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development**

**EFFECTS OF DIVORCE ON CHILDREN'S WELFARE: A CASE STUDY OF
RWAMAGANA DISTRICT, EASTERN PROVINCE OF RWANDA**

***A RESEARCH SUBMITTED TO THE CENTRE FOR GENDER STUDIES AS
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Done at Kigali on 09/09/2020

Dr. HATEGEKIMANA Celestin

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hategekimana', written over a horizontal line.

Supervisor's signature

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATION

ADHD	: Attention deficit and hyperactivity disorder
AEGIS	: Aids Education Global Information Service
DHS	: Demographic and Health Survey
MIGEPRO:	Ministry of family and Gender promotion
MINICOFIN:	Ministry of finance and Economic planning
NWC	: National Women Council
OECD	: Organization economic co-operation development
OECD	: Organization Economic co-operation and development countries
UN	: United Nation
USA	: United State of America

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ABSTRACT

The effective cohabitation of couples is one of the indicators that determine a healthy family. However, the dissatisfaction that is demonstrated among various couples leading them to divorce has become a problem causing alarm among civil societies proportionally as well as bringing challenges to the children's welfare on global perspective. Therefore, the present study examines the effects of divorce on children's welfare in Rwamagana district. The study was guided by three specific objectives namely: to evaluate the causes of divorce in Rwamagana District, to examine the effects of divorce on children's welfare in Rwamagana District and to suggest measures that can be taken to rebuild the lives of children affected by divorce in Rwamagana District. The research population of this study was 585 people corresponding to 277 people considered as sample size got by using Solvin's formula and snowball sampling techniques. This study also used descriptive survey research design and two research instruments which are questionnaires and interview guide were used to collect data. In the findings of the study, more than 70% of respondents indicated alcoholism, domestic violence, lack of tolerance and shared vision between couples as well as getting married with wrong motivation as the major causes of divorce in Rwamagana district. The findings also revealed that more than 90% respondents indicate parental divorce as a cause of lower education, low income attainment, an increase in drug use, and lower levels of family support to children. The results of this study also indicated that lack of tolerance is responsible for the association between divorce and children's welfare. It was also revealed that unmet expectations in marriage was a cause of divorce and consequently associated with a medium decrease in children welfare. The study recommends that; the National Women's Council should establish possible ways that can enhance the capacity building of single mothers who divorced in order help them cope with the new style of life and cultivate in them how they can give proper education to their children. Divorced people should agree on how they must continue collaborating together in the education of their children after divorce. District local authorities should reinforce the punishment related to any cause of divorce so as to reduce the rate of divorce. School head teachers should emphasize the school clubs that promote the social skills of all children and enhance the school counselors' support to those children who are depressed because of the divorce of their parents. Parents should avoid conflicts which may lead to separation since this affects children.

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION OF THE STUDY

1.1 Introduction

The good cohabitation of couples is one of the indicators of healthy families and societies. The education, the health status, the ability of facing many life contingencies for children are indicators of their welfare status and while the cohabitation of parents in any household is weak so are other aspects of family welfare in general and of children in particular. In this study, we intend to develop one aspect affecting children's welfare and to analyze if from our research area this reality is proved.

1.2 Background of the study

Divorce is a general problem which has reached an alarming proportion on global level and in Rwanda in particular. Wayne (2017), indicated that over 4.3 million divorced people in America. The global divorce rate has increased up to 251.8 percent since 1960 mainly in Organization Economic Co-operation and Development Countries (OECD). According to the recorded information, the marriage and divorce statistics are extremely varying due to numbers of poignant factors. A good number of familiar motives include incompatibility of character between partners, infidelity, drug or alcoholism and physical as well as mental abuse (OECD, 2019).

The information found from the Journal of Marriage and Family shows that the fairly recent phenomenon of no-fault divorce has considerably hastened the wave of Americans break up. USA today tops the whole world break-up of the marriages (Wayne, 2017). Glenn (2013) stated that the motivation to believe in marriage in post-modern society has accumulated a huge amount of evidences which prove how appalling are the consequences of divorce in the world. Likewise, in the United Kingdom and Ireland, marriages that finish in break-up ending in divorce naturally starts at a smaller level, years before the couples separate legally. Wayne, (2017) highlighted that throughout the course of marriage one or both partners begin to feel alienated from one another and conflicts with each other as well as with children intensify, becoming more frequent and

often go unresolved. Feelings of bitterness, defenselessness, and anger escalate as the spouse weigh the costs and benefits of abiding in marriage against separating (Acock& Demo, 2014).

The UN report of 2002 indicates that the country with the highest number of divorces in the world is the Maldives, which had 10.97 per 1000 inhabitant per year then, and it is followed by Belarus which had 4.63 per 1000 and the United States of America which had 4.34 per 1000 inhabitants per year.

The research carried out in Canada the year 2008 about marriage break up, has revealed the evolution of divorce from 1968 to 2008 and projected how it will be in 2035(Ambert, 2009). According to this study, the changes made to marriage law in 1968 and in 1985 brought about an instant increase in the number of divorces. Before the legalization of unilateral divorce, the break-up inched upward, sticking rather close to zero per cent. Ambert (2009), added that today statistics in Canada estimates around 40% of marriages that took place in 2008 and might end in 2035 (Ambert, 2009).

The situation in OECD countries shows the following data registered in 2018 and presented this year. Luxembourg experiences 87 percent of divorce. Today, this country is the one which is at the top in divorce worldwide and it is followed by Spain with 65%; France with 55%; Russia with 51% and the United States of America which has 46% of divorces (OECD, 2019). Therefore, this proves that divorces are dramatically increasing worldwide, especially in developed countries.

Kitson (2012) in his persuasive research of marriage breakup shows a process whose characteristic is dissatisfaction of emotional distance and recurrent insights and views concerning separating children with their mothers and be in little communication with their fathers. In USA, 5 out of 6 single-parent families are managed by a mother. Consequently, children get used to live without their fathers around, or without the care of their fathers (Teachman& Crowder, 2000).

The divorce in Africa is presented by researchers as follows: For a number of countries like Burukina Faso, Cameroon, Kenya, Uganda and Zimbabwe the risk of divorce has remained remarkably constant over 20 years (McGill University, 2015). Nevertheless, there has about 10%

of decline in divorce in Benin, Ghana and Niger and small reduction of divorce in Liberia, Malawi, Namibia, Senegal, Togo and Zambia. As shown by the same study. Finally, this study concluded by indexing the country in which the rate variation of divorce and the country where the situation seems to be alarming as follows: There is substantial variation in the risk of divorce within the first 20 years of marriage, ranging from 6.9% in Mali to 47.1% in Congo Brazzaville (McGill University, 2015). The situation in some of the Eastern African Community countries can show us how the situation seems to be in Uganda and Kenya. In Uganda and Kenya, most of children suffer from lack of father involvement in their education after divorce. A national study conducted in 2008 points out that more than one-fourth of children living with divorced women never saw their fathers for many years and to some extent more than one-fourth saw their fathers once a month. Among children who maintain regular contact with their fathers, less than one-third had opportunities to spend significant time with them (Rodgers & Pryor, 2008).

According to countries McGill University (2015), Contrary to some other African countries in which the situation of divorce rate was found to be constant for 20 years, in Rwanda the divorce tends to be more dramatic. For instance, Bishumba (2018) in his report released to the public in 2018 indicated that Rwanda was showing the alarming situation of the divorce because it climbed by 1242 from 69 in 2017 to 1311 in 2018. The research also revealed that the number of cases rose in primary courts from 2016 because there were 21 that year, 69 in 2017 and 1311 in 2018. In analyzing the causes of these cases recently censed, was mainly related to economic advantages shared after divorce (Muneza, 2018). This author said that both lawyers from the private sector and the government institutions attest that this situation is widely driven by economic benefits that come with separation, mainly for couples that chose limited community regime agreement during their union.

Meanwhile the Ministry of Family and Gender Promotion (MIGEPROF, 2016), recognizes that parental separation ruins life and cause main psychological and behavioral problems in children. For instance, many children exhibit delinquent behaviour, others show difficulties with peers and low self-esteem due to the divorce of their parents while others adjust readily enjoy popularity with their freeing and thinking highly of themselves. Children and adolescents, who seem to be more socially and emotionally fragile, are the ones who meet multiple transitions in parenting arrangements throughout their childhood.

According to the report published by MIGEPROF in 2016, in 2012 Rwamagana had 459 who were single women because being widowed while other 1,582 were single women because they had divorced. This was supported by the report published by Thomas and Brinkhoff in 2019 indicating that the rate number of single mothers in Rwamagana District was at 9.6%, that is, 19,929 single mothers in the total population of 207949, and a big number of was caused by divorce (Thomas and Brinkhoff, 2019)

The researcher added that divorce affected children differently because different children commonly respond to their parents' separation differently. However, when it comes to divorce cases and divorce situation in Rwanda, cases are different and have different causes, even though most of them have a same common dominator. Likewise, every child has different effects according to how the divorce was handled, and according to different characters from different children, hence, this also brings us to say that gender issues may not be a basis to have a specific reaction to the divorce of the parents. Instead, the gender of a child could be used as a guide to plan before the manner in which they may respond to the divorce process and how to reach an understanding on why a specific child has a specific behavior for the situation (Amato, 2000).

1.3 The Problem Statement

Fundamentally, the problem statement in this study has sought to respond to key questions that were very challenging in proving the need for this research, in relation with divorce and its effects on the children. So, there is a need to clearly demonstrate that there is a problem to address, otherwise, the research could be immaterial and could lack the value to the researcher's topic.

Coming back to our topic, divorce has become a common phenomenon among the married couples in modern world and affects the lives of many people particularly children. However, it is easier now to dissolve marriage, and fewer stigmas are attached to divorced people. For instance, Juho (2013) argued many of these who divorced remained with negative and traumatic experience their marriage. Not only do the divorcing partners suffer from their divorce children

are affected as well. According to Maccoby and Mnookin (2012), in the past, concerns have been focusing on problems of the parents who have divorced, but lately there has been a growing interest in the effects of divorce on the children from divorced families.

APA (2019) also indicated negative effects in the lives of children. The factors that affect children in their families are like the degree of conflict between their parents, the level to which parents take care of them and how they show concern for them preparing them mentally for their divorce; the level of maturity and general personality characters of children (Maccoby & Mnookin, 2012). For instance, the Ministry of Gender and Family (MIGEPROF)'s substantial research evidence shows that in Rwanda 67% of children who have experienced divorce of their parents score somehow higher on measure of social development than children from first-marriage families. They further indicated that 61% of them experience trouble in the emotional well-being, self-concept, academic performance, educational attainment and physical health. All the above affect the adjustment level of children from divorced families (MIGEPROF, 2016). According to the report of Save the Children Rwanda of 2017, children of divorced parents are more likely to drop out from school than those from united families; children from broken families are likely to have difficulties in obtaining and maintaining steady employment.

Despite the Rwandan government efforts and researches done by organizations that protect child rights, children of divorced parents have been found to have emotional and behavioral problems than those who still have their biological parents living together. From different reports of MIGEPROF and Save the Children that are indicated in the above discussion, it is well noticed that children whose parents have divorced witness negative family interaction prior to the divorce and experienced many life transitions and strained familial relationships after divorce (Save the Children, 2016). According to these records of MIGEPROF Rwamagana District is the one which demonstrated annual average of around high of consumed and under process registered cases of divorce. Furthermore, the Social Affairs Offices of various sectors and National Women's Council complain about a wide range of poor children's welfare caused by a high rate of divorce in Rwanda (MIGEPROF, 2016). Therefore, it is with this perspective that the researcher conducted this study to examine the effects of divorce on children's welfare in Rwamagana district.

1.4. Research Objectives

1.4.1. Main objective

The main purpose of this research was to explore the effects of divorce on children's welfare in Rwamagana District.

1.4.2 Specific objectives

1. To identify the causes of divorce in Rwamagana District.
2. To determine the effects of divorce on children's welfare in Rwamagana District
3. To suggest measures that can be taken to rebuild the lives of children who are affected by divorce in Rwamagana District.

1.4 Research Questions

1. What does cause divorce in Rwamagana District?
2. To what extent does divorce affect children's welfare in Rwamagana District?
3. What are the measures that can be taken to rebuild the lives of children who are affected by divorce in Rwamagana district?

1.5 Significance of the study

The significance of this research reposes on interest of the researcher and academic interests

1.6.1 To the researcher

The research will provide the researcher with sufficient knowledge and skills which will help to understand broadly the effects of divorce on children's welfare. This will facilitate to recommend interventions that can be provided to improve on the welfare of children from divorced couple.

1.5.2 For societal interests

In the interest of the society, the study will serve as a tool to be used in dealing with problems of children's welfare resulting from divorce of families. The present study will as well allow local authorities of Rwamagana District to take measures that can help them to in sensitizing divorced couples on how they should cater for their children.

1.6.3 For academic and scientific interests

This study will respond to the exigency of University of Rwanda which anticipates that each student has to carry a research at the end of his/her academic formation. The study will be used as a reference for everyone who wants to conduct a research about divorce and its effects.

1.7 Scope of the study

1.7.1 Concept Scope

This study aimed at examining the effects of divorce on the welfare of children in Rwamagana District. This concept was raised in the mind of the researcher because, as the time changes, the society faces high number of divorces between married couple and these divorce have been proved to affect negatively on the wellbeing of children everywhere in the world. This means that Rwanda as a country did not stay remain particular but it faces the same situation of divorce. In especial way, the researcher conducted this research in Rwamagana because it has been proved by different reports from MIGEPROF and other independent researchers, as some are shown in the above background, as districts in Rwanda with high record of divorces.

1.7.2 Geographical scope

This study targeted Rwamagana District and the researcher chose this district because according to the Save the Children report of 2016, Rwamagana is one of the Districts in Rwanda that have a high level of divorce and separation and till today the causes and consequences of this divorce are not deeply explored.

1.7.2. Time scope

This research was conducted in a period of eight months from January to August 2020 in the sectors of the study and it focused on the divorced families of Rwamagana between 2017 and 2019.

1.8 Outline of the study

This study examined the causes and effects of divorce on children's welfare in Rwamagana District. It covers five chapters among which the first chapter has the introduction, the background of the study, problem statement, objectives and research questions of the study, the significance as well as the scope of the study. Chapter two contains the review of related

literature. Chapter three covers the methodology of the study. Chapter four is the analysis of data and presentation of findings while chapter five covers the summary of findings, conclusion and recommendation of the study.

1.9 Conclusion of the chapter

This chapter covers the introduction with the background of the study as well as specific objectives and research questions of the study. It also highlighted the significance of the study, its scope and limitation, the definition of the key terms and concepts of the main topic and ends with its conclusion.

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This part contains the examination of various literatures linked to the causes and effects of divorce on the welfare of children from divorced families. It discusses both theoretical and empirical literature. In the discussion of this chapter, the researcher identified some gaps which have been left out by different scholars and writers. The chapter shows the theoretical and conceptual framework which guided the study.

2.1 Review of the literature

2.1.1 Definition of key concepts

Divorce: This refers to the breakdown of the relationship between married families which leads to total separations of two married partners who have been staying together as wife and husband. However, for this to be called an official divorce, legal procedures follow the breakup. Otherwise, it can only be a separation which doesn't necessarily mean a divorce. The definition of Mala (2014) is that divorce means the end of marital union or marriage, the cancelation or restructuration of legal responsibilities and duties of marriage, in other words, thus liquefying the bonds of matrimony between married couples under the rule of law.

Effects: May refers to a result or change of something; effects may be cause and effect, an idiom describing causality (Dolwick, 2009). In the context of our research, effect is understood as psychosocial negative results that are resulting to the permanent dissolution of parents' marriage.

Children

Biological child is a human being between the birth and puberty, of between the development period of infancy and puberty (Mosby, 2013). Legally, a child is defined as a minor, known as a person younger than the age of maturity (Rathus, 2013). In the context of this study, child or children refer to any minor born from or living from/with a couple married legally but who are separated or divorced.

2.1.2. Causes, forms and types of divorce

These empirical data turn around the causes, forms and types of divorce. The above elements are developed deductively by beginning from the general situations to the local ones. But as we can't develop information about divorce without beginning by marriage, let us talk briefly about marriage data.

Westermarck (1922) defines marriage as a commitment between a man and a woman to live together in a more or less lasting manner and committing to make children and raise them together. Additionally, he highlights that these two couples are married through the customary law or legal law and a man can marry one or more women according to the culture, traditions and customs of the country. The customary law was changed by Christianity but also by the application of laws, regulations and policies of every country (Westermarck, 1936). The definition of the anthropological Hand Book Notes and Queries of 1951 is that marriage is when a woman and a man are united in a way that the children who are born from the couples are recognized legitimate offspring of the women and the man (Gough, 1968).

Since the 20th century, key social transformations in the western societies resulted in the transformation in the demographics of marriage, with the age first marriage increasing, fewer people marrying, and more couples opting to temporarily stay together rather than making an official marriage. As a matter of fact, there was a decline in marriage in the European societies up to 30% from 1975 to 2005 (Vucheva, 2008)

The Western countries and the United States of America and many other developed countries, from the of the 19th century and lasting through 21st century, the marriage went through structural changes to adopt it to the respect of the rights of women, as studies had demonstrated the abuse of women throughout their marriages (ref.). Some of these rights included giving wives identities of their own, abolishing the rights of husbands to physically discipline their wives, granting women property rights, making liberalization of the laws of divorce, giving wives reproductive rights of their own and demand a wife's consent when sexual intercourse is needed (Fox, 2015).

2.1.3 Divorce in developed countries

Some countries do not recognize the divorce. Talking about countries without marriage, Robert (2017) argued that in most developed countries, divorce has been legalized and made it easy and open. In the old times, communities have always viewed marriage as a lasting engagement between two partners to stay together. Different religions communities have regulated marriage, and influenced meaningfully the traditional societies, opting for a wife and a husband to be united for life, for the best and the worst, in so doing, making divorce illegal (Roberts 2007). Nevertheless, several societies have observed gaps in marriage laws that do not permit married couples to separate, divorce and get married to someone else (Robert, 2017). For instance, Malta legalized the separation of couples in 2011. It has taken a long period to allow officially and legally divorce, since the country is devoutly catholic. The pre-divorce movement believed legalized divorce would allow those with dysfunctional marriage to have another chance at love. People in Malta do not become eligible break up until after years of separation (Robert, 2017).

However, in some countries, divorce has remained restricted up to a certain period. An example Ana (2015) indicated that in the Philippines, as of 2011, did not have divorce, but they do have legal separation, where the partners share their assets but they cannot remarry not get an annulment of their marriage. This can be done only under specified circumstances like mistaken identity, psychological incapacity or homosexuality. To confirm psychological inability, the separating partners must get a psychological report to support the claim, which many spouses cannot afford (Migiro, 2019).

The Philippines once had the law of divorce, but the 1950s civil regulations abolished them. A 2011 study revealed that 50% of Filipinos accepted that the government should permit those who want to divorce and 33% did not agree with this (Ana (2015)). Since the Philippine do not have the law for divorce therefore, some people prefer not to engage themselves in marriage at all and as an alternative, they choose to have children out of marriage vows. On the other hand, those who are married abandon their marriages to leave with other spouses to raise the children. As there are no legal divorce policies, there is no legal way to force one spouse to pay child support (Migiro, 2019).

Like Philippine, Vatican City also does not allow separation of married people. This is because it is the official State of the Catholic Church which believes that matrimony should be permanent. For this reason, the church judges those who obliterate a canonically legitimate marriage, because of their own responsibility, to be in infringement of Catholic tradition, while those who are left by their partners are not seen at fault (Migiro, 2019).

Aside of the countries in which divorce is not recognized, each world State has some kind of no-fault separation law in place. Some countries impose restrictions on no-fault breakup than others but every State allows partners to start and complete the separation process without having to state a fault-based motive for their parathion (Rebecca, 2009). Kennedy (2019), defined a no-fault separation as a divorce in which partners request for divorce without any need to give the proof of the fault of his/her partner or exposing the wrong other partner has committed. It is simply enough to indicate that the two partners can no longer successfully get along anymore.

In addition, Kennedy (2019) while talking about the States that grant no-fault separation without necessitating a period of separation, he indicated many and included Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, India, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming. And in all these States, partners may obtain a no-fault divorce without first any separation requirement. This came to support an argument of Pamela (2010) who indicated that some State of US allowed both no-fault and a fault divorce option and couples who do not want to observe the waiting period requirement were permitted to file for fault divorce. Some familiar grounds for fault divorce include cruelty, adultery, and desertion, confinement in prison or a similar organization and inability to perform sexual responsibility, if this was not disclosed before the marriage (Pamela (2010)

2.1.4 Divorce in Africa

A study carried out by Clark and Braumer-Otto (2015) to examine the rate of divorce in some African countries, found that the divorce rates across twenty African countries over the past 20

years have remained constant in decline. For instance, the highlights from this study shows that in several countries such as Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe, the risk of divorce has remained remarkably constant over the last 20 years. However, there has been about 10%point decline in divorce in Benin, Ghana, and Niger and a small decline in divorce in Liberia, Malawi, Namibia, Senegal, Togo, and Zambia. This means that there is a substantial variation in the risk of divorce within the first 20 years of marriage, ranging from 6.9% in Mali to 47.1% in Congo Brazzaville (Clark & Brauner-Otto, 2015).

In some African states, urbanization and female employment are generally linked with higher rates of divorce; these aspects are countered in sub-Saharan Africa by the rising age of first marriage, says Shelley Clark, Director of the Center of Population Dynamics at McGill University. We found that in African States where women enter into unions when they are older and more mature, marriage tend to be more stable, resulting in less separation (Clark&Brauner-Otto, 2015).

Marital instability and family structure are critical issues in this part of the world, where divorce becomes with dire consequences for health and education of children. In another previous work carried out by Clark in 11 counties in Sub-Sahara Africa, he found that children from divorced families tend to be disadvantaged. This is because according to Clark &Brauner-Otto, (2015) children whose divorced mothers are more likely to die than children from mothers who never-married or widowed mothers.

Himonga (2012), stated that divorce in South African law refers to the termination of marital union, the canceling of legal duties and responsibilities of marriage and dissolving of the bond of matrimony between married couples. Divorce requires the sanction of a court in legal process. The legal process of divorce may also involve issues of protection, child custody, child support, distribution of property and division of debt. In South Africa, marriage may be dissolved by court on the basis of irretrievable breakdown of marriage, mental illness or unconsciousness of party to the marriage (Wisenberg, 2015). In the case of irretrievable break-up, a court may grant a decree of divorce on the ground of the irretrievable breakdown of the marriage. This is done when the court is satisfied that the marriage relationship between the partners has reached such a state of disintegration and that there is no reasonable prospect of restoration of normal marital relationship between them (Wisenberg, 2005).

According to statistics in Kenya, divorce cases filed at the Milimani Commercial Courts continue to increase annually. Most of the cases filed at the Nairobi High Court are of civil nature while those at Milimani Courts are Christian unions. The number of divorce cases filed at Milimani Court in 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005 was approximately 101, 115, 206, 296 and 285 respectively. These numbers further increased in 2012 and 2013, having recorded 427 and 466 cases respectively (Kwach, 2018). The number of kids directly affected by divorce in Kenya has also risen for the last decade from eighty-two thousand in 1997 to around two hundred and eight thousand in 2011.

2.1.5 Reasons of divorce in developed countries

Worldwide, grounds for divorce and common reasons for divorce share similarities. According to records from the United Nations and other world organizations, the most common reasons for divorce are: infidelity (18%); Drug and/or alcohol abuse (9%) and physical and/or mental abuse (6%). The most common reason for divorce, however, is incompatibility, or simply growing apart. A stunning 44% of marriages worldwide ended for this reason (Worthy Staff, 2019).

In European countries, generally representative information on recently live-in partnership in Britain established that the marriages are considerably longer than cohabitation (Gravningen et al., 2017). In spite of this, there are various similarities than differences in the causes cited for partners' separation in the marriage and cohabitations after regulating the age in discussion on the duration of partnership. About half of respondents indicated numerous motives of divorce that extend beyond the most general causes, which were grown part, arguments and unfaithfulness/ adultery, independent of partnership type. One among six women indicated family aggression as the major cause of divorce while few men agreed with this to be the motive of divorce. The difficulty with sex was indicated by one among 20 and one women among 16 as the cause of divorce. On the other hand, the following were indicated as the major causes of divorce in some European countries like England and Deutschland: Grew apart, misunderstanding, adultery/ infidelity, lack of respect towards one another, lack of positive reception dichotomy of interest among partners, the problem of money/poverty, bad sharing of house work, difficulty with sex, domestic violence and inability to have children (Gravningen et al., 2017)

2.1.6 Causes of divorce in Africa

The result got from the research carried out by Olaniyi (2015), to examine the causes of divorce in African countries, showed that those who participated in this study viewed barrenness as the main cause of separation. This was followed the other motives like decline of love, religious disparities, and unemployment of one or both partners. From these findings therefore, this scholar categorized the causes of divorce in Africa into two: the divorce caused by the behavior of the husband and the divorce caused by the behaviors of the wives (Olaniyi, 2015).

Olaniye (2015) further explained that wives are divorced because of negligence in the family, transferring all familial duties to maids and ignoring that a maid is there to support and not to replace the wife. Another reason is the excessive attachment to their mothers and other relatives from extended families, failure to organized the house, negligence in dressing, incapacity to prepare good meals, bitterness from what they do not appreciate in their partner and this leads to careless and lack of seriousness in relationship; isolation and self-pity, absence of control when talking to their husbands, complaining and criticizing (Olaniyi, 2015)

As for other side, men are divorced in their families due to the following behaviors: there is negligence of their duty at home, lack of love towards their partners, harshness and cruelty, egoism in spending the income they earn from what they do, unwillingness to leave their parents and dependents and cleave unto their wives; neglect of his wife for friends (having more attachment to friends than their wives); supporting and spending for their relations while neglecting the relations of their wives, absence of communication (deliberate hiding of information); lack of care and consideration (having no respect and attention toward their wives); lack of admiration toward their wives (always finding faults with their wives), callousness in approach which prevents men from listening to them or identifying their emotions, shielding from fault-finding in-laws, playing no active role in the training and upbringing of their children; redundancy with not serious effort to be gainfully employed; making delay in child bearing an unpardonable sin of their wives (Olaniyi, 2015)

Preller (2012) argued that the causes of breakups and divorce alleged by both men and women in South Africa involve loss of love and incompatibility, poor communication, the abuse of drugs,

basic discontent, unfaithfulness, emotional characters and matters, misunderstandings over roles and spouses' personality traits.

2.1.7. Effect of Divorce on children

Patrick and Robert conducted a study in USA in 2000 and they found that since then every year, over million American children are affected by the divorce of their parents. Alarming facts in social science newspapers and journals confirmed that overwhelming physical, emotional and financial consequences of divorce on children take long until adulthood and impact negatively on their future generation link of divorce and poverty (Patrick and Robert, 2000). According to Fagan and Rector (2000) experience showed that for some of the parents who were not poor before getting married, their income dropped by at least 50%. They further added that almost 50% of children who have divorced parents, experience poverty.

In addition, it was affirmed that for both genders a substantially lower level of education attainment is reduced by parental divorce by about 9 to 10 (Patrick and Robert, 2000). Parental divorce increases the likelihood of pregnancy in teenage years up to the early twenties. The additional children, who are born out of wedlock, find only minimum care from their parents and this leads to the likelihood of early marriage. This outcome could be a direct effect on teenage motherhood, which may initiate early entry into labour market (Fagan & Rector, 2000).

Painter and Levine (2000) argued that after divorce, children typically grow in female-headed households, since maternal sole custody is the dominant arrangement. However, most of these households have lower income, tend to live in neighborhood, have few and/ or weaker male role models and access small social network. Affected children therefore may suffer from separation with their father parental hostility, residential and school dislocation (Painter& Levine 2000).

Frimmel and his companions (2016) argued that negative consequences of parental separation on children's long-term welfare, should not only be internalized by parents, but also policymakers who design policies affecting parents' incentives to divorce or programs which support children from disrupted families. These consequences are highlighted by many other authors like Juanget al.,(2004), who categorized them as behavioral, emotional, physical and psychological. On the other hand, Cohen et al (2000) indicated increased prevalence of attention deficit and

hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) in children with situations of divorce and abuse caused by parental loss and high rates of family conflict found in correlation between parental divorces (Yannakoulia *et al.*, 2008).

Ringsback *et al.*, (2003) affirmed that exposure to division and divorce in childhood was likely to worsen perception in older age referring to mental health as well as to physical status. The indicated that almost one million children in Sweden who grow up with single mothers were more likely to experience psychiatric disorder, commit or attempt suicide or develop drug alcohol and/or addiction. This is because according to Hailey and Lachman (2000), although parental loss as consequence of divorce and as consequence of parental death can impact economic resources, social resources may be more affected by parental divorce, but parental divorce can result in changes in the child's relationship with both parents, whereas parental death is less likely to disrupt the child's relationship with the remaining parent.

Researchers from countries in the West fundamentally showed that divorce of the parents is damagingly linked with children are schooling (Frisco *et al.*, 2007). Whether this link is due to a causal effect of the divorce of the parents or to overlooked features raising both the risk of divorce and worse schooling results is still being debated. The supporters of the latter argument question whether individuals opting for divorce are intrinsically different from those who are remaining married (Amato, 2000). It was also proposed that they may differ on personality characteristics, the skills in parenting, pre-divorce marital disharmony, and genetic impacts. All of these differences have the potentials to raise the possibility of divorce with potential effects on the schooling of the children. In fact, it cannot be said that divorce is the only cause for the poor performance of the children at school, even though it is a commonly met factor for poor schooling for the children. Instead, ignored heterogeneity may be the foundation for this link (Amato 2010).

Carling and Tonnessen (2013) examined the reports from different studies conducted in sub-Saharan Africa on the effects of divorce on the children's schooling. They found that the divorce of the parents is negatively linked with children schooling outcomes, including child mortality, health, and irregularities in school attendance. It is so far not unknown if these links are due to a causal effect of the divorce of the parents or selection into divorce. The positive side of the current research is its usefulness in child-level fixed-effects models to control for selection into

divorce. In these models, each child serves as his or her own control, which controls for all time-invariant variables, both considered and ignored.

Parental divorce is one of the hardest times that the couples go through, and despite the fact that sometimes couples get over it as time goes on, but this doesn't mean that children get out the situation unharmed Amy (2019). In some cases, parents may fix their bad relationship, but the children remain with the wounds of the past, and that affects their schooling and their character in general. Some of the preliminaries of the consequences of the divorce on children are the anxiety, repetitive stresses, mood swings and bad temper and disillusion and distress while long-term consequences are those who affect them and change their behaviours towards their peers and the society as a whole. Some end up in criminal activities (Kwach, 2018).

2.1.8 Divorce in Rwandan culture

According to Ntampaka (2000) in Rwandan culture, the family is a group linked by blood relationship. People in the family at one point are known to have shared and common ancestor. Culturally, the Rwandan family was recognized from male side (patrilinear), whereby relatives of the wife were excluded from the family in which she got married. Therefore, in case a man was dissatisfied with the wife, he would marry another one in addition to the other one he is not satisfied with. Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (2014), concurred with Ntampaka (2000) by arguing that marriage is traditionally seen as an alliance of two families which are seen to represent two lineages. In case of any misunderstandings, the family elders would first try to reconcile the partners.

2.1.9 Divorce in civil code

The Rwanda Civil Code in Rwanda clearly lays down the ground for divorce. For instance, the provision of Articles from 218 to 252 of the law N° 32/2016 governing persons and family put in the official gazette N°37 of 12/09/2016 stipulates different conditions under which the divorce can be accepted in Rwanda (Government of Rwanda, 2016). The Code provides that children go to the spouse who demonstrates the will and ability to help them and tries to put the best interests of children into consideration. It states that a parent with the capacity to educate the children

should be the one to take them after divorce. Nevertheless, this is still a reflection of traditional culture which does not accept children in the mother's family (Times Reporter, 2007).

2.1.10 Divorce statistics in Rwanda

The situation of the divorce is mentioned in the Demographic and Health Survey (DHS, 2015), challenging factors whereby the level of the divorce reached 34.5 % for women and 32.9% for men. The same survey shows that about 842 females (6.2%) had breakups ending to divorce. On the other side 79 men (1.4%) broke up and ended to divorce before the survey. The figures highlight very well how women in Rwanda are divorced as compared to men.

Divorce cases are on the rise in Rwanda reaching an unprecedented pace. In 2018, nationwide divorce cases increased 1900% in 2018 because 1,311 cases were taken to courts this year compared to 69 divorce cases which were registered in 2017 (Mazimpaka,2018) . The court figures have revealed that many cases of divorce essentially have their roots in emotional and physical violence, adultery and barren wives. Many other study participants revealed that the conflicts within the families if they pass unsolved, affect the children, and end up in the divorce of the parents. The outcome of these effects on children is the drugs abuse, street life, prostitution, and crimes of all kind (Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, MINICOFIN,

2014).2.1.11 Consequences of divorce in Rwanda

Different misunderstandings and conflicts within families in Rwanda have diversified negatives effects on children development in many ways. For instance, the 2012 report of National Commission for Children indicates how in most cases, children a big number of divorced families leave school and become street children, or get involved in different crimes: including drugs abuse, robbery, breaking cars, and so forth, making their future uncertain (National Commission for Children, 2012). This is confirmed by the report of Rwandan professionals contacted by AEGIS (2013) and published by Ndushabandi, Kagaba&Gasafari (2015). However, this report added another challenge of becoming neglected and malnourished which leads to physical health problems. Generally, the situation of the conflicts within families creates a malfunctioned environment in which children grow, learn and develop (Ndushabandi,

Kagaba&Gasafari, 2015). Mukashema and Sapsford (2013) further highlight that the challenges of the family conflicts are observed in the health, the behavior and even the educational challenge problems of the children. Even though the consequences are almost the same, but the gravity of the effects depends on how grave was the situation in which the parents broke up, how long it took, and the individual character of children. Some children cope with the consequences of the divorce of the parents and some even manage the siblings, in a situation whereby all the parents left them.

2.1.12 Children welfare

According to Child Welfare Information Gateway (2013), children welfare system includes a range of services encompassing prevention, intervention and treatment. These services are intended to protect children from abuse and neglect, promote their well-being, and strengthen families and permanency when children cannot safely remain with their families (Child Welfare League of America, 2005).

A great amount of anxiety, fear, anger and sadness may be presented for all of the people who are victims of divorce including one or both of the spouse and children. Each individual may feel differently that the other family members and cycle intensely through different emotions at different times. This is challenging not only for those going through the process of divorce but also for counselors who help them through the loss of separation and divorce (Kristin & Karen, 2015).

Kristin an (Karen, 2015), stated that finding a good divorce/co-parent coach can change the trajectory of the divorce and, ultimately, the children's lives. When this happens, children return to grow up, they learn and feel secure. To put simply, a child specialist helps parents use their parenting skills to protect their children's well-being and sense of security both during the divorce and in the first few years after divorce.

2.1.13 Child protection programs

According to Pedro (2011), the communication environment between parents and children quality of parent-child relationship is an important protection factor that predicts the long-term

impact of divorce on children. Among these parenting practices are: coming to one-on one time with each child, affirming their strengths, reinforcing positive behaviors, listening without judgment, accepting ambivalent feeling reflecting and understanding, among others (Zill, Morrison and Cairo, 1993).

The parents of the children are placed in a good position to listen to their children and manage their emotions when they get time for one-on-one communication. An active listening of parents to their children and an empathic listening by valuing children's non-verbal signals and reflect own understanding of what they felt. Leiberman and Alii (2007) make it clear that parents think that addressing the physical needs of their children is enough, but it is very relevant to find a spare time to share their hidden feelings, in so doing, children become open to their parents as they know they will listen to them without judgmental views (Leiberman and Alii, 2007). This is highlighted by Leiberman and Alii (2007) as very crucial, given the fact that the issue of trust between parents and children can open a conversation between them, and parents will use the time to know in which way they can help or assist their children, and address their needs.

Being exposed to the violence at home and abuse character has damaging effects on the children. Responsible parenting includes; polite behaviors towards child are other parent. There are several methods that parents can utilize of the protection of their children from damaging effects of conflicts. These include reframing their communication strategies into respectful and business-like partnership (Emery, 2011).

Pedro (2010) affirmed that in so doing, parents agree to set clear boundaries and ground rules for interaction that include respecting the right to a healthy relationship with both parents, when it is safe to do so, establishing and abiding by an agenda for all meeting to discuss children and other matters pertaining to the divorce and not using children as messengers or informants, and keeping children's transitions safe and respectful.

2.2 Empirical literature Review of the study

Lansford (2011), conducted the study united states that was related to the evolution of the behaviors for the children of divorced parents. The researcher revealed that children's manifestations of reaction to parental divorce are related to many factors, including the stage of

development of the child. As stated Kleinsorge (2012), added that, it depends also on the parents' ability to focus on the child's needs and feelings, the child's temperament, and the child's and parents' pre- and post-separation psychosocial functioning. Here, let us see how different theorists understand these problems relating to the children development:

The research carried out by Shelby, Scott and others in US in the year 2013, indicated that the most cited reasons for divorce at the individual level were: lack of commitment (75%), infidelity (59.6%), too much conflict and arguing (57.7%), getting married while being too young (45.1%), family problems (36.7%), substance abuse (34.6%) and other domestic violence (23.5%). Other problems like religious differences were endorsed less than 20% of the times (Shelby *et al.*, 2013).

The study conducted by Cohen in 2002, revealed that, in Africa children who are at pre-school age do not understand the permanence of separation and will repeatedly ask for the absent parent (Cohen, 2002). He further added that they may be demanding while accompanying this with defiant behavior, sleeping and eating problems as well as regression in development milestones. By the age of 4 to 5 years, they may blame themselves for the separation, being acting out, have nightmares, have more reluctance to separate, and fear that they may be abandoned (Cohen, 2002).

Clarke-Stewart and Brentano, 2006), added at the age adolescent in Nigeria, children may understand some of the reasons for family breakup; they may still have difficulty to accept the situation and may try to take on adult roles. They may de-idealize one or both parents and still believe that they can reunite their parents. Aggressive delinquent behavior, withdrawal, substance abuse, inappropriate sexual behavior, and poor school performance are frequent responses to the change in family structure (Sentse&alii, 2011).

Dennison and Koemer (2006), conducted the study in Europe that was related to psychological effects of divorce by using descriptive survey and found that divorce is associated with reduced psychological well-being in children and adult offspring of divorces parents, including greater unhappiness, less satisfaction with life, weaker sense of personal control, anxiety, depression, and greater use of mental health services.

Maaiké (2013) also revealed that the case of divorce in South Africa as well as in Kenya, indicates some emotion distortion that may cause some parents, putting children in the middle of conflict is particularly detrimental. An example of this, are asking children to carry messages between parents, grilling children about the other parent's activities and putting the other parent down in front of the children. Children involved in high-conflict divorce or custody cases can experience varying forms of mental alienation, which courts often consider to be a form of child abuse (ibid.)

Ndushabandi, Kagaba and Gasafari (2015) indicated that poorly managed conflicts between parents increased in Rwanda, children's risk of behavior problems, depression, substance abuse and dependence, poor social skills, and poor academic performance. Fortunately, there are approaches by which divorce professionals can help parents reduce conflicts. These options include mediation, collaborative divorce, and co-parent counseling as well as parenting coordination (Kunz & Jenifer, 2011).

2.3 Theoretical Framework

2.3.1. Theory of Marriage

Marriage is defined differently depending of the culture and context of each and every country or society, but it is essentially an institution in which personal relationships, usually sexual, are recognized. In some contexts and cultures, to get married is optional or deliberated to be obligatory before undertaking any sexual activity. If we define it widely, marriage is viewed as cultural based but also universal (Haviland & William, 2011). In some African cultures, when a man isn't married at a certain age, the community discriminate him or view him as abnormal and become somehow marginalized. Likewise, unmarried women are also marginalized in African societies, if she goes beyond a certain age that people expect girls to get married. This situation pushes some girls to get married to polygamous men merely because they can't keep on waiting.

Some of the types of marriage around the World and across different societies are: monogamy, serial monogamy, polygamy, polygyny, plural marriage, and child marriage. Anthropologists have suggested many diversified definitions of marriage in an attempt to involve the wide variety of marital methods experienced throughout different cultures. Even in the

Western context and culture, definitions of marriage have careened from one extreme to another and everywhere (Bell & Duran, 2012).

2.3.2. Attachment theory

This study followed the attachment theory of John Bowlby (1969, 1973, and 1980). This is because the attachment theory provides an important perspective on divorce because divorce involves the disruption and often the termination of a powerful attachment bond. Although attachment theorists have not specifically focused on divorce, the theory has a great deal to say about separation from an attachment figure and the breaking of an attachment bond (Bowlby, 1973, 1979, 1980), both of which are core aspects of divorce. In considering the relevance of attachment theory to divorce, it is important to emphasize that one of the most common attachment bonds formed in adulthood is the one formed with a romantic or marriage partner. According to the theory, neither love nor grief nor other forms of strong emotion are felt for just any person; instead, they are felt for particular individuals with whom one has established an attachment bond (Bowlby, 1969/1982, 1979).

According to Johnson (2003), attachment bonds are strong and persistent ties that cause each member of a family to maintain proximity to the other and to engage in proximity-seeking behavior when greater protection or support is needed. The biological function of attachment bonds is protection, and the capacity to make and maintain bonds appropriate to each phase of life is as important for survival and reproductive fitness as are nutrition and reproduction (Bowlby, 1969/1982; see Simpson & Belsky, Chapter 6, this volume). Once formed, an attachment bond tends to endure, and its disruption is strongly resisted. Therefore, to the extent that dissolving a marriage requires the dissolution or reorganization of an attachment bond, divorce is a tremendously important life transition.

Although attachment theory does not specifically delineate the factors that contribute to divorce, it provides an important foundation for understanding the mechanisms underlying this prevalent form of social disruption in adulthood. The theory stipulates two important criteria for healthy human functioning: First, every individual (throughout the lifespan) requires the presence and availability of a trustworthy figure who is willing and able to provide a safe haven (where the person can retreat for comfort and support in times of need) and a secure base (from which to

engage in exploration of the world and the person's own capacities). Second, everyone must be able both to recognize when another person is a trustworthy attachment figure and to collaborate with him or her to maintain a mutually rewarding relationship (Bowlby, 1979). From an attachment perspective, the absence of one or both of these important features of a marriage—for one or both partners—sets the stage for dysfunctional relations and eventual separation and divorce. Theory regarding these potential reasons for divorce, and empirical evidence supporting them, are discussed below (Ibid.)

The theory also describes who the divorce-related stressors experienced by parents frequently interfere with the parents' ability to respond adequately and consistently to their children's needs for safety and security (Page & Bretherton, 2001). For instance, this theory explains that by the fact that parents are living apart; it may undermine a child's feelings of security, because parental accessibility becomes more tenuous (Maccoby, Buchanan, Mnookin, & Dornbusch, 1993; Page & Bretherton, 2001). In fact, Bowlby (1980) noted that some children who have experienced loss of or separation from one parent may fear the loss of or separation from the other parent. Infants and Children

This theory was used in this study to describe how the divorce, which involves the separation of parents, breaks the normal relationship that exists between parents and their children. Therefore, this parent-children affection breakdown affects all the aspect of children welfare.

2.4 Conceptual framework

The conceptual frame work is represented in figure1 and explains the relationship between the causes of divorce as independent variable and the effects of divorce on children's welfare as dependent variable. It explains how the causes of divorce affect the welfare of children from these separated families. For instance, in case there is intense family conflicts disagreements and misunderstanding between couples, partners' negativity, criticism and defensiveness emotional break out parental care diminution; the welfare of children may be affected whereby they may be disturbed emotionally, their social integration with peers may be damaged; children may lose self-concept and self-esteem decreased; some of these children will have their cognitive capacity decreased and there will be child custody affected (Dickson, 2018)

The conceptual frame work also indicates family-based intervention, Children protection program, school base intervention children in home placement as intervening variable. This means that if these variables are managed well and lived positively; they will help couples to build strong families in good relationship and will prevent divorces that occur from time to time affecting the wellbeing of children. But when these variables are not well lived and managed they provoke conflict in families and sometimes these conflicts result to divorce that affect the life of children.

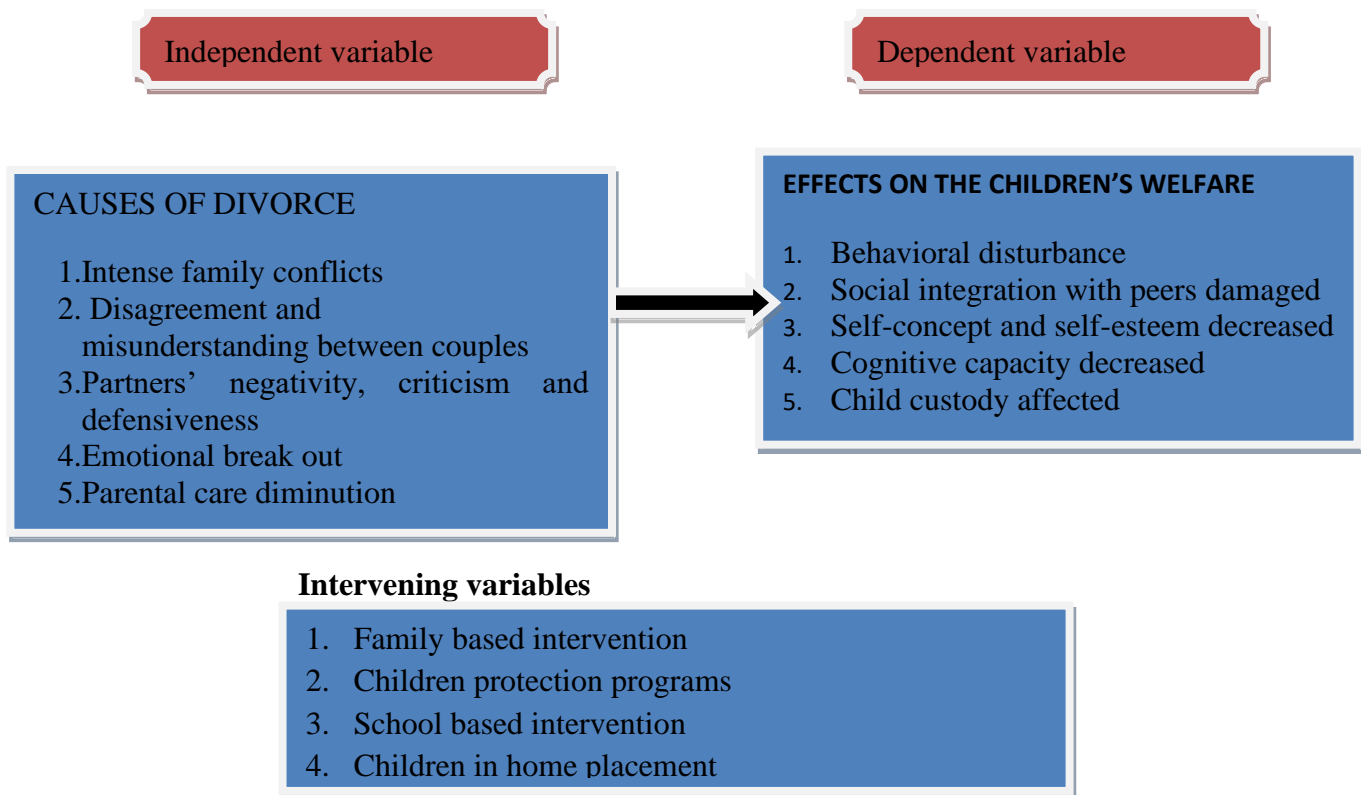


Figure 1: Conceptual Framework
Source: Researcher 2020

2.5 Conclusion

This chapter discussed different literatures related to divorce and its effects on the welfare of children from the divorced families. It discusses both theoretical and empirical literature where it evaluated the views of different scholars and writers in the theoretical literature and it analyzed different studies conducted by other researchers in the empirical review. The chapter ends by presenting the theoretical framework and the conceptual frame work that were used in the study.

CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter indicates the methodology that was used in this study. It presents the research design, the target population, data collection methods and procedures of data collection, the sample size, data collection instruments, data management and processing, data analysis and measurement of variables.

3.1 Description of the study area

Rwamagana is one of seven districts that compose the Eastern Province of Rwanda, it combines what was Muhazi district before, the former Gicumbi district, two former sectors of ancient Gasabo district, i.e. Fumbwe and Muyumbu as well as three sectors of former Kabarondo district, which are Kaduha, Rweru and Nkungu plus the previous city of Rwamagana. The actual district of Rwamagana is made of 14 sectors, 82 cells and 474villages. It has 74,175 families extended on its surface area of 682 km². Its population amounts to 313,461 at the population density of 460/Km².

The major economic activity of Rwamagana District is the agriculture with some other secondary economic activities which include fishing done in different small lakes found in this district, tourism attracted by some caves as well as the crafts. The main crop in Rwamagana is banana and the area is known in the whole country for that crop. Together with Kayonza, Ngoma, Kirehe – Rwamagana is the food basket of that crop in Rwanda, together with rice, beans and sweet potatoes (<http://www.rwamagana.gov.rw/index.php?id=39>).

3.2 Research Design

Research design and methods is a strategy used to respond to a researcher's question(s), whereas a research method is a method to use for implementing that strategy. Research design and methods differ but still remain closely interrelated, given the fact that a

good research design makes sure that the data obtained by the researcher help to respond effectively to the questions that the researcher formulates (Farooq, 2019).

The researcher in this study used descriptive case study research design with the mixed approach as the method to collect the information from participants. That is, a quantitative approach was used to collect the information from respondents by use of questionnaires and the qualitative was used with the key informants through the use of interview guide. This was used because it was vied to be an efficient method suitable to give some indicators for further elaboration and creation of assumption on the subject. In this design, the researcher utilized questionnaires as the method of collecting information from the chosen respondents and interview guide was used for the key informants who participated in the study.

3.3 Study setting

This study was conducted in Rwamagana district. Rwamagana district, is one of the districts of Eastern province of Rwanda, and it is composed by 14sectors such as Fumbwe, Gahengeri, Gishari, Karenge, Kigabiro, Muhazi, Munyaga, Munyiginya, Musha, Muyumbu, Mwulire, Nyakariro, Nyakariro and Rubona and it also borders with Kicukiro district, Kayonza district, Gicumbi district, Gasabo district, Bugesera district, Gatsibo district and Ngoma . However, due to the time limit and COVID 19 challenges the researcher condicated the research in seven sectors that are most affected by the divorce in Rwamagana district. These sectors are Fumbwe, Gahengeri, Gishari, Karenge, Musha, Muyumbu, Nyakariro.

3.4. Research Population

The population was 581 people which include 264 children from divorced families, 260 adults from divorced families, 14 Social Affairs officer of sectors, 14 religious leaders, 14 National Women’s Council Officers at Sector level and 1 Vice mayor in charge of Social Affairs in Rwamagana District.

3.5. Sampling size and Techniques

In almost all the research, sampling is very important. Instead of contacting every person from the total population of the study, a researcher can only respond to most questions by setting a sample that is representative of the population. This is both time and cost-effective

3.5.1 Sample size

The sample size was 273 determined by using Solvin's formula: $n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$ where **N**: Target population, **n**: Sample size as **e**: Marginal error (Yamane, 1967). After the determination of the number of respondents needed in the study, the researcher used the snowball technique to reach to the people who were to be direct respondents of the study. The snowball method was used to reach to needed respondents as it was difficult due to the quarantine resulting from Covid 19.

The formula assumes 95percent as confidence level and maximum variance ($P = 0.05$). Therefore, $e = 1 - \text{precaution}$ so, $e = 1 - 0.05 = 0.95$ and the target population was 581 people from whom the sample of 273 as indicate above was determined as follow:

$$n = \frac{581}{[1 + 581(0.05)^2]} \quad n = \frac{581}{1 + (581 \times 0.0025)}$$

$$n = \frac{581}{1 + 1.453}$$

$$n = \frac{581}{2.453} \quad n = 244 \text{ respondents of the study.}$$

There were also 29 people who participated as the key informants and the total number of respondents was 277 as summarized in table 3.1 below.

Table 1: Target population and proportional sample size

Participants	Sample population	Sample size
Children	264	124
Divorced people	260	120
Social affairs of the sector	14	7
School head teachers	14	7
Religious leaders	14	7
V/mayor of the district in charge of social affairs	1	1
National Women’s Council	14	7
Total	581	277

Source: Fieldwork research, July 2020

3.5.2 Sampling technique

This study employed snowball sampling as sampling techniques. The snowball sampling method is a sampling technique where research participants recruit other participants for a test or a study. It is used where potential participant are hard to find (Levine, 2014). The researcher used this technique because it was hard for her to identify members from divorced families but she used those ones who were easily identified to help in identifying others.

After the identification of appropriate respondents, the researcher used the stratified sampling which is a type of sampling method in which the total population is divided into smaller groups or strata to complete the sampling process. The strata are formed based on some common characteristics in the population Vogt (2005). With, the researcher dividing the population into stratum such as children, divorced people, religious leaders, social affairs of the sector and National Women Council (NWC) in each sector and respective school head teachers and vice mayor in charge of social affairs.

3.6. Data Collection Techniques

The instruments for data collection that the researchers used to collect data are questionnaires distributed to respondents from divorced couples and children from divorced families together with interview guide given to the key informants. The researcher used the agents who helped in distributing and collecting back questionnaires from the respondents. On the other hand, the researcher herself met all the key informants to conduct interview with them. In order to collect information from children below 18 years old, the research requested for the consent of their parents and sought for the authorization from the leaders of the province allowing her to conduct the research with children.

3.7. Data analysis technique

To get the findings of the study, the researcher analyzed the data collected using the Statistical Package for Social Science. The researcher analyzed qualitative data that were collected from interview, by using thematic approach whereby respondents' perceptions were grouped according to their characteristics: that is, children from divorced families, and adults. Religious leaders, sector executive secretaries, women representatives and school head teachers.

3.8 Validity and Reliability

To insure the validity, the research instruments were composed hand in hand with the supervisor to ensure that they are composed with questions which could bring out relevant information and without errors. The researcher also gave these data collection instruments to other people who proofread them to make sure that there were no spelling or grammatical errors.

To make sure that the instruments were reliable to generate accurate information, the researcher administered the questionnaires to a pilot group of 50 respondents that were not sampled in this study. The research instrument was reliable at an average above 70 percent by using Cronbach's Alpha so as to get statistical reliability of the research instruments. Therefore, the research instruments of this study were reliable at the level of 76.6 percent.

3.9 Limitation of the study

The research was limited by the time span and the situation of the COVID 19 pandemic which could not allow the researcher to move in every sector of Rwamagana in order to meet all respondents. To face this problem, the researcher chose those sectors which she viewed were more accessible and used the snowball technique to find respondents. In addition, the researcher used agents who helped to distribute the research instruments. For the key informants, the researcher used different representatives of Rwanda Women Network at the level of Sectors taking opportunity of the collaboration of different local instances profiting on their different meeting with the population. Another limitation was to involve some minor children between 8 and twelve years old who are affected by the divorce. This required some parents of these children to be the ones providing the information on behalf of their children. This could have done with some discretion affected the accuracy of the provided information. However, since the number of minors who participate was so small (ten out of 124 children who participated), it gave some assurance to the researcher that the result was not highly affected.

3.10. Ethical consideration and confidentiality

To ensure the ethical consideration of the study and a good reception of the researcher by people in the research field, the researcher requested for the letter from the University to enable her to proceed and conduct the study. She also used a consent form which was signed by parents or guardians of those children among participants who were under fourteen years old. The researcher also sought for the permission from the leaders of the Eastern province allowing her to conduct research with minor children. Local Authorities coordinate all agencies and have gazette responsibilities to handle and authorize any activities in their territorial administration. This consent form aimed at introducing the research to show its purpose for the sake of ethical consideration of those children who participated in the study under the required age. And for confidentiality, respondents were assured that their opinions and outcomes of the interviews and questionnaire are for academic purposes. Still in the context of respecting the respondents' rights, the right to withdraw at any time was open, irrespective of the reason that pushes the respondent to withdraw. Anonymity also was respected, people responded by names, but the research avoided to mention the real name of the respondent. That was the only way to put

respondents in mood whereby they can provide good information, and to create this environment was the responsibility of the researcher.

4.1.1 Research instruments return rate

Table 2: Research instrument return rate

Type of instruments	Number administered	Number returned	%
Children’s questionnaires	124	120	96.77%
Divorced couples’ questionnaire	120	120	100%
Key informants’ interview guide	29	29	100%
Total	277	269	97.1%

Source: Field Research Survey, July 2020

The table 2 presents the percentage of research instruments that were returned during data collection where the questionnaires were distributed to 124 children from divorced couples and 120 divorced couples and 29 key informants that were given interview guides. It reveals that, the questionnaires given to children were returned at 96.7% while questionnaires distributed to divorced couples were returned at 100 %. The same table also shows that interview guides that were given to the key informants were conducted at 100%. Generally, it is clear that, the return of the research instruments was done at an average of 97.1%. Therefore, the researcher found this as a high rate of participation which will give a guarantee for good analysis of information collected.

Key informant interviews were qualitative in-depth interviews with people who know what is going on in the community. The purpose of key informant interviews is to collect information from a wide range of people—including community leaders, professionals, or residents—who have firsthand knowledge about the community. As an observation, key informants in this study are knowledgeable respondents who give contribution to an orientation of the study phenomenon or situation that the researcher him/herself lacks. The key informants are not normally study respondents. However, these key informants contributed to this study by expanding the

researcher's understanding and accurate insights and helped to decrease all possible bias. In different contexts and from different cases, the commitment or communication between the researcher and the key informants is not regularly reported in the research process and the presentation of the results, merely because they are special respondents who mostly intervene when there are technical questions to respond to or technical information to provide (Tremblay, 1982).

3.11 Conclusion of the chapter

This chapter presented the methodology used for data collection and data analysis. It presented the design of our research, tools, methods and data processing and procedure. The methodology presented above helped us during this research in collecting, shaping, analyzing and interpreting data from the field. This chapter also showed the research constraints/ research limitations that the researcher met during the research process, which in a way or another, have slowed down the advancement in the research process but without harming the process.

CHAPTER FOUR: DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

4.0 Introduction

The analysis of the data is the most important part of this research, as it the analysis that gives a summary of the data collected from the fieldwork. This section of the report involves the presentation of the data and its interpretation using both qualitative and quantitative research methods for the sake of determining the patterns, relationships or trends in connection with the root cause of divorce and its effects on children, with a specific case study of Rwamagana district.

According to Gottschalk, L. A. (1995), while the data analysis in qualitative study involves statistical procedures, several times the data analysis comes to be a continuing iterative process whereby the data collected is constantly collected and analyzed almost instantaneously. In fact, the researcher has been analyzing patterns observed through the whole data collection process. The form of the data analysis was determined by the explicit qualitative approach taken from the fieldwork and the type of the data (field notes and documents).

In this section of chapter four, the research view was an indispensable constituent of making sure that the data has integrity was the accurate and efficient analysis of the research findings. Indeed, Inappropriate analyses, whether quantitative or qualitative distort the research findings, deceive unexpected readers (Shepard, 2002), and can negatively impact on the public discernment of the study. This chapter ended by a summary of the findings which is detailed in chapter five.

4.1 The profile of the study participants

This section presents the profiles of respondents: children from divorced couples and the divorced individuals. It indicates the amounts of instruments distributed to respondents and the number of those which were collected back.

4.1.1 Demographic characteristics of children participants

The demographic characteristics of the children who participated in this study include the children's gender, age group and residential sector.

Table 3: Gender of children who participated in the study

Gender	Frequency	Valid Percent
Male	50	41.7
Female	70	58.3
Total	120	100.0

Source: Field Research Survey, July 2020

The Table 3 shows the gender of children who participated in this study and it indicates that female children participants were 58.3% of all those who participate and the male amounted to 41.7% of all participants. This indicated that all genders were represented at the maximum and the interpretation of the research from these numbers was that since the views of all genders were represented in the information collected, the information collected was rich enough to make conclusion from it. In addition, this revealed to the researcher that the effects of divorce reach to both gender.

The researcher assumed that the percentage of women, who participated in the study, was greater than that of men who participated, because of the facts that, in most cases, after the divorce of the couples, there are women who still stay around with their children. On the other side, the divorced husbands relocate to the areas, and sometimes marry illegally another wife, before even they legally divorce. On the other side, if it is a child-headed family, still girls are active, especially when someone comes to them for information or advocacy. This was just the observation of the researcher at the fieldwork.

Table 4: The age group of children

Age group	Frequency	Valid Percent
8-12	17	14.2
12-14 years	40	33.3
15-18 years	63	52.5
Total	120	100.0

Source: Field Research Survey, July 2020

Table 4 indicates the age group of children who were respondents in this study. The results show that the majority of children who participated were of the age between 15 and 18years old at 52.5%. Other, 33.3% of children who participated had 12 to14years old, and 14.2% of them aged

in the range below 12years old. Since the researcher distributed the questionnaires to children who came from divorced families, this age information revealed that divorce affects children of different ages as demonstrated by the age differences of children who participated in the study.

From the above table 4, one can see that among the respondents, the respondents' age that mostly participated in this study ranges between 15-18 years old. From the researcher's point of view, this is the age when the youth start thinking of the marriage, so they are very sensitive to the family relationship and how the break up can affect negatively on the future of family members. On the other side, in that range of age, the youth between the age of 15 – 18 carry the heaviest burden of their siblings when their parents' divorce, they become both siblings and parents.

Table 5: Sectors of children's home location

Sector of home location	Frequency	Valid Percent
Fumbwe	21	17.5
Gahengeri	12	10.0
Gishari	12	10.0
Karenge	15	12.5
Musha	17	14.2
Muyumbu	26	21.7
Nyakariro	17	14.2
Total	120	100.0

Source: Field Research Survey, July 2020

Table 5 shows the distribution of children respondent in the study according to their sectors of origin. It indicates that the children from Fumbwe Sector who respondent count to 21/120 that is, 17.5%, those of Gahengeri Sector were 12/120(10%), those who came from Gishari sector were 12/120, that is, 10%, those who came from Karenge are 15/120 (12.5%), those who responded from Muyumbu were 26/120, meaning 21.7% and those from Nyakariro were 17 out of 120, that is 14.2% of all children who participated. From these numbers, it was clear that the number of children was almost the same in all seven sectors. Therefore, the researcher concluded that the problem of divorce affects all the sectors at the same level as these numbers revealed it. Nevertheless, Muyumbu came as the sector which has a big number of children whose families have divorced with 21.7% followed Fumbwe Sector which has 17.5%.

4.1.3 Characteristics of divorced adult respondents

This subsection demonstrates the characteristics of adult participants in terms of gender, age, and the duration of marriage until the divorce.

Table 6: Some divorce characteristics

Variable	Frequency	%
Gender		
Male	44	36.7
Female	76	63.3
Age group		
Below 25years	7	5.8
26-30years	20	16.7
31-35 years	43	35.8
36-40years	34	28.4
41-45 years	9	7.5
46 years and above	7	5.8
Duration to/or before divorce		
1-5years	35	29.4
6-10years	34	28.6
11-15years	38	31.9
16-20 years	7	5.9
21 years or above	5	4.2

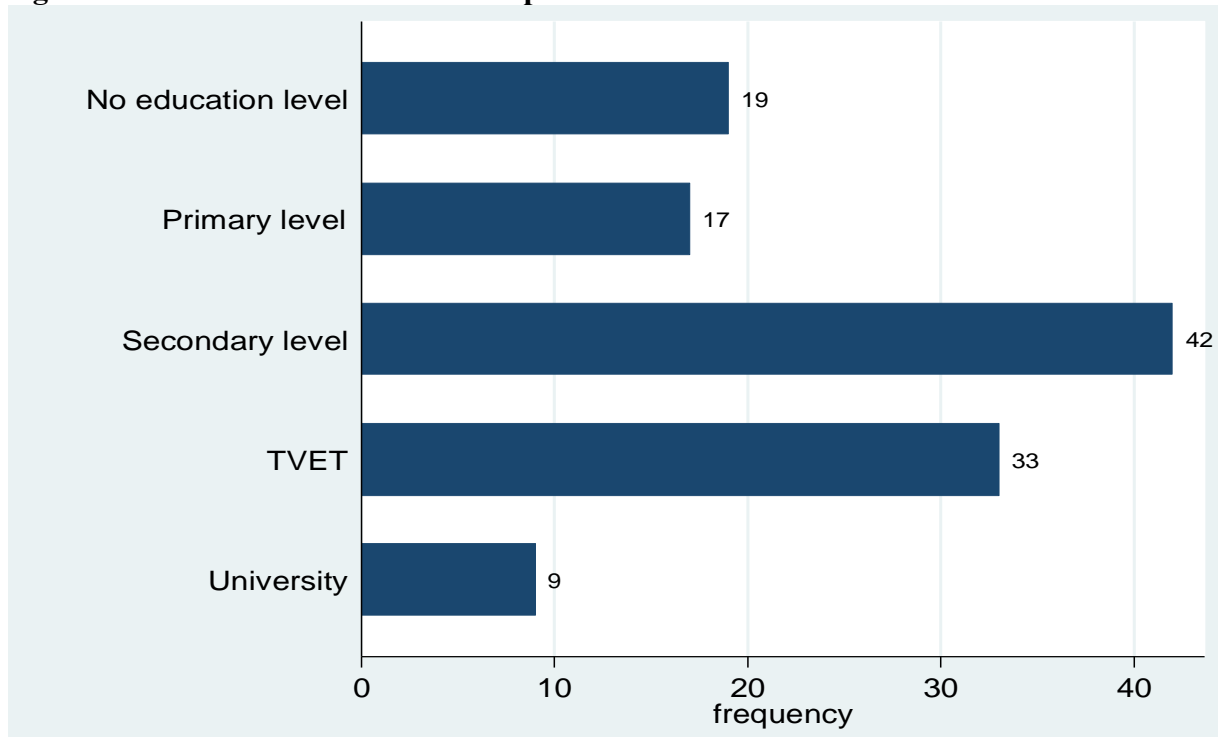
Source:Field Research Survey, July 2020

Table 6 presents the demographic characteristic of adults who participated in the study. From the information summarized in the table, it is clear that among all adults who responded the number of women was higher at 63.3% than the number of men who counted at 36.7%. The interpretation of the researcher to this information was that women may be the ones to be more affected by divorce than men and are willing to provide information about it than men.

About the age group, the information in table shows that the majority of adults who responded were in age between 31 and 35years with 35.8%. This is followed by the in the age between 36 and 40years old with 28.4%. Others between 26 and 30 counted to 16.7%, those below 25 5.8% while these in the range of 41 to 45 count to 7.5% and the age group above 45 counts 5.5%. This indicated that the couples which have more divorce are those of people who in the age 30s and 40s, since it in these age groups we find a big percentage.

Furthermore, information summarized in table 3 indicates that the high number of people who divorced is for those who lived together between 11 and 15 years of marriage, this was confirmed at 31.9% of all respondents. It is followed by the group of those who live between 1 and 5 years of marriage, confirmed at 29.4%. Other 28.6% showed the divorce occurs to couples that have lived their marriage between 6 and 10 years. On the other hand, 5.9% indicated that the divorce occurs to the couples that have lived in their marriage between 16 and 20 years while 4.2% indicated that the divorce happens to those who have been in their marriage for more than 21 years.

Figure 2: Educational level adults' respondents



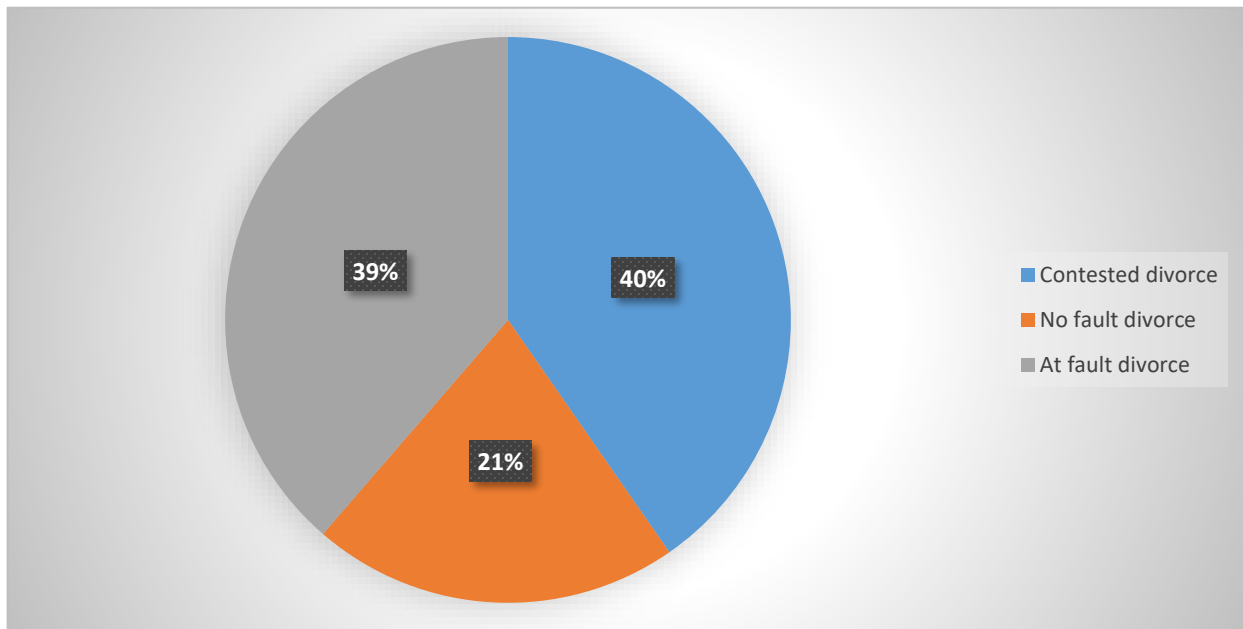
Source: Field Research Survey, July 2020

Figure 2 presents the level of education of adults who participated in the study. The information revealed that, the majority of were having secondary and TVET level of education at 42 % and 33% respectively. Other 9% have studies up university, 17% have studies up primary school only while 19% did not have any formal education. The conclusion of the researcher from this education information was that since the majority of respondents have reached the basic

education, they had a level of understanding which allowed them to provide accurate information to the questions presented to them.

However, on the other side, the fact that 36% of the respondents have whether no level or primary levels, give a big picture on how among the divorced couples, their livelihoods strategy isn't diversified, as they have a limitation about the quality of job to perform. In this case, they are only involved in agriculture, with sometimes a small or no land to farm on. That unsustainability of the livelihood may also be a cause of poverty among married couples and a root for conflicts that end up by divorce.

Figure 2: Types of divorce according respondents



Source: Field Research Survey, July 2020

Figure 3 shows the types of divorce as presented by those who participated in this study. As summarized in the figure, it was revealed that 40% of participants have contested divorces, 39% have fault divorce cases and other 21% had no fault divorce. The conclusion from this information by the researcher was that, since the high percentage of divorces was for those who divorce from mutual accusation among partners that, is, fault divorces (39%) than those who freely divorce without mutual judgment (no fault at (21%)) this may cause more harm to children

as it may be hard for the divorcing couple to seat and agree on how they will take care of their children after their separation.

4.2 Key issues identified during the fieldwork

4.2.1 Causes of divorce as presented by respondents

This sub topic represents the causes of divorces as collected from the information given by the respondents of the study.

SD: Strongly Disagree, **D:** Disagree, **U:** Uncertain, **A:** Agree, **SA:** Strongly Agree

Table 7: Causes of divorce according to children who participated in the study

Statements	SD		D		U		A		SA	
	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%
Family conflict	17	14.2	14	11.7	5	4.2	31	25.8	56	46.7
Misunderstanding between couples	7	5.8	17	14.2	6	5.0	37	30.8	53	44.2
High level of emotional breakout	4	3.3	17	14.2	15	12.5	49	40.8	43	35.8
Lack of mutual respect among partners	5	4.2	10	8.3	14	11.7	38	31.7	53	44.2
Lack of collaboration among partners	1	0.8	15	12.5	9	7.5	52	43.3	35	29.2
Absence of mutual care and mutual help between partners	5	4.2	11	9.2	11	9.2	37	30.8	53	44.2

Source: Fieldwork research, July 2020

The information summarized in table 7 reveals that all respondents agreed at the rate of 70% that divorce in families is caused by family conflict, misunderstanding between couples, high levels of emotional break out, lack of mutual respect among partners, lack of collaboration among partners and absence of mutual care and mutual help among partners. This was supported by the answers collected from the key informants who were asked to give their views about what they may perceive as causes of divorce in their area. For instance, the analysis from all responses given by Sector Social Affairs Officers, member of National Women's of at Sector level, School Head Teachers, religious leaders and the Vice Moyer in charge of social affairs in Rwamagana District who responded as a key informant highlighted that most of divorces in this region are caused by misunderstanding and conflicts which are linked to financial matters within the families. He continued stating that due to patriarchal behaviors which are still in the rural communities, men tend to manage all the resources of the family, in a way that both the wife and children have to beg money which they use to solve their own needs of those of the whole family. This lead to family conflict and break down of families as sometimes men are willing to provide this requested money for the family needs.

The findings above on the causes of divorce agree with those in the finding of Shelby Scott and others, in their study of 2013 in US, where they found that divorce there is mostly caused by lack of commitment, infidelity and too much conflict as well as arguing followed by marrying while being too young, financial problems, substance abuse and domestic violence.

In the context of Rwanda, a social worker who responded as a key informant highlighted that increases of divorce found in the Rwamagana does not necessarily come from conflicts rising in families but merely from the fact that women have known their rights and do not want to be oppressed by their husbands. This key informant added that some women have badly interpreted the work of some organizations that defend the rights of women even to the extent of finding lawyers for some women when they want to divorce. This has increase the rate of those who want to divorce than those who endure when the relationships with their partners becomes difficult to support (A social work key informant interview at Rwamagana, December 2019). This comes oppose the idea of Robert (2017) reviewed earlier in chapter two of the literature

review who argued that several societies have observed gaps in marriage laws that do not permit married couples to separate, divorce and get married to someone else.

4.2.2 Other different perceptions on the causes of divorce

Apart from what is summarized in table 5 above the researcher presented other reasons which may lead to divorce to examine how the respondent agrees with them and the findings are summarized in table 8 below.

Table 8: Adults respondents' perceptions on the causes of divorce

Variable	Frequency	%
Alcoholism		
Agree	87	72.5
Disagree	33	27.5
Lack of tolerance		
Agree	55	45.8
Disagree	65	54.2
Domestic violence		
Agree	76	63.3
Disagree	44	36.7
Getting in for wrong reason		
Agree	57	47.5
Disagree	63	52.5
Lack of individual identity		
Agree	61	50.8
Disagree	59	49.2
Unmet expectation		
Agree	46	38.3
Disagree	74	61.7
Lack of common vision among partners		
Agree	75	62.5
Disagree	45	37.5

Source: Fieldwork research, July 2020

From table 8, a high number of respondents, that is, 72.5% agreed with the statement that alcoholism is one of the causes of divorce in the selected sectors of Rwamagana District. Another cause which was identified from respondents was the domestic violence affirmed by

respondents at 63.3%. This is followed by lack of common vision among partners which was accepted by respondents at 62%, there is also the fact that people get in marriage for wrong motivation and respondents concurred with this at 52.5%. Another patterning cause of divorce which was identified from respondents was the lack of individual identity for those who engage themselves in marriage whereby respondents agreed with it at 50.8%.

The information provided by the respondents was supported by the responses given by the key informants in the interview. For instance, all the key informants who were involved in the study came to the same points showing that the major causes of divorce that happens in Rwamagana are the combination of alcoholism, the lack of tolerance in families, lack of shared mutual help and understanding, and domestic violence.

In addition, 22 out of 29 key informants indicated polygamy as the cause root of divorce which can be seen in some sectors. They indicated that when men marry more than one wife this creates conflicts between husband and wives and leads to poor family management. Therefore, this creates different domestic violence which results to divorce. Cheating between couples also was highlighted by some key informants as one of the major cause of divorce in Rwamagana district. It was explained that the divorce which results from cheating occurs because one person among the partners misuses the family resources and properties wasting them to the concubines. Hence, this creates misunderstanding and conflict with the other partner and ends up by deciding the divorce.

Moreover, there are those who pointed that what they view as the major cause of divorce in Rwamagana may be the desire for wealth, whereby some people engage themselves in marriage with others following the wealth and properties that they see with them like money, land, houses, among others. This means that there will be no really love between the people who have this motivation when entering the marriage. The absence of true love in marriage therefore leads the partners to misunderstanding, intolerance in case of mistakes, and endless conflicts which result into break down of marriages.

In a specific way, all the 7 key informants from the National Women Council (NWC) at the sector level indicated that divorce between couples in Rwamagana District results from various factors which include but not limited to domestic violence, harassment of one partner to another,

lack of shared vision between couples and not working for the common goal in families. They also pointed out the lack of individual identity, lack of hope and tolerance among couples, alcoholism and drugs addiction as well as financial matters of all kinds arises in the families.

On the other hand, 5 out of 7 religious leaders also who were taken as key informants to represent the views of religious leaders brought in a new trend of gender and rights-based conflicts and intimate partner conflicts as another cause that generate conflict in families and lead to the divorce in some of these families. They added that in rural areas the patriarchal culture dictates that men are the head of the family and must lead the family at all levels. This breaches the rights of women and limits their bargaining power in the family affairs. With the trends of globalization and women's right and empowerment therefore, this causes domestic conflicts that leads to violence as women try to claim gender equality and full respect of their husbands and finally ends up to some couples divorcing. These religious leaders added the challenges of selfishness, lack of commitment, unfaithfulness, infidelity, financial problems and substance abuse as other reasons that lead to some partners not to reach their expectations and cause them to break their marriage.

Lastly, the information given by the vice mayor in charge of social affairs in Rwamagana district was not far from what other participants pointed out, because she indicated that the major cause of divorce in this district is indiscipline among couples. She explained this saying that:

“when one or all of the two partners in the family become drunkard, thief, drug addicted or goes fornication behaviors; it leads to the waste of family resources like the time given to children, financial means available for the family needs. These behaviors therefore culminate to conflicts which lead to divorce... the lack of early parental guidance and lack of good role model in many families is the root cause to more of the divorces that are found in Rwamagana District”.

The conclusion of the researcher from this information provided by respondents was that the major cause of divorce is the lack of appropriate education to couples before their engagements to help them understand what marriage really is. This education may be helping them to know the reality of living together as married couples, what they are going to meet in marriage, how they must handle it together and may give them the foundation of true marriage. This may help them to know well and understand the positive and negative sides of marriage and

Everything that they will encounter in it so that they engage themselves prepared to handle whatever is there together courageously and patiently.

The findings above on the causes of divorce in Rwamagana District concurred with what Shelby and others got from their study of 2013 conducted in USA. In this study, they also found that major reasons of divorce were lack of commitment, infidelity, too much conflict and arguing in the family, early marriage, financial problems, substance abuse and domestic violence. There was also other problem like religious differences

The above findings as well support the information published by the UN in its report of 2019. This report showed that worldwide reasons for divorce share similarities. It indicates that some of these reasons are infidelity; Drug and/or alcohol abuse; Physical and/or mental abuse and incompatibility of characters among partners (Worthy Staff, 2019).

4.3 Effects of divorce on children's welfare in Rwamagana District

4.3.1 Summary of information provided by respondents

This section brings out the information given out by respondents and the key informants about the effect of divorce in Rwamagana district.

Table 9: Divorce implications on welfare according to children respondents

Variable	Frequency	%
High level of emotion break out		
Strongly disagree	4	3.3
Disagree	17	14.2
Uncertain	15	12.5
Agree	49	40.8
Strongly agree	35	29.2
Lack of parental care		
Strongly disagree	5	4.2
Disagree	10	8.3
Uncertain	14	11.6
Agree	38	31.7
Strongly agree	53	44.2
Lack of parental collaboration and respect		
Strongly disagree	1	0.8
Disagree	15	12.5
Uncertain	9	7.4
Agree	52	43.3
Strongly agree	43	35.8
Irregular school attendance		
Strongly disagree	1	0.8
Disagree	5	4.2
Uncertain	11	9.2
Agree	51	42.5
Strongly agree	52	43.3
School dropout		
Strongly disagree	1	0.8
Disagree	4	3.4
Uncertain	6	5
Agree	55	45.8
Strongly agree	54	45
Lack of health insurance		
Strongly disagree	3	2.5
Disagree	3	2.5
Uncertain	6	5
Agree	45	37.5
Strongly agree	63	52.5

Source: Fieldwork research, July 2020)

Table 9 above indicates that most number of children respondents in the study, that is 90 % strongly agreed on the lack of health insurance as first consequence of divorce on children. They indicated school drop outs as the second effects on them at 90.8 %. Additionally, 85.8% agreed that children whose parents have divorced have irregular school attendance. Other 79.1% agreed

(44.2 %) agreed that children, whose parents have divorce lack of parental collaboration, care and respect while 70% showed to have a high level of emotion break out.

In addition to the information provided by children, adults also were given questionnaires on to get their point of view on the effects of divorce on the children’s welfare and their responses are summarized in the table below.

Table 10: Divorce implication on children's welfare according to adult respondents

Variable	Frequency	%
Children school dropout		
Agree	91	75.8
Disagree	29	24.2
Behavior problem like teenage pregnancy		
Agree	83	69.2
Disagree	37	30.8
Children exhibit delinquent behavior		
Agree	92	76.7
Disagree	28	23.3
Difficult with Peers		
Agree	63	52.5
Disagree	57	47.5
Poor academic Performance		
Agree	72	60.0
Disagree	48	40.0

Source: Fieldwork research, July 2020)

Table 10 indicates that 76.7 % of adults who participated in the study agreed with Children exhibit delinquent behavior as the effect that come at the forefront among those caused by the divorce of parents to their children; only 23.3 % disagreed with this point. The second effects of divorce on the welfare of children as demonstrated by the adults who responded at 75.8% is the school dropout. In addition, 69.2 % affirmed that children from divorced families have behavior problems such as teenage pregnancy and drug abuse and living and others live in the street. Additionally, 60% agreed that most of the children whose parents have divorced have poor academic performance in schools. There are 52.5% who pointed out that children from divorced families have difficulty with peers which leads them to take a decision of leaving the home

where they are supposed to be living after the divorce of their parents and go to live in the streets.

Based on these findings, the researcher made a conclusion that the problem of the increasing number of children who live in the streets may be that the government and non-government organizations strive to address the issues of children living in the streets but nothing much is done to put an end to the root cause of it, which is familial conflicts and divorces or marriage break out.

4.3.2 Correlation of Related Variables about the effect of Divorce on Children Welfare

This subsection deals with factors that led to the divorce according the divorced people who participated in this study. The effect was measured by chi-square test. The magnitude of that effect was measured by Cramer's for those significant variables.

Table 11: Relationship between children’s welfare and divorce related variables

Children welfare	Yes	No	P-value	Cramer's V
Time left to divorce			.314	.197
1-5years	32	3		
6-10years	28	6		
11-15years	35	3		
16-20 years	5	2		
21 years or above	5	0		
Type of Divorce			.409	.130
Contested divorce	41	7		
At fault divorce	21	4		
No fault divorce	43	3		
Alcoholism			.345	.108
Agree	75	12		
Disagree	31	2		
Lack of tolerance			.011	.239
Agree	44	11		
disagree	62	3		
Domestic violence			.080	.169
Agree	64	12		
Disagree	42	2		
Getting in for wrong reason			.256	.122
Agree	48	9		
Disagree	58	5		
Lack of individual Identity			.044	0.202
Agree	50	11		
Disagree	56	3		
Unmet expectation			.043	.194
Agree	37	9		
Disagree	69	5		
Lack of shared vision of success			.565	.067
Agree	65	10		
Disagree	41	4		

Source: Fieldwork research, July 2020)

The Table 11; shows that lack of tolerance between parents was a cause of divorce and directly affected the welfare of children (P-value=0.011), that effect was medium in magnitude (Cramer’s V=0.239). It also indicates that the lack of individual identity as a cause of divorce affected the welfare of children (P-value=0.044). The magnitude of that effect was also medium (Cramer’s V=0.202). Furthermore, the married couples who were divorced due to unmet expectation had

also their children affected (P-value=0.043) with small effect in magnitude (Cramer's V=0.194). Looking at how most of the variables are correlated, we can see that the causes and factors of divorce are multidimensional and affect children in different ways. The key informants also provided their perceptions related to the effect of divorce on children's welfare in Rwamagana district.

4.3.3 The findings of the information collected from the key informants on the effects of divorce

The responses collected from Social Affairs of the sectors who participated in the interview indicated that all of them (7/7) indicated the effect of divorce on children's welfare to be malnutrition. This happens as families separate and fall in economic crisis causing children to lack parental attention and parental care. They added that economic crisis is caused by the lack of collaboration and teamwork to family members or couples that are supposed to meet family capacities and resources which result to creation of family poverty that affect the children's health management and development. For instance, one of these informants from Nyakariro sector indicated that there is one of the divorced families which, after divorce, stopped managing properties (banana plantation) which was giving them a good income as they were waiting for the right moment to share this property. This case, led to total poverty to both partners and affected children negatively to the point that some children were begging for food from their neighbors.

Others indicated that due to divorce some girls get early marriage due to being harassed by their parents and hard living condition which result to becoming family responsible when they are still young. They added that some girls go for prostitution and sexual commerce from which some get pregnant at young age but abort or kill their born children since they are unable to support them and do not have orientation for their future life. On another side, majority of boys drop out from schools in order to search for their own welfare and that of their mothers as they are the ones who become responsible for their siblings on behalf of their fathers who have gone. Those who are unable to support their livelihood in the families go to the streets and become drug abusers, robbers or work in different hard works for their survival.

The school head teachers who participated in the study responded that: "*children from divorced parents or those in the process of divorce show poor physical cleanliness and discipline at*

school. This is due to lack of parental participation in their education, development and welfare". They also indicated that the percentage of high school dropout is found among the children from divorce parents due to lack of school materials, school uniform accompanied by frequent sickness, malnutrition and lack of shelter. One of head teachers responded that: *"even those children who manage to persist and stay in school they show poor performance in academics due to irregularity in class attendance and instability of mind"*. The information provided by these head teachers support the findings of the studies conducted in sub-Saharan Africa by Carling and Tonnessen in 2013 which showed that parental divorce is negatively associated with child outcomes that include child mortality, health, and nonattendance in school.

On the side of Sector National Women's Council officer (NWC), majority of them (5/7) indicated that children from divorced families lose their lifelong confidence as they lack or have a lower level of family care and development, which in most of the time is caused by conflict and misunderstanding between parents. They also indicated that some children from divorced families may be affected psychologically where some of them show high levels of depression which gives the challenge integration different groups. This leads some of these children to lose the focus of their future orientation and reduces the enjoyment of their lives and results into some committing suicide

The key informant who represented the district office responded to the question about the effects of divorce on children saying that:

"after the divorce, children from divorced families tend to develop the spirit of anger in their daily lives and have poor social skills as well as poor social discipline. These behaviors come in children as a result of lack of parental guidance; parental care and role model from their parent, who are always in conflict or have already divorced and later also affects future families...some of children from families which have divorced isolate themselves from the society, due to the fear of overtaking their siblings in charge as their parents are no longer together to take care of them".

This information from the key informants concurred with the findings of Koemer (2006), who in his study found that divorce was associated with diminished psychological well-being of children

and adult offspring of divorced parents, including greater unhappiness, less satisfaction with life, weaker sense of personal control, anxiety, depression, and greater use of mental health services.

After combining what came out from respondents and the key informants as the effects of divorce to the welfare of children from the divorced families, the researcher concluded that, since it has been demonstrated that the rate of divorce increases if nothing is done to solve the problem of the divorce as a measure of reducing the bitterness it causes to children the future society will end up having people who have low sociability and are indifferent to others. It will also create people who have difficulties to live with others and the young people will lose the interest and meaning of getting involved in marriage anymore.

The effects of divorce on children welfare which are highlighted by the respondents in this study fall in line of those from the study conducted of Patrick and Robert (2000) in USA. Also in these two scholars' study, they found that several children from divorced families exhibit more behavioral and emotional problems, they show poor academic performance in school some even drop out from school, others suffer from depression, among others.

Furthermore, the current research findings also confirmed Clarke-stewart and Brentano (2006) discovery in their study on the effects of divorce in Nigeria from which they discovered that, because of family breakups, children have difficulty to accept the situation and try to take on adult roles. They de-idealize one or both parents and still believe that they can reunite the parents. Some of them demonstrate aggressive delinquent behavior, withdrawal, substance abuse, inappropriate sexual behavior, and poor school performance.

4.4 Suggested solutions to the effects of divorce on the welfare of children

Table 12: Solutions suggested to the effect of divorce on children by children who participated in the study

Variable	Frequency	%
Increase self-sufficiency for divorced women		
Agree	64	53.3
Disagree	56	46.7
Reinforce punishment to family violence and crimes		
Agree	61	50.8
Disagree	59	49.2
Transferring domestic violence case to court for justice		
Agree	62	51.7
Disagree	58	48.3
Support the willing guardians who accept to care for victim children		
Agree	80	66.7
Disagree	40	33.3
Consults teachers and caretakers		
Agree	68	56.7
Disagree	50	43.3
Establishing school clubs		
Agree	67	56.3
Disagree	52	43.7
Establish school counselors		
Agree	66	55.5
Disagree	53	44.5
Establishing intervention programs for affected children		
Agree	79	66.4
Disagree	40	33.6

Source: Fieldwork research, July 2020

The researcher suggested some solution which she thinks can be applied to solve the effect related to divorce on the welfare of children from the divorcing families. She then presented these solutions to respondents to evaluate how they agree with them. From table 12 indicates that 66.7% of adult who participated agreed that supporting the willing guardians who accept to care for victim children will help to reduce the effect of their parents' divorce on them. Other 66.4% supported the idea that establishing intervention programs for these children will help them overcome these effects. Other 56.3% supported school clubs to be the solution that can

help such children in schools. On the other hand, 56.7% agreed that caretakers and teachers should be given trainings that give them skills to help these children. Finally, 53.3% agreed with the idea that divorced mothers should have facilities that help them to increase their self-sufficiency so as to take proper care of their children.

Table 13: The point of view of children participant on suggested solution to reduce the consequences of divorce on children's welfare

Variable	Frequency	Valid Percent
Improved parents -child relationship		
Strongly disagree	9	7.5
Disagree	14	11.7
Uncertain	12	10.0
Agree	44	36.7
Strongly agree	41	34.2
Effective management of family conflict		
Strongly disagree	2	1.7
Disagree	18	15
Uncertain	15	12.5
Agree	47	39.2
Strongly agree	38	31.7
Understanding children hidden emotions		
Strongly disagree	3	2.5
Disagree	15	12.5
Uncertain	14	11.7
Agree	55	45.8
Strongly agree	33	27.5
Effective children in-out home placement		
Strongly disagree	4	3.3
Disagree	13	10.8
Uncertain	15	12.5
Agree	44	36.7
Strongly agree	44	36.7
Support group to children whose parents divorced		
Strongly disagree	4	3.3
Disagree	16	13.3
Uncertain	9	7.5
Agree	36	30
Strongly agree	55	45.8

Source: Fieldwork research, July 2020)

The Table 13 above indicates that children from divorced families who responded in the study agreed at 75.8% that there should be will support families and groups that may accept to care for those children from divorced families. Other 73.4% supported the idea that there should be

effective children in-out home placement to care for those children from divorced families. Further, 73.3% concurred with the idea that these children's emotion must be understood so that proper help may be provided to them while 70.9% supported the view that there should be proper management of family conflict without involving in children and the improvement of parents-children relations.

A question was asked to the key informants to know what they may give as solution to the effects of divorce on children. Below are some of the solutions which were suggested by the key informants.

The Social Affairs officer of sectors suggest that preventive project that support children whose parents have divorced should be established so as to sustain the living conditions of those who are at a high risk of health capacity. They added that continuous family education and established the program of parental discussion (Umugoroba w' ababyeyi) where issues of broken relationship among should be strengthened. They further explained that the program of Umugoroba w' ababyeyi is considered to be a significance measure that can be used to fight against family conflict and divorce where the government organizes the discussions in local community arranged to some specific themes to be discussed with respective professional presenters.

Additionally, these key informants suggested that to solve the issues of management of family conflict and law, the local community should be provided with specialist in laws to explain to people more about the laws that govern family development and management and how family conflict can be managed. There should be also a specialist in gender and children's rights who should explaining more about protection and respect of children right.

The solutions suggested by the head teachers of schools was that measures that could be employed is to consults teachers of those children whose divorced parents and their caretakers so as to identify how lives and behavior of these children are at school in order establish the means trough which they can be helped.

They also supported the idea of clubs at school so as to improve the social skills of those children who come from divorced families. This is because in clubs these children get opportunity of socialization and reduces the level of isolation. They further added that reinforcing school

feeding program is more important to increase the children' s welfare and will reduce the dropout of these children to dropout because of hunger at school.

The intervention suggested by church leaders was that leader must understand the effect of divorce particularly at household level and in the church so that they can establish appropriate methods and strategies that can be adopt by the churches in addressing divorce the occurs in the families of their faithful. They went on explaining that seminars and other instruction sessions can be used by churches as a way of educating married people and those who want to engage themselves in marriage about the behavior that must characterize married people for the prevention and alleviation of consequences. In addition, the suggested that the government may provide financial support to church development initiatives which take care of children who do not have families.

The Sector National Women Council (NWC) officer in their responses suggested that the best solution to the effects of divorce to the welfare of children from divorced families is the effective establishment of intervention programs that support these children. This may help such children to be adopted socially help them to have access to basic needs used to rebuild their lives. They further suggested that programs that enhance financial capacity of divorced women to support them in taking care of their children. Supporting the information of NWC, the informant who represented the district office, she suggested that there should be the establishing school counselors in all education levels of the district to help in rebuilding the lives of children who come from divorce families psychologically and socially and develop their social and psychological adaptation. However, this key informant added that reinforcing punishment related to domestic violence can also reduce the rate of divorce among married couple and may improve the lives of their children.

4.5 Conclusion of the chapter

In this chapter, the researcher presented the summary of the data collected from the respondents and analyzed them to in order to gate the findings which are discussed in chapter five that follows. The analysis of data was done following the attachment theory presented in the theoretical framework, in relation to the literature discussed in chapter two and in relation to the literature reviewed in chapter two and according to each of the objectives of the study.

CHAPTER FIVE: GENERAL CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the summary of the research findings, conclusions and recommendations. It also presents the suggestions for further.

5.2 Summary of the findings

The summary of the research findings in this study, were done basing on each specific research objective. The first objective was to examine the causes of divorce in Rwamagana district; the second was to assess the effects of divorce on children's welfare in Rwamagana district and the third was to suggest some solution measures that can be used to solve the problem of effects caused by divorce on the welfare of children.

5.2.1 Causes of divorce in Rwamagana district

The participants of this study reported that Rwamagana district face the problem of divorce in three types. These include contested divorce, fault divorce and no-fault divorce. According to Kennedy (2019), a no-fault divorce is a type of divorce through which the spouse asking for divorce does not give any proof that another partner committed anything wrong against him/her

After collecting and analyzing data the findings on this point of causes of divorce were that most of time the divorce in Rwamagana is caused by family conflict, misunderstanding between partners in the families, alcoholism, domestic violence, lack of tolerance and shared vision between couples, marriage with wrong motivation, disrespect among partners and unfaithfulness, financial crisis and lack of sharing family responsibilities and drug abuses. From this information the researcher concluded that, although some cause may be there highlighted by the responses of respondents, but majority of people might be engaging in marriage without having understood the cost they must give in it. This therefore prevents married people to tolerate their partners in their weaknesses and to be patients and persevere in their families despite the challenges they

may be facing. Nevertheless, the researcher point of view is that if people who are going to get married are given time for structure instruction, by both churches and government leaders, and these instructions are followed by continuous instruction in the society to keep reminding married people on how they should build conflict free families, the rate of divorcing families may be minimized.

5.2.2. Effect of divorce on children welfare in Rwamagana district

There were different effects of divorce, on the children's welfare in Rwamagana District, which were brought out by the findings of this study. These include behavioral, physical and psychological. Most these effects concur with those in the findings of the studies conducted by other researchers. For instance, among the effects identified by respondents there are lack of health insurance to children from divorced families, school dropout and/ or irregularity of those who remained in school, indiscipline and poor performance among those children, difficult of social adaptation, isolation and depletion which sometimes leads to suicides, alcoholism, drug abuse as well as prostitution for girls, living on the street and early marriage.

The conclusion drawn from these findings by the researcher was that, although some laws have been established allowing married people to dissolve their marriage in case they no longer feel like continuing to live together, there are no strong laws set to protect children from the effects that the divorce of their parents may bring to them. Therefore, the researcher's point of view was that the existing laws may be revised so that the life of children may be more protected from different negative effects of divorce.

5.2.3 Suggested solutions to the effects of divorce on the welfare of children

Different solutions were suggested by respondents in this study. These include supporting willing families and groups that may accept to care for those children from divorced families. To establish effective children in-out home placement to care for those children from divorced families. To ensure that there is proper management of family conflict without involving in children and the improvement of parents-children relations; continuous family education and established the program of parental discussion where issues of broken relationship among should

be strengthened; the community should be provided with specialist in laws to explain to people more about the laws that govern family development and management and how family conflict can be managed.

They also supported the idea of clubs at school so as to improve the social skills of those children who come from divorced families. This is because in clubs these children get opportunity of socialization and reduces the level of isolation. They further added that reinforcing school feeding program is more important to increase the children's welfare and will reduce the dropout of these children to dropout because of hunger at school.

Furthermore, it was suggested that church leaders must understand the effect of divorce particularly at household level and in the church so that they can establish appropriate methods and strategies that can be adopt by the churches in addressing divorce that occurs in the families of their faithful; financial capacity of divorced women must be supported to help them taking care of their children and finally, school counselors in all education levels of the district to help in rebuilding the lives of children who come from divorce families psychologically and socially.

The researcher's point of view on these suggestions was that all of them are practical but in case there is a strong foundation of the family in the society. Therefore, there should be various platforms trough which people should be instructed thoroughly on the meaning of family the cost of engaging in it before they engage themselves. These platforms should be established in a way that there will be continuous instruction that can reach all families in the society to refresh people's commitment in building strong families. These therefore might reduce the rate of divorce and children will be less affected.

5.2 Conclusion of the chapter

In this chapter, the researcher presented the general conclusion drawn from information analyzed in chapter four. The chapter presents different causes of divorce in Rwamagana as they were highlighted by respondents. It also presents the effects of divorce of the divorce on the welfare of children in Rwamagana and different measures that were suggested as a means to reduce divorce and its effects on children. Different points of view on the researcher also are presented to every point which was identified from the respondent's information and it is from these points of view that the researcher gave her recommendations.

5.3 Recommendations

5.3.1 Recommendations to the effect of divorce on children' welfare

From the findings got on the effects of divorce on the welfare of children in Rwamagana District together with the suggested solution by respondent to end these effects, the researcher also gave the following recommendations:

The national woman council should establish possible means through which they can enhance the capacity building of divorced mothers in order to help them in improving the welfare of their children.

Before separation, the divorcing partners should establish, how the education and welfare of their children should be maintained and set the methods that can be used both parents to follow up of their children's welfare.

The district and sector local authority should reinforce the punishment related to any cause of divorce and also investigate various alternatives related to the court for deciding custody.

Schools should emphasize and strengthen clubs in school to promote the social skills of all children. Counseling should be enforced in schools to help those children from divorced families who have problems.

The government should keep investigating on various strategies that can be used to reduce family breakup and those which can be used to rebuild the welfare of children who experience difficult living conditions because of divorced of the parents.

Church leaders must give their intervention to rescue the marriages of families with vulnerable relationship which may lead to divorce.

5.3.2 Areas for further Research

Given that the objective of this study was limited to the examination of the effects of divorce on the welfare of children in Rwamagana district, the researcher recommended the following for further studies:

- A study should be conducted to examine the effects of divorce on the welfare of children in other districts of Rwanda to evaluate whether they may give the same results as those of this one.
- Another research should be conducted to investigate the effects of divorce on socio-economic development Rwandan society at large.
- Another research should be conducted to examine the effects of divorce on families built by descends of divorced parents.
- A further study should be conducted to assess the effects of divorce on parent-children affection among divorcing families.

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APPENDICES

APPANDEX I: Research questionnaires

CONSENT FORM

My name is **TUMUSIIME WINNIE**; I am a student at University of Rwanda pursuing a Degree in Mater Degree of Security Studies. I am conducting a research on the **EFFECTS OF DIVORCE ON CHILDREN’S WELFARE.THE CASE STUDY OF RWAMAGANA DISTRICT**. I hereby request for your assistance in the study, by filling in the questionnaire presented to you below. I assure that the information you give will be treated with confidentiality and your objective responses will be used only for the purpose of this study. Therefore, do not mention your name on the paper given to you. Your cooperation in giving frank responses will be most appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

TUMUSIIME Winnie

(0782368264)

APPENDIX I: QUESTIONNAIRE FOR CHILDREN

Section A: Demographic characteristics of respondents

1. Gender (tick with (✓))
Male ()
Female ()
2. Age group tick with (v)
Below 12 years ()
12 to 14yeas ()
15years and above ()

3. Sector of home location

FUMBWE		MUNYAGA	
GAHENGARI		MUNYIGINYA	
GISHARI		MUSHA	
KARENGE		MUYUMBU	
KIGABIRO		MWULIRE	
MUHAZI		NYAKARIRO	
RUBONA		NZIGE	

SECTION B: Examining the effect of divorce on children welfare. Tick in the box provided to meet the statement and level of occurrence where SD: Strongly Disagree, D: Disagree, N: Neutral, A: Agree and SA: Strongly agree.

No	Statement	SD	D	N	A	SA
4	Cause of divorce in Rwamagana district					
A	There is a high level of conflict in my family.					
B	There is a misunderstanding between my father and my mother.					
C	I get a high level of emotional break out in my family.					
D	I don't get care from my parents					
E	There is a lack of collaboration and respect between my parents.					
F	There is a high level of segregation between my father and my mother.					
5	Effect of girls' and boys' welfare	SD	D	N	A	SA
A	The divorce of my parents affects my living condition					

B	My daily welfare, is affected by divorce done by my parents.					
C	There is irregular school attendance to, due to conflicts happened in my family.					
D	Some children whose divorced children, meet school dropout.					
E	There is a lack of parental commitment related to my daily life caused by divorce of my parents.					
F	I don't get health insurance regularly.					

6	Measures to rebuild the lives of girls and boys affected by divorce	SD	D	N	A	SA
A	There is an improved parent-child relationship.					
B	There is an effective management of family conflicts.					
C	There is a high level of understanding children hidden emotions.					
D	There is an effective children in-out home placement.					
E	There are children' support group of children whose divorced parents in this district.					

APPENDIX II: QUESTIONNAIRE FOR DIVORCED PEOPLE

Dear respondent,

I am TUMUSIIME Winnie, a student at the University of Rwanda, the Faculty of Gender Studies. In order to complete requirements for degree in Gender Studies, we're carrying out a study on the following topic: **THE EFFECT OF DIVORCE ON CHILDREN'S WELFARE. A CASE OF RWAMAGANA DISTRICT (2017- 2020)** we are asking you to answer to the following questions in order to help us hitting the target of our research.

Your contribution will only be used for this research and you are assured to maximum confidentiality.

Yours sincerely,

TUMUSIIME Winnie

(0782368264

General remarks:

1. Tick the appropriate answer
2. You may choose more than one option
3. In case you have another option, write down your own answer

I. Identification of Respondent

1. Gender

a. Male

b. Female

2. Age group

a. Below 25 years

b. 26-35years

c. 36-45 years

d. 46 years and above

3. Level of education

- a. No educational level
- b. Primary
- c. secondary
- d. TVET
- e. University

APPROPRIATE QUESTION TO THE RESEARCH

Question 1. How many years ago are you divorced?

- a. Below 5 years
- b. 5-10 years
- c. 11-15 years
- d. 16-20 years
- e. More than 20 years

Question 2. What is the type of your divorce?

- a. Contested divorce
- b. At fault divorce
- c. No fault divorces

Question 3. What are the causes of divorce phenomenon in Rwamagana District?

- a. Alcoholism
- b. Lack of tolerance
- c. Domestic violence
- d. Getting in for the wrong reason (e.g: marrying for money)
- e. Lack of individual identity
- f. Unmet expectation
- g. Lack of a shared vision of success

Question 4. What are the psychological effects of divorce on your child welfare?

- a. Emotion distortion
- b. Depression,

- c. Substance abuse and dependence
- d. Filling emancipation
- e. Fear
- f. Anger
- g. Low self-esteem
- h. Distressful emotional life

Question 5. What are the social effects of divorce on your children welfare?

- a. School dropout
- b. Behavior problems like teenage pregnancy
- c. Children exhibit delinquent behavior
- d. Difficulties with peers
- e. Poor social skills, and
- f. Poor academic performance

Question 6: Variation of divorce effects on children welfare

Statements	Perceptions	
	Agree	Disagree
There is a high level of divorced people in this district.		
Children Welfare is more affected in this district.		

Question7. What are the strategies to reduce the effects of divorce phenomenon on children welfare?

- a. Increasing the self-sufficiency of single mothers,
- b. Reinforcing punishment of domestic violence crimes
- c. Investigating alternatives to court for deciding custody
- d. Use of support groups outside the immediate

family

Question 8. What may be the contribution of schools in facing consequences of children from divorced couples?

- a. Consultation with Teachers and Caretakers or preventive measure
- b. Educational clubs or Children's Support Group
- c. School therapy or Children of Divorced Intervention program
- d. School counseling and evidence-based school counseling

Question 9 Can it be good to place your children in out-home placement after divorce? **Yes or no.** Indicate your perception.

.....
.....

Thank you for your collaboration

APPENDIX III: INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR THE KEY INFORMANTS

CONSENT FORM

My name is **TUMUSIIME WINNIE**; I am a student at University of Rwanda pursuing a Degree in Mater Degree of Security Studies. I am conducting a research on the **EFFECTS OF DIVORCE ON CHILDREN’S WELFARE.THE CASE STUDY OF RWAMAGANA DISTRICT**. I hereby request for your assistance in the study, by filling in the questionnaire presented to you below. I assure that the information you give will be treated with confidentiality and your objective responses will be used only for the purpose of this study

QUESTION

1. Would you mind start telling me you’re about responsibilities in community where we are now?
2. How do you find the situation of divorce in this community of Rwamagana?
3. What do you find as the major reasons that push families to divorce in this community?
4. Would you mind telling me how the divorce affects children in this community of Rwamagana?

APPENDIX III: ICYEMEZO CYO GUTANGA AMAKURU KU BUSHAKASHATSI.

Nshuti, nitwaTUMUSIIME Winnie, nkabaniga muri kaminuzay’u Rwanda ishamiry’Uburungirire mu muryango(Gender Studies).TurifuzagukoraubushakashatsikuIngarukaz’ubutaneby’abashakanyekubuziman’imi kurirey’abana mu Rwanda. Bwakorewe mu Karere ka Rwamagana, (2017-2020)”. Niyopamvutubasabakomwaduhaamakurukuriububushakashatsimusubizaibibazo.

Turabizezakoayamakuruagirwaibangakandintahandiazakoreshwauretse muri ububushakashatsi; bityoimyirondoroyanyuikabaizagirwaibanga.

TUMUSIIME Winnie

(0782368264)

Amabwirizarusange:

4. Hitamoigisubizogikwiye
5. Ushoboraguhitamoigisubizokirenzekwime
6. Mugiheufiteubundiburyowumvawasubizamoikibazo, byandike mu magamboyawewe.

I. Umwirondorow’ubazwa

1. Igitsinacy’ubazwa

- a. Gabo
- b. Gore

2. Imyakay’ubazwa

- b. 21-25
- c. 26-30
- d. 31-35
- e. 36-40
- f. 41-45
- g. 46-50
- h. 51 and above

3. Amashuriy’ubazwa

- a. Abanza

- b. Ayisumbuye
- c. Ay'imyuga
- d. Kaminuza

IBIBAZO BY'UBUSHAKASHATSI

Ikibazocya 1. Mumazeimyakaingahemutandukanyen'uwomwashakaye?

- a. Hagatiy'umwaka 1-5
- b. Imyaka 5-kugeza 10
- c. Imyaka 11 kugezakuri 15
- d. Imyaka 16 kugezakuri 20
- e. Hejuru'y'imyaka 20

Ikibazocya 3. Mwatandukanyegute?

- a. Binyuze mu bucamanza
- b. Tubyumvikanyeho
- c. Tutabyumvikanyeho

Ikibazocya 3. Ni izihempavuz'ubutanehagatiy'abashakanye?

- a. Ubusinzi
- b. Ubworoherane buke
- c. Ihohoterarikorerwa mu ngo
- d. Kwibeshyakuwomwashakanye
- e. Kamerembi
- f. Kutangiraikerekezokimwe
- g. Kutagiraibanga no gucanainyuma

Ikibazocya 4. N'izihengarukaz'ubutanekumyitwarirey'abana ?

- a. Kutagiraamarangamutimaahamye
- b. Agahinda
- c. Kwishora mu biyobyabwenge no gutwarwanabyo
- d. Kwigiraicyigenge
- e. Ubwoba
- f. Umujinya
- g. Kutigiraicyizere

h. Guhoraahangayitse

Ikibazocya 5: Ni izihengaruka mu

iberehombonezamubanyo'abanabomiryangoyatandukanye?

- i. Gutaishuri
- j. Gutwaraindakubanabato
- k. Ubuzererezi
- l. Kutabananezanabageznibabo
- m. Kudatsindanezaamasomo

Ikibazocya 6. Ese niizihengamba zo

kugabanyaingarukaz'ubutanehagatiy'abashakanyekubuziman'imikuriyey'abana ?

- a. Kongereraubushoboziabagorebibana
- b. Kongereraimbaragaamategekoahanaihoterwarikorewa mungo
- c. Kugenauburyobuboneyemuguhitamoureraumwana
- d. Gushakaumuhuzambereyogutandukana

Question 7 N'ikicyakorwan'amashuringoabanabahanganen'ingarukaz'ubutane?

- a. Kuganairizaabarimubagafataingamba zo gukumiraibyobibazo
- b. Gushyirahoamatsindacyangwaza clubs zifashaabanyeshuri
- c. Gushyirahozagahundaz'isanamitimakubanabo mu ngozatandukanye
- d. Ubujiyanamabugendeyekubibazobigaragara

Question 8

Mbesebyabaaribyzakoabanabarreshwaahandinyumay'ubutane?Sobanuraigisubizocyawe.

Murakoze!

APPENDIX IV: INTERVIEW GUIDE TO KEY INFORMANTS

Dear Interviewees,

I am TUMUSIIME Winnie, a student at the University Of Rwanda Faculty Of Gender Studies. In order to complete requirements for degree in Gender Studies, we're carrying out a study on the following topic:**THE EFFECT OF DIVORCE ON CHILDREN'S WELFARE IN RWANDA, A CASE OF RWAMAGANA DISTRICT (2017- 2020)**we're asking you to answer to the following questions in order to help us hitting the target of our research.

Your contribution will only be used for this research and you are assured to maximum confidentiality.

Sincerely yours!

TUMUSIIME Winnie

(0782368264)

Thank you for your collaboration!

1. What are the main types of divorce found in Rwamagana District?
.....
.....
2. What are the causes of divorce phenomenon in Rwamagana District?
.....
.....
3. What are the effects of Divorce on Child welfare?
.....
.....
4. What are strategies to reduce the effects of Divorce Phenomenon on Psychosocial Development of Child in Rwanda?
.....
.....
.....

APPENDIX V: INYOBORABIGANIRO KU BATORANYIJWE B'INGENZI

Nshuti,

Nitwa TUMUSIIME Winnie, nkabaniga muri kaminuzay'u Rwanda ishamiry'Uburinganire mu muryango.

Turifuzagukoraubushakashatsiku**Ingarukaz'ubutaneby'abashakanyekubuziman'imikuriyey' abana mu Rwanda. Bwakorewe mu Karere ka Rwamagana, (2017-2020).** Niyompamvutubasabakomwaduhaamakurukuriububushakashatsimusubizaibibibazo.

Murakoze,

TUMUSIIME Winnie

(0782368264)

IBIBAZO

- 1.Ni ubuhe butane bukunzekwigaragaza mu karere ka Rwamagana ?
- 2.Ni mu kihekigerocy'imyakaabashakanyebakundagutandukana muri RWAMAGANA ?
- 3.Ni izihempamvuz'ubutanehagatiy'abashakanye muri RWAMAGANA?
- 4.Ni izigengarukaz'ubutanehagatiy'abashakanyekubuziman'imikuriyey'abana muri RWAMAGANA ?
- 5.Ese niizihengamba zo kugabanyaingarukaz'ubutanehagatiy'abashakanyekubuziman'imikuriyey'abana ?

Icyitonderwa ikibazocya 1 n'icyakabirint**Ibireba** abayobozib'amashuri

Mbashimiye ubufura