% cases had happy marriage life of 0-4 years. In 32% cases, the couples had 5-9 years of happily married life. In 12% cases, the couples had 10-14 years of married life; and only in 8% cases, they had happily married time beyond 14 years and above.

This data clearly shows that on the whole the happy married time in most cases had been too short. If a couple live together happily for a period of more than 9 years than, the chances of their separating is much less. Divorce mainly occurs in 0-4 years of married life then its rate is slightly decreased when the couple's duration of living together increases. Kenkel has started that "Despite romantic notion of the delightful ecstasy of the early years of marriage, it is during these very years that the chances for divorce are the greatest."

6.3. Economic Class of the Couples

Economy plays a significant role in the life of each and every human beings. Every aspect of human life is affected by the structure of economic condition. Sometimes happiness and sorrow are defined by the condition of economy. Economy can be one of the factors that can lead to divorce which has been pointed out by several researchers as a result of their studies. Goodman defines that " The higher the socio-economic status of a group the lower their divorce and separation rates." This proves that due to low level of income and lower economic status, leads to dissatisfaction between couples in terms of monetary aspect. This furthers lead to termination of happy family.

Table 6.4: Economic Class of the Couples

| Class | Frequency | Percent |
|--------------|------------------|----------------|
| High | 3 | 12 |
| Middle | 13 | 52 |
| Low | 9 | 36 |
| Total | 25 | 100 |

Source: Field survey 2012

The economic class of the couples is determined on the basis of their occupation, family, income, and ancestral economic status. In lower class having less than 2,000 monthly income and in higher class having more than 20,000 monthly income rate respondents were selected in aggregate.

Middle class couple's percentage is 52%, which is more than lower and upper class. The highest percentages of couples are middle class and the lowest percentages of couples are from higher class. In higher class, great stress is given in recreation, entertainment, and future of children. In lower class, their main concern is to feed and to meet the other minimum necessities of life (Lodging, fooding and shelter). In middle class families professional ambitions are much more and they give stress on the carrier of women and men. In this class respondents have job, education, business, foreign employment, women's

education which help to increase the distance between male and female so the rate of divorce is high in middle class.

6.4. Distribution of Divorced Couples Children

After the divorce of the parents, children suffer the most. Children's future is most important for the better society. Where children are not with their parents, they face many troubles in their daily life. Our society is patriarchal so in many places father's name always comes first which is more important then mother's, but now a days our legal act is changing and child can take citizenship with the name of mother. Father and mother both are necessary for children's good future but in divorce, it is not possible. This can also cause frustration, humiliation on the part of children. They involve themselves in taking drugs and other criminal activities.

Table 6.5: Number of Children Who Kept after Divorce

| Case No. | Son | Daughter | Who Kept |
|----------|-----|----------|----------|
| 3 | - | 1 | Mother |
| 6 | - | 1 | Mother |
| 14 | 1 | 2 | Father |
| 17 | 1 | - | Mother |
| 18 | 1 | 2 | Mother |
| 23 | 2 | - | Mother |
| 29 | - | 1 | Mother |
| 31 | - | 1 | father |
| 35 | 2 | 2 | Mother |
| 36 | 1 | - | Mother |
| 44 | 1 | 2 | Mother |
| 47 | 2 | 1 | Father |
| 50 | - | 1 | Father |

Source: Field survey 2012

This table shows that the number of children of divorced couples is 11 sons and 14 daughters. Here, among them 17 children have been kept by the mother and 8 children by the father. The number of children who has been kept by mother

is a approximately doubled then father. Thus, we find that in vast majority of the cases, it was the mother who kept the children of divorced spouses. Children stayed with mother because they were too small or with the choice of the children, father is not interested in the children. The children were kept by the father for reasons such as: the child chose to be with the father, the father did not allow the children to go with the mother and the mother did not care for the children and went away.

Fathers/mothers restricted their children, to visit their fathers/ mothers after divorce due to insecurity feeling. Children's future is more uncertain, they feel one sided, lonely etc. Sometimes, we can also find, difference in behavior of those divorced children in comparison with other children.

6.5. Condition after Divorce

Divorce makes new environment and experience in husband or wife. Changes occur in thinking and behavior due to the changes in socialization and social status after divorce. They have to pass through different types of difficulties. The divorced husband and wives faced several personal problems like frustration, loneliness, family disruption, shyness, inferiority complex etc, which directly and indirectly effect on the development of whole society. It is the women or females who always have to suffer a lot after divorce. They faced different kinds of social and economic difficulties. Experiences of divorce in divorced couples have mixed. Those couples who want to be free from their husband/wife feel more relaxed than before but they also realize that some kinds of mistakes had been done by them. Similarly, innocent husband and wife feel divorce is a family accident.

Children's condition after divorce had created many problems like socialization, lodging/fooding, education, security etc. Society has different prospective to see divorced person due to our tradition, culture, religion, social norms and values. Comparatively in Buddhist religion, less difficulties have to

be faced than in Hindu religion because remarriage is easily accepted in Buddhist religion. J. N. Chaudhary's research defines that "Some couples pass through some bitter experiences; some couple find that a period of separation permits them to become fond of each other, but after an interval of good will they again become hostile. In this way their positive and negative feeling seem to alternate." He defines that after divorce, no one faces same conditions, situations and effects which are created due to divorce. Many researchers define the situations/conditions after divorce is more changeable and women are highly affected.

Table 6.6: Male and Female settlement after Divorce

| Settled With | Male | | Female | |
|--------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| | Frequency | Percent | Frequency | Percent |
| With Parents | 7 | 28 | 12 | 48 |
| New Couple | 15 | 60 | 8 | 32 |
| Singles | 3 | 12 | 5 | 20 |
| Total | 25 | 100 | 25 | 100 |

Source: Field survey 2012

This table shows that the highest percentage of male are living with new couples that is 60% and highest percentage (48%) of female are living with their parents. 12 % males and 20% females are living single . Similarly, 28% male are living with their parents and 32% females live with new couples.

The percentage of living with parents by female is higher than male and the percentage of living with new couples is almost doubled in male than in female. So, comparatively male percentage of remarriage is higher than female. In other words, males are living with old couples and female are living alone, or with their friends. But comparatively, males face fewer difficulties like: Social relationship, social perspective, help, life span etc. than females.

6.6. Effects of Divorce in Relative and Friends

Divorce is a personal tragedy. After having divorce or such a great defeat and failure in personal life, many people got shattered. Some avoid to contact people for a long time and then try to come back gradually. In this study, the treatment of the divorcees received from their friends seems tolerable, as in vast majority cases there was no substantial change in the attitude of friends towards the divorcees.

In most of the cases, the spouses received the sympathy of their relatives. However, it is found that in the 'sympathetic' category the number of husbands is more those that of the wives, which may lead us to think that relatives are more sympathetic towards the male divorcees than to the female divorcees. In comparison to the female divorcees. In the comparison of parents and relatives, Parents were more convinced for the problem of their children than relatives. Sometimes they may also have to pass through humiliation and insults during social gathering But, overall the females suffer the most and are also blamed for.

6.7. Feeling and Experience of the Divorcee

Divorce ruins the marital relationship. After divorce he/she has to go through lots of tension and trauma. Some of the feelings and experiences are shared by the respondents during the research, are as follows:

- **Humiliation in the society:** Divorce couple has to go through humiliation and insults in the society. People look at the divorcees with the different perspectives. Rather than understanding the root cause of the problem instead society blames the divorcees for being responsible for the occurrence of divorce.
- **People backbite about the divorcee:** Always divorcee is looked upon with an eye of the suspicion. He/ she has to hear and face several insults from the society. Even own friends and relatives backbite about the dear ones if he/she gets divorced.

- **Divorce is the end of everything:** Divorce is the only last possible solution. One should try to avoid the situation for divorce to take place. Lots of compromises have to be done by both the couple, otherwise it ruins everything relations, happiness, shattered dreams and aspiration.
- **Spend time together:** Couple must spend time together, sharing each other's problems in order to avoid the condition of divorce. Spending time together develops the bond, love and affection between the couples.
- **Ruin family life:** Divorce not only lead to the destruction of relations between male and female but also ruins the happy family life. People who live together within the family, most importantly the children get affected the most creates worst situation thereafter.
- **Understanding must be there:** Understanding between the couple solves half of the problems. Lack of understanding creates tension and conflict which hampers the happy family and happy married life.
- **Leading single life is very difficult:** After divorce, leading single divorced life is very difficult and problematic in each and every aspects of life. There will be no helping hand, no one to share and support. Everything has to be done by the single individual .This may further give rise to frustration.
- **Feeling of loneliness:** Feeling of loneliness leads to frustration after divorce. Divorce makes life lonely without any support, love, lack of someone to rely on. Some-time feelings of loneliness can be very dangerous for an individual.

6.8. Problem faced by the Divorcee

- **Family problem:** Divorcee has to live separately from the family. This can create much tensed situation in the family. Not only divorcee couple but the entire family has to go through the pain and disruption in the family management system.

- **Problem at work:** Divorced persons are not looked respectfully at the work. Sometimes it become very difficult to find a proper job if a person is single or divorced. The case is even worse with the female divorcee.
- **Problems of children:** Future of the children becomes uncertain if parents get divorced. Children sometimes cannot decide whom to live with if parents get separated. By pressure children have to select only one even if they wish to live with both the parents.
- **Uneasy environment in the society:** Divorce couple has to pass through the uneasy environment at the time of social gathering. He or she has to listen to verbal comments and sometimes humiliation as well.
- **Effects on the socialization of the children:** Separation of parents effects the socialization of the children. He/she will be handled by only one parent. This creates frustration within children and can involve in crime as well.
- **Pain of loneliness:** One has to go through pain of loneliness after divorce and can further lead to frustration.
- **Looked differently by the society:** Divorcee is always looked differently by the society. He/she has to face lots of problems and humiliation. Sometimes society always raises question at the character of an individual.

CHAPTER - VII

SUMMARY, FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Summary

In Hindu society, marriage is taken as a holy union between a man and a woman for the performance of religious duties. Its main purpose is to unite and continue the families of bride and groom and to further their economic and social position. The changes occur in form, nature of marriage, as well as other social institution. Divorce terminates the marriage relationship. It completely ruptures the marital bond. Divorce and marriage both cannot be studied in isolation. Both are so closely connected that the meaning of marriage in any society cannot be understood apart from the conditions under which divorce occurs. Divorce occurs just because of the failure of the successful happy married life. Various social, cultural, economic and other factors in the married life are responsible for the occurrence of the divorce. Today, divorce rate is rapidly increasing; this study conducted at the Pokhara sub-metropolitan city aims to assess about the trend of divorce that occur in the Pokhara valley. It also tried to identify the causes of divorce and also tried to analyze the social, cultural and economic effects on divorced person, their family, relatives, and friends.

The present research is primarily the effects of divorce on an individual's life and its family members of Pokhara sub-metropolitan city. The general objective of the study is to effect of divorce on an individual, whereas following were the specific objectives of the research.

- 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 persons & their family, relatives, friends.

The present dissertation is primarily an academic study, but had collected the data that give some very important information regarding the factors of divorce. It will help to formulate various new policies in regard to the effects of

divorce individuals, in the country like Nepal. Due to the fast rate of modernization and educational system and labor market have been noted and reported by the researcher as the main factors for the divorce.

7.2 Major Finding of the Study

- Despite variations in the structure and function of families in different countries, divorce is experienced by an increasing number of families.
- 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 settlement is also ignored by any nonfinancial contributions of either party.
- Children, especially when 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 which can result in stress for the divorcing parents.
- Although trends show that 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 also go together after divorce (Paper divorce).
- Divorce rate among the arrange marriage couple is higher due to lack of pre-marital information and parental 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, physical and mental torture can also be regarded as the major causes responsible for the 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 took 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 started to behave differently. Moreover, in case of females, always men's position and condition are far better than female's. 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.

7.2.1 Factors Influencing Adjustment Discovered from Case Studies

Personal factors: Several personal characteristics influence adjustment to divorce, such as demographic characteristics (i.e., age, education level, employment, and socioeconomic status). For example, some studies found that

older individuals have more difficulty adjustment, due to their limited post divorce options (e.g., employment, remarriage)

Contextual factors: There are a number of contextual factors that affect post divorce adjustment, such as the amount of social support both perceived and received by divorced individuals. Those who are less socially involved and more socially isolated following divorce generally have a more difficult time adjustment. Some researches have proposed that the benefit of social involvement stems from the link between social involvement and attachment to the former spouse

7.3 Conclusion of the Study

In sum, in the most of the cases life after divorce is also not without tension. Responsibility of children and future of the children cause tension to the most of the female divorcees. They suggest that decision of marriage must be taken very thoughtfully. One should think twice before stepping into divorce procedure. It can have severe effects not only on the divorced couple and children but also serious impact upon the society. Because of divorce, norms and values of society get affected. Even changes occur in the behavior shown by the people living in this society. Research suggests that the impacts of divorce are far reaching because the nature of divorce changes the family unit and creates new transition points in the life of the individuals involved. A review of the literature indicated that many changes occur in the lives of parents and children after divorce, including negative changes such as high levels of stress for parents and children, emotional peaks and plummets, regressive behaviors in children, and alteration/strain in the relationships between parents and children. The purpose of this study was to determine whether the living conditions in post-divorce families affect the child's maturation.

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Annex-I

(Interview Schedule)

DIVORCE AND ITS AFFECT ON INDIVIDUAL'S LIFE

A Sociological Study of Pokhara Sub-Metropolitan city

Name of the Respondents:.....

Date: __/__/__

Permanent Address.....

| Q.N | Question | Answer |
|-----|--------------------|--|
| 1. | Age | |
| 2. | Sex | A. Male B. Female |
| | Types of family | A. Nuclear family B. Joint family |
| 3 | Religion | A. Hindu B. Buddhist C. Others |
| 4 | Caste/Ethnicity | A. Brahmin/Chhetri B. Gurung C. Tamang D. Magar E. Newars F. Dalits |
| 5. | Level of education | A. Illiterate B. Literate C. Primary D. Higher secondary E. SLC F. Intermediate and G. Bachelors and above |
| 6. | Occupation | A. Agriculture B. Service C. Business D. Student E. Housewife F. Wage labor G. Unemployed |

| | | |
|-----|--|--|
| | | H. Others |
| 7. | Main Sources of family income | A. Agriculture B. Business C. Service D. Labor E. Others |
| 8 | Economic class before divorced | A. Higher class B. Middle class C. Lower |
| 9. | Age at the time of married | Husband..... Wife..... |
| 10. | Types of marriage | A. Arrange B. Love |
| 11. | Caste/Ethnic composition of marriage | A. Own caste marriage B. Inter- caste marriage |
| 12. | Mutual understanding between male female before getting married | A. Yes B. No |
| 13. | If no reason, for not mutual understanding between male female before getting married | |
| 14. | Pre-marital consent before marriage | A. Yes B. No |
| 15. | If no, reason for not pre-marital consult before marriage | |

| | | |
|-----|---|--|
| | | |
| 16. | Duration of your married life | |
| 17. | Ever birth of child | A. Yes B. No |
| 18. | If yes, Number of children | |
| 19. | No of children at the time of divorced | |
| 20. | Settlement after divorced | A. Parents B. New couple C. Others |
| 21 | What changes do you find in the family after divorce? | |
| 22 | Changes in the Behaviours of the children | |
| 23 | How is the outlook of the neighbors towards you after the divorce? | |
| 24. | Major causes of divorced | |
| 25. | Economic status before and after divorced | |

| | | |
|-----|--|---|
| 26. | Social status before and after divorced | |
| 27. | Care-taker of children after divorced | Son..... ... Daughter..... ... |
| 28. | Settlement after divorced | |
| 29. | Relationship with relatives and friends | |
| 30. | Problem faced by the divorced | |
| 31. | Anything that you want to share with us. | |

Thank you for your kind cooperation!!!