

ANALYSIS OF THE CAUSES AND IMPACTS OF DIVORCE IN WONOGIRI REGENCY CENTRAL JAVA PROVINCE

**Imelda Hutasoit^{1*}, Wali Mahendra Gandhi², Welly Pratama Simanullang³, Adrianus
Louse Huka⁴, Yansen Alther Maromon⁵**

imeldahutasoit@ipdn.ac.id¹, Institut Pemerintahan Dalam Negeri
walimahendra@gmail.com², Institut Pemerintahan Dalam Negeri
wellypratamas16@gmail.com³, Institut Pemerintahan Dalam Negeri
adrianushuka29@gmail.com⁴, Institut Pemerintahan Dalam Negeri
yansenmaromon04@gmail.com⁵, Institut Pemerintahan Dalam Negeri

Received: 27-03-2024, Accepted: 07-10-2024; Published Online: 08-10-2024

**Corresponding Author*

Abstract

Family resilience is a very important aspect in supporting the development of the family. However, changes in the habits and the social values of family members make the divorce rate higher, which has various negative impacts, especially on the lives of the children. The aim of this research is to describe and analyze the depiction of divorce, the causes, and the impacts of divorce in Wonogiri Regency. The method of this research is descriptive qualitative. The data collection techniques for this research are interviews and documentations. There are several stages of data analysis techniques for this research, namely preparing the data, reading all the data, presenting the data, coding or organizing the data, analyzing the data, describing the data that has been analyzed, and interpreting the data or drawing conclusions. The research results show that divorce cases are fluctuating, but the number is quite high when compared to other areas in Wonogiri Regency. Complaint divorce or divorce by the wife's request is the highest and shows more than three times the number compared to talak divorce or divorce by the husband's request. The causes of divorce include problems in family communication, economic problems, feelings of jealousy, feelings of superiority, infidelity, domestic violence, and the rise of early marriage. Divorce in Wonogiri Regency has an impact on various parties, namely children, divorced couples, and extended families. Efforts to overcome divorce can be carried out by providing outreach to teenagers to avoid promiscuity, providing pre-marital education so that they can maintain the integrity of the household, and by improving the quality of human resources so that reports of cases of violence can be carried out quickly and accurately.

Keynote : Family resilience, Divorce, Early Marriage

Abstrak

Ketahanan keluarga merupakan aspek yang sangat penting dalam mendukung pembangunan, namun perubahan kebiasaan serta nilai sosial membuat angka perceraian semakin tinggi yang menimbulkan berbagai dampak negatif, terutama bagi kehidupan

anak. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk mendeskripsikan dan menganalisis gambaran perceraian, faktor penyebab dan dampak perceraian di Kabupaten Wonogiri. Metode penelitian yang digunakan adalah Deskriptif Kualitatif. Teknik pengumpulan data menggunakan wawancara dan dokumentasi. Teknik analisis data menggunakan beberapa tahapan yaitu mempersiapkan data, membaca keseluruhan data, penyajian data, coding atau mengorganisasikan data, menganalisis data, mendeskripsikan data yang telah di analisis, dan interpretasi data atau penarikan kesimpulan. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa kasus perceraian fluktuatif, namun dengan jumlah yang cukup tinggi jika dibandingkan dengan daerah lainnya di Kabupaten Wonogiri. Cerai gugat atau perceraian atas permintaan istri merupakan yang tertinggi dan menunjukkan jumlah lebih dari tiga kali lipat jika dibandingkan dengan cerai talak atau cerai atas pengajuan suami. Penyebab perceraian diantaranya adalah masalah dalam komunikasi keluarga, masalah ekonomi, perasaan cemburu, perasaan superior, perselingkuhan, kekerasan dalam rumah tangga (KDRT) dan maraknya pernikahan dini. Berkaitan dengan dampak yang di akibatkan, perceraian di Kabupaten Wonogiri memberikan dampak bagi berbagai pihak yaitu anak, pasangan yang bercerai dan keluarga besar. Upaya penanggulangan perceraian dapat dilakukan dengan sosialisasi kepada remaja agar menghindari pergaulan bebas, memberikan pendidikan pra nikah agar dapat menjaga keutuhan rumah tangga, dan dengan meningkatkan kualitas sumber daya manusia petugas sehingga pelaporan kasus kekerasan dapat dilakukan secara cepat dan tepat.

Kata Kunci: Ketahanan Keluarga, Perceraian, Pernikahan Dini

INTRODUCTION

Marriage is a relationship between a man and a woman recognized as legitimate by society based on religious and legal norms applicable in a given country. According to Sudarsono (2010), the purpose of marriage is to establish a happy and lasting family. To achieve this, spouses must support and complement each other, enabling each party to enhance their personality and attain both material and spiritual well-being.

With the advancement of time, shifts in lifestyle and moral values have emerged in society. Differences in opinions and changing emotions often lead to disharmony within households, where love can transform into resentment, resulting in conflicts that may escalate into frustration and emotional turmoil. Consequently, many families find themselves unable to maintain their marital bonds for various reasons, leading to divorce. In other words, the goal of preserving the sanctity of marriage is often not realized due to several influencing factors, including ideological, biological, economic, psychological, and others.

Divorce signifies the termination of the marital relationship between husband and wife. The increased economic autonomy of women largely influences the rising number of divorce petitions initiated by wives. This phenomenon reflects a broader societal shift, wherein traditional gender roles have evolved, transitioning from the conventional role of

women as homemakers to the modern woman capable of engaging in various professional spheres. Historically, women were primarily responsible for childbearing, household management, and family care. However, in the contemporary context, women have assumed significant social roles. They are able to pursue careers in diverse fields, such as health, social services, economics, and politics, supported by their enhanced competencies.

In today's society, marital couples often resort to divorce as a means of resolving domestic disputes, frequently bypassing the opportunity for in-depth communication. The reduction in communication between spouses leads to a lack of mutual understanding and emotional connection, which in turn increases the likelihood of misunderstandings. Ineffective communication can exacerbate domestic conflicts, giving rise to various marital issues. Divorce has historically been a complex issue, even in pre-modern societies. In the present day, with the influence of modern civilization, unrestricted social interactions, and various external factors, divorce has become an even more intricate and multifaceted challenge.

The decision to divorce by a married couple inevitably has negative consequences on the lives of the children born from the marriage. Such circumstances may infringe upon the rights of the child, as outlined in Law Number 35 of 2014, which stipulates that children's rights are a part of human rights that must be guaranteed, protected, and fulfilled by parents, families, communities, the state, the government, and local authorities. Divorce significantly impacts not only the couple but also their children, their assets or wealth, and the surrounding community.

In Indonesia, divorce is regulated by Article 39 of Law No. 1 of 1974 on Marriage, which states that divorce must be based on sufficient grounds, particularly when it is evident that the husband and wife can no longer live harmoniously and peacefully as a married couple. Divorce can only be carried out in a court proceeding. After the court handling the case has made efforts to reconcile both parties without success, a divorce petition may be submitted to the Religious Court for those who practice Islam. In contrast, for individuals of other faiths, the petition may be filed with the District Court.

The law governing marriage distinguishes between divorce initiated by the husband and divorce initiated by the wife. Divorce initiated by the husband is referred to as *cerai talak*, while divorce initiated by the wife is referred to as *cerai gugat*. *Cerai talak* is detailed in Government Regulation Number 9 of 1975, which specifically addresses it under its sections. Similarly, Law Number 7 of 1989, which was later amended by Law

Number 50 of 2009 on Religious Courts, further clarifies the provisions regarding *cerai talak*.

In marriage law, *talak* is defined as the husband's declaration made during a hearing in the Religious Court, which constitutes one of the grounds for the dissolution of marriage. In addition to *cerai talak*, there is also the term *cerai gugat*. *Cerai gugat* refers to a divorce initiated through a petition filed by the wife seeking to terminate her marital relationship with her husband.

In Indonesia, the number of divorce cases has been increasing significantly each year. Data from the Religious Courts reveals that a substantial number of divorce cases continue to be processed by these courts. The divorce rate increased by 54% from 2020 to 2021, rising from 291,677 cases to 447,743 cases. Meanwhile, West Java, East Java, and Central Java are the three provinces with the highest divorce rates in Indonesia. Wonogiri Regency, located in Central Java, is one of the regions with a notably high number of divorce cases. The high divorce rate in Wonogiri Regency is reflected in the following table:

Table 1
Number of Divorces in Wonogiri Regency

| Year | Divorce Rates |
|------|---------------|
| 2017 | 1492 |
| 2018 | 1573 |
| 2019 | 1788 |
| 2020 | 1701 |
| 2021 | 1288 |

Credit: the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) of the Wonogiri Regency, 2022

Based on the table, it can be observed that the number of divorce cases in Wonogiri Regency has consistently exceeded 1,000 cases annually. Over the past four years, the highest divorce rate occurred in 2019, with 1,788 cases, while the lowest was in 2021, with 1,288 cases. The high divorce rate in Wonogiri Regency is driven by various factors that lead couples to decide to divorce. According to the Head of the Wonogiri Court, as reported on the RadarSolo website, the primary causes of divorce in the Wonogiri Regency are economic factors and the involvement of a third party.

Based on the above explanation, the identified issue is the high number of divorce cases and the numerous problems that may arise from divorce. Therefore, this issue is worth examining to gain insight into the patterns of divorce, its contributing factors, and the impacts of divorce in Wonogiri Regency.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Bungin (2008) defines *analysis* as the process of determining the quality level of an object. The purpose of the analysis is to obtain a comprehensive understanding of the capabilities and skills of the object. Divorce can be understood as the termination of a marital relationship between a husband and wife, as decided by law or religion (*talak*), due to the absence of mutual interests, trust, or compatibility, which results in domestic conflict. According to Sudarsono (2010), in the divorce process between husband and wife, both parties have equal rights in bringing the case to court in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations. In the execution of a divorce, the rights of both parties must be equal. Maimun (2018) states that there are two types of divorce: 1) *Cerai Talak*: *Cerai talak* is a husband's request to the court to grant his desire to divorce his wife for certain reasons; and 2) *Cerai Gugat*: *Cerai gugat* refers to a divorce initiated by the wife or her representative through a petition filed with the religious court governing her area, which applies to her place of residence, except in cases where the wife has left the husband without notice or permission, in which case the petition must be filed with the religious court governing the husband's place of residence.

Taufiqurahman (2016) identifies several causes of family problems that lead to divorce, including 1) issues in family communication, 2) economic problems, 3) jealousy, 4) feelings of superiority, 5) infidelity, and 6) domestic violence (KDRT). Similarly, according to Nibras Syafriani (2021), the factors contributing to divorce include 1) economic issues, 2) poor communication, 3) the presence of a third party or infidelity, 4) social and cultural factors, and 5) the absence of premarital education.

Divorce inevitably has impacts on both spouses, children, and potentially the extended family. Taufiqurrahman (2016) outlines the effects of divorce on various parties as follows: 1) **On children**: Children may experience a loss of respect, difficulty concentrating, depression, a tendency to engage in risky behaviour, and a propensity for aggression as a result of their parent's divorce; 2) **On the family**: One possible outcome is that relatives may assist the divorced couple in raising their children; 3) **On the spouses**: The husband and wife involved in the divorce will inevitably undergo changes in their lives, and their ability to communicate may be disrupted, potentially leading to the emergence of other issues.

As previously explained, divorce impacts three parties, but it can also have additional effects. Gunawan (2014) notes that divorce also affects property and wealth. Marriage is dissolved upon divorce, and the distribution of marital assets can then take

place. This division must be conducted in accordance with the prenuptial agreement if one exists.

METHODOLOGY

Research Design

This study is qualitative descriptive research. Qualitative research is conducted to understand events or phenomena that are directly related to the subjects of the study, using descriptive methods that articulate findings through words within a specific context. The data analysis technique employed is inductive/qualitative, which emphasizes meaning rather than generalization.

Data Sources

The primary data for this study were obtained directly from observations and interviews with informants. In contrast, secondary data were collected from sources such as the Profile of Wonogiri Regency, the Central Statistics Agency of Wonogiri Regency, and data from the Religious Court of Wonogiri Regency, the Population Administration Office of Wonogiri Regency, and the Office of Population Control, Family Planning, and Women's Empowerment and Child Protection of Wonogiri Regency.

Research Informants

The informants in this study were selected based on predefined criteria that align with the research objectives, serving as the foundation for informant selection. Accordingly, the researcher employed purposive sampling and snowball sampling techniques. These methods were chosen to gather more in-depth information, as the selected informants are individuals who are competent and possess a thorough understanding of the research issues being examined. The author has identified individuals to be interviewed for this research who are considered to have a comprehensive understanding of the field conditions and play a significant role in it. These individuals are also relevant to the study and can provide the necessary data regarding the overview, causes, and impacts of divorce in Wonogiri Regency. The informants in this study are outlined as the Head of the Religious Court of Wonogiri Regency, the Head of the Population Administration Information Management Division at the Office of Population and Civil Registration of Wonogiri Regency, the Head of the Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Division at the Office of Population Control, Family Planning, and Empowerment of Women and Child Protection of Wonogiri Regency, the Sub-Coordinator for Women's Empowerment, along with community leaders and members of the society.

Research Instruments

According to Sugiyono (2013:222), the research instrument in qualitative studies is the researcher themselves (human instrument), who plays an active role in selecting and determining the research focus, identifying informants as data sources, collecting data, analyzing it, and drawing conclusions from the conducted research.

Data Collection Techniques

The data collection techniques used in this study are based on Creswell (2019), which include observation, interviews, and documentation. However, for this research, only interviews and documentation are employed, alongside data triangulation, according to Sugiyono (2013). The interview method, as one of the data collection techniques, requires the researcher to engage in a question-and-answer process to gather the necessary data and to obtain responses to the predetermined research problems. This study uses semi-structured interviews because the researcher needs to listen attentively and document the statements provided by the informants. During the interviews, an interview guide based on the established indicators is used.

Another data collection technique used in this study is documentation, which involves gathering both quantitative and qualitative documents, including public and private documents. The documentation collected in this research will be valuable in supporting the data analysis. In addition to the three data collection techniques mentioned earlier, triangulation is also applied in this study. The value of triangulation lies in determining whether the data obtained is valid or inconsistent and contradictory. In this research, the author employs both technique triangulation and source triangulation, which assess the credibility of the data by collecting information through multiple methods (interviews and documentation) and by gathering data from various sources to verify its accuracy.

Data Analysis Techniques

A crucial aspect of this research is data analysis, as analyzing data allows us to convey meaning and intent, aiding in the resolution of issues within the study. It is essential to understand that qualitative data processing involves integrating and uniting various collected data, thereby forming a cohesive narrative that facilitates the researcher's understanding. In this regard, when conducting field research, the author employs the qualitative research stages proposed by Creswell (2018), which are as follows:

- a. Preparing data for analysis: This involves preparing interview transcripts, typing field data, or sorting data according to the source of information.

- b. Reading the entire data set: This step entails developing a general sense of the data obtained and reflecting on it comprehensively to gain an overall understanding, depth of information, credibility, and narrative coherence.
- c. Initiating data coding or organizing data: This involves organizing the collected data using codes as a supportive tool.
- d. Describing the grouped data for analysis: This includes describing the coded data and subsequently analyzing it to identify the themes present within the analysis.
- e. Indicating how the results of the description and data analysis will be presented in the qualitative/narrative report: This encompasses the chronological discussion of events, themes derived from the analysis, or the interconnections between themes.
- f. Creating interpretations in qualitative research: This final step assists the researcher in revealing the essence of the research findings, such as lessons learned or recommendations needed. This may include the researcher's interpretations.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Administratively, the Wonogiri Regency is divided into 25 districts, comprising 251 villages and 43 urban villages, encompassing a total of 2,306 hamlets or neighbourhoods. According to the population projection for the first semester of 2022, the population of Wonogiri Regency is approximately 1,070,654 individuals. Furthermore, the gender ratio in 2021 indicated that the number of males to females was 99.74, reflecting a nearly balanced ratio. The total number of heads of family (KK) is 382,039, resulting in an average of 3 to 4 individuals per household. (Population and Civil Registration office of the Wonogiri Regency, 2022).

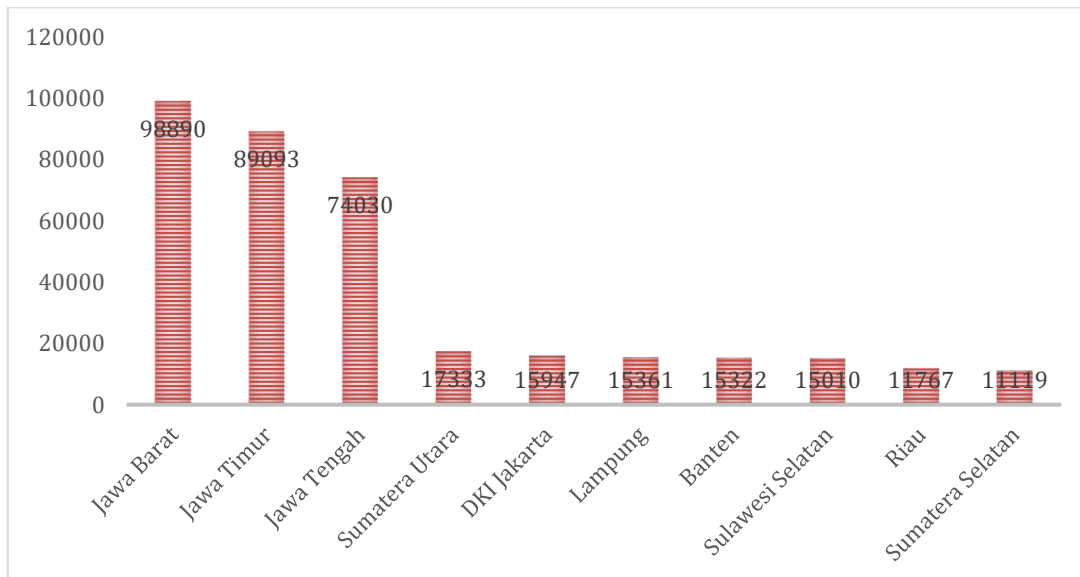
The development of a country is significantly influenced by the quality of human resources, which encompasses insight, knowledge, and skills in technology mastery. The quality of human resources is shaped by the environment in which individuals are developed, with the family environment being the most influential factor. Consequently, family resilience is an essential aspect in determining the quality of human resources within a country. Family resilience can be undermined by various causes, one of which is divorce. *Divorce* is defined as the cessation of the marital relationship between husband and wife. The following is a discussion on divorce in Wonogiri Regency.

1. Overview of Divorce Among the Population in Wonogiri Regency

Indonesia is one of the countries with a high number of divorces, reaching 448,126 cases in 2022 (BPS, 2023). Meanwhile, Central Java ranks third among provinces with the highest number of divorces in Indonesia, as illustrated below.

Figure 1

10 Provinces with the Highest Number of Divorces in Indonesia in 2022

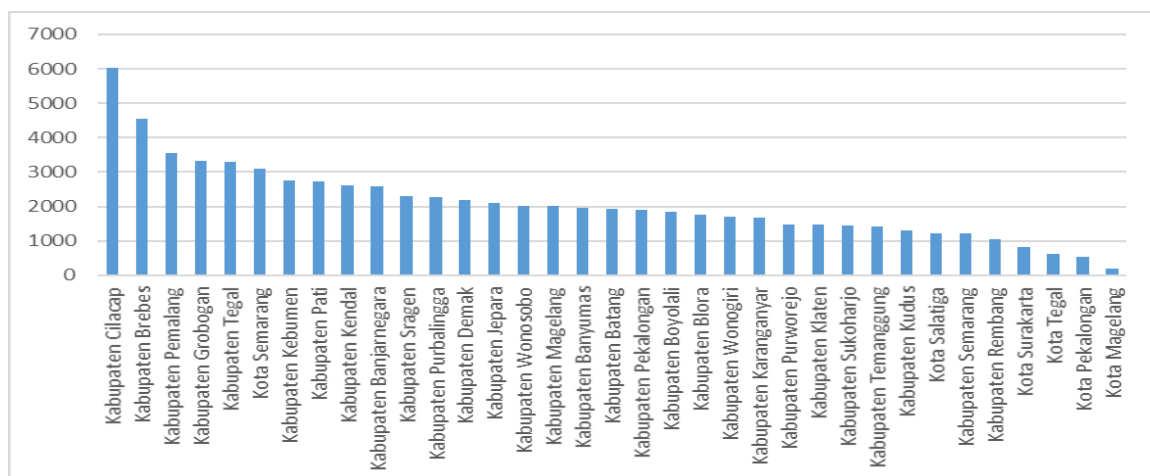


Source: the Central Statistics Agency (BPS), 2022, 2023

The data above indicates that Central Java has a high number of divorces, totalling 78,030 cases in 2022. Meanwhile, Wonogiri Regency is one of the areas in Central Java with a significantly high number of divorce cases, as illustrated in the following picture.

Figure 2

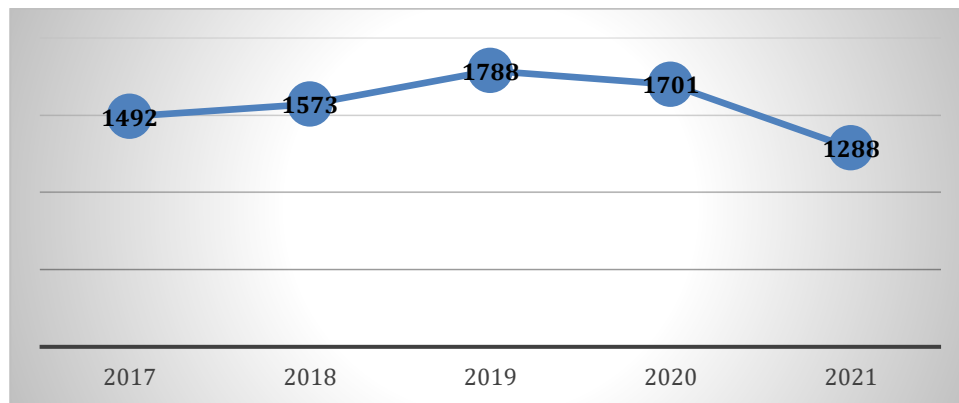
10 Provinces with the Highest Number of Divorces in Indonesia in 2022:



The data above shows that Wonogiri Regency is ranked 22nd out of 35 regencies/cities in Central Java. However, the number of divorces in Wonogiri Regency is still considered quite high. The high divorce rate in Wonogiri Regency is evident from the following data:

Figure 3

Chart of Divorce Cases in Wonogiri Regency



Sumber: the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) of the Wonogiri Regency, 2022

Based on the table, it is evident that the number of divorce cases in Wonogiri Regency fluctuated between 2017 and 2021. The data also indicates that, over the years, the number of divorces in Wonogiri Regency has consistently exceeded 1,000 cases. The highest divorce rate during the last four years occurred in 2019, with 1,788 cases, while the lowest was in 2021, with 1,288 cases. In the first six months of 2022, there were 952 divorce petitions filed at the Wonogiri Religious Court (PA), a figure that is considered high.

The prevalence of divorce cases in Wonogiri Regency is influenced by various factors that drive couples to decide to divorce. From January to June 2023, the Religious Court received 211 cases of talak divorce and 697 cases of gugat divorce, totaling 908 registered divorce cases. The data shows that the number of gugat divorce cases is higher than that of talak divorces, indicating that women file more divorce petitions than men.

2. Factors Contributing to Divorce in Wonogiri Regency

In discussing the factors contributing to divorce, this analysis is based on the indicators from Taufiqurahman's theory (2016) and is measured using sub-indicators derived from these indicators. The sub-indicators identified by the researcher include issues related to family communication, economic problems, feelings of jealousy, feelings of superiority, infidelity, and domestic violence (KDRT). This framework allows for an analysis of the divorce phenomena occurring in Wonogiri Regency in relation to the identified causes, utilizing the researcher as the primary instrument and supported by data from interviews

and other documents. The following is an explanation of the factors contributing to divorce in Wonogiri Regency.

a. Issues in Family Communication

Individuals engage in interpersonal communication daily as social beings. A significant portion of people's time in everyday life is spent communicating with others. Interpersonal communication is a form of communication that occurs within families. Family communication, both verbal and nonverbal, is essential in family life. Essentially, family communication is conducted to foster a familial environment where each member knows and understands one another, thereby creating a harmonious atmosphere. The effectiveness of family communication is greatly influenced by a harmonious and conducive family environment, which is crucial for achieving these goals.

The research findings indicate that the communication pattern established among couples experiencing divorce tends to be closed, and partners often remain silent when issues arise. This closed communication can hinder the ability to find solutions to problems between partners. Communication plays a crucial role in marital life. This is particularly significant because if each husband and wife fail to reach an agreement on the issues occurring within their household, it may ultimately lead to divorce.

b. Economic Challenges

Both newlywed couples and those who have been married for a long time often encounter economic problems, which are challenges that arise within the household. Life's challenges are frequently linked to financial issues. This situation should not be taken lightly, nor should it be left unaddressed, as financial problems within the household are highly vulnerable and can lead to more significant issues. Economic problems are particularly susceptible for families with low financial stability compared to those with stable financial situations. It is undeniable that these issues can also cause fractures in marital life if there is a lack of mutual understanding and if they are not approached wisely. An imbalance between income and expenses can lead to household financial difficulties. For instance, many families earning below the local minimum wage must meet their needs, which can be considerably larger than their income.

Economic issues are a contributing factor to divorce, which was evident from interviews conducted with the Head of the Wonogiri Religious Court, who stated that one of the causes of divorce is economic factors. In many cases, wives feel that their husbands do not provide for them, and some husbands leave their wives. Furthermore, an interview with a divorced individual from Wonogiri revealed that they chose to separate from their

husband because he was unemployed at the time, making it impossible to meet daily needs, which led to frequent arguments.

From these two interviews, it is clear that economic factors play a significant role in a wife's decision to file for divorce against her husband at the Wonogiri Religious Court. According to one divorced wife, her husband's unemployment prevented the family from fulfilling basic daily needs, such as food and educational expenses for their children. These testimonies underscore the importance of economic stability in a family, as the absence of a stable financial situation can lead to significant disruptions in the unity and harmony of the household.

c. Jealousy

Feelings of jealousy are negative emotions directed toward something done by a loved one, often perceived as neglecting one's interests. When someone takes or claims what belongs to another, it can lead to feelings of envy. In marital relationships, jealousy is inevitable and can be considered normal as long as it remains within reasonable limits. However, excessive jealousy can trigger more significant issues and potentially lead to divorce. An interview with a religious leader in Wonogiri revealed that jealousy is a natural aspect of married life, as it can sometimes be a way to express affection. Nonetheless, when jealousy becomes excessive and is triggered by substantial issues, it can result in conflicts between spouses. Therefore, the ability to manage one's ego and engage in effective communication is crucial in addressing jealousy, preventing it from escalating and becoming a prolonged problem.

d. Having a sense of superiority

Nowadays, it has become commonplace for both husbands and wives to engage in external employment and pursue careers. This phenomenon is linked to self-actualization, the development of potential, and the fulfilment of increasingly complex life demands. However, such conditions may give rise to internal competition within the household. If not managed appropriately, these feelings can backfire and lead to disparities. Despite both partners being occupied with their careers—which may appear reasonable—issues can arise if not addressed wisely. The feeling of superiority refers to the perception of being better than others, which can also manifest within the context of domestic life. Within a household, two individuals are united yet possess differing perspectives. The feeling of superiority can serve as an initial trigger for conflict, particularly when one partner perceives themselves as more capable of fulfilling economic needs.

The information obtained indicates that one of the causes of divorce is the existence of a superiority complex in one of the partners due to a higher income. This phenomenon can occur in either the husband or the wife. The feeling of superiority is often associated with dominance; individuals who perceive themselves as superior tend to wish to dominate various aspects, including decision-making processes. This dynamic can create pressure for the partner, which, if persistent, may lead to discomfort and emotional distress. Ultimately, this condition may trigger divorce. Conclusions from an interview with a member of the community in Kabupaten Wonogiri who has experienced divorce reveal that the decision to separate was made due to feeling unappreciated as the head of the household, particularly when the income of the ex-wife was significantly higher than that of the individual.

Information gathered from interviews indicates that a sense of superiority can also manifest in domestic life, often as a result of one partner earning a higher income than the other. This perception is unjustifiable, as feelings of superiority represent a form of disrespect towards one's partner, which contradicts the fundamental purpose of establishing a family. Such dynamics can lead to conflicts that ultimately result in divorce.

When women exhibit feelings of superiority, it may cause men to feel inadequate and incapable of leading the family, leading to psychological issues. This situation arises when the wife perceives herself as more significant than her husband in terms of family income, resulting in a sense of female dominance within the household. Meanwhile, the cultural framework in Indonesia is predominantly patriarchal, where men typically hold a higher status than women. The disparity between these conditions has the potential to escalate into conflict.

e. Unfaithfulness

Unfaithfulness refers to a relationship between a married or unmarried individual and someone who is not their partner. However, depending on culture, religion, and country, the term "unfaithfulness" may have different meanings. Today, any unfaithful relationship with a partner is also referred to as unfaithfulness. Unfaithfulness is not only committed by men but also by women from various social classes and age groups.

Regarding unfaithfulness as one of the causes of divorce, an interview with the Head of the Religious Court of Wonogiri Regency revealed that the primary reason for most divorce cases currently handled is economic problems. However, the presence of a third party or unfaithfulness is also frequently encountered as a reason for divorce. Unfaithfulness can occur due to the negative effects of information technology,

particularly social media. Through social media, individuals can engage in more intense communication with someone who is not their partner. Additionally, unfaithfulness is often triggered when wives are left behind by their husbands who migrate for work, as many residents of Wonogiri Regency migrate to big cities in search of a better livelihood. Furthermore, an interview with a resident of Wonogiri, a mother of three who experienced divorce, revealed that she chose to separate after six years of long-distance marriage. Her husband, who worked in Jakarta and only returned home twice a year, was later discovered to have entered into an unregistered marriage.

Based on the information obtained from the interview, it was revealed that unfaithfulness plays a significant role in increasing the number of divorce cases in Wonogiri Regency. The advancement of technology has also contributed to facilitating acts of unfaithfulness as communication becomes much easier. Additionally, long-distance relationships due to one partner migrating for work have also led to unfaithfulness.

The research conducted by Sudirman, Mustaring, and Imam Suyitno (2022) indicates that divorce is often caused by the husband, as the head of the household, engaging in unfaithfulness with another woman, leading to the breakdown of the marriage.

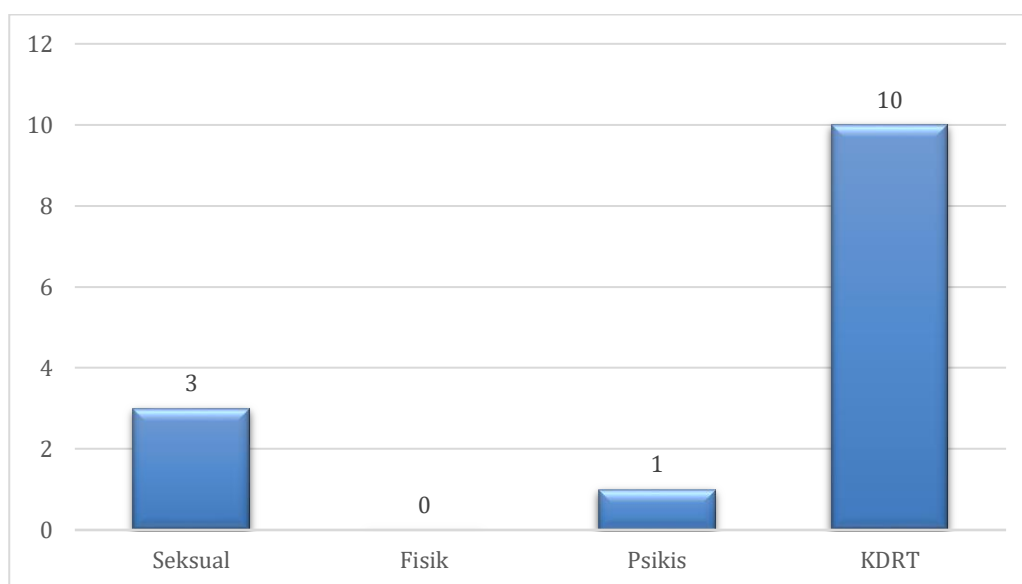
f. Domestic Violence (KDRT)

Domestic violence refers to any action directed at an individual, especially women, that causes physical suffering, sexual violence, or psychological harm. This also includes neglect of household responsibilities, coercion, unlawful actions, or the deprivation of liberty within the domestic sphere. Women are typically the primary victims of domestic violence, which is largely attributed to societal structures that place men, or husbands, in a dominant position over wives. This leads some husbands to believe they hold authority over their spouses, leading to the perception of entitlement over their wives' bodies and the desire to assert control through violence.

In Wonogiri Regency, during the period from January to December 2022, there were 10 recorded cases of domestic violence documented by the Office of Population Control, Family Planning, and Empowerment of Women and Child Protection, with the following details:

Figure 4

Graph of Adult Violence Data in Wonogiri Regency, 2022



Credit: DPPKB and P3A of the Wonogiri Regency, 2023

Based on the obtained data, it can be observed that within one year, in 2022, the Office of Population Control, Family Planning, and Empowerment of Women and Child Protection in Wonogiri Regency handled 14 reports of adult violence. From the 14 recorded cases of violence in Wonogiri Regency, all victims were female. The data reveals a classification of the types of violence, consisting of 3 cases of sexual violence, 1 case of psychological violence, and 10 cases of domestic violence (DV). This underscores that domestic violence is the most prevalent form of violence among the adult population.

Regarding domestic violence (KDRT), which is one of the causes of divorce, an interview with the Sub-Coordinator for Women's Empowerment revealed that several cases of domestic violence have contributed to divorces occurring in Wonogiri Regency. During 2022, there were 10 reports or cases handled, all of which positioned women as victims. The various cases addressed indicate that domestic violence is not solely related to physical violence despite it being the most predominant form. Some reports mention that the domestic violence experienced includes verbal and psychological abuse. In Wonogiri Regency, one of the triggers for domestic violence is infidelity, which often leads to divorce filings. In this process, the authorities do not have any authority over the decisions made by the victims; they merely facilitate counseling and mediation for both the wife and husband.

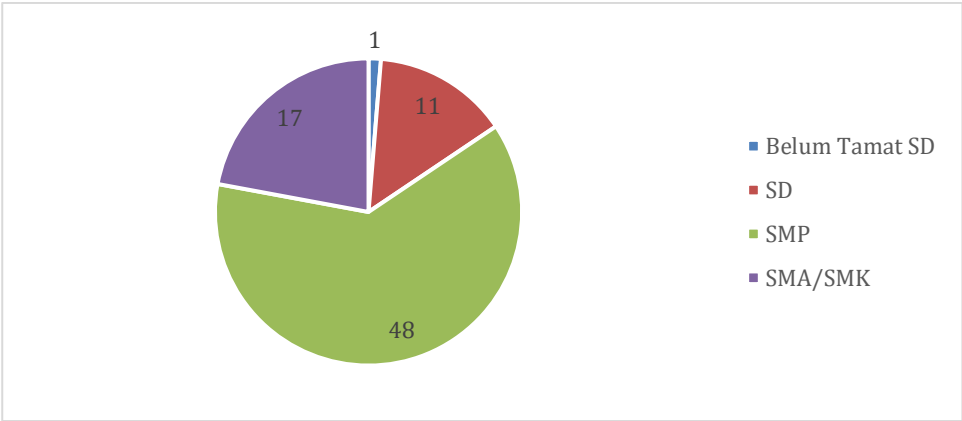
The interview highlights that domestic violence in Wonogiri Regency encompasses not only physical abuse against women but also verbal and psychological abuse. Infidelity

is identified as one of the primary triggers of domestic violence in this region. This is consistent with the information from the Head of the Religious Court of Wonogiri Regency, who stated that apart from economic factors, the involvement of a third party is a major cause of divorce in Wonogiri. Based on the interview above, it is evident that domestic violence in Wonogiri Regency not only involves physical abuse against women but also includes verbal and psychological abuse. One of the main triggers of domestic violence in this region is infidelity. This aligns with the information provided by the Head of the Religious Court of Wonogiri Regency, who explained that in addition to economic factors, the presence of a third party is a significant cause of divorce in Wonogiri.

Apart from the six previously mentioned causes of divorce, early Marriage has also been identified as a contributing factor to divorces in Wonogiri Regency. Early Marriage refers to a union between individuals whose ages are considered not in compliance with legal regulations. The minimum age for Marriage is set at 19 years, in accordance with Law No. 16 of 2019, which amends Law No. 1 of 1974 on Marriage. This age limit is deemed appropriate for individuals to be physically and mentally mature enough to enter into Marriage, ensuring that the union can achieve its intended goals, avoiding divorce, and leading to the birth of healthy, high-quality offspring. To maintain the integrity of Marriage, proper preparation is essential, including premarital counseling for prospective couples. Here is the data on counseling for child brides conducted by the Office of Population Control, Family Planning, and Empowerment of Women and Child Protection in Wonogiri Regency:

Figure 5

Data Counseling for Child Brides and Grooms: July - December 2022



Credit: DPPKB and P3A, 2023

Based on the data above, it can be observed that in Wonogiri Regency, from July to December 2022, there were 77 cases of early marriage, with 21 of these children being in a

state of pregnancy. Early marriage in Wonogiri Regency is predominantly among children who are currently enrolled in Junior High School (SMP), totaling 48 children.

In relation to early marriage, an interview with the Sub-Coordinator for Women's Empowerment revealed that at the beginning of 2023, it was reported that there were 77 cases of early marriage in Wonogiri Regency, with 21 children being in a state of pregnancy. Counseling has been provided to child brides and grooms in family learning center services, revealing that most of these children are indeed unprepared both economically and psychologically. Their reasons for entering into early marriages are predominantly based on feelings of affection and love. It was also noted that early marriage contributes to divorce, as these children lack the necessary readiness to establish a household. This situation underscores the evidence that physical, economic, and psychological preparedness significantly influences the longevity of a marriage.

Based on the interview above, early marriage in Kabupaten Wonogiri significantly impacts the occurrence of divorces. Building a stable household requires readiness in various aspects, such as financial stability, emotional maturity, and mental preparedness. However, many early marriages in this region are driven by unplanned pregnancies, leading parents to arrange such unions. Unfortunately, these young individuals are often not equipped to handle the long-term responsibilities of marriage.

In comparing the findings of this study with previous research by Nibras (2021), similarities were found in the causes of divorce, aligning with Taufiqurrahman's (2016) theory on divorce factors. Nevertheless, this research also uncovered a distinct factor—early marriage—that is not addressed in the existing theory but contributes to the rising number of divorces in Kabupaten Wonogiri.

DIVORCE IMPLICATIONS

In the discussion about the impacts of divorce, this analysis is based on Taufiqurrahman's theory (2016) and uses sub-indicators derived from main indicators. The sub-indicators examined include the effects on children, families, and spouses. This framework allows for an analysis of divorce portrayal in Wonogiri Regency, particularly in relation to its causes and consequences. The research instrument used in this study includes the researchers themselves, along with data obtained from interviews and relevant documents. The following explains the factors contributing to divorce in Wonogiri Regency.

1. Divorce Implications on the Children

The family should serve as the best environment for providing safety, love, care, and a sense of worth to a child, as it includes a mother and father who cherish their children. However, when a divorce occurs within a family, the children lose a secure and comfortable space in which to thrive and grow. This condition can impede their immediate development as well as their future growth. In every divorce case, children inevitably become victims; thus, couples should contemplate their decision more thoroughly before choosing to divorce.

In relation to the Divorce Implications on the Children, an interview with one child who has been affected by parental separation revealed that their parents' divorce caused profound sadness due to the difficulty in meeting with their father. The child chose to live with their mother because the high school was located close to her home. Later, when entering university and studying outside the city, the child began to visit Wonogiri less frequently, feeling uncertain about whether to stay at their father's or mother's house. During high school, the child also faced confusion regarding whether to pursue higher education or enter the workforce, as there were doubts about their ability to afford college, particularly given the situation of their parents' divorce. However, with a scholarship from the Wonogiri Regency Government, the child was ultimately able to continue their studies.

Based on the interview results, it is evident that the impact of divorce significantly affects children, making them the primary victims of such separation. Children may find it challenging to meet with either parent despite the fact that maintaining communication with both is essential for their well-being. This situation can lead to confusion as they grapple with thoughts and concerns that they are not yet mature enough to handle at their age, resulting in uncertainty when making decisions.

Furthermore, information obtained from the Head of the Women Empowerment and Child Protection Division revealed that several reports related to juvenile delinquency revealed that a significant portion of these children come from economically disadvantaged families and those whose parents are separated.

Parental divorce leads to children experiencing a lack of affection that is typically afforded to their peers, increasing the likelihood that they may choose misguided paths in their social interactions, suffer from depression, and exhibit aggressive behaviors. This is largely due to the absence of parental figures who should serve as role models and guide them away from negative influences. The information indicates that divorce significantly impacts a child's psychological well-being and behavior. Children may experience depression, engage in aggressive actions, and associate with inappropriate peers.

Moreover, a lack of harmony within the family can contribute to these negative social interactions, as children may turn to deviant behaviors such as substance abuse, alcohol consumption, and other harmful activities as a means of coping with their tumultuous home environment.

2. Impact of Divorce on Spouses

Divorce undoubtedly has significant impact on the household life of married couples. In addition to affecting their families and children, it also directly influences the spouses themselves, both husband and wife. When divorce is chosen as a last resort to address issues within the marriage, it can drastically alter the lives of each partner. Numerous aspects may be affected by the divorce, including communication patterns, economic conditions of each post-divorce, and various other factors.

Regarding the impact of divorce on spouses, an interview with a resident of Wonogiri who has experienced divorce revealed that, after separating from her ex-husband, she felt a sense of relief. However, she also expressed concern for her child, as the decision to divorce resulted in the child being distanced from their father. Additionally, she must shoulder the family's financial responsibilities alone by selling Soto to meet daily living expenses.

The findings from this interview indicate that divorce significantly affects the economic conditions of both partners. When divorce occurs in families with low economic status, it exacerbates their financial situation. This deterioration arises from the separation of income sources, dividing the husband's and wife's earnings. If a wife is unemployed and gains custody of the child, this situation will undoubtedly place an economic burden on her family.

Additionally, regarding the impact of divorce on husbands and wives, additional information was obtained from a religious leader in Wonogiri, who stated that both partners inevitably experience the effects of divorce. Many of his congregants who seek to separate tend to go directly to the district court without prior communication, as their beliefs do not permit divorce. Typically, after the separation, they leave the church and relocate to other areas. This occurs because they feel ashamed, believing that they have failed to adhere to their commitments, prompting them to choose to move elsewhere. Additionally, feelings of shame or discomfort may also manifest in their interactions within the community.

Based on the information obtained from the interview above, it is evident that the decision to divorce impacts the social lives of both the husband and wife involved. One

example of this is that within the church, they choose to leave due to feelings of shame regarding their family situation. Furthermore, in their community life, this can create a new stigma against the family, leading to discomfort and prompting them to withdraw from social interactions.

3. Divorce and Its Consequences for Family Members

In addition to affecting the husband, wife, and children, divorce also has a significant impact on the extended family or relatives of the divorced couple. The parents of divorced spouses are often affected, particularly in cases where they assume the responsibility of caring for the couple's children. Regarding the impact of divorce on families, an interview with a resident of Wonogiri who has been affected by a relative's divorce revealed that while they did not find it problematic to help care for their nephew, who now lives with them due to the sibling working out of town after the divorce, they occasionally experience concern and mental strain. This worry is heightened by the fact that the nephew is in adolescence, a critical developmental stage, and is not receiving direct parental supervision during this crucial time.

Based on the interview findings, it can be understood that divorce significantly affects the family members of both the husband and wife, with the extent of the impact depending on the specific circumstances of each family. When either the father or mother chooses to work in another region, it is common for the child to be entrusted to close relatives. This trend aligns with data from the Wonogiri District Office of Manpower and Immigration, which indicates that 25% of Wonogiri residents choose to migrate for work. This situation is more commonly found in lower-middle-income families. In such cases, the closest relatives bear the responsibility of caring for children affected by the divorce, especially when their parents opt to work abroad. This arrangement not only impacts the household's financial situation but also places a mental burden on the relatives, who must now take on the care of the child.

While divorce may offer a sense of relief and reduce emotional strain for the couple, it also introduces negative consequences for the child, the couple themselves, and their extended family. The overall effects can range from the relief experienced by the divorced individuals to significant emotional and economic burdens on the children and relatives involved.

Considering the explanation above and comparing it with previous research by Sri Devi (2019), it can be observed that there are similarities regarding the impacts of divorce, particularly the effects on one party, namely the children. However, there is a notable

difference between this study and Sri Devi's previous research. The earlier study focused solely on the impact of divorce on children. In contrast, this study also elaborates on the effects of divorce on other parties, including the family and the divorcing couple themselves.

CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis undertaken regarding the phenomenon of divorce in Wonogiri Regency, the following conclusions can be drawn:

1. Divorce cases in the Wonogiri Regency exhibit fluctuations; however, they remain considerably high, with divorce petitions predominantly initiated by women. This indicates that the number of divorce filings submitted by women surpasses those filed by men.
2. The causes of divorce in Wonogiri Regency include family communication issues, economic problems, feelings of jealousy, feelings of superiority, infidelity, domestic violence (DV), and the prevalence of early marriage. Among these various causes, it was found that the most frequent reason for divorce is economic hardship, such as lack of financial support or the wife feeling that the provided financial assistance is insufficient, leading to discontent. Additionally, some husbands are unemployed for various reasons.
3. In relation to the impacts caused by divorce in Wonogiri Regency, it affects various parties as follows: 1) for children, there is a lack of affection and the emergence of confusion that can hinder their development; 2) for the divorced partners, women often bear the burden of assuming the role of the primary breadwinner, leading to feelings of shame; 3) for families, there is an additional burden as they may need to care for the children affected by their parent's divorce.

To address the high rate of divorce in Wonogiri Regency, the author offers the following recommendations:

1. Socialization efforts directed at adolescents are needed to encourage them to maintain healthy social interactions and avoid promiscuous behavior.
2. As a preventive measure against divorce, prospective brides and grooms should be required to attend pre-marital education programs provided by relevant institutions. These programs should cover various topics aimed at enhancing knowledge related to maintaining marital integrity.

REFERENCES

- Bungin, Burhan. (2010). Metode Penelitian kuantitatif: Komunikasi, ekonomi, dan kebijakan public serta ilmu-ilmu sosial lainnya. Jakarta: PT. Prenada Media Group.
- Creswell. (2018). Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches. New Delhi: SAGE Publications India.
- Kementerian Pemberdayaan Perempuan dan Perlindungan Anak. (2016). Pembangunan Ketahanan Keluarga. Jakarta: Lintas Katulistiwa
- Maimun, Thoha (2018). Perceraian Dalam Bingkai Relasi Suami-Istri. Pamekasan: Duta Media Publishing.
- Sedarmayanti, Syarifudin. (2002). Metodologi Penelitian. Bandung: Mandar Maju.
- Sudarsono. (2010). Hukum Perkawinan Nasional. Jakarta: Rineka Cipta.
- Sugiyono, (2019). Metode Penelitian dan Pengembangan (Research dan Development) Bandung: Alfabeta
- Suharsini. (2013). Prosedur Penelitian (Suatu Pendekatan Praktek) Jakarta: Rineka Cipta
- Taufiqurrahman. (2016). Mencegah Perceraian. Jakarta: Sinar Grafika.
- BPS (2023). Jumlah Perceraian Tahun 2022. Diakses pada 16 Juli 2023. <https://www.bps.go.id/id/statistics-table/3/YVdoU1IwVmlTM2h4YzFoV1psWkViRXhqTlZwRfVUMDkjMw==/jumlah-perceraian-menurut-provinsi-dan-faktor.html?year=2022>
- BPS (2020). Jumlah Perceraian Menurut Kabupaten/Kota di Provinsi Jawa Tengah. Diakses pada 3 September 2022 dari <https://jateng.bps.go.id/indicator/156/501/1/jumlah-perceraian-menurut-kabupaten-kota-di-provinsi-jawa-tengah.html>
- Databoks.katadata.co.id (2022, 28 februari) Kasus Perceraian Meningkat 53%, Mayoritas karena Pertengkaran. Diakses pada 10 September 2022 dari <https://databoks.katadata.co.id/datapublish/2022/02/28/kasus-perceraian-meningkat-53-mayoritas-karena-pertengkaran>
- Gunawan. (2014). Dampak - Dampak Perceraian Terhadap Para Pihak Yang Melakukan Perceraian. Diakses pada 10 September 2022 dari <http://www.ejournal.unsa.ac.id/index.php/rechstaat/article/view/89>
- Nibras S. dkk (2021). Cerai Gugat: Telaah Penyebab Perceraian Pada Keluarga di Indonesia. Diakses pada 8 September 2022 dari https://www.researchgate.net/profile/ShintaDoriza/publication/350412927_Cerai_Gugat_Telaah_Penyebab_Perceraian_Pada_Keluarga_di_Indonesia/links/6094a49aa6fdccaebd11ebdc/Cerai-Gugat-Telaah-Penyebab-Perceraian-Pada-Keluarga-di-Indonesia.pdf
- RadarSolo.com (2022, 9 Januari) Tahun 2021: Ribuan Istri di Wonogiri pilih menjanda, dan ratusan suami minta cerai. Diakses pada 10 Desember 2022 dari <https://radarsolo.jawapos.com/daerah/wonogiri/09/01/2022/tahun-2021-ribuan-istri-di-wonogiri-pilih-menjanda-ratusan-suami-minta-cerai/>
- Sri D. (2019). Dampak Perceraian di Bangkan Enrekang. Diakses pada 8 September 2022 dari <http://www.ejournal.tebarscience.com/index.php/JKSB/article/view/73>
- Sudirman, Mustaring & Suyitno. (2022). Analisis Faktor Perceraian Karena Orang Ketiga. Jurnal Supremasi, 17(1), 89-114
<https://ojs.unm.ac.id/supremasi/article/view/33237/16204>