PERSONAL INTEGRATION, TENDENCY TO DEPRESSION AND ATTITUDE TOWARDS MARRIAGE AMONG YOUNG ADULTS OF DIVORCE PARENTS

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Key words: parental divorce, Adult Children of Divorce, psychological consequences of parental divorce

Starting from the 1960s, in the Western cultural circle there is a constant increase in the number of divorces in relation to marriages. People whose parents are divorced are exposed to a number of consequences related to the breakdown of the family. The effects of this event may vary depending on the intensity of the conflict at home (Mustonen et others, 2011; Vousoura, Wickramaratne, 2012; Alonzo, Thomson, Stohl, Hasin, 2014).

Based on Conway's (2010) conception of consequences related to the divorce of parents, it was assumed that the departure of one of them reflects on particular aspects of the child’s mental life, regardless of the age at which they experienced this traumatic event. The aim of the research concerned the consequences of divorce of parents among young adults. The studies included, as explained variables, personal integration, depressiveness and attitude to marriage. The perception of ACoD parents’ divorce, their feelings towards parents, and the way in which they dealt with stress were also analyzed.

The study group consisted of 120 young adults (75% of women) aged 18-25. Personal integration questionnaire by Zagórska, Migut and Jelińska (2014), Questionnaire for measuring depression by Łojek, Stańczak and Wójcik (2015), Questionnaire: Views of academic youth on marriage by Plopa (2005) and Questionnaire for adults, whose parents divorced by Conway (2010) were used.

It has been shown that ACoD are less integrated and more depressive than their peers. They more often believe that there is no justice in the marriage, and they are more skeptical about the prospect of marriage and having children. The age of ACoD during the parental divorce turned out to be associated with feelings that were then addressed to parents. Contact with relatives or peers turned out to be the main way of dealing with a difficult situation at home in ACoD.