



**UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA**

**A PHENOMENOLOGICAL STUDY OF THE MEANING AND ESSENCE OF  
DIVORCE AMONGST IRANIAN MALE DRUG ADDICTS**

**MEHDI TAVALLAEI**

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**By**

**MEHDI TAVALLAEI**

**Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia, in  
Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy**

**April 2013**

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Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

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**April 2013**

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Divorce and addiction play an important role in individual and family life. Despite their high significance and increasing impact, the society is not taking serious steps for stopping their growth. Their common consequences and unique impacts demand the simultaneous study of these two phenomena. To obtain a deep understanding of Iranian male addicts, whose substance usage makes them face serious family problems and finally divorce, a transcendental phenomenological study was carried out to answer the question, “What is the meaning and essence of divorce amongst Iranian male addict?”

This study took place in Yazd province in Iran. Two groups of participants were selected from those with official divorce files in Iranian National Drug Control Headquarter and

Social Welfare Organization. Each group consists of five individuals. The first group of men had filed for divorce and in the second group, wives had filed for divorce. In-depth, semi-structured interview and face-to-face communications were the methods used. The Stevick-Colaizzi-Keen method was selected for analyzing data due to its practical approach.

Through the individual description and synthesis of textual and structural data, the results were drawn out. Main findings revealed the divorce experience as paradoxical, with a confusing, harsh and complicated structure. These two different groups described the meaning of divorce differently. For the first group, divorce was an important sign of freedom, comfort and peace whereas the second group described it with negative perceptions. Such differences in meaning ascribed to divorce are rooted in various factors such as personal and social characteristics; past experiences; family and societal culture; attitude; problems; level of support; and personal preparedness as evidenced by whether one had filed for divorce himself or had his wife file against him.

Practical suggestions for rescuing families from collapse come from understanding the meaning and essence of divorce. Based on the results of this study families can be rescued from collapse if important elements are identified at the appropriate time. Three transition phases include inception, dependency and Family collapse are formed by highlighting the study's themes factors. Understanding each phase enables family and counselor to help and save addict and preserve the family structure. The Belief- Based

Module was formed as a second finding based on integration of participants' ideas about the influence and role of spiritual and religious beliefs on addiction in the present study. The purpose was to provide the possibility of control and to return the addict to normal life- its efficacy was examined in one rehabilitation center in Iran. Based on the first cluster of themes in the data, the New Life Skill Program was designed. This program gives individuals the opportunity to elevate their behavior in coping with life challenges and rescue themselves from drowning. It would be possible in the early stage to stop and prevent the individual from approaching the threats that will ruin his future life. This program, once complete may help facilitate changes to governments and to mass media, related laws, and ads regarding the threats of drug to families respectively.

Abstrak tesis ini dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Doktor Falsafah

**KAJIAN *PHENOMENOLOGICAL* KE ATAS MAKSUD DAN INTIPATI  
PERCERAIAN DALAM KALANGAN PENAGIH LELAKI WARGA IRAN**

Oleh

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Perceraian and penagihan memainkan peranan penting dalam kehidupan seseorang individu dan keluarga. Walaupun perkara ini mempunyai kepentingan yang tinggi dan membawa kesan yang hebat, masyarakat tidak mengambil langkah untuk membendung peningkatannya. Bagi memerolehi pemahaman yang mendalam mengenai seorang penagih lelaki warga Iran yang mana pengambilan dadah mengakibatkan mereka berdepan dengan masalah keluarga yang berakhir dengan perceraian, satu kajian transenden fenomenologi telah dijalankan untuk menjawab " Apakah maksud dan intipati perceraian dalam kalangan penagih lelaki warga Iran?" Kajian ini dijalankan di wilayah Yazd di Iran. Dua kumpulan pengkaji-bersama telah dipilih daripada kalangan

peserta yang mempunyai fail perceraian di *INDCH* dan *SWO*. Kumpulan pertama terdiri daripada lima lelaki yang memfailkan perceraian manakala kumpulan kedua pula lima lelaki dimana isteri memfailkan. Tembual mendden separa-berstruktur secers bersemuka merupakan kaedah. Kaedah *Stevick-Colaizzi-Keen* telah dipilih untuk menganalisa data kerana pendekatannya yang praktikal.

Keputusannya dihasilkan melalui *textural* individu dan perihal *structural* serta sintesis keduanya. Penemuan utama menjelaskan pengalaman bercerai sebagai satu paradoks keadaan keliru, koramitan dan komplikated. Dua kumpulan peserte telas menggambarkan maksud perceraian yang berbeze. Untuk kumpulan pertama, perceraian merupakan satu tanda penting untuk kebebasan, keselesaan dan keamanan, manakala kumpulan kedua pula menggambarkan perceraian dengan persepsi yang negatif. Perbezaan gambaran yang diberikan mengenai perceraian ini tertakluk kepada beberapa faktor seperti ciri-ciri peribadi dan sosial, pengalaman lepas, budaya keluarga dan masyarakat, sikap, masalah dan tahap sokongan.

Cadangan praktikal untuk menyelamatkan keruntuhan rumahtangga terbentuk daripada maksud dan intipati perceraian. Berdasarkan keputusan, keruntuhan rumahtangga dapat diselamatkan sekiranya mendapat kesedaran mengenainya pada waktu yang sesuai. Tiga tahap peralihan termasuk permulaan, kebergantungan dan keruntuhan rumahtangga telah dibentuk dengan menyerlahkan faktor tema kajian. Memahami setiap tahap membolehkan keluarga dan kaunselor membantu dan menyelamatkan penagih dan



keluarganya. *Believe Based Module* telah dibentuk sebagai penemuan kedua berdasarkan integrasi idea pengkaji-bersama mengenai pengaruh dan peranan kepercayaan agama dan rohani terhadap penagihan di dalam kajian ini. Tujuannya ialah memberi peluang penagih untuk mengawal dan kembali ke pangkal jalan. Seperti diamalkan di satu pusat pemulihan di Iran. Berdasarkan cluster tema data yang pertama, satu program *New Life Skill Program* telah direka. Program ini membolehkan individu untuk meningkatkan tingkah laku dalam menghadapi cabaran hidup dan menyelamatkan diri mereka dari lemas. Pada peringkat awal ada kemungkinan untuk menghentikan dan mencegah individu daripada ancaman yang akan merosakkan hidupnya. Program ini akan menjadi lebih sempurna selepas perubahan dasar kerajaan mengenai undang-undang berkaitan dan media massa berkenaan iklan terhadap ancaman dadah ke atas keluarga.

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