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CURRENT DIVORCE RATE AMONG HINDU POPULATION IN INDIA: CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES

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This paper examines why, despite the legalization of divorce by the Hindu Marriage Act of 1955, the divorce rate among Hindu population in India remains remarkably low, especially by Western standards. The purpose of this research is to analyze economic, social, and cultural conditions in modern day India in order to better understand the likelihood of divorce. This analysis utilizes findings from previous studies. Research indicates that economic dependence of Hindu women on their husbands prevents many of them from seeking divorce even in cases of severe marital problems. Despite Hindu women's entitlement to alimony from their ex-husbands and their right to inheritance, as well as the existing potential for employment, divorced women often find themselves without adequate means of financial support. Implications of this situation are examined in terms of the Indian legal system's failure to ensure economic security for divorced women, economic circumstances related to employment opportunities for women, and the social consequences of traditional Hindu beliefs regarding marriage and a woman's role in the family. In conclusion, the paper discusses potential future changes with regard to divorce rates in India.