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Divorce and Family Role Based on *Slerek* as Traditional Fishing Method in Muncar Banyuwangi Coastal Area

Burhani Buhani¹, Sri Surahmi²

¹⁾ Universitas PGRI Banyuwangi, Jl Ikan Tongkol 22 Banyuwangi 68416
Email: buhani@uniba-bwi.ac.id

²⁾ Universitas PGRI Banyuwangi, Jl Ikan Tongkol 22 Banyuwangi 68416
Email: surachmi@uniba-bwi.ac.id

Abstract : Muncar is a sub district in Banyuwangi which is a ocean fishery area. Banyuwangi has a big number of divorce in marriage. In Muncar there are many separation cases but the number of divorce is zero in 2012. This research is aimed to describe the causes of this phenomena. The research is done by field interview to local people. The interview results are used to describe the causes of the phenomena. The result shows that separation happen because economical and ethnical factor. There is also a unique understanding which come from the philosophy of traditional fishing method that called *slerek*. This method describe a couple of fishing boat or vessel which represent a role of marriage couple. *Slerek* did not effect the knowledge and attitude to prevent separation and divorce in Muncar district but can be used as premarital education material.

Keyword: divorce, *slerek*, Muncar, Banyuwangi

1. Introduction

Family is the basic and essential unit of life that gives safety and comfort to their members. Marriage is necessary for forming of family [1]. One of the family problems is divorce. Divorce is related with marriage and family, and is a social innovation; it had been used as an instrument exposing failure through marriage [2]. Society should make every effort to support healthy marriages and to discourage married couples from divorcing [3]. Divorce is a complex event that can be viewed from multiple perspectives. Sociological research has focused primarily on structural and life course predictors of marital disruption, such as social class, race, and age at first marriage [4].

Divorce has received significant attention in many developed countries because of its striking effects on individuals and society such in Bangladesh [5] and Iran [1, 2, 6]. Divorce has many effects due to the member of the family. Divorce causes personal, domestic and social disintegration, and in most cases, has greater banes for women compared to men [2]. Divorce has impact due to family structure on the health of children [3]. Former husbands and wives were more likely to blame their ex-spouses than themselves for the problems that led to the divorce [4].

Research in divorce topics has done for the reason [1, 2, 4, 6, 7], the impact [3], and the phenomenon of divorce [8]. There are a several factors that cause a divorce. A research result shows that the demographics of families are changing, and with that, the philosophical underpinnings of elationships are also changing [3].

Banyuwangi as a district has number of divorce which is the the biggest in 2009 [9] and second biggest in East Java Province [10]. Muncar is a sub district ocean with traditional fishing society which the second biggest in Indonesia. The number of population in Muncar is 64.254 persons with 13.810 persons working in fishery sector [11]. This research is aimed to describe the causes of the divorce phenomenon in Muncar.

2. Methodology



The research is done by field interview to local sources with snow ball method. The interviews done for local government, 10 family couples and 5 local fishermen. The interview is aimed to get the causes the tendency of separation rather than divorcing. The interview results are used to describe the causes of the phenomena.

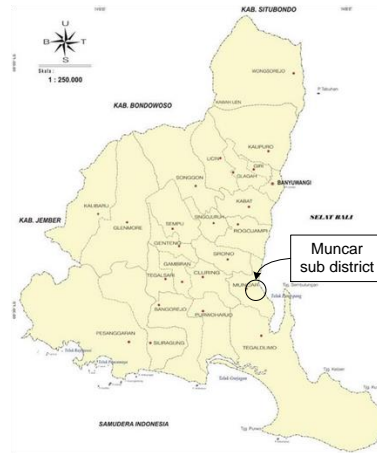


Fig. 1. Muncar sub district

3. Result and Discussion

There is a divorce phenomenon in this sub district. According to Badan Pusat Statistik Kabupaten Banyuwangi (Central of Statistical Bureau of Banyuwangi District) the number of marriage, separation and divorce is shown at table 1.

Table 1. Number of Marriage, Separation and Divorce 2010-2012 in Muncar

Year	Marriage	Separation	Divorce	Ref
2011	1.130	17	23	[12]
2012	1.294	43	85	[13]
2013	1.227	141	0	[14]

Table 1. shows that the number of separation tends to increase. Number of divorce also tends to increase during 2011-2012 but tends to decrease during 2012-2013. These numbers show that people who have problems with marriage tend to choose separation rather than divorce. Separation has a chance that the problem can be fix. The intensity of marital conflict would be higher if the wife lives with her husband [15].

Traditional fishing method in Muncar is called *slerek*. This method use 2 fishing boats or vessels that function as a couple [16]. People in Muncar called *slerek* as “husband and wife in a family” [17]. The first ship function as fish catcher and the second one as a provider for the need of the first one. It is similar with the role of husband and wife in Javanese culture. The husband work for the family and the wife stay at home to provide the needs of the husband. This fishing method is known in people daily life that can be the foundation of family role in society.

The cause of divorce mostly is economical factor. Fishermen is known as relatively poor society. Muncar people mostly are Madura ethnic. Usually, the role of woman has been measured up by domestic jobs, it goes around bathroom, cooking room, and bed room. These roles are considered ideal for woman [18]. The development of the world has made changes in this paradigm. It is also drive by women emancipation movement. Studying historical trend of divorce phenomena, among contemporary societies, revealed that whatever we shift from feudal system to liberal and industrial society, the divorce possibility and frequency will increase [2].

An important factor that affects the quality of marital relationships can be values and belief systems of the partners and the similarities and differences of beliefs and values in the couple system [6]. The knowledge of *slerek* concept should be a marriage foundation in family daily life in Muncar.

The phenomenon shows that divorce number is still relatively high. This shows that *slerek* concept did not has effect due to the family role. This concept can be used as premarital education material in order to decrease the number of separation and divorce.

4. Conclusion

Slerek as a pair of traditional fishing boat has a concept of husband and wife role in a family. This concept did not effect the knowledge and attitude to prevent separation and divorce in Muncar district. This philosophical knowledge can be used as premarital education material.

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