RESEARCH ARTICLE

FAMILY SEPARATION AND ITS EFFECT ON CHILDREN'S SOCIAL WELLBEING: IN THE CASE OF BEDELLE ADMINISTRATIVE TOWN

*Aschalew Terefe Refu

Department of Early Childhood Care and Education, Institute of Education and Professional Development Studies, Mettu University, Ethiopia

ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
	The main objective of this study was to assess family separation and its effect on children's social wellbeing at kebele 02 and kebele 03, in Bedelle administrative town. 25 parents and 25 children were selected as a sample for this study through Purposive and snowball sampling technique. The negative impacts of family separation on children social wellbeing were investigated from both separated parents and children's of those separated parents through questionnaire and observation checklist. To get the relevant data for this study, mixed research design was employed with both qualitatively and quantitatively research methods. Percentile/ descriptive statistics and the narration were utilized to analyze the collected data. Some of the children that were affected by their parental separation; are deeply affected and it is prolonged by poor parental support. The primary social effect of separation is included a decline of child-parent relationship, when children received less attention and emotional support from parents. Academic performances and schooling quality also affected because of parents' separation. Parental separation children suffered from different social problems and dissatisfied with both parents' support and care. Regardless of its wide range occurrence, parental separation has not given attention by the nation and other concerned bodies. Therefore the society should prevent the prevalence of parental separation and ensuring its proper adjustment through changing the social environment in connection to marriage stability.

CHAPTER ONE

Background of the Study

The family is the key social institution for providing the nurturance socialization of young children. Traditionally, it has been assumed that the two-parent family (with both parents living in the same household as the child) is a better environment for children's development than the single-parent family. Marriage remains a deep-rooted culture among the societies (Claiborne, 2012). This implies that the cultures and values keep marriage for long time. Marriage is the way through which society enters basic institution of family formation (Makara, 20S 09). It is a social institution that unites people in a special form of mutual dependence for the purpose of finding and maintaining a family. Marriage is arranged through public or civil, religious and/or traditional ceremony. Marriage is important to share feelings, responsibilities, and childbearing. Elders -say that singles are incomplete without their better halves; better halves, by design, are members of the opposite sex. Thus marriage fulfills many gaps of human needs and wants which leads to successful life. Therefore, marriage helps to gain in productive (for consumption and saving) and or reproductive (human capital accumulation) activities. Individuals decide to form a household and living together yields higher personal welfare than living alone (Fafchamps and Quisumbing, 2006). However, norms and cultures are not static rather it changes with the change of global condition.

Makara (2009) agreed that global changes are affecting the world where we live in; these are technological, communicative, and political situations. Through these changes; the values of marriage becomes decline with increasing the divorce practices. According to Amber (2009), the number of marriage goes down in reverse with the flourishing of most western economies; which resulting in the flourishing of the welfare state that has coincided with a decline of the role of the family. Ciardi and Mammon's (2008) confirmed that divorce has been introduced, and the value of marriages has been declined. This is also revealed by Fagan and Churchill in 2012 on the impacts of Cultural Revolution this has great role for divorce in the society. The number of children affected by divorce has increased dramatically (Amato.p.no 26-46). The primary effect of divorce and of the parental conflict that precedes the divorce is a decline in the relationship between parent and child (Elizabeth Mangham and Toby L. Parcel, 1995 69-84). Immediately after a divorce, most parents have two sets of problems: their adjustment to their own as 40 percent of divorced mothers (Wallenstein and Kelly, 1996). The support they receive from home is rated much lower by children of divorced parents than by children from intact homes (Jane E. Miller and Diane Davis, 1997) and these negative ratings become more pronounced by the time children are in high school and college (Parish and Thomas 1990, -97). Children in divorced families receive less emotional support, financial assistance, and practical help from their parents divorced homes show a decrease in language stimulation, pride, affection, stimulation of academic behavior, encouragement of social

maturity, and warmth directed towards the children (Amato and Booth, 1997). The presence of fewer toys and games is common, as is an increase in physical punishment (MacKinnon, Brody and Stoneman, 1982). Divorce leads to a decline in the frequency and quality of parent-child contact and relationships, and it becomes difficult for nonresidential parents, 90 percent of whom are fathers, to maintain close ties with their children (Peters and Ehrenberg, 2008). It is important to remember that as divorce rates continue to increase so does the likelihood that children of divorced parents may have a greater risk adjusting in areas of social relationships, educational achievement, psychological adjustment, self-concept, behavior/conduct, and social relations by Amatol and Keith (cited in Vander ValettaI 2005). Seblewongel (2009) pointed that divorce is not an event happen at a single point in time; it represents an extended transition in lines of parents and children. Specifically I'm driving. Whose parents divorced is being at a great risk for psychological and social adjustment than from intact families (Sissy, 1997). Children of a divorced family are exposed for various problems and risks. Claiborne (2012) revealed that children of divorcee are more likely to be engaged in promiscuous (having many sexual partners), violence, crimes other related anti-social and criminal activities. Numerous studies have examined the implications of parental divorce for children's scholastic achievement, conduct, psychological adjustment, self-esteem, social competence, and relationships with parents by Fagan and Churchill (2012).Many studies have found that children from divorced families experience lower levels of well-being across these domains than do children from intact families. However, a good deal of inconsistency exists in some literatures, and many studies have failed to find significant differences. In addition, studies have varied substantially both in their methodologies and in the characteristics, such as age level and social class, of the children studied. Prominent among the factors assumed to affect children's well-being prior to the actual physical separation that accompanies divorce is inter-parental conflict. Parental marital conflict is negatively associated with a variety of indicators of children's maladjustment including conduct disorders, anxiety, and aggression (see Emery, 1988 for a review).

Some researchers have shown that the effects of parental conflict can be more harmful to children than parental absence through death or divorce (Mechanic and Hansel, 1959; Emery, 1982; Hetherington, Cox, and Cox, 1981; Feterson and Zill, 1986). For example, in a longitudinal study of adolescents, Mechanic and Hansel (1989) found that those in high-conflict intact families had significantly poorer well-being than those in low-conflict divorced families. In the current study we view conflict as a multi-dimensional construct because it can vary in terms of content, frequency, intensity, process, and resolution (Emery 1982, Grinch and Finch am in 1990). There is also variation in the extent to which children are exposed to, or shielded from inter parental conflict. Not all exposure to conflict is assumed to be harmful to children, however Researchers who study the association between conflict and child problems have attempted to identify the aspects of inter parental conflict that have the most important effects on child well1-being .There is some evidence that the greater the *amount* of conflict, the more it potentially exposes children to negative parental interactions, and the more problematic it is for the child (Porter and O'Leary, 1980). The negative impact of divorce, continue to the adulthood where adults from divorced family found to have problem in intimate relationship and work than those adults from non-divorced family (Walsh, 1993). Divorce damages the society and consumes social and human capital (Fagan and Churchill, 2012). Divorce also permanently weakens the family and the relationship between children and parents. There are different causes and reasons for divorce and its consequences on children are not easy (Amato P.NO 26-46). Therefore, this study is focus on the effects of divorce on children's social well-being. The world-wide divorce statistics indicated that the rate of divorce in the United States of 7.9 (per 1000 population) is almost twice that of any of the European countries, Japan or Canada (U. S. Bureau of the Census 2006). Except the 1994, PHC report there is no statistical report that can shows the trend about the actual divorce rate at regional or national level. But according to D. Wilson and U. Larsen in Ethiopia ``forty-five per cent of all first marriage end in divorce or separation within 30 years, 28% of first marriages within

the first 5 years, 34% within 10 years and 40% within 20 years`` (D. Wilsonand U. Larsen, 2000:p.360). In addition, the same study stated that two –third of women divorced within the first five years of marriage (D. Wilson and U. Larsen, 2000:p.355).

1.2. Statement of the Problem

Most of the time divorce has negative impact on separate families as well as on the society. According to Fagan and Churchill (2012) the effects of family separation is irreversible harm to all who involved in, but critical to the children. The problems often are affecting the children even before parents' separate, starting from the conflict between parents and painful separation process (Wallenstein, 2012). When children have got less attention, receive less emotional support, financial assistance, and practical help for academic support and encouragement. They may lose stimulation of socialization; resulting decrease of pride, affection and social maturity of the children. Zing and Enzi (1999) stated that following parental divorce, children are encountered psychological problems like depression, trauma, anxiety and unhappiness. According to Markham (2013) family separation has both short and long term effects: if the parental separated children are too young to understand the situation fully they might feel guilty or responsible for the divorce. In the short term effect they become increasingly aggressive, violent, uncooperative, and emotionally become needy. Markham (2013) agreed that effects of family separation on children seem to be short term, once they fade; it takes time to adjust their living situation. According to Markham (2013) result parental separated children are suffered with multi-dimensional effect; those children are more likely to be less educated, experience poverty or socio-economic disadvantage, and develop anti-social behavior. They may not easily recover from the effects of family separation; even it may happen in their future live. Wallenstein (2012) agreed that some children are not as resilient as others; those may be affected negatively by the divorce in their future life. According to Amato in 2005, education is negative associative with family separation: Those children whose parents are separated score low in their academic performance than children in intact family. Children who are living with their parents complete total year of education and have higher earning than children from other family structure (Wallenstein, 2012).Therefore, this study focused on family separation and its effect on children's social wellbeing with specific emphases on influence, impacts, and process of divorce among the parents and its effect on children's life. In spite of the seriousness of the problem, due to the lack of sufficient available study, let these researchers try their level best to create awareness on the minds of individuals and to address problems to the concerned bodies. Because of this reason the researchers are motivating to assess its impacts on children's social wellbeing in particular and divorcee's family in general. This study were attempted to address the following basic questions:

1. What is the impact of divorce on children's social well- being?
2. To what extent the divorced parents support their children?

Objectives of the study

1.3.1. General objective: The general objective of this study is to identify the major effects of family separation on children's social wellbeing in Bedelle administrative town.

1.3.2. Specific objectives:

1. To find out the impact of family separation on children's social well- being.
2. To assess the extent of separated parents' support on their children

1.4. Significance of the study: The finding of this study is hoped to raise awareness about the impact of family separation on children's social wellbeing and over all development. Thus the finding provide an input for the parents to intervene this kind of problem and support their children's to have a positive holistic development in general and positive social well-being in particular. Thus, the finding of the study provide genuine and constructive inputs for stakeholders' who is working on marriage and family issue and organizations

working on child related issues and in intervention programs in making as well as revising their program. The outcome of this study can be used as a source of data by other researchers. Again, the result of this study can help child-based organization researchers to use it as reference to answers the question voluntarily

1.5. Delimitation of the study: Conceptually, this study was limited to major effects of family separation on children's social well-being. Geographically, this study was delimited to Kebele 02 and kebele 03 at Bedelle administrative Town.

1.6. Operational Definition of Terms

- **Child**: Is the daughter or son of an individual whose age is between five (5) up to eleven (11) years.
- **Family Separation**: Is the persons whose marriage had been cancelled.
- **Well-being**: It is the state of happiness of an individual in his/her relation with others.
- **Social well-being**: healthy interaction between the ways of human life.

CHAPTER TWO

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.1. The factors that Determine family separation: Following the flourishing of country's economy in relation with women's access to higher education and higher salaries, this put them less willing in traditional roles and expectations (Buzzle, 2013). Until the last century, women practiced a more traditional role; most women were married by their early twenties. They were then destined to a life of having children, taking care of their husbands, and involving on domestic chores (Price and McKenry, 1988).According to Balestrino et al. (2008. PP.3) the main determinants of divorce is couple's earning differentials; that high-earning women gain relatively little from marriage, since the small differential implies that there is less possibility for an efficient sexual division of labor, and have a stronger contribution in case of divorce. According to Claiborne (2012) one of the major causes of divorce is inadequate preparation for marriage. Many young people are able to get married with no preparation, no human skills (less knowledge of the responsibilities of the marital relationship), and no reasonable and moral values. Serkalem (2006) also stated that divorce has negative impact on the divorced parents and their children socially, economically and psychologically. Therefore the divorced families are greatly affected with the effects of divorce in socially, culturally, economically, psychologically and emotionally, and other related problems.

Effects of family separation on Children's Wellbeing: Generally Matthews (2012) categorize the effects of family separation on children in to short and long term effects. According to the author, short-term effects may include: anger, sadness, depression, opposition, impulsivity, aggression, non-compliance, perceived parental loss, interpersonal conflict, economic hardship, life stress, less parental supervision, less consistent discipline, more negative sanctions, lower academic achievement, acting out, lower self-concept and social adjustment difficulty. Findings from several research studies (Matthews, 2012) indicate that certain effects of divorce are quite persistent when a wide range of pre-divorce conditions is considered. Thus the inter-parental conflict has powerful and has direct effects on children's life.

Numerous reports have maintained that the broken family leads to a variety of problems, including crime, delinquency, mental illness, and a heterogeneous mass of ills afflicting individuals and societal institutions as a whole. Sydney H. Croog in 1970 and others reflect reservation about assertions that divorce for parent is bad for children's well-being throughout their live. One author states that it may be true that children from happy marriages are better adjusted than children from divorced homes. However, children from divorced parents are happier than children coming from intact unhappy homes by R. There is evidence showing that children are better off living with one parent than the children of unhappy intact homes characterized by bitterness, fighting and physical and mental cruelty where the parents stay together for the children's sake, Jane Burgess (1970). There is supporting evidence that the disturbed marriage can be as disruptive and harmful for the child as the divorce experience, Judson T. Landis, (May, 1963), 178-9. Others have found that the broken family is not the vital factor in children's lives it was thought to be by (Lee Burchlnal Vol. 26 (1964)-, 44-51).We suspect that it is the trauma that is experienced before the divorce takes place. Bowlby (196l) feels that some other main feelings the child experiences are separation anxiety, rejection, and extreme feelings of helplessness. Sugar (1970) agrees with these findings, but also includes feelings of depression, irritability, and suicidal ideation. The four most effects of family separation are discussed below.

2.3.1 Social Problems: Family separation is often very complicated and includes everything from maintenance and child support until the divorced women recover to her original situation. In the meantime children suffered with existing situation. Amato (1994) has provided evidence that children in divorced families, on average, experience more problems and have a lower level of well-being than do children in continuously intact two-parent families. These problems include lower academic achievement, more behavioral problems, poorer psychological adjustment, more negative self-concepts, more social difficulties, and more problematic relationships with both mothers and fathers.

2.3.2 Psychological Problem: With related to divorce so many problems come out; the emotional trauma of divorce has a long-term impact on the psychological health of the body. Thus effects are: anxiety, anger, sadness, weariness, guilty, feeling of isolation, low self-esteem, worry, disappointment, and frustration. The parents and their children are not concerned the only persons affected and others close to them may affected too.

2.3.3 Economical Problem: The economic problem of a country has circular relationships with divorce and all the problems are interrelated and interwoven (Serkalem, 2006). Divorce has destructive impacts on children. Parental divorced children face difficulty to get medical care.

2.3.4 Emotional Problem: It has been noted that children do exhibit various changes when confronted with divorce. They may be eating or sleeping poorly, having trouble completing tasks, including schoolwork. Often this is a reaction of preoccupation with the traumatic event. Listlessness and irritability may be observed. The child may regress and become fearful of things he hasn't been afraid of for years. He may develop nightmares or make more frequent use of daydreams.

CHAPTER THREE: METHODOLOGY

3.1. Research Design: The researcher used mixed approach both qualitative and quantitative research design to collect relevant data for this study. Qualitative research design was mainly because of its advantage in gaining detailed information about the issue and enabled the researcher to deeply explore the topic and present the findings from participants experience and their perception. Quantitative research is present the collecting data through numerical data descriptions. In order to get a comprehensive data; qualitative data was used as supplementary of the quantitative data. One of the most important features distinguishing what is commonly referred to as qualitative from quantitative inquiry is the kind of sampling used. Therefore, this study generally employed descriptive survey design both quantitative and qualitative method.

3.2. The Study Area: This study was conducted in Kebele 02 and 03 of Bedelle adminstrative town, which is located in Buno Bedelle Zone, of the Oromia region, found 480 kilo meters south west of Addis Ababa.

3.3. Population, sample and sampling techniques: The targeted population was separated parents and children of separated parents at Beddelle administrative town in kebele 02 and 023. The total divorced population of kebele 02 and 03 is 50 parents. Therefore in order to make the sample highly representative the researcher decided to take at least 50 percent and hence 25 parents and 25 children were taken as a sample for this study by purposive and snowball sampling technique was employed to select the samples. According to Kumar (1999) in purposive sampling technique, the researcher judged as to who can provide the best information to achieve the objective of the study. The study further stated that snowball sampling technique is useful when it is difficult for the researcher to find participants of interest as the researcher only needs to make contacts with a few individuals who can then direct to other members of a group. Hence, purposive sampling technique was employed to trace the first participants.

3.4. Data Collection Instrument: The questionnaire and observation checklist was used to collect data from participant of study. The collection of quantitative data was based on the questionnaires to explore the actual experienced and perceptions for 25 separated family. Qualitative method also included preparation of observation checklist for 25 children whose parents were separated.

3.5. Method of Data Analysis: Qualitative data was analyzed by using paragraph while quantitative data was analyzed by using descriptive statistics such as percentage, frequency of selected participants and had been followed by table's description.

3.6. Ethical Considerations: Throughout conducting the research, ethics of code of conduct was used in the whole procedure of data collection. In this research, there was strong interaction between researcher and participants of the study. The purpose of this study was explained for the sample groups of participants; volunteerism was asked for the sake of keeping confidentiality. Participants were not written their names and personal information's during data collection and also researchers were respecting the participant's identity, skills, and participation.

CHAPTER FOUR: RESULTS

This chapter deals with the analysis and interpretation of collected data from separated parents and children of separated parents. The main finding was thematically interpreted through discussing the data gathered through both quantitative and qualitative method.

4.1. Demographic characteristics of the Separated parents

As the above table 1 showed, 14(55%) of respondents are male and 11 (44%) respondents of them are female. 12(48%) of respondents age ranges from 41-65 years old, followed by 13(52%) whose age ranges from 18-40 years old. The same table also showed that, 20 (80%) separated parents had 1-2 children while 5 (20%) of them had 3-4 children. The table also showed that 10(40%) of respondents stayed from 1-5 years in marriage and the same number of respondents 10(40%) stayed 10-15 years in marriage and 5(20%) for 5-10 years. In the above table 2, majority of the respondents 15 (60%) replied that they communicate to their partners about the issues of their children whereas 8(40%) respondents replied that they did not communicate. The same table showed that, 12 (48%) respondents replied that their relationship with their children was the same both before and after separation while 13 (52%) respondents replied that their relationship with their children was not the same as before. Table 2 also showed that majority of the respondents 18(72%) replied that their first husband/ wife have an interest after separation to call the children beside them while 7(28%) respondents were saying that they did not have an interest to call their children beside them. As the above table 2 showed , 10 (40%) respondents replied that their children sit beside them even if there were frequent clash between them when the father visit his children while 15(60%) respondent replied that children sit beside their parents when there was a frequent clash between their parents when either of them visiting the children.

Again the table 2showed that, 19 (76%) respondents replied that their divorce have an impact on children's childhood and their future life while 6 (24%) responded that their divorce has no impact on the children's early life as well as future life. The same table 2, 18(72%) respondents replied that their children spend much time with them while only 7 (28%) respondents said that they don't. Table 2 also showed that, 20 (80%) respondents were replied that their children have Friends to play with them at home while 5 (20%) replied that they don't have. Table 3 showed that, 15 (60%) respondents are female and 10 (40%) respondents are Male. Children found between the ages ranges of 5-8years are 12 (48%) while 13 (52%) respondents' age ranges from 9-11. Table 4 showed that, 23 (92%) of children replied that, they like to spend time with their mother while 2 (8%) replied that they didn't.

The same table 4 also showed that, 19 (76%) respondents replied that they have a close interaction with father or mother whereas 6(24%) respondents said that they haven't. The above table 4 showed that, 8 (32%) respondents responded that their father love them after divorce while 17 (68%) respondents replied that he didn't. This table 4 also showed that, 12 (48%) respondents replied that their mother love them after divorce while 13 (52%) respondents replied that their mother didn't. The table 4 showed that, 18(72%) respondents replied that the father care very much for them even after divorce while 7 (28%) respondents replied that their father didn't. Table 4 also showed that, 20 (80%) respondents replied that they discuss with their father about their personal issues and problems after divorce while 5(20%) replied that they didn't. table 4 again showed that, 23 (92%) respondents replied that they arrive at school on time while 2 (8%) replied that they didn't. The table 4 showed that, 12 (60%) respondents' children said that they hear attentively what their teachers told them while 10 (40%) respondent's children replied that they didn't. The above table 4 also showed that, 22(88%) respondents replied that they have a sibling whom they play with at home while 3 (12%) doesn't have. Again, the table 4 showed that, 10 (40%) respondents replied that they have a friend around their home while 15 (60%) replied that they don't have. The same table also showed that, 22 (88%) respondents replied that they have a negative relationship with their peers while 3 (12%) respondents replied that they don't have bad relationship. Table 5 showed that, 19 (76%) respondents replied that they have a link with their children's school administration while 6 (26%) respondents said that; they don't have. This indicate that majority of parents have a strong contribution on their children's wellbeing by having a direct link with their children's school. The table 5 also showed that, 14 (56%) respondents replied that; the kind of support they provided regarding the children's social wellbeing fulfills the children's needs while 11 (44%) respondents replied that it does not. The same table 5 also showed that, 24 (96%) respondents replied that; they tried to intervene to the social problem that their children encountered when they visit them while only 1 (4%) respondents said that they couldn't. The same table also shows that, 24 (96%) respondents replied that they solve their children's problem when the children come to them while only 1 (4%) respondent replied that they didn't solve. The table 5 also showed that, 1 (4%) respondent replied that s/he don't send his/her child to school while 24 (96%) respondents replied that they do. As the table 6 showed, 19 (765%) respondents replied that their mother care very much for them while 6 (24%) respondents replied that their mother didn't. Again the same table 6 showed that, 8 (32%) respondents replied that their father care very much for them after divorce while 17 (68%) respondents replied that their fathers didn't. As the same table 6 showed here, 13 (65%) respondents replied that their mothers have a discussion with them about their personal issues and problems while only 8 (32%) respondents said that their mothers didn't. As the table 6 again showed, 17 (68%) respondents replied that they have encountered. some kinds of problems or difficulty as a result of their parents' divorce while 6 (24%) respondents replied that they didn't. the kind of situation they encountered was that they lack face to face interaction with biological father and this also results into inferiority for the children (they lost their self-concept as they think that they are children with no permanent parents). Again, the father of his/her siblings didn't perceive them positively and thus it caused too much stress to children.

Table 1. Background information of the respondent's parents

Items	Category	Frequency	Percentage
Sex	Male	14	56%
	female	11	44%
Age	18-41	12	48%
	42-65	13	52%
	>65	-	-
Years in marriage	1-5	10	40%
	5-10	5	20%
	10-15	10	40
Number of children	1-2	1	80
	3-4	4	20

Table 2. The effect of family separation on children's Social wellbeing

S/No	Items	yes		No	
		Fr	%	Fr	%
1	Did you communicate with your husband/wife about child's issues?	15	60%	10	40%
2	Is your relationship with your children the same before and after divorce?	12	48%	13	52%
3	Do your first husband/ wife have an interest after divorce to call the children beside him?	18	72%	7	28%
4	If there were frequent clashes between you; when either of you visiting the children, do your children sit beside you?	10	40%	15	60%
5	Do you think that your divorce could affect / have an impact on your children's life in their childhood and future life	19	76%	6	24%
6	Do your children spend much time with you (husband/wife)?	18	72%	7	28%
7	Do your children play with others children at home?	20	80%	5	20%

Table 1. Demographic characteristics of Children of the separated parents

S/No	Item		Frequency(fr)	Percentage (%)
1	Sex	Female	15	60%
		Male	10	40%
2	Age	5-8	12	48%

Table 4. The effect of family separation on children's Social wellbeing

S/No	Items	Yes		No	
		Fre	%	Fre	%
1	Do you like to spend time with your mother?	23	92%	2	8%
2	Do you have close relationship with your father or mother?	19	76%	6	24%
3	Does your father love you after divorce?	8	32%	17	68%
4	Does your father care very much for you after divorce?	12	48%	13	52%
5	Do you Have a discussion with your father about your personal issues and problems after divorce?	18	72%	7	28%
6	Does your mother love you after divorce?	20	80%	5	20%
7	Do you use to arrive at school on time?	23	92%	2	8%
8	Do you hear what the teacher/caregiver tell you attentively?	15	60%	10	40%
9	Do you have a friend in school?	22	88%	3	12%
10	Do you have friends around your home?	10	40%	15	60%
11	Are you feeling happy when you live your life?	13	52%	12	48%
12	Do you have negative relations with your peers and siblings?	22	88%	3	12%
13	Do you enjoy playing and spending time with your parental divorce?	22	88%	3	12%

Table 5. The degree to which separated parents' support for their children

S/No	Items	Yes		No	
		Fre	%	Fre	%
1	Did you have a direct link with your children's school administrators?	19	76%	6	24%
2	Is the kind of support you provide regarding their social wellbeing fulfilling the children's needs?	14	56%	11	44%
3	If you visit your children, have you tried to intervene to the social problem that your children have encountered?	24	96%	1	4%
4	Do you solve their problems when they come to you?	24	96%	1	4%
5	Have you exposed your child to school?	1	4%	24	95%

Table 6. The degree of separated parents' support for their children from children

S/No	Items	Yes		No	
		Fre	%	Fre	%
1	Is your mother/father cares very much for you?	19	76%	6	24%
2	Is your mother has a discussion about your personal issues and problem?	17	68%	8	32%
3	Does your father care very much for you after divorce?	8	32%	17	68%
4	Have you encountered any kind of problem or difficulty as a result of your parents 'divorce?	19	76%	6	24%

4.2. Report from children's Observation: The finding indicated that, some children seem as if they have a no friends both around the home and school, they have no smooth relationship with their parents, the children display separate behavioral problems with parents and some of the children display antisocial behavior like, using bullying behavior when they come close to their playmates, separate to each other's and did not responded their sibling politely. There were some children who did not have enough care from their parent. There were also children who have the problem of social interaction. Some of the children received much care from parents while some of them did not. Some of them have an interest to play with others children at homes unless they are told to play but some of them have no an interest even if they are told. All in all, majority of the children of divorced family were affected by social problems like unable to get support for education/tutor and unable to get parents' love and moral support. They live their life while they separate with their siblings.

4.3. Major Effects of family separation on Children's social Wellbeing: Social problem is one of the major effects that children have encountered following parents' divorce. In parental questionnaire the social problems on children wellbeing were deeply elaborated. Among the questions; social relationships (parent-child, and peers relationship), schooling, and entertainment (play) were included. Result from this study indicates that Majority of the parent replied that they have a no smooth relationship with their children after divorce. This goes with the idea which said that conflicts stress the parents and make them less effective in dealing with their children (Hetherington, Cox, and Cox, 1982; Wallensteinand Kelly, 1980).Some of the respondents were also saying that, if there were frequent clashes between them; when either of them visiting the children; their children Cause family trouble and behaves badly at home after divorce. This is also agreed with the idea said by P. Amato that conflict between parents may continue after the divorce, particularly in relation to visitation and the payment of child support. Therefore, all these problems that happened at home after divorce has a contribution on what affect the children's social wellbeing. Findings from several research studies (Matthews, 2012) indicate that certain effects of divorce are quite persistent when a wide range of pre-divorce conditions is considered and thus, the inter-parental conflict has powerful and has direct effects on children's life. According to the findings on this study, 11 (55%) respondents replied that; the kind of support they provided regarding the children's social wellbeing fulfills the children's needs while 9 (45%) respondents replied that it does not. If the support parents provide for children is not fulfill their need, it can affect children's social well-being. In addition, most of children replied that, they like to spend time with their mother while some of them replied that they didn't. And also most respondents replied that they have a close interaction with father or mother whereas some of the respondents said that they haven't. According to our observation, there were many effects of divorce on children's social well-being. Among these problems; low attention of parents on children, low children's interaction with their peers and lack of affection that needs for children's social well being. So, we also have observed that the majority of parental divorced children suffered with social problems starting from parents' disagreement and the process of divorce. Most of the Children replied that, their fathers didn't love and care very much for them as mother do and therefore this indicate that mother's care for children is more than father. This agreed with the idea which said that, all children who live in a single parent family believe that their mother cares more about them, while just less than half feel that their father cares about them (National Commission on Children, 1991).And this single parent's care for children has some little bit bad impact on children's life when both parents' do not foster love and moral support.

4.4. The degree to which separated parents' support for their children from parents: The finding of the study revealed that majority of the parents responded it that they did not expose their children to school. As it is stated here that, single parents are also less likely to involve in their children's school activities and have lower educational goals for their children (Furstenberg and Nord, 1985; McLanahan and Booth, 1989; McLanahan and Sand fur, in press).

This indicates that parents' care for children is low and it has a negative impact on the children's social wellbeing. This goes with what Jackel said (2001) that small children wish to be successful in their education but children and adolescents become disappointed because of the dissolution of their family. Therefore, the divorced children are greatly affected with the effects of divorce socially, psychologically, emotionally, and other specific related problems. This agreed with Wallenstein (2013) research work that generally divorce puts children at greater risk for many kinds of Problems.

CHAPTER FIVE

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.1. Conclusion

In this study, the researcher tried to assess the major effects of family separation on children's social wellbeing. From the data reported, children were affected with many parent's negative mood toward them. The most influential are: poor relationship of father with their children after divorce, the bad atmosphere between the divorced parent when either of them visit the children, not exposing their children to school and many more are the thing that hinder children's social wellbeing. Even effect was starting from parents' disagreement. The effect is beginning with psychological impact and added more effects of divorce. The primary social effect of family separation is declining parent - child relationship; then through time the social competences of those children have become diminished. After divorce most of the children has no more opportunities to have a access to education as their parents might thought that coming to check the children time to time may cause parents to come back together as one love. Divorce also affected children's social performance as the 95% of them responded that their fathers didn't care to expose them to school. Following divorce 70% of the children's father weren't care with their children and they do not have close interaction with them too. This mean that most of the children never satisfied with good ways of social life they have got from parents (especially fathers).For us as researchers, we strongly believed that they might have better life if parents' divorce didn't occur.

5.2. Recommendation

Family separation is the big social issues however it has never been gotten attention by the nation and other concerned bodies either to reduce rate of family separation or to find a solution for children who Suffered by its effect throughout the world. Based on the findings, the following recommendations are forwarded:

- ❖ Religious institutions and elders in the community need to teach the community about the impact of divorce.
- ❖ The society need to prevent the prevalence of divorce and ensuring its proper adjustment through changing the social environment in connection to marriage stability.
- ❖ Psychologist generally and counselors specifically need to help people in a troubled marriage and support children to adjust from divorce related problems.
- ❖ Let the parents (especially fathers) value his children as his own blood children that even though this event occur, he can take a good care of them.

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