CHAPTER - I

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Divorce does not strike out of a clear sky but is simply the final step in the series of incidents which mark the disintegration of a marriage. Divorce is the outcome of an unhappy and disharmonious marriage. Divorce is, no more, rare as it was considered earlier. Divorce is escalating with rampant rate, even, in our oriental Indian and Hindu society, spreading like an epidemic. The most affected person on account of divorce is the divorced Woman. The divorce shatters the well being, psychological, social, economical etc. of the women inflicted by it. Generally, the women in our oriental Indian and Hindu society do not opt for divorce, as solution for unhappy marriage, in first place but are forced to accept it as their lot and fate.

Chowdhary (1991) found girls were receiving more negative attitude for themselves hence they developed deformed self image, unworthy and stereotypic thinking and behaviour. The divorce adds more negativity to their already deformed and mutilated self image, psyche and well being.

The researcher has undertaken this research project with a vision. She hopes to explore and probe into the deeper layers of the personality and behaviour of these Divorced Women. In order to identify those specific behaviors, factors and features which vary within the divorced women when compared to their married counterparts, married women has been chosen as control group. The selection of Personality Characteristics and Behavioural Characteristics for intensive and extensive exploration of the personality and behaviour of the target group has been done very carefully, and these are capable of measuring the deeper layers of Personality and Behaviour of divorced and married women, for the purpose of the present investigation. The results of this research would
be applied to design and devise measures and plans to foster fast the well being to these suffering divorced women in our Indian society.

**MARRIAGE:**

The socio-cultural, economic, and psychological status of any woman can only be assessed adequately on considering her marital and familial background; devoid of her marital and familial background any sort of assessment of woman is incomplete and misleading. Therefore, a few paragraphs have been devoted to present Marriage and Family.

The institution of marriage is a scared binding between two people which has been practiced since times immemorial. L.M. Singh says, "Marriage is an ancient institute validated by individual needs and social utility sanctioned by scriptural approval and fortified by manifold norms and injunctions."

Marriage has also been defined as a mutual commitment to make a home where members of the family will share common problems and have mental space for each other. Marriage raises the status of both sexes in their intimate relationship with each other. Further, it is also a relationship to be nurtured and cherished so that it grows into a beautiful way of life form generation to generation. In marriage, the individuals are intensely concerned with the satisfaction of their sexual, economic, confirmatory, and status goals.

Marriage, not only provides the most pervasive opportunities of personality development, it almost forces individual to develop the necessity of accommodating oneself to another individual and of finding satisfactory solutions to the inevitable problems which may make or break the individual. Marital harmony is defined as, in a happy marriage; it is the wife who provides the climate and husband the landscape.

Marriage is smooth sailing when a woman is accommodating and abides by her husbands wishes. The average Indian wife, who is basically a family woman, would
rather abides by her husband's wishes and finds greater happiness in marriage than confront him and make her married life complicated and unhappy. Because of the women's emotional, physical and economic dependence on the male, the man becomes more experienced and authoritative and the woman the helpmate and follower. When a woman, never abides by her husband, and thinks and acts independently, in 62% of cases the marriage is unhappy. When a wife abides by her husbands wishes, less than 5% are martially unhappy. As in marital happiness, if a woman goes by her husband's wishes, adjustment to the rest of the changes that marriage entails is made easier. There is less confrontation between the male and female. Marriage, like any other institution where co-operation and understanding are essential, cannot function smoothly if the partners are not willing to give in and abide by the others’ wishes.

In most societies, for men as well as for women, the desire for a home, a personally created and co-genial "health", a setting for life's activities within an enduring relationship, is a powerful incentive to marriage.

MARIITAL ADJUSTMENT

Adjustment in marriage is not static but a dynamic process. The pattern of adjustment of any married couple remains always highly individualized one. The main fact that the persons are suited to each other does not give them successful marital life. Marriage is a holy relationship between two otherwise unknown souls. It gives the partners an opportunity for the satisfaction of their needs for companionship, affection and sexual expression; behavioral adjustment, mutual understanding and emotional maturity are the main requirements for keeping a marital life in harmonious state. It needs great effort on the part of the partners to justifiably fulfill the above conditions.

Men and Women, throughout the ages, have married with an air of optimism hoping that marriage would offer them love, affection, satisfaction, understanding and companionship.
Formm's (1962) defines Love as the active concern for the life and growth of that person to whom we love. Love usually occurs early in a relationship but does not last very long. Compassionate love (Conjugal love) is the affection that remains after the passion of love has subsided, and is essential if a relationship is to be maintained. Compassionate love is less intense than romantic love and involves thoughtful appreciation of one's partner. It is also characterized by a tolerance for weaknesses and a desire to solve conflicts and difficulties in a relationship (Grote and Frieze, 1994). Psychologists Shaver and Freedman (1976) evaluated 52,000 replies to a 'Psychology Today' questionnaire about happiness. For married subjects - about 35 percent - these researchers reported that wives rated love as most important for their happiness; husbands rated recognition and personal growth first and love second. In an attempt to explain this difference, these investigators suggested that the men's emotional needs for love and affection were taken care in their marriage. Tarvis and Jayaratne (1976) concluded that love was a sound basis for marriage when it meant that couples cared enough to discuss their problems and disagreement openly and honestly with each other.

Marriage in ancient India was contrived for the purpose of accomplishing three duties: Performance of religious rites or “Dharma” (/keZ/), reproducing of children or "Poorna Santati" (/\i\wLZ\ uf fr/), and the attainment of physical satisfaction or "Rati" (/j fr/) (Mukhjerjee, 1990). The process of interaction between husband and wife to achieve a state of harmony falls under the purview of marital adjustment. Adjustment, according Burgess and Cottrell (1939), is indicated by the degree of agreement on the chief issues of marriage. Unlike the traditional symbols of success in marriage viz. performance of marriage, children’s respect of community and economic well-being, the current symbols include adjustment based on mutual personality development, sexual compatibility, commonality of interests and affectionate relationship (Kephart, 1984).

According to Locke and Willams (1958) - Marital adjustment comes to mean an adoption between husband and wife to the point where there is companionship, agreement
on basic values, affection, intimacy, accommodation, euphoria and certain other unidentified factors: age at marriage, equality of status, length of marriage, educational level, professional status, role expectation etc. Age of marriage play an important role in marital adjustment, difference of educational levels is positively associated with marital happiness.

The term adjustment also refers to the more or less stable changes and result of such changes. It also refers to the situation when some unit or system mechanical or biological or social is not functioning successfully in terms of some criteria. It is called maladjustment. The definition of marital adjustment is more or less related to the concept of marriage and the standards of adjustment prevalent in a particular society at a particular point of time.

The research agrees with the meaning of marital adjustment as given by Landis (1946), where it refers to the state of accommodation which is achieved in different areas, where conflict may exist in marriage. In marital adjustment the emphasis is upon the harmonious relations of husband and wife and with their family. Rosenquist (1940) while discussing the stress and conflicts writes, "If the individual meets his difficulties in way satisfactory both to himself and to society, we say he is well adjusted, if at the other extreme, he can satisfy neither society, nor himself, he is poorly adjusted". Similarly, if husband and wife meet the difficulties and demands of their roles, resolve the conflicts in a manner which is satisfying for themselves and also for the family. They may be able to accomplish adjustment in their married life.

If, on the other hand, they do not evolve a solution to their difficulties and if conflicts within themselves as well as within marital relationship remain unresolved they may fail to achieve marital adjustment. The nuclear family makes adjustment slightly easier because the wife faces less interference from in-laws. She has greater freedom of function on her own. She has greater privacy with her husband and gets to know her husband quicker.
As a consequence, standards used today are quite different. If a marriage is providing an intimate and mutually satisfying experience that contributes to the growth of both partners, we would probably regard it as "Successful" and "happy". The emphasis here is on happiness since husbands, wives and objective observers tend to show good agreement on how "Happy" a marriage is. In addition, happiness is closely related to effective family functioning and the continuation of the marriage.

Many investigations have attempted to study the effect of working status on marital adjustment and found that it plays an important role in marital adjustment. Blood and Wolf (1958), Grover (1963), Booth (1977), Upmanyu and Chouhan (1987) (in India) have reported that working women have better marital adjustment as compared to non-working women.

**DIVORCE**

Divorce does not strike out of a clear sky but is simply the final step in the series of incidents which mark the disintegration of a marriage.

The modern instability of the family is revealed by the frequency of divorce, separation, desertion, and other evidence of disharmony or lack of cohesion which come to light particularly in the courts, in social work, and in "marriage clinics". The degree of instability varies considerably from place to place, being relatively low in some countries, as compared with many other western countries. But on the whole the evidences of instability are increasing.

"For every two couples who will take the big step to the altar this year, there will be a man and woman somewhere else in the U.S. who have found marriage to be one of life's most painful and wrenching experiences. They will be getting divorced." (U.S. News World Report). The divorce rate in India has shown a dramatic increase in the past century. One in seven marriages ended in the divorce in 1920, compared with one in four in 1960 and one in three in 1974, and the trend countries upward, providing America with the dubious distinctions of having the highest divorce rate in the world.
Of course, divorce and separations statistics do not tell the whole story about the incidence of unhappiness and maladjustment in Marriage. Thus many of the marriages that end in divorce have probably been as happy as or happier than some of those that endure.

Many factors undoubtedly combine to account for high rate of divorce in our society. These factors include conditions in the social setting, as well as, characteristics of the two persons involved and of the pattern of interaction between them. There has been a loosening of most of our traditional values and social structure in recent years. Mobility, instability and change appear to be both commonplace and expected in our society and in our own personal lives. Our high standard of living has raised our expectations for satisfactions of all kinds - including those by which we measure the acceptability of a marital relationship. It is also possible that marriage based on love and emotional need fulfillment are inherently more hazardous than those based on economic and other pragmatic considerations, where the conditions that give rise to the marriage help to maintain it.

Modern urbanization and the rise of the nuclear family have removed many of the environmental supports and the kind of help with marital problems, that tend to be available in the extended family; who live in a less hurried, less impersonal, more stable social network. The rates and complexity of social change, with all its implications for mate selections and marital happiness, have not been matched by preparation of our young people in realistic expectations or in the attitudes and skills needed for a stable and satisfying marriage in this kind of society.

A study of marital stress presents a more refined picture of the effect of class on marriage. Leonard Pearlin (1975) concluded that "status inequality by itself is of the little or no consequence. The importance of such inequality to marital problems depends on the meaning and value that are attached to it.

A more recent study (Blumstein and Schwartz, 1983) has identified several types of conflicts that increase the likelihood of divorce. Among them are conflicts over the
extent to which work intrudes into the relationship, especially in dual earner families; over the amount of housework performed by the wife; and over the frequent absences of the other partner.

According to Turnbull (1995) divorce rates are highest during the first five years of marriage and then peak again after couples have been married for 15-25 years.

Divorce can have serious effects on the psychological adjustment of children whose parents are separating. According to Wollett and Fullar (1996), mothers who have been through a divorce often report experiencing a sense of achievement in their day to day activities and feeling of 'a job well done'. This is because they use their experience of divorce in a positive way to 'galvanize' them into taking charge of their lives.

DIVORCE AS A PROCESS

Most people find out by experience that divorce is a "process" often taking months (even year) – not a single event. Depending on the degree of commitment to the marriage and the length of marriage, the process of total divorce may take, as long as, the marriage took to complete. Divorce only dissolves the legal marital relationship, not the emotional, economic, parental, community or psychic relationships that have evolved.

A) Bohannon’s Six Stations of Divorce:


B) Fisher's Process Model

1. Self acceptance Model

2. Feeling of rejection and or guilt.

3. Loneliness and grief (use of social network here)

5. Feeling loveable again

6. Disentanglement from former mate.

7. Anger-expressed in positive ways

8. Decision about sex-unmeant sexual needs.

9. Learning to trust others.

10. Leftover emotional ties

11. Aliveness, singleness, and freedom, the final stage.

**INTERPERSONAL DIVORCE PROCESS**

It is usually a process of gradual deterioration. Most often, divorcing couples have ignored the maintenance of their relationship.

**PROCESS OF DETERIORATION**

1. **Disillusionment** - marriage gradually becomes less personally fulfilling.

2. **Testing the water phase** - Asking the questions "What if we got a divorce?"

3. **Seeking outside counsel from friends.**
   i. Rehabilitative reaction, "It is not so bad."
   ii. Supportive reaction, "you will be fine."
   iii. Opportunity reaction "Come over, let's talk and have some wine."
   iv. Withdrawal reaction, friends fear "catching" your divorce.
4. Seeking legal counsel

5. Most parents will agree with divorce, most friends will be supportive.

6. Reconciliations: 50% of those who initiate separations will return to the marriage for some time - on again/off again type relationship. 90% will reconcile after filing papers.

7. Amicable divorces are rare - most are highly angered at each other.

IDENTITY RE-ORIENTATION:

Development of the “single” self is difficult depending on the duration of the marriage. The longer the marriage, the longer reorientation takes. Some factors are associated with the process of redefining oneself.

i. New surroundings are necessary.

ii. Knowing the first year is the toughest, stressful and lonely.

iii. Resolution of stress through social participation getting out there when ready.

iv. Sexual permissiveness can increase and should be avoided.

v. a good job helps increase self image.

FACTORS INFLUENCING THE PROBABILITY OF DIVORCE

A) DEMOGRAPHIC FACTORS:

i. **Age at marriage**- the lower the age → higher probability of divorce; age at first marriage is the single most influential factor, marriage after age 22 has no statistical relationship to divorce.
ii. **Span (duration) of marriage** - usually two peaks: a bimodial curve. Actually, logic has it that the longer the marriage → the greater the opportunity for divorce.

iii. **Level of education** - homogeny of social characteristic and not absolute education - may be degrees held. Greater the discrepancy in education → greater the probability of divorce. When education is interrupted, greater chance of divorce.

iv. **Social class** - highest divorce rate in the lower/working social classes. Financial insecurity → marital instability, unhappiness and dissatisfaction. Youngsters are less financially mature and more prone to romanticism.

v. **Family of origin stability** - higher risk of divorce if parents are divorced because parental divorce → early marriage → divorce.

All these factors have a greater effect on women than men, women marry early more often than men.

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**B) SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT FACTORS**

1. Greater social acceptance of Divorce.

2. Changing demands on Marriage and Family - Fewer socially bound marriages and that the marital relationship often acts to absorb social stress from outside the marriage.

3. Dual - Worker - Marriage - little time for relationship.
4. Economic changes - women now have more economic means, making them less dependent on the marriage for financial support.

C) RELATIONSHIP FACTORS

1. Fraudulent Marriage Agreements.
2. Discordant Relationship
3. Disqualifying Relationship - one partner is blamed.
4. Collusion - a marriage is based on deviant terms - if I can keep drinking or seeing other women.
5. Violent marriages.

D) PERSONAL FACTORS

1. Unrealistic Expectations and Evolutions.
2. Fading Romantic Interest.
3. Leftovers from prior Relationships.

EFFECT OF DIVORCE

1. **Emotional Effect**: Divorce is an emotional crisis, men are less traumatized by divorce than are women, probably because marriage is a little less valued by men than by women. Still women are more likely to initiate a divorce, than suffer from loneliness, depression, and anxiety over the future.

2. **Economic Effect**: Despite the institutionalization of No fault divorce laws in almost all states, women still bear the most financial loss. In fact, women (with children in custody) suffer about 50% reduction in their standard of living, while
men enjoy about a 70% increase in their lifestyles after divorce in states with community property laws and among no fault divorce.

3. **Social Effects:** Perhaps the greatest sadness of the "age of divorce" is not the loneliness suffered by the causalities, but it is the effect of divorce on children.

While social scientists once agreed that it was better for a couple with children to divorce rather than live unhappy with children observing - now most social scientists agree that the most harmonious outcome for children is to live with their parents - regardless of the quality of the relationship of the parents to each other (barring physical violence or neglect).

There is some degree of emotional trauma suffered by children of divorced parents, depending on the age of children at the time of divorce. In most cases, this is short term. There is also the loss of confidant counselor and his/her guidance that is the non-custodial parents. Generally the non-custodial parents (dads in 90% of the cases), begin with prompt child support payment and on time visitations, but gradually slacks off - so that by the end of the first year he is delinquent in both payments and visits.

However the greatest threat to children is the loss of material wealth. Children living with their mothers are likely to have had to move into other neighborhoods, begin new school system careers, and make new friends at a time when old habits would have offered more comfort. Loss of material wealth causes these emotional upsets. In facts, non custodial fathers somehow do not pay almost 60% of the court awarded child support payment in any given year.

This fact alone is sufficient to force many single parents families into poverty, or just above the poverty line. One child in four (20%) in our society lives below the government mandated poverty line (1 child in 3 if we use the poverty line + 25%) and the majority of these children are from single parent families headed by mothers.
Contrary to conservative political beliefs, only 35% of these single mothers are members of any minority group. When we look at our society and observe the social problems plaguing us drugs, runaway children, teenage prostitutes, and increasing crime rates in many areas - it is clear that there is at least one glaring cause of all this.

PERSONALITY

Allport considered personality as "a person’s pattern of habits, attitudes and traits that determine his adjustment to his environment." Behaviour is molecule and it can be broken into atoms. These atoms may be said, to be certain characteristics of the organism that become permanent with the individual. These habitual characteristics of behaviour determine the quality of man's personality. It is a marvelously intricate structure delicately woven of motives, emotions, habits and thoughts into a pattern that balance the pulls and pushes of the world outside. "It is the whole person who acts, loves, suffers, flights and dies." An individual’s dealing with his environment has a quality, an individuality of its own. Every one of us has a quality of behaviour. This total quality of one's behaviour is considered as personality.

Sigmond Freud conceptualized personality having three distinct aspects or "parts" namely (1) the ‘Id’, (2) the ‘Ego’, and (3) the ‘Superego’. These three components of personality are not entities in themselves or as separately functioning mechanism. They are dependent upon each other and are completely interrelated, yet each at the same time has certain definite and very specific characteristics. These three basic elements function together at all times within a single person and are not separate things in themselves.

The ‘Id’ – ‘The ‘Id’ is the central core of the personality of the individual. It is the source of all the innate instinctual psychological forces. The discharge of ‘Id’ forces is always pleasurable, if unmodified and the ‘Id’ is thus constantly engaged in securing gratification that the individual unconsciously wishes. ‘Id’ processes are unconscious, but that the unconscious is not all ‘Id’.
The ‘Ego’ - The ‘Ego’ is concerned with relationship between the ‘Id’ and the outside world which the individual comes into contact, the various intense emotional reactions, his drives and all his basic wishes actively striving for continuous gratification originate in the ‘Id’. The environmental and social forces often will not permit these wishes to be gratified and produce reactions which may prohibit the gratification. The ‘Ego’ is essentially concerned with the relationship demanded by reality. Unlike the ‘Id’, the ‘Ego’ is concerned with time sequences and is also concerned with external Morality; it differentiates to some extent between right and wrong.

The ‘Superego’ - the maturation and development of ethical, social and cultural values of the individual brings further modification of the existing personality structure. It is referred to as the ‘Superego’. In the same manner as the ‘Ego’ is a modification of the ‘Id’ structure, the ‘Superego’ has a capacity to modify and determine to some extent the functions of the ‘Ego’.

Inter-relationship of ‘Id’, ‘Ego’ and ‘Superego’

The inter-relationship among the ‘Id’, ‘Ego’, and ‘Superego’ constantly change during the development through which we all pass. For this reasons we must regard the complex interplay among them from the standpoints of several different time levels. What would be true of their inter relationship at the age of eight would not be true at the age of sixteen.

However, since the ‘Superego’ is the latest in time of development it stands in closer, relationship to the outer world than does the ‘Ego’ particularly to its social and cultural attributes. Again the ‘Ego’ and ‘Superego’ both have their beginnings in the ‘Id’. However, the ‘Ego’, being formed first has the closest temporal relationship to the ‘Id’.

The core of the personality pattern the self concept remains fundamentally the same. As time goes on, this core becomes less and less flexible. Then a change in
personality traits may upset, the personality balance. Thus, early experience is externally important in shaping the personality pattern.

The personality pattern, the foundations of which were laid in babyhood, begins to take form in early childhood. Because the parents, siblings, and other relatives constitute the social world of young children. How they feel about them and how they treat them are important factors in shaping self concept the core of the personality pattern. That is why Glasner has said that the child's self concept is "formed within the womb of family relationship."

**ADJUSTMENT TO HIS ENVIRONMENT**

This phrase has a functional and evolutionary significance. Personality is a mode of survival, "Adjustment", however must be interpreted broadly enough to include the behavioural environment as well as the surrounding geographical environment.

**FAMILY**

Family is the only institution, which is formally developed in all societies as stated by Good (1964). Society's values and norms are passed through generation to generation by ways of socialization. These norms pertain to family functions, family practices and its composition. Family is a central factor in personality development and learning. In Indian societies, parents are held responsible for their children's social development. It is being observed that behaviour is formed in the structure, composition, and interactions of family unit.

Family is the major source of personal growth and development by way of getting nurturance, emotional bonding, and socialization. Enriching role of family to enhance child's personality is universally accepted. Diversity of any kind in family environment explains for difference in child care and anemic development to a large extent.

Family, is a most close knit and intimate unit of social interactions, however, it is difficult to evaluate intensity of interrelationships because of each community's sub-
cultural setting, city culture, and the way it operates. It is central institution of all human societies; it is both the arena and the medium for developing children into social beings. It is largely supported by many family psychologists that every aspect of individual’s development is associated with activities and interactions within the family unit. It also provides major source of perceptual stability in children's lives from which the identity begins to emerge. Family, also transmits to its members the culture, values, beliefs, role ideology and the product of socialization process. Block (1984) concluded that differential socialization of sons and daughters contribute greatly in the role adoption beyond biological differences. Thus, the family foundation is the first place to be looked into, and evaluated to study female’s personality and or her place in society at large.

The macro functions are related to the type of family nuclear or joint, whereas micro functions relate to family structure, relationship, roles and family practices. Micro functions of the family are very essential for family’s stability and individual’s development. The functions of a family are divided among family members in the form of roles, which are culturally defined and passed on to the succeeding generations. Thus the role expectations are learnt from the family, and distributions of various positions and activities distinguished in the structure. The term of role differentiations is made by age, gender and generation. In egalitarian families, families apply equal distribution of power between men and women. In past since men had more power in Indian families they were given higher status than women in families.

Family characteristics appear to predict emotional and behavioural development in complex interaction with other factors, such as social-economic status, sources of support outside the family, child's age, gender, role models and temperamental characteristics of the members. Research also suggests that high cognitive skills, curiosity, enthusiasm, ability to set goals for oneself, and high self esteem are associated with resilience (Bernzoeig, Jilaaz & Eisenbarg). Function of family is more important than its structure; its important functions are protection to children, skills to cope with the physical and social worlds, affective meaning to interactions and relationships, and
facilitating self understanding. Hanson & Lynch, (1992) purpose that regardless of how families define themselves, the key elements of the definitions of family are that the members of the unit see themselves as a family, are affiliated with one another and are committed to caring for one another.

CONCEPTUAL FRAME WORK

The present investigation encompasses the probing into and exploring of some of the pertinent Personality Characteristics (02) (viz. 1.Neuroticism and 2.Extraversion) and Behavioural Characteristics (07) (viz. 1.Frustration, 2.Thought Pathology, 3. Depressive Emotions, 4. Insecurity, 5. Rationalization, 6. Decision Making, and 7. Sexual Pathology) of Divorced and Married Women. These Personality Characteristics and Behavioural Characteristics of these women were considered apt and appropriate for the present research. The effect of divorce is most disintegrating and debilitating on the psyche and well being of the divorced women; apart from its negative effect on socio-economic and familial domains. The above variables selected for investigation are said, to have more pointing and deep rooted effect on the psyche of divorced women. The measurement of these Personality Characteristics and Behavioural Characteristics will enable the researcher to probe deep into the inner layers of the Personality and Behaviour of these Divorced women and paint a vivid picture of their inner self and would assess to which extent the divorce has caused damage and impairment to their psyche. This is important as it will enable the researcher to design and devise some means and measures to restore their well being. In order to have due appreciation and clear understanding of the problem under investigation it is imperative to present the conceptual frame work of the problem, briefly. The conceptual frame work comprises of brief description of the variables under consideration and their interrelations. Here it is important to point out that the Divorced Women constituting the sample for the study, were all legally divorced Hindu women belonging to middle class - socially, economically, and educationally. The
target group forms a very special segment of the society whose all round well being has been shattered and needs to be given due attention by the psychologists and significant others. There is a matched control group comprising of Married women. Thus sample is representative, appropriate and adequate.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

The Aims and Objectives of the present investigations are being outlined as under:

1. To study the Personality Characteristics of divorced and married women.
2. To study the Behavioural Characteristics of divorced and married women.
3. To study the Neuroticism among the divorced and married women.
4. To study the Extraversion among the divorced and married women.
5. To study the Frustration among the divorced and married women.
6. To study the Thought Pathology among the divorced and married women.
7. To study the Depressive Emotions among the divorced and married women.
8. To study the Insecurity among the divorced and married women.
9. To study the Rationalization among the divorced and married women.
10. To study the Decision Making among the divorced and married women.
11. To study the Sexual Pathology among the divorced and married women.

**HYPOTHESES**

The hypotheses framed and formulated for being tested through inferential statistical techniques viz. t test and 2 X 2 Factorial Experiments are being enumerated hereunder:-

**Behavioural Characteristics**

1. Divorced and Married women differ significantly on Frustration.
2. Divorced and Married women differ significantly on Thought Pathology.

3. Divorced and married women differ significantly on Depressive Emotions.

4. Divorced and married women differ significantly on Insecurity.

5. The divorced and married women differ significantly on Rationalization.

6. Divorced and married women differ significantly on Decision Making.

7. Divorced and married women differ significantly on Sexual Pathology.

Personality Characteristics

8. Divorced and married women differ significantly on Extraversion.

9. Divorced and married women differ significantly on Neuroticism.

PERSONALITY CHARACTERISTICS

Extraversion and Neuroticism: Eysenck has endorsed strong support for a view which recognized the existence of two very closely marked, outstanding and important dimensions of personality. These have been called Introversion-Extraversion and Neuroticism, emotionality or stability-instability as dimensions.

EXTRAVERSION AND INTROVERSION

Eysenck described the characteristics of an Extravert in the following words, "the typical Extravert is sociable, likes parties has many friends, needs to have people to talk to, and does not like reading or studying by himself. He craves excitement, takes chances, often acts on the moment, and is generally an impulsive individual. He is fond of practical jokes, always has a ready answer, and generally likes changes, he is carefree, easy going, optimistic, and likes to laugh and be merry. He prefers to keep on moving and doing things, tends to be aggressive and looses his temper quickly, altogether his feelings are not kept under control and he is always a reliable person."
Describing an **Introvert** Eysenck stated, "The typical **Introvert** is a quite, retiring sort of person, introspective, fond of books rather than people, he is reserved, and distant, except to intimate friends. He tends to plan a head cook before he leaps and distracts the impulse of the moment. He does not like excitement, takes matter of everyday life with proper seriousness, and likes a well ordered mode of life. He keeps his feelings under close control, seldom behaves in an aggressive manner, and does not lose his temper easily. He is unreliable, and some what pessimistic, and places great value on ethical standards, (Eysenck & Eysenck (1963).

**NEUROTICISM**

According to Karen Horney: The Neurotic Personality of our time lists three characteristics that she found in nearly all individuals; the first, a rigidity of personality and a lack of flexibility in meeting difficult situations, the second, a discrepancy between actual achievement and potentiality for achievement; and the third, a prevailing personal unhappiness and dissatisfaction with life. In addition to these three characteristics, she found that most of the neurotics are plagued with feelings of inferiority and self doubt in explaining the needs and string of neurotic people. Horney shows that their behaviour tends to a certain self-defeating pattern whatever that neurotic wants or closure becomes so idealized a goal that it is not humanly possible to attain. These needs and strings being over driven are characterized by the following firsts.

First, the driven motive is compulsive or insatiable, second frustration of this motive leads to disproportionate emotional reactions, and third, the drive has marked indiscriminations, for example: a person seeking affection is compulsively driven to prove that every one loves him. He makes no exception or discrimination, and when be finds that any one has criticized him or has in any other way indicated a lack of affection, he become, like a child, extremely angry and upset and jealous of his supposedly more favoured rivals.

**BEHAVIOURAL CHARACTERISTICS**
1. DECISION MAKING

Decision making is a kind of problem solving in which we are presented with several alternatives among which we must choose one idea. People use subjective probability estimates of the likelihoods of various outcomes in an effort to maximize value in perceived benefit or psychological value in making their decisions. This rule applies to making even risky but useful decisions.

These rules can lead to biases and errors in making decisions. Among the decisions making are representative-ness, availability and adjustment. When compromise reaction succeeds in meeting the essential requirements of the stress situation, the problem is resolved and the person goes on to other activities. From time to time however, each one of us is likely to make compromises that we cannot fully accept and like because important needs continue to change. In such instances additional adjustment is required.

Marital adjustment not only depends upon the sexual satisfaction of wife and husband but is affected by facilities developed by mutual efforts of all members of family. Women’s contribution in decisions making in family matters and how does this affect her marital adjustment and happiness when women is completely ignored.

Once two people have made a commitment to each other, many factors come to bear upon the success of their relationship, some quite apart from all the influence that brought them together. What they make their marriage depends upon things that enter into the daily patterns of doing their activities, their decisions making procedures, their ability to encourage each other’s growth and their ways of adjusting and accommodating to each other’s needs, habits and personalities.

2. INSECURITY

Insecurity lacks maintenance of conditions necessary to need gratification. It also lacks freedom from thereat to danger of life. This is the tendency which is generally
found in the women because of various social and economical factors. In the married women, it is found because of her fear for the smooth running of her environments. But in the divorced women the problem of insecurity is a very severe problem. It is found because of various social obligations. In the Indian Environment presence of this tendency brings in the various obstacles is the path of personality development of women.

3. THOUGHT PATHOLOGY

This refers to the tendency to act without thinking, terms referring to the character of an act as immediate and without deliberation on the more presentation of a situation either in perception or in idea. Together, with perception, thoughts enable the individuals to organize his experiences and to maintain, protect, and effectively extend himself in his negotiations with the world about him. Thought process is made up of symbolic representations of event objects or relationship to which individual has responded. Therefore, thought pathology is just the tendency to make various permutation and combinations of the existing facts of ordering life. This is the tendency of the human behaviour to show the inner strength and maturity of thoughts.

4. RATIONALIZATION

Ego defense mechanism in which the individual thinks upon good reasons to justify what he has done, is doing, or intends to do. According to Freudian theory the ‘Id’ impulses raisest conflict with the ‘Super Ego’ impulses and ‘Ego’ is the specific area where the conflict takes place and ‘Ego’ becomes active. The ‘Id’ impulses try to come up in the conscious but ‘Super Ego’ does not allow them to do so. This conflict is resolved by rationalization in such a manner that either the conflict doesn’t arise or that it is totally resolved.

This defense mechanism has much impact on life because it maintains a balanced behaviour. It has pathological implication also, as well as, because the main cause of obsessions is rationalization and its exaggerated form leads to the formation of delusion.
Thus it has both negative and positive aspects, through this defense mechanism an individual deserves to seek unstable gratification.

5. FRUSTRATION

Frustration occurs when obstacles to need satisfaction are encountered. Such obstacles deter or prevent an individual from reducing his needs and may derive from sexual sources. Frustration is important not only because of the psychological discomfort, it results in, but because of certain other effects. Divorce can have serious effects on the psychological adjustment of children whose parents are separating.

6. SEXUAL PATHOLOGY

A general term covering feelings and emotions experienced by members of one sex towards the other sex, which are attributable to the difference of sex, it may also called over development of sexual impulses.

The sexual activity of married life unites both social and psychological aspects. When both of these forces are interrupted by the divorce, the person faces crises. A pattern of intimate social relationship has been abruptly broken and social disorganization, temporary or permanent, of a very literal kind has occurred. The problem of sexual adjustment is perhaps the most elemental one faced by any divorced person. The dynamic nature of sexual tensions, make this adjustment difficult. The definition of sexual behaviour in our society invests any expression out side of the marriage with strong social disapproval. The disturbance of sexual behaviour is related to some of the most important personality disorders in our culture. All of these facts show that the sexual behaviour is very important on the part of both married and divorced persons and any disturbance in this may create serious problems for the individual and/or social setup. This is called sexual pathology.

7. DEPRESSIVE EMOTIONS
Anger, Affection, Joy, Sorrow, Guilt and Grief are profound human experiences known to all human beings. This primary role of the personality in accounting for emotions experienced and expressed has been emphasized so far and individual emotional behaviour. Depressive emotions are characterized by the feeling of guilt, loss of interest in activities, sleep problems and even suicidal thoughts. This is the tendency of human being to go in the deep sad emotional thoughts. This tendency creates the mutilated thought for the person concerned, therefore if any person is suffering with these problems always remains very pessimistic for his life and for his doings.

JUSTIFICATION AND IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY

In the present day, the Divorce among couples is escalating with rampant rate, in our oriental Indian and Hindu society too, like an epidemic. The most affected person on account of divorce is the Woman. The divorce shatters the well being, psychological, social, economical etc. of the women inflicted by it. Many are driven and thrown into the blind alleys of life where they become clinical patients, falling into the dark pits of depression and hopelessness which ultimately culminates into suicide. However, this is not the case with every divorced woman. Some of them, in affluent circumstances, with good education and high socio-economic status, belonging to working class, are not so miserable, socially and economically; but in spite of all this, their psychological well being is not intact and shattered. The scars of their psychological sufferings are still alive and breathing within their inner-self.

In order to have an insight and understanding of the inner-self of divorced women, it was considered apt and appropriate to probe into certain pertinent and important behaviours of these women. It was also thought necessary to understand the difference between divorced and married women and to identify some basic features and specific
behaviour which cause variation in divorced women, in comparison to their married counterparts.

In order to put an end to the sufferings of the divorced women and to foster fast their well being, the researcher has decided to investigate upon the Personality and Behavioural Characteristics of these women and compare them to their married counterparts. It is hoped, earnestly, that the study would bring to the fore and limelight the differences and distinctions that existed between the personality and behavioural characteristics of the two groups of women, viz. divorced and married. And which characteristics/factors, entwined and woven into the psyche of these divorced and married women may be the probable causes, responsible for relinquishing or retaining their marriages.

The study will provide an effective tool to understand the complex psychological behaviour developed among divorced women and would suggest remedies to avoid the development of psychological complexities and complications.

The present Chapter - I entitled “Introduction” provided the theoretical introduction, conceptual framework, aims and objectives set forth, hypotheses formulated, variables under investigation and justification, importance and implications for the present study.

Next, the survey and review of Research Literature related to the topic and variables of research was initiated and accomplished. The related researches and their logical and theoretical integration have been presented in the ensuing Chapter – II entitled “The Review of the Related Literature”.