

The Phenomenon of Working Women with the Causes of Divorce

Hari Setia Putra^{1*}, Ali Anis², Zul Azhar³, Jemi Juneldi⁴

1, 2, 3, 4Universitas Negeri Padang, Padang, Indonesia

**Corresponding author. Email: hari.putra@fe.unp.ac.id*

ABSTRACT

This study wants to analyze the factors that cause the risk of divorce for working women. The method used in this study is logistic regression where the unit of analysis used is working women with married and divorced status. The variables used are education level, religious observance, experience of domestic violence, infidelity, economic independence, and working hours. In this study, it was found that the level of education and religious observance was negatively related, while domestic violence, infidelity, women with fixed income, and working hours were positively related to the divorce of working women. However, it is domestic violence that gives the highest probability among all variables followed by economic independence. Where the experience of domestic violence has a probability level of 1,673 times compared to those who have never experienced domestic violence. Overall, all variables used in this study have a significant effect on the unit of analysis used with a significance level of 95 percent. It is hoped that from this research an effort can be made to reduce the divorce rate that occurs.

Keywords: *Divorce, Domestic Violence, Working Women.*

1. INTRODUCTION

In recent decades, the participation rate of working women has increased. The changing times and the development of science and technology have caused various changes in the structure of the workforce in various fields, including the absorption of labor. Along with increasing access to education, women's opportunities to get jobs that are equal to men's are getting higher so that jobs that used to be only done by men but now can be done by women and this changes the social conditions in society and households. Individual. Increased participation of women in the world of work as described by [1] that the cause of the increased participation of working women is caused by a social dimension where women are more integrated with formal production, the increased contribution of women in production encourages greater economic growth and it is widely believed that an increase in the level of participation contributes to the fiscal sustainability of the welfare state, which is under pressure due to aging in the population. According to [2] stated that the change in women's participation in the world of work became an important dimension in the development process in the Industrial Revolution and an increase in the number of women in the workforce played an important role in taking advantage of the demographic bonus and promoting economic growth.

On the other hand, working women have an impact on the absorption of a more optimal workforce because they utilize resources and talents effectively. The more

effective use of available resources will have an impact on increasing the output produced. The more women who work encourage more output to be produced and will have an impact on the more optimal use of other resources. Thus, economic growth will increase and the increase in economic growth will have an impact on increasing welfare in general. If we look at individuals or households, women who work will increase their household income and encourage increased welfare. Several studies suggest the role of women in the economy as expressed by [3] that higher levels of female labor force participation in the labor force can promote growth by reducing the impact of a shrinking workforce. Better opportunities for women can also contribute to broader economic development in developing countries, for example through higher enrollment rates for girls. Research conducted by [4] proves that the female workforce contributes positively and significantly to economic growth. Other research focuses more on the family or household economy as revealed by [5] that working women make an important contribution to family well-being. Working women can increase family income and improve the quality of life and family health. In addition, the increasing number of working women has several positive impacts as revealed by [6] where the benefits of more women working such as promoting growth due to a more efficient allocation of talents and resources and increasing individual well-being because work gives women control over assets, which is positively correlated with greater decision-making power

and freedom of mobility, lower violence in the household, and better nutritional outcomes for children.

However, on the other hand, working women tend to pose a risk to their household vulnerabilities. Working women create changing patterns in the household. One dire consequence is that working women have a higher risk of divorce. In research conducted by [7] states that there is a direct relationship between the probability of divorce or the number of divorces and working women. This is because the increasing number of working women leads to divorce situations. Working women have a higher risk of divorce. Research conducted by [8] also found that working women had a higher risk of divorce. In other research [9] suggested that the main factors leading to divorce indicated that those who worked with mostly workers of the opposite sex were more likely to divorce. This is because women have entered the workforce and sex segregation has decreased, where fellow workers have increased contact with the opposite sex in their work. Research conducted by [10] and [11] related to working hours states that working hours have an effect on divorce where women who work full working hours are at greater risk of experiencing divorce.

The presence of working women can provide various positive impacts such as on family welfare and the economy in general. At the same time, the risk involved is also great where divorce cases experienced by working women also increase. Divorce is one of the problems that harm individuals, society, and families. Research conducted revealed some of the negative effects of divorce. So that divorce is a problem that cannot be considered as sepal and left unchecked considering the consequences it will cause in the future. According to [12], Divorce causes several bad impacts including causing psychological, physical, and mental problems for both spouses and children, economic and educational problems for children. [13] concluded that the economic consequences of divorce tend to be more detrimental only to women and only to men who benefit more from the divorce. The adverse effects that arise will certainly affect productivity for both women and men as well as the impact on children which will be detrimental his future.

Divorce is a problem that harms individuals, society, or the state. On the one hand, working women can be an effort to increase output in the economy because it represents an increase in the use of resources and for their households to be able to increase family income and improve the welfare of their family members. However, on the other hand, it has a negative impact in terms of the higher risk of divorce in the home. So there needs to be an in-depth study to see how the perspective

between working women and divorce is happening or might happen. This study seeks to analyze the characteristics of divorce experienced by working women and the influencing factors so that the negative impact of the trade-off of working women can be minimized.

2. METHOD

This study uses a quantitative descriptive approach to determine the factors that cause divorce for working women. This research is part of another research, where data is obtained by distributing questionnaires online, from the data collected there are 450 data collection and those who are willing to take the time to fill it out.

In analyzing the factors that cause the possibility of working women to get divorced, they will use logistic regression, where Y is the opportunity for working women to get divorced, X1 is the education level of women, X2 is a religious observance, X3 is domestic violence, X4 is infidelity, X5 is independence economy and X6 is hours worked. With the following functions:

$$Y = f\{X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5, X_6\} \tag{1}$$

Measurement of each variable where Y is the risk of women working for divorce (1 is divorced and 0 is married or not divorced), X1 is education (1 is diploma education above and 0 is below diploma), X2 is religious obedience (1 is religiously obedient and 0 disobedient to religion), X3 is domestic violence (1 is experienced domestic violence and 0 has never experienced), X4 is infidelity (1 is ever cheated on and 0 has never cheated), X5 is economic independence (1 is fixed income and 0 is not fixed income), and X6 is hours worked (1 worked more than 50 hours/week and 0 under 50 hours/week)

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

From equation 1, the odds ratio equation is as follows:

$$\ln \left[\frac{Y_i}{1-Y_i} \right] = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 X_3 + \beta_4 X_4 + \beta_5 X_5 + \beta_6 X_6 \tag{2}$$

Table 1. Logistic Regression Test Results

Var	Coefficient	Sig.	Odds Ratio
C	-6.8154	0.009	0.794
Ed	-0.5882	0.655	0.172
R_obedience	-0.0874	0.945	0.598
D_violence	3.3958	0.014	1.673
Infedeliy	3.6081	0.021	1.536
E_independence	6.0675	0.001	1.621
W_hours	4,3849	0.003	1.538

Sources: Author`s Processed Results

Education level and probability of divorce

From the results of logistic regression analysis, it was found that the education level variable has a negative slope value of -0,588, this means that the proportion of divorced working women who have diploma education and above is smaller than women who have education below diploma. The odds ratio value of 0,172 means that working women who have diploma education and above are 0,172 times more likely to get divorced than those who have diploma education and below. Then, the small odds ratio value of 1 means that working women with a diploma education level and below are $1/0,172 = 5,8139$ times more likely to divorce than working women with a diploma education and above. This means that working women who have low education have a greater risk of divorce than those with higher education.

Obedience in religion and the possibility of divorce

Obedience in religion is assessed based on whether the respondent is diligent in worshipping or not. In this study, it was found that the variable of religious observance has a negative slope value of -0,087, which means that the proportion of working women who are divorced with high religious observance is smaller than that of working women who do not have religious observance. Also, the odds ratio value of 0.598 means that working women who have religious observances have 0.598 times the possibility of getting divorced than those who do not have religious observances. Furthermore, the value of the odds ratio obtained is small from 1, this means that working women who do not have religious observance have a greater probability of getting divorced by $1/0.598 = 1.6891$ times than working women who have religious observance. Thus, working women who do not have religious observance have a greater risk of divorce when compared to those who have religious observance.

Domestic violence and the possibility of divorce

The variable of disloyalty in this study uses indicators of never or never having an affair that occurs in female respondents who work. The results of the logistic regression test found that the infidelity variable had a positive slope of 3,395, the proportion of working women who had experience of having an affair in their household had a greater chance of getting divorced than those who had never had an affair. The odds ratio value of 1,673 means that working women who have had an affair in their household have 1,673 chances of divorce compared to those who have never had an affair. If the value of this odds ratio is greater than 1, it means that working women who have never had an affair are $1/1,673 = 0,5877$ times less likely to divorce than those

who have had an affair in their household. Then it can be concluded that working women who have no experience of having an affair in their home life have a lower risk of divorce than those who have had an affair.

Infidelity and the possibility of divorce

The variable of disloyalty in this study uses indicators of never or never having an affair that occurs in female respondents who work. The results of the logistic regression test found that the infidelity variable had a positive slope of 3,608, the proportion of working women who had experience of having an affair in their household had a greater chance of getting divorced than those who had never had an affair. The odds ratio value of 1,536 means that working women who have had an affair in their household have 1,536 chances of divorce compared to those who have never had an affair. If the value of this odds ratio is less than 1, it means that working women who have never had an affair are $1/1,536 = 0,6510$ times less likely to divorce than those who have had an affair in their household. Then it can be concluded that working women who have no experience of having an affair in their home life have a lower risk of divorce than those who have had an affair.

Economic independence and the possibility of divorce

The next variable that is tested as a factor for women working divorced is economic independence, where the indicators used are fixed income and not. After this variable was tested using logistic regression, it was found that economic independence has a positive slope of 6,067, meaning that working women who have a fixed income have a greater chance of getting divorced when compared to those who do not have a fixed income. Furthermore, the value of the odds ratio obtained at 1,621 can be translated that working women who have a fixed income have a probability of getting divorced 1.621 compared to those who do not have a fixed income. Also, the odds ratio value greater than 1 means that working women who do not have a fixed income have a $1/1,621 = 0,6169$ lower probability of getting divorced compared to women who have a fixed income. It can be stated that women who do not have a fixed income have a smaller risk than those who have a fixed income.

Working hours and the possibility of divorce

Next is the variable working hours to determine the factors causing women who work divorced, the indicators used are working hours > 40 hours/week and working hours < 40/week. From the results of the logistic regression, it was found that working hours have a positive slope of 4,384, meaning that working women

who have working hours > 40 hours/week have a greater chance of getting divorced when compared to those who work <40 hours/week. The odds ratio obtained is 1,538, which means that working women who work >40 hours/week have 1,538 chances of getting divorced compared to those who work <40 hours/week. The value of the odds ratio in this variable is also greater than 1, meaning that working women who have working hours > 40 hours/week have a greater probability of getting divorced by $1/1,538 = 0,6501$ times compared to working women who have working hours < 40 hours/week. It can be concluded that women who work less than 40 hours/week have less risk than those who work > 40 hours/week.

Several previous studies have tried to reveal the factors that influence the probability of working women who are divorced. In some previous studies, there are economic and social factors as well as religious factors that affect the probability of divorce. Research conducted by [14] revealed that education influences the risk of divorce where the higher a person's education, the risk for divorce is smaller. [15] also revealed that lower education led to more divorces. Women with high education tend to have more stable marriages than women with low education. Apart from that, other reasons can also be seen in [16] which concludes that educated women can maintain stability and avoid violence which is also one of the factors causing divorce.

Other research related to a person's religion or spirituality also affects the likelihood of divorce as revealed by [17] that religious observance behavior affects divorce. The more religiously obedient, the impact on the decline in disloyalty which is one of the factors of divorce. In addition, obedience also increases happiness in the household. [18] revealed that more obedience and spiritual behavior increased satisfaction in marriage.

Another factor is the treatment received during the marriage such as domestic violence. The violence factor experienced is also one of the common factors that lead to divorce. This is as expressed by [19] concluded that women who had experienced domestic violence were one of the reasons for leaving or divorcing their husbands (19% divorced due to violence). Research conducted by [20] also revealed that women who experienced violence or abuse by their partners were 1.7-5.7 times more likely to divorce. Research conducted by [16] revealed that women tend to prefer to leave their partners because of abusive relationships.

Another factor that also affects divorce is fidelity in the relationship. This affects the continuity of household activities as expressed by [21] that the initiation of

divorce is often associated with depression due to an unfaithful partner. This is in line with research conducted by [22] which concludes that spouse fidelity is the most dominant factor that causes divorce. [23] revealed that most people who have cheated will end up in divorce.

Several other studies are related to the ability of women to meet their needs or their economic independence, namely having their work and the length of time they work. This relates to the work of a woman. Women who can provide for themselves tend to have the opportunity to divorce. As expressed by [24] that there is a positive association between women's contribution to household income and divorce. The higher the contribution to household income, the higher the risk of divorce. [25], [26] and [27] in his research on women's economic independence where women's income has a positive effect on divorce rates.

According to [28] in his research concluded that women who work more than 60 hours a week have a greater risk of divorce or separation from their partners. This was also expressed by [29] and [30] that women's working hours are highly positively correlated with divorce.

4. CONCLUSION

In this study using logistic regression analysis found that the level of education, religious observance, domestic violence, infidelity, economic independence and working hours have a significant effect on divorce for working women with 450 respondents at a confidence level of 95 percent. Domestic violence has the highest probability in the divorce rate of working women. With an odds ratio of 1,673 and a positive slope, it shows that the proportion of women working with domestic violence is greater than those who have never experienced domestic violence with a ratio of 1,673 times. This study only uses respondents on a small scale, it is hoped that in future studies using data on a large scale.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The authors would like to thank Lembaga Penelitian dan Pengabdian Masyarakat Universitas Negeri Padang for funding this work with a contact number: 624/UN35.13/LT/2021.

REFERENCES

- [1] R. Euwals, M. Knoef, and D. Van Vuuren, "The Trend in Female Labour Force Participation: What Can Be Expected for the Future?," 2007.

- [2] S. Verick, "Female labor force participation and development," 2018, doi: 10.15185/izawol.87.v2.
- [3] K. Elborgh-woytek, M. Newiak, B. Clements, and G. Schwartz, *Women , Work , and the Economy : Macroeconomic Gains from Gender Equity*, no. September. 2013.
- [4] D. N. Chiengmai, "Female Labor Force Contribution to Economic Growth," pp. 47–62, 2018.
- [5] A. Zuhri, N. L. Wulandari, A. Purnomo, and F. Budiyo, "The Role of Women in Improving Household Economy," pp. 149–151.
- [6] E. F. D. F. R. Pande, "FEMALE LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION IN ASIA: KEY TRENDS, CONSTRAINTS, AND OPPORTUNITIES," vol. 1, no. 71, pp. 1–8, 2016.
- [7] O. M. TELATAR, "The Relationship between Women's Employment and Divorce: An Empirical Analysis on Turkey," *Uluslararası Ekon. ve Yenilik Derg.*, vol. 6, no. 1, pp. 143–155, 2020, doi: 10.20979/ueyd.616875.
- [8] B. Kharisma, A. Wardhana, and A. F. Hutabara, "Adrianus Amheka , Politeknik Negeri Kupang Kadek Dian Sutrisna Artha , Universitas Indonesia Jurnal Ekonomi Kuantitatif Terapan diterbitkan oleh Fakultas Ekonomi dan Bisnis Universitas Udayana Fakultas Ekonomi dan Bisnis Universitas Udayana," vol. 13, no. 2, 2020.
- [9] T. G. McKinnish, "Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System Sexually Integrated Workplaces and Divorce Another Form of On-the-Job Search," vol. 42, no. 2, pp. 331–352, 2016.
- [10] A. Poortman, "Women ' s Work and Divorce : A Matter of Anticipation?," vol. 21, no. 3, pp. 301–309, 2005, doi: 10.1093/esr/jci019.
- [11] A. Killewald, "Money , Work , and Marital Stability: Assessing Change in the Gendered Determinants of Divorce," 2016, doi: 10.1177/0003122416655340.
- [12] M. D. Damota and M. W. Uniniversity, "The Effect of Divorce on Families ' Life The Effect of Divorce on Families ' Life," no. January 2019, 2020, doi: 10.7176/JCSD.
- [13] D. Mortelmans, "Economic Consequences of Divorce : A Review," pp. 23–41, 2020.
- [14] K. Rootalu, "The effect of education on divorce risk in Estonia," *Trames*, vol. 14, no. 1, pp. 21–33, 2010, doi: 10.3176/tr.2010.1.02.
- [15] D. Boertien and J. Härkönen, "Less Education, More Divorce : Explaining the Inverse Relationship Between Women ' s Education and Divorce Diederik Boertien and Juho Härkönen Stockholm Research Reports in Demography," *Stock. Res. Reports Demogr.*, vol. 11, no. July, pp. 1–52, 2014.
- [16] and M. R. W. Kreager, Derek A. Richard B. Felson*, Cody Warner*, "Women's Education, Marital Violence, and Divorce: A Social Exchange Perspective," *J Marriage Fam*, vol. 75, no. 3, pp. 561–581, 2013.
- [17] J. D. Tuttle and S. N. Davis, "Religion , Infidelity , and Divorce : Reexamining the Effect of Religious Behavior on Divorce Among Long-Married Couples Religion , Infidelity , and Divorce: Reexamining the Effect of Religious Behavior on Divorce," vol. 2556, no. October, 2015, doi: 10.1080/10502556.2015.1058660.
- [18] and S. B. Jaffar Aman 1,* , Jaffar Abbas 1, 2,* , Mohammad Nurunnabi 3, 4, "behavioral sciences The Relationship of Religiosity and Marital Satisfaction : The Role of Religious Commitment and Practices on Marital Satisfaction Among Pakistani Respondents," pp. 1–13, 2019, doi: 10.3390/bs9030030.
- [19] & W. M. A. Carter, S.M., "Separation, Divorce and Women Abuse," *Small Gr. Res.*, vol. 29 no. 5, pp. 583–601, 1998.
- [20] B. van der Klaauw, "Economics Department of the University of Pennsylvania AID OFFERS ON COLLEGE ENROLLMENT ;," *Int. Econ. Rev. (Philadelphia)*, vol. 43, no. 4, pp. 1249–1287, 2002.
- [21] M. M. Sweeney, A. V Horwitz, and M. M. Sweeney, "Infidelity , Initiation , and the Emotional Climate of Divorce : Are There Implications for Mental Health?*" vol. 42, no. 3, pp. 295–309, 2015.
- [22] F. D. Fincham and R. W. May, "Infidelity in romantic relationships," *Curr. Opin. Psychol.*, no. June, 2016, doi: 10.1016/j.copsyc.2016.03.008.

- [23] J. Mapfumo, “Unfaithfulness among married couples,” vol. 21, no. 5, pp. 110–122, 2016, doi: 10.9790/0837-210503110122.
- [24] L. C. S. M. B. SAYER, “Women’s Economic Independence and the Probability of Divorce: A Review and Reexamination,” *J. Fam. Issues*, vol. 21, no. 7906–943, pp. 906–943, 2000.
- [25] D. Macdonald and Y. Dildar, “Married Women’s Economic Independence and Divorce in the Nineteenth- and Early-Twentieth- Century United States,” 2018, doi: 10.1017/ssh.2018.16.
- [26] B. P. V. L., “Wives’ Economic Independence and Marital Stability: Evidence from Chilean Households between 1996 and 2006,” 2010.
- [27] A. Vikat, “Does Divorce Risk Depend on Spouses’ Relative Income? A Register-Based Study of First Marriages in Sweden in 1981-1998 Does Divorce Risk Depend on Spouses’ Relative Income? A Register-Based Study of First Marriages in Sweden in,” vol. 49, no. 0, pp. 0–23, 2004.
- [28] H. Kim *et al.*, “The association between long working hours and marital status change: middle-aged and educated Korean in 2014 – 2015,” pp. 1–10, 2019.
- [29] J. H. J. Iv, “Do Long Work Hours Contribute to Divorce? *,”
- [30] D. Yucel, “Wives’ Work Hours and Marital Dissolution: Differential Effects across Marital Duration,” vol. 2, no. 1, pp. 12–22, 2012.