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DIVORCE IN A MODERN SOCIETY

The aim of my study was to investigate the factors that affect the divorce rate in Ukraine. Over the past few years, Ukraine's divorce rate has risen to the top among European countries, with 5.3 divorces per 1,000 people. Despite the fact that Ukrainians are overwhelmingly eager to get married – more than people in Western Europe where every third marriage is civil, compared to every tenth in Ukraine. Experts claim that Ukrainians often get married as early as possible and then they do not know how to maintain their marriages.

I analysed the major factors leading to broken families: financial instability; disappearance of love; adultery; economic crisis, alcohol addiction; drug addiction; manipulation, imperfect laws in the Family Code and so on.

In general some of the men who cause divorce also mention such reasons as the propensity to spend the couple's money, the lack of money. As for women, in the demographic exception of a huge number of women compared to the number of men, male infidelity is therefore devastating. [4, c. 3]

People have become more free of morals, less supportive, less attentive, more open to certain questions, but also more friable to selfishness. It is precisely the change in values that has made the nest of divorce.

As said social psychologist Andriy Strutynsky: “Ukrainians are a matrimonially active nation but this is more of a bubble: people get married early and easily, and they split up the same way. The family is no longer the crucial element holding society together. Very often, we don't take marriage seriously, and we break it. Financial factors matter, too. As a result, respect for marriage fades. And remember alcoholism, one of the fiercest pandemics tormenting Ukraine. It destroys 20-25% of all marriages.” [3, c. 1]

Some divorces have a very negative effect on children because of women's manipulation. Serhiy and Liudmyla have lived together for six years. They have a son, Oleksiy. Serhiy wants a divorce because he has met another woman and wants to start a new life with her. The only unresolved issue between him and his ex-wife is the child: Liudmyla threatens never to allow him to see his son. However, Ukrainian statistics signal that children rarely hold marriages together, as up to 50% of divorces occur in families with children. Such an ultimatum prevents a man from participating in the life of a child, which causes children to suffer.

Moreover, the divorce procedure is very simple and the cost of child support is absurdly low. These are two more factors that encourage Ukrainians to treat marriage irresponsibly. An average divorce procedure in Ukraine takes a month and a half compared to at least a year for the court to register the appeal in many European countries.

According to 183 article of the Family Code of Ukraine child support payments of one child - one quarter, two children - one third, three or more children - half the earnings (income) of the alimony payer, but no more than ten subsistence minimums per child of the appropriate age for each child. [1, c. 50]

As the sociologist says Serhiy Mazurets - “A normal government is always interested in encouraging people to get married and keep their marriage strong. Statistics show that married people spend twice as much as single people do, thus families make a much more significant contribution to a stable social life. However, in 20 years of independence, the Ukrainian government has never articulated a clear marriage or family policy.” [3, c. 2]

But the state regulates the family relationships. This is evidenced by the fact that in order to protect from such situations, the law provides mandatory lines for the reconciliation of the parties. According to Article 106 of the Family Code of Ukraine it is one month in the registry office, and the court can give from one to six months to think it over.[1, c. 27]

According to research conducted by the Research & Branding Group, 79% of Ukrainians got married following their emotions, while 15% were guided by reasonable motives. The problem is that feelings alone can not solve any problems once the initial wave of emotions has faded, leaving bare routine and reality. There is another interesting difference: most Western Europeans first live in a civil union and then get married officially. By contrast, most civil unions in Ukraine fail to generate a full-scale family and eventually fall apart. This is because Ukrainians have no confidence in the future or themselves, and society is infantile.

According to the Institute of Demography and Social Studies, over 80% of Ukrainians aged 50-54 are married, compared to only 44% of Ukrainians under 30. The average marriage age in Ukraine is 30 for men and 27 for women. 10-12% of couples, predominately young people under 35, do not register their relationships. [2, c. 66]

In despite of all the negative factors, the family plays an important role in the country.

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