

PROPORTION OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN FROM DIVORCED COUPLES AND TYPES OF PROBLEMS EXPERIENCED: A CASE STUDY IN ILALA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, DAR- ES- SALAAM REGION, TANZANIA

MBELE, GEMAT T. (2019)

ABSTRACT

Background: This study was conducted in Ilala Municipal, Dar es Salaam City. The study was conducted in four wards, namely, Buguruni, Kipawa, Pugu, and Kitunda. The main objective of the study was to understand households caring for children from divorced couples and types of problems experienced.

Aim of the study: The aim of study were to determine prevalence of households with children from divorced couple in Ilala Municipal, to assess difficulties facing children from divorced couples in attaining education, to explore health effects facing children from divorced couple and to assess economic impact of the family from divorced couple.

Methods: A descriptive cross sectional community based survey questionnaire was used, in Ilala Municipal to explore the magnitude and problems facing children from divorced couples. The study comprised a random sample of 302 head of households from the study districts, as respondents. Random sampling using random numbers, carefully done to avoid bias. Primary data were obtained through administering of structured questionnaire Data was analyze interpreted by using statistical package for social sciences (SPSS) descriptive statistics as frequencies and percentages in data cleaning and analysis.

Results: Results revealed that a high proportion (80.5%) had at least a child from divorced couple. Such children from divorced couples experienced could not attend school due to lack of school fees and lack of schooling materials. It was also reported that they had frequent illness because of limited access to preventive services and poor nutrition.

Many households were caring for children from divorced couples and such children experienced a lot of social, education and health problems.

Conclusion and recommendations: It is recommended that Government should facilitate communities to have capacities to plan and care for such families and children. There should also be efforts to understand and adopt strategies which will prevent divorces. Also more research should be done to understand the dynamics of divorce and also the factors which can mitigate the effects on children and thus make them resilient.