

Challenges to the Family: Divorce- The Shattering Marriages

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ABSTRACT: *Family, a central unit of the social structure has now been running through a tough time, in present situations. The new forces have so powerfully affected the parents that both of them are forced to go out to earn some extra money and let their children be brought up either by themselves or by somebody else other than their parents. It is resulting into growing solitude nature in the children, at the same time it is deteriorating the intimate bonding among the family members. Scarcity of time for the relations, increasing distance Individualism, and a blind competition to gain everything have been affecting the warmth between relations severely. Consequently married life is being affected negatively and the growing distance between a husband and a wife ends into a dead end that is divorce.*

Divorce which was merely a technical word and was beyond imagination to have been in our relations have now reached to a point where courts are full of the applications to have divorce. At a time 'divorce' cases were found with the higher class people only and the people from middle class were not brave enough to bring their personal marital problems to public platform, now the middle class is leading with leaps and bounds, regarding the cases of divorce. The question raises here is, In Indian families where according to their beliefs the very foundation of a family is godly and religious, what are the circumstances that the people have started crossing the barriers and reaching to this position.

*Keeping the above goals in mind the secondary data (obtained from court Durg) have been collected, compiled and analyzed by the researchers to find out that what are the chief reasons to deteriorate the family structure in the society ; what the present situation of the decision Divorce. Especially in Durg-Bhilai statistics indicate that the number of divorce cases are greater in urban region rather the rural ones. The tendency towards getting divorce is more in youths; than the other categories.' **Mutual Consent**' an amendment in Divorce bill has made ft very easy, the break-ups in marital relations. In the situation of marital break-ups; the present age couples are less hesitating to disclose the marriage related many hidden matters which are of very personal nature.)*

Even 'live-in relationship' also has started setting in, Bhilai -Durg locality. The number of Divorce is comparatively high in cases of love marriage over arranged ones.

KEY WORDS: - *Mutual Consent, Live-In-Relationship. Male-Adjustment ,Divorce.*

One of most important units of the social structure and a central system of the same 'family'. Has been going through a tough & challenging situation these days. The newer effects are so powerful that family has now come to a crossroad. Because of the present economic pressure both mother and father in a family work for additional earning and the brining up a child which was there under the own supervision the parents has not gone either to the children themselves or in the hands of any hired caretaker. It has been resulting into generating a great loneliness in the children; and at the same time affecting the warmth of the relationship among the family members .The ambitions in the parents also affects the strength of the relation; and remaining is done by the modernism. Modern cultural values have been becoming overpowering to the relationships. The relation between a husband and a wife are being affected because of many newly generated reasons. Such as, lack of time for one another, growing distance individualism and a desire to overtake one another professionally etc. This hampers the existence of the family badly, and the growing distance eventually results into **divorce**.

According to one of the **UNI News** publish in the **Tribune**, and the **Times of India** 19-10-1994 almost every part of the country particularly urban areas have been witnessing a rapid growth in the divorce cases. It is substantially different in villages in comparison to the urban areas. In the village people or still guided by the traditions, religious beliefs, customs and the typical Indian ways of thinking, but in cities numbers of the application designing divorce are ample in numbers. Our National Capital Delhi is leading in such cases where 800 to 9000 cases per year are noticed desire divorce Mumbai stands second where the cases are almost double in the decade 1990 then the number of previous decade. In Punjab and Haryana number of growth rate of divorce cases exceeds 150% whereas in Kerala which counted to be the highest educated states in India the rate is gone to 350% in last 10 years. Chennai and Kolkata have the rate 15% and 10% respectively.

Previously divorce case were mostly noticed among the higher income class, as the people from middle class kept a tendency not let their personal and family matter go public but nowadays most of the divorce cases of the are from the middle class.

According to the Hindu Marriage Act 1955 Hindu couples can have divorce or lea gas separation according to their will. According to the conditions for the divorce, in the act, divorce could be had any party of the couple is found guilty of certain basis. And in 1976 an amendment was introduced to the previewer act. Which enable the couple to have divorce on the ground of mutual understanding? The Question rises here that in India where the of foundation of a family is not worldly but purely religious and of Godly; what are the reasons, that are forcing the society to reach to this level what the conditions and challenge are that a the institution **family** has been family that which results into a divorce.

Aims Of The Study

To get to the bottom of the secondary data a collected and analyzed by the researchers. The data were collected from the court **Durg** and the objective of the analysis was to determine the reason of the deterioration of the institution **family** in context with Chhattisgarh.

Cause And Analysis –

By the mid of 1950 there was no provision in Hindu system to get divorce. It has fast been introduction by our law makers to the Hindu society in the recent years to have divorce on mutual understanding basis. It has resulted into providing an alternate option to the tradition & religious ritual marriage. Now it is no longer compulsory to base or continue, any mismatched or unsuccessful marital relation till the end of life. Still India is not a country where the divorce cases have become so common. According to the table shown below in the western countries in the leadership of Sweden, the divorcee is a very common phenomenon.

Table No. -1 Divorce In Various Countries

S.No	Name Of Country	Percentage %
1.	Sweden	54.9
2.	United States	54.8
3.	Russia	43.3
4.	Germany	39.4
5.	United Kingdom	42.6
6.	Canada	37.0
7.	Singapore	17.2
8.	Israel	14.8
9.	Shrilanka	1.5
10	India	1.0

The mentioned table clearly signifies that maid is almost nowhere, compare to the developed countries in cortex with the number of divorce in the seventh decade of 19th century the divorce rate was 1 out of every 13. From 1940 till 1965, 10 divorce cases were observed per 1000 marriages which just doubled after 1979.

Before 1970 the word “divorce “ was not so common and was rare to be found but today a fast urbanization as well as awareness among the people regarding their right has played a crucial role in the growing rate of such cases . Many a researches have been there over this matter. **T.K. Merchant, (1930-33), C.A. Hate (1946-47), G.B. Desai (1945), Kapadia (1951), Kuppuswani (1957)** have found in their researches that many of their sample people are in favor of the divorce cases, in the cases of uneven marriages.

Table-2 Status Of Divorce In DURG District

S.No	year	Numbers (apparent)	Numbers settled
1.	2011	281	270
2.	2012	499	432

The above chart shows the situation of divorce in durg district in last two decade. In year 2012, from 1.1.12 till 31.08.12, 432 divorce cases settled out of 499. Total the month wise statistics is as follows.

January –	settled	55	out of	72
January –	settled	63	out of	67
January –	settled	52	out of	54
January –	settled	31	out of	44
January –	settled	96	out of	122
January –	settled	70	out of	77

and in August total 63 cases were settled out of 73. situation is apparent the numbers of divorce cases are growing every month. Previous researches and the present numbers of divorcee cases are showing that because of modern power and a comparative easy divorce process have become helpful to those to come out of a relationship, who were the victims of mismatched. Improper marriage and leading an unsatisfied life.

Today economic liberalization, acceptance of divorce in the family & society, urban and the metropolitan life style , degradation of moral values , tension and pressure of life style, and the transfer of gender based duties, are the chief reason which have affected the married life. The situation is not same in the villages and in the cities. The tendency to come out of unsatisfied marital relation is clearly more profound in urban areas. Woman empowerment also has made the woman self dependent as well as it has made them not to carry out those relation they are not happy with gender based equality also played a vital role, between a husband and wife, especially where woman is self dependent economically.

The main reason is according to Dr.Sunil Mittal , a psychologist and marriage consultant of such deterioration of family system is the decline of united family into nuclear family where no elderly and mature people are their to guide the newer generation entered into the married life.

The second reason may be the present concern of the society where divorce is not a negative term to relation and it does not mark any scar or prove and blur to our social status. Dowry related killings and family violence have made the parents more aware, that they believe that if their daughter is facing any misery there is no harm opt divorce for her.

The third reason is be cases of the spread of education women have become more aware regarding their own situation as well as their legal rights ; that’s why where in previous time when divorce cases were oriented from male end, not they are being oriented from female side also in frequent numbers.

The forth reason as suggested by the justice, Dinesh Kumar Tiwari (Durg) that **live in relation** also are one of the chief reason of divorce these days. A matter of **live –in-relationship** on 6th December Mr. Yogesh Khanna justice district & session court Delhi, mentioned “**when any woman get into this kind of relationship, especially in our kind of society; she has only one thing in her mind, and that is marriage, and in case she is deceived in such relation, she is broken completely**”, the judge further added “**live in relationship does not only mean. living together for a certain period of time, but it to remain devoted to each other in the future course of time too**”.

Live-in-relationship has started affecting a border sphere of the society. Whether they are working people, or students, all have stated preferring live in relation as their favorite ideology. The students in higher studies, or those who are in professional courses, a great number from this segment have already been opting live in as their favorites relationship. Many analysts find that live-in-relation are being welcomed in India society very fast, as people involved in this believe that it demands less responsibilities. Another factor, that system in metros also become one of the chief reason to stimulate live-ins, in which the only required thing to come the relation is mutual consent

One of the other Justice Mishra who mostly sees marital cases observed that people have become more free regarding secret disputes and differences as they known that to the extent their blame on the other party is grave, the chance of getting an easy divorce would become easier.

As per Hindu Marriage act 1976 Hindu couple can apply for a divorce on the basis of **mutual understanding**. This particular act lets them save their time that the previous lengthy process moreover by opting this way the partners are saved from putting heinous blames on each other on public platform. These days people have developed less hesitant to go to the courts for saying “**Don’t wash your linen in public.**”

Justice Dinesh Kumar Tiwari, who sees family affairs in general further claims, that mostly younger generation is a bit extra forward to get away of their marital life ; even they don't tolerate such issues which could be very easily solved and get ready to have divorce intently. In Bhilai & Durg cities student come from other places with the study purpose they become friend and start living together. Soon they develop many differences between them, which they can't with stand and they demand to stay separated. Many a cases show that “**doubt**” in relationships also is a area factor that forces them to live apart. Thus we can say that the metropolitan culture has started affecting the marriage relations in small cities too.

Further some of the facts come on to the surface in the conversation with Mr. Tiwari that although the number of cases of divorce are less in these areas, still bitterness in relation and unsatisfied partners are growing rapidly here too in terms of marital relations. Awareness in women regarding their rights also a great factor that has affect their marital relation. Economic freedom has helped them to develop a sense of satiety and confidence, that finally lets them to revolt against unsuitable behavior against them and to live with self respect.

A cut throat competition and a great instability has overpowered in almost every segment of life that mutual understanding and sensibility have been reaching to their lowest point; and in this so transition period of life if any relationship that has been affected most severely that is the relation of husband and wife.

Women have for the first time raised their voice aloud to announce their existence against the male dominated society. A great revolutionary change is there in the women regarding setting their priorities. Still somewhere or the other, something is there in divorce, which puts a question to the miss-arranged marital relations

Yogendra Singh is relevant here when he says, **Because of the industrialization and urbanization old beliefs and ideology have come to an end but it not helped to generate newer healthy beliefs and thinking in the people.**

This new and deteriorate culture has not only been affecting to the metropolitan cities, but to the smaller towns also a well established structure like **family** also has become unstable and the warmth of relationship a many the member of the family has been degrading . Many of the traditions have reached to their breaking point, and the new trends replacing them are encouraging the freedom beyond limit. It is not very easy to be in a relationship justifying, without marriage .In the cities ,where mostly middle class population is common, live-in relationship and having babies without legal relationship such kind of things are not accepted by the society but also taken as a blow to the institution like marriage and family. And ultimately these result in, breaking marital relations and finally **divorce**.

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