

## Assessment of Teenagers Academic Performance Failure under Disintegration Family at Secondary Schools in AL-Najaf AL-Ashraf City \ Iraq

تقييم فشل الأداء الأكاديمي للمراهقين في ظل التفكك الأسري بالمدارس الثانوية بمدينة النجف الأشرف / العراق

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الخلاصة:

**خلفية البحث:** تفكك الأسرة هو الأسرة المنفصلة، الطلاق، وفاة أحد الأبوين أو كليهما. تفكك الأسرة هو إنهاء أو فسخ رباط الزواج الذي تم بين الزوج والزوجة بحكم صادر عن محكمة مختصة أو بموجب قانون صادر عن السلطة التشريعية.

**الأهداف:** تحديد تفكك الأسرة بين المراهقين في المدارس الثانوية، وتقييم عدد سنوات الفشل في المدرسة الثانوية، وتحديد تأثير تفكك الأسرة على عدد سنوات فشل المراهقين، ومعرفة العلاقة بين عدد سنوات فشل المراهق تحت التفكك الأسري وخصائصها الاجتماعية والديموغرافية للجنس والعمر ونوع الأسرة ومستويات تعليم الوالدين والحالة الاجتماعية والاقتصادية.

**المنهجية:** أجريت دراسة غرضية مقطعية وصفية خلال الفترة من ١١ / تشرين الثاني / ٢٠١٨ إلى ٩ / أيار / ٢٠١٩ في مدينة النجف الأشرف / العراق، وكانت الدراسة هي اختيار عينة هادفة (غير احتمالية) قوامها (خمسمائة وخمسة وخمسون) طالبا تتراوح أعمارهم ما بين ١٢ - ١٨ سنة في المدارس الثانوية بمحافظة النجف الأشرف / العراق.

**النتائج:** الإشارة إلى أن هناك علاقة ذات دلالة إحصائية بين جنس المراهقين في ظل أسرة التفكك وعدد سنوات فشلهم. بينما توجد علاقة غير ذات دلالة إحصائية بين جنس المراهقين تحت تفكك الأسرة وعدد سنوات فشلهم. وأظهرت النتائج أن هناك علاقة ذات دلالة إحصائية بين المستوى التعليمي للمراهق في ظل الأسرة المنفصلة وعدد سنوات فشلهم. بينما لا توجد علاقة ذات دلالة إحصائية بين المستوى التعليمي للمراهق في ظل الأسرة المنحلة وعدد سنوات الرسوب.

**الاستنتاج:** إن معظم المراهقين بالمدارس الثانوية تحت تفكك الأسرة يعانون من مشاكل عدد سنوات الرسوب.

**التوصيات:** إلى الحكومات والمدارس يجب أن تخلق وعياً حول تفكك الأسري وإجراء التعديلات الأكاديمية والعاطفية والاجتماعية للطلاب من خلال التدريب وورش العمل والندوات. يجب توعية الوالدين بضرورة البقاء معاً كزوج وزوجة لتنشئة أسرة جيدة.

**الكلمات المفتاحية:** تقييم، فشل المراهقين الأكاديمي، التفكك الأسري، المدارس الثانوية.

### ABSTRACT:

**Background:** Disintegration family it is the family under separation, divorce, the death of one or both parents. It is the legal termination or dissolution of the marriage bond that has been concluded between the husband, the wife and by a judgment issued by a court of competent jurisdiction or according to a law issued by the legislative authority.

**Aims of the study:** determination of disintegration family among secondary school adolescents, assess secondary school's adolescents' number of failure years, determine the impact of disintegration family on adolescents' number of failure years, and to find-out the relationship between adolescent's number of failure years under disintegration family and their socio-demographic characteristics of gender, age, family type, parent's education levels, and socio-economic status.

**Methodology:** A cross-sectional descriptive purposive study is conducted through the period of November 11th 2018 to May 9th 2019 in-order to assessment of teenagers academic performance failure under disintegration family at secondary schools in AL- Najaf AL-Ashraf City/Iraq, the study was purposive (non-probability) sample of (Five hundred and fifty five ) students, whose age are between 12 -18 Years old have been selected at secondary schools in AL- Najaf AL-Ashraf City/ Iraq; the sampling of study is divided into two stages which include: First stage: the school's selection by cluster, the AL- Najaf AL-Ashraf city divided to six districts, the schools selected randomly (36) school's girls and boys, from (130) of total schools, while the second stage: The students under disintegration family selection by using the purposive sampling, and control group from each school were randomly selected.

**Results:** Indicate that there is significant relationship between the adolescents' gender under disintegration family and their number of failure years. While there is a non-significant relationship between the adolescents gender under disintegration family and their number of failure years. The results show that is a highly significant relationship between adolescent's educational level under disintegration family and their number of failure years, while there is not significant relationship between the adolescent's educational level under disintegration family and their number of failure years.

**Conclusion:** That most of the secondary school's adolescents under disintegration family have problems of number failure years.

**Recommendations:** To the governments and schools should create awareness on the ills of disintegration homes on the academic, emotional and social adjustments of students through training, workshops and seminars. Parents should be enlightened on the need to stay together as husband and wife to raise a good family.

**Keywords:** Assessment, Adolescents' Academic performance Failure, Disintegration Family, Secondary Schools

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## INTRODUCTION

Academic performance is the knowledge or skills that a student achieves, or is acquired by the student and indicated in the school subject in the classroom on the basis of test scores or marks awarded by teachers. Academic performance is also accomplished through the grades established from the achievement of the specified educational program. The number of failure years in school of a child can be affected by many factors, which is related to tensions, differences, instability in the home, or family relationships <sup>(1)</sup>.

The student's academic performance is either good or weak, which is influenced by several factors cumulatively including family customs and traditions, family background, student perseverance, attitudes surrounding the student, interest in the school. In addition to the environment and the prevailing atmosphere in the home, the relationship between the parents on the one hand and their relationship with children on the other hand, and the relationship between siblings if not friendly, which leads to the emergence of frequent conflicts and disputes and hostility from both parties from time to time that can end completely in the disjointed homes, The result of annoyance or anger leads to emotionalism with the loss of control over personal moral rules and the prevailing norms in society <sup>(2)</sup>.

Parents play a fundamental role in building the personality of the child through upbringing, conditioning, and education in dealing with the requirements of life and building the personality of the child. Family instability especially broken families brings tension the members, these stress lead to frustration and lack of motivation in the right direction these manifestations act negatively on an adolescent's academic performance. Therefore, this frustrated and many behaviors prevent the adolescents from achieving their goals that can greatly influence on performance at school <sup>(3)</sup>.

The parental relationship plays a very important role in determining the educational level or number of failure years of children in school. Children growing up in a home that is plagued by problems, conflicts and disputes are unlikely for children to develop their academic potential and capabilities to the fullest, while children who grow up in homes dominated by stability, cooperation and regularity; as children are more vulnerable to scientific development and progress, and also have the ability to discover their academic features which leads to success in the endeavor of life <sup>(4)</sup>.

## AIMS OF THE STUDY

determination of disintegration family among secondary school adolescents, assess secondary school's adolescents' number of failure years, determine the impact of disintegration family on adolescents' number of failure years, and to find-out the relationship between adolescent's number of failure years under disintegration family and their socio-demographic characteristics of gender, age, family type, parent's education levels, and socio-economic status.

## METHODOLOGY

- **Study Design:** A cross-sectional descriptive Purposive study is conducted through the period of November 11<sup>th</sup> 2018 to May 9<sup>th</sup> 2019 in-order to assessment of teenagers academic performance failure under disintegration family at secondary schools in AL- Najaf AL-Ashraf City/Iraq.

- **Study Setting:** In this study setting (36) different schools ; including (12) intermediate schools, (12) high schools (preparatory), and (12) secondary schools, which are distributed in six districts of Al-Najaf Al-Ashraf city, six schools from each quarter's.

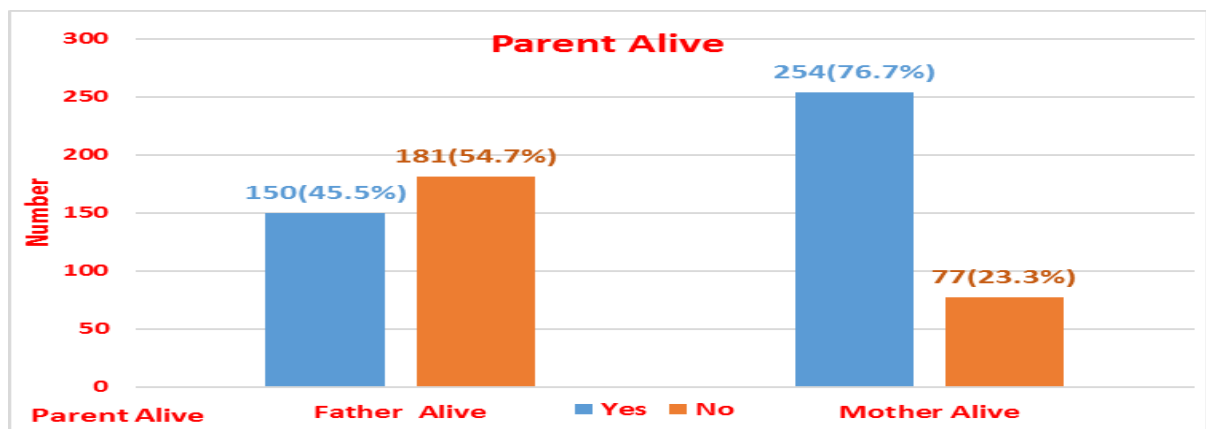
**RESULTS:**

**Table (1):** Distribution of the Study Sample by their Adolescents Demographic Data

Variables		Disintegration Family		Control group		P. value
		No.	%	No.	%	
Gender	Male	139	42.0	39	17.4	0.0001*
	Female	<b>192</b>	<b>58.0</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>82.6</b>	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>100%</b>	
Adolescents Age (years)	12-13	25	7.5	18	8	0.0001*
	14-15	105	31.7	55	24.6	
	16-17	<b>169</b>	<b>51.1</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>67</b>	
	18	32	9.7	1	0.4	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>100%</b>	
Educational Level for Adolescent	Intermediate	120	36.3	39	17.4	0.0001*
	Secondary	<b>181</b>	<b>54.7</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>54.9</b>	
	Preparatory	30	9.1	62	27.7	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>100%</b>	
Classes	First	23	6.9	18	8.0	0.0001*
	Second	79	23.9	25	11.2	
	Third	54	16.3	29	12.9	
	Fourth	<b>97</b>	<b>29.3</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>22.8</b>	
	Fifth	78	23.6	101	45.1	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>100%</b>	
Educational Level for the Students	Good	92	27.8	<b>201</b>	<b>89.7</b>	0.0001*
	Average	<b>131</b>	<b>39.6</b>	22	9.8	
	Poor	108	32.6	1	0.4	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>100%</b>	
Number of Children in the Family	1-3	<b>144</b>	<b>43.5</b>	94	42	0.832
	4-6	<b>144</b>	<b>43.5</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>46.4</b>	
	7-9	35	10.6	24	10.7	
	10-12	8	2.4	2	0.9	
Age at Disintegration Family (Years)	1-3	29	8.8	-	-	
	4-6	54	16.3	-	-	
	7-9	86	26	-	-	
	10-12	<b>105</b>	<b>31.7</b>	-	-	
	13-15	47	14.2	-	-	
	More than 16	10	3	-	-	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>100%</b>	-	-	

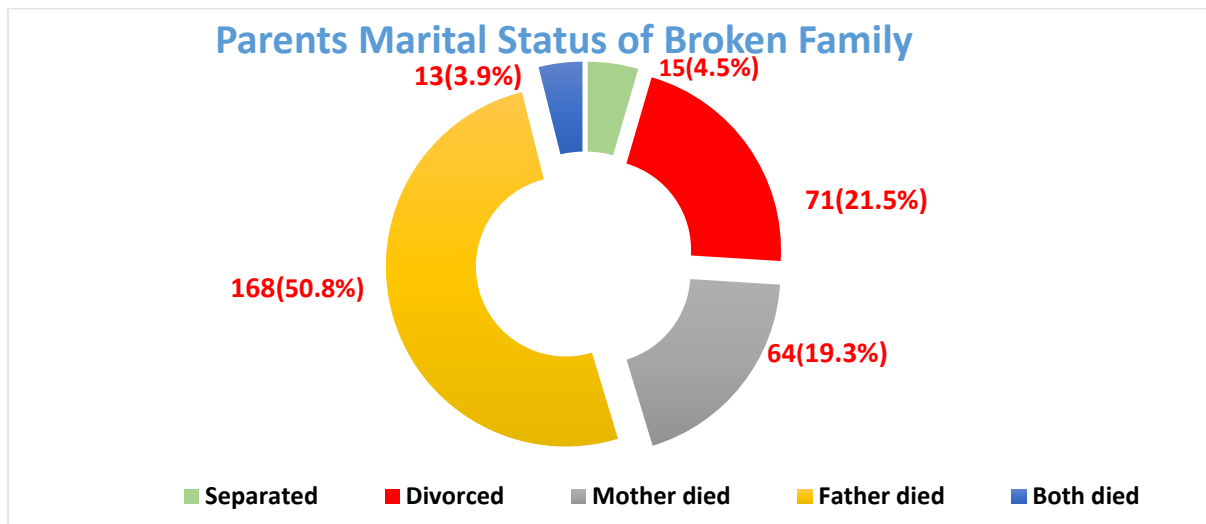
Table (1) indicates that more than half (51.1%); (67%) of ages are 16-17 years of disintegration and control samples respectively; while the results revealed that the highest percentage (58%); (82.6%) is female of disintegration and control samples respectively; the educational level more than half (54.7%); (54.9%) at secondary school of disintegration and control samples respectively; more than quarter (29.3%); (45.1%) of disintegration and control samples respectively in fourth and fifth class, with average level (39.6%) of disintegration sample, while good level (89.7%) of education with control sample; the highest percentage of number children in the family is (43.5%); (46.4%) of four to six of both samples respectively; while age at disintegration family is more than third percentage (31.7%) at ten to twelve years; the children rank in family is more than third percentage (37.1%) at second in disintegration sample, while (44.2%) at first in control sample.

**Figure (1):** Distribution of the Study Sample by their Parent Alive



The findings in figure (1) indicate that the more than half percentage (54.7%) of no father alive; while mother alive is two-third percentage (76.7%) of disintegration family sample.

**Figure (2):** Distribution of the Study Sample by their Parents Marital Status



The findings in figure (2) indicates that the majority percentage (50.8%) of father died and the divorced is (21.5%); while lowest percentage (3.9%) is both parent died of Disintegration Family.

**Table (2):** Association Between the number of failure years and Adolescent's Behavior levels under disintegration family of the study group

Variables		Number of Failure Years								P. value
		0		1		2		3		
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
Disintegration Family (BBRS)	Not (110-220)	4	2.5	-	-	-	-	1	7.7	0.011*
	Yes (221-384)	139	86.9	81	77.1	41	77.4	8	61.5	
	Significant (385-550)	17	10.6	24	22.9	12	22.6	4	30.8	

\*Significant difference between proportions using Pearson Chi-square test at 0.05 levels.

Table (2) represents the association between the Adolescent's Behavior Levels under Disintegration Family and their numbers of failure years, the study results indicate that there is a significant association between number of failure years and Adolescent's behavior levels under Disintegration Family at p-value (0.011).

**Table (3):** Association between Educational Level for the Students and Adolescent's Behavior Levels of the Study Group

Variables		Broken Family						Control					
		Educational level for the students						Educational level for the students					
		Good		Average		Poor		Good		Average		Poor	
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Burks Behavior Rating Scale (BBRS)	Not (110-220)	4	4.3	-	-	1	0.9	95	47.3	12	54.5	-	-
	Yes (221-384)	74	80.4	104	79.4	91	84.3	106	52.7	10	45.5	1	100
	Sign. (385-550)	14	15.2	27	20.6	16	14.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>P. value</b>	0.007*						0.655					

\*Significant difference between proportions using Pearson Chi-square test at 0.05 levels.

Table (3) represents the association between the adolescent's behavior and their educational level for the students; the study results indicate that there is a significant association at p-value more than 0.05; at p-value (0.007).

## DISCUSSION

Table (1) showed distribution of the study sample by their adolescent's demographic data, this table indicates that the highest percentage (more than half) (58%); (82.6%) are females of disintegration and control samples respectively. This result indicates that there were females students of disintegration homes more than males students in the secondary schools; these findings agree with results obtained from study done by) Pauwels and Svensson, (2017. This result is due to the presence of disputes between parents or family

disintegration. This generates conflicts and problems for the children, as it leads the children, especially the girls, to research and clings to any outlet that leads them to alleviate or break out of these conflicts and to prove their existence, and this can only be found through school. Especially in the Najaf community where the available resources for girls are much less than for boys with more supervision for girls; especially in adolescence, which is characterized by aspirations for freedom and independence <sup>(5)</sup>.

While the results revealed that more than half (51.1%); (67%) of age is 16-17 years of disintegration and control samples respectively; these findings agree with results obtained from study done by (Tremblay et al., 2018). This result is due to the period in which they were born. The society has suffered in many political and economic problems, in addition to the openness that the country witnessed and other factors have rocked society, especially the family. The disintegration has increased during that period <sup>(6)</sup>.

Concerning the level of adolescent's education, the study indicates that more than half (54.7%); (54.9%) at secondary school of disintegration and control samples respectively; these findings agree with results obtained from study done by (Atsushi et al., 2018) <sup>(7)</sup>. While there are more than quarter (29.3%); (45.1%) of Disintegration and control samples respectively in fourth and fifth class, with average level (39.6%) of disintegration sample, and good level (89.7%) of education with control sample; these findings agree with results obtained from study done (Amato and Sobolewski, 2001) <sup>(8)</sup>. This result is due to the fact that most of the samples members are between 16-17 years old and who are usually in this stage of study. Addition the lower educational level to middle due to loss or lack of supervision by the parents, with the mental, emotional and number of failure years' problems faced by the adolescents, as well as difficulties in the family. All of this reflects negatively on all levels of the adolescent's life, especially the academic level, with the loss or lack of interest of the educational staff in the student, making the student's level be less than good.

The highest percentage of number children in the family are (43.5%); (46.4%) of fourth to sixth of both samples respectively; these findings agree with results obtained from study done by (Cohen, 2014). This result is due to the occurrence of most cases of family disintegration when the number of its member's increases, which creates burdens on the family breadwinner and consequently the family's neglect and disintegration. Therefore, the order of adolescents plays a major role in determining the method of family upbringing, especially in dealing with children <sup>(9)</sup>.

While adolescent's age at disintegration family indicates that more than third (31.7%) occurred at ten to twelve years; these findings agree with results obtained from study done by (Bank et al., 2001). This result is due to the burdens of living and the increasing requirements of adolescents as they get older, with the inability of parents to manage family affairs with the problems of life facing the family in light of the unstable political, economic and security conditions of the country, with the increase in the number of family members. These factors can lead to family disintegration and incoherence <sup>(10)</sup>.

Children rank in family are more than third percentage (37.1%) at second in disintegration sample, while (44.2%) at first in control sample; while the results revealed that the highest percentage (48.3%); (100%) is number of failure at less than one year of disintegration and control samples respectively; these findings agree with results obtained from study done by (Anderson et al., 2017). This result is due to the varied socio-demographic of the family who live in a poor or semi-poor family <sup>(11)</sup>.

Respondents were asked whether both parents were alive (Figure 1), the findings indicate that the more than half percentage (54.7%) of no father alive; while mother alive is two-third percentage (76.7%) of disintegration family sample; these findings agree with results obtained from study done by (Lauren and Laura, 2008). This result is due to the Iraqi society, especially Najafi, the main breadwinner for the family is the father, and the

dependency is high, as well as the large role in meeting most of the basic needs necessary for family members, especially individuals without adolescence. In the case of losing the father, the entity and cohesion of the family can permeate or weaken and also generate economic and social burdens on the rest of the family members, especially the mother or big brother <sup>(12)</sup>.

Figure (2) show distribution of the study sample by their parents marital status, it indicates that the majority percentage (50.8%) of father died and the divorced is (21.5%); while lowest percentage (3.9%) is both parent died of disintegration family; these findings agree with results obtained from study done by (Riala et al., 2013). This result is due to living in single parent families or stepfamilies caused by death had higher negative consequences for adolescent than living in single parent families caused by divorce, due to fathers take on the principal caring role. In general, the results of this study give support to the weak social position of the mother as the most likely explanation for the negative effects of living in a single parent family <sup>(13)</sup>.

Table (2) show association between number of failure years related to the adolescent's behavior levels broken family in secondary schools, represent the association between the adolescent's behavior and their number of failure years, the study results indicate that there is a significant association between number of failure years and adolescent's behavior levels at p-value (0.011); these findings agree with results obtained from study done by (MacArthur et al., 2018); the study results indicate that engagement in such behaviors can increase risks of low educational attainment, antisocial behavior, injury, and during adolescence, and can influence morbidity later in life <sup>(14)</sup>.

Table (3) show association between educational level for the students related to the adolescent's behavior levels broken family in secondary schools, represent the association between the adolescent's behavior and their educational level for the students, the study results indicate that there is a non-significant association at p-value more than 0.05; at p-value (0.007); these findings disagree with results obtained from study done by (Umar, 2019); the study results indicate that there is significant influence of broken homes on the academic adjustment of secondary school students <sup>(15)</sup>.

## CONCLUSIONS

The study found out that more than half of the study is female adolescent under disintegration family. The study indicates that the disintegration family has a non-significant relationship to socioeconomic status. The study indicates that most of adolescents have problems of number of failure years with their disintegration family. The findings from this study lead to the conclusion that disintegration family have immense influence of adolescent's number of failure years at secondary schools in AL- Najaf AL-Ashraf City.

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Government should review upward minimum salary from the current amount to reasonable and substantial level to better the lives of the average citizen in the country.
2. Employment opportunities should be created for the unemployed parents.
3. Should, through enacting laws and the media, to enhance and improve the quality of family life.
4. Parents should be enlightened on the need to stay together as husband and wife to raise a good family. They should persevere and tolerate each other in marriage.

**Ethical Clearance:** All experimental protocol was approved under the College of Nursing, University of Kufa, Iraq and all experiments were carried out in accordance with approved guidelines.

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