

CHALLENGES AND PROBLEM OF SINGLE PARENT: IN SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY

(Dissertation submitted for the Partial Fulfillment of
B.A Honors Degree in Sociology 2024)



**Department of Sociology
St. Joseph's College,
North point, Darjeeling**

Submitted by

NAME: AKRITY THAPA

UNIVERSITY ROLL: 24601130

No: 9043

REGISTRATION No: 0112105010330

CONTENT

Declaration

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	PAGE No.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chapter 1:<ul style="list-style-type: none">1.1. Introduction.1.2. Statement of the Problem.1.3. Review of Literature.1.4. Objectives.1.5. Methodology.	1-6
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chapter 2:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Socio-economic background of the respondentsSingle parent family (personal topic)	7-23
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chapter 3:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Summary.Conclusion.Reference.	24-26
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• APENDIX 1.<ul style="list-style-type: none">Interview Schedule	27
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• APENDIX 2.<ul style="list-style-type: none">Photographs	28

CONCLUSION

The study offers a comprehensive look into the multifaceted experiences of single parents. It reveals critical insights into their demographics, reasons for single parenthood, sources of economic support, challenges faced, societal pressures, and perceptions regarding their children's academic performance.

The age distribution of respondents varied, with one male in the 21-30 age group, 12 respondents in the 30-40 age group (equally split between 6 males and 6 females), and 12 respondents above 40 (5 males, 7 females). The gender distribution was nearly equal, with 12 males and 13 females.

The reasons for single parenthood among the respondents showed significant gender disparities. Out of the 25 respondents, 11 became single parents due to the death of a spouse (2 males, 9 females). Eight respondents, all male, were single parents due to separation. Additionally, six respondents (2 males, 4 females) were single parents as a result of divorce. This indicates that separation as a cause of single parenthood is notably more prevalent among males in this sample.

Economic support was another critical area explored. The vast majority of respondents (24 out of 25) sustained themselves through their own income or savings, evenly divided between 12 males and 12 females. Only one respondent, a female, received economic assistance from her parents. Interestingly, no respondents reported receiving financial support from siblings. This finding underscores the high degree of financial self-reliance among single parents.

The study also delved into the challenges faced by single parents. Financial problems emerged as the most common issue, affecting 12 respondents equally split between males and females. Four respondents felt overburdened by childcare responsibilities, while seven struggled to balance work and family life. Only one male respondent reported experiencing social stigma as a single parent. These challenges highlight the diverse and significant pressures single parents face, with financial concerns being the predominant issue.

Regarding societal pressures to remarry, the study found that 9 respondents (6 males, 3 females) felt compelled to remarry, whereas the majority, 16 respondents (6 males, 10 females), did not feel such pressure. This data sheds light on the varying perceptions and societal expectations concerning remarriage among single parents, with men feeling slightly more pressure to remarry than women.