

How do the economic factors affect the legal process of divorce for women in Iran?

Research and Perspective

This project aims to investigate women's divorce experiences and reveal the effect of their economic status on their legal divorce procedure using a qualitative method. The qualitative social research methods applied were "participant observation", "in-depth interviews" and "a questionnaire". Using three qualitative methods provided rich information on women's rights and inequality in the family law and the family court from the social and cultural standpoint. I reviewed the theoretical background of gender inequality in the literature.

Although the laws in the family courts in Iran are sometimes against women, some women can manage to expedite their legal process of divorce in their favor while some others cannot. A variety of factors are at play in the divorce proceedings of women seeking a divorce in Iran.

My initial focus was on the economic status of women initiating divorce as I thought economic status was one of the most influential factors in their divorce process. Nonetheless, during my fieldwork in Iran, I came to the conclusion that other factors were also involved in the divorce process of women seeking a divorce in Iran. Some of these factors include educational level, having a supportive family, having a child, and being religious. It is also declared that the economic status of women is closely associated with their educational level, the degree of their religiousness, and having a child.



(BBC, 2020)

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University of Tübingen. Summer Semester 2020

Who feels unequal?

Women in the process of divorce in Iran, "Islamic" law

Family is one of the most important social institutions whose transformations have a great effect on society. The legal, social, cultural and economic situations of individuals and society affect the divorce process in a number of ways.

Divorce laws in Iran are based on Islamic jurisprudence and, if a man does not want to divorce his wife, the legal process of divorce can be prolonged, so that it affects all of the people involved, most importantly the wife. Women's legal rights and their status are an important issue that has become more prominent in Iran after the revolution.

Despite these codified laws in the family court in Iran, there are women who have a variety of different experiences with their divorce process. Some of them have succeeded in expediting their legal process of divorce in their favor and some others have not.

Scope of Study

The research was carried out at the family court Nr.2 in Sari, the capital of Mazandaran province in Iran. This city is located in the north of Iran and the ethnicity of its people is Mazani and their dialect is Mazani.



(ResearchGate, 2020)

