Determinant of Marriage Dissolution

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Outline

1. Introduction
   - Background of the Study
   - Previous Work

2. Methodology
   - Data & Methods

3. Our Results/Contribution
   - Main Results
   - Conclusion and Recommendations
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Background of The Study

- Marriage is a basic foundation for the formation of the family institution.

- However, not all couples are able to undergo their marriage until the end of their days, and even worst, they will face serious domestic unrest thus causing them to dissolve the marriage.

- Divorce is the legal dissolution of marriage between couples who no longer understands each other and decide to end their marriage.

- Divorce has become an issue primarily of concern among the demographers as the phenomenon of divorce is increasing every year worldwide.
According to the Population and Housing Census in 2010, the number of divorce and permanently separated people about 166,973.

According to JKSM, the number of divorce cases among Muslim couple is very worrisome whereby the total cases reported in 2013 increases by half of the total cases reported in 2012.
The data obtained from the Department of Islamic Development Malaysia (JAKIM) and the National Registration Department (NRD) showed that crude divorce rate had increased for the comparable year between 2000 and 2010.

The crude divorce rate was 0.65 per 1000 population in 2000 and was 1.70 divorces per 1000 people in 2010 (NPFDB, 2013).
Objective The Study

- To reveal the factors that contribute to the dissolution of marriage
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According to Simon (2010), higher number of divorce rate will result in lower fertility rate.

The research done by JKSM indicated that the seven determinants of dissolution of marriage include culture, sexual, disloyalty, responsibility, health, social issue and economy.

The Malaysian Population and Family Survey 2004 (KPKM-4) reported that the main cause of divorce is lack of understanding (41.8%), dishonest (6.0%), refused to allow husband to find another (6.0%) and spouses are irresponsible (11.4%).
A research done by Bradburry & Norris (2005) suggested that couples in poorer immediate financial circumstances have a greater likelihood of divorce than those in more stable financial conditions.

Previous study also found that the age difference between husband and wife during marriage can influence the divorce rate whereby it is likely to be the least if the husband is at least ten years older than his wife (Kashem, 1998).
Higher level of education among men was found to be associated with greater marital stability. As for women, greater marital stability was found among women with tertiary qualifications (Baxter & Western, 2005).

Literature also suggested that the marital stability is reduced by the existence of many children (Becker et al., 1990, Lewis et al., 1979).
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The data used in this study were gathered from the Islamic Religious Department Petaling District in Selangor.

Consist a real cases reported by marriage couples who filed for a divorced in twelve months started from 1st January 2012 until 31st December 2012.

From 583 cases opened in twelve month period, only 181 cases were applicable for the study due to incomplete data.
Each of the cases recorded both husband and wife demographic profile such as:

- Age at marriage of husband and wife
- The presence of children
- Duration of marriage
- Educational level of husband and wife
- Employment status of husband and wife
- Household income
- Counseling session attended
Data & Methods

The logistic regression analysis was used to analyze the data where the dependent variable was marital status of the cases while the independent variables were all the demographic profile.

The status of the cases is either divorced or not which is known as a dichotomous variable.

Most of independent variables were categorical variables such as educational level and employment status while several variables were continuous variables like the presence of children and duration of marriage.
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**TABLE I.** Descriptive Statistics for Continuous Independent Variables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>Mean</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age at marriage of husband</td>
<td>36.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income of husband</td>
<td>4202.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age at marriage of wife</td>
<td>34.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income of wife</td>
<td>2930.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children</td>
<td>1.93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### TABLE II. Demographic Profile of the Respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>Count (Total 181)</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Husband Education Level</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>40.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma/Pre-Degree/Bachelor</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>18.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master/PhD</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>23.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Husband Employment Status</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not employed</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>93.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wife Education Level</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>9.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma/Pre-Degree/Bachelor</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>23.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master/PhD</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>27.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wife Employment Status</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not employed</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Counselling Session Attended</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>39.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>60.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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A logistic regression model is said to be good if it shows an improvement compared to the model with intercept only (Peng, 2002).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goodness-of-fit Test</th>
<th>$\chi^2$</th>
<th>P-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Omnibus Test</td>
<td>57.743</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hosmer and Lemeshow</td>
<td>13.070</td>
<td>0.109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nagelkerke R Square =0.377</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This indicates that the model with intercept only has a poor fit and that the predictors have significant effects on predicting the likelihood of dissolution of marriage.

In other words, the set of predictors considered in this study can reliably distinguished the decision of the Muslim couples on the dissolution of their marriage.

The Hosmer and Lemeshow test is not significant at 5% level of significance.

Hence, the prediction made by the estimated model does not differ significantly from the observed group membership.
### Model Fitted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>P-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Age At Marriage_Husband</td>
<td>0.029</td>
<td>0.318</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Education_Husband</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>-0.143</td>
<td>0.920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>0.853</td>
<td>0.527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dip_Pre_Bachelor</td>
<td>-0.894</td>
<td>0.522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters_PhD</td>
<td>-0.651</td>
<td>0.629</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Income_Husband</td>
<td>0.000111</td>
<td>0.027</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Working_Husband</td>
<td>-1.464</td>
<td>0.107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Age At Marriage_Wife</td>
<td>0.069</td>
<td>0.091</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Education_Wife</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>-0.601</td>
<td>0.759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>-0.894</td>
<td>0.635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dip_Pre_Bachelor</td>
<td>-0.096</td>
<td>0.959</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters_PhD</td>
<td>-2.197</td>
<td>0.224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Income_Wife</td>
<td>0.000187</td>
<td>0.015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Working_Wife</td>
<td>-0.472</td>
<td>0.390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Children</td>
<td>-0.574</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Counseling</td>
<td>1.006</td>
<td>0.010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Four of the ten factors selected for the analysis including husband’s income, wife’s income, number of children the couples had and the presence at a counselling session were found to be statistically significant.

The results also pointed out that the likelihood of dissolution of marriage increases as the income of husband and wife increases whereas it decreases as the number of children increases.

Couples who did not attend a counseling session are 2.734 times more likely to divorce compared to those who attend the counseling session.
Marriage education to young couple and newly weds
Enhance the pre-marriage course
More family programs and encourage people to participate
Baxter, J., Hewitt, B., and Western, M.
Post-familial families and the domestic division of labour: A view from Australia.
*Journal of Comparative Family Studies, 36*: 583-600. 2005

Becker, S., Gary, M., Kevin, M., and Robert, F. T.
Human Capital, Fertility, and Economic Growth.

Bradbury, B., and Norris, K.
Family dynamics in Australia. Fluid Projects
*University of New South Wales, Sydney* 2005
Kashem, S.
The Social and Demographic Correlates of Divorce in Rural Bangladesh

Peng, C. Y., Lee, K. L and Ingersoll, G. M
An Introduction to Logistic Regression Analysis and Reporting
*The Journal of Education Research, 2002*