

THE CAUSES OF MARITAL FAILURE

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Abstract

Marital failure, a complex phenomenon influenced by a myriad of factors, can vary widely among couples. Key contributors to marital breakdown include poor communication, unresolved conflicts, and lack of emotional intimacy. Economic stress, such as financial instability and job loss, further exacerbate tensions within the relationship. Social pressures, including societal expectations and family dynamics, can create additional stress and lead to dissatisfaction. Individual challenges, such as mental health issues or differing values and life goals, can also play a significant role in marital discord. Understanding these multifaceted causes is essential for couples seeking to navigate their relationships more effectively and for professionals aiming to provide support. Future research should focus on identifying and implementing targeted interventions that address these underlying issues, promoting resilience and fostering healthier, more fulfilling partnerships.

Keywords: Communication; Intimacy; Social Pressures; Stress; Unresolved Conflicts; Expectations

INTRODUCTION

The increasing rate of marital failures from the general view of the public, states that what affect “A” also affects “B” because the same can be said regarding to all marital issues in all religious background, due to the significant facts that brings two people together as one. Be it Christian or non-Christian, in my investigation based on the Case Study in Eleme Local Government Area, states the facts that what affect one religion affect all religions in terms of marital

failures, whether one is from the Christian background or not, the courses of marital failures are universal. This is because marriage is an institution in which interpersonal relationships, usually sexual, are acknowledge or sanctioned. In some cultures, marriage is recommended or considered to be compulsory, before pursuing any sexual activity this is why when related generally, marriage is considered a universal command or obligation, based on this fact from my case study in (Eleme Local Government Area) throughout the history of any given marriage related to religious background among the Christians evolving to both the higher authorities to the lower ones, even in traditional aspect, the issues or course varies in one direction and expanded and constrict in who and what is encompassed.

Sometime people thinks that infidelity is the only cause of marital failure, but they have got it all wrong because, we polled over 100 experts to see why some top marriages failed, we discover ten (10) most common reason why marriages fail this is based on (HUFFPOST update September 16, 2016 by Lisa .L. Pa Roth)

To be certain in my finding, the obligation of marriage which brings two different individual (male & female) together is from God himself, meaning that marriage is not ordained by man but divine obligation from heaven. “Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband” (I Corinthians 7 vs.2) this is why according

to John Cole 12 things that can cause marriage failures (John Cole 12 things that causes marital failures 2019). So many people spend hundreds of hour planning and preparing for their wedding – the venue, the dress, the guest list, the bride maids, the groomsmen, the ceremony, and the vows, but choose not to spend time planning and preparing on growing healthy marriage. I also found out in my case study in Eleme Local Government Area that broken marriage lack the ability to avoid so many factors that we will later look into, in this research, and this factors continue causing problems or chaos in our home or marriage to the extent that we seek a negative solution or approach rather than dealing with it properly and significantly.

Tolerance is the most important factor for a happy marriage. Tolerance involves respect acceptance and appreciation it can help couples communicate when they have different ideas on something. This is why it is stated that broken marriages lack unit in the “sense that tolerance is never accepted by the individuals involved” (Dr. Turk Al Qahtani’ (ADJD) marriage counselor May 19, 2019). This situation has a negative effect to the harmony that bound the husband to the wife, and because they cannot accept the true fact of imperfection their home become’s open air for divorce or visual segregation despite the home together process going on now (meaning living together in one home without physical interaction or mutual feeling of any kind). While many other homes see marriage as children thing meaning, only having as many children as they can

without any feeling for each other e.g. “Love” despite husband and wife love that is not there; which is what I referred to as children thing, in my study about marriage I happen to see and also feel the absence of love and care, this is because we take day to day activity serious more than what is happening in our home, we can only presume that all is well even if something was going wrong in the other side of the home and the fact remains that no matter how busy one may be either seriously involving in the aspect of his or her business or career, the home is the number one priority that should be considered or reconsider in any direction of life.

The researcher also found out that what destroys home or causes most marital failures is less showing concern about what is affecting the wife or the husband, sometimes it is because it is assumed that the other spouse is aware or capable to handle whatever happens at all time in the absence of the other.

For all believers it is important to hear what the word of God says on any matter. Of no less importance is the subject of marriage (Brian Warnes; 2019/2020). This is why one needs to be carefully and quietly pray and choose his/her partner, despite the imperfection of human nature or individual being. Some other marriages are counted by their unwillingness to learn from each other or adapt to one another despite the individual nature, in this case such circumstance brings nothing but separation which can result in divorce, with no proper reason why they can't live together, and in such situation it requires spiritual and physical

solution from a mature and qualified counselor to cement such marriage back to its proper place based on the researcher findings in Eleme Local Government Area. Sometime it is due to low income from the man, maybe the woman is earning enough to pay most of the bills that arises in the family, this can reinstate the woman to be the sole winner of the home which will later result into some women seeing themselves as the all and all when it comes to any decision that concern the home, by this situation the home sometimes if not handle with wisdom by the man becomes “bi-furcated” and inter-governmental or center for misunderstanding if not properly handle it can also result into chaos that can generate the question who is the head? And when this question is adopted, with both parents of the spouse allowed to jump in, it also result to the center of judgmental retribution.

This is where revalued process comes in and the manifestation sometimes is very extreme and dangerous, if solution is not advocated for. Basically, it can also retrieve the pass sin of the other partner. And in my research I discovered that parental approaches has broken a lot of home, and separated either the man or the woman from the love that both parties share and posses. And in order cases it brings tribalism into the marriage without considering their children that they own obligation to bring up in the admonition and educational standard.

And again the researcher discovered that a lots of parents have failed to share lovely experiences with their daughters or sons due to their rough

experiences in their marriage which result into divorce. If the woman or the man is not knowledgeable enough to choose the part that would be helpful and satisfactorily, correctly to grow his/her marriage the result becomes the case of negative attribution to already healthy marriage based on the study in Eleme Local Government Area. Some parents still see it as the avenue to revenge what they have been through in their own marriage, thereby causing chaos and destroying a lovely home.

In our modern society today many crash marriages or marital failures is as a result of negative approaches to the following factors which we are going to discuss below and the inability for the individuals concern to evaluate its consequently due to poor learning experience and also the inability to accept their fault when necessary, psychologically ignoring the purpose of what marriage should be result into lack of marriage transitional unity, this is why the factors below are consider necessary for study in order to achieve a maximum manifestation of what marriage should be. These factors are list as follows.

1. Lack of love
2. Tolerance
3. Parental deception
4. Inadequate trust
5. Inadequate concern of each other

According to the famous author (C.S. Lewis journeyonline.org 2007/2008) it puts it best “to love at all is to be vulnerable to love anything and your heart will be wrung and possibly broken what makes love is so hard and sometimes painful.” That means love have important impact to play in every relationship especially that of marital relationship.

Giving a proper attention to these factors, I believe majority of the problem that is affecting marriages or that causes marital failures can be resolve. And however the general society needs constant marriage seminal especially in my research center which is (Eleme local government area) to help them improve a healthy growing marriage and to also improve decent children growth and training in the society, this is because it is often said charity begins at home, and we all know that the home is the center for Excellency.

THE DANGER OF MARITAL FAILURES ON THE INDIVIDUALS.

The effect or danger of the increasing rate of marital failure on the individual is so alarming and dominant when it comes to divorce, this is because the word divorce constitute grooming consequences that capitalize in destroying the children that such marriage produce during the period of settlement.

And let’s not forget that it is a common language that whatever comes out of a man resemble the man, meaning that the children represent the future of the man generation and his descendant in general, the children should be seen as the

future priority in any given marriage but not as do and due affair because it is the grace or favor from God who is the giver and divine admonition of the children.

Again, I discovered in my research that so many individuals involving in divorce ends up becoming un-planned being, in the sense that their single lifestyle are been maneuver by unnecessary expenditure and wastage, notwithstanding the happiness of the individuals will completely disappear making him frustrated and being without joy.

THE EFFECT ON THE CHILDREN

Seeking the solution or way forward on how to eradicate the increasing rate of marital failure in a general ground or within the case study of this research, the result or effect of the increasing rate on the children should not be out of order to consider. This is because when separation comes, it includes poor children training and brought up, and it also bend on destroy the ability of the children during growth or destabilizing the stability of the children knowledge and behavior.

And the magnitude of the effect on the children is also so alarming that it can cause their life in the sense of subjected radicalism and rejection from the general society including based community of such children without mercy or conscience they become terror or so troublesome causing a terrible damage to the society at large.

CAUSES OF DIVORCE

The causes of divorce are vaaqery vital to every marital home and all aspect of marriage; this is because marriage institution consists of critical character and recognition in the public or open (F. Diane Barth, a psychother and the author of the “Psychology blog Off the Couch” last update 2016).

The following factors are considered and seen as a head way in vitalizing proper marriage with its sense of understanding,

- a. Un-relented attitude in studying one another
- b. Character recognition
- c. Underlying extensive use of speech towards one another
- d. Character accommodating
- e. Constant apology towards one another
- f. Avoiding habitual pride
- g. Accepting one another responsibility
- h. Distancing from infidelity.

In my research findings, this facts has a very vital point when it comes to marital issues, this is because serving one another in marriage is like studying one another because the grace of God shown towards us in Christ and due to the gratitude as Redeemed people, we must walk worthy to the calling which we have been called (Eph 4:1) (Tabletalk Magazine; Outreach of Ligonier 2019) it does not expose the faults of one another or the lapses that may have been the factor in

divorce, in fact it is the antidote that cure the issues that brings out divorce and the failures to consummate a marriage or this problems with sexual frequency, quality and infidelity are the common reasons for marital failure and divorce.

In my research finding which comes across a certain family or home that has been separated by divorce since 1998 till date, I find out that the cause of divorce was as a result of character accommodating and extensive use of speech towards one another.

This shows that it is a necessary factors that needs to be consider for any living marriage to survival and retain its dignity, and in another research I found out that so many homes has been broken up because of infidelity, this also means that infidelity is the worst killer and if not methodically considered it will damage more home that expected.

Sometimes the apology rendered can set in the first step to marital success, despite the status of the individuals or the life grade that one may belong to, it make sense when they can accept the fault at all time with constant avoidance of habitual pride.

The view of analyzing these facts or critical points gives one a through view of what a marital success should be, but if not adherent to this facts or points, such marriage will only last for a while without solid foundation to back it up as a pillar of hope for the children.

This is why marriage is called institution because it is a place of learning, a place where we keep studying one another with constant apology and extensive services to one another in all areas of our life without prejudices.

Usually when two different individual come together to live for whatever reasons, be it male or female, there is every tendency that the two must disagree in order to agree. This means in marriage one must expect the ugly side; it is very necessary and vital to accept the inability of each other

THE EFFECT ON THE SOCIETY

Going through divorce can be extremely traumatic for everyone involved including those related to the family especially if the family has one or two good attribute or impact in the society where they are found. People who undergo divorce face a variety of psychology issues including increase stress, lower life satisfaction, depression, increase medical visit and overall increase in mortality risk which can affect the environment or those related to the family emotionally or psychologically in one way or the other based on (Romeo Vitelli Ph.D. Media Spotlight).

The society is a ground bone to every marriage in a general point of view, because the problems or most of the problems that arise in most marriages are cause by the settings presented to the society by the individuals of such family. And the society in return can be damage through the same broken marriage due to the poor children training or the radicalism of the children, cause by poor

training from any broken home when the father or mother allows the children to live by their faith of survival and strength.

For any growing society to stand in the face of the world at large, it must first of all consist of a standard and God-fearing families in regard to their formulated values. The lack of interest of the entire society on how each of their individuals' home should be firmly strong and decisive when it comes to mother and father training their children together, results in the society's production of thieves, kidnappers, arm robbers, and orphan children, which in turn becomes a threat to the entire society at large.

And it will not be out of order if the following points below are considered in the effect of marital failures on the society.

- i) Marriage should be respected by the entire society
- ii) The children's training are also the responsibility of the society
- iii) The effect of the environment on the children
- iv) The children are the foundation of the society. And failures in any failed marriage.

RESPECT FOR MARRIAGE

Marriage should be respected by the entire society because the children are the backbone of the society and also the foundation of any given marriage, the society should give enormous attention to any given marriage no matter when and who is involved, it should be respected and accorded with enormous advice and support by any of the society or two societies involved, this will give the both

couples confident to stick together knowing that any separation may be seen by the society as an act of wickedness and irresponsible

Training of Children: It should not be the duty of the parents alone, because whatever the child becomes in turn gives the credits to both parents and the society at large.

The effect of the environment on the children: The children adapt to every environment they find themselves, this is because the environment is acrimonies to their growth, by the environment their mentality are transformed and sanitized with the ground knowledge of what will become their children future.

The society is build up by the futures of tomorrow and who are those futures of tomorrow? They are the children and their ability to invent new things with one mind towards each other without any prejudice.

But when marriage fails, it means the future of the children is at stake and in hands of disasters; that is why making the children the positive side of marriage is so necessary that cannot be under-estimated

HOW CAN THE INCREASING RATE OF MARITAL FAILURE AFFECT THE CHURCH?

According to (Sue Schlesman October 2016) there is a little difference between Christians and non-Christians marital homes a Christ follower has the power to recognize issue in the light of God word and experience and transforming power of his spirit this is because marital bliss is fictional, but marital happiness can be a reality if there is no forgiveness in marriage, which means the Christ like is not involve, and it will be treated wrongly because there

is no life of Christ in such marriages and is been taken over by grievances and hatred which is not part of the Christian calling or acceptable to our master Jesus Christ.

The history of marriage and divorce in the ancient nations have formulated that the cause of divorce has been erratic. The Jewish law allows dissolution of marriage as a matter of no great concern. If husband finds any uncleanness in his wife, then let him write her a bill of divorcement and give it on her hand and send her out of his house. And he/she may go and remarry, but in Christianity on the other hand, a saying attributed to Jesus has be reported that therefore what God has joined together let no man put asunder; whosoever shall put away his wife and remarry committed adultery against her (**search engine ---- by beefund advance ms word doc**).

Divorce is havoc on spiritual growth of the Christian religious churches. It has a negative impact on the growth of the churches in general; both locally and internationally it goes a very long way in destroying the entire congregation and destabilizing the unity of the church.

Imagine where a respected and reputable family in the church are separated including their children will chose a different believe and the church cannot handle emotional cases are not able to settle issues about marriage will believe in as Christian.

Again the out world will dent the imagine of the church so much that it will seem like the church are not capable of handling marital cases or issues, it will brings up the issue of do as you like when it comes to marital issues or cases.

HOW IT CAN BE ERADICATED?

In our natural world today the most encumbrances facing our homes is that of marital issues due to poor marital institution and seminal that are supposed to be organized by Christian churches the church are suppose to be active in teaching the society about marriages, this make sense in the way that it will encourage the un-believers to belong to the household of God.

Thorough screening should be carried out by any individual who intend to enter into marital home or who is planning to begin. According to (Shellie Warren, proven solution to divorce 2019)

1. Go for counseling
2. Talk about your needs
3. Spend more quality time together
4. Get some accountability
5. Accept that your responses is human just like you are
6. Understand what are the biggest issues in your marriage
7. Start over from scratch
8. Leave no stone unturned.

Moreover you need to find out what is the main reason of divorce before you seek out how it can be prevented because it is the stepping stone.

This is because marriage is not a bed of roses where anyhow or premature mind goes after another premature mind, it is a school of patients and sound mind without any action of regret, rather it also a school of trust, love, cherish, conscience towards one another no matter what comes out later.

Marriage issues should be seeing as a priority to the society at large, it should be treated with vice knowledge and with integrity, marriage is only aspect of life that bring two different individual together as one, it sanitizes the entire difference in their tribe and also religious background, it also gives two different individual based of their destiny and complete the vacancy left by our parents or love ones most time.

Parents should know or learn how to brings up their children in the institution of marital issues not only when they are about to separate or to joined, parents should see the marriage as the only obligation their children have to fulfill and married to it.

The role of the man to his wife: If you apply this concept correctly you will experience freedom in your roles and work better as a team to combat isolation and conflict in your marriage (Dennis Rainey).

In becoming passive, consequently, they do not lead effectively, or they do not even try. Many men are becoming passive in their home they have decided that the easiest thing to do is nothing. The simplest thing-with the smallest risk-is to stay on the fence with both feet firmly planted in mid-air and let the wife do

it. When a man is married to a strong wife who will take over. He often lets her do just that.

The man possesses the highest obligation to his wife he is the head of the family so he owes his wife the obligation of attention and communication in all ramifications of life and satisfaction. He is to love her, cherish her, with all his being without any prejudices.

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The role of the woman to the man: The woman is to be most submissive to her husband with all purity and without any sign of insubordination of any kind; she is to serve the man as his helpmate without any prejudices. She is to love him, adore him and most importantly value him without comparison.

The role of the children to their parents: The children serve as an appraisal to the unity between their father and mother; they act as bonds to the parents with the view of bringing happiness to their parents. The children are there to restore any lost unity and peace to the home.

The role of in-laws to their children: The in-laws are to give their children every necessary support that they need to grow together. They are not there to cause separation rather to make sure that the couples have maximum advancement in their home with the aim of achieving greatness.

The role of friends to their married colleagues: Family friends have a very vital role in every family, they serve as a repairer or destroyer they can be of any of the good side, and they are essential in observing what goes on in a particular

family at all time they are to serve as plain as effective in order to be able to approach issues with descriptive manner and sound illustration without prejudice.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the causes of marital failure are complex and multifaceted, often stemming from a combination of factors such as poor communication, unmet expectations, financial stress, differing values and life goals, emotional disconnection, infidelity, and external pressures. Understanding these underlying issues is crucial for couples seeking to improve their relationships and for professionals providing support. Efforts to foster open communication, empathy, shared values, and conflict resolution skills can significantly enhance relationship resilience. Future interventions should aim to address these key areas to promote healthier, more fulfilling partnerships and reduce the incidence of marital discord.

RECOMMENDATION

Causes of marital failure can vary widely, but several key factors are commonly identified. are some recommendations for understanding these causes:

- 1. Poor Communication:** Many couples struggle with effective communication, leading to misunderstandings and unresolved conflicts. Encourage open and honest discussions about feelings, needs, and expectations.
- 2. Lack of Emotional Intimacy:** Emotional disconnection can create distance between partners. Foster practices that enhance emotional bonding, such as quality time together, sharing personal thoughts, and providing support.

3. **Incompatibility:** Differences in values, life goals, and priorities can strain a relationship. Couples should discuss their long-term visions and find common ground or compromise on key issues.

4. **Financial Stress:** Money problems are a significant source of marital strain. It's essential for couples to communicate openly about finances, work together on budgeting, and set financial goals as a team.

5. **Infidelity and Trust Issues:** Betrayals can deeply damage relationships. Building and maintaining trust through transparency and honesty is crucial.

6. **Unresolved Conflicts:** Avoiding issues can lead to resentment. Learning conflict resolution skills and addressing disagreements constructively is vital for relationship health.

Effort or commitment from one or both partners can be detrimental. Couples should actively nurture their relationship and demonstrate their commitment through actions and words.

8. **Life Transitions:** Major life changes (e.g., having children, moving, career changes) can stress a marriage. Discussing and preparing for these transitions together can help smoothly.

9. **Family Dynamics:** External family influences can impact a marriage. Setting boundaries and prioritizing the couple's relationship can mitigate undue pressure from relatives.

10. Mental Health Concerns: Mental health issues can affect relational dynamics. Seeking professional help, such as counseling or therapy, can be beneficial for individuals and couples affected by these challenges.

By recognizing and addressing these potential causes, couples can work proactively to strengthen their relationship and reduce the likelihood of marital failure.

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