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**THE IMPACT OF PARENTAL DIVORCE ON CHILDREN'S PSYCHOLOGY  
IN CASE STUDY ON STUDENTS OF SMK MUHAMMADIYAH 2 SURABAYA**

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Abstract: Parental divorce affects the children's psychology influences on the learning process or their education at school. This study aims: firstly, to know the various factors causing parental divorce of SMK Muhammadiyah 2 Surabaya. Secondly, how the strategies of SMK Muhammadiyah 2 Surabaya in handling student problem caused by parental divorce are. Thirdly, How the effect of parental divorce to children's psychology of SMK Muhammadiyah 2 Surabaya is. Type of research in this research was qualitative description approach implemented in SMK Muhammadiyah 2 Surabaya. Data collection in this research was observation, interview and documentation. Data analysis used in this research was to reduce data, display data, findings of this research can be concluded: First: The factor causing divorce of parents is disharmony in the household. Disharmony caused by various things, among others, economic factors and the existence of a third person (infidelity). Both School strategies in dealing with student's problems caused by parental divorce call the students ongoing counseling. Conducting teamwork with homeroom teacher and student's best friend to monitor the progress of their attitude, encouraging and being given religious guidance so that students can accept reality with sincerity. Students are advised to participate in extracurricular activities in order to reduce the sad, more caring heart. Third The impact of parental divorce is that children's achievement in school is decreased or they become more frequent to quiet, angry, shy, idle and naughty loners.

Keywords: Impact, Divorce, Children's psychology

### A. Background of the research

The family is one of the most influential educational environments, because the family is not only a partnership of life between parents and children but also as an arena where children get first education both spiritual and physical. Children is a gift as well as a test for parents. Teaching children is to be a greatest and heaviest mandate for parents. Happy and pious children is the hope of every parent.

In connection with that, Allah says in Sura al-Tahrîm verse 6 which it says

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا قُوا أَنْفُسَكُمْ وَأَهْلِيكُمْ نَارًا وَقُودُهَا النَّاسُ وَالْحِجَارَةُ عَلَيْهَا مَلَائِكَةٌ غِلَاظٌ شِدَادٌ لَا يَعْصُونَ اللَّهَ مَا أَمَرَهُمْ وَيَفْعَلُونَ مَا يُؤْمَرُونَ (٦)

The meaning:

“O you who believe! Ward off yourselves and your families against a fire (Hell) whose fuel is men and stones, over which are (appointed) angels stern (and) severe, who disobey not, (from executing) the Commands they receive from Allah, but do that which they are commanded.”<sup>1</sup>

In a domestic relationship certainly not always run well in accordance with what we have wanted from a distance of the day, but it turns out there are some other factors that deliberately or not deliberately inhibit the harmony of family relationships. One of the consequences of the conflict is the existence of a divorce, where divorce is no longer a strange thing in Indonesia but divorce can be regarded as a commonplace and has popularized.

Among social units, the family is a very complex unit. Many problems faced by family member each others. Often the balance will be disrupted and endanger the family life that resulted in the family will not feel happiness. Not infrequently the disputes and quarrels between the spouses end in divorce. So there are a series of hardships, especially for children who always need the presence of parents throughout their life.<sup>2</sup>

In connection with that, Allah says in the Surah At Taghabun verses 14-15 which recites:

<sup>1</sup> Depag RI, *Al Qur'an dan terjemah* (Surabaya :Mahkota, 1998), 951.

<sup>2</sup> Singgih D Gunarsa, *Psikologi Perkembangan anak dan Remaja* (Jakarta : Gunung Agung Mulia, 1986), 135.



The meaning:

O you believe! Verily, among your wives and your children there are enemies for you (i.e may stop you from the obedience of Allah) ; therefore beware of them! But if you pardon (them) and overlook, and forgive (their faults), then verily, Allah is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful. Your wealth and your children are only a trial, whereas Allah! With Him is a great reward (Paradise).<sup>3</sup>

Divorce is rampant not only among artists or public figures alone. In simple families, even within educational environments, religious-looking environments, divorce also occurs. This problem was found by the researcher by interviews with a number of students of SMK muhammadiyah 2 Surabaya, which became the object of this research. She said that the issue of divorce becomes a very disturbing thing, in addition to affecting also the problem of education.

The phenomenon of divorce in SMK Muhammadiyah 2 Surabaya based on the data of students, parents were doing divorce with different cases. Data from students were 15 students. Parents have different jobs, namely drivers, traders, employees etc.<sup>4</sup>

Divorce is a traumatic event that greatly affects children. Children will feel very lost parents of life lived. It will greatly affect the children’s personal development or psychological development of children. In addition, the children will feel uncomfortable at home and as compensation, the children will find a comfortable place that would

<sup>3</sup> Depag RI, *Al Qur'an dan terjemah* (Surabaya :Mahkota, 1998),

<sup>4</sup>Data siswa bermasalah di BP SMK Muhammadiyah 2 Surabaya

accept it and make comfortable <sup>5</sup> unlike adults who can turn to friends, or relatives to get moral support and advice, while the children who are the victims of parental divorce they do not get support from anyone. Conflict that occurs in both parents will certainly affect their children. Living in a family environment that often fights, will make it difficult for children to develop a good personality. This opens up opportunities for the development of intense sense of lack of confidence, which makes them often experience failure in achieving optimal social achievement

Conditions of psychological needs in children whose parents divorced, based on research that has been done showed that the psychological needs of children whose parents divorced were the sense of security, affection, and the need for confidence. Safety was needed when dealing with friends of the opposite sex, facing the future, and socializing with the surrounding community. They have a fear of fear that others will look down on themselves and their families, it was causing the children to be hurt by the decision taken by their parents to get a divorce.

Psychically, of course divorce will greatly influence on the psychology of children's education, divorce is very bad thing one of them against the children where at the time their parents divorce, the children will feel disturbed and feel the lack of attention even the affection of the parents.

## **B. Method of the Research**

The method of research is the way in which a researcher is employed to collect, clarify and analyze existing data in the study by using measures and knowledge, this was done to reveal a truth.<sup>6</sup>

The type of this research used descriptive qualitative research. Researcher understand and appreciate the Impact of parental divorce on children's Psychology in case study on Students of SMK Mjuhammadiah 2 Surabaya. This study used man as the main data source whose research results in the form of words or statements that match the actual or natural situation. As Bogdan and Taylor (1975) argue that the qualitative approach yields descriptive data of speech or writing and observable

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<sup>5</sup>Cole Kartono, *Mendampingi anak menghadapi perceraian orang tua* (Jakarta: PT. Prestasi Pustaka Raya, 2004), 2.

<sup>6</sup>Koentjoroningrat, *Metode Penelitian Masyarakat* (Jakarta: PT. Gramedia, 1991), 13.

behavior of the people (the subject) itself. Strauss also states that qualitative research is a kind of research that produces findings not obtained by statistical procedure tools or other quantification tools.<sup>7</sup>

In this study the method used to collect data were:

1. Observation

a. Observation is a way to have the assesment by conducting the observation directly and sistematically.<sup>8</sup> This method is divided into two, namely:

b. Direct observation method

This direct observation is an object in which the event or event takes place, so that the observer is with the object under investigation.

c. Indirect observation method

While indirect observation is an observation, for example the event is observed through the film, a series of slides and a series of photographs.<sup>9</sup> In this research, observation method was used to obtain data which easy to be observed directly as a situation in SMK Muhammadiyah 2 Surabaya

2. Interview

Interview is one of the data collection techniques that is done by dealing directly with the interviewee but can also be given a list of questions in advance to be answered on another occasion.<sup>10</sup> The technique used by the author is a free interview led by asking a series of questions that were structured to the subject of research then the questions were deepened to obtain valid data and not deviate from the problems that have been formulated. In addition to interviewing children who were respondents in this research, the researcher also conducted interviews with other students, teachers PAI subjects, homeroom class, classmates, teachers BK and head of SMK Muhammadiyah 2 Surabaya, as an attempt to obtain correct data.

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<sup>7</sup> Rulam Ahmadi, *Memahami Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif*, (Malang : Universitas Negeri Malang, 2005), 2

<sup>8</sup>Tukiran Taniredja, *Penelitian Kuantitatif Sebuah Pengantar*, (Bandung: Alfabeta, 2014), 47.

<sup>9</sup>Amirul Hadi dan Haryono, *Metodologi Penelitian Pendidikan 2*, (Bandung: CV. Pustaka Setia, 1998), 129.

<sup>10</sup>Juliansyah Noor, *Metodologi Penelitian: Skripsi, Tesis, Disertasi dan Karya Ilmiah* (Jakarta: Kencana Prenada Media Group, 2012), 138.

To test the validity of the data, the researcher performs an activity called triangulation that was checking the truth of the data or information that has been collected by reading back the answer record to be heard by the data source or by repeating the interview and observation on the same data.<sup>11</sup>

### 3. Documentation

Documentation study is a data collection technique aimed at research subjects. Documents may include personal notes, personal letters, diaries, employment reports, meeting minutes, case notes, cassette recordings, video recordings, photographs and so on..<sup>12</sup> This documentation method is used to obtain information about the general description of SMK Muhammadiyah 2 Surabaya, a brief history of its standing and development, school administration, organizational structure, facilities and other information in accordance with the author.

### C. Research Findings

The subjects in this study were 6 students of SMK Muhammadiyah 2 Surabaya whose parents divorced. Head of administration, subject teachers PAI, Teacher counseling guidance (BK), Guardian Class and classmates who have students victims of divorce in SMK Muhammadiyah 2 Surabaya Jl Kemlaten Baru 41-43 Karangpilang Surabaya.

In this research, research sampling was done by means of purposive sample that was taking the subject not based on strata, random or area but based on the existence of certain purpose.<sup>13</sup> Notes from documentation of SMK Muhammadiyah 2 Surabaya the total number of students class X, XI AND XII were 417 students either majoring in Multimedia, TKJ or Animation. The students whose parents divorced were 15 students. Then researcher took 6 students who will be studied further.

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<sup>11</sup>Hadari Nawawi dan Mimi Martini, *Penelitian Terapan*, (Yogyakarta: Gadjah Mada University Press, 1996), 188.

<sup>12</sup>Sukandarrumidi, *Metodologi Penelitian*, (Yogyakarta: Gadjah Mada University Press, 2012), 100.

<sup>13</sup>Suharsimi Arikunto, *Prosedur Penelitian : Suatu Pendekatan Praktik*(Jakarta: Rineka Cipta, 2013), 183.

According to Lofland, the main data sources in qualitative research were the words and the rest of the action was additional data such as documents and others. Source of information obtained in the field has several research subjects, namely:

- a. Islamic Religious Education Teacher (PAI), classmate and homeroom teacher.  
Through the teachers, classmates and homeroom teacher, researcher got information about the children's psychology of SMK Muhammadiyah 2 Surabaya who became victims of parental divorce.
- b. Teacher counseling guidance (BK)  
Through Teacher BK of SMK Muhammadiyah 2 Surabaya, researcher got information about the mental and behavioral conditions experienced by students of SMK Muhammadiyah 2 Surabaya who became victims of parental divorce.
- c. Head of school and head of administration of SMK Muhammadiyah 2 Surabaya.  
Through the principal and head of administration, researcher got information about the state of the school, organizational structure, the number of students and their behavior.

### **The impact of divorce on the children's psychology**

Talking about the impact of divorce, the psychological impact of attitudes, responsibilities turns out before parental divorce. The children have already changed themselves. However, after happening the parental divorce will effect children to be better or worse, it depend on the children's view of the divorce of their parents and how the role of parents to grow their children after they divorce. After the automatic divorce the closeness between children with both parents decreases, so this was where the role of the father or mother to establish closeness to the children. Because of the lack of affection, attention and protection will further caused the children to feel the impact of their parents divorce. Changes in attitudes and behaviors of a children before the divorce of a parent, such as shy, angry, reserved, lazy and mischievous, were not always caused by the divorce of their parents, but also before parental devorce, the children were silent, angry, shy, lazy and naughty and after parental divorce, children's attitude became difficult to control. From the results of the study that the children of parents who divorced and have shy and reserved nature as happened to Dandi, it turns out that

the nature is not experienced by children after divorce of both parents. However, these traits have existed in the children before parental divorce. But the children after facing the divorce of his parents, they became worse. Like Alfin, Dandi, Indra, Indri, Umar, Ali, Miftah and Iqbal, they become increasingly uncontrolled after their parents divorced. As a result, the lazier they learn the more recalcitrant and out of school.

Factors that caused parental divorce were not harmonious in the household. Harmony caused by various things, among others, economic factors and the presence of a third person (infidelity)

### **Economic Factor**

The economic level indicates the high level of one's social status and economic ability in the family. The low level of one's economic ability is related to the fulfillment of the needs in a family. Such conditions can not be denied, because it also affects the happiness and prosperity in the family, because it can lead to disputes or disputes in the family that can lead to divorce. In the household life of a family is said to be happy and prosperous if in the family life has been fulfilled all the needs, both physical and spiritual. In society a lot of divorce issues are caused due to economic problems, where families who can not meet their needs there will be continuous disputes that eventually lead to the occurrence of divorce. The divorce was caused by the husband who still had a livelihood is not feasible, therefore the wife felt unbearable for not being given a living born by the husband or given just barely, while the daily needs demanded to be fulfilled. So this can lead to unharmonious households and culminate in divorce. As is the case with Alvin's parents, Darmawan, who is salesmen. He is a head of family with two children addressed on Jl. Darmokali Surabaya. Indra and Indri's parents named Saiful Arif is construction worker. He is a head of family with five children. having Karah Surabaya address. Miftachus's parents named M. Sutrisno is the chauffeur. He is head of the family with one child, addressed at Taman Sepanjang Sidoarjo. Those parents divorced due to economic problems

### **Affair Factor**

In the life of the family the need for sex between husband and wife is a sensitive thing, because between husband and wife although other needs have been met but because of their sexual needs are not met then they feel not satisfied with each other. Because the wife can not give her sexual satisfaction, then the husband is seeking satisfaction outside the house (affair). As happened to Miftachus's parents, Umar, Ali and Iqbal. Here are the results of interviews to the Umar's parent, Ali about the factors causing divorce, because the husband was caught doing an affair with another woman. To cover up the husband's mistake, the husband accused the wife of having an affair with another man. Finally the family condition is not harmonious. Wife married sirri with other unmarried husbands and children all follow husband.

### **School Strategies in Handling Student's Problems Caused by Divorce Parents of SMK Muhammadiyah 2 Surabaya**

Students are invited to continue counseling. Experts explain that the best way to explain a problem in children including divorce is to convey it in a smooth and openly honest way. Whether we realize it or not, children will learn and analyze that the impact of divorce will make their lives different from other children. For this reason, as much as possible try to understand that the child understands the true intentions and reasons why parents choose to separate as a last resort. When children get a logical reason, then at least they can prepare themselves and mentally when the worst effects of divorce they are experiencing.

1. Ask for homeroom teacher, family members to monitoring the children  
Conducting team work with homeroom teacher, religious teacher and their friends to keep track of the development of attitudes and encouraging them to accept reality, Calling parents alternately to keep their children in check.
2. Arrange the children to have good divisions

Geared to participate in community or extracurricular in school so that, they will spend their time to focus on the lesson and their extracurricular. With many activities the children will forget a little about the problems facing the family. And also invited them to muhasabah (self-reflection) that all that sadly has been set by Allah. That is God who knows the best. The promise of Allah is certain. Give

examples that successful people who taste from a broken home family are useless if they damage a single person divorced. Great students are students who are able to get through tough times. Grieving should not be long and then rise again.

#### **D. Conclusion**

1. Causes of divorce of parents are not harmonious in the household. Harmony caused by various things, among others, economic factors and the presence of a third person (infidelity)
2. School strategy in dealing with student's problems caused by divorce parents by calling students to have continuous counseling. Having team work the homeroom teacher and children's best friend to monitor the progress of their attitude and be encouraged and given guidance so that they can accept the fact with sincerity. By calling parents in turns to please monitor their children. Students are advised to join extracurricular activities in order to treat a sad heart. More attention and frequent contact via WA, BBM or line. The goal is to help students understand themselves and understand the environment.
3. The impact of parental divorce is children becomes victim of the most injured when their parents decided to divorce. Children may feel frightened by losing the figure of their father or mother, afraid of losing the affection of parents who now do not live at home. Childhood achievement in school decreases or they become quiet, angry, shy, idle and naughty often.

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