

The Pattern of Divorce in Iranian society

The main object of the paper is to present the pattern of divorce in Iranian society. It is an important topic, because the society during the last several decades has changed socially and culturally. The situation of most of the people in Iran has gotten better over time compared to the previous time. Their income has grown and the majority of them could support their family members in the education and social life. Hence, one of the main consequences is changing family form from extended to nuclear one. The majority of the people would like to have two children in their life, even if they are a member of a big family in size (five or more members). As a direct consequence of the family changes is the high rate of divorce. In the past time of the society, less people (one out of 1000 marriages) got divorces, now out of four marriages one of them got divorced. This is the major change in the family and most of the people think that the society is in the process of corruption.

To understand the pattern and the result of the rate of the divorce in Iranian society, we are focusing on modernization theory and have used the data which we have gathered over the last ten years in Iran, particularly in Tehran as the major city. The survey which we have repeated over time is with 600 cases (size of sample) and using relative statistical methods to test our hypotheses.

We have got some main points and results as follows: (1) for most of the people in Iran, Tehran, divorce is the main issue and mostly worry about the future of it. (2) the rate of divorce in the family is high compared to its history over time in Iran. Because in the last period of time less people get the divorce and mostly keep their family with all of the problems. (3) the rate of the divorce is different in terms of social class and family background. (4) the main causes of the divorce, as the people mentioned, are social and cultural matters rather than economic ones. Hence, the people who get divorced think that their couples do not understand their ideas and feelings.