

EFFECTS OF DIVORCE ON CHILDREN'S CONFLICT BEHAVIOUR

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This study examines the effects of divorce on children's conflict behaviour. Major effects of divorce on children are found in areas of social relationships, educational achievement, psychological adjustment, self-concept, and social relations according to Amanto and Keith (cited in VanderValk et al., 2005). Questionnaire was constructed to test the hypotheses developed. T-test and ANOVA statistical tool was employed to analyse the variables. Based on the findings, it was discovered that single parent homes are also associated with criminal activities, teenagers are generally a high-risk group during a family divorce. Recommendations were made to address the issues of divorce and also developing flexible and varied sources of support for children experiencing family breakdown, perhaps through raising awareness of the impact of family breakdown via whole-school approaches to improving children's health and well-being was also recommended.

RESEARCH OVERVIEW:

Complete Project: 70 Pages

Literature Review: 2005 Upward

Data Analysis: T-test and Anova Statistical Tool

Research Population: 150 Students

Research Location: Lagos State, Nigeria

Questionnaire: 20 Items x 150 Respondents

References: APA Style, 6th Edition (2010).

RESEARCH PROPOSAL

One in every three marriages conducted in Nigeria fail within the first three years (Al Jazeera, 2012). Thus, by the time students in Nigeria reach the age of eighteen, 50-60% of them will be affected by divorce (Adegoke, 2010). Given the large number of children affected by divorce, research has focused on why and how divorce affects children's adjustment (Potter, 2010; Sun & Li, 2011). Research consistently shows a negative relationship between parental divorce and children's well-being. For example, children from divorced families have been found to have higher rates of depression (Strohschein, 2005) and antisocial behaviors (Vandewater & Lansford, 1998). Studies have found parental divorce to have a significant negative effect on children's educational success, such as academic achievement and attainment (Amato, 2001; Frisco et al., 2007; Lansford, 2009;). Among children of divorce, relatively few studies have examined effect of divorce on children's conflict behaviour.

According to Quinlan (2003), it is difficult for a child to realize that two people who love themselves do not love each other again. Most children could not comprehend the complexity of strains that led to the rapture of marital love. Fraser (2003) contends that performance and behaviour of children living with a single parent is below that of children living with the two parents. He observed that children who lives with a parent especially a divorced one, usually feels unsecured, always attention seeking and anxious that his/her education may be seriously hindered or disrupted through these feelings and at the end it would affect the child's total behaviour. It has been statistically proven that children in single parents home fare worse than those with two parents (States News Service, 2005). It has been established that family structure contributes to five characteristics of a child's well being. These include lower birth rates and higher death rates among infants when there is just one parent.

Compared to children who grew up in continuously intact families, offspring from divorced parents are often found to have lower psychological well-being (Ferner, 2002) have more emotional problems such as depression (Evdodaghe, 2002) have more negative self-image perform less well at school exhibit more delinquent and aggressive behaviour have a higher risk for substance use and they also have more problematic relationships and early sexual intercourse (Fraser, 2003).

Previous research has shown parental divorce to be negatively associated with academic achievement. However, most of this research has been focused on the educational outcomes of children and adolescents as opposed to young adults. This has created a vacuum in understanding the link between divorce and children anti-social behaviour. To fill this gap, the current study investigates whether and how parental divorce affects children's conflict behaviour in a school setting.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Background to the Study
- 1.2 Statement of the Study
- 1.3 Purpose of the Study
- 1.4 Research Question
- 1.5 Research Hypotheses
- 1.6 Significance of the Study
- 1.7 Scope of the Study
- 1.8 Operational Definition of Terms

CHAPTER TWO

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- 2.2 Theoretical Framework
 - 2.2.1 Conceptualizing of Divorce
 - 2.2.2 Causes of Divorce
- 2.3 Effects of Divorce on Children's Conflict Behaviour
- 2.4 Divorce and Gender Conflict Behaviour

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 Research Design
- 3.2 Population of the Study
- 3.3 Sample and Sampling Procedure
- 3.4 Instrument of Data Collection
- 3.5 Procedure of Administration
- 3.6 Method of Data Analysis

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS

- 4.1 Answers to Research Hypotheses
- 4.2 Discussion of Findings

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 Summary
- 5.2 Conclusion
- 5.3 Recommendation

REFERENCES

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