



Divorce: Another Barrier to Marginality

Effects of Divorce on Marginalized Groups

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6-Year-Old
Shelby Green

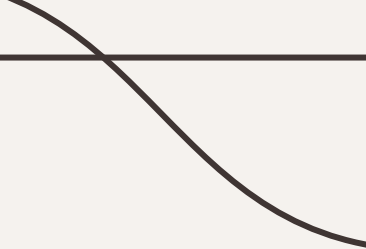
“Each year, over 1 million
American children suffer the
divorce of their parents.”

- *The Heritage Foundation*

Research Details

Question: How does divorce affect marginalized groups such as children, ethnic and racial minorities, and LGBTQ+ individuals in comparison to non-marginalized groups?

Methods: Research conducted through the use of university databases and peer reviewed scholarly articles and primary and secondary sources.



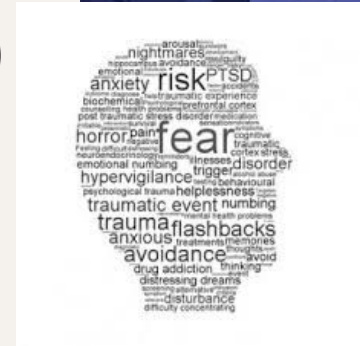
Marginality: “The position of people on the edges, preventing their access to resources and opportunities, freedom of choices, and the development of personal capabilities.” (von Braun, 2013.)

3 Means:

1. Emotional & Psychological Trauma
2. Bias
3. Issues of Legality and Safety

Emotional & Psychological Trauma

- Children who come from divorced homes experience more cognitive issues than children who don't. (Garriga & Pennoni, 2020.)
- Children from ethnic minority backgrounds tend to have a higher development of anxiety and depression. (Perez, 2019.)
- LGBTQ individuals experience emotional trauma related to divorce because they commonly have a lesser support system than heterosexual couples. (Brown, 2008.)



Bias

- Along with the typical stressors related to divorce, LGBTQ couples experience minority stressors such as employment discrimination (Dowd, 2019.)
- Cultural and religious bias exists heavily in minority divorces (Borochoy, 2002.)
- Ethnic-heterogeneous groups from white cultural backgrounds are less likely to experience bias (Eeckhaut, Lievens, Van de Putte, 2011.)

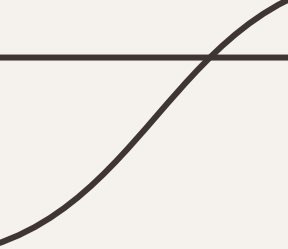


Legality & Safety

- “...because divorce law was developed with different-sex couples in mind, LGBTQ people who have arranged their relationships differently could find that their expectations are incompatible with the laws commands.” (Dowd, 2019.)
- Having appropriate policies and better representation can reduce the effects of family disruption on children (Garriga & Pennoni, 2020.)
- Minority groups are put at a higher risk of divorce due to stressors and cultural impacts (Eeckhaut, Lievens, & Van de Putte, 2011.)



**Traditionally marginalized individuals
aren't the only people to experience
the negative effects of divorce...**



“...I didn’t come from a family
of divorce, so I didn’t know
how to do it. And honestly, I
was terrified.”

- *My experience with divorce*



Conclusion

- Marginalized groups experience far more negative effects of divorce compared to non marginalized groups.
 - As divorce becomes increasingly more common, there is no way to eliminate all negative effects of divorce.
 - By providing better representation and resources we can better support the marginalized groups experiencing the effects of divorce.
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Resources

Borochoy, A., & Borochoy, L. (2002, August 16). Emigrating After Divorce. *Jerusalem Post*.

Brown, M. J. (2008). Breaking up is hard to do: Challenges of same-sex divorce. *PsycEXTRA Dataset*. <https://doi.org/10.1037/e517662009-009>

Dowd, R. (2019, May 30). *Navigating the new landscape of LGBTQ divorce*. UCLA. Retrieved March 22, 2022, from <https://newsroom.ucla.edu/stories/navigating-the-new-landscape-of-lgbtq-divorce>

Eeckhaut, M. C., Lievens, J., Van de Putte, B., & Lusyne, P. (2011). Partner selection and divorce in ethnic minorities: Distinguishing between two types of ethnic homogamous marriages. *International Migration Review*, 45(2), 269–296. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1747-7379.2011.00848.x>

Resources Cont.

Fagan, P. (2000, June 5). *The effects of divorce on America*. The Heritage Foundation. Retrieved March 22, 2022, from <https://www.heritage.org/marriage-and-family/report/the-effects-divorce-america>

Garriga, A., & Pennoni, F. (2020). The causal effects of parental divorce and parental temporary separation on children's cognitive abilities and psychological well-being according to Parental Relationship Quality. *Social Indicators Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11205-020-02428-2>

My experience with divorce - YouTube. (n.d.). Retrieved March 24, 2022, from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8o30eOejkLk>

Perez, M.R. (2019). *Examining the Lived Experiences of Divorce among Hispanic Parents* (Order No. 22589916). Available from Ethnic NewsWatch. (2292251735). <https://login.dist.lib.usu.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/dissertations-theses/xamining-lived-experiences-divorce-among/docview/2292251735/se-2?accountid=14761>

von Braun, J., & Gatzweiler, F. W. (2013). Marginality—an overview and implications for policy. *Marginality*, 1–23. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-94-007-7061-4_1