

Investigating Emotional Divorce on Family Performance

Seyed Reza Salehi Amiri¹, Maryam Hekmatpour² and Mohadeseh Fadaei³

¹Head of department and assistant of management and Cultural Planning, Islamic Azad University, Science and Research Branch of Tehran

²Ph.D. Student in Cultural Planning, Islamic Azad University, Science and Research Branch of Tehran,

³MS in Cultural Planning, Islamic Azad University, Science and Research Branch of Tehran.

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ABSTRACT

Introduction and Objective: Emotional divorce is one of the most important threats against the family foundation and cognition the factors that influence poses from the priority. The aim of this article is effects of emotional divorce on family performance.

Methods: Due to the nature of the subject and article purposes, this study is causal – comparative. The population of this study is Include of all women referred to the Cultural Center of Shahrbanoo in region 8 of Tehran Municipality. Sample size was selected 80 people by random sampling and were examined the results of the questionnaire utilizes a family performance questionnaire and using T test statistical method.

Results: The relationship between emotional Divorces with three variables: roles interaction, the process of problem solving and emotional involvement was confirmed at 0/05 significant and there was significant differences in roles interaction, the process of problem solving and emotional involvement among performance of families with emotional divorce and families lack emotional divorce.

Conclusions: The results show that families, in which there is an emotional divorce, aren't able to resolve your problems and conflicts, emotional connection of family members are Inefficient and disrupt and have acted poorly in the field of roles interaction and overall performance, compared to ordinary families.

KEYWORDS: family, emotional divorce, ordinary families, family performance.

1. INTRODUCTION

Emotional divorce is the most important factor of the disruption of the most fundamental part of society that is family. Family is resort of tranquility and place of the blossoming talents. The people in a family are affected by each other. Surely the family blossoming is the result of family internal performance. If the quality of family inside relationships get disorder causes a problem in family performance and the bad effect on family members. The goal of current study is investigating the effect of emotional divorce on family performance where a family functions in the area of solving the problem aspect, the interaction and fusion with emotional responding and general performance are emphasized. The evidences show that the families who don't have emotional divorce and have efficient performance act much stronger than families whose performance is weak and inefficient.

The general goal: The main goal of current study is investigating the effect of emotional divorce on family performance.

Sub-goals: 1. checking the effect of emotional divorce on problem solving process in family.

2. Checking the effect of emotional divorce on roles interaction in family

3. Checking the effect of emotional divorce on intercourse and emotional responding in family

The history of research

Considering family system importance as the first structure of society where the foundation of training and education of children and legal relations between men and women as a legitimate standard were is founded there. The importance of attention and maintain such this structure considering the role of psychological mental, emotional, social and behavioral of that and children modeling in an emotional environment are clearly observable (Barens, 2003).

A society without having healthy family can't claim to be healthy and none of social damages have not been created from family affectless (Sarookhani, 1996).

Divorce is one of the most important family injuries, but formal divorce statistics cannot show the rate of failure of spouses in marriage because besides that the bigger statistics are specified to emotional divorces which means off lives and hollow families that man and woman are living together in the cold but they don't get divorced (Golzari, 2010).

Paul Boohnan considers emotional divorce as the first stage of divorce process and reflecting the declining marital relationship that feeling of alienation will replace it (Boohnan, 1970). Therefor in emotional divorce couples live only under one roof while their relationships have completely interrupted or without desire and satisfaction.

* **Corresponding Author:** Seyed Reza Salehi Amiri, Head of department and assistant of management and Cultural Planning, Islamic Azad University, Science and Research

Stiffen Marquez observes the person relationship with his spouse and also other people with a systematic view. He explains his theory as a married person has internal angel, spousal angel and third angel that each point shows focus out of himself except his wife (Marquez, 1989).

According to his idea one of low marital quality is divorce pattern that both spouses have been mixed with their third angels and are far from their spousal angel. The third strong angel can be anything such as child, work and friends. It seems that divorce combination can be considered as emotional divorce in some cases (the same).

Robert Sterenberg shows the different love angels with a triangle that has three components of commitment, intimacy and passion. One of the different kinds of love relationship is hollow one that just included commitment and has the lack of intimacy and passion, since emotional divorce is a relationship without intimacy, we can call hollow love as a kind of emotional divorce (Sterenberg and Barens, 1988).

There is no secret to anyone that family is a place of talents blossoming. Clearly family member blossoming is affected by family internal performance.

Families with healthy behavior not only help their existence in a system, but also cause a potential power blossoming of each one of its members. It means that it lets them to investigate and search by confidence and reassurance (Goldenberg and Goldenberg, 2002).

Family structure factors if get disorders, it can cause problem in family performance and has negative effect on children's personality (Loominita, Speranta, 2010).

Eshnayder et al 2005 has showed that most of kids in unhealthy families compared to kids in healthy family are more in bad educational and social conditions. Teenagers feel their self-esteem has decreased and their emotional self-determination related to negative feelings about their parent's relationships has increased (Balestrini, 2013).

If we consider family performance as a collection of roles and expectations that family members have toward each other therefor family plays an important role in identifying Roles and responsibilities of members, tasks being logic, tasks of planning, defining the boundaries for members of regulations to restore order in the family, support each other in times of crisis, frank, mutual trust and accountability (Bakhshi pour, 2012).

Internal quality of families has an important role in forming attitudes and family social feedback and the basis of family internal relationships is based on the relationship between husband and wife. Emotional divorce is a sign of problem in a healthy and correct relationship between husband and wife. This relationship problem in family can be expanded in society and destroy human relationship. When family foundation falters the moral and social basis of all social system will be faltered and society will be led to different problems so checking emotional divorce problem is crucially important.

Therefor current research questionnaires are: 1. is there a relationship between emotional divorce components and family performance? 2. How does emotional divorce explain the rate of family performance components such as problem solving, relationship, roles, emotional intercourse and behavior control?

Theoretical framework and conceptual model:

Divorces can be divorced into two categories: 1- Obvious divorce: it is a kind of divorce that couples are separated from each other formally by referring to court.

2- Hidden divorce: they are divorces that have all the first one's features but because of cultural, value, spiritual obstacles and special law are not revealed. In this kind of divorces, couples live just together while their other relationships are completely cut or are without passion, this kind of divorce is called off divorce or emotional divorce.

Theoretical framework of research is function-oriented structural theory. The main idea in this hypothesis observes functions and essential activities for keeping different societies and social groups. These functions include factors such as reproduction, economic production, education, religion, entertainment and above all are functions and duties that must be done for achieving to stability in society. In Mordeck's point of view the four main functions of family are sexual, economic, education and reproduction. Parsons consider two main family functions as socializing children and maintaining adults' personality. In his idea industrial development process has caused development of schism in the family and the reason of that is first separating families, from kinship networks and then decreasing home group single small nuclear family. As result it loses all production and religious performances and only has been changed to housing and consumer unit. In function-oriented approach, when family system get ignored as result there will be disorder in family functions. Unhealthy family shows a mood of chaos in a cluttered and disorganized families where ignoring each other, violence and inappropriate behavior and conflict violence and abuse will be more.

Theoretical hypothesis of research is that under the effect of emotional divorce problem, family will lose some its functions and in spite of changing its performance and its structural balance, it has been faced with challenging. Since in this article family performance aspect in problem solving process, roles interactions, emotional intercourse and emotional responding are focused therefor we will set the conceptual research model as follows.

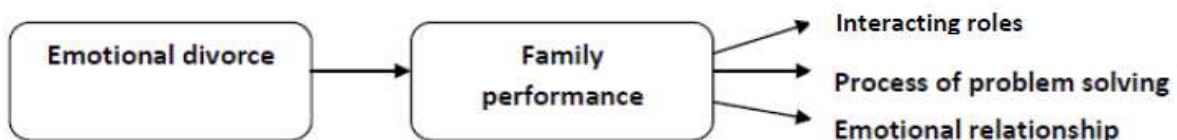


Fig 1- Research conceptual model

Research history:

Bahari and Seberi in a research named the comparison of family performance of divorcing couples referred to Forensic Medicine Organization and non-divorced couples in 2004 found that there is a significant difference between divorcing couples' family performance and normal couples. That is the family performance of divorcing couples is lower than normal couples.

The result of Ms. Nazari research named the comparison of normal and divorced family performance in Tehran that was done in 2011 showed divorced families compared to normal families in problem solving have more problem in facing their problems and there isn't good relationship among family members.

Another research has been done by Ms. Jahangir in 2012 named the comparison of family performance and marital satisfaction in employed married women and unemployed ones has showed that there is a significant relationship between family performance and marital satisfaction.

In other researches that have been done about this abroad for example Matis and King 1985 with checking 73 divorcing couples found that failuier an achieving solution has significant relationship with the chaos of family performance.

Also Erkister and Stivenson 1991 showed in a research that family roles scale variables and emotional companion are related together frequently.

Main hypothesis: emotional divorce has negative effect on family general performance.

Sub assumptions:

- 1- Emotional divorce has negative impact on the interacting roles.
- 2- Emotional divorce has negative impact on problem solving process on family.
- 3- Emotional divorce has negative impact on responding and emotional intercourse of family members.

2. METHODOLOGY

This study has been done by browsing method. According to the essence of the subject and subject's goal, the present study is the type of causal-comparative. Because in this study, we following the impact of the independent variable on the dependent variable and the type of this study are causal-caused, we use this method. Correlation method is rejected of course, because evaluate only the existing relationship between two variables and not causal relationship. To study the hypothesis of the study we use T test method. The target population of this study includes all of the women who refer to the Shahrbanou cultural Complex at 8 districts of Tehran Municipality which by using random sampling method, a sample with 80 members is selected. The sample size is calculated as the below formula:

$$n_0 = \left(\frac{\bar{x}_{1-\alpha} - \bar{x}_{1-\beta}}{d} \right)^2$$

$\alpha = 0.05 \rightarrow z_{1-\alpha/2} = 1.96$

$\beta = 0.2 \rightarrow z_{1-\beta} = 0.84$

To collect data Family Assessment Device (FAD) is used. This device has been developed based on "McMaster method" to evaluate family performance. The first scientific endeavor to standardization this device in Iran was done by Najjarian (1995). This questionnaires has Likert rating method and each question score 1 to 4. The question which describe unhealthy performance of family belong reverse score. In general top score shows fine performance and low scores shows disturbed performance of family. The first part of the questionnaire which was related to evaluate of emotional divorce, is made by the researcher. In order to face validity of the questionnaire consulted with professors and is confirmed by them and in order to study Reliability or stability of questionnaire Cronbach's alpha was used. The value of Cronbach's alpha for the questionnaire was obtained 0.91. Therefore it can be said that stability of questionnaire is confirmed.

The analytical result of research:

According to the hypothesis of the study, relationship between emotional divorce with family performance in shape of three variables interacting roles, problem solving process and emotional intercourse is studied. For the study, T test is used. Because the requirements for using this test is normal condition of data, by using Kolmogorov Smirnov test the study was conducted. As regards the P value of Kolmogorov Smirnov normalization test for the interacting roles variable is obtained 0.026 and for problem solving process 0.031 and for emotional intercourse 0.02 which are significant in significant level of 0.05, therefore there is normalization condition of data and we can use T test.

In table 1 according to the questionnaire, people divided in two groups who they don't have emotional divorce (group1) and who they have emotional divorce (group 2) and an average of answers seen as a descriptive statistics. As can be seen relationship between emotional divorce variable and emotional intercourse, solving problem process and interacting roles variable is confirmed. It means emotional divorce has negative impact on these factors.

Table 1. Group Statistics

	Divorce group	N	Mean	Standard Deviation	Standard deviation of the mean errors
Emotional intercourse	1	11	23.3636	3.55732	1.07257
	2	53	29.0000	4.25622	.58464
process of problem solving	1	12	16.9167	4.35803	1.25805
	2	52	20.8462	3.43217	.47596
Interacting roles	1	1	32.6364	8.77807	2.64669
	2	51	40.1176	5.97209	.83626

In table 2 values of estimate, degree of freedom, the means difference and confirm or rejection of the impact of emotional divorce variable on family performance variable generally and emotional intercourse, solving problem process and interacting roles variable provide by using T test.

Table 2.

		Loon test for equality of variances		T-test for equality of means						
		F	Sig.	t	Degree of freedom	Sig. (2-tailed)	The means difference	Confirm or rejection of the hypothesis	Confidence interval 95%	
									Lower	Upper
Family performance	Equality of variance assuming	1.35	.552	-3.95	73	.000	-6.63722	Confirm the hypothesis	-6.89731	-1.47435
	Without equality of variance assuming			-3.03						
Emotional intercourse	Equality of variance assuming	.336	.564	-	62	.000	-5.63636	Confirm the hypothesis	-8.38592	-2.88681
	Without equality of variance assuming			4.098						
process of problem solving	Equality of variance assuming	1.032	.314	-	62	.001	-3.92942		-6.24298	-1.61600
	Without equality of variance assuming			3.395						
Interacting roles	Equality of variance assuming	3.519	.066	-	60	.001	-7.48128		-11.81969	-3.14288
	Without equality of variance assuming			3.449						

The results show that by assuming equality of variances in 0.05 confidence level, relationship between emotional divorce and family performance with P is significant 0.00. Also relationship between emotional divorce and interacting roles with P is 0.001 and relationship between emotional divorce and solving problem process and emotional intercourse are 0.001 and 0.00 in order which are significant relationship. So the impact of emotional divorce on family performance generally and interacting roles and emotional intercourse and solving problem process variables with 95% confident is confirmed.

3. DISCUSSION

Present study by using quantitative research methods, check the impact of emotional divorce on family performance. About the main hypothesis which emotional divorce has negative impact on total family performance, according to the results of research which the P value related to family performance been 0.000, it shows the negative impact on total family performance. Relationship between emotional divorce and total family performance is confirmed by the results of research which Mrs. Nazari did at 2011 with title "performance comparison of normal and divorced family in Tehran". So that the result of her research showed that 50% of women and 43.7% of men from normal families have evaluated their total performance good whereas this number in divorced men and women have been reported 4%.

About the first hypothesis which emotional divorce has negative impact on the interacting roles in family, according to the results of research which the P value related to interacting roles is estimated 0.001, shows the significant relationship between emotional divorce and interacting roles in family. It means that the impact of emotional divorce on interacting roles with confidence level of 95% is approved.

Ryan and et al (2005) had been expressed that in fine family with completed performance, the roles assigned as (clear, appropriate homework, skills and power of doing homework and dividing them), determine as clear and responder and in unhealthy families, one or more members of family add to family homework and responding a lot and the roles performance haven't good clarity.

The results of present research shows that in 85% of families that involved to emotional divorce, there are no clear role and appropriate homework and dividing them are not done correctly.

About the second hypothesis which emotional divorce has negative impact on the solving problem process, according to the results of research which the P value related to solving problem process is 0.001 therefore the negative

impact of emotional divorce on the solving problem process is confirmed. So that as we concluded from result of research around 58% of families that involved to emotional divorce said that have not used from dialogue and consultation and solutions study for solving their problems and have complex problems to solving their problems.

Results of this research match with previous results. Such as research which had been done by Mrs. Jahangiri at 2012 with title "comparison between family performance and marital satisfaction" and the results show that in families which have marital satisfaction, decision power and problem solving are more and family discuss about various problems.

About the third hypothesis which the emotional divorce has negative impact on the response and emotional intercourse of family members, according to the results of research which the P value related to emotional intercourse is 0.000 shows the significant relationship between emotional divorce and emotional response. The result of present research shows that 65% of families that involved to emotional divorce, considered their family member relationships, ambiguous, incomplete and unfriendly that this research match with previous result of research such as Mrs. Nazari research which had been done in 2011, so that the result of her research showed that 72% of women and 73% of normal men have been reported their relationships good, emotional and friendly and 95% of divorced women and 80.9% of divorced men have been reported their relationships, arid, soulless and non-understandable.

As a general conclusion should be said families with fine performance, except its survival as a system, caused potential prosperity of every one of their members, it means that let them following the excavation and self-discovery with trust and confidence. Because the family as the smallest social institution, is the most vulnerable social groups against damage, when foundation of family is wavered, moral and social foundations of whole social system is wavered and society stray toward various deviations. To having fine families and thriving and so fine society, we should have special attention to the proactive approach in the field of family injuries. About emotional divorce, trainings before marriage and leading people to successful and thriving marriage and also continuation of education during life and promoting a culture of consultation will have an effective role in prevention and treatment of emotional divorce.

Notes:

- 1-Barenz.G.G
- 2-Bohannan, Paul
- 3-Marks, Stephen R
- 4-Stenberg.R
- 5-Goldenberg&Goldenberg
- 6-Mattis&king little
- 7-Arkister&Stevenson

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