

## ABSTRACT

TITLE: The Effects of Parental Separation on the Social Relationship of Adolescents.

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This study aims to analyze the reactions, difficulties and, most especially, the effects of parental separation in the social relationship of adolescents.

Specifically, it sought to answer the following questions:

1. What are the reactions of adolescents who experience parental separation during childhood?
2. What are the difficulties encountered by adolescents who experienced parental separation?
3. What are the effects of parental separation on the social relationship of adolescents as viewed by the respondents, by their peers, and/or by their close

relatives?

4. How do adolescents adjust and cope with others after the separation?

### CONCLUSIONS

The following conclusions can be drawn:

1. ✓ Adolescents subject to parental separation usually find it hard to accept the fact that their family is falling apart. They feel sad and resentful for the kind of families they have at present. They become more conscious of what others are saying about their families.
2. ✓ The most common difficulties adolescents encountered after their parents separated consists of the following: emotional, financial, social, and physical hardships. The degree of difficulties that adolescents encounter depend upon their situation after the separation.
3. There are both positive and negative effects of parental separation on adolescents. The most common is in dealing with their friends, they tend to be closer to those who know them well, while they tend to shut off others whom they just met and whom they think would not accept them for who they are. They seldom go to social gatherings and they are afraid that others may talk about them. They become careful in choosing or having intimate relations because for them they do not want to experience

what they have experienced before. They look at life seriously.

4. The underlying adjustments they did was to accept the fact that their parents were really separated already. They devoted their time to their close friends who were always there in times of their needs. Their friends played a big role in their adjustment from the separation of their parents. They shared more time with friends and let go of their emotions through their hobbies (like painting). And the most important factor that helped them a lot . . . is their faith in GOD.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the conclusions made from this study the following are recommended:

1. To the parents concerned, to continuously give financial and, most of all, emotional support to their children, even though they are separated or living two different lives already.
2. Additional love, care, and understanding from their friends, custodial parents and relatives should be given to help the adolescent victims separation overcome the different consequences they are facing.
3. To adolescents who experienced parental separation, they should take the responsibility to accept the fact

that their parents are already separated, to take it as a challenge, and to make a difference in their lives for a better future.

4. To both adolescents and parents concerned, respect between parents and children must remain no matter what had happened in the past. They should keep in mind that no one should be blamed for what happened. Parents should not forget their responsibilities to their children; children should not forget that no matter how painful the choices their parents made were, they are still their parents who need their love.

5. Adolescents should try to open more their doors more to friends, relatives and significant others in their lives and not limit themselves to themselves alone. They should, instead, socialize more. They should not consider what had happened to their families a shortcoming in their part.

6. The school has a great role in molding the behavior of the young people since it is considered their second home. Educators, as well as guidance counselors, should give them enough attention not only on their academic performance but also on their social and behavioral points of view. Treat them with understanding, give them consideration and develop their confidence.

7. Society should keep an open mind and a generous heart

for the adolescents. They should accept from for who they are regarding their past. Show them that they are accepted and well respected, despite the fact that they came from broken homes.

