

## Causes and Consequences of Divorce Among Hausa Community of Sokoto State

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### Abstract

The aim of this study is to examine the Causes and Consequences of Divorce among Hausa Community of Sokoto State. Every society in the history of man has upheld the institution of marriage as a bond between a man and a woman, and is seen as the basis for the establishment of the family, it could be in the form of arrangement by relatives, but the most common form of marriage is that which involves the payment of "Bride-Price". The general objective of this research is to find out the implication of divorce among Hausa of Sokoto State. However, the research specifically, aimed at determining the causes and Consequences of divorce among Hausas in the study area, as well as assessing the implications of divorce among Hausas in the study area. Based on the research findings, there are several factors associated with divorce among the Hausa community of Sokoto State, such as Criminal and non-Criminal Social Problems, differences in priority between husband and self-interpretative issue, which a lot of husbands and wives discuss and anticipate prior to the marriage contract. The qualitative method was adapted for the study. From all the respondent, majority peoples of 66 (57.9%) respondents believe in divorce affect the academic performance of children, another larger percentage (42.1%) of the respondents although lesser than those who believe this in accordance with Bascon and Hersksvits (1990), argued that the implication of this tendency is that the father-child relationship assumes a greater emphasis in society than the mother-child relationship. The Causes of divorce among Hausa people of Rijiyah Area Sokoto State. Majority of the respondents believe that Lack of proper upbringing leads to divorce with 35 (30.4%) respondent who strongly agreed to this fact while a larger percentage (48.7%) of the respondents agreed. However, unanticipated matters at times do become a major problem for many marriages.

**Keywords:** *Causes, Consequences, Divorce, Hausa Community*

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### **Background to the Study**

Marital instability or divorce in other word is one of the problems bedevilling the society and especially among the Hausa communities. This may perhaps be as a result of the nature and customs of Hausa people and external influence on Hausa culture. Divorce on the other hand is the legal dissolution of a marriage. Records of divorce in Sokoto were hard to come by, mainly due to lack of registration and record keeping. However, like any other core northern state experience high rate of divorce, Sokoto is characterized by a high number of divorce Kurfi (2012). Against this backdrop, the research will examine the causes of rampant divorce among the Hausa community of Rijija area, Sokoto, this is with a view to coming up with a sociological explanation of the phenomenon.

Although, it is lawful and the right of couples to agree whether to continue to live together with their marriage relationship or terminate the marriage in the name of divorce, but in most cases instead of finding a solution to the problem of marriage divorce becomes a problem to the divorced parents and to the society as well.

The issue of divorce is a global phenomenon, and the burden of its consequence affects the world in general. Although several researches have been conducted with regard to the menace, but yet it keeps increasing, according to a statistical report, the divorce rate increases by 2% annually in the United States increase since 1999. In addition, in England and Wales a total of 118,140 divorces was recorded, 71% of which occurred within the first 10 years of marriage, similarly, in Australia also there is 4.3% and Sweden 2.7% increase of divorce (Office for National statistics, 2012). In Nigeria today, the rate at which marital couples experience divorce and re-marriage is quite alarming (Dada and Idowu, 2006). Many families have been in serious war with themselves simply because of their failure to arrest, manage or resolve conflicting issues between couples or families. Many families in Hausa land are going through a lot of stress and hardships as a result of marital conflicts.

Divorce causes unhappiness and economic instability for men, women, and children. Moreover, society's acceptance of a high divorce rate has damaged relationships between men and women and has weakened the institution of marriage, which is the foundation of a stable society. Children are deeply affected when their parents are divorced. Psychological distress, poor academic performance, teenage pregnancy, and delinquency occur more often among children of divorce than among youths from stable families. In addition, children with divorced parents are more likely to experience marital problems as adults (Sulaiman, 2015). Between January and October 2016 to 2017 about 126 cases of juvenile delinquency reported to police in Marina Police Station Sokoto 73 out of the total figure are children of divorced parents. Furthermore, 10 cases of missing children were reported and 8 out of the 10 are children of divorced parents (Nigeria police divisional office Sokoto).

In line with the above, necessary measures need the taken to tackle the widespread of divorce, for instance, a serious tax should be putted upon a husband who unreasonably divorce his wife and should be compelled to pay for her subsequent marriage, and most importantly, a clear rules governing marriage and divorce should be provide authoritatively and applied

accordingly. The need to examine some more solutions, consequences and causes of divorce had put a burden and set the tone on to the researcher to discuss the causes and consequences of marital dissolution or marriage breakdown or divorce among Hausa community of Sokoto state in particular.

## **Literature Review**

### **An Overview and Concept of Divorce**

The concept of divorce is very wide and dynamic between societies or states of the world, although, it means the legal dissolution of a marriage, but the way and the manner with which it occurs differs among communities. Therefore, scholars have tirelessly investigated on the phenomena. However, a recent observation on people's attitude toward marriages, suggest that culture and religion sometimes determine the dissolution of marriage, meanwhile, in some tribes and religions, the husband only, has the power to divorce his wife while in some societies even women can divorce their husbands. (Borgatta and Edgor, 2000). For instance, A male divorcee is called *divorcé*, while a female divorcee is called *divorcée*. On the other hand, marriage is the formal union of a man and a woman, typically as recognized by law, by which they become husband and wife (Concise Oxford English Dictionary, 11th Edition, 2009). Divorce is the dissolution of a marriage by judgment of a court or by accepted custom. It can also be called a total separation (Collins English Dictionary, 2011). It is also a legal way of ending a marriage (Macmillan School Dictionary, 2011).

Dissolution of marriage usually is not an easy choice to make, especially in the African parlance, anyone suing for dissolution of marriage must have taken considerable time to weigh its pros and cons before deciding on it and it is only when there seems to be no alternative in sight that they can resort to it. Women bear the brunt of any dissolution of marriage, the society views her to be a failure, and she considers herself a failure. Most often a divorce woman is referred to as fair use and even men do not escape this, as no sensible woman, parent or guardian Would want to consent to the marriage of their ward with a divorced man (Victoria, 2011). The concept of divorce from the Nigerian Statutes, is simply defined as dissolution of marriage or outing to rest of a marriage contract (Chiroma, et al. 2015). Divorce according to the Oxford English Dictionary, (2014) is defined as the legal dissolution of a marriage by a court or other competent body. In contrast, from the Islamic perspective, linguistics, the term divorce can be referred to as “Talaq”, which in Arabic means freeing or undoing of a knot (Raqib).

### **Causes of Divorce**

The economic literature on divorce has been heavily influenced by Becker's pioneering work on family economics. According to Becker (1991) the main determinants of divorce is to be found in the couple's earnings differentials; for example, high earning women gain relatively little from a marriage, since the small differential implies that there is less scope for an efficient sexual division of labor, and have a stronger fallback position in case of divorce. On the whole, then, a Beckerman perspective suggests that high-income, well-educated Women are more prone to divorce (Balestrino, et al., 2008)

A study was conducted in America, by Frank and Oak (2011) outlines some of the reasons or causes for divorce and marriage breakdowns:

1. Divorce is difference in priority between husband and wife. It may be a self-interpretative issue, which a lot of husbands and wives discuss and anticipate prior to the marriage contract. However, unanticipated matters at times do become a major problem for many marriages.
2. Addiction; marriages, families who engaged in drug addiction do not mix well. Addicts don't only have downgrade effects on his self-image and the couples, most often they leave unfortunate emotional scars on their children, close relatives, and friends, addiction will demoralize everything concerning destructive it gets in the family.
3. Child-rearing issues, is seen as one of the major reasons for divorce.
4. Religious and cultural strains distinctiveness usually take much heat numerous times such obstacles do not exist at all, but when other factors push their relationship towards its dissolution religious disagreement, unfortunately, get thrown into the mix, and many times are guilt.
5. Causes of marriage dissolution were sexual incompatibility, amongst married couples. In most cases, the sexual dissatisfaction result is in the separation. Then next is communication breakdown in the marriage, Marriage spouses, who have communication problems, which in most of the time lead to the end of relationships and breakdown (Frank and Oak, 2.011)

Adultery or more frequently known as “cheating “are in the first and top position on the list of reason or cause of marriage dissolution or divorce in the United States. Most people, what in fidelity or cheating is but in more formal terms in fidelity, is a transgression of mutually agreed rules or boundaries that couple assumes in a relationship, ironically, it holds number one reason for the wedding dissolution or divorce in the United States and many other countries in the World (Frank and Oak, 2011).

Wendy, cited in Suleiman et al. (2015), proved that the number of divorced women is always increasing due to one reason or the other. Wendy mentioned that women should be economically independent to tackle the problem of divorce, because according to his research, many women become divorced because they rely on their husbands as well as her family. This can be one of the reasons that lead to divorce, because if the women assign unnecessary responsibilities to the husbands, it may cause divorce.

In line with the idea of the above immediate scholar, economic status of the married women, whether favorable or otherwise has nothing to do with divorce, this is because in almost all the nations, cultures, and religions in Nigeria, it is believed that the responsibility to take care of the of the wife of all kinds is on the husband. Therefore, it's expected that asking for this and that of the husband by the wife is normal and acceptable since it is their duty to satisfy their demands. In other words, it is not economic independence of women that curve the problem in the society, but the poor economic condition of the husband himself.

According to a survey conducted by Kim, (2013), on “divorce causes” he found some marriage mistakes that lead to divorce' in America he identified five mistakes that accounts for breakdown of marriage or divorce where a number of respondents said that: if their spouse cheated on them, they would end the relationship, the spouses, who did the cheating, may repent, but the person who was cheated on often feels betrayed that they cannot get past, they continue to punish their spouse for the deep hurt they feel, and relationship often crumbles; on the issue of dishonesty, many people in happy wedding said if their partner lied to them, they might be able to continue the relationship but when the trust is abused or broken, some cannot maintain that relationship; the third one is addiction. However, addiction is something that cannot be forgiven, particularly if at the beginning of the relationship was not known or did not exist. So, for this it is another cause of the marriage to dissolve or divorce, the second to the last is abuse, a number of people expressed that if their partner hits them, or sexually or physically abuse their children the relationship would be over, and the last one is significant changes in priorities. Significantly changes in priorities can cause and end relationship of Wedding and what can be problematic and end the marriage is when one or both husband and wife change their priorities in directions that are unacceptable and unbelievable to their spouse. Thus, around 50 percent of marriages in the United State end in divorce, as a result of the causes mentioned above.

According to Usman, (2012), the reasons for the high incidence of marital breakup and failure have been attached to people getting into marriage relationship for the wrong reasons. For instance, for wedding benefit, the excessive pressure placed on young ladies to marry, mainly because their peers are been married, thereby, losing the actual important of wedding as a means of finding lasting company; abdication and abuse of married duties and responsibilities, the misapplication, misinterpretations and abuse of religious doctrine, concerning marriage rights and obligations, more especially the exploitation of the polygamy clause in Shari'ah Law by many men to marry and divorce spontaneously for many other reasons.

On the other hand, based on a study conducted by Suleiman et al. (2015), on factors of divorced and the effects of divorced among the marriage couples, in Kano state, indicated that the reason of divorced should either be adding another wife (polygamy), it constitutes 62 respondents out of 200, or force marriage 38 respondents out of 200, or lack of patient in which patient 47 respondents, and finally, abandonments of marriage responsibilities 53 respondents out of 200. According to Malumfashi et al., (2002), economic situations of couple, childlessness, constant conflict, loss of emotional bond, force marriage and death of spouse are the major reasons for most marital breakdown amongst the people of northern Nigeria, others factors include incompatibility of spouse, destiny, and non-satisfaction.

### **Consequences of Divorce**

A review of literature demonstrated that divorce was rare in early African society. However, it is exceptionally common in contemporary communities. Even though divorce was much less common in the early period, its effects were considered to be enormous. This could be seen in the area of ethics, morality, and social-orientation. Hardon (2004) observed that the effects of

divorce on society are drastic. Hardon (2004) argued that the children of divorced parents suffer the worst effects of divorce. Divorce leads to the messy dissolution of families which hurts children. In this situation, Sons are likely to stay with their father, and daughters are more likely to stay with their mother. The aim of marriage the creation of a family is therefore defeated by divorce. Bascon and Hersksvits (1990), argued that the implication of this tendency is that the father-child relationship assumes a greater emphasis in society than the mother-child relationship. According to these researchers, this implication is reinforced by the pattern of custody in the wake of divorce, where sons are likely to remain with their father, and the daughters with their mother. Similarly, the effects of parental misjudgements descend heavily on the children. For this reason, divorce is harmful and challenges the very notion of marriage. The training of children solely rests on the parents and should be performed jointly. However, in a divorced family, this cannot be the case, which has numerous consequences for children. Children may not receive necessary and adequate training and education. Harden (2004) noted that children need both parents because each plays a complementary role in the children's life. The children of divorced parents often attempt to adjust and adapt to the new situation in which they find themselves, these children run the risk of discontinuity in their emotional and intellectual development (Harden 2004). It has been found that children from divorced families do not feel secure. Harden (2004) confirmed that, the children of divorced parents are insecure. Unfortunately, these children carry these distorted feelings to married life; as a result, marital instability becomes hereditary.

According to Jeanne and Robert, (2007), the effects of divorce on the family are many: The major one being its economic and material effects, as most affected women face a lot of economic hardships, long-term effects on family roles and the feelings of family members (for example the affected family experienced diminished capacity for parenting after divorce and what sociologist called the "silver lining effect to the dark cloud of divorce). Chiroma, et al., (2015) argued that, although divorce is a means of bringing to an end of a terrible relationship between two couples, but rampant cases of divorce cause more harm than good in the society, it paves a way for social problems in the society such as prostitution; child abuse/child labour; tendency of crimes by teenagers who have been brought up from broken homes; and moral decadence of the society in general.

In a review done on family and school factors related to adolescents' academic performance, it was noted that it is two time more likely for a child from a divorced family to drop out of high school than a child from non-divorced family, these children from divorced families may also be less like to attend college, resulting in the discontinuation of their academic career (Rodgers et al, 2001). Similarly, also, Children who have experienced divorce frequently have lower academic achievement than children from non-divorced families (Wolchik, 2002).

In research conducted by Santruck, (2000), found that many academic problems are associated with those children from single-parent families. Studies have shown that, this issue may be directly related to the economic influence of divorce, a divorce may result in the parent and children moving, to an area with a higher poverty rate and a poor education system all due to the financial struggles for a single parent.

In my view based on the above, the view or the result of Sanctruk research which seen academic inability only on the side of single-parent child is null and void, this perhaps is due to the tireless effort made by some government to provide free education to its populace, for instance in Sokoto State where our study based, students in government schools almost receive pay less education service. Therefore, effect of divorce has nothing to do with academic performance of a child due to lack of fund from the parent, rather it affects the emotional and psychological side of the child. Most importantly, because we are focusing our research on northern part of Nigeria the task to give care to the child is not in the hands of the divorced woman rather the father.

However, according to Takyi (2001), in research conducted in the context of Ghana situation which could generally be used in varieties of condition for example Nigeria revealed that, the consequences of divorce affect not only the women but the children and the society at large. He emphasized that, effect resulting from most divorces in Ghana is the dramatic change in the standard of living of women. Studies done in developed countries showed that divorced woman face roughly a thirty percent (30%) decline in the standard of living they enjoyed while married. The decline rate is even higher in the Ghanaian society where a significant number of women are housewives. Also, Ghanaian women who tend to work earn less in terms of salary than Ghanaian men. In spite of these, the woman usually retains custody of children after divorce. Thus, the children's school fees, medical bills and other expenses are catered for by their mothers. This is a huge responsibility which put them into undue hardships. Also, child support from the father is insignificant and at times totally absent in this part of our continent.

Moreover, another effect of divorce is the difficulty faced by women to re-marry. In the Ghanaian, Nigerian and other countries across the Africa continent, women are expected to marry men who are older than them. This makes it difficult for divorced woman to find new partners since these women are normally above the age of thirty-five (35). Also, some Christians believe that a divorced woman cannot get married until her divorced husband dies. Hence, as long as the divorced husband lives, she is bounded by the law to remain single, if she re-marries while her divorced husband is still living, she will be called an adulterous (Romans 7:2-3).

Furthermore, effect of divorce is the plight of the children. The children become the most vulnerable after divorce. The family which serves as the primary agent of socialization exist no more, this circumstance makes nurturing of children difficult. Prostitutes, armed robbers and other social misfits are normally found to be the lots of children from broken homes. The situation becomes worst when children shuttle between both parents' home; a parent always believes the child is with the other parent even the child is elsewhere. Divorce also has a negative effect on the society. Broken homes increase the number of school dropouts and eventually becomes street children and this is what is happening in Nigeria. Children from dissolved marriages often drop out of school and become hawkers with the notion of assisting a parent or younger siblings. These children learn to steal, defraud, cheat and even bully people from the streets. The existence of these street children serves as a threat to members of the society, such that the members of the society feel insecure.

A study conducted by Suleiman et al. (2015), on factors of divorced and the effects of divorced among the marriage couples, in Kano state indicates, the ways in which the Marital dissolution through divorce affects the lives. However, this includes natural and artificial hardships, the majority respondents (twenty-eight percent, 28.0%) said their divorce affects their kids, by their schooling activities, this includes, latest coming to schools, absences to schools both western and Islamic schools, delaying in paying the schools fees and the worth of it dropping them from schools. Then second effects is by their sound characters or (disciplines) the control of the child of is the duty of both parents, once the child is of a single parents the obstacles occurred, which consequently becomes liable to involvement in illegal or anti-social activities, these includes drugs abuse, pickpockets, criminal gangs in the city namely Yam Taur1' (twenty-seven and a half percent, 27.5%). Then the third one is affecting their kids by their welfare, Forty-five of our respondents (22.5%) were stated the lack of Welfare and or well-being as the way their divorce affects their kids. And finally, is the hatred of the stepmother, a times it might occurred the divorcees leaves their children in hand of their stepmother, the stepmother hate the children of the divorcee since they are not her biological kids and shown differences between that of her (22.0%).

Finally, it is not only the children who suffer the effects of divorce. It has been found that parents also suffer from the injury done by divorce. In the Hausa society, divorce is regarded as a stigma. It may be difficult for both husband and wife to cope from the emotional and psychological effects of divorce. Harden (2004) observed that both husband and wife may be crushed by a sense of shame, fear, and hatred. Therefore, it becomes difficult for them to live a secured and meaningful life. Sometimes, divorced parents may go to the extreme and seek and un-fulfilling life through drunkenness and sexual immorality. Women suffer especially when divorce becomes inevitable. It is difficult for them to get financial support. Obi (1990) observed that a divorced wife may depend on relatives or else be forced to lower her standard of living. More seriously, the woman may not get job to Support herself and her children (Oforchukwu, 2010).



**Table 1:** Causes of divorce among Hausa Community of Sokoto State people

| Item   | Response          | Frequency | Percentage % |
|--|-------------------|-----------|--------------|
| Lack of proper upbringing leads to divorce?                  | Strongly Agree    | 35        | 30.4         |
|  | Agree             | 56        | 48.7         |
|  | Disagree          | 20        | 17.4         |
|  | Strongly disagree | 4         | 3.5          |
|  | Total             | 115       | 100.0        |
| Do you think communication gap lead to divorce?              | Strongly Agree    | 66        | 57.9         |
|  | Agree             | 48        | 42.1         |
|  | Disagree          | 45        | 39.1         |
|  | Strongly disagree | 14        | 12.2         |
|  | Total             | 114       | 100.0        |
| It's often says that Cheating among couples leads to divorce | Strongly Agree    | 42        | 37.2         |
|  | Agree             | 55        | 48.7         |
|  | Disagree          | 10        | 8.8          |
|  | Strongly disagree | 6         | 5.3          |
|  | Total             | 113       | 100.0        |
| Does sexual incompatibility among couples leads to divorce   | Strongly Agree    | 57        | 50.4         |
|  | Agree             | 34        | 30.1         |
|  | Disagree          | 22        | 19.5         |
|  | Total             | 113       | 100.0        |

Table 1 shows the Causes of divorce among Hausa people of Rijiya community Area of Sokoto State. Majority of the respondents believe that Lack of proper upbringing leads to divorce with 35 (30.4%) respondent who strongly agreed to this fact while a larger percentage (48.7%) of the respondents agreed. Very few respondents representing (3.5%) strongly disagree to this fact while only 20 (17.4%) of the respondent just disagree to it. This implies majority of the people living in Rijiya Area believed that Lack of proper upbringing leads to divorce. Also, from all the respondent, majority 66 (57.9%) respondents believe that communication gap led to divorce, another larger percentage (42.1%) of the respondents although lesser than those who believe, do not believe and have not notice that Cheating among couples leads to divorce. Similarly, 42 (37.2%) of the respondents strongly agree that sexual incompatibility among couples leads to divorce, while 55 (48.7%) of the respondents agree on that, 10 (8.8%) disagree that sexual incompatibility among couples leads to divorce finally 6 (5.3%) strongly disagree respectively.

**Table 2:** Consequences of Divorce among Hausa community of Sokoto State peoples.

| Item  | Response          | Frequency | Percentage % |
|---|-------------------|-----------|--------------|
| Do children whose parents are divorced engaged in drug abuse and related crimes           | Strongly Agree    | 35        | 30.4         |
|   | Agree             | 56        | 48.7         |
|   | Disagree          | 20        | 17.4         |
|   | Strongly disagree | 4         | 3.5          |
|   | Total             | 115       | 100.0        |
| Does divorce affect the academic performance of children                                  | Strongly Agree    | 66        | 57.9         |
|   | Agree             | 48        | 42.1         |
|   | Disagree          | 45        | 39.1         |
|   | Strongly disagree | 14        | 12.2         |
|   | Total             | 114       | 100.0        |
| Women faced a lot of economic hardship as a result of divorce                             | Strongly Agree    | 42        | 37.2         |
|   | Agree             | 55        | 48.7         |
|   | Disagree          | 10        | 8.8          |
|   | Strongly disagree | 6         | 5.3          |
|   | Total             | 113       | 100.0        |
| Its often says Women faced a lot of economic hardship as a result of divorce do you ..... | Strongly Agree    | 57        | 50.4         |
|   | Agree             | 34        | 30.1         |
|   | Disagree          | 22        | 19.5         |
|   | Total             | 113       | 100.0        |

Table 2 shows the Consequences of Divorce among Hausa people of Rijiya Community Area. Majority of the respondents believe that children whose parents are divorced engaged in drug abuse and related crimes with 35 (30.4%) of the respondent strongly agreed to this fact while a larger percentage (48.7%) of the respondents agreed. Very few of the respondents representing (3.5%) strongly disagree to this fact while only 20 (17.4%) of the respondent just disagree to it. This implies majority of the respondents believe children whose parents are divorced engaged in drug abuse and related crimes.

Also, from all the respondent, majority 66 (57.9%) respondents believe in divorce affect the academic performance of children, another larger percentage (42.1%) of the respondents although lesser than those who believe, do not believe and have not notice Women faced a lot of economic hardship as a result of divorce. Similarly, 42 (37.2%) of the respondents strongly agree that in says Women faced a lot of economic hardship as a result of divorce, while 55 (48.7%) of the respondents agree on that, 10 (8.8%) disagree that most of the women faced a lot of economic hardship as a result of divorce finally 6 (5.3%) strongly disagree respectively.

### Discussion of the Findings

This section presents a discussion on the finding of the research. The discussions are presented thematically according to the research objective and research questions. The findings were discussed with relevant literatures in order to either establish or refute the arguments of those literatures as it relates to the study area. After the research has conducted on Causes and consequences of divorce among Hausa community of Rijiya area, Sokoto, it was established that majority of the respondent were Muslims and very few were Christian why Quarter of them were Practicing African Traditional religion which cut across the Rijiya area. The

research has found out that despite that majority of the respondent are from the same ethnic group and the same religious background still there is a high rate of divorce among people living in Rijiyah Area of Sokoto State.

### **The causes of divorce among Hausa people of Sokoto community**

Table above shows the Causes of divorce among Hausa people of Sokoto. Majority of the respondents believe that Lack of proper upbringing leads to divorce with 35 (30.4%) respondent who strongly agreed to this fact while a larger percentage (48.7%) of the respondents agreed. This is in line with Usman, (2012) who argue that, the reasons for the high incidence of marital breakup and failure have been attached to people getting into marriage relationship for the wrong reasons. For instance, for wedding benefit, the excessive pressure placed on young ladies to marry, mainly because their peers are been married, thereby, losing the actual important of wedding as a means of finding lasting company; abdication and abuse of married duties and responsibilities, the misapplication, misinterpretations and abuse of religious doctrine, concerning marriage rights and obligations, more especially the exploitation of the polygamy clause in Shari'ah Law by many men to marry and divorce spontaneously. for many other reasons. Also, from the entire respondent, majority 66 (57.9%) respondents believe that communication gap leads to divorce,

Another larger percentage (42.1%) of the respondents although lesser than those who believe, do not believe and have not notice that Cheating among couples leads to divorce, this is in accordance with a survey conducted by Kim, (2013) on "divorce causes" he found some marriage mistakes that lead to divorce' in America he identified five mistakes that accounts for breakdown of marriage or divorce where a number respondents said that: if their spouse cheated on them, they would end the relationship, the spouses, who did the cheating, may be repents, but the person who was cheated on often feels betrayed that they cannot get past, they continue to punish their spouse for the deep hurt they feel, and relationship often crumbles; on the issue of dishonesty, many people in happy wedding said if their partner lied to them, they might be able to continue the relationship but when the trust is abused or broken, some cannot maintain that relationship; the third one is addiction.

Similarly 42 (37.2%) of the respondents strongly agree that sexual incompatibility among couples leads to divorce, while 55 (48.7%) of the respondents agree on that, this is similar to A study that has been conducted in America, by Frank and Oak (2011) in which he outlines some of the reasons or causes for divorce and marriage breakdowns: Number one on the list of reason for divorce is difference in priority between husband and wife. It may be a self-interpretative issue, which a lot of husbands and wives discuss and anticipate prior to the marriage contract. However, unanticipated matters at times do become a major problem for many marriages. Another reason on the list is addiction; marriages, families who engaged in drug addiction do not mix well.

### **The Consequences of Divorce among Hausa people of Sokoto Community**

Table above shows the Consequences of Divorce among Hausa people of Rijiyah Area. Majority of the respondents believe that children whose parents are divorced engaged in drug

abuse and related crimes with 35 (30.4%) of the respondent strongly agreed to this fact while a larger percentage (48.7%) of the respondents agreed, this is what Hardon (2004) observed that the effects of divorce on society are drastic. Hardon (2004), argued that the children of divorced parents suffer the worst effects of divorce. Divorce leads to the messy dissolution of families which hurts children. In this situation, Sons are likely to stay with their father, and daughters are more likely to stay with their mother. The aim of marriage the creation of a family is therefore defeated by divorce.

Also, from all the respondent, majority 66 (57.9%) respondents believe in divorce affect the academic performance of children, another larger percentage (42.1%) of the respondents although lesser than those who believe this in accordance with Bascon and Hersksvits (1990) argued that the implication of this tendency is that the father-child relationship assumes a greater emphasis in society than the mother-child relationship. According to these researchers, this implication is reinforced by the pattern of custody in the wake of divorce, where sons are likely to remain with their father, and the daughters with their mother. Similarly, the effects of parental misjudgements descend heavily on the children. For this reason, divorce is harmful and challenges the very notion of marriage. The training of children solely rests on the parents and should be performed jointly. However, in a divorced family, this cannot be the case, which has numerous consequences for children. Children may not receive necessary and adequate training and education.

Similarly, 42 (37.2%) of the respondents strongly agree that in says Women faced a lot of economic hardship as a result of divorce, while 55 (48.7%) of the respondents agree on that, this is also in line with Takyi (2001) in a research conducted in the context of Ghana situation which could generally be used in varieties of condition for example Nigeria revealed that, the consequences of divorce affect not only the women but the children and the society at large. He emphasized that, effect resulting from most divorces in Ghana is the dramatic change in the standard of living of women. Studies done in developed countries showed that divorced woman face roughly a thirty percent (30%) decline in the standard of living they enjoyed while married. The decline rate is even higher in the Ghanaian society where a significant number of women are housewives. Also, Ghanaian women who tend to work earn less in terms of salary than Ghanaian men. In spite of these, the woman usually retains custody of children after divorce. Thus, the children's school fees, medical bills and other expenses are catered for by their mothers. This is a huge responsibility which put them into undue hardships.

### **Conclusion and Recommendations**

Based on the study, it was concluded that, Causes of divorce among Hausa people of Rijiyah Area Sokoto State. Majority of the respondents believe that Lack of proper upbringing leads to divorce. The study then recommended that: A serious tax should be putted upon a husband who unreasonably divorce his wife and should be compelled to pay for her subsequent marriage.

A clear rule governing marriage and divorce should be provided authoritatively and applied accordingly.

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