# **Divorce and Parenting – A child's Perspective**

Farah Nadir, Azhar khan, Maryam Bibi,

Lecturer Govt. Frontier College for Women PeshawarAstt. Professor Nowshera University/ Joint Director ISPaR, PeshawarPhd Scholar at Abasyn University, Peshawar

Abstract:-A child has a bigger piece of pie of the aftereffects of marriage compared to the male or female who part their paths with divorce. Understanding the ultimate cause can help us manipulate the consequence and therefore it is imperative to understand parenting as well as divorce from a child's perspective; something that would give more meaningful insights and conclusions on the basis of which recommendations can be drawn to help prolong a marriage or reduce the possibility of a divorce. Much consideration has been given to divorce in many cultures and countries as it is an alarming situation for a small family with the ability to affect the society and its peace if the problem of divorce gets more and more widespread. In our country and culture, this problem is seen and witnessed more often now than ever; something that needs be addressed based on the past experiences of high divorce rates in different countries which could help us, as a society, to learn from mistakes of other and limit ourselves before we walk into a wall. This article looks at the many factors that influence divorce together with the factors that influence those independent variables that cause variation in the divorce. A marriage needs to continue for the sake of child at the least and therefore many strategies are recommended which can help our society to avoid these events. After all, it is the child that suffers the most and his/her behavior is the least of things that we see as the effect in the society. If we don't speak about it, if we don't barrier the happening of divorce and allow it, then we are looking at a higher divorce rate and higher possibility of breaking the peace of society in the years to come. Because these children will grow up and shape the society in a way they have grown up.

Keywords: Divorce, Children, Society, Marriage

# I. INTRODUCTION

**Background:** The creatures on this earth, including human beings, depending on their physical characteristics and reproductive structures are divided into masculine or feminine category labeled as gender, a socially constructed category of the roles each play. The history of men has never come across the best setting of peaceful coexistence and a formation of society, other than a formation of a family based on a man and a woman under a social contract called as marriage. From the inception or from the day evidence exists, a peaceful society requires a fortunate environment of bringing up children, positively affecting the existence of man on earth and for it to prosper, although each society has faced transitions in understanding its importance and enforcing the factors conducive for its establishment as a norm and the setting to be followed by the members. The effectiveness differs greatly in different regions and does have implications on the society depending on the scale of its acceptance.

A man is considered as a social animal and requires a stable relationship as a foremost desire, relative to any other thing in life, to be effective at different places he generally spends time at and supports similar ideologies behind the foundation of those places. An unstable relationship hinders his ability to be successful and effective, resulting into increasing stress factors. This also applies onto parent child relationships or a relationship of such kind. Religions of the world and research in the human history have stressed over a perfect and in the nature relationship of man and women living into pairs and development of their offspring using best resources available. Equal are the importance of the lifestyle and comfort in the life and the urge of improving the lifestyle day by day and contributing to the society and growing as a collective group. The milestone is achieved only if the foundation is strong and the pillars are rightly placed and built, for the structure to be stable and effective.

Certainly if the laws of nature are surpassed, the consequences are detrimental and have a long lasting effect on the society as a whole. The human race has experienced huge changes in the recent past and differences in their social interactions; an unprecedented effect of the modern age and have been under the spell of a trauma while finding the keys to the doors closed. One of such misery is being reluctant to hold on to the relationship of marriage as a permanent change in life and struggling to remain a role model for the generations to come. The article has been designed to unearth the shortfalls of the social system as well as the related consequences and most importantly the changes required for the improvement of the social structure.

# 1.1Research Objectives

The objective of this research was to determine the best ways which are used to improve parenting even after divorce so that the impact of divorce on children is minimized.

## **1.2Research Questions**

The research was done to answer the following research questions in order to achieve the objective of the research.

- Is divorce the root cause or the events, which cause divorce, are the root cause that has impacts on children?
- Are there differences in child's behavior; comparing children of divorced parents with those of intact families?
- Are there any determinants to determine the quantum or amount of impact of divorce and parenting on children?
- Can different parenting styles make a difference towards betterment?
- What are the tools that can be used to decrease or minimize the impact of divorce on children?

## **1.3Significance of Research**

The significance of this research can be defined to the extent that many researchers have been done in many parts of the world where problems like divorce have been tackled in order to reduce the aftereffects of it on children. Similarly, the problem of divorce is tragic in our society and therefore it is better to learn from the people and societies that have already faced such problems and countered it. The purpose therefore, of this research, was to gauge effective ways from secondary data collection and report them in an effective manner so that conclusions and recommendations are worthy for the betterment of our society.

# II. LITERATURE REVIEW

## Family and Marriage – Pakistani Context

Researchers have long debated on the factors which influence divorce. While some consider it to be the lower marital quality (influenced by factors that define that quality), many other believe it to be the mismatch of the two partners. Few researchers in the recent times have considered the element of working women as a factor that influences divorce; no specific reasoning is given however it is anticipated that working women tend to get divorced more compared to housewives. Moving towards the Pakistani context, here the majority of women are housewives but nevertheless the rate of divorce is increasing; each person has had heard about a divorce of two people who they knew closely. Researchers therefore have somewhat agreed with the notion that there is no one rule or reason to influence divorce; no one key to the door of divorce rather a door with multiple key holes. While the increase in divorce have been linked to working women, it is not very much significant in the Pakistani context. Researches in the Pakistani context reveal that women are more exposed to the social and emotional problems and risks after divorce compared to before divorce. Another important effect towards the children, after divorce, is based on the ability of the women to cater to the basic needs of her child/children. Of course, in our culture women get opportunities to work. However, the culture of giving equal employment opportunities to both genders is something that we don't see very often. Also, the organizations who give these opportunities require education and experience at the time of induction; a very low possibility of a divorced woman, being moderately or highly educated, to get the opportunity to work in a peaceful and women-friendly environment. Another important variable that is important in our culture is remarriage. Men getting divorced are observed to get married sooner and easily however considering women in the same case, the possibility of remarriage for a woman is observed to be very less likely. This factor gives women, in our culture, a single chance at marriage; for it to work. Otherwise the possibility of being alone, self-dependent for the whole life is the fate of women in our culture. On the other hand, for a man to get remarried there is a higher chance; his job, his money and his family name would still get him a second chance at marriage. Divorce in our culture is mostly considered the fault of a women; reasons for many divorces in our culture are simply 'communicated as' the inability of woman to have a child. Question here is: what about women with children? The life of a mother becomes more miserable when she has to decide between living with her kids and facing financial and other difficulties, or, living without children and facing the emotional and physical trauma. The laws and regulations don't support much in the case and many a times we see these things on media as well: the miserable news where they report children being separated from the parent they are willing to live with.

What's truly lost in all this is definitely the children; the present and future of children is at stake and is truly lost. Behaviours of children are the most basic stimulus that can be seen to understand the way divorce has treated him/her. No child would want to make the choice to live with either of his/her parents. Researches have been done in order to understand the marital quality which is anticipated to hold the two partner of marriage together. There are many determinants of marital quality however most of the researchers suggest that number of children, ages of children or the genders of children have little or absolutely no association with marital quality whatsoever. This is an eye opening thing: the stakeholder, child, who is effected the most, has little to no association towards marital quality which holds the parents together in the form of marriage. However, no child has the ability to impact the marital quality; the existence of children has little or no association. It all therefore boils down to the fact that the buy in, in the marriage, is an important factor which needs to be considered for both the male and the female. There is no point in the debate of love marriages versus arranged marriages however the choice of spouse is an important factor to look into and have a complete understanding of before marriage takes place. Because after it has taken place, the effects of its ending are numerous not just to the people associated with the couple but also the society in general.

## **Determinants – Marital Quality**

Dimensions that help in evaluation of the quality of a marriage are known as marital quality. Quality on one hand is defined as meeting the requirements; marriage has all the implied requirements which vary from person to person and marriage to marriage. It is not a product or service which can be truly defined based on its performance and therefore the evaluation of marriage is largely unknown or in other words the determinants of the variation in marital quality are unexplored. Moving forward, some researchers have taken this challenge and defined few of the numerous determinants of marital quality in a way that these explain some variations in understanding the reasoning behind divorce. Yet the ground reality is that there is no one, two or even three reasons that would always explain a divorce in any part of the world or any culture or religion. This uncertainty and variable nature of the reasoning is what leads to: when the root cause or real problem is not identified there is no one solution. Maybe the only solution which may work is the focus on child; a child that would suffer the most because of a divorce and thus for the sake of children, parents should not go toward divorce and rather compromise on the existing marriage. Compromise is a worst case scenario option a better option however is to make it work. Problems, disagreements, satisfaction, communication and togetherness are few of the many dimensions of marital quality. While on the other hand, these dimensions are dependent on determinants like spouse choice, education, gender, and duration of marriage. A very weak model I would say considering the importance of them. Again, no one solution can keep the door of divorce closed forever.

# III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

# **Research Design**

This purpose of this research is to create and confirm knowledge based on the previous researches in the literature. The method to fulfill the purpose of research through defined methodological boundaries was simply by focusing on existing information, collecting relevant information and reporting the effective ways to answer the research questions and fulfill the objective of research. The approach of going about this research was neither qualitative nor quantitative as it was case study and literature analysis. In other words, the research is based on secondary data where it gathered and reported the analysis of different published researches.

#### Population

The population of this research was limited to children of divorced parents and also the parents who got divorced in any part of the world and at any age; moreover, belonging to any society and ethnicity.

#### Sampling

Sample of the population was based on traits that helped researcher replicate the tools of societies to recommend for our own therefore the sample was limited to societies that have common characteristics to our society; similarly, the traits of parents like the determinants of marital quality were considered which are similar to our society and the literature.

#### **Data Collection**

The researcher has used secondary data collection tool in order to collect data. Secondary data collection is very fruitful at this stage because our society is currently going through the problem and is not in the phase of solution. However, if it was in the phase of solution, primary data would have been the approach to gather workable tools and determinants of parenting style that help minimize the effects of divorce on children.

## IV. DATA ANALYSIS & RESULTS

## **Divorce and Determinants of Impact on Children**

Over the years, the society has been witnessing an upward trend in the happening of divorce and certainly is common in the west. The issue that is most important for the divorcing parents is the well-being of their child, as they don't want their children to suffer the harsh realities at a young age when they are less resilient and it is difficult for them to overcome the stress easily. A number of researches have also fuelled the importance of an intact family for a psychologically, emotionally and physically healthy child. These researches

also put forth the determinants of affect over the children, which are extremely important to understand for the people involved especially parents. The general view of the research work done on the subject claims that the divorce leaves the children at greater risk and consequences are hard for them to handle, leading to a negative impact on the life of the child as a kid as well as the consequences are not good for his life as an adult. Before reaching a decisive end, the research conducted in the context has tried to examine whether divorce generally leaves a negative impact on all the children that experience the divorce of their parents or has been selective depending on the situational factors or attributes of a child. A general consensus is that divorce does leave a disheartening experience but is not always the source of problems in most of the children as it is difficult for the children to comprehend things at a young age, although they are responsive to the emotions, but are more resilient. It has also been noted that they recover from the consequences in a span of 2 or 3 years. Whereas some kids do experience a rather greater impact on their lives and are more prone to problems. A different approach of looking at the matter is whether the divorce is the ultimate influencer or the causes that lead to divorce as the conflict is present even before the divorce and do harm children emotionally and psychologically. The conflicts result into paying less attention to the children and sometimes children are dragged into fights. Rather finding those before divorce conflicts as culprit, divorce is blamed for all the negative consequences. On the flip side, research also concludes that relationship of a divorced couple worsens after separation and is more detrimental to the well-being rather than the divorce itself. Hence it is difficult to form a conclusion over any single event happening and rather understanding it as a big picture is more important. In the light numerous and extensive researches on the topic of impact on children, a number of causes have been identified by the authors and ultimately the effects of such causes. The prime cause is relaying on a single parent for help and assistance as well as emotional support and certainly when parents are going through emotional distress themselves, their behavior with their children turns a little harsh and the relationships with the offspring suffers. The nonresidential parent could not influence the children positively as with time the frequent visits become less frequent and in a span of 2-3 years the scale hits the lower threshold for 20% of the children (Kelly, 2003). At the beginning of the new single life, fathers visit their children around four times a month and the rate drops with time whereas single mother make more frequent visits in case of being a non-residential parent and continues to pay visit, although the visits are less frequent. Certain researches depict that the effect has more to do with relationship with the non-residential parent then their frequency of paying visit. Even though the parent is paying more frequent visits but if the relationship is not on good terms then the visits are no more beneficial but would rather make it more difficult for children to recover or overcome the stress (Hetherington, 2002). Whereas it is surprising to acknowledge the conclusion put-forth by Amato (1999) after studying numerous factors involved that the non-residential father can still provide assistance which can be beneficial by helping children in their homework as well as by providing emotional support. Hence, good parenting can reduce the drawbacks of a divorce with increased visits and involvement of the non-residential parent.

In addition, the child of divorced parents also face **financial hardship** as the single parent earns less than the combined income and eventually the living standard has to be adjusted accordingly and could result into change of school or moving or changing homes. Although this viewpoint has been criticized through evidence by a number of authors, who believe that money doesn't ascertain the well-being of a child; when the hypothesis was tested on the population by controlling their income, differences among the children of divorced and intact families were still visible. In case when custodial parent is the mother, the family income drops drastically and would leave the child more vulnerable. Hence, financial hardship can lead to adjustment in lifestyle and settling and overcoming the stress becomes more difficult for the children.

Several researches also concluded that trauma intensifies in the **deprived children** as the life is stressed by numerous factors ultimately after divorce and change of life is expected. One of such research by Crowder (2004), emphasized on change of school and moving to a new house, loosing friends and the chances of getting pregnant increase. Furthermore these changes are disastrous for the well-being of children and are a source of overwhelming and increasing stress in the children. As a consequence of a divorce, the chances of being divorced again increases for the parent, adding-up to the misery.

The single parent faces **psychological distress** in the event of divorce and is reflected in the behavior with their child. The parents often turn impatient and the cases of yelling on their child is considered a routine scolding, this amplifies the effect on the mental health of a child and increases the difficulties for them and largely create differences among the children of divorced families and ones that are intact. On the contrary, if the parent gets along well with the divorce, the child is better looked after and the growth is not hampered. According to Amato (1991), the better adjustment of the single parent is the deciding factor in the well-being of the children and reduces the related impact. Although there is not much evidence to prove the fact that whether a strong child or the parent serves as the remedy and a resolution for the problem faced by both?

After the marriage, couple develops **skills of parenting** required for the well-being of their offspring. These skills help them in nurturing and taking care of their child when he really needs it. Research claims that after divorce, the parents are not capable to involve and invest themselves completely in the act of nurturing

their child as they are themselves mentally disturbed and hence the strong bond with parents suddenly becomes weak. The research also depicts that these skills are important for the well-being of the child as well as maintain a strong bond with the child. After Divorce, the conflicts often make it difficult for the parents to observe consistency in their parenting and are reluctant to maintain discipline which is needed in order to have a good relationship with the child, either they are married or are divorced. This helps children overcome the stress and to be efficient at school and other places and they are less likely to be affected.

One such determinant of impact on children is the **level of conflict** among the couple. A divorce generally comes after a conflict between the couple or because of a chain of conflicts, which could be either known to the people in the house or kept as a secret between the couple. Certainly where things are wrong and are observable, the chances of expecting a divorce and accepting is high for the people in the house especially children, whereas when things are hidden, a sudden fall is difficult to accept and as well as to overcome. Hence the impact on children is immense in the case where everything seems alright and the couple decides to divorce and on the flip, if the children could see that it is hopeless to continue, the impact is less devastating. In places where things are hidden, resolution is a much better option than a divorce, to save the children from the trauma and trying to bring the happiness back in the married life of the couple.

The research work on the topic also takes into account the **ability of child** to handle the stress as it is requires great deal of patience as a child to adjust, and some of the researches consider it equivalent to lift a heavy weight over the head for the child. In a young age, it is difficult for a child to process the thought of being abandoned and losing the relationships he crave for, as well as a change of environment and school. The children, who are stronger and are likely to adjust to changes, are more capable of handling stress and don't fall a victim and have the least impact on their well-being. Similarly, if a child has better social skills then he can find company anywhere and would rather adjust to the change.

## **Quantum of Impact on Children – Divorce**

A number of researches were conducted in the late 1900's to ascertain the impact of divorce on the children and to assess the determinants magnifying the impact; situational and personal characteristics such as age or gender of the child. The research work done provided great insight over the sensitive issues faced by the children and ways to rectify or reduce the overall impact: an important research topic with ever increasing subjects facing the problem. Some of the researches focused on the differences among the children from intact and divorced families; supported by a single parent. One of such research by Amato (1991) with objective of finding the differences between children who have been in intact families and from divorced concluded that in numerous areas the children from intact families are better-off. The research stressed that children on separation of their parents, more often go through behavior problems and find it difficult to adjust with their peers and often end up with smaller friend circle at school. It is difficult for them to adjust with their single parents and becomes even more stressful when they are to adjust with a step-parent. They often lose self-confidence and their performance at school is hindered. The research investigated into the findings of 92 studies performed over a sample size of 1,300 children.

Another such research by Mavis (1993), a quantitative study using percentage for estimation with objective similar to other studies on the subject; differences among the children of both intact and divorced population, further tried to quantify the results and presented scales for the estimation. Findings concluded that around 90% children from intact families were found in the safe zone, having problems considered as normal and only 10% of them had problems that required professional assistance. Subsequently it was also found that 74% of boys and 66% of the girls from divorced families were in the safe zone while the other half required assistance. Contrary to this, the findings of Amato (1991) depicted an inverted canvas with 40% of the children from divorced families having to outperform the children from intact families. The research by Mavis can be summed up by concluding that although the children from divorced families are more prone to face problems but certainly do have a greater tendency to effectively overcome the problems without professional help or mostly face problems that are considered as normal.

Largely, the children of a divorced couple face **social and emotional distress as well as poor health.** Although most children recover from the event after a few years and lead a normal life but some are greatly affected. The child feels abandoned after divorce as one parent leaves to live a separate life and the emotional distress makes the child feel lonely. It has also been seen that children express the feeling of loneliness especially the ones from divorced families, almost one in two children whereas ones from the intact families are not much of the same. Secondly, although the non-resident father is involved in nurturing their child soon after divorce but couldn't match the pace as years pass by, and in most cases couldn't maintain regular contact with his child after 2, 3 years after divorce. On the contrary, the non-residential mother plays her role better than a father, as witnessed. The child also feels insecure on many instances and it is also common for the child to express his feelings through anger, sleep disorders, a sense of guilt to be the ultimate reason of divorce, going into isolation and to get involved in drugs and smoking at early age. These children suffer lack of social

acceptance as their behavior with other children of their age is aggressive and often lose friends when moving to a new home after divorce. There extracurricular and physical activities are less than the children from intact families as the single parent couldn't manage to attend or help them attend such activities or either they lack financial stability and couldn't rather spend on such things. The single parent couldn't maintain supervision in order to comply with his schedules resulting into their kids being influenced by the peers and accepting habits that are not beneficial. Certainly, the children in divorced families face health issues caused by stress and anxiety. They experience injuries and head aches and migraine is common. They are twice the time more prone to develop health issues.

Similarly, these children struggle in **academics** and are less fortunate in their performance at school as well as college. Research work depicts differences in the performance of children in intact and divorced families although huge differences have not been observed but still remains a matter of concern. According to the figures and statistics, these children are 10% less likely to graduate from high school and go for college education and certainly have 30% less chance of graduating from college. A number of reasons have been put forth to understand the likeliness of the shortfall, one of such reason is the attention deprivation of these divorced family children and little help at their homework and issues at school. The stress factor is not carefully monitored by the divorced parents and hence effective measures are not taken, greatly because these parents don't have adequate time and resources to invest. Secondly, the single parent is not capable of providing their children the best resources for their development especially if a single parent is a mother, and hence these children go to schools that are relatively cheap and live into places that are more reasonable for them to afford, being deprived of the services required. Thirdly, the single residential parent often couldn't support their child for the college fees and most of them lose hope of getting into college and complain for not having the resources for the development, although some spend difficult time managing their personal hygiene and stress while trying to meet ends as well as paying their college fees. It should be stressed here again that large differences have not been observed and it depends on case to case bases.

The divorce seemingly effects the **religious beliefs** of the growing children as it happens that these children have more stressors in their life than the children of intact families and have lessor comfort and it is difficult for them to understand that believing in good would change something. They doubt their parents religious beliefs and more prone of giving up on the religion. The facts show that these children don't pay regular visits to the religious places and one of the reason behind is that their parents couldn't take them on a regular bases to the religious place as they have to manage other things in life being a single parent and in the case of switching of custody on weekends among the parents, the other parent who is spiritually weak, does not make an effort to take them to the religious place. The other reason as has been found relevant is the factor of social acceptance of these children at religious places or any other social gathering; people are generally concerned and nosy about the things happening to them and generally irritate them in their quest of finding about them.

The two other things that are common in the children from divorced families are that they happen to get into **sexual relationships** at a young age and have greater chances of having a strained relationship or a **divorce in their own life**. The reasons are obviously the lack of attention and controlling factor from their single parent and romantic relationships and partners of these single parents. The children also don't have a role model for considering marriage as a permanent change in their lives and would rather consider a non-marriage romantic relationship before getting into marriage, which also greatly increase the chances of divorce after marriage rather than a successful marriage. According to a professor from Utah University, if one spouse happens to be from a divorced family, it is twice as likely for them to face divorce themselves.

# CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### **Findings & Conclusions**

V.

The divorce is a phenomenon effecting our new generations and is increasing social abnormalities in our society leading to low quality living and erosion in lifestyle standards. The need of resources for better development has increased substantially and often requires both of the parents to work, in the circumstances if divorce hits the family, not only the parents are affected but the children's suffer the stress of change in custody and a single parent to look after and financial burden which they are difficult to recover from throughout their life. As the members and volunteer of change, we need to look into the causes of the dysfunction and probable resolution of the effect on children. The phenomenon has been present in the west from around 2 decades and has now been equally important in the context of our native land, Pakistan. The marital success is greatly dependent on the factors that create a bond between the spouse such as the duration of marriage or children and their selection either by the other spouse or the family. The marital quality strengthens the relationship and reinforces the belief of continuing by improving the situation. Hence the chances of divorce are greatly reduced and better development of offspring is more likely.

In Contrast, if marriage is a failure the parents are greatly affected and certainly their parenting quality is also hindered, leaving the child defenseless. The child faces social and emotional vulnerabilities as well as financial distress and is deprived-off the educational services that could serve as his opportunity to grow. It is also to face the long lasting impact on its own married life and practices at a young age and is impossible to amend. A number of strategic steps could even reduce the occurrence of the divorce and if divorce is a fate, general guidelines could improve the parenting style even after the divorce. Such recommendations have been listed in the paragraph to follow.

## VI. RECOMMENDATIONS

To rectify the irregularities in our society, firstly the divorce shouldn't be considered as the only cause of the eruption but rather the events leading to divorce should be accounted for. There should be **counseling** of couple before marriage and whenever any conflict is witnessed. The counseling starts from the closest family members: parents of the spouse, this would ensure the success of the marriage as the parents of the spouse can better understand the problem than any other person. In case of an arrange marriage, the spouse should be compatible and like-minded as well as the financial background should be equivalent so that the transition is easy. A joint family system is also beneficial for a success of a marriage as many conflicts could be resolved in the family rather knowing it at the last stage when the couple has decided on the course of action. The awareness of the consequences of a divorce is important for the couple and reduces the likelihood of the event and increases their efforts towards the improvement of relationship. In a case where divorce is the ultimate outcome, the parents should work on their style of parenting setting aside the sorrow of a failed marriage and should rather work on co-parenting. The research proves that parenting quality is hindered soon after divorce but counseling of the divorced couple could help them overcome the deficiencies. In order to improve the condition a child is in, the divorced parents should spend time with them especially the non-resident parent and help them physically grow as well as to strengthen them emotionally. Another step towards improvement is answering all the confusions of the child regarding divorce and to make him understand that he is equally important even after divorce and will not be abandoned and rather would get more attention now. The parents should also not involve children in their fights and should work on their daily routine and to ensure that their activities follow a usual course. The divorced parents should support each other in their role of parenting and should show flexibility in their routines for the child so that there is no inconvenience for the child. Similarly, the parents should respect the other parentin front of the child and should portray a lenient attitude as the child is most affected by the arguments that happen between the parents. The parents after divorce should engage themselves in planning the co-parenting task by communicating often on the topic and should devise plan of action. The parents should ensure that the child manages to get along with other relationships, such as one with grandparents and school friends and don't face transition and ultimately losing all other loved-ones. The parents could also use **counseling** and other resources such as web and printed material to learn and improve their parenting and to devise the task efficiently. Although the steps defined previously are equally important but the factors that are of principle importance is to maintain a **positive relationship** with the child above everything and to keep the child away from any **parental conflicts**. Understanding the ultimate cause can help us manipulate the consequence.

## REFERENCES

- [1] Amato, P. R., Feb 1993. Children's adjustment to Divorce. Journal of Marriage and family, Volume 55, pp. 23-38.
- [2] Amato, P. R., November 2000. The Consequences of divorce. Journal of Family and Marriage, 62(4), pp. 1269-1287.
- [3] Barry B. Frieman, H. M. G. R. J. G., 2000. Parenting Seminar for Divorcing Parents. Journal of Divorce and Remarriage, Volume 33, pp. 129-143.
- [4] Donna Ruane Morrison, M. J. C., August 1999. Parental Conflict and Marital Disruption. Journal of Marriage and Family, Volume 61, pp. 626-637.
- [5] Dunn, J. D. L. C. T. W., June 2001. Family Lives and Friendship. Journal of Family Psychology, Volume 15, pp. 272-287.
- [6] ERelations, 52(4), pp. 352-362.
- [7] Monica A. Longmore, W. D. M., May 2001. Preadolescent Parenting Strategies. Journal of Marriage and Family, Volume 63, pp. 322-335.
- [8] Paul R. Amato, K. B., July 1991. Parental Divorce and well-being of the children. Psychological Bulletin, Volume 110, pp. 24-46.F. Oman, S. K. V., March 2005. Youth Assets and Sexual Risk Behavior. Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health, Volume 37, pp. 25-31.