

DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS OF MARITAL DISSOLUTION IN KENYA

By

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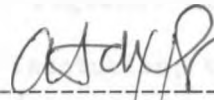


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DEDICATED TO ..... MY MOTHER RHODA. MAY GOD REST HER  
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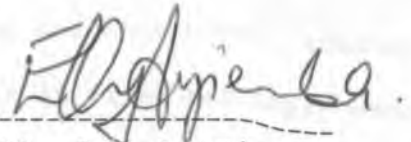
DECLARATION

This Thesis is my original work and has not been presented for a degree in any other University.



CHARLES OCHOLA OMONDI

This thesis has been submitted for examination with my approval as University supervisor.



DR. E.H.O Ayiemba

## ABSTRACT

This is a demographic analysis of marital dissolution. It is an attempt to examine regional differentials in determinants of marital dissolution, with a view of explaining the factors influencing the rates, levels and finally pattern of marital dissolution.

The study objectives are as follows: to determine marital dissolution by specific durations of marriage for selected characteristics of women for each region, thus determine regional differentials of these factors as determinants of marital dissolution; to find out the nuptial patterns of those in stable and unstable unions; and to suggest policy recommendations which could help deal with this socio-demographic problem.

The hypotheses tested were: (i) Regional pattern(s) of marital dissolution is not a function of the following: socio-cultural, economic, environmental and demographic variables (e.g Age at first marriage, education levels, place of work, religion e.t.c).

(ii) There's homogeneity in the following socio-cultural, economic, environmental and demographic factors (Age at first marriage, education levels, place of residence, ethnicity, pattern of work, religion e.t.c) in determining regional variations and patterns of marital dissolution.

The study used the Kenya Fertility Sample Survey data (1977/78), which aimed at collecting information on fertility levels and trends in Kenya and to investigate the differing patterns and determinants of fertility amongst Kenyas heterogeneous population. A total of 8,452 women aged 15 to 50 years were identified in the 8,891 successfully enumerated households, giving a ratio of 0.95 eligible women

per household. Of these 8,100 or 95.8 percent were interviewed, where 6,167 were found to be ever-married cases, which forms the cornerstone of the study. Thus the study dealt with a data source which give a socio-economic and demographic aspects of the population. Hence gives comprehensive demographic data which can be used for socio- economic and demographic planning and policy making purposes.

In its methodology the study used both life table and multiple regression models as techniques of analysis. From the life table technique marriage dissolution probabilities hence proportions is derived for the regions and by differentials. The marriage dissolution probabilities was found to differ from one region to another and by differentials, although not very conspicuously. Different predictor variables of dissolution by regions hence regional rates thus give the regional comparisons and patterns. For example, Coast Province was found to posses the highest dissolution rates with Rift Valley having the lowest rates.

Therefore, to isolate which of the factors contributed to these dissolution rates and patterns, multiple regression model was applied based on the life table probabilities of regions and their differentials, which further revealed and confirmed the findings based on the life table analysis.

So, on the strength of the coefficients and t-values the socio-cultural, economic, environmental and demographic variables which emerged as good positive predictor variables of marriage dissolution are: ethnic characteristics of the Mijikendas, education level (secondary); rural place of residence; all at national levels. At

regional levels the following factors were found to influence marital dissolution. In the Rift valley: No- education and place of residence. Nyanza: religion (both protestanism and catholic). In Nairobi: age at marriage (<15), Protestant religion; and primary level of education. Western: Protestant religion; no-education; and age at marriage (15-19). Coast: Mijikenda ethnic background, education level (secondary) and religion. Eastern: the ethnic backgrounds of the Kamba, Meru and Embu. The effect of all these variables on marital dissolution were found to be statistically significant at 0.05 level of confidence.

On the other hand some variables emerged as good negative predictor variables of marital dissolution. These were age at marriage (15-19) at national level and ethnic background in Rift Valley. These were also significant at 0.05 level of confidence.

Therefore, in conclusion, the study recommends that further research should be carried out to investigate the impact of socio-cultural change(s) and ethnic variations on the family formation and dissolution with a view of finding out which traditional values and ways of life are, and which ones are not important in preserving family stability. Furthermore, other researches should concentrate on cause-deleted marital dissolution - with a view of finding out which type of dissolution is most prevalent, why and where, the role they play in determining fertility levels and trends. Also, the study recommends an investigation on the role played by migration (spatial diffusion) as concerns family formation and dissolution, in view of the changing individual and societal perceptions about life in general and marriage in particular.

Thus the following policy recommendations are suggested. The government should address itself fully to the issue of marital dissolution by locating marriage counseling centers and other related establishments such as, SOS children homes and orphanages for children of such marriage to deal adequately with the problem. Also this should go hand in hand with policies on family life education to supplement formal education policy, age at first marriage policy, employment and the general health standard policy.

All these therefore, are the necessary contributory factors which can help the government fully in achieving the desired family size through family planning campaigns. So, the cornerstone of any development and stable government in particular stems from a stable family unit.

TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGES
ABSTRACT	i
ILLUSTRATIONS	viii
(i) List of Tables	viii
(ii) List of Figures	xii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	xv
1.0 CHAPTER I : THE NATURE AND SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM	1
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Statement of the problem	2
1.3 Objectives of the study	3
1.4 Current status and Priority Area of research	3
1.5 Scope and Limitations of the study	4
1.6 Justification for the study	7
1.7 Organization of the study	12
2.0 CHAPTER II : LITERATURE REVIEW AND CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK	14
2.1 Introduction	14
2.2 Theoretical review on marital dissolution	14
2.3 Empirical Literature on marital dissolution	16
2.3.1 Demographic variables of marital dissolution	18
2.3.2 Socio-economic and cultural factors	29
2.3.3 Ecological or environmental variables	35
2.4 Marital disruption in contemporary Africa	36
2.5 Summary of the Literature review	40
2.6 Theoretical framework	42
2.7 Conceptual and operational Hypotheses	51
2.8 Definition of concepts	52



2.9	Summary	54
3.0	CHAPTER III : RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	57
3.1	Introduction	57
3.2	Data source	57
3.3	Sampling frame	57
3.4	The Target population	59
3.5	Quality of data	60
3.6	Models of Analysis	62
3.6.1	Life table model	62
3.6.2	Regression Model	63
3.6.3	Stepwise Selection procedure	67
3.7	Conclusion	68
4.0	CHAPTER IV : LIFE TABLE ANALYSIS OF MARITAL DISSOLUTION	69
4.1	Introduction	69
4.2	Marital Dissolution by cause of dissolution	70
4.3	Life table results	106
4.4	Dissolution rates at national levels by background variables	106
4.4.1	Rates by educational levels	108
4.4.2	Rates by age at first marriage	110
4.4.3	Rates by ethnicity	112
4.4.4	Rates by pattern of work	116
4.4.5	Rates by Religion	118
4.4.6	Rates by place of Residence	120
4.5	Regional dissolution rates by background variables	124
4.5.1	Regional rates	156

4.6	Inter regional variations in marital dissolution	159
4.7	Nuptial patterns	161
4.8	Distribution of population by marital status	161
4.9	Discussion of results	182
4.9.1	Never married or single groups	183
4.9.2	Currently married	183
4.9.3	Widowhood	184
4.9.4	Divorced or separated	186
4.9.5	Summary	186
5.0	CHAPTER V : REGRESSION ANALYSIS	188
5.1	Introduction	188
5.2	Variables used in the model	189
5.3	Determinants of regional patterns	191
5.4	Discussion	197
5.5	Summary	202
6.0	CHAPTER VI : SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	205
6.1	Summary	205
6.2	Conclusion	207
6.3	Recommendation for policy makers	207
6.4	Recommendation for further research	210
6.5	Appendix	211
	(i) Steps in constructing marriage dissolution tables	211
	(ii) Procedure of stepwise selection	212
6.6	Bibliography	215

	LIST OF TABLES	PAGES
1.	National dissolution table	73
2.	No-education	74
3.	Education 1-4 years	75
4.	Education 5-8 years	76
5.	Education Secondary-Plus years	77
6.	Age at first marriage (<15)	78
7.	Age at first marriage (15-19)	79
8.	Age at first marriage (20-24)	80
9.	Age at first marriage (25-29)	81
10.	Age at first marriage (30+)	82
11.	Ethnic - Kalenjin	83
12.	Ethnic - Kamba	84
13.	Ethnic - Kikuyu	85
14.	Ethnic - Kisii	86
15.	Ethnic - Luhya	87
16.	Ethnic - Luo	88
17.	Ethnic - Meru - Embu	<u>89</u>
18.	Ethnic - Mijikenda	90
19.	Ethnic - others	91
20.	Pattern of work (Now AND BEFORE)	92
21.	Pattern of work (Now NOT BEFORE)	93
22.	Pattern of work (SINCE AND BEFORE)	94
23.	Pattern or work (SINCE NOT BEFORE)	95
24.	Pattern of work (BEFORE ONLY)	96
25.	Pattern of work (NEVER WORKED)	97

26.	Religion - Catholic	98
27.	Religion - Protestant	99
28.	Religion - Muslim	100
29.	Religion - others	101
30.	No - Religion	102
31.	Place of Residence (rural)	103
32.	Place of Residence (urban)	104
33.	Place of Residence (Nairobi, Mombasa)	105
34.	Coastal region	125
35.	Coast (Mijikenda ethnic background)	126
36.	Coast (secondary level of education)	127
37.	Coast (Age at first marriage <15)	128
38.	Coast (Protestant Religion)	129
39.	Coast (Muslim Religion)	130
40.	Nairobi Region	131
41.	Nairobi (Age at first marriage <15)	132
42.	Nairobi (Protestant Religion)	133
43.	Nairobi (primary level of education)	134
44.	Western Region	135
45.	Western (Protestant Religion)	136
46.	Western (No-education)	147
47.	Western (Age at first marriage, 15-19)	148
48.	Eastern Region	149
49.	Eastern (Kamba ethnic background)	150
50.	Eastern (Meru-Embu ethnic background)	151
51.	Eastern (Age at first marriage, 20-24)	152
52.	Central Region	153

53.	Central (Never worked)	154
54.	Central (Catholic Religion)	155
55.	Central (rural residence)	156
56.	Nyanza Region	157
57.	Nyanza (catholic religion)	158
58.	Nyanza (Protestant religion)	159
59.	Nyanza (Age at first marriage, 20-24)	160
60.	Nyanza (pattern of work, NOW NOT BEFORE)	161
61.	Rift Valley Region	162
62.	Rift Valley (No-education)	163
63.	Rift Valley (Kalenjin ethnic background)	164
64.	Rift Valley (Residence-rural)	165
65.	Percent of distribution of all - women according to marital status - National	170
66.	Percent distribution of all - women according to marital status - Nairobi	170
67.	Percent distribution of all women according to marital status - Eastern	171
68.	Percent distribution of all women according to marital status - Coast	171
69.	Percent all women according to marital status - Central	172
70.	Percent distribution all women according to marital status - Western	172
71.	Percent distribution of all - women according to marital status - Nyanza	173

72.	Percent distribution all - women according to marital status - Rift Valley	173
73.	Results of regression analysis - National	192
74.	Results of regression analysis - Rift Valley	193
75.	Results of regression analysis - Nyanza	193
76.	Results of regression analysis - Eastern	194
77.	Results of regression analysis - Nairobi	194
78.	Results of regression analysis - Western	194
79.	Results of regression analysis - Central	195
80.	Results of regression analysis - Coast	195

	LIST OF FIGURES	PAGES
1.	Life cycle model indicating area and level of research	45
2.	Cumulative proportion of first marriages dissolved by duration of union - National	107
3.	Cumulative proportion of first marriages dissolved by duration of union - education levels	109
4.	Cumulative proportion of first marriages dissolved by duration of union - Age at first marriage	111
5.	Cumulative proportion of first marriages dissolved by duration of union - ethnic groups	113
6.	Cumulative proportion of first marriages dissolved by duration of union - pattern of work	117
7.	Cumulative proportion of first marriages dissolved by duration of union - Religious Groups	119
8.	Cumulative proportion of first marriages dissolved by duration of union - place of Residence	122
9.	Regional pattern of duration - specific - marital dissolution rates	157
10.	Cumulative proportion of first marriages dissolved by duration of union - provinces	160
11.	Cumulative proportion of first marriages dissolved by duration of union by differentials - Coast	162
12.	Cumulative proportion of first marriages dissolved by duration of union by differentials - Nairobi	163
13.	Cumulative proportion of first marriages dissolved by duration of union by differentials - Eastern	164

14.	Cumulative proportion of first marriages dissolved by duration of union by differentials - Western	165
15.	Cumulative proportion of first marriages dissolved by duration of union by differentials - Central	166
16.	Cumulative proportion of first marriages dissolved by duration of union by differentials - Nyanza	167
17.	Cumulative proportion of first marriages dissolved by duration of union by differentials - Rift - Valley	168
18.	Percent distribution of ever-married women according to whether currently married, widowed, divorced or separated by age group - Nationally	174
19.	Percent distribution of ever-married women according to whether currently married, widowed, divorced or separated by the age group - Nairobi	175
20.	Percent distribution of ever-married women according to whether currently married, widowed, divorced or separated by age group - Central	176
21.	Percent distribution of ever-married women according to whether currently married, widowed, divorced or separated by the age group - Rift - Valley	177
22.	Percent distribution of ever-married women according to whether currently married, widowed, divorced or separated by age group - Coast	178
23.	Percent distribution of ever-married women according to whether currently married, widowed, divorced or separated by the age group - Nyanza	179



24. Percent distribution of ever-married women according to whether currently married, widowed, divorced or separated by age group - Western	180
25. Percent distribution of ever-married women according to whether currently married, widowed, divorced or separated by the age group - Eastern	181

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This opportunity is dedicated to all those people who assisted me in one way or another in the making of this thesis.

My first and special thanks goes to my supervisor Dr. E.H.O Ayiemba who often put aside his work to accommodate my needs. His unflinching help, encouragement and stimulating suggestions have undoubtedly helped to develop this study.

I also wish to thank the Department of Geography for awarding me the scholarship which provided the necessary research funds which helped me in undertaking the work and final development of the script.

Also, thanks goes to the Population Studies and Research Institute for allowing me to undertake, the training in population matters and techniques. To the staff there, I say a lot of thanks.

My research would have been impossible without the kindness and cooperation of the staff of the C.B.S who helped me at my data requisition stage. I owe them immense debt of gratitude.

The P.S.R.I student colleagues were not only a constant source of support during my research work but they also communicated to me the challenge and excitement of doing the study. Their vigorous and constructive criticisms makes me thank them a lot.

I also owe special debt of gratitude to other friends and especially brother Okeyo R. who became a constant source of inspiration and encouragement.

Another vote of thanks goes to Catherine for typing this research with keenness it deserves.

My deepest appreciation also goes to my DAd for all that he has forgone and continues to forgo to educate his children.

Finally, I remain accountable for any mistakes or shortcomings that may be in this study.

## CHAPTER ONE

### 1.0 THE NATURE AND SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM

#### 1.1 INTRODUCTION (BACKGROUND) TO THE STUDY

In an attempt to explore the importance of nuptial studies in general and more specifically the importance of dissolution of marriage (divorce, separation or widowhood), it is logical to start with Glass comments (1963):

"For demographers there is enough reason to devote far more attention to marriage. It is through the intervening variables of marriage that replacement indices become sociologically meaningful. In the more developed societies, recent changes in the level of and trend of fertility owe much to the changes in the amount of and age at, marriage. The study of marriage patterns and trends in less developed societies is of still greater importance".

Marital status is an element of population composition which is a significant factor in population dynamics as it affects fertility to a large extent. It has therefore, a direct bearing on the computation, for example reproduction rates and other rates such as those of dissolution.

By examining the proportions single at various ages it is possible to judge where and why first marriages are more or less frequent as well as how precarious they are. The effect of nuptiality on other social and economic, demographic and environmental characteristics is also not totally insignificant.

## 1.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

This is a study of regional differences in marital dissolution. It undertakes to determine the levels, rates and patterns of marital dissolution at the provincial level. It also derives probabilities of marital dissolution using the duration of marriage as the unit of analysis.

In addition, socio-economic, cultural, demographic and environmental factors are examined as causative factors of marital dissolution and the magnitude of provincial differences in those factors portrayed statistically and diagrammatically.

Studies on nuptiality have tended in general and particularly to analyze the relationships between nuptial variables, such as age at first marriage, age at menarche, divorce or separation or widowhood and socio-economic variables and their impact on fertility (Ayiemba, 1983; United Nations, 1973; Skolnick, 1978; Omondi-Ahawo, 1982 e.t.c). Davis and Blake (1956) in fact identified the amount of reproductive time lost after or between unions as one of the eleven intermediate variables influencing fertility. But it should be noted that infertility or low fertility is often a precondition for marital instability (Angela Molnos, 1972).

Other studies have also undertaken factors such as race, sex, education, occupation, duration of marriage and many other variables as influencing dissolution levels, rates and differentials in many parts of the world (Udry, Bumpass and Sweet, 1972). However, studies that focuses on probabilities of marital dissolution are rare in a country such as Kenya.

This study, therefore, aims at identifying significant variables

that determine marital dissolution in Kenya. Its main objectives are stated as follows:

### 1.3 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The main objective of the study is to determine the correlates of marital dissolution by looking at duration - specific - probabilities of dissolution for various regions and sub-groups. Hence, regression model will be used to estimate relative risks.

#### SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. To determine marital dissolution by specific durations of marriage for selected characteristics of women per region. Thus determine regional differential of these factors as determinants of marital dissolution.
2. To find out the nuptial patterns of those in stable and unsuitable unions.
3. To suggest policy Recommendations.

### 1.4 CURRENT STATUS AND PRIORITY AREA OF RESEARCH

The importance of nuptiality research has been recognized by demographers for quite along time. But in Kenya, the existing studies of nuptiality are still far from adequate.

A brief summary of the present studies which have been undertaken shows majorly the two levels of research mentioned below:

- i. The relationship between nuptiality, nuptial variables and fertility (Omondi-Ahawo, 1981; Ayiamba, 1983; Angawa, 1988).

- ii. The application of already set demographic techniques to see how and whether they conform to the Kenya situation (Nyarango, 1985; Mbaya, 1988, Osiemo, 1986, Agunda, 1989).

While discussing the importance of undertaking nuptial studies,

it has been stressed that:

"One of the areas which has been relatively neglected in macro studies is the subject of nuptiality. The dynamics of nuptiality are still only imperfectly understood and a study of the factors which influence the formation and dissolution of not only legal marriage but of sexual unions in general would repay investigation". (International Union for the Scientific Study of Population I.U.S.S.P, 1974).

#### AREA OF RESEARCH

The mainstream demographic research in Kenya has rarely focussed on marital dissolution. This could be for reasons that are partly methodological and partly inherent to the nature of the concern with population growth issues which has inspired most work in; fertility estimations, levels and trends; breastfeeding, fertility preferences; infant and child mortality and recently family planning.

The methodological difficulties arise from the fact that the conventional tools of nuptiality analysis lose much of their sharpness when applied in non-western family formation patterns (structure). Parameters like age at first marriage, linkages between marriages and births were meant to deal with the traditional flexibility of western nuptiality and its capacity to respond to economic stimuli and structural constraints in terms of timing and frequency of marriage.

Also the length of married life when terminated has important demographic and sociological implications as it measures the life time of these families or sub-families as units. Furthermore, when combined with age at marriage, it provides a means for investigating

the extent to which early age at marriage is conducive to marriage instability. Hence, there has been considerable interest in estimating the trends and patterns of marital disruption and finding explanation for the same.

Until recently, it seems to have been generally believed that divorce, for example, was prevalent in the well-to-do groups. In 1938, Terman wrote: "It is well known that more divorces occur in the higher classes". The lower status groups, it was believed tended rather to separate informally or endure the consequences of marital instability. But Goode (1966) indicates that this may well have been true at some previous period when the general standard of living and level of development was lower. After 1940, as better data became available, sociological studies in the United States showed the inadequacy of this generalization.

The generalization, based usually on small populations, consistently have demonstrated that the higher the socio-economic status of a group the lower is their instability or dissolution rates. With the 1950 United States census came the first opportunity to measure the relationship between status related variables and certain aspects of marital stability using the entire population.

It is also important to note that the patterns of divorce and its increase differs substantially. For example, Australians report to divorce less frequently than do the Americans, and generally after a much longer duration of marriage. These differences reflect differences in socio-cultural set up of the two countries.

In Kenya, there is evidence that the rate of marital dissolution is on the increase rather than decrease (KFS report 1980). This



report summarizes the situation in Kenya as follows:

"The proportion of first marriage that were still intact fell steadily from 90 percent for those married in the last 5 years to 79 percent for those marrying between 25 and 29 years age".

The major cause of this decline in the proportion of couples still married was found to be an increase in proportion of first marriages terminated by death of husband. In contrast, the proportion of first marriages which ended in divorce or separation showed no regular increase or pattern with the number of years since first marriage.

The observed findings, therefore, only suggest that marital dissolutions are concentrated in the early years or early stages of marriage. Also, despite this realization, the study explicitly conclude that marital dissolution in Kenya (widowhood, separation or divorce) is unlikely to exert any restraining influence on the overall levels of marital fertility. This could be due to the high remarriage rates by divorced persons thus minimizing total time lost for reproduction due to marital dissolutions. But, it is evident from the foregoing discussion that early marriage encourages marital disruption and remarriage is a common practice among divorced persons in Kenya.

It is therefore necessary to study in greater depth these reported findings by using more refined statistical and demographic techniques to discover the effects and estimate the geographical differences in marital dissolution rates that form the cornerstone of the study.

## 1.5 SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS

The dissolution of marriages has demographic, socio-economic, cultural and environmental implications as does the contracting of marriages, but naturally the effect is reversed. Thus types of dissolution represent withdrawals or disruptions from the married population categories and therefore, tend to diminish the population to which births are (marital births) likely to occur and to change the number, composition, needs, and functions of households (Shryock and Siegel, 1973).

This study is based on the 1977/78 Kenya Fertility Survey (K.F.S) sample data. This is a powerful source of socio-economic and demographic data whose applications have been further enhanced by the distinguishing features of the National Integrated Sample Survey Programme (N.I.S.S.P) in 1974. Also, it is important to note that, sample surveys dissolutions (divorces, separations and widowhood) and dissolution rates in satisfactory but registration data are inadequate - Kenya for example.

This study is principally a regional differential, case study of marital dissolutions rates levels and patterns at provincial level. Hence only seven provinces are studied as they were the only regions where the survey was carried out. The other remaining areas (though not significantly important in terms of number) were not covered because of the pastoral nature (nomadic) of the inhabitants and the related complications normally associated with such areas.

Also, apart from the provincial level analysis, the general national level analysis was undertaken to have background information about regional variations from a national perspective. Thus the

study covers most of the geographical space of Kenya with the regional variations in mind.

So this level of operation leads to an undertaking of a life table analysis at both National and Regional levels by differentials; the distribution of population by marital status and finally a socio-economic, cultural, environmental and demographic analysis of dissolution patterns using multiple regression model.

A number of limitations can also be identified in this study. One major set back to the study is lack of adequate data on male characteristics so as to get an equitable information about marriage dynamics. This is because the survey was majorly female bias.

Also, because the study intends to analyze or look at the cultural norms and mores from quantitative angle, the contributions of these factors to dissolution (ethnic background for example) is not going to be fully underscored. For example, one often finds that even in countries where divorce is recognized its incidence is a reflection of the religious conviction of the population. Hence the study will fall short of determining the very socio-cultural fabrics of the societies or regions under study.

The fact that separation is regarded as dissolution is also a shortcoming of the study. For separation is just temporary disruption of marriage. Furthermore the fact that regional differentials can only be looked at provincial level (as the survey was conducted at provincial level) may cover up the influences of some important differentials (socio-cultural-ethnic factors) on dissolution of marriage as within these provincial administrative boundaries, are significant, cultural and ethnic dissimilarities.

Finally, other limitations of the study include lack of time and money, to enable one include some other important variables such as premarital births, cohabitation status, sex preferences, age difference of the spouse, types of marriages which the literature pointed out to be important proxies to marital dissolution.

#### 1.6 JUSTIFICATION FOR THE STUDY

The study focuses in the area of marital dissolution or instability. Interest in marriage dissolution focuses on socio-cultural, economic and demographic aspects, not to forget environmental factors.

Socio-culturally, the stability of marriages and the case with which they are entered into or dissolved reflect, and also, influence relations between husbands and wives and between parents and their children. Where dissolution patterns are changing, the nature of the family is likely to be in transition as well; the newer patterns not necessarily being an improvement on the old. Because of the complexity of such issues and the limited purposes of the survey being used, this research will not contribute much towards their exploration beyond the purely quantitative sense. Hence, estimates of dissolution rates and of time spent in unions in Kenya will be explained.

Demographically, interests in marriage stability also derives from the implications that marriage patterns may have for births, particularly where fertility outside marriage is rare. Hence the study will majorly concentrate on the demographic aspect of analyzing marital dissolution.

Most of the nuptial and fertility studies in this country have

tended to examine in a limited scope only the relationship between nuptial variables and fertility (Ayiemba, 1983). Other studies which have ventured in this area have undertaken the legal, sociological and economic dimensions of marital instability and their impact of the society (Otieno; Wainaina, 1976, 1980; Mbula; Mbiti, 1977, 1968; Heller, 1971).

Thus the importance of nuptial variables in the context of Kenya as current population growth rate of approximately 4.0% per annum is best conceived from the desired marital environment, and its stability. Hence, the success of achieving the required rate of population growth and numbers vis-a-vis the available natural resources needs a background knowledge of causes of marital dissolution, its rates, levels and patterns to help the policy makers address themselves to the real issues of family formation, stability and dissolution.

Also, with the increased modernization process through education, rural-urban migration, and rural to rural migration the traditionally cherished stability in the institutions of marriage is threatened as more women become household heads. In addition, the changing role of children as sources of agricultural labour due to increased education and the increasing burden of child care on individual parents render marital instability as an undesirable social phenomena, because of its socio-psychological affects on the children and parents.

For the success of medical knowledge and child care its imperative demographically to get adequate information on the regional patterns and variations in the average age at first marriage, average age at first divorce or separation. This is because the risk of

pregnancy or conception is associated with age at first marriage. So women marrying when they are relatively too young are assumed to be exposed to greater maternal death associated with early pregnancies. Note also that, the risk to child bearing at this stage coupled with the risk to marital dissolution also render the family unit as the basis of a successful health care campaign to have a shaky foundation.

Other justification for the study include the availability of data. It is also important to note that Kenya's present stage of socio-economic and political development is unquestionably influencing directly or indirectly the institution of marriage (Ayiemba, 1983).

It is thus fitting to find out on regional basis, which socio-economic cultural and demographic changes are more crucial in determining levels and trends of marital instability in order to identify on a regional basis appropriate nuptial policies and instruments of implementation; such as:

- i. Regional institutions that cater and deal with marriage counseling.
- ii. Regional institutions for children abandoned or affected by marital discord e.g. sos children homes, orphanage etc.

Hence its clear that no attempts have so far been carried out to study marital formation and dissolution.

So, the study will be a milestone in broadening our knowledge and areas of research in the field of nuptiality and its status in Kenya.

## 1.7 ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

The study deals with the following aspects of nuptiality.

- (i) The life table analysis of Marital Dissolution.
- (ii) Relationship between socio-economic, cultural, environmental and demographic variables and Marital Dissolution.
- (iii) Regional variations and patterns.

The objectives and importance of these different topics above have been discussed briefly in the paragraphs that follow. The choice of different chapters was guided majorly by the recommendations made at the Population Studies and Research Institute, University of Nairobi (P.S.R.I) Seminar, Mombasa, (1987) and partly by the World Fertility Survey steering committee W.F.S and by the need and availability of nuptial studies in Kenya as of now. The study has been divided into six chapters: Apart from Chapter 1 that has underscored the background of the study with a view of exploring its importance, thus putting it into context. Chapter 2 deals with the review of the pertinent literature, giving the theoretical background review on the topic, the empirical review and the theoretical framework as a base to the study.

In chapter 3, work is on the methodology which has been used in the study. Here a brief background knowledge to these methods has been given with a close examination of the advantages and disadvantages and whether they have been used or recommended for such kind of studies.

The life table analysis of marital dissolution has been undertaken in chapter 4. The main features of this chapter are the presentation and analysis of life tables for aggregate and subgroups of

population with differing characteristics to see whether their chances of marriage dissolution vary from each other. The tables have their importance in the analysis of dissolution rates and in carrying out detailed study in the probabilities or chance that a particular marriage, given a specific duration will either dissolve or not. Such changes in magnitude and direction have profound effect on the fertility process of the population, although the study of the phenomenon is outside the scope of the work.

Chapter 5 deals with the relationship between socio- economic, cultural, environmental and demographic variables and marital dissolution. This chapter is an extension of chapter 4, as it considers the effects of covariates on dissolution probabilities at various marriage durations. Hence this will give use regional variations and patterns.

Finally, chapter 6 examines the success and failures of the study and thus gives both policy and further research recommendations.



## CHAPTER TWO

### 2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW AND CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

#### 2.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter is intended to highlight the theoretical and empirical contributions of past studies to the area of marital dissolutions. The researcher intends, therefore, to bridge any gap which may exist and also extend the scope of nuptial studies in Kenya.

#### 2.2 THEORETICAL REVIEW ON MARITAL DISSOLUTION

The concept of marital stability or instability are difficult to define. This difficulty is attested by Gibson (1971) whose study of marital dissolution in England and Wales observed that legalized divorce alone for example, was an inadequate measure of marital instability.

The situation is even worse in an African setting where divorce must be sanctioned by customary laws which are very diverse from one ethnic group to another.

In the pre-industrial society, marriage and reproduction tended to be governed by unconscious rationality, collective behavior patterns that benefit a species despite individual unawareness (Wrigley, 1978).

But by the advent of Industrialization motivation shifted from collective folk wisdom to individual conscious folk wisdom and finally to individual conscious self interest. This can be seen in reproduction behavior which continues to respond to increasing costs and decreasing rewards for childbearing as is postulated by the theory of Demographic transition.

In life, with the popular belief that couples marry for love,

not to please their parents, individuals self-interests increasingly dominate the 20th century marriage pattern. This decline in family functions and performances led sociologists to conclude that personal relationships were the families most important social contribution (OGBUN 1933).

By the beginning of the 1930's, social scientists vigorously (but inconclusively) sought the secrets of marital adjustment (Kirkpatrick 1968) but the search for a satisfactory theory of marriage met with limited success. In 1950's a popular theory held that marriage fills complementary, instrumental, and express needs. By the 1970s this theory was discredited, as women contribution to subsistence and men's contributions to expressive activities have been, much greater than earlier theorists had supposed (Aldous, 1977).

A recent sophisticated study reports that the lack of strong positive associations between reported marital happiness and a number of status variables unexpectedly casts doubt on number of widely held generalizations about marriage (Glenn and Weaver, 1978). Yet the accelerating rise in divorce (Westoff, 1978) indicated a need for a theory of marital instability. This, therefore, shows the continued importance of theories to social scientists in other fields and in the field of demography.

For example, studies by social scientists seeking for an acceptable theory on human behavior have focussed on micro-analytical studies on fertility behavior, the community at large within different environmental contexts. From such studies, theories on fertility behavior have been developed. Such theories include:

(i) The Biological (Natural) theory (Henry, 1961; U.N 1974; Menken, 1975).

(ii) The economic and social theory (Roppetto, 1972; Nerlove, 1974; Schultz, 1973; Esterlin, 1969; Becker, 1960; Namboodir, 1972; g, 1975; Hawthorn, 1970) and,

(iii) The socio-psychological theory (Davis and Blake, 1956; Yaunkey, 1969; Larimer, 1974).

It is important to note here that these theories have been in one way or another in their salient variables mentioned as determinant of fertility behavior vividly or partially show the part played by marital dissolution (divorce or separation or widowhood) on fertility. But in this study no discussion is going to be made of these theories as they fall out of the problem under study.

### 2.3 EMPIRICAL LITERATURE ON MARITAL DISSOLUTION

A lot of work has been done on marriage dissolution. But in Kenya such studies have been few to date.

Demographically, interest in marriage dissolution or stability derives from the implications that marriage patterns may have for births, particularly where fertility outside marriage is rare.

Since the World Fertility Surveys (W.F.S), which Kenya Fertility Survey is part of, provided more information about ever-married women than for single women, the study will provide somewhat more details on correlates of dissolution than could be got from other sources of data; census for example.

With the growing demand for strong and sound population policies and the need to understand the family unit, many nuptial studies have been carried out in the past years. This is done with the view to

establish the constraints to success and the correct policies on sound and stable family unit.

In the first country Reports (on the fertility survey which were carried) brief overviews of marriage dissolution and remarriage are represented, together with tables of the proportions of marriages dissolved by duration of union.

The Kenya Fertility Survey (K.F.S), 1980 summarizes the situation as follows:

☉ "The proportion of first marriages that were still intact fell steadily from 90% for those married in the last 5 years to 79% for these married between 25 and 29 years ago". The major cause of this decline in the proportion of couples still married was found to be an increase in proportion of first marriages terminated by death of husband. In contrast, the proportion of first marriages which ended in divorce or separation showed no regular increase with the number of years since first union".

The observed findings therefore, suggest that marital dissolutions are concentrated in the early stages of marriage. Despite this realization, the study explicitly concluded that marital dissolution in Kenya is unlikely to exert any restraining influence on the overall levels of marital fertility. This could be due to the high remarriage rates by divorced persons thus minimizing total time lost for reproduction due to marital dissolution. It is therefore evident from the foregoing discussion that, early marriage encourages marital disruption and remarriage is a common practice of divorced persons in Kenya.

### 2.3.1 DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES OF MARITAL DISSOLUTIONS

Considerable evidence supports the assumptions that correlates of marital dissolution (divorce or separation or widowhood) rates, depends on socio-economic, cultural, ecological and demographic factors (Fenelon, 1971; Jacobson, 1959; Carter and Glick, 1970; Broel-Plateris, 1966). Hence there is need for close scrutiny of the works.

#### AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE

The relationship between marital dissolution (divorce for example) and age at first marriage has been examined in a number of studies (Leslie, 1967). Females married under 18 years (high school age) have a much higher probability of divorce no matter how long their marriage may have lasted.

Bumpass and Sweet (1972) have found that there is an inverse relationship between age at first marriage and dissolution. The relationship persists and remains strong after controlling other variables including; wife's education, religion while growing up, family status at age 14, residence while growing up, status of first pregnancy and birth, first husbands marital history, and time since first marriage.

Individual survey data have consistently demonstrated that youthful, especially teenage marriages are subject for various reasons to a relatively high risks of divorce in the United States (Leslie, 1967).

From a theoretical perspective, the negative association between age and marital instability probably reflects the influence of physical and emotional maturity (Thornton, 1978). As a husband and a wife

age, they gain more and more experience and wisdom useful for the solution of marital difficulties. Also the rate of personal change probably declines with age, thereby limiting the possibility that the partners' interests and goals will differ.

Other studies have indicated that, early age at marriage is one of the most powerful predictors of marital disruption, with the largest difference noted between those who marry before age 20 and those who marry at 20 years and older (Carter and Glick, 1970; Bumpass and Sweet, 1972; Sweet and Bumpass, 1974; McCarthy, 1978; 1979; Thornton, 1978; Smith and Meitz'l, 1983; Thornton and Rodgers, 1984; Wilson and Meyers, 1984).

Differentials in marital instability by age at first marriage have often also been reported (Glick, 1957; U.S Bureau of Census, 1971). Women who married before age 20 have substantially higher rates of marital disruption than women who marry at older ages. This differential is not simply the result of the correlation of age at marriage with other variables. But women marrying for the first time at ages 30 and above have very low rates of marital dissolution.

Havighaust (1961) shows, that couples who marry, precipitately may not be ready to settle down, may have reservations about the suitability of their mates, and may be unwilling or unable to assume the responsibility(s) of married life. Thus coupled with doubts voiced by their families, such marriages are often surrounded with a lot of uncertainties e.g. indecisiveness. But if the spouses do not encounter outright opposition, they often lack the kinship support generally provided at the time of marriage (Winch and Greer, 1964) and may lose the assistance provided by kin if they had remained

single (Stack, 1974).

In the premature marriages, not only is there lack of accumulated savings, since the partners are typically young and the problems of making adequate livelihood are severe; Not only is the male restricted in his occupational opportunities, but the female is often unable to contribute to the family income because the child care responsibilities are immediately thrust upon her. Moreover the income required is greater than is usual for newly married couple because of the presence of the child (Coombs and Freedman, 1970).

Early marriages would restrict the occupational mobility of both parents, since they often must begin employment before completing educational or vocational training which might otherwise have enhanced their job opportunities (Rapport, 1964). Also their ability to change employment is limited by the greater family responsibility they must assume in the early years of marriage.

#### DURATION IN MARRIAGE

The importance of duration of marriage as a factor in predicting important demographic variables/events (fertility, mortality, dissolution) has been fully evaluated (U.N Reports).

The effect of socio-demographic variables on marital dissolution show that, the longer the duration of a marriage, and the older the husband and wife at the time of marriage, for example, the lower is the probability of dissolution (Jacobson, 1950; Bumpass and Sweet, 1972; Carter and Glick, 1976). Other studies indicate that, when duration of marriage is controlled there exist a pronounced negative relationship between education and marital instability (Udry, 1976; U.S Bureau of Census, 19231; Bumpass and Sweet, 1972).

Clearly most of the effect of education on marital dissolution is mediated by education differences in age at marriage, little effect remains to be directly ascribed to education differences in "resources" brought to marriage as the literature sometimes suggest (Goode, 1966).

Marriage duration, when analyzed through the interval between marriage and first birth may be seen to promote stability when births occur sometimes after marriage. This could be because the couple has happened or has had time to develop strong interpersonal ties and become more financially secure before the arrival of the child (Morgan and Rindfuss, 1985). Mechanisms of social control that inhibit marital dissolution may be weakened for "those already considered deviant for having born a child out of wedlock (Morgan and Rindfuss, 1925).

Yet other studies, that have examined changes overtime in the effect of marital status at first birth by analyzing probability of separation within the first years of marriage for black and white women in America, found out that among the black population, the effect of marriage sequencing is inconsistent across marriage cohort, with no difference in separation by marriage pattern for the most recent first marriage cohort (1970-74). As for the white women, the effect is relatively strong in the earliest marriage cohort (1950-54), with premarital birth group having the highest probability of separation, but it has since declined (O'connell and Rodgers 1984). But unlike O'connell and Rodgers, Morgan and Rindfuss (1985) found no change in the effect of marriage sequencing by marriage cohort.

Thornton and Rodgers (1978) in their analysis of different



dimensions of individual and historical time to obtain insights into relative importance and strength and to understand better patterns observed across historical and personal time on marital dissolution used a multivariate analysis and additive model. Interpretations of these trends as reflecting period rather than cohort phenomena is consistent with the observation that during these periods, all birth cohorts, marriage cohorts, ages, age at marriage groups and marital durations were influenced remarkably simultaneously and evenly. It was also found that individual time is also related to marital separation and divorce. The likelihood of separation and divorce decreases steadily with the passage of individual time. The crucial dimension accounting for declining dissolution rates across the life course may be age rather than marital dissolution. Although age at marriage may not be as important as current age in predicting marital dissolution, it does have an independent effect on marital dissolution.

#### AGE AT FIRST BIRTH

The younger the age at first birth, the higher the probability that the first marriage will dissolve (Christensen, 1963; McCarthy, 1979; McCarthy and Menken, 1979; Smith and Meitzl, 1983).

Other studies reveal a variety of undesirable consequences associated with adolescent childbearing (i.e. young age at birth). Among these are, health problems for the mother and infant (Menken, 1930), rapid subsequent fertility (Bumpass, Rindfuss and Jamosik, 1978), high levels of completed fertility (Millman and Hendershort, 1980), low educational attainment (Furstenberg, 1976 and 1977; Moore and Waite, 1977; McLaughlin, 1979), low earnings (Hoffman and Moore

1978), child abuse and neglect (Herrenkohl and Herrenkohl, 1979, low perceived personal efficacy (McLaughlin and Micklin, 1983) and high rate of marital disruption (McCarthy and Menken, 1979). Thus age at first birth has important consequences for life course activities.

#### PREMARITAL BIRTH AND ADOLESCENT CHILDBEARING

Premarital births raises the probability of dissolution (Christensen, 1963; Bumpass and Sweat, 1972).

Sarrel (1967) in a small retrospective study of black adolescents who became pregnant before wedlock reported that, with a five-year period three fourths of the marriages were no longer intact. A series of studies have also shown that premarital pregnancy greatly increases the probability of eventual marital dissolution (Monahan, 1960; Lowrie, 1965).

By linking the records of marriages, births and divorces, Christensen (1960) was able to show that couples who had experienced a premarital conception were more than twice as likely to divorce within the first five years of marriage.

Sauber and Corrigan (1970) traced marriage careers of unwed mothers in New York. One-half of those who married during the study period no longer lived with their husbands at the time of the five-year follow up. Other studies reveal that individuals who become premaritally pregnant are different either in their personality and/or cultural values (Vincent, 1961; Paulker, 1969). The same set of personal or cultural factors which may predispose couples to become premaritally pregnant are also thought to reduce their chances of making up a stable marriage: That is, marriages preceded by a pregnancy do not survive because individuals entering such unions are

less capable of or committed to creating a viable union (Chilman, 1966).

It has also been hypothesized that a premarital pregnancy may cut short the process of preparing for married life (Christensen, 1960). He speculates that such marriages often occur without adequate preparation or in the absence of love, or in the face of ill-matched personalities. This is supported by other studies which tend to support the hypothesis that marriage is more successful where there is no premarital sexual intercourse.

In a recent longitudinal study of marital dissolution; Coombes and Zumetta (1970) also discovered a strong association between the occurrence of a premarital pregnancy and marital breakup.

Pohlman (1969) concludes that an abrupt introduction of the child into the family (or accelerated family building which accompanies marriages preceded by a pregnancy) constellation can prevent the solidarity between the partners that might otherwise develop during the early years of marriage. Relations may be further complicated by a rapid succession of additional pregnancies. The husband particularly may begin to feel trapped by the accumulating economic and emotional responsibility(s). The wife may resent the heavy burdens of caring for several young children and have little emotional energy to invest in the marriage relationship.

Other studies include that of Billy, Landalle and McLaughlin (1986). In examining whether the sequencing of adolescent childbearing vis-a-vis another major life course event-marriage affects later events-marital dissolution found that, the conditional probabilities adjusted for timing effects and covariates reveal that delaying

marriage subsequent to the birth dramatically increases the chances of separation in comparison with the other two marital status groups. The conditional probabilities adjusted for timing effects and covariates reveal that marriage subsequent to birth increases the chances of marital instability during the first two and one-half years of marriage. Another way of looking at these changing effects of marriage-first birth-sequencing over marital duration is to note that, while, those with a premarital births are the first to suffer a marital disruption, those with a premarital conception and post marital conception experience higher rates of separation in subsequent intervals. There is little difference from the results in the probability of separation between adolescent mothers who had a post marital conception and those who had a premarital conception but married before the birth. Having a premarital birth however, significantly increases the probability of marital dissolution.

In the one attempt to untangle the unique effects of age at first birth and age at first marriage, Moore and Waite (1981) found that, adolescent marriage, not adolescent parenthood is the significant factor responsible for marital disruption.

Hence the timing of the birth of a child (i.e whether childbearing begins in adolescent or post adolescent period) has important ramifications for subsequent life course events, for example, high rate of marital disruption (McCarthy and Menken, 1979).

#### FERTILITY AND MARITAL STATUS

Koo, Barbara and Janowitz (1983) in their study to investigate the reciprocal relationship between marital fertility and dissolution formulating and estimating a simultaneous equation frameworks re-

vealed the effects of fertility and age of youngest child on separation.

According to their findings, being childless, rather than having any children at the beginning of the interval increased the chance of separation. But this effect was significant only during years 4-6 for the youngest cohorts and years 7-9 and 10-12 for older cohorts. Among the older groups, bearing a child during the interval significantly increased the likelihood of separation during years 13-16 of marriage.

#### CHILDLESSNESS

Years ago, sociologists and psychologists thought that the purpose and presence of children could strengthen a faltering marriage. In support of this belief, researchers claimed that divorce rate among the childless was many times greater than it was among the couples with children (Nimkoff, 1934). But later studies however showed that the difference in divorce rates for these two groups of couples was much smaller than had been claimed and that divorce and separation rates are moderately lower for those who have children than for the childless (Jacobson, 1950; Mohanan, 1955). This argument has been endorsed by Chester (1971), who found that the majority of marital dissolution occurred during the first year of marriage. As a result the major determinants of divorce do not include childlessness, and the fact that disrupted marriages are less exposed to childbearing than women who have been continuously married leads to the expectation that marital disruptions also lead to increases in childlessness.

Becker (1973) suggested that, the number of children in the home

might affect the probability of dissolution independently of their age when he looked at the economics of marriage. He argued that the complementarity of the skills of the husband and the wife was rooted in the desire to raise children so that, "the gain (to marriage) would be positively related to the importance of children".

A study by Ross and Sawhill (1977) on whether dependent children (less than 18 years) were present and affected marital stability revealed that, it failed to affect it significantly.

Cherlin (1977) on his study on the effect of children on marital dissolution of white mothers in the first four years of marriage found that children were deterrent to divorce and separation only when they are in the school going ages, when the time and effort required for child care are at their peak. Hence his findings suggests that children prevent marital dissolution not because they build new bonds between the parents but rather because early child care may be too expensive and time consuming for one spouse to marriage alone.

Thornton (1977) dummied the number of children so that the effects of being childless could be distinguished. He found that childlessness at the end of third year of marriage significantly increased chances of separation in the subsequent fourth year, but the number of children had no significant effects in two succeeding four year periods (he did not study the first three years).

Other studies by Mott and Moore (1979) found being childless, as contrasted to having babies or older children, did significantly influence the likelihood of marital dissolution. But in this study, they used a very young sample (age 14-24 in 1968), for many of whom

childbearing would not start until after the study period.

#### REMARRIAGE

The remarried persons who were previously divorced appeared to have a higher rate of marital dissolution than those in first marriages. The difference between first and second marriages is modest, but it has consistently been reported in several studies (Monahan, 1958; Glick and Norton, 1971; Bumpass and Sweat, 1972; Becker et al 1976, Hoffman and Holmes, 1976; U.S Bureau of the Census, 1976).

The dissolution rate for third marriages are even higher, according to one study in Iowa of divorce records (Monahan, 1958). The higher rates found could be due to the complex family situations of remarried persons to familiarity with the process of divorce, or to the tendency of some people to be prone to divorce (Bernard, 1956; Duberman, 1976).

Other studies (Becker, Landes and Michael 1977; McCarthy 1978) reports that a first marriage increases the probability of dissolving a second marriage. Problems facing families formed by remarriage following divorce are also present in families formed by first marriage when they involve children born premaritally from a previous informal union. Ambiguities with regard to such things as: financial obligations; child care responsibility and authority within the family are likely to precipitate conflicts for which there are few established solutions. Hence remarriage and marital instability seems to have a reciprocal effect.

### 2.3.2 SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL FACTORS

Social factors such as race, religion, residence, are among the many factors which are frequently suggested as influencing marital disruptions (Carson, 1915; Lichtenberger, 1931; Pang and Hanson, 1968). Both Willcox and Jacobson (1959) selected these variables above for special discussion, with Nativity included, and came out with some evidence that, taking the whole of U.S, the variables are associated with important differentials in divorce rates (Carter and Glick, 1976).

Broel-Plateris (1964) in a comprehensive attempt to identify, the correlates of divorce obtaining data from the 1950 U.S census on nineteen non-legal variables by state and residence categories, used "percent divorced" from the census as an indicator of the level of divorce in each state and residence category and found that, of the nineteen selected variables two failed to correlate significantly (at 0.05 level) with percent divorced in the large city category, while ten failed to correlate with percent divorce in the rural farm and non-farm category. Of course, the proportion divorced in these categories at any point in time depended not only on the incidence of divorce but also on the frequency of remarriages, the duration of separation and direction of migration.

#### EDUCATION

Greater educational attainment presumably a measure of social class-lowers the probability of dissolution, although the effect of education is weak when other variables are controlled (Goode, 1962; Bernard, 1966; Udry, 1966; Bumpass and Sweet, 1972).

Another study by Glick, (1973) using the 1950 U.S census data to



calculate separation and divorce rates by race and education, found a non-linear relationship of divorce rates to be highest in the middle levels of education. Other researchers on the correlates of marriage dissolution in Canada has shown certain factors - lack of education - as negatively related to divorce Mckie et-al (1963).

Although marital Instability appears to decline with increasing education, this relationship is appreciably altered when controls for age at marriage and other factors are introduced (Bumpass and Sweat, 1972; 1973).

#### RELIGION

The effects of religious differences on marital disruption may be derived from differing theological and sub-cultural views on marital breakdowns and the strength of family ties. Religious differentials have been documented for specialized samples (Landis, 1949; Burchina and Chancellor, 1963), where with other factors controlled the religious differentials reduces considerably.

Analysis of differing failure rates of homogamous and heterogamous marriages has focussed primarily on religion and is limited in the states which record religion on marriage certificates - Iowa and Indiana for example, - (Christensen and Barber, 1967).

Higher rates of marital disruption has been reported for inter-faith marriages (Landis, 1949). Other studies yielding similar results were by Burchinal and Chancellor (1963); and Christensen and Barber (1967).

## HOMOGAMY AND HETEROGAMY

Measures of homogamy are widely used in tests for predicting marital adjustments (Bowerman, 1964).

Goode (1966) lists "general dissimilarity in background" among factors associated with greater "proneness to divorce". The higher probability of success for homogamous marriages are usually attributed to greater likelihood of value consensus between the spouses on basic life goals and priorities and to similarity of expectations for marital roles.

To the extent this occurs, marital success rates might be lowered for heterogamous marriages, not so much through differing values of the groups involved as through the selection of personal characteristics not conducive to marital adjustment.

Blood and Wolfe (1960) reported lower levels of marital satisfaction among Detroit couples who were dissimilar on age, religion or education (among other characteristics).

## LEGAL ASPECTS

Legalized unions are found to be more stable and have relatively higher fertility levels than consensual unions (Onaka and Yaukey, 1973). But among less fecund women as well as consensual unions when other intervening variables such as education, place of birth and residence are controlled marital dissolution was found to be high.

Willcox, 1959 concluded that divorce differentials in "the three belts (east, central and west) of the United States are not explained by differences in law" --- and that legal --- restriction on divorce exert a minor influence on the rate" (Kirkpatrick, 1963; Mazur, 1969).

Yasmin (1930) on divorce law amongst the Moslems in Kenya reveals that Muslims regard divorce as a protective remedy and not as a punishment. From the research findings, divorce rate is seen to be increasing from 1.4% average ratio of divorce to marriage between 1957-63 to 12.06% in the period 1975-79.

Atieno (1976) in her desertation (LLB) entitled "Divorce in the Luo Community with a particular reference to the county of East Ugenya Location" found that, according to this society marriage is a paramount bond between not only the couple but the community which the couple is part of. According to this study, divorce is looked at as an accident that affects the moral standards set by the Luo religion. It is important, therefore, that the wisdom of the Luo elders who are the agents of the Luo God be evoked to keep in check this damaging phenomenon. Hence the term divorce is non existence in the community. The most appropriate word therefore should be "separation" which was more popular and whose effect was to make a couple stay apart (separate) from each other for a while.

#### ECONOMIC FACTORS

At individual level there is evidence indicating that divorce rates decline with increasing income (U.S Bureau of census 1971). Also, marital disruption appears to decline with increasing education. But these relationship is appreciably altered when controls for age at marriage and other factors are introduced (Bumpass and Sweat, 1972, 1973).

Levinger (1965) contends that, there is simply less reason to maintain a problematic relationship when the female is not dependent on the male for support. This is why unions in which women's earn-

ings capacity are/is greater than their husbands had such a low rate of survival.

According to Furstenberg (1974) holders of lower-status jobs or what some economists refer to as "secondary position" command less marital loyalty primarily because they offer less long term security.

Rainwater (1970) in his study of the economic implication of marital disruption among the blacks and whites found that, not only do black males face limited employment opportunities, restricted occupational mobility, and unfair rates of compensation, but they are sometimes confronted with the fact that their wives are relatively more employable than they are. This situation results in a double strain on black marriages. At the same time the husbands feels that his role as provider is being undercut, and his wife is likely to resent his inability to support the family.

One study also of white couples has shown that early parenthood, has an adverse effect on a man's earning capacity over an extended period, thus may cause strain in a marriage relationship (Coombs and Freedman, 1970).

Although researchers disagree on why it is so, almost all existing studies show that economic resources are strongly linked to marital stability (Scanzoni, 1970; Cutright, 1971; Furstenberg, 1974).

Huffman (1977) looking at the effects and dynamics of change in economic wellbeing and its relationship to changes in marital status analyzed the data of income dynamics. In this study, using a simple bivariate and multivariate analysis found that changes in economic status were positively related to changes in marital status. Also,

changes in marital status lead to a series of changes in economic activity. When the results were placed in perspective, they present the worst effects of divorce. But the results presented here show a particular historical setting. There is certainly nothing that would suggest that the same relationships will necessarily persist in the future.

Heller (1971) on his study about economic change and marital disruption in Kenya, used a multiple regression analysis to see the relationship between:

- (i) Economic variables and type of marriage.
- (ii) Marriage type and stability
- (iii) Economic variables and stability.

The results shows that members of the sample are differentially affected by the changes in the national economic structure. Hence she concludes from the results that; marriage law that would allow for the different rates of change in the population would be the best solution to the problem of creating a uniform marriage law.

#### POLYGAMY

Polygamy has been hypothesized by several demographers to effect or cause marital Instability. (Mitchell 1972; Reuben Hill et al. 1959). These studies hypothesize that polygamy reduces the fertility levels due to structural arrangements which affect the frequency of sexual inter- course between wives. Hence the values attached to kids in marriage makes the institution unstable if more women are to be brought into marriage to suffice the deficit. Muhsam, 1956; Angela Molnos, 1972, 1973; Mosley, 1981).

According to the Kenya Fertility Survey Report. (1980) polygamy

is noted to be widely practised in Kenya, Involving one third of the currently married women. Polygamy is also noted to be common among younger women under the age of 25 years, especially, among the non-educated lot. From this one can imply the degree of marital disruption as reasonably significant. For example, Mosley et al (1981), utilizing the above survey, found polygamy as leading to low fertility levels because of the low pregnancy progression ratio of such women. And low fertility has been noted to cause marital Instability and vice versa (Koo, Barbara, Ianowitz, 1983).

#### COURTSHIP

Other socio-cultural aspects related to marital disruption can also be realized in the courting period. A different and perhaps more direct sign of readiness for marriage is courtship experience. It provides both a filtering procedure and an opportunity for the couple to explore future patterns of marital interaction (Burges and Wallin, 1953; Winch, 1971). Hence brief courtship period lead to higher conjugal Instability (Burchinal, 1960).

#### 2.3.3 ECOLOGICAL OR ENVIRONMENTAL VARIABLES

Fenelon (1971) relating county immigration rates to 1960 divorce rates by state (U.S data), through generalization and empirical tests, taking values as percent urban, percent non-white, per capital income and percent foreign parentage and percent catholic from the 1961 catholic society, found that only the first two indicators were significantly correlated with state divorce rates (per thousand married couples), and that none of the indicators produced a significantly attenuated first-order partial correlation between county and immigrations and divorce rates.

Carson (1915) analyzing the aspect of frontierness (migration as key concept) portrays the impact of adventurism, new environment and new conditions of life (which influence the inhabitants thus discarding old traditions and cutting loose from the past), to generate an atmosphere of isolation, impersonality and weakened social control through the "--- reduction of institutional and traditional aspects of family, influence of friends, thus leads to less stigma of divorce.

Pang and Hanson, (1963) concludes that, the popular image of persons is often linked with such personal characteristics as being independent, self-reliant, and adventurous.

Hence migration as a determinant of social integration, in turn directly (influence) affects the degree to which norms of behaviour are enforced in a given community. Communities having a large number of new members will not display the degree of integration that is present in older, more stable communities --- because enforcement of norms in these areas will be comparatively relaxed" (Fenelon, 19871; Broel-Plateris, 1964). Consequently for a given area the greater the in-migration rate, the lower the social integration or stability and the lower the social cost attached to divorce.

#### 2.4 MARITAL DISRUPTION IN CONTEMPORARY AFRICA

Divorce or separation or widowed is one of the methods which bring an end to a marriage.

An African marriage involves many people, and therefore, in any marital disruption (divorce or separation or widowhood), it was not only the couples who were responsible or concerned, but all those who were involved both in marriage negotiations and the activities which followed, for example, the payment of dowry.

In the African context, bridewealth was not a spontaneous event but a process, a process which continued at times up to the birth of the first or even second child or even as long as the husband desired. This differed from society to society.

Mbiti (1969) has this to say about divorce: "Once the full contract of marriage has been executed, it is extremely hard to dissolve it. If a dissolution does come about, then it creates a great scar in the community concerned".

With the coming of missionaries and the related church marriages, there has occurred a notable reluctance to marry in church, mainly as a result of social instability in general and Instability of marriage Institutions in particular (Hans Boerakker, 1975, Perlman, 1963). Their conclusions are derived from studies from Eastern and Western Uganda respectively.

In the past, the significant differences in attitude on the part of man and women to the marriage relationship were rendered less disruptive by the parents careful choice of marriage partners. But today, young people do not choose wisely or as carefully as in the past. They lack experience and they act hastily cohabiting before negotiations are completed or even began.

Today, although statutory and customary divorce procedures are foreseen by the legislation, comparatively few divorces actually become before the courts, and even when they do the courts are often forced to accept a "fait accompli".

According to Conway (1975) the legislators in various countries, while trying to make customary divorce proceedings available at the level of local magistrate or district commissioner have also tried to



prevent divorces being granted so easily.

In Kenya, for example, divorce law follows the much criticized English model. But according to Spry Commission, divorce cases should be dealt with on its merits. The commission also recommended that no divorce suits should be heard during the first three years of marriage and before an attempt at reconciliation. Other reports include those of Kaleman on Uganda, which recommended the introduction of reconciliation committees, and also the Tanzanian Marriage Act which has insisted on a two year limit before divorce suits can be introduced as well as before reference to a reconciliation committee.

Kasaka (1976) studying marriage and divorces in a village in central Tanzania (Tumbi) found that 59% of those without church marriages had experienced a divorce or separation while 15% of those with church marriage had separated.

In another study in Zimbabwe, Aquina (1975) came to the conclusion that, divorces were less compared to other countries due to the fact that in Zimbabwe patrilineal customary system is still resilient and backed by civil legislation and high bridewealth. Divorce was also found to be higher in the tea estates than in the Tribal trustlands and considerably more men were divorced and remarried than women. But he discovered that divorce was on the increase. Other conclusions made indicated high rates of divorce in second marriages than in first marriages. Examining divorce and remarriage from the point of view of religious allegiance, it was found that, the Protestants (Independent church, the Vapostori, Methodists, Church of Christ) had the highest marital disruption as compared to the

Catholics.

In the urban communities in East Africa, the pattern is not very different from the rural areas. Ssenyonga (1973) studying Nagulu, Housing estate in Kampala, concluded that church marriages between Roman Catholics showed more stability than other forms of marriage.

Lamouse-Smith (1970) conducting research among migrants in East African towns found that 52% of the migrants were unmarried but by the percent married in the survey 13% were either separated or divorced.

Other studies in Africa about marital disruption reveals high rate of marital instability amongst matrilineal marriages (Kauta, Welshman, and Gastonguay, 1975), low rates in patrilineal marriages, (Aquina, 1975) and the effects of labour migration on marital stability, South Africa as an example (Whooley, Spiegels, 1975).

In East Africa, according to the 1969 census, Kenya's percentage of divorced and remarried persons was 4.22% of the married population. In Uganda the same year it was 10.72%. But in Tanzania (1967) the percentage divorced and remarried in the country as a whole was 6.31%, while in the tiny, predominantly Muslim country of Zanzibar, it was 20.56%, a figure clearly due to Muslim permissiveness about divorce.

Penwill (1957) writing on the Kamba customary law, found that there were three grounds on which the Mukamba husband was allowed to divorce a wife.

"The first is her idleness and laziness, or her fullen intractability, shown by a consistent neglect or refusal to perform her wifely duties in the home or in the fields. The second is her unfaithfulness. Habitual unfaithfulness is necessary, as he would be

considered a hard husband to divorce his wife after only one or two lapses. The third ground for divorce, and the least common is witchcraft".

Another study by Mbula (1977) on the Akamba, found that divorce was never encouraged. The society worked hard to retain, every marriage. In any divorce case, it was the children who suffered most, and since children were the hope of the society, the Kamba looked for ways and means of evading divorce. But there were instances it was granted as indicated by Penwill (1957).

It is important to note that the divorce figures which African governments publish refer to those cases that come before the courts. Infact, very few do so. The number of divorces in Africa is therefore much greater than the official figures lead us to believe. When a divorce case is heard in court the partners are usually already separated and bridewealth in some cases has been returned. Hence studies reveals that separation or divorce is on the increase.

## 2.5 SUMMARY OF LITERATURE REVIEW

From the reviews above, the following issues are noted:

- i. The complexity of marital dissolution attested, more so in an African setting where the research is being carried. But the researcher is not going to undergo the pains as to try to deliberate fully on those issues (definitions, lack of theory (demographic)). But the study is going to handle the topic as per the agreed definition of dissolution as is given in the section of definition of concepts and findings of other scholars.

ii. Numerous factors have been identified as to influence marital dissolution:

- a - Age at first marriage
- b - Duration of marriage
- c - Age at first birth
- d - Premarital conception, birth, and adolescent childbearing
- e - Fertility levels (i.e Number of children)
- f - Remarriage
- g - Education
- h - Religion
- i - Homogamy and Heterogamy
- j - Legal aspects
- k - Economic factors (Income, occupation, work-statuses)
- l - Polygamy
- m - Courtship
- n - Place of Residence
- o - Regionality (migration) and
- p - Customary behaviours.

But the literature reveals that few of these studies have been done in Africa and Kenya in particular, and more so demographic analysis of dissolution of marriage. This shows that serious overemphasis have been made on the socio-cultural and economic factors in the studies of marital dissolution.

From the literature also its noted that most of the studies have tended to use statistical and econometric analysis as methods of

analysis of marriage dissolution - factors that determine it, its rates, levels and patterns with percent divorces, median duration from marriage to decree as the dependent variables. It is only recent studies as is realised in the literature that have tried to venture into Demographic analysis of marriage dissolution using both life table technique and econometric analysis.

Hence the study strives to further on the current researches by using both the life table technique (by duration of marriage) with emphasis on socio-cultural, economic, environmental and demographic factors influencing marital dissolution as independent variables and marriage duration (duration dependent proportions or probabilities) as proxy to marital dissolution.

The study also intends to increase further the level and scope of nuptiality research in Kenya, majorly in the areas of marital dissolution.

## 2.6 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK: DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS OF FACTORS

### INFLUENCING MARITAL DISSOLUTION

In demographic and sociological studies, the concept of life cycle has become useful device for summarizing a complex set of human events which tend to follow an orderly and sequential pattern. Events such as birth, marriage, family dissolution and death can be conventionally arranged along a temporal dimension, facilitating comparisons of family career within and between societies (Glick, 1957).

Recently, there have been attempts to expand, the notion of family life cycle to make it more theoretically and analytically powerful unlike its past use as a descriptive device (Clausen, 1973).

Most of this work has taken primarily one direction, which is that of exploring cultural, social and economic determinants which shape life cycle patterns or bring about changes in the life cycle course over-time.

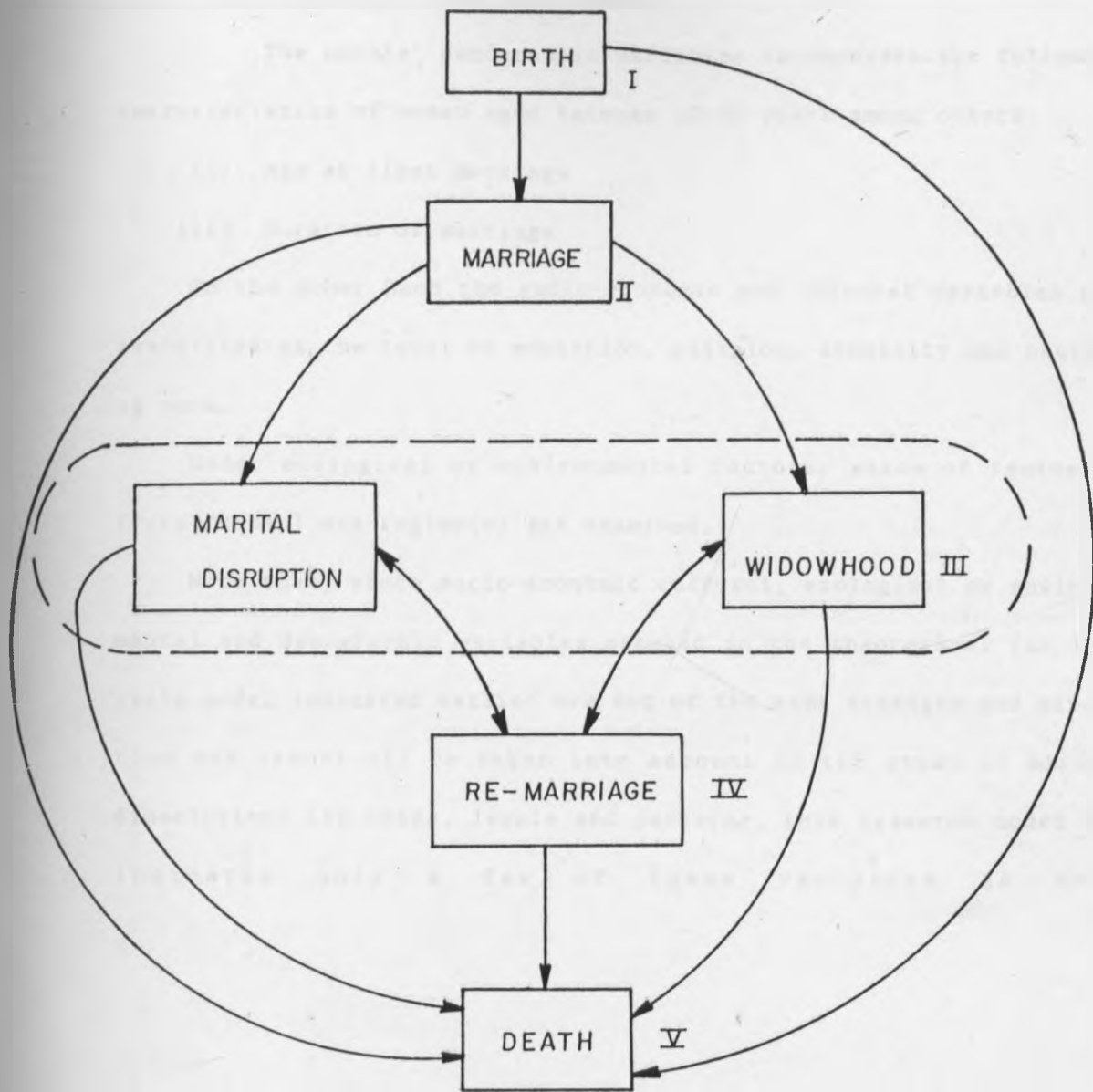
However, its no less important to ask, how shifts in the staging of particular family events impose constraints on the operation of other related social institutions or in focusing on the family itself. Another question involves how certain arrangements of the life course affect the character of family relations.

So, rather than accounting for the typical life cycle, attention needs to be directed at the consequences of variant or irregular activities or careers of individuals, the family and society and/or the personal characteristics of the individual-family and society. There is good reason as to suspect that unscheduled departures from the typical of normal life course may be socially stressful (Neuragraten, 1962, Elder, 1974).

Hence, its important to note that, while deviations of this nature frequently give rise to problems in role performance for individuals who pursue unconventional career routes, they do not invariably produce personal disadvantages. Individuals sometimes, respond to and benefit from unanticipated opportunities occasioned by disruptions in the normatively prescribed schedule (Riley, Johnson, and Foner, 1972; Elder, in press). Note that since each of the selected socio-economic and cultural variables, ecological or environmental variables and demographic variables are contained in the theoretical model below are not of same strength in the studies of marital dissolution/ instability, its rate, levels and patterns, this

research model has indicated only a few of these variables as shown. The criteria for choosing these variables as predictors of marital dissolution in Kenya has been directed by the availability of such data from the Kenya Fertility Survey records. Also, its worth restating here that the study squarely rests on secondary data.

Fig. 1: LIFE CYCLE MODEL INDICATING AREA AND LEVEL OF RESEARCH



SOURCE: OPERATIONALIZING THE FAMILY LIFE-CYCLE CONCEPT WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF UNITED NATIONS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 1980 CENSUS, FEDERAL INSTITUTE FOR POPULATION RESEARCH/WHO (eds. ), Priest, G.E.(1982).

**KEY**

→ Direction of relationship through the intermediate variables (socio-economic, cultural, demographic and environmental variables).

--- MARITAL DISSOLUTION: AREA AND LEVEL OF RESEARCH.

I — V ——— Life cycle levels



### 2.6.1 THE CONCEPTUAL FUNCTIONAL MODEL

The models' demographic variables encompasses the following characteristics of women aged between 15-50 years among others:

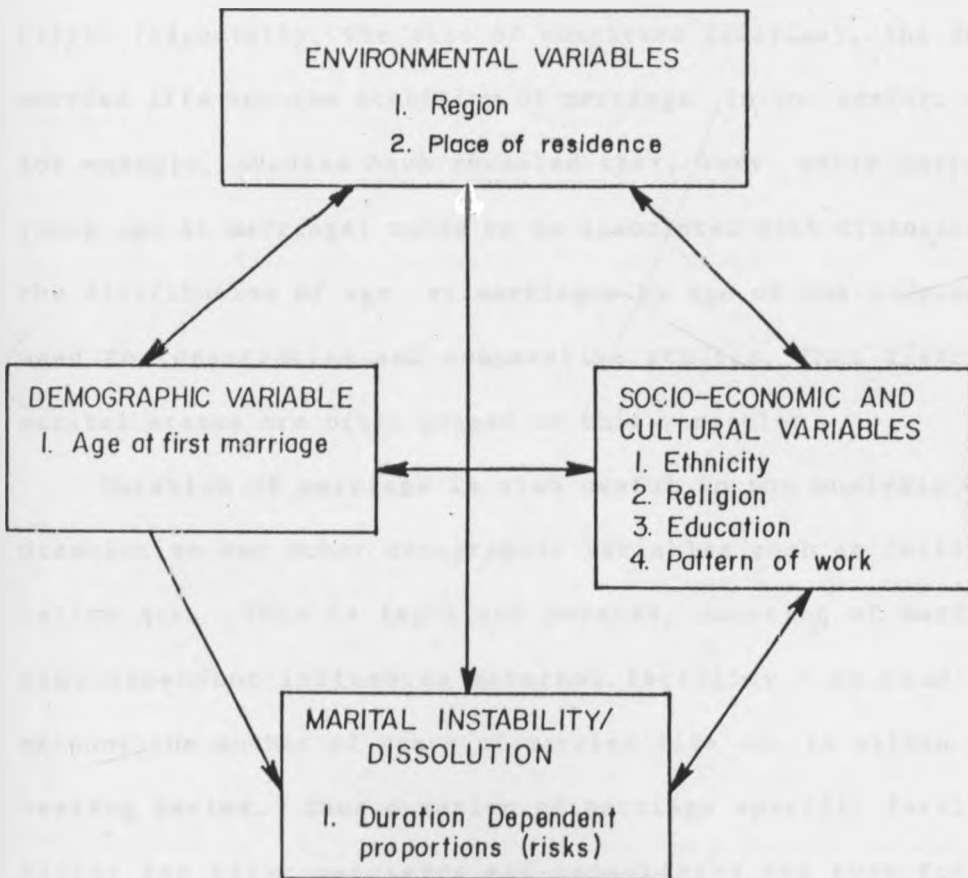
- (i) Age at first marriage
- (ii) Duration of marriage

On the other hand the socio-economic and cultural variables are identified as the level of education, religion, ethnicity and pattern of work.

Under ecological or environmental factors, place of residence (rural/urban) and region(s) are examined.

Note that, since socio-economic cultural, ecological or environmental and demographic variables assumed in the theoretical (or life cycle model indicated earlier are not of the same strength and direction and cannot all be taken into account in the study of marital dissolution, its rates, levels and patterns, this research model has indicated only a few of these variables as shown.

CONCEPTUAL FUNCTIONAL MODEL



Thus, its important to note on a theoretical basis that demographic, ecological or environmental, socio-economic and cultural factors determine marital dissolution; its rates levels and patterns.

Considering the demographic variables one expects that all the enumerated factors influence marriage dissolution. For example, one of the most important demographic characteristics of a marriage is the age of the couples. Age at marriage is closely related to fertility (especially, the size of completed families), the duration of married life and the stability of marriage. In the western societies, for example, studies have revealed that, very early marriages (i.e young age at marriage) tends to be associated with dissolution. Also the distribution of age at marriages by age of the couples is often used for descriptive and comparative studies. Thus distribution by marital status are often pegged on this variable.

Duration of marriage is also useful in the analysis of marital dissolution and other demographic variables such as fertility, mortality etc. This is important because, duration of marriage being time-dependent influences maternal fertility - as this takes into account the number of years of married life one is within the child-bearing period. Thus duration of marriage specific fertility rates differ for first marriages and remarriages and even for different marital statuses.

So, the statistics on duration of marriage can be used to measure potential loss of fertility as well as to provide some indication of family stability. Here the most common summary measure of marriage stability by duration of marriage is the median duration from marriage to a particular decree (divorce, separation, widowhood

e.t.c), although other measures also exist (duration-specific dissolution rates).

Other demographic factors which have been noted to influence marital dissolution and how they influence it include; Age at first birth, premarital births, couples age difference, cohabitation status, type of marriage, sex preferences etc.

Also, socio-cultural, economic, and environmental factors have been found to influence marital dissolution. Laws, customs and taboos for example influence marriage rates and patterns. Age at marriage is limited or is at least affected by the minimum age imposed by law. Also the laws and customs that affect the ease of marriage, particularly at young ages, and of marriage also affect the incidence of dissolution - divorce for example.

The ages within which school attendance is compulsory and the facilities for higher education also affect the age at marriage and its related implications.

Furthermore, the type of economy a country has (subsistence, or highly developed market economy and the degree of industrialization and urbanization) influence the prevalence of marriage which in turn affects the marriage patterns.

Other cultural factors also exert an influence on marriage pattern. For example, women's role and status in a particular society have an effect on the incidence of marriage. Furthermore, the extent to which a country has a subsistence economy or a highly developed market economy and the degree of industrialization and urbanization influence the prevalence of unpaid family work, the participation of women in the labour force as gainful workers, and the occupations

pursued by women, which in turn affects the marriage patterns. Other cultural factors also exert an influence on marriage pattern. For example, the role and status of women in society has an effect on the incidence of marriage and an ever greater effect on its stability. The less restrictive confinement of women to the home, their increasing participation in the labour force both before and after marriage, their increasing ability to be self supporting and changes in the attitudes regarding bachelorhood, spinsterhood and marriage per se have contributed to changes in the marriage patterns of various countries. Other related aspects are the importance placed by the society upon being a parent and the ideals held by members of the society as to fertility and family size. Thus marriage patterns are related to prospective fertility which otherwise lead to marital disruption.

Also, with high mortality, countries affected tends to practice relatively early age at union. So in such societies men tend to marry early in order to be assured of male offspring to carry on the family name and to perform the necessary memorial rituals - according to the traditions. This often, when the intended goals is not achieved leads to instability of such unions.

Finally, other variables important for dissolution of marriages include, migration (geographical mobility) and even wars. These factors determine the marriage patterns- in terms of the sex imbalance and the related implications. For example, the outbreak of wars often lead to migratory behaviours-refugee status - hence separations, divorces and even deaths often occur.

## 2.7 CONCEPTUAL AND OPERATIONAL HYPOTHESES

### 2.7.1 CONCEPTUAL HYPOTHESIS

The study assumes that socio-cultural, economic, environmental and demographic factors are likely to influence marital dissolution with the resultant regional variations and patterns.

### 2.7.2 OPERATIONAL HYPOTHESES

i.)  $H_0$  - Regional pattern(s) of marital dissolution is not a function of the following: socio-cultural, economic, environmental and demographic variables (e.g. Age at first marriage, education levels, place of Residence, ethnicity, pattern of work, Religion e.t.c).

ii.)  $H_0$  - There's homogeneity in the following socio - cultural, economic, environmental and demographic factors (Age at first marriage, education levels, place of Residence, ethnicity, pattern of work, Religion etc.) in determining regional patterns of marital dissolution.

Note:  $H_1$  - Is simply the opposite of the  $H_0$

## 2.8 DEFINITION OF CONCEPTS

### NUPTIALITY:

The frequency of marriage that is, unions and characteristics of persons united in marriage and the dissolution of such unions.

### MARITAL DISSOLUTION OR INSTABILITY

This refers to a marriage state which has experienced or resulted in divorce or separation or widowhood. Conversely, marital stability refers to marriage state which has never been disrupted, that is, persons in marriage were found to be living together at the time of the survey or census enumerations.

## DIVORCE

Is the final dissolution or end of marriage by securing civil, religious or customary endorsement and are therefore making one eligible for remarriage.

## SEPARATION

Is a temporary agreed or otherwise dissolution or parting of couples who are married pending divorce or reconciliation or it is an estranged couple living apart. Note: Living apart due to lets say, working conditions is not referred to as separation.

## WIDOWHOOD

Is another way the legal or religious or customary marriage may be dissolved upon the death of one of the spouses. The surviving spouse experiences the event of widowhood.

## MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION PROBABILITY

This may be computed with respect to either age of spouse(s) or duration of marriage. It is expressed as the number of dissolutions in a given year at a given age of wife (or husband) reaching that age at the beginning of the year, or as the number of dissolutions in a given year in a given marriage - duration class per thousand marriages reaching that duration class or the beginning of the year.

## MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLES

This is a table combining the probabilities of dissolution by age of wife (or husband) with probabilities of death of wife (or husband). Other types of marriage dissolution tables may be prepared from probabilities of dissolution and death combined or singly of either husband or wife by duration of marriage.

## DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES

These are variables that include Age at first marriage, Duration of marriage etc.

## AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE

Is defined as the time when one enters first marriage (got married).

## DURATION OF MARRIAGE

This is the time or period completed since the beginning of married life to the date of other events (e.g. survey, census, separation, divorce or widowhood)..pa



## ECOLOGICAL OR ENVIRONMENTAL VARIABLES

These are variables or factors such as place of residence - whether rural or urban, region (geographic space or province) etc. Hence these are generally physical factors of particular areas.

## SOCIO-CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC FACTORS

These are the indices of economic status and factors that govern the way of life of the people in a society. These may include religion, education, pattern of work, ethnicity, family norms, marriage, customs, initiation rites, values and institutions.

For example, under religion and ethnicity we have family norms, taboos, marriage customs, initiation rites, values, beliefs and institutions.

Economic factors includes, occupation, pattern of work, income etc. Socio-Economic factors may include factors such as education and its related values.

## 2.9 SUMMARY

The concept of the Life cycle brings together and synthesizes several central topics in demography-nuptiality being one of them.

Thus to integrate the life cycle model with the conceptual functional model, Le Bras's criticism of many demographic work or studies is paramount to begin with:

"Married Life punctuated by marriage and dissolution (divorce for example); procreative life marked by births; and Life itself ending in death are three chapters of demography, whereas these events are all experienced in families" (Le Bras, 1979).

Ryder (1978) suggests that life cycle model is an appropriate

context for understanding most demographic events. He says:

"The family as an aggregate has non-demographic properties which strongly influence the occurrence of demographic events to its individual members e.g place residence, the kind of housing, the family income, and the aggregate participation in the labour force. Most difficult to measure but probably more salient is the structure of role relationship within the family, such as the relative rights and responsibilities of males vis-a-vis females, and of the senior vis-a-vis the junior generation".

This concept therefore serves as the basis for differentiation into different phases, that is to say, distinguishing marriage, fertility, mortality, marriage dissolution which are components of the family life cycle by different methods - multistate life table technique for example.

Thus the family life-cycle concept is a standard part of population studies with fruitful applications such as the division of the history of a nuclear family from marriage to the dissolution. Hence these phases or stages depends on the socio-cultural, economic, environmental and demographic variables (age at first marriage, age at birth, duration of marriage, premarital births, religion, education levels, pattern of work, place of residence e.t.c) which form or are grouped to form the inter and intra-linkages of the conceptual functional model above. This suggests therefore how each of these variables are related with each other as predictor variables of marital dissolution which are the building blocks of life cycle model.

So, the theoretical discussions of the direction and levels of

interaction between these variables and their impact on marital status is summarized in the literature presented. More precisely the theoretical framework of this section merely highlights the main features of the relationships between demographic, socio-economic and cultural variables and the underlying, environmental factors on marital dissolution.

Thus, the model (conceptual functional model) presumes the interaction of the variables (socio-economic, cultural, demographic and environmental factors) to influence marital dissolution. However, some of these variables could have direct impact on marriage as demonstrated in the functional model.

## CHAPTER THREE

### 3.0 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 INTRODUCTION

In this section, the secondary data sources used for the study, and the methods of data analysis for estimating, the correlates of marital dissolution; its rates, levels and pattern are discussed.

#### 3.2 DATA SOURCES

The source of the data used in this study is the Kenya Fertility Survey (K.F.S) 1977/78 which is part of the National Demographic Survey (N.D.S). The main aim of the survey was to collect information on fertility levels and trends in Kenya and to investigate the differing patterns and determinants of fertility amongst Kenya's heterogeneous population. It also gives a comprehensive demographic data which can be used for socio-economic and demographic planning and policy making purposes.

#### 3.3 SAMPLING FRAME

This data was collected out as a component of the National Integrated Sample Survey Programme (N.I.S.S.P) and was stratified by provinces which were covered in three phases to ensure optimal supervision and control of the survey operations.

Individual questionnaire were designed and conducted to collect detailed information on the background of the respondent in terms of:

- a) Age
- b) Ethnicity
- c) Religion
- d) Work Status and pattern of work
- e) Contraceptive use (Family Planning)

- f) Education
- g) Place of Residence
- h) Maternity History and
- i) Marital Status

The interview was targeted for 10,000 women of ages between 15 and 50 years of old. The coverage of the sample excluded the whole of North Eastern Province, the districts of Marsabit and Isiolo in the Eastern Province and districts of Turkana and Samburu in the Rift Valley Province. It is important to note that, the regions which were left out are large in terms of areas but had only about five percent of the total population of Kenya.

The Kenya Fertility Surveys Sample Frame was a complete listing of households carried out as part of the National Demographic Survey (N.D.S) in January and February 1977. This survey adopted a stratified multi-stage cluster design sampling procedure.

In the rural areas 64 administrative locations served as the primary sampling units and in the urban areas 80 primary sampling units were chosen. These selected primary units covered one percent and two percent of the rural and urban populations respectively.

In the case of the rural areas a two-area stage sampling procedure was adopted, where after stratification by province and geological or crop zone, a sample of primary sampling units was selected with probability proportional to the estimated population size. Each of the selected primary sampling units was first divided into smaller manageable segments called chunks. On the average about ten chunks were formed from each selected units and two chunks were then selected from each primary sampling units with probability

proportional to the chunk's population size expressed in terms of expected numbers of clusters.

For the urban areas a single-area single sample procedure was used where about 80 urban clusters were selected out of which 53 were in Nairobi and Mombasa. Urban areas were stratified on the strength of economic - zone, and homogeneity in terms of household income levels.

#### 3.4 THE TARGET POPULATION

This consist of all the people (women) who married and were still in marriage life and the ones whose marital status changed to divorced or separated or widowed.

The survey involved a total of 10,763 households of which 1187 were found to be vacant, that is, unoccupied for the duration of the field work in the area. Hence this gave an affective sample of 9576 households of which 8,891 or (92.8 percent) were successfully enumerated.

A total of 8,452 women aged 15 to 50 years who had slept in the household on the previous night were identified in the 8,891 successfully enumerated households, giving a ratio of 0.95 eligible women per household of which 8,100 or 95.8 percent were interviewed.

The major cause of non-response was failure to find the women at home, a problem understandably more common in urban areas especially, Nairobi. The product of the household response rate was 95.8 percent and that of eligible women response rate was 88.9 percent. Hence the achieved sample cannot be seriously biased by the problem of selective non-response (C.B.S, First K.F.S Report, 1980).

### 3.5 QUALITY OF DATA

The Kenya Fertility Survey sample design and the actual data collection emphasized high quality and reliable data gathering. The measures which were undertaken to achieve these include; the selection of the sample that was adequately representative and administratively manageable; the use of a multi-stage probability sampling technique; accurate heaping of the households; and the use of high quality personnel (Central Bureau of Statistics; K.F.S First Report, 1980).

Although a lot of complex statistical procedures were undertaken to ensure high quality data was collected, a few short-comings of K.F.S data should be noted.

A comparison of the K.F.S data and the model population derived from the N.D.S of 1977, revealed underreporting of children aged 0-4 years, girls aged 15-19 years, women aged 30-34 and 50-59 years. Overreporting was also noted on children aged 10-14 years (C.B.S, K.F.S, first report, 1980).

Regarding the intermediate age groups, the data exhibit age heaping in the groups 25-29 and in particular at age 25 with corresponding short falls of women in adjacent age groups. However, the fertility data revealed no major distortions, and therefore this form of error does not appear to be serious as it does not affect the problem under investigation.

A general problem of under coverage was also revealed by the comparison of the listed and the expected population of the selected clusters. It was found that the drawn sample fell short of the expected sample size by about 20 percent. But this was attributed to

poor implementation. A recheck of the suspected clusters was carried out and corrective measures were undertaken (C.B.S, K.F.S first report, 1980).

Also, one major shortcoming of the survey data is an apparent shifting of women out of the age range 15 to 50 years with consequent age heaping at age groups 10-14 and 15-54.

The weighting of the sample data was based on; probabilities of household selection for each cluster; differential of the population by the sample frame; and non-response. The steps in computing household weights are expressed vividly in the first report (K.F.S Report 1980).

In neither of the studies which has used this survey (Angawa, 1988, for example) nor in this one has data quality been found to be a major problem. But notable limitations which are not very serious can be highlighted:

(i) age heaping appears in the age distribution, but none of the findings are based on small enough differences for this to be a factor.

(ii) The possibility exists that dissolved marriages are under-reported, but if this has occurred it has not generated suspect age-specific marriage rates. The pattern of age at first marriage in Kenya, is of stable or decreasing ages at marriage and equal or higher proportions ultimately marrying among elder cohorts (Angawa, 1988). It is also reasonable that the proportions widowed accelerate with duration of marriage.

Thus, the implications of the error being within the K.F.S may not be serious. This could be due to; firstly the errors being



common to all age groups should not distort relative dissolution rates. However, they may affect the absolute levels. Secondly it is reasonable to suppose that dates of dissolutions would share some of the bias present in reported dates of marriage. If so, the bias reduces from a first order to a second order problem. Owing to the small number of marriages that are dissolved, the life tables rates will be more sensitive to errors in the estimated intervals from marriage to dissolution than to errors in the intervals from marriage to interview.

### 3.6 MODELS OF ANALYSIS

#### 3.6.1 THE LIFE TABLE MODEL

The life tables show event rates at fixed durations of exposure. For example, the population of women marrying by age 15, 20 or 25; the proportion ever-married among 15-19 or 20-24; the proportion surviving durations 0-5 years or 0-1 years etc. These rates are got by manipulating specific events (status) and specific time (age or duration) for example.

As a general rule, life tables will be appropriate when durations of exposure are central to whether the events being studied have occurred; when the durations are measurable; and when the events themselves are simple and unambiguous. Also, life table analysis is made easier if single and not repeated events are at issue (Smith, ,1980).

#### (i) APPLICATION OF LIFE TABLE MODEL TO MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION

It is important to note from the onset that, the life tables calculated from this data combine the experiences of one or more cohorts of women, followed from an initial event to a later termina-

tion or interview. The rates found will be decrement rates in that they measure the duration to a single event.

This methodology (Life table technique) allow for incremental and cumulative dissolution to be found for various durations since the start of marriage. Thus proportions of marriage that end within one year or more years for women born in different years (birth cohort) or belonging to different marriage cohorts can be compared (Smith, 1981). The steps in the construction of Marriages Dissolution Life tables are given (Appendix (i)).

### 3.6.2 REGRESSION MODEL

This model is a statistical tool used in studies which needs inferences to be made about how changes in one or more independent variables are related to changes in the dependent variable.

It is a model concerned with the study of the dependence of one variable, the dependent variable, on one hand and the explanatory variables on the other hand with a view of estimating and/or predicting the population mean or average value of the former in terms of the known or fixed (in repeated sampling) values of the latter (Gujaratti, 1976).

The basic types of the model are then categorized as follows:

- (i) Simple and
- (ii) Multiple

Hence the former deals with only two variables; the dependent and the independent and the later takes into account two or more independent variables.

(i) THE MULTIPLE LINEAR REGRESSION MODEL

It is an extension of the simple linear regression model. It is most appropriate for demographic studies because in demographic studies more than one explanatory variable is involved. For example, since dissolution rates are high at some marriage durations than others and factors associated with dissolution may also change, sampling survival probabilities over a series of intervals will usually provide more information than sampling only once. So in place of single regression we separately regress a series of functions. When this is the case, the simple linear regression model becomes obsolete, hence insufficient to handle a variety of variables.

In this model a group of interrelated variables have been considered in order to explain fully the availability or differences in the dependent variable.

Thus the general model can be expressed as follows:

$$P_i = f(\lambda_i)$$

A linear expression of the general form model can be shown as:

$$P_i = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 \lambda_{ED} + \alpha_2 \lambda_{REL} + \alpha_3 \lambda_{PR} + \dots + \alpha_n \lambda_n$$

A non-linear expression of the general form model can also be shown as:

$$P_i = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 x_1 + \alpha_2 x_2 + \alpha_3 x_3 + \dots + \alpha_n x_n + e_i$$

where:

$P_i$  = duration dependent proportions (or probabilities)  
surviving from period 0 to period n (i.e duration dependent risk).

$\lambda_i$  = proportions or probabilities based on covariates  
(regressor variables) derived from life tables which  
have previously been constructed.

$\alpha_0$  = constant term explaining the average effect of  
variables not explicitly included in the  
regression equation.

$\alpha_1$  = regression coefficients

$e_i$  = stochastic error term.

Note: The  $\lambda_i$ s in the equation are:

- (i) Age at first marriage
- (ii) Education levels
- (iii) Religion
- (iv) Ethnicity
- (v) Place of Residence
- (vi) Pattern of work.

Thus, in constructing the regression equation, it is assumed that all variables, that is, criterion and predictors together, jointly follow a multivariate normal distribution. But, no real data follow a multivariate normal distribution exactly for this is a statistical assumption which facilitates prediction.

The commonly used model in the prediction is inappropriate for handling the relationship among variables, like in this case, where variables involved do not conform to a multivariate normal function. The assumption of multivariate normal density function implies linearity in the parameter (the homogeneity of the error variance) and the additivity of effect, that is, the independent variable employed is a constant function of the remaining variables of the system.

So, whenever there is a regression of the criterion upon more predictors; this condition of additivity is not always met, and this automatically render, the use of the linear regression model strictly inappropriate. The methods which are appropriate in handling such cases, involves the introduction of estimable interaction terms in the regression, whereby the criterion is expressed as a polynomial function in the predictors.

Thus the basic principles underlying the successful application or usage of this model is the underlying assumptions of the regression model. Ideally these assumptions cannot always be satisfactorily achieved. For example, these assumptions are assumed to have been as far as possible accommodated in the probable solutions to limitations of multiple regression models (e.g Multicollinearity, probabilities outside the acceptable 0-1 interval etc).

#### (ii) RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN REGRESSION MODEL AND LIFE

##### TABLE MODEL

The relatively small numbers of dissolved marriages in the sample (Kenya Fertility Survey) do not permit highly detailed breakdowns of dissolution rates by the life table method. Using linear models, it is possible to carry the analysis somewhat further.

Regression model therefore is an extension over the life table technique which relies majorly on bivariate analysis whereas the regression model gives spontaneous multivariate relationships and the strength of each variable in explaining the proportions on different cohorts.

### 3.6.3 ESTIMATION METHOD: STEPWISE SELECTION PROCEDURE

In many empirical studies, researchers hypothesize, a number of causal influences on the variance in a dependent variable. Some of these may be valid and others not. These regression analysis are aimed at identifying variables, isolating in particular those which have critical causal effects (in statistical sense) and should be retained in an equation required either to describe the variance or to predict other values of  $X_0$ .

With more independent variables, stepwise procedures are useful aids to screening out unnecessary variables. This is because the use of large number of independent variables will probably introduce problems of collinearity. Collinearity is responsible for instability in the regression coefficients and the t-values for the relevant variables and slight alterations in the correlations among independent variables can produce large changes in the former parameters (Hauser, 1974).

As collinearity increases, so the t-values become more variable. Thus the method was used in this research to determine an optimal combination of independent variables with the thoroughness "of all possible regressions". Here the independent variables were examined at each stage to identify any that have become superfluous following the introduction of subsequent items or to permit use of previously rejected variables. In so doing, stepwise regression takes particular note of the problem of multicollinearity.

But, the method is nonetheless not foolproof, and the researcher (Demographer) should be aware of the creation of models (notably when there are, a large number of variables) that, while being

statistically sound, do not stand up to demographic and theoretical scrutiny.

Thus the selection should be based on firmly theoretical and deductive measures such as F-ratios. When this is the case, the argument for some form of deductive or theoretical framework for the study is strengthened, since without it a sensible interpretation of the results and correct selection becomes hazardous (appendix ii).

### 3.7 CONCLUSION

From the techniques of analysis already discussed, it is hoped that successful execution of the problem under study will be achieved. This could be because, the demographic statistics and quality of the sample survey data used was found to possess less response errors due to effectiveness of sample methodology. At the same time, the analysis was intended and could help further in reducing response errors if any. But it is important to note that, errors associated with socio-economic and situational variables are normally difficult to detect and correct. Nevertheless it is hoped that, such errors were limited only to response errors and were negligible due to the large population of the respondents under study.

## CHAPTER 4

### 4.0 LIFE TABLE ANALYSIS OF MARITAL DISSOLUTION

#### 4.1 INTRODUCTION

Marriage may be considered as the "birth" of a couple, with the event of dissolution studied as a function of the "age" of the union, that is, its marital duration.

As with death or mortality dissolution is inevitable, and can occur only once for any particular union. Thus, the sole topic of interest is the tempo of the process, since the quantum, given sufficient time coverage is fixed for a marriage cohort at 100 per cent.

So, as with mortality, there is an early peak in the probability of dissolution, associated with difficulties of accommodating to a foreign environment (either region or institution), and an eventual rapid rise in the later years depending on the type or cause of dissolution. That is, divorce or separation risks, are high in the early years of marriage and age, whereas widowhood risks are high in the latter or older years and ages. Thus the problem, as with the cause of death is one of competing risks.

Therefore, marriage dissolution probabilities (divorce, separation and widowhood) by duration of marriage are used to compute duration - specific - marriage dissolution tables. Such a table represents duration of marriage in single years. The starting columns in the duration - of marriage tables refer to the number of marriages dissolved during the year by divorce or separation or widowhood per 1000 marriages existing at the beginning of the year of reference (duration).



The number of marriages dissolved by divorce or separation or widowhood distributed according to the duration of marriage respectively, are the required inputs for constructing the table.

So, just like the mortality tables reflects the course of mortality, nuptiality tables also describes the course of marriage of a population of which dissolution table(s) is an example. (see appendix i).

Therefore, though, much emphasis has been placed on the need for analyzing the marriage habits of a population, a systematic construction and analysis of marriage dissolution for Kenya using any data source has not attracted much attentions so far. This, along with other works on nuptiality, would add to a further advancement in the study of nuptiality in Kenya. Thus the methodological analogue appropriate to the study of marital dissolution hitherto adopted.

#### 4.2 MARITAL DISSOLUTION BY DIVORCE OR SEPARATION OR MORTALITY (WIDOWHOOD).

The subject of marital dissolution is of considerable importance to the subject of marital formation. It is important, therefore, to recognize the extent to which the pattern of dissolution from divorce or separation or widowhood as a function of marital duration represents an amalgam of duration - specific - probabilities of the above processes or causes.

The above discussion of the marriage market proceed on the implicit assumption that all marriages were first marriages for both spouses. But we should not forget that, the market contains a substantial proportion of individuals whose marriages are a first marriage for one spouse but a remarriage for the other.

Marital dissolution provides the opportunity for the surviving spouse to participate in another union in which the other partner may be marrying for the first time. Thus the hypotheses concerning the determinant's of marital dissolution may follow either a cohort or a period orientation. But, this study takes into account period effects.

A close look at marriage dissolution tables over different regions and by differentials, with a close comparison with the national overviews may, therefore, help to determine:

(i) The extent to which probabilities of marriage dissolution and hence marriage dissolution rates vary over regions and by regional (variables) differentials.

So, attempt has therefore been made in this chapter to present and discuss marriage dissolution tables for regions and by their differentials. Please, note that these are going to be looked at by taking into account the national background variables.

The Kenya Fertility Survey report (K.F.S), 1980 exposes remarkable decreases of first marriages, "----- "The proportions of these marriages that were still intact fell steadily from 90% for those married in the last 5 years to 79% for those married between 25 and 29 years ago -----". The major cause of this decline in the proportion of couples still married was found to be an increase in proportion of first marriages terminated by death of their husbands. In contrast, the proportion of first marriages which ended in divorce or separation show no regular increases with the number of years since first marriages. These observed findings therefore, suggest that marital dissolutions are concentrated on the early stages of

marriage (C.B.S, First Country Report, K.F.S, 1980).

#### 4.2.1 ANALYSIS OF MARITAL DISSOLUTION

To show that marriage dissolution rates differ and what brings about these differences, dissolution rates (proportion of marriages dissolved by duration) at national and later regional levels by background variables (education, pattern of work; age at first marriage; religion; ethnicity; place of residence) are provided together with graphs for visual comparisons and explanations. The proportions represented in the graphs have been shown only for the selected background variables, the choice being made so as to exhibit maximum qualification of these factors as good explanatory variables of marital dissolution.

Table 1. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY  
DURATION OF MARRIAGE. (NATIONAL VALUES)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nqx$	$ndx$	$nDx$
0-1	0.034	0.034	0.034
1-2	0.023	0.022	0.060
2-3	0.018	0.017	0.073
3-4	0.016	0.015	0.088
4-5	0.013	0.012	0.099
5-6	0.014	0.013	0.112
6-7	0.013	0.012	0.124
7-8	0.010	0.009	0.133
8-9	0.012	0.010	0.143
9-10	0.009	0.008	0.151
10-11	0.009	0.007	0.160
11-12	0.009	0.007	0.170
12-13	0.006	0.005	0.171
13-14	0.009	0.008	0.180
14-15	0.011	0.009	0.190
15-16	0.003	0.003	0.190
16-17	0.009	0.007	0.200
17-18	0.010	0.008	0.210
18-19	0.007	0.005	0.210
19-20	0.008	0.006	0.220
20-21	0.013	0.010	0.230

Table 2. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL-EDUCATION (NO-EDUCATION)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.035	0.035	0.035
1-2	0.026	0.030	0.060
2-3	0.019	0.020	0.080
3-4	0.016	0.020	0.100
4-5	0.011	0.01	0.110
5-6	0.016	0.01	0.120
6-7	0.014	0.01	0.130
7-8	0.010	0.01	0.140
8-9	0.015	0.01	0.150
9-10	0.011	0.01	0.160
10-11	0.009	0.01	0.170
11-12	0.010	0.01	0.180
12-13	0.008	0.01	0.190
13-14	0.008	0.01	0.200
14-15	0.013	0.01	0.210
15-16	0.005	0.004	0.210
16-17	0.008	0.01	0.220
17-18	0.016	0.01	0.230
18-19	0.011	0.01	0.240
19-20	0.014	0.01	0.250
20-21	0.030	0.02	0.270

Table 3. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL-EDUCATION (1-4YRS)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.040	0.040	0.040
1-2	0.021	0.02	0.060
2-3	0.019	0.02	0.080
3-4	0.017	0.02	0.100
4-5	0.016	0.02	0.120
5-6	0.011	0.01	0.130
6-7	0.013	0.011	0.140
7-8	0.013	0.01	0.150
8-9	0.006	0.01	0.160
9-10	0.008	0.01	0.170
10-11	0.007	0.01	0.180
11-12	0.010	0.01	0.190
12-13	0.004	0.004	0.190
13-14	0.022	0.02	0.210
14-15	0.014	0.01	0.220
15-16	0.00	0.010	0.220
16-17	0.012	0.01	0.230
17-18	0.005	0.004	0.230
18-19	0.006	0.01	0.240
19-20	0.009	0.01	0.250
20-21	0.013	0.01	0.260

Table 4. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL-EDUCATION (5-8 YRS)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nqx$	$ndx$	$nDx$
0-1	0.031	0.031	0.031
1-2	0.017	0.020	0.050
2-3	0.017	0.02	0.070
3-4	0.018	0.02	0.090
4-5	0.016	0.02	0.110
5-6	0.015	0.01	0.120
6-7	0.0162	0.01	0.130
7-8	0.010	0.01	0.140
8-9	0.014	0.01	0.150
9-10	0.011	0.01	0.160
10-11	0.022	0.02	0.180
11-12	0.016	0.01	0.190
12-13	0.015	0.01	0.20
13-14	0.024	0.02	0.220
14-15	0.02	0.02	0.240
15-16	0.04	0.03	0.270

Table 5. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL-EDUCATION (SEC+)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nqx$	$ndx$	$nDx$
0-1	0.012	0.012	0.012
1-2	0.028	0.03	0.04
2-3	0.004	0.004	0.04
3-4	0.011	0.011	0.05
4-5	0.013	0.010	0.06
5-6	0.009	0.010	0.07
6-7	0.024	0.02	0.09
7-8	0.015	0.01	0.10
8-9	0.019	0.02	0.120
9-10	0.019	0.02	0.14



Table 6. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL-DIFFERENTIAL-AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE (<15)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.044	0.044	0.044
1-2	0.036	0.03	0.08
2-3	0.027	0.03	0.110
3-4	0.021	0.02	0.13
4-5	0.013	0.01	0.14
5-6	0.014	0.01	0.15
6-7	0.012	0.01	0.16
7-8	0.018	0.02	0.18
8-9	0.012	0.01	0.19
9-10	0.007	0.01	0.20
10-11	0.009	0.01	0.21
11-12	0.011	0.01	0.22
12-13	0.011	0.01	0.23
13-14	0.012	0.01	0.24
14-15	0.009	0.01	0.25
15-16	0.005	0.004	0.25
16-17	0.015	0.01	0.26
17-18	0.014	0.01	0.27
18-19	0.017	0.01	0.28
19-20	0.010	0.10	0.35
20-21	0.018	0.01	0.36

Table 7. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL-DIFFERENTIAL-AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE (15-19)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nqx$	$ndx$	$nDx$
0-1	0.032	0.032	0.032
1-2	0.21	0.20	0.05
2-3	0.016	0.02	0.07
3-4	0.017	0.02	0.09
4-5	0.012	0.01	0.10
5-6	0.014	0.01	0.11
6-7	0.015	0.01	0.12
7-8	0.008	0.02	0.13
8-9	0.014	0.01	0.14
9-10	0.014	0.01	0.15
10-11	0.009	0.01	0.16
11-12	0.009	0.01	0.17
12-13	0.004	0.003	0.17
13-14	0.014	0.01	0.18
14-15	0.014	0.01	0.19
15-16	0.001	0.0001	0.19
16-17	0.012	0.01	0.20
17-18	0.014	0.01	0.21
18-19	0.007	0.01	0.22
19-20	0.018	0.01	0.23
20-21	0.025	0.02	0.25

Table 8. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL-DIFFERENTIAL-AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE (20-24)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nqx$	$ndx$	$nDx$
0-1	0.032	0.032	0.032
1-2	0.017	0.02	0.05
2-3	0.013	0.01	0.06
3-4	0.009	0.01	0.07
4-5	0.013	0.01	0.08
5-6	0.018	0.02	0.10
6-7	0.010	0.01	0.11
7-8	0.009	0.01	0.12
8-9	0.010	0.01	0.13
9-10	0.005	0.04	0.13
10-11	0.016	0.01	0.13
11-12	0.011	0.01	0.14
12-13	0.009	0.01	0.15
13-14	0.003	0.002	0.16
14-15	0.021	0.01	0.17
15-16	0.015	0.01	0.18
16-17	0.006	0.01	0.19
17-18	0.015	0.01	0.20
18-19	0.021	0.02	0.22
19-20	0.015	0.01	0.23
20-21	0.083	0.01	0.29

Table 9. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL - AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE (25-29)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nqx$	$ndx$	$nDx$
0-1	0.013	0.013	0.013
1-2	0.022	0.02	0.04
2-3	0.023	0.02	0.06
3-4	0.018	0.02	0.08
4-5	0.027	0.03	0.11
5-6	0.016	0.01	0.12
6-7	0.034	0.03	0.15
7-8	0.000	0.000	0.15
8-9	0.014	0.01	0.16
9-10	0.00	0.000	0.16
10-11	0.00	0.00	0.16
11-12	0.00	0.00	0.16
12-13	0.043	0.04	0.20
13-14	0.00	0.00	0.20
14-15	0.033	0.03	0.23
15-16	0.00	0.00	0.23
16-17	0.143	0.10	0.34

Table 10. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL - AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE (30+)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.037	0.037	0.037
1-2	0.042	0.04	0.08
2-3	0.044	0.04	0.12
3-4	0.05	0.04	0.16
4-5	0.05	0.04	0.20
6-7	0.00	0.00	0.20
7-8	0.20	0.20	0.36

Table 11. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL - ETHNICITY (KALENJIN)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nq_x$	$nd_x$	$nD_x$
0-1	0.007	0.007	0.007
1-2	0.005	0.010	0.012
2-3	0.016	0.020	0.030
3-4	0.003	0.003	0.030
4-5	0.006	0.010	0.040
5-6	0.014	0.010	0.050
6-7	0.011	0.010	0.060
7-8	0.012	0.010	0.070
8-9	0.005	0.010	0.080
9-10	0.010	0.010	0.090
10-11	0.006	0.010	0.100
11-12	0.006	0.010	0.110
12-13	0.007	0.010	0.120
13-14	0.015	0.010	0.130
14-15	0.008	0.010	0.140
15-16	0.000	0.000	0.140
16-17	0.009	0.010	0.150
17-18	0.011	0.010	0.160
18-19	0.013	0.010	0.170

Table 12. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL - ETHNICITY (KAMBA)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nq_x$	$ndx$	$nD_x$
0-1	0.075	0.075	0.075
1-2	0.042	0.040	0.110
2-3	0.024	0.020	0.130
3-4	0.023	0.020	0.150
4-5	0.025	0.020	0.170
5-6	0.025	0.020	0.190
6-7	0.015	0.010	0.20
7-8	0.014	0.010	0.210
8-9	0.018	0.010	0.220
9-10	0.010	0.10	0.300
10-11	0.008	0.010	0.310
11-12	0.024	0.020	0.330
12-13	0.010	0.10	0.40
13-14	0.032	0.020	0.42
14-15	0.000	0.000	0.420
15-16	0.000	0.000	0.420
16-17	0.008	0.010	0.430
17-18	0.011	0.10	0.440
18-19	0.015	0.010	0.450
19-20	0.070	0.040	0.490
20-21	0.130	0.10	0.560

Table 13. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL - ETHNICITY (KIKUYU)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nqx$	$ndx$	$nDx$
0-1	0.025	0.025	0.025
1-2	0.015	0.02	0.040
2-3	0.016	0.02	0.060
3-4	0.013	0.01	0.070
4-5	0.009	0.01	0.080
5-6	0.014	0.01	0.090
6-7	0.016	0.02	0.110
7-8	0.012	0.01	0.120
8-9	0.012	0.01	0.130
9-10	0.004	0.003	0.130
10-11	0.012	0.01	0.140
11-12	0.010	0.01	0.230
12-13	0.007	0.01	0.240
13-14	0.014	0.01	0.250
14-15	0.024	0.02	0.270
15-16	0.003	0.002	0.270
16-17	0.021	0.02	0.290
17-18	0.009	0.010	0.300
18-19	0.029	0.02	0.320
19-20	0.022	0.02	0.340
20-21	0.042	0.030	0.380



Table 14. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL - ETHNICITY (KISII)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.029	0.029	0.029
1-2	0.009	0.01	0.040
2-3	0.007	0.01	0.050
3-4	0.021	0.020	0.070
4-5	0.011	0.010	0.080
5-6	0.012	0.010	0.090
6-7	0.009	0.010	0.100
7-8	0.005	0.010	0.110
8-9	0.000	0.000	0.110
9-10	0.016	0.010	0.120
10-11	0.006	0.010	0.130
11-12	0.013	0.010	0.140
12-13	0.008	0.010	0.150
13-14	0.009	0.010	0.160
14-15	0.000	0.000	0.160
15-16	0.010	0.010	0.170
16-17	0.000	0.000	0.170
17-18	0.014	0.010	0.180

Table 15. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL - ETHNICITY (LUHYA)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.045	0.045	0.045
1-2	0.038	0.02	0.100
2-3	0.026	0.02	0.120
3-4	0.024	0.02	0.140
4-5	0.018	0.01	0.150
5-6	0.009	0.01	0.160
6-7	0.012	0.01	0.170
7-8	0.009	0.01	0.180
8-9	0.012	0.01	0.190
9-10	0.016	0.010	0.200
10-11	0.013	0.01	0.210
11-12	0.007	0.011	0.210
12-13	0.004	0.003	0.210
13-14	0.013	0.010	0.210
14-15	0.000	0.000	0.220
15-16	0.017	0.010	0.230
16-17	0.014	0.010	0.240
17-18	0.035	0.030	0.270
18-19	0.012	0.010	0.280
19-20	0.033	0.02	0.300
20-21	0.028	0.02	0.320

Table 16. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL - ETHNICITY (LUO)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.024	0.024	0.024
1-2	0.014	0.01	0.040
2-3	0.011	0.01	0.050
3-4	0.012	0.01	0.060
4-5	0.005	0.01	0.070
5-6	0.016	0.02	0.090
6-7	0.015	0.01	0.100
7-8	0.013	0.01	0.110
8-9	0.007	0.01	0.120
9-10	0.006	0.01	0.130
10-11	0.004	0.004	0.130
11-12	0.002	0.002	0.130
12-13	0.014	0.01	0.140
13-14	0.000	0.000	0.140
14-15	0.017	0.02	0.160
15-16	0.003	0.0003	0.160
16-17	0.014	0.01	0.170
17-18	0.017	0.01	0.180
18-19	0.000	0.000	0.180
19-20	0.000	0.000	0.180
20-21	0.036	0.03	0.210

Table 17. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL - ETHNICITY (MERU-EMBU)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.027	0.027	0.027
1-2	0.009	0.01	0.040
2-3	0.019	0.02	0.040
3-4	0.01	0.01	0.070
4-5	0.007	0.01	0.080
5-6	0.004	0.004	0.080
6-7	0.012	0.01	0.090
7-8	0.009	0.01	0.100
8-9	0.005	0.01	0.110
9-10	0.009	0.01	0.120
10-11	0.016	0.01	0.130
11-12	0.000	0.000	0.130
12-13	0.000	0.000	0.130
13-14	0.007	0.01	0.140
14-15	0.008	0.01	0.150
15-16	0.000	0.000	0.150
16-17	0.01	0.01	0.160
17-18	0.012	0.01	0.170
18-19	0.00	0.01	0.180
19-20	0.019	0.02	0.190
20-21	0.026	0.02	0.210

Table 18. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL - ETHNICITY (MIJIKENDA)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.035	0.035	0.035
1-2	0.065	0.06	0.100
2-3	0.036	0.03	0.130
3-4	0.032	0.03	0.160
4-5	0.039	0.03	0.190
5-6	0.019	0.02	0.210
6-7	0.027	0.02	0.230
7-8	0.012	0.01	0.240
8-9	0.045	0.03	0.27
9-10	0.045	0.03	0.300
10-11	0.009	0.01	0.310
11-12	0.032	0.02	0.330
12-13	0.00	0.00	0.330
13-14	0.015	0.01	0.340
14-15	0.018	0.01	0.350

Table 19. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL - ETHNICITY (OTHERS)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.03	0.030	0.030
1-2	0.024	0.02	0.050
2-3	0.013	0.01	0.060
3-4	0.018	0.02	0.080
4-5	0.014	0.010	0.090
5-6	0.016	0.02	0.110
6-7	0.012	0.01	0.120
7-8	0.006	0.01	0.130
8-9	0.042	0.04	0.170
9-10	0.008	0.01	0.180
10-11	0.018	0.02	0.200
11-12	0.021	0.02	0.220
12-13	0.000	0.000	0.220
13-14	0.000	0.000	0.220
14-15	0.048	0.04	0.260
15-16	0.000	0.000	0.260
16-17	0.000	0.000	0.260
17-18	0.024	0.02	0.280
18-19	0.042	0.03	0.310

Table 20. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL - PATTERN OF WORK (NOW AND BEFORE)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nq_x$	$ndx$	$nD_x$
0-1	0.017	0.017	0.017
1-2	0.018	0.02	0.04
2-3	0.021	0.02	0.060
3-4	0.039	0.04	0.100
4-5	0.036	0.03	0.130
5-6	0.020	0.02	0.150
6-7	0.012	0.01	0.160
7-8	0.014	0.01	0.170
8-9	0.016	0.01	0.180
9-10	0.019	0.02	0.200
10-11	0.072	0.06	0.260
11-12	0.036	0.03	0.290
12-13	0.00	0.00	0.290
13-14	0.00	0.00	0.290
14-15	0.20	0.140	0.430

Table 21. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL - PATTERN OF WORK (NOW NOT BEFORE)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.061	0.061	0.061
1-2	0.07	0.07	0.130
2-3	0.033	0.03	0.160
3-4	0.027	0.02	0.180
4-5	0.049	0.04	0.220
5-6	0.062	0.05	0.270
6-7	0.054	0.04	0.310
7-8	0.058	0.04	0.350
8-9	0.073	0.05	0.400
9-10	0.053	0.03	0.430
10-11	0.077	0.04	0.470
11-12	0.054	0.03	0.500
12-13	0.000	0.00	0.500
13-14	0.182	0.100	0.590



Table 22. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL-PATTERN OF WORK (SINCE AND BEFORE)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nq_x$	$ndx$	$nD_x$
0-1	0.053	0.053	0.053
1-2	0.024	0.02	0.080
2-3	0.000	0.00	0.080
3-4	0.014	0.01	0.090
4-5	0.063	0.06	0.150
5-6	0.035	0.03	0.180
6-7	0.021	0.02	0.200
7-8	0.000	0.00	0.200
8-9	0.049	0.04	0.240
9-10	0.027	0.02	0.260
10-11	0.000	0.00	0.260
11-12	0.033	0.02	0.280
12-13	0.039	0.03	0.310
13-14	0.053	0.04	0.350

Table 23. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL-PATTERN OF WORK (SINCE NOT BEFORE)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nqx$	$ndx$	$nDx$
0-1	0.077	0.077	0.077
1-2	0.037	0.03	0.110
2-3	0.019	0.02	0.130
3-4	0.049	0.04	0.170
4-5	0.027	0.02	0.190
5-6	0.019	0.02	0.210
6-7	0.030	0.02	0.230
7-8	0.022	0.02	0.250
8-9	0.006	0.01	0.260
9-10	0.020	0.02	0.280
10-11	0.022	0.02	0.300
11-12	0.025	0.02	0.320
12-13	0.000	0.00	0.320
13-14	0.022	0.02	0.340
14-15	0.026	0.02	0.360
15-16	0.000	0.00	0.360
16-17	0.000	0.00	0.360
17-18	0.080	0.10	0.410

Table 24. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL-PATTERN OF WORK (BEFORE ONLY)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.04	0.040	0.040
1-2	0.02	0.02	0.06
2-3	0.02	0.02	0.08
3-4	0.02	0.02	0.10
4-5	0.010	0.01	0.110
5-6	0.018	0.02	0.130
6-7	0.009	0.01	0.140
7-8	0.00	0.00	0.140
8-9	0.008	0.01	0.150
9-10	0.014	0.01	0.160
10-11	0.011	0.01	0.170
11-12	0.006	0.01	0.180
12-13	0.000	0.00	0.180
13-14	0.009	0.01	0.190
14-15	0.038	0.03	0.220
15-16	0.00	0.00	0.220
16-17	0.025	0.02	0.240

Table 25. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL PATTERN OF WORK (NEVER WORKED)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.029	0.029	0.029
1-2	0.02	0.020	0.05
2-3	0.017	0.02	0.07
3-4	0.012	0.01	0.08
4-5	0.008	0.01	0.09
5-6	0.011	0.01	0.100
6-7	0.011	0.01	0.110
7-8	0.009	0.01	0.120
8-9	0.011	0.01	0.130
9-10	0.017	0.01	0.140
10-11	0.006	0.01	0.150
11-12	0.008	0.01	0.160
12-13	0.008	0.01	0.170
13-14	0.009	0.01	0.180
14-15	0.009	0.01	0.190
15-16	0.002	0.002	0.190
16-17	0.009	0.01	0.200
17-18	0.012	0.01	0.210
18-19	0.010	0.01	0.22
19-20	0.011	0.01	0.23
20-21	0.018	0.01	0.024

Table 26. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR FOR DIFFERENTIAL - RELIGION (CATHOLIC)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nqx$	$ndx$	$nDx$
0-1	0.030	0.030	0.030
1-2	0.021	0.020	0.050
2-3	0.016	0.020	0.070
3-4	0.015	0.010	0.080
4-5	0.008	0.010	0.090
5-6	0.015	0.010	0.100
6-7	0.014	0.010	0.110
7-8	0.013	0.010	0.120
8-9	0.010	0.010	0.130
9-10	0.007	0.010	0.140
10-11	0.10	0.010	0.150
11-12	0.005	0.004	0.150
12-13	0.009	0.010	0.160
13-14	0.013	0.010	0.170
14-15	0.018	0.020	0.190
15-16	0.000	0.000	0.190
16-17	0.019	0.004	0.1900
17-18	0.022	0.020	0.210
18-19	0.012	0.01	0.220
19-20	0.026	0.02	0.240
20-21	0.046	0.04	0.280

Table 27. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL - RELIGION (PROTESTANT)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.034	0.034	0.034
1-2	0.020	0.020	0.050
2-3	0.018	0.020	0.070
3-4	0.016	0.020	0.090
4-5	0.012	0.010	0.100
5-6	0.011	0.010	0.110
6-7	0.013	0.010	0.120
7-8	0.009	0.010	0.130
8-9	0.011	0.010	0.140
9-10	0.009	0.010	0.150
10-11	0.009	0.010	0.160
11-12	0.010	0.010	0.170
12-13	0.006	0.010	0.190
13-14	0.0099	0.010	0.190
14-15	0.0099	0.010	0.190
15-16	0.007	0.010	0.210
16-17	0.010	0.010	0.220
17-18	0.011	0.010	0.230
18-19	0.011	0.010	0.240
19-20	0.011	0.010	0.250
20-21	0.029	0.020	0.270

Table 28. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL - RELIGION (MUSLIM)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nqx$	$ndx$	$nDx$
0-1	0.050	0.050	0.050
1-2	0.063	0.010	0.110
2-3	0.033	0.020	0.140
3-4	0.035	0.030	0.170
4-5	0.069	0.060	0.230
5-6	0.023	0.020	0.250
6-7	0.040	0.030	0.280
7-8	0.008	0.010	0.290
8-9	0.048	0.030	0.320
9-10	0.041	0.030	0.350
10-11	0.025	0.020	0.370
11-12	0.033	0.020	0.390
12-13	0.000	0.000	0.390
13-14	0.026	0.020	0.410
14-15	0.035	0.020	0.430
15-16	0.000	0.000	0.430
16-17	0.000	0.000	0.430
17-18	0.200	0.1100	0.54

Table 29. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL - RELIGION (OTHERS)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.091	0.091	0.091
1-2	0.000	0.000	0.091
2-3	0.000	0.000	0.091
3-4	0.000	0.000	0.091
4-5	0.000	0.000	0.091
5-6	0.000	0.000	0.091
6-7	0.000	0.000	0.091
7-8	0.000	0.000	0.091
8-9	0.000	0.000	0.091
9-10	0.000	0.000	0.091
10-11	0.000	0.000	0.091
11-12	0.000	0.000	0.091
12-13	0.071	0.100	0.200
13-14	0.125	0.100	0.300



Table 30. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL - RELIGION (NO RELIGION)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.042	0.042	0.042
1-2	0.038	0.040	0.080
2-3	0.024	0.020	0.100
3-4	0.018	0.020	0.120
4-5	0.008	0.010	0.130
5-6	0.028	0.020	0.150
6-7	0.008	0.010	0.160
7-8	0.013	0.010	0.170
8-9	0.019	0.020	0.190
9-10	0.026	0.020	0.210
10-11	0.006	0.010	0.220
11-12	0.019	0.020	0.240
12-13	0.000	0.020	0.240
13-14	0.008	0.010	0.250
14-15	0.017	0.010	0.260

Table 31. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL - RURAL RESIDENCE

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.035	0.035	0.035
1-2	0.022	0.02	0.06
2-3	0.018	0.02	0.08
3-4	0.015	0.01	0.09
4-5	0.009	0.01	0.10
5-6	0.013	0.01	0.11
6-7	0.011	0.01	0.12
7-8	0.010	0.01	0.13
8-9	0.010	0.01	0.14
9-10	0.010	0.01	0.15
10-11	0.008	0.01	0.16
11-12	0.008	0.01	0.17
12-13	0.008	0.01	0.18
13-14	0.010	0.01	0.19
14-15	0.012	0.01	0.20
15-16	0.003	0.002	0.20
16-17	0.011	0.01	0.21
17-18	0.015	0.01	0.22
18-19	0.011	0.01	0.23
19-20	0.013	0.01	0.24
20-21	0.024	0.02	0.26

Table 32. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL - URBAN RESIDENCE

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nq_x$	$ndx$	$nD_x$
0-1	0.031	0.031	0.031
1-2	0.013	0.01	0.04
2-3	0.011	0.01	0.05
3-4	0.013	0.01	0.06
4-5	0.028	0.03	0.09
5-6	0.035	0.03	0.12
6-7	0.025	0.02	0.14
7-8	0.023	0.02	0.16
8-9	0.021	0.02	0.18
9-10	0.026	0.02	0.20
10-11	0.011	0.01	0.21
11-12	0.036	0.03	0.24
12-13	0.00	0.00	0.24
13-14	0.023	0.02	0.26
14-15	0.069	0.05	0.31
15-16	0.000	0.00	0.31
16-17	0.154	0.01	0.32

Table 33. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL - NAIROBI.MOMBASA-RESIDENCE

DURATION OF SURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF EXPOSURE
$x, x+n$	$nq_x$	$ndx$	$nD_x$
0-1	0.027	0.027	0.027
1-2	0.040	0.04	0.07
2-3	0.021	0.02	0.09
3-4	0.032	0.03	0.12
4-5	0.033	0.03	0.15
5-6	0.014	0.01	0.16
6-7	0.039	0.03	0.19
7-8	0.019	0.02	0.21
8-9	0.040	0.03	0.24
9-10	0.005	0.004	0.24
10-11	0.037	0.03	0.27
11-12	0.025	0.02	0.29
12-13	0.000	0.00	0.29
13-14	0.040	0.01	0.30
14-15	0.035	0.03	0.33
15-16	0.053	0.04	0.37
16-17	0.044	0.03	0.40

#### 4.3 LIFE TABLE RESULTS:

A critical study of the marital dissolution tables highlight some interesting points about nuptiality and more specifically marriage dissolution in Kenya in general and its regions (provinces) in particular.

From the proportions calculated at both national and regional levels and by different background factors, a number of deductions can be made:

(i) Rates of dissolution, ignoring small differences, exposes very little differences from region to region or between regions.

(ii) The degree to which early years dominate in dissolution is seen in the single year dissolution probabilities.

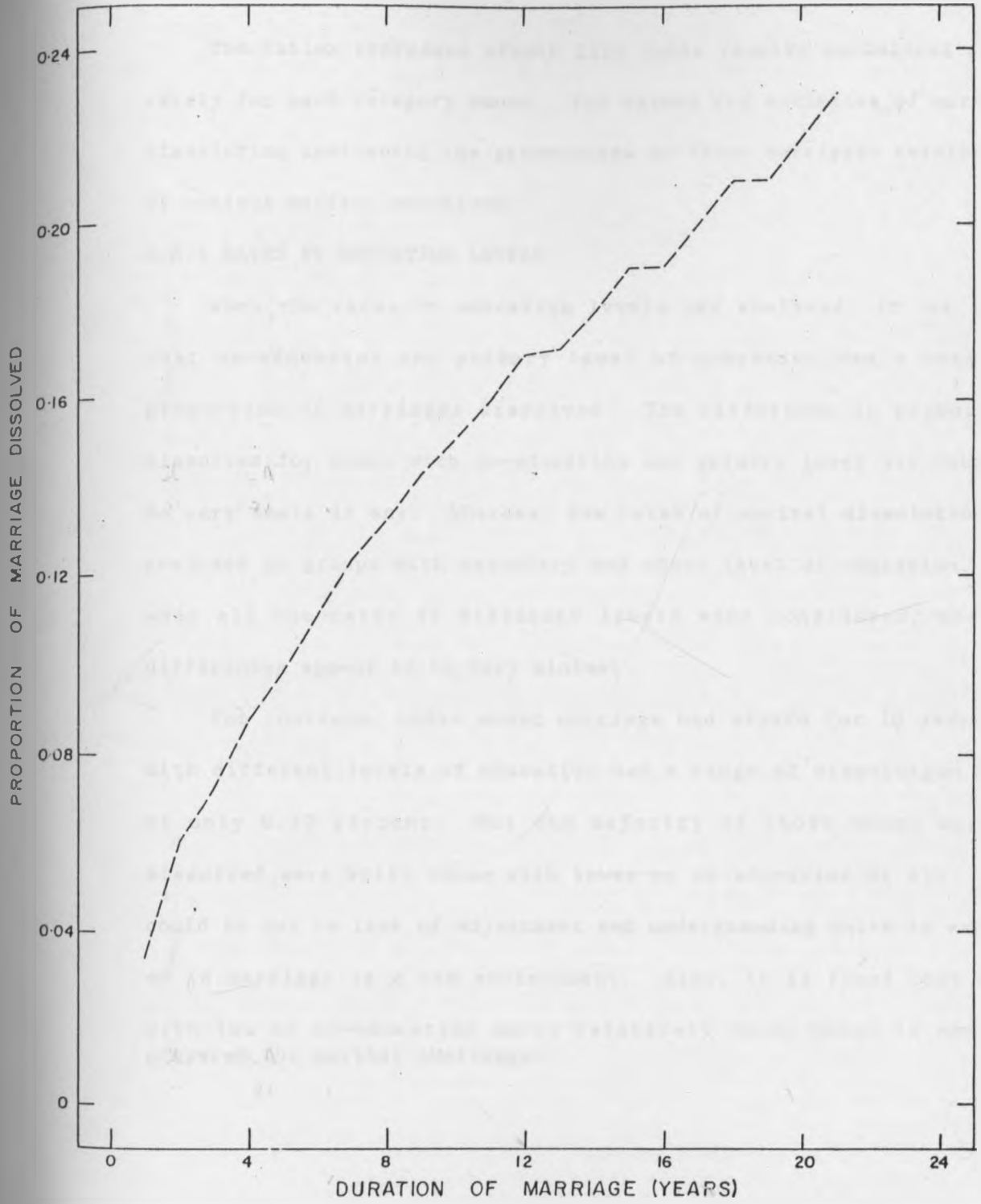
(iii) Comparatively, rates of dissolution at early durations of marriage for regions and for the whole country are not very different.

(iv) When rates at different durations are looked at two or more major groupings emerge. Central and Nyanza portray more or less similar rates which is moderately low. Nairobi, Eastern and Western falls under relatively high regions. With Coast being the highest dissolution region, and Rift Valley having the lowest dissolution cases.

#### 4.4 DISSOLUTION RATES AT NATIONAL LEVELS BY BACKGROUND VARIABLES

Based on past researches, six characteristics of the women are considered for the analysis and their impact on marriage dissolution. These are: Age at first marriage; Religion; Education; Pattern of work; Ethnicity, Place of Residence, explained through the duration

Fig. 2: CUMMULATIVE PROPORTION OF FIRST MARRIAGES DISSOLVED BY DURATION OF UNION — NATIONAL PATTERN.



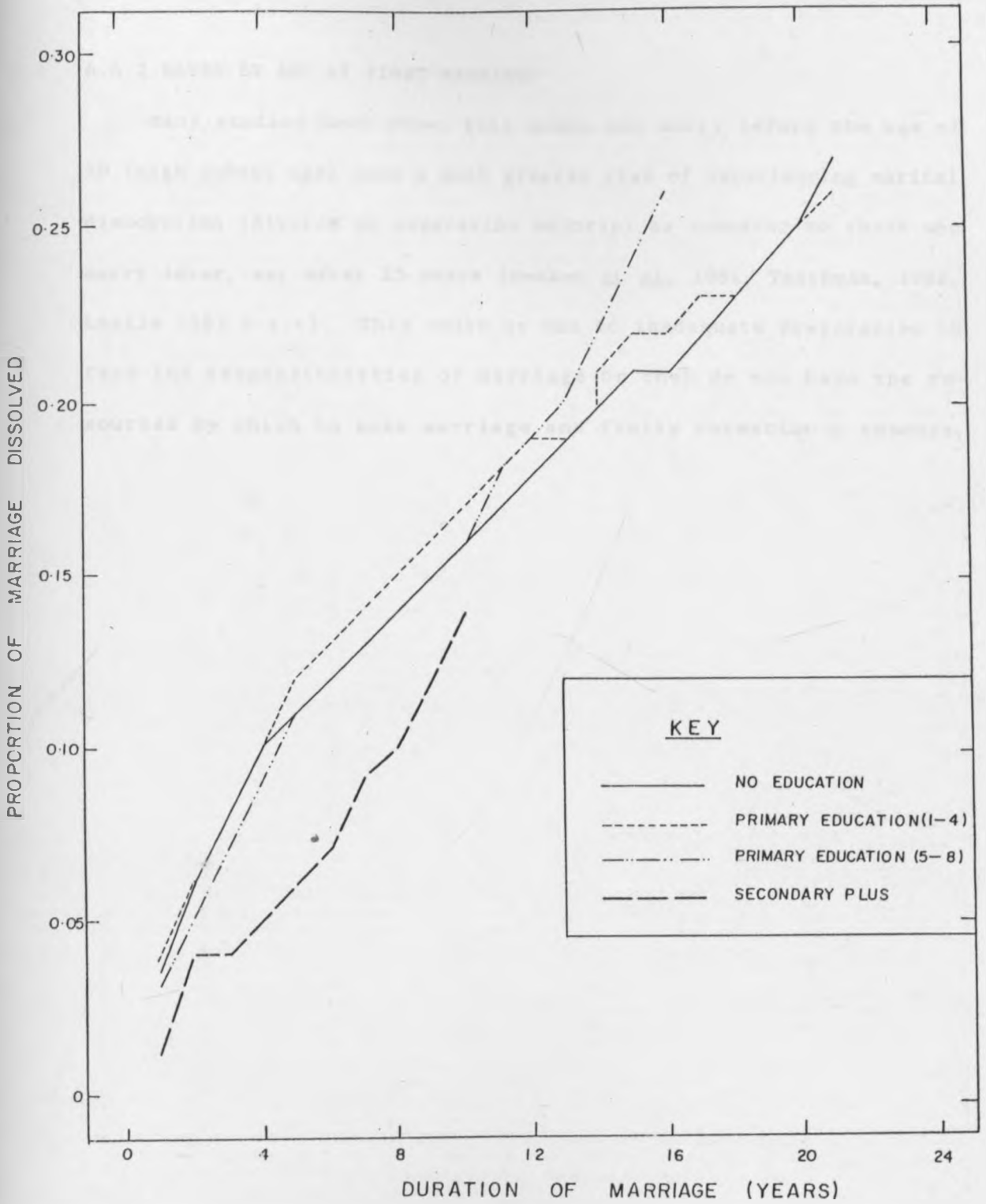
The tables represent simple life table results calculated separately for each category shown. The values are estimates of marriage dissolution indicating the proportions of first marriages terminating by various marital durations.

#### 4.4.1 RATES BY EDUCATION LEVELS

When the rates by education levels was analysed, it was found that no-education and primary level of education had a very high proportion of marriages dissolved. The difference in proportions dissolved for women with no-education and primary level was found to be very small if any. Whereas low rates of marital dissolution was realised in groups with secondary and above level of education. But when all the rates of different levels were considered, absolute differences appear to be very minimal.

For instance, those whose marriage had stayed for 10 years and with different levels of education had a range of dissolution rates of only 0.30 percent. But the majority of those whose marriage dissolved were still those with lower or no-education at all. This could be due to lack of adjustment and understanding which is expected in marriage as a new environment. Also, it is found that those with low or no-education marry relatively young hence is not well prepared for marital challenges.

Fig. 3: CUMMULATIVE PROPORTION OF FIRST MARRIAGES DISSOLVED BY DURATION OF UNION BY EDUCATIONAL LEVELS.

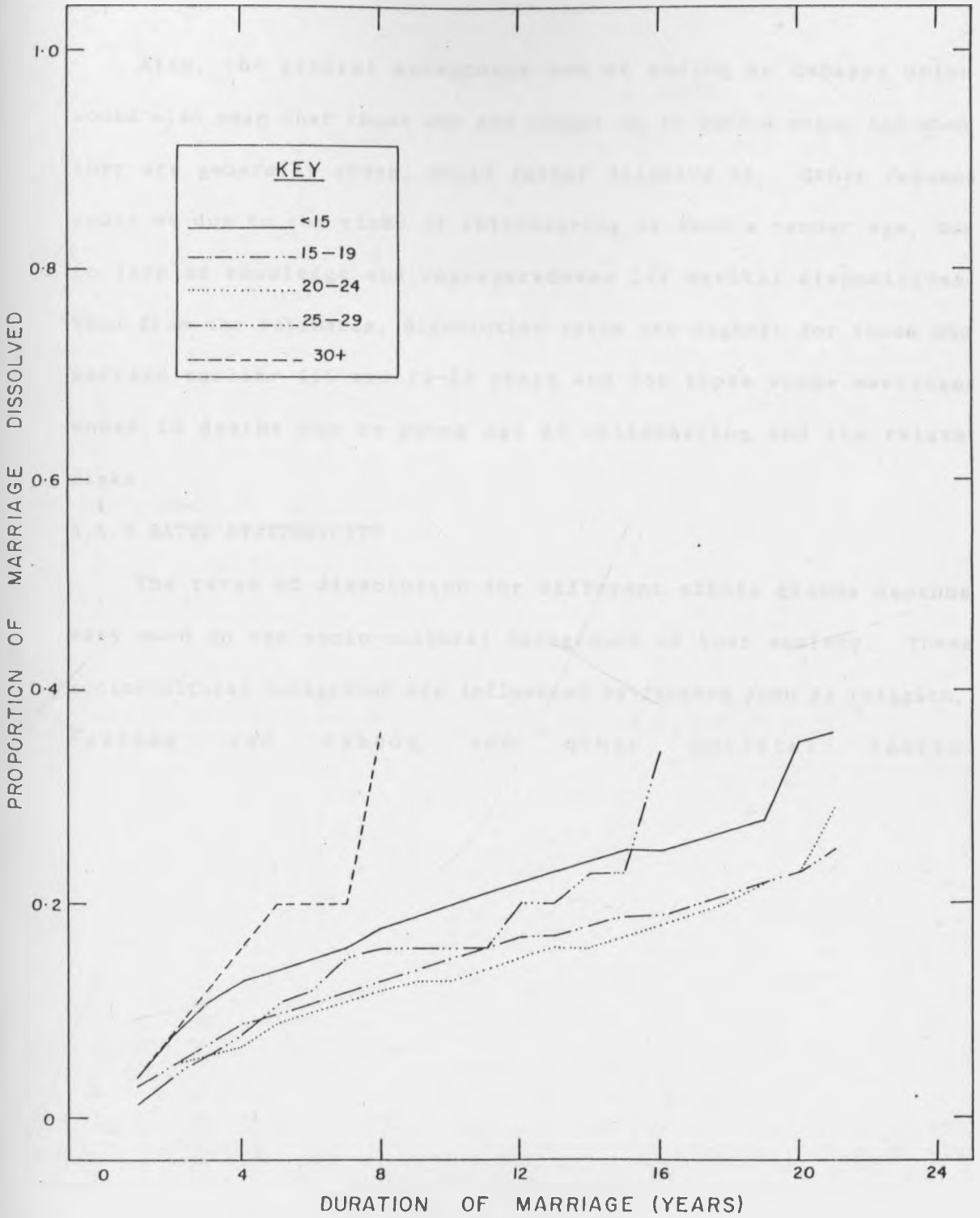




#### 4.4.2 RATES BY AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE

Many studies have shown that women who marry before the age of 20 (high school age) have a much greater risk of experiencing marital dissolution (divorce or separation majorly) as compared to those who marry later, say after 25 years (Menken et al, 1981, Teachman, 1982, Leslie 1967 e.t.c). This could be due to inadequate preparation to face the responsibilities of marriage or they do not have the resources by which to make marriage and family formation a success.

Fig. 4: CUMULATIVE PROPORTION OF FIRST MARRIAGES DISSOLVED BY DURATION OF UNION AND AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE.

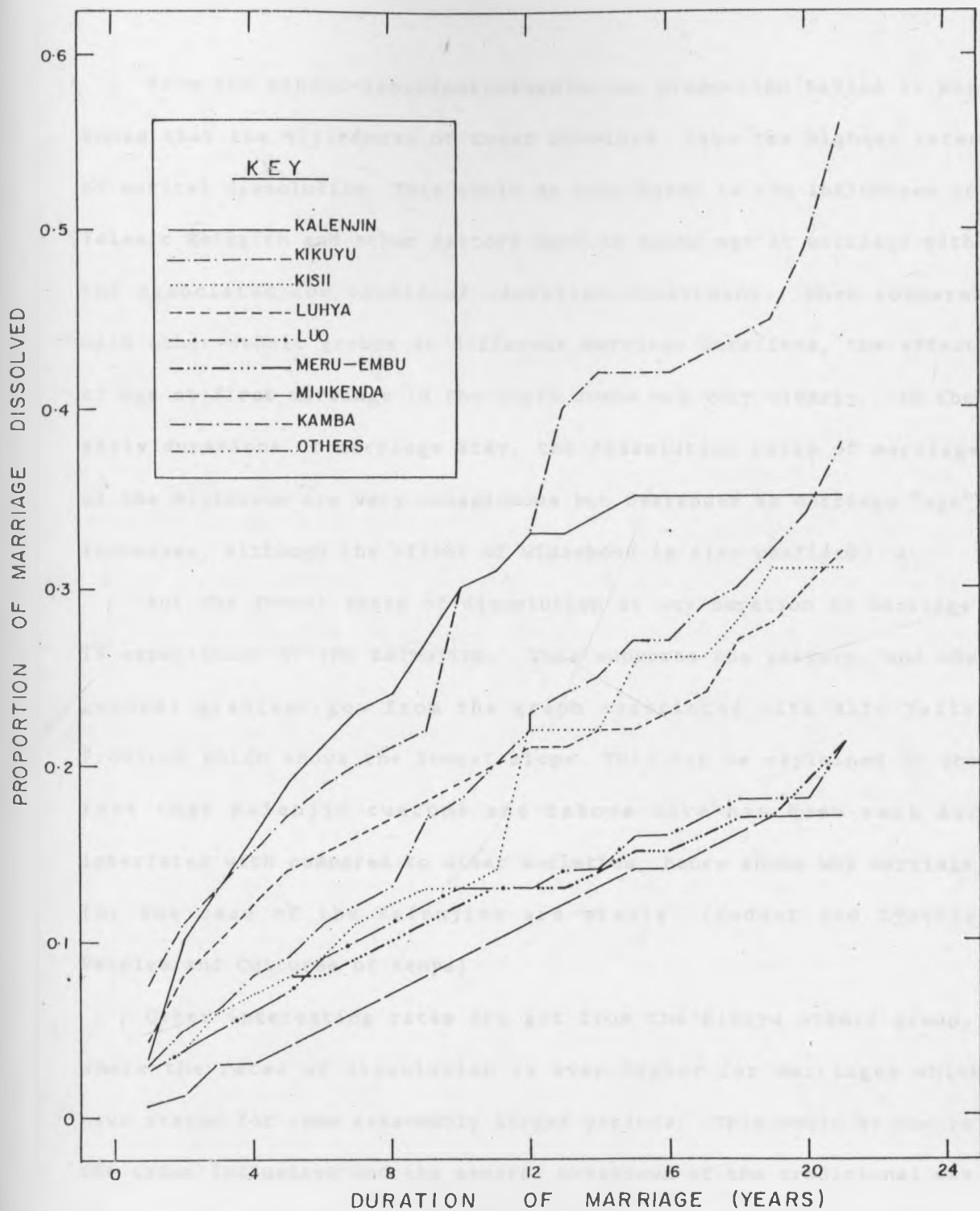


Also, the general acceptance now of ending an unhappy union would also mean that those who are caught up in such a union and when they are generally young, would rather dissolve it. Other reasons could be due to the risks of childbearing at such a tender age, due to lack of knowledge and unpreparedness for marital dispositions. Thus from the estimates, dissolution rates are highest for those who married earlier <15 and 15-19 years and for those whose marriages ended in deaths due to young age at childbearing and its related risks.

#### 4.4.3 RATES BY ETHNICITY

The rates of dissolution for different ethnic groups depends very much on the socio-cultural background of that society. These socio-cultural background are influenced by factors such as religion, customs and taboos and other societal fabrics.

Fig. 5: CUMMULATIVE PROPORTION OF FIRST MARRIAGES DISSOLVED, BY DURATION OF UNION BY DIFFERENT ETHNIC GROUPS.



From the ethnic-dependent-dissolution proportion tables it was found that the Mijikendas of Coast Province have the highest rates of marital dissolution. This could be attributed to the influences of Islamic Religion and other factors such as young age at marriage with the associated low levels of education attainment. When compared with other ethnic groups at different marriage durations, the effect of age at first marriage in the coast comes out very clearly. In the early durations of marriage stay, the dissolution rates of marriage of the Mijikenda are very conspicuous but decreases as marriage "age" increases, although the effect of widowhood is also realised.

But the lowest rates of dissolution at any duration of marriage is experienced by the Kalenjins. This supports the pattern, and the general gradient got from the graph associated with Rift Valley Province which shows the lowest slope. This can be explained by the fact that Kalenjin customs and taboos have not been very much interfered with compared to other societies, hence shows why marriage for the case of the Kalenjins are stable. (Fedder and Cynthia, Peoples and Cultures of Kenya).

Other interesting rates are got from the Kikuyu ethnic group, where the rates of dissolution is even higher for marriages which have stayed for some reasonably longer periods. This could be due to the urban influences and the general breakdown of the traditional way of life. Hence no serious social stigma to divorce or separation is expected (Wainaina, 1980).

For the Kisii's the dissolution rates seems to be generally low and fairly distributed throughout the marriage durations, while the Luhyas and the Luos seems to exhibit similar dissolution characteris-

tics or patterns of marital dissolution, the rates for the Luhyas are relatively higher than that of the Luos. The dissolution rates for both ethnic groups seem to be high in the early years and later year of marriage. This could be attributed to divorce or separation or widowhood. But the general pattern of dissolution for the two groups seems to be the same due to the geographical location and the more or less similar socio-cultural and environmental influences. Thus from the proportions calculated, the rates of dissolution seems to be evenly spread over the marriage durations for the two groups, but more conspicuous for the Luhyas than Luos of Western and Nyanza, respectively.

The Meru-Embu tribes seems to possess very low rates of marital disruption except for the marriages in the early (0-1 years and the later (20-21 years) durations.

But cases for the later durations could be due to sampling errors. Although for the earliest duration, it could be due to the traditional expectations of a woman- as a submissive partner who is never expected to be heard but seen hence early dissension.

Thus generally, the Meru-Embu cultures tend to be very harsh on women, and if a couple (wife) weathered these reactions from men and the societal beliefs in the early periods of the marriage then in most cases dissolution could be only due to widowhood.

Lastly, the Kamba ethnic group portrays high rate of dissolution in the early duration of marriage, higher than that of even the Mijikendas, but the rate decreases as the marriage duration increases. This could be due to either, the mistrust between the couples due to believed promiscuity or other related socio-cultural

beliefs, such as witchcraft

(Penwill, 1957). Other reasons related to dissolution of marriage could be the influences of the young couples by the neighbouring coastal regions way of life, majorly urbanization and religion.

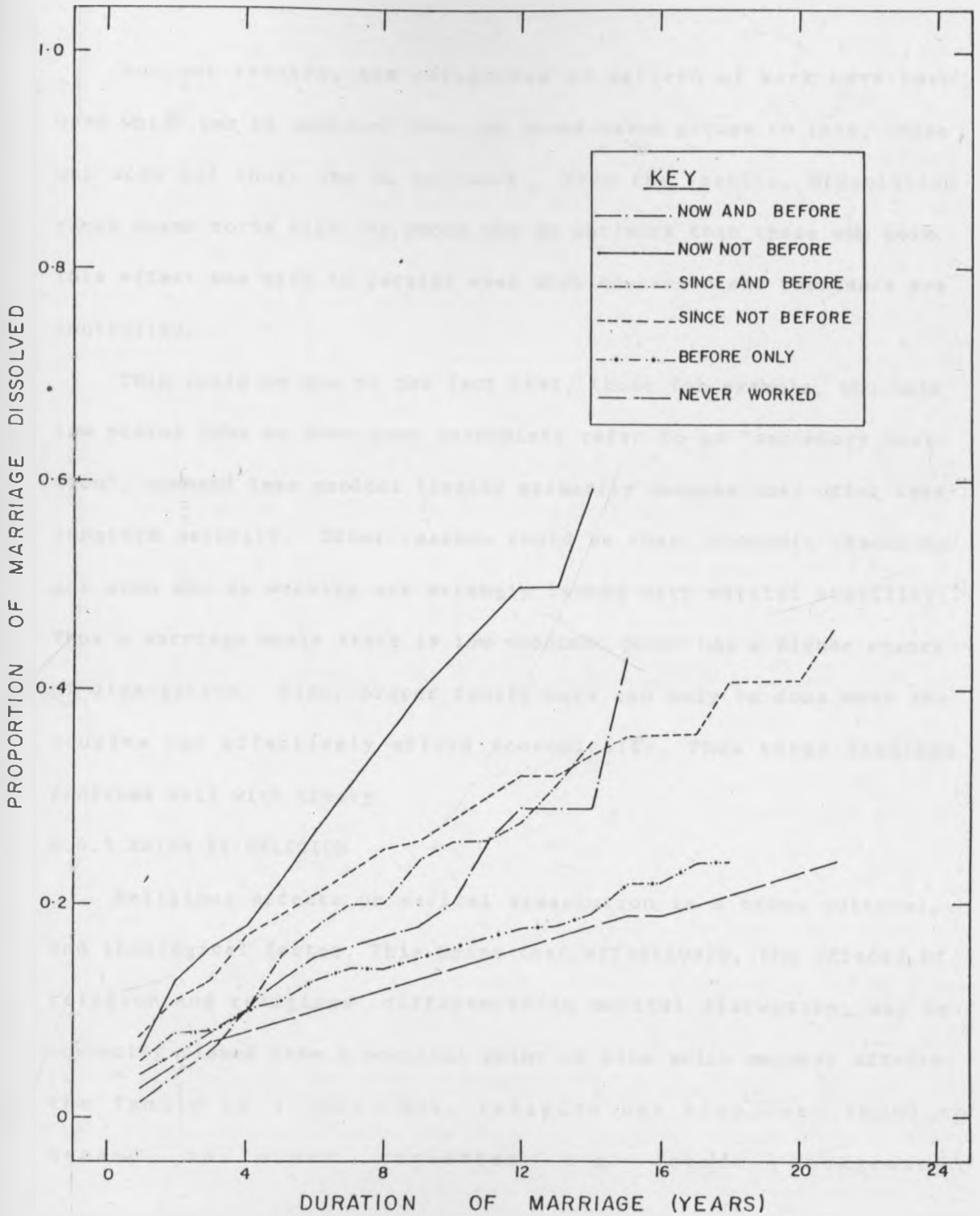
Hence, ethnic variations and the related marital dissolutions, depends majorly on, socio-cultural, religious and other related factors. For example, the Moslem cultures, allows for divorce or separation, thus couples find it easy to stop any marriage which may be deemed bad. This is why the Mijikendas, for example, coupled with other factors such as young age at first marriage, etc. experiences the highest rates of dissolution and lowest duration of marriage stay.

The ethnic variation coupled with other factors, then, eventually determines the regional variations in dissolution levels and patterns.

#### 4.4.4 RATES BY PATTERN OF WORK

Researches which have been carried out have found that disruption of marriage is positively related to low income (U.S Bureau of Census, 1971). Other studies associate work prior to marriage with stable unions than in the case of non-work (Smith, 1981). Also, the decline of marital disruption with increasing education was found to persist only when other factors such as pattern or work e.t.c are taken into account (Bumpass and Sweat, 1972, 73). In another study, pattern of work was found to determine marital survival (Fustenberg, 1971; Wright, 1971 etc.).

Fig. 6: CUMMULATIVE PROPORTION OF FIRST MARRIAGES DISSOLVED BY DURATION OF UNION BY PATTERN OF WORK.





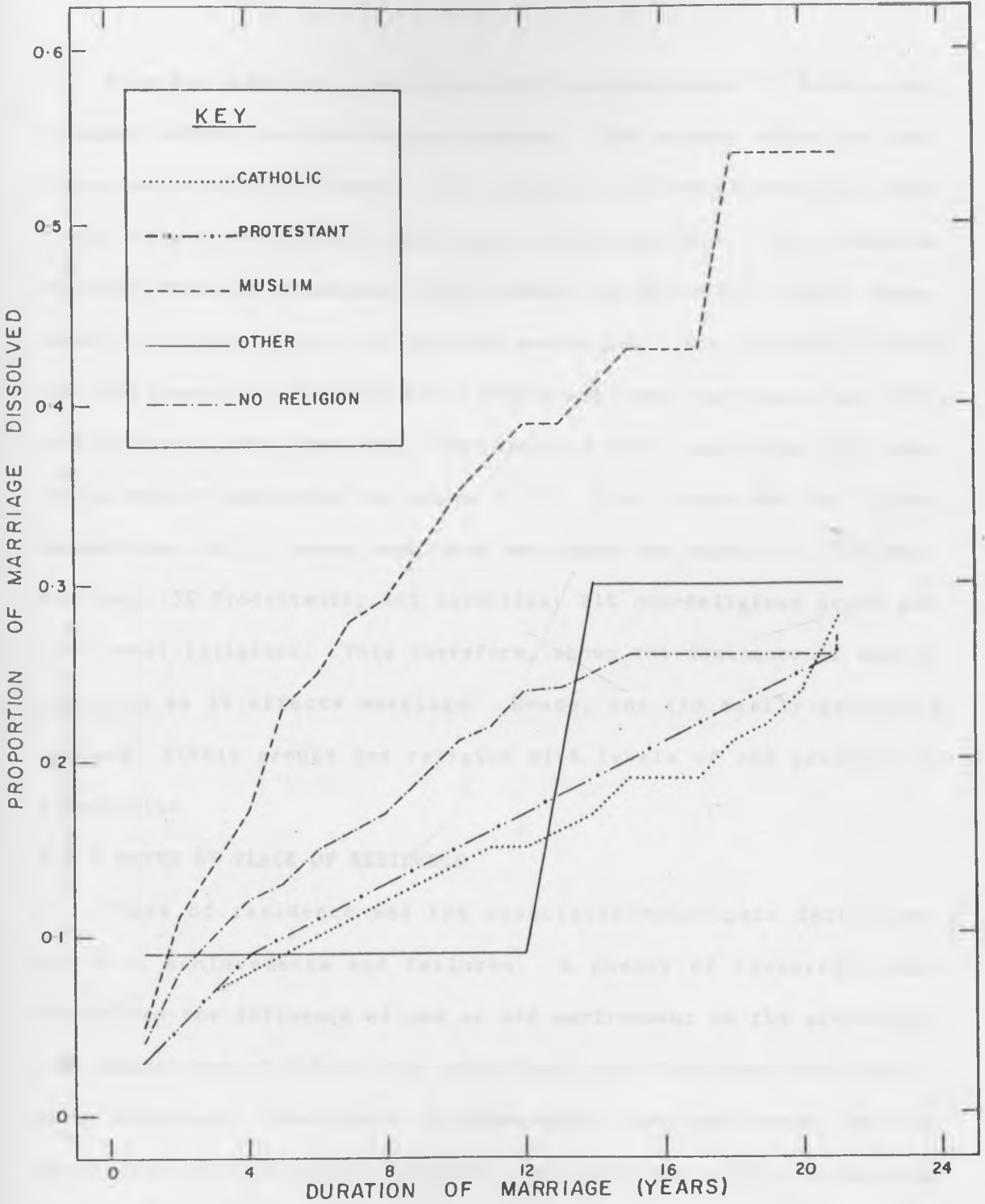
For our results, six categories of pattern of work have been used which can be combined into two broad based groups to form, those who work and those who do not work. From the results, dissolution rates seems to be high for those who do not work than those who work. This effect was seen to persist even when education and residence are controlled.

This could be due to the fact that, those for example, who hold low status jobs or what some economists refer to as "secondary position", command less marital loyalty primarily because they offer less longterm security. Other reasons could be that, economic resources got when one is working are strongly linked with marital stability. Thus a marriage where there is low economic power has a higher chance of dissolution. Also, proper family care can only be done when the couples can effectively afford economically. Thus these findings conforms well with theory.

#### 4.4.5 RATES BY RELIGION

Religious effects on marital dissolution is a cross cultural, and theological factor. This means that effectively, the effects of religion and religious differences on marital disruption, may be correctly viewed from a societal point of view which majorly affects the family as a unit. But, religion has also been found to depend on other variables e.g ethnic background.

Fig. 7: CUMMULATIVE PROPORTION OF FIRST MARRIAGES DISSOLVED BY DURATION OF UNION AND RELIGIOUS GROUPS.



From the research, religious affiliations seems to have a noticeable effect on dissolution chances. The higher rates for non-Catholics being significant. But Catholics and Protestants have been found to have relatively lower rates of dissolution. This conforms to other findings (Teachman, 1982; Menken, et al 1981). Higher rates have been found within the Muslims societies. For instance, those who had stayed in marriage for 5 years and their marriages had dissolved were, Muslims 23%, Protestants 10%, Catholics 9%, non-religious 13% and other religions 9.1%. Also, those who had stayed in marriage for 10 years, and their marriages had dissolved, 35% were Muslims; 15% Protestants; 14% Catholics; 21% non-Religious group and 9.1% other religions. This therefore, shows the dominance of muslim religion as it affects marriage. Hence, one can easily associate regions, ethnic groups and religion with levels of and patterns of dissolution.

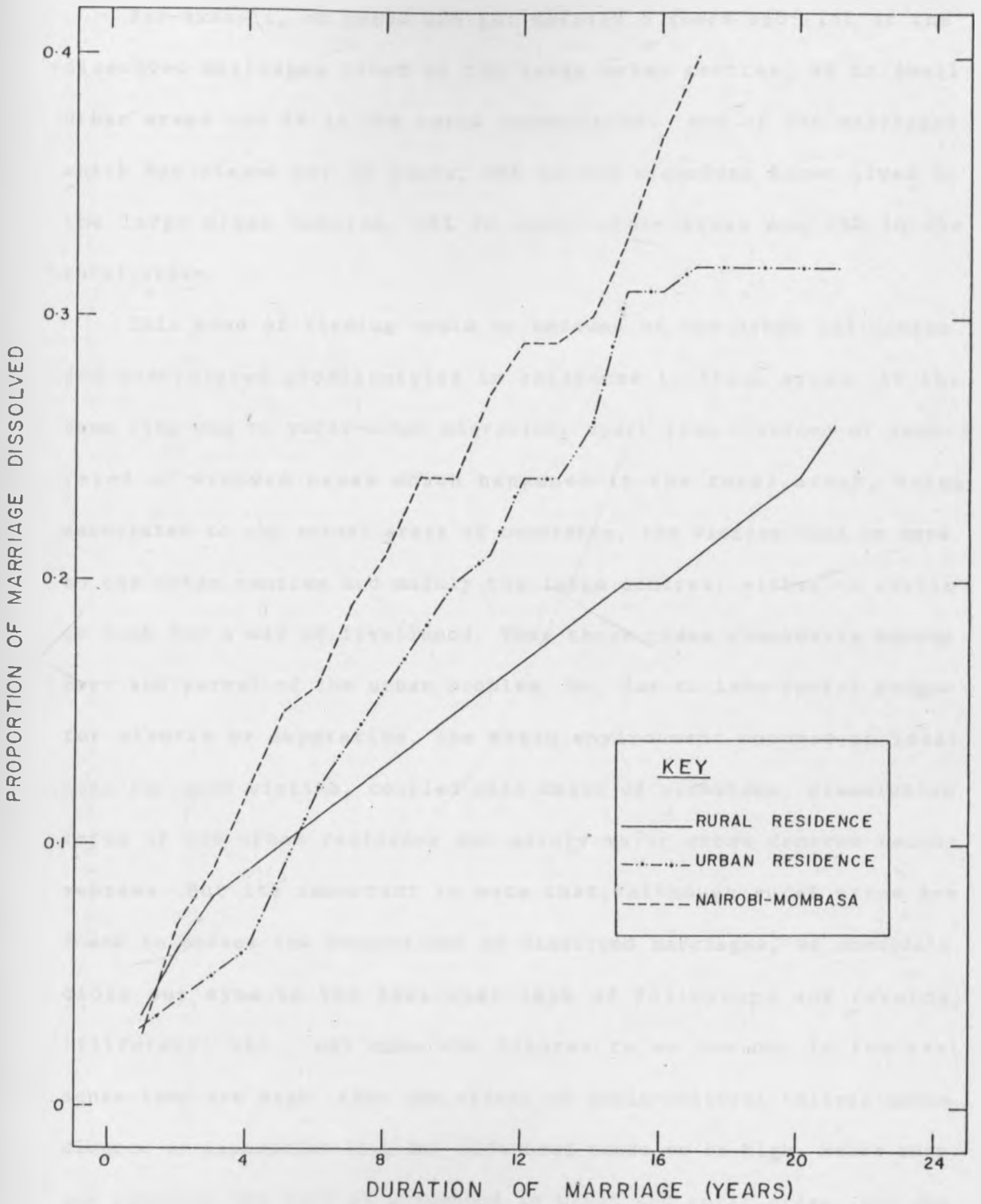
#### 4.4.6 RATES BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE

Place of residence and the associated behaviours determines societal achievements and failures. A number of researches have determined the influence of new or old environment on the activities and general way of life of the inhabitants and the values attached to such behaviours. The impact of adventurism, new environment and new conditions of life which influence the inhabitants thus discarding old traditions and cutting loose from the past, may generate an atmosphere of isolation, impersonality and weakened social control-hence reduction of institutional and traditional aspects of family, influence of friends, and less stigma of divorce (Fenelone, 1921; Carson, 1915; Broel-Plateris, 1964). So, place of residence therefore

determines the social cost attached to different types of marital status - hence determine the degree of such statuses.

From the data, women who reside on large urban centres (Nairobi/Mombasa) for example, was found to experience higher rates of marital dissolution than those in smaller urban areas or the rural communities. (But place of residence is measured as at that time of the survey and doesn't necessarily mean that they lived in such communities during the whole marriage duration though the assumption is implicit in the model).

Fig. 8: CUMULATIVE PROPORTION OF FIRST MARRIAGES DISSOLVED BY DURATION OF UNION AND PLACE OF RESIDENCE.



For example, of those who got married 5 years ago, 15% of the dissolved marriages lived in the large urban centres; 9% in small urban areas and 1% in the rural communities. And of the marriages which had stayed for 10 years, 24% of the dissolved cases lived in the large urban centres, 20% in small urban areas and 15% in the rural areas.

This kind of finding could be because of the urban influences and the related promiscuities in existence in these areas. At the same time due to rural-urban migration, apart from divorced or separated or widowed cases which happened in the rural areas, being associated to the actual areas of occurrence, the victims tend to move to the urban centres and mainly the large centres, either to settle or look for a way of livelihood. Thus these cases eventually become part and parcel of the urban problem. So, due to less social stigma for divorce or separation, the urban environment becomes an ideal area for such victims, coupled with cases of widowhood, dissolution rates of the urban residence and mainly major urban centres reigns supreme. But its important to note that, although rural areas are found to posses low proportions of dissolved marriages, we shouldn't close our eyes to the fact that lack of follow-ups and records, illiteracy, etc., may make the figures to be low but in the real sense they are high. Also the effect of socio-cultural beliefs makes divorce or separation low, but widowhood tends to be high. Hence when one compares the rate of widowhood in urban and rural areas, the one for the rural areas is found to be highest.

#### 4.5 REGIONAL DISSOLUTION RATES BY BACKGROUND VARIABLES

Persons who are widowed, divorced or separated constitute the fraction of the ever-married population who are living in a state of marital disruption. The percent distributions of widowhood, divorced or separated for each region are shown in the tables and the associated graphs that follow.

In order to have a better picture of dissolution of marriages, (widowhood, or divorce or separated) rates have been estimated as proportions ever-married for each particular marriage-duration group.

Furthermore, rates help in comparisons or differential studies. For comparison purposes, the fundamental measures of dissolution, namely; duration-specific-marriage dissolution rates (of those whose marriages dissolved) for all ever-married persons have been considered. The marital dissolution probabilities( $nqx$ ) have been converted to dissolution rates ( $nDx$ ) by using a relationship similar to that between the mortality rates ( $nMx$ ) and the probability of dying ( $ndx$ ) for a standard mortality life table. To facilitate comparison specific-duration rates, and average rates for the regions have been considered. The duration- specific-marriage dissolution tables rates for regional background variables have also been computed by relating the number of first marriages for a particular background variables to the average number of dissolved cases within that group.

Table 34. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE FOR DIFFERENTIAL - REGION COAST

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.043	0.043	0.043
1-2	0.056	0.054	0.10
2-3	0.034	0.03	0.13
3-4	0.036	0.03	0.16
4-5	0.034	0.03	0.19
5-6	0.026	0.02	0.21
6-7	0.022	0.02	0.23
7-8	0.012	0.01	0.24
8-9	0.050	0.04	0.28
9-10	0.032	0.02	0.28
10-11	0.013	0.01	0.30
11-12	0.032	0.022	0.31
12-13	0.00	0.00	0.33
13-14	0.012	0.01	0.33
14-15	0.028	0.02	0.34
15-16	0.0196	0.01	0.36
16-17	0.00	0.00	0.37



Table 35. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OR MARRIAGE  
- COAST (MIJIKENDA ETHNIC BACKGROUND)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nqx$	$ndx$	$nDx$
0-1	0.04	0.04	0.04
1-2	0.07	0.07	0.11
2-3	0.04	0.04	0.15
3-4	0.03	0.03	0.18
4-5	0.03	0.03	0.21
5-6	0.02	0.02	0.23
6-7	0.02	0.02	0.25
7-8	0.01	0.008	0.26
8-9	0.05	0.004	0.300
9-10	0.05	0.04	0.34
10-11	0.01	0.07	0.35
11-12	0.03	0.020	0.37
12-13	0.00	0.000	0.37
13-14	0.02	0.013	0.383
14-15	0.02	0.012	0.400

Table 36. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
- COAST (SECONDARY EDUCATION)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nq_x$	$ndx$	$nD_x$
0-1	0.05	0.050	0.050
1-2	0.00	0.00	0.05
2-3	0.00	0.00	0.05
3-4	0.06	0.06	0.11
4-5	0.02	0.02	0.13
5-6	0.03	0.03	0.16
6-7	0.00	0.00	0.16
7-8	0.00	0.00	0.16
8-9	0.08	0.07	0.23
9-10	0.00	0.00	0.23
10-11	0.08	0.062	0.292

Table 37. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
 - COAST (AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE<15)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nq_x$	$ndx$	$nD_x$
0-1	0.06	0.06	0.06
1-2	0.10	0.100	0.154
2-3	0.05	0.042	0.200
3-4	0.06	0.05	0.25
4-5	0.04	0.03	0.28
5-6	0.04	0.03	0.31
6-7	0.01	0.007	0.32
7-8	0.03	0.021	0.34
8-9	0.03	0.02	0.36
9-10	0.02	0.13	0.373
10-11	0.00	0.00	0.373
11-12	0.04	0.025	0.40
12-13	0.00	0.00	0.40
13-14	0.00	0.00	0.40
14-15	0.00	0.00	0.40
15-16	0.05	0.03	0.43

Table 38. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
 - COAST (PROTESTANT RELIGION)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nqx$	$ndx$	$nDx$
0-1	0.05	0.05	0.05
1-2	0.03	0.03	0.08
2-3	0.03	0.03	0.11
3-4	0.04	0.04	0.15
4-5	0.03	0.03	0.18
5-6	0.00	0.00	0.18
6-7	0.03	0.030	0.21
7-8	0.00	0.00	0.21
8-9	0.04	0.040	0.241

Table 39. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
- COAST (MUSLIM RELIGION)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.05	0.05	0.05
1-2	0.08	0.08	0.130
2-3	0.04	0.04	0.170
3-4	0.04	0.033	0.203
4-5	0.05	0.04	0.243
5-6	0.03	0.023	0.270
6-7	0.04	0.030	0.300
7-8	0.01	0.007	0.310
8-9	0.05	0.04	0.350
9-10	0.06	0.04	0.390
10-11	0.04	0.024	0.414
11-12	0.05	0.030	0.443
12-13	0.00	0.00	0.443
13-14	0.05	0.030	0.471
14-15	0.08	0.042	0.513

Table 40. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE REGION (NAIROBI)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.023	0.023	0.023
1-2	0.034	0.033	0.056
2-3	0.037	0.035	0.091
3-4	0.013	0.012	0.103
4-5	0.018	0.016	0.12
5-6	0.033	0.03	0.15
6-7	0.036	0.03	0.18
7-8	0.024	0.02	0.20
8-9	0.029	0.02	0.22
9-10	0.00	0.00	0.22
10-11	0.049	0.04	0.26
11-12	0.0133	0.01	0.27
12-13	0.00	0.00	0.27
13-14	0.038	0.03	0.30
14-15	0.025	0.02	0.32
15-16	0.035	0.02	0.34
16-17	0.053	0.04	0.38

Table 41. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
 - NAIROBI (AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE <15)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nqx$	$ndx$	$nDx$
0-1	0.03	0.030	0.030
1-2	0.04	0.040	0.070
2-3	0.03	0.030	0.100
3-4	0.01	0.009	0.110
4-5	0.01	0.009	0.120
5-6	0.00	0.00	0.120
6-7	0.02	0.018	0.140
7-8	0.02	0.017	0.160
8-9	0.02	0.017	0.180
9-10	0.00	0.00	0.180
10-11	0.03	0.030	0.210
11-12	0.00	0.00	0.210
12-13	0.00	0.00	0.210
13-14	0.04	0.032	0.242

Table 42. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
- NAIROBI (PROTESTANT RELIGION)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nqx$	$ndx$	$nDx$
0-1	0.03	0.030	0.030
1-2	0.01	0.010	0.040
2-3	0.01	0.010	0.050
3-4	0.01	0.010	0.060
4-5	0.02	0.019	0.080
5-6	0.02	0.018	0.100
6-7	0.03	0.030	0.130
7-8	0.03	0.03	0.160
8-9	0.03	0.03	0.19
9-10	0.00	0.041	0.23
10-11	0.05	0.040	0.27
11-12	0.02	0.015	0.29
12-13	0.00	0.00	0.29
13-14	0.02	0.014	0.304
14-15	0.03	0.021	0.33
15-16	0.04	0.30	0.360



Table 43. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
- NAIROBI (PRIMARY LEVEL OF EDUCATION)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.01	0.010	0.010
1-2	0.03	0.030	0.040
2-3	0.03	0.030	0.070
3-4	0.02	0.019	0.090
4-5	0.00	0.00	0.090
5-6	0.00	0.00	0.090
6-7	0.06	0.060	0.150
7-8	0.00	0.00	0.150
8-9	0.00	0.00	0.150
9-10	0.00	0.00	0.150
10-11	0.00	0.00	0.150
11-12	0.00	0.00	0.150
12-13	0.00	0.00	0.150
13-14	0.04	0.034	0.184
14-15	0.04	0.033	0.220

Table 44. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
REGION (WESTERN)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nqx$	$ndx$	$nDx$
0-1	0.051	0.051	0.051
1-2	0.041	0.04	0.09
2-3	0.026	0.02	0.11
3-4	0.027	0.02	0.13
4-5	0.019	0.02	0.15
5-6	0.008	0.01	0.16
6-7	0.018	0.02	0.18
7-8	0.012	0.01	0.19
8-9	0.014	0.01	0.20
9-10	0.013	0.01	0.21
10-11	0.014	0.01	0.22
11-12	0.008	0.01	0.23
12-13	0.009	0.01	0.24
13-14	0.005	0.004	0.24
14-15	0.006	0.01	0.25
15-16	0.007	0.01	0.26
16-17	0.016	0.01	0.27
17-18	0.03	0.02	0.29
18-19	0.014	0.01	0.30
19-20	0.041	0.03	0.33
20-21	0.04	0.03	0.36

Table 45. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
- WESTERN (PROTESTANT RELIGION)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nqx$	$ndx$	$nDx$
0-1	0.052	0.052	0.052
1-2	0.046	0.044	0.100
2-3	0.033	0.030	0.13
3-4	0.028	0.024	0.15
4-5	0.022	0.019	0.17
5-6	0.010	0.008	0.180
6-7	0.022	0.018	0.20
7-8	0.012	0.010	0.21
8-9	0.009	0.007	0.22
9-10	0.010	0.008	0.23
10-11	0.0060	0.005	0.24
11-12	0.013	0.010	0.25
12-13	0.007	0.005	0.26
13-14	0.00	0.00	0.26
14-15	0.00	0.00	0.26
15-16	0.01	0.008	0.28
16-17	0.013	0.010	0.290
17-18	0.031	0.022	0.312
18-19	0.021	0.015	0.33
19-20	0.063	0.042	0.372
20-21	0.059	0.037	0.410

Table 46. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
- WESTERN (NO EDUCATION)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.055	0.055	0.055
1-2	0.033	0.031	0.090
2-3	0.023	0.021	0.111
3-4	0.024	0.021	0.13
4-5	0.022	0.020	0.15
5-6	0.012	0.010	0.16
6-7	0.021	0.018	0.18
7-8	0.009	0.007	0.19
8-9	0.02	0.020	0.21
9-10	0.006	0.005	0.22
10-11	0.006	0.005	0.23
11-12	0.00	0.00	0.23
12-13	0.015	0.012	0.24
13-14	0.008	0.006	0.25
14-15	0.008	0.006	0.26
15-16	0.00	0.00	0.26
16-17	0.010	0.007	0.27
17-18	0.022	0.016	0.29
18-19	0.013	0.009	0.300
19-20	0.032	0.022	0.322
20-21	0.021	0.014	0.340

Table 47. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
WESTERN (AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE 15-19)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nqx$	$ndx$	$nDx$
0-1	0.051	0.051	0.051
1-2	0.034	0.032	0.083
2-3	0.030	0.028	0.111
3-4	0.03	0.027	0.140
4-5	0.021	0.018	0.16
5-6	0.007	0.006	0.17
6-7	0.018	0.015	0.19
7-8	0.004	0.003	0.193
8-9	0.017	0.014	0.210
9-10	0.015	0.012	0.22
10-11	0.017	0.0132	0.233
11-12	0.013	0.010	0.24
12-13	0.00	0.00	0.240
13-14	0.00	0.00	0.24
14-15	0.00	0.00	0.24
15-16	0.011	0.008	0.25
16-17	0.025	0.019	0.27
17-18	0.031	0.023	0.29
18-19	0.00	0.00	0.29
19-20	0.036	0.026	0.32

Table 48. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
- REGION (EASTERN)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.057	0.057	0.057
1-2	0.031	0.03	0.09
2-3	0.023	0.02	0.11
3-4	0.016	0.01	0.12
4-5	0.015	0.01	0.13
5-6	0.014	0.01	0.14
6-7	0.009	0.01	0.15
7-8	0.007	0.01	0.16
8-9	0.010	0.01	0.17
9-10	0.011	0.01	0.18
10-11	0.012	0.01	0.19
11-12	0.010	0.01	0.20
12-13	0.006	0.01	0.21
13-14	0.022	0.02	0.23
14-15	0.004	0.003	0.23
15-16	0.00	0.00	0.23
16-17	0.009	0.01	0.24
17-18	0.011	0.01	0.25
18-19	0.007	0.01	0.26
19-20	0.04	0.03	0.29
20-21	0.06	0.04	0.33

Table 49. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
EASTERN - KAMBA (ETHNIC BACKGROUND)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nq_x$	$ndx$	$nD_x$
0-1	0.083	0.083	0.083
1-2	0.049	0.045	0.130
2-3	0.027	0.024	0.15
3-4	0.02	0.017	0.17
4-5	0.024	0.02	0.19
5-6	0.024	0.02	0.21
6-7	0.01	0.008	0.22
7-8	0.01	0.008	0.23
8-9	0.011	0.009	0.24
9-10	0.013	0.010	0.25
10-11	0.009	0.007	0.26
11-12	0.019	0.014	0.27
12-13	0.011	0.008	0.28
13-14	0.037	0.027	0.31
14-15	0.00	0.00	0.31
15-16	0.00	0.00	0.31
16-17	0.009	0.006	0.32
17-18	0.012	0.008	0.33
18-19	0.015	0.010	0.34
19-20	0.064	0.042	0.38
20-21	0.110	0.068	0.45

Table 50. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
EASTERN - MERU-EMBU (ETHNIC BACKGROUND)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.023	0.023	0.023
1-2	0.009	0.009	0.032
2-3	0.016	0.016	0.050
3-4	0.010	0.010	0.060
4-5	0.004	0.004	0.064
5-6	0.004	0.004	0.070
6-7	0.008	0.008	0.080
7-8	0.004	0.004	0.084
8-9	0.005	0.005	0.089
9-10	0.010	0.009	0.100
10-11	0.016	0.014	0.114
11-12	0.00	0.00	0.114
12-13	0.00	0.00	0.114
13-14	0.007	0.006	0.120
14-15	0.008	0.007	0.13
15-16	0.00	0.00	0.13
16-17	0.010	0.009	0.14
17-18	0.011	0.010	0.15
18-19	0.00	0.00	0.15
19-20	0.017	0.015	0.17
20-21	0.023	0.019	0.19



Table 51. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
 - EASTERN - (AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE 20-24)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.05	0.050	0.050
1-2	0.008	0.008	0.060
2-3	0.018	0.017	0.080
3-4	0.005	0.005	0.090
4-5	0.028	0.026	0.120
5-6	0.007	0.006	0.13
6-7	0.007	0.006	0.14
7-8	0.008	0.007	0.15
8-9	0.008	0.007	0.16
9-10	0.018	0.015	0.18
10-11	0.02	0.016	0.20
11-12	0.00	0.00	0.20
12-13	0.00	0.00	0.20
13-14	0.00	0.00	0.20
14-15	0.014	0.011	0.21
15-16	0.00	0.00	0.21
16-17	0.00	0.00	0.21
17-18	0.021	0.016	0.23
18-19	0.00	0.00	0.23
19-20	0.039	0.030	0.26
20-21	0.053	0.040	0.300

Table 52. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
- REGION (CENTRAL)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nqx$	$ndx$	$nDx$
0-1	0.03	0.03	0.03
1-2	0.016	0.02	0.05
2-3	0.017	0.02	0.07
3-4	0.006	0.01	0.08
4-5	0.008	0.01	0.09
5-6	0.013	0.01	0.10
6-7	0.012	0.01	0.11
7-8	0.009	0.01	0.12
8-9	0.012	0.01	0.13
9-10	0.004	0.004	0.13
10-11	0.00	0.00	0.13
11-12	0.007	0.010	0.14
12-13	0.011	0.01	0.15
13-14	0.013	0.01	0.16
14-15	0.022	0.02	0.18
15-16	0.004	0.003	0.18
16-17	0.016	0.01	0.19
17-18	0.012	0.01	0.20
18-19	0.032	0.03	0.23
19-20	0.022	0.02	0.25
20-21	0.015	0.01	0.26

Table 53. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
- CENTRAL (NEVER WORKED)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.03	0.03	0.030
1-2	0.01	0.01	0.04
2-3	0.01	0.01	0.05
3-4	0.01	0.01	0.06
4-5	0.01	0.01	0.07
5-6	0.01	0.01	0.08
6-7	0.01	0.01	0.09
7-8	0.01	0.01	0.10
8-9	0.01	0.01	0.11
9-10	0.003	0.003	0.113
10-11	0.00	0.00	0.122
11-12	0.01	0.009	0.131
12-13	0.01	0.009	0.14
13-14	0.01	0.009	0.15
14-15	0.01	0.009	0.16
15-16	0.01	0.008	0.17
16-17	0.01	0.008	0.18
17-18	0.01	0.008	0.19
18-19	0.03	0.024	0.214
19-20	0.01	0.008	0.22
20-21	0.02	0.016	0.24

Table 54. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
 - CENTRAL (CATHOLIC RELIGION)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.02	0.020	0.020
1-2	0.02	0.020	0.040
2-3	0.01	0.010	0.050
3-4	0.004	0.004	0.054
4-5	0.010	0.010	0.064
5-6	0.02	0.019	0.083
6-7	0.01	0.009	0.092
7-8	0.01	0.009	0.100
8-9	0.01	0.009	0.110
9-10	0.01	0.009	0.12
10-11	0.00	0.00	0.12
11-12	0.01	0.009	0.13
12-13	0.02	0.017	0.15
13-14	0.02	0.017	0.17
14-15	0.04	0.033	0.203
15-16	0.00	0.00	0.203
16-17	0.02	0.016	0.22
17-18	0.02	0.016	0.24
18-19	0.03	0.023	0.26
19-20	0.08	0.060	0.32

Table 55. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
- CENTRAL (RURAL RESIDENCE)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nqx$	$ndx$	$nDx$
0-1	0.03	0.03	0.03
1-2	0.02	0.02	0.050
2-3	0.02	0.02	0.06
3-4	0.01	0.009	0.07
4-5	0.01	0.009	0.08
5-6	0.01	0.009	0.09
6-7	0.01	0.009	0.100
7-8	0.01	0.009	0.11
8-9	0.01	0.018	0.13
9-10	0.004	0.004	0.134
10-11	0.00	0.00	0.134
11-12	0.01	0.009	0.143
12-13	0.01	0.009	0.152
13-14	0.01	0.009	0.161
14-15	0.02	0.017	0.18
15-16	0.004	0.003	0.183
16-17	0.02	0.163	0.200
17-18	0.01	0.008	0.21
18-19	0.03	0.024	0.23
19-20	0.01	0.008	0.24
20-21	0.01	0.008	0.25

Table 56. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
- REGION (NYANZA)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.027	0.027	0.027
1-2	0.014	0.01	0.04
2-3	0.010	0.01	0.05
3-4	0.013	0.01	0.06
4-5	0.005	0.01	0.07
5-6	0.016	0.02	0.9
6-7	0.011	0.01	0.10
7-8	0.12	0.01	0.110
8-9	0.006	0.01	0.12
9-10	0.010	0.01	0.13
10-11	0.005	0.004	0.13
11-12	0.007	0.01	0.14
12-13	0.0114	0.01	0.15
13-14	0.004	0.003	0.15
14-15	0.012	0.01	0.16
15-16	0.005	0.004	0.16
16-17	0.012	0.01	0.17
17-18	0.017	0.01	0.18
18-19	0.00	0.00	0.18
19-20	0.00	0.00	0.18
20-21	0.023	0.02	0.20

Table 57. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
- NYANZA (CATHOLIC RELIGION)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.03	0.03	0.03
1-2	0.021	0.020	0.050
2-3	0.009	0.009	0.060
3-4	0.016	0.015	0.080
4-5	0.00	0.00	0.080
5-6	0.018	0.017	0.100
6-7	0.017	0.015	0.12
7-8	0.009	0.008	0.13
8-9	0.00	0.00	0.13
9-10	0.007	0.006	0.14
10-11	0.00	0.00	0.14
11-12	0.008	0.007	0.15
12-13	0.009	0.008	0.16
13-14	0.005	0.004	0.164
14-15	0.011	0.009	0.173
15-16	0.00	0.00	0.173
16-17	0.02	0.017	0.190
17-18	0.023	0.019	0.21
18-19	0.00	0.00	0.21
19-20	0.00	0.00	0.21
20-21	0.025	0.020	0.230

Table 58. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
 - NYANZA (PROTESTANT RELIGION)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nqx$	$ndx$	$nDx$
0-1	0.026	0.026	0.026
1-2	0.010	0.010	0.040
2-3	0.008	0.008	0.050
3-4	0.011	0.011	0.060
4-5	0.010	0.009	0.070
5-6	0.014	0.013	0.083
6-7	0.007	0.006	0.090
7-8	0.014	0.013	0.103
8-9	0.01	0.009	0.11
9-10	0.011	0.010	0.120
10-11	0.009	0.008	0.13
11-12	0.003	0.003	0.133
12-13	0.014	0.012	0.150
13-14	0.004	0.003	0.153
14-15	0.013	0.011	0.160
15-16	0.009	0.008	0.17
16-17	0.005	0.004	0.18
17-18	0.012	0.010	0.19
18-19	0.00	0.00	0.19
19-20	0.00	0.00	0.19
20-21	0.022	0.018	0.210



Table 59. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
- NYANZA (AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE, 20-24)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.018	0.018	0.018
1-2	0.013	0.013	0.031
2-3	0.00	0.00	0.031
3-4	0.008	0.008	0.040
4-5	0.009	0.009	0.050
5-6	0.027	0.03	0.080
6-7	0.00	0.00	0.080
7-8	0.032	0.03	0.110
8-9	0.00	0.00	0.110
9-10	0.00	0.00	0.110
10-11	0.00	0.00	0.110
11-12	0.029	0.026	0.14
12-13	0.016	0.014	0.154
13-14	0.00	0.00	0.154
14-15	0.00	0.00	0.154
15-16	0.024	0.020	0.174
16-17	0.00	0.00	0.174
17-18	0.00	0.00	0.174
18-19	0.00	0.00	0.174
19-20	0.00	0.00	0.174
20-21	0.053	0.044	0.220

Table 60. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
 - NYANZA (PATTERN OF WORK, NOW NOT BEFORE)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.081	0.081	0.081
1-2	0.031	0.030	0.11
2-3	0.00	0.00	0.11
3-4	0.036	0.032	0.142
4-5	0.00	0.00	0.142
5-6	0.17	0.150	0.290
6-7	0.00	0.00	0.290
7-8	0.67	0.050	0.34
8-9	0.00	0.00	0.34
9-10	0.090	0.060	0.40
10-11	0.00	0.00	0.400
11-12	0.00	0.00	0.400

Table 61. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
REGION (RIFT VALLEY)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nqx$	$ndx$	$nDx$
0-1	0.014	0.014	0.014
1-2	0.008	0.01	0.02
2-3	0.013	0.01	0.03
3-4	0.009	0.01	0.04
4-5	0.007	0.01	0.05
5-6	0.014	0.01	0.06
6-7	0.011	0.01	0.07
7-8	0.009	0.01	0.08
8-9	0.008	0.01	0.09
9-10	0.009	0.01	0.10
10-11	0.012	0.01	0.11
11-12	0.011	0.01	0.12
12-13	0.003	0.003	0.12
13-14	0.011	0.01	0.13
14-15	0.02	0.02	0.15
15-16	0.000	0.00	0.15
16-17	0.013	0.01	0.16
17-18	0.010	0.01	0.17
18-19	0.012	0.01	0.18
19-20	0.008	0.01	0.19
20-21	0.018	0.02	0.21

Table 62. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
RIFT VALLEY (NO-EDUCATION)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.012	0.012	0.012
1-2	0.005	0.005	0.017
2-3	0.013	0.013	0.030
3-4	0.008	0.008	0.040
4-5	0.006	0.006	0.050
5-6	0.017	0.016	0.070
6-7	0.013	0.012	0.082
7-8	0.010	0.009	0.091
8-9	0.008	0.007	0.100
9-10	0.013	0.012	0.111
10-11	0.009	0.008	0.120
11-12	0.016	0.014	0.134
12-13	0.004	0.004	0.140
13-14	0.004	0.004	0.144
14-15	0.020	0.017	0.161
15-16	0.000	0.000	0.161
16-17	0.010	0.008	0.170
17-18	0.012	0.010	0.180
18-19	0.014	0.012	0.192
19-20	0.008	0.007	0.200
20-21	0.019	0.015	0.220

Table 63. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
 - RIFT VALLEY (KALENJIN ETHNIC GROUP) BACKGROUND

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
$x, x+n$	$nqx$	$ndx$	$nDx$
0-1	0.007	0.007	0.007
1-2	0.005	0.005	0.012
2-3	0.016	0.016	0.033
3-4	0.003	0.003	0.042
4-5	0.009	0.009	0.060
5-6	0.014	0.013	0.070
6-7	0.011	0.010	0.082
7-8	0.013	0.012	0.090
8-9	0.005	0.005	0.100
9-10	0.010	0.009	0.110
10-11	0.006	0.005	0.120
11-12	0.006	0.005	0.130
12-13	0.007	0.006	0.143
13-14	0.015	0.013	0.150
14-15	0.008	0.007	0.150
15-16	0.000	0.000	0.150
16-17	0.010	0.009	0.160
17-18	0.012	0.010	0.170
18-19	0.013	0.11	0.180

Table 64. ABRIDGED MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION TABLE BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE  
RIFT VALLEY (RURAL RESIDENCE)

DURATION OF EXPOSURE	CONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	UNCONDITIONAL PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY OF DISSOLUTION
x, x+n	nqx	ndx	nDx
0-1	0.012	0.012	0.012
1-2	0.008	0.008	0.020
2-3	0.012	0.012	0.032
3-4	0.008	0.008	0.040
4-5	0.006	0.006	0.050
5-6	0.012	0.012	0.062
6-7	0.013	0.012	0.074
7-8	0.009	0.008	0.082
8-9	0.009	0.008	0.090
9-10	0.008	0.007	0.100
10-11	0.011	0.0100	0.110
11-12	0.007	0.006	0.120
12-13	0.003	0.003	0.123
13-14	0.012	0.011	0.134
14-15	0.014	0.012	0.150
15-16	0.000	0.000	0.150
16-17	0.009	0.008	0.160
17-18	0.011	0.009	0.170
18-19	0.012	0.010	0.180
19-20	0.007	0.006	0.190
20-21	0.009	0.007	0.200

#### 4.5.1 REGIONAL RATES

Regions overlap ethnic and religious grouping and need not be looked at separately. But for the study of patterns, a close look or comparison of each and every region (province(s)) is necessary.

From the following conclusions can be made:

(i) Higher proportions or rates of marital dissolution are found in the coastal province with other regions such as Western, Eastern and Nairobi portraying relatively high dissolution rates.

(ii) The lowest rates of dissolution can be seen in Rift Valley province, which may be due to socio-cultural factors influencing marriage and its related factors.

(iii) Regions with large urban centres such as Coast and Nairobi areas portrays high marital dissolution rates.

(v) A brief cause-deleted analysis indicated differences and levels of dissolution types and rates. Thus gave each region distinct dominant dissolution type.

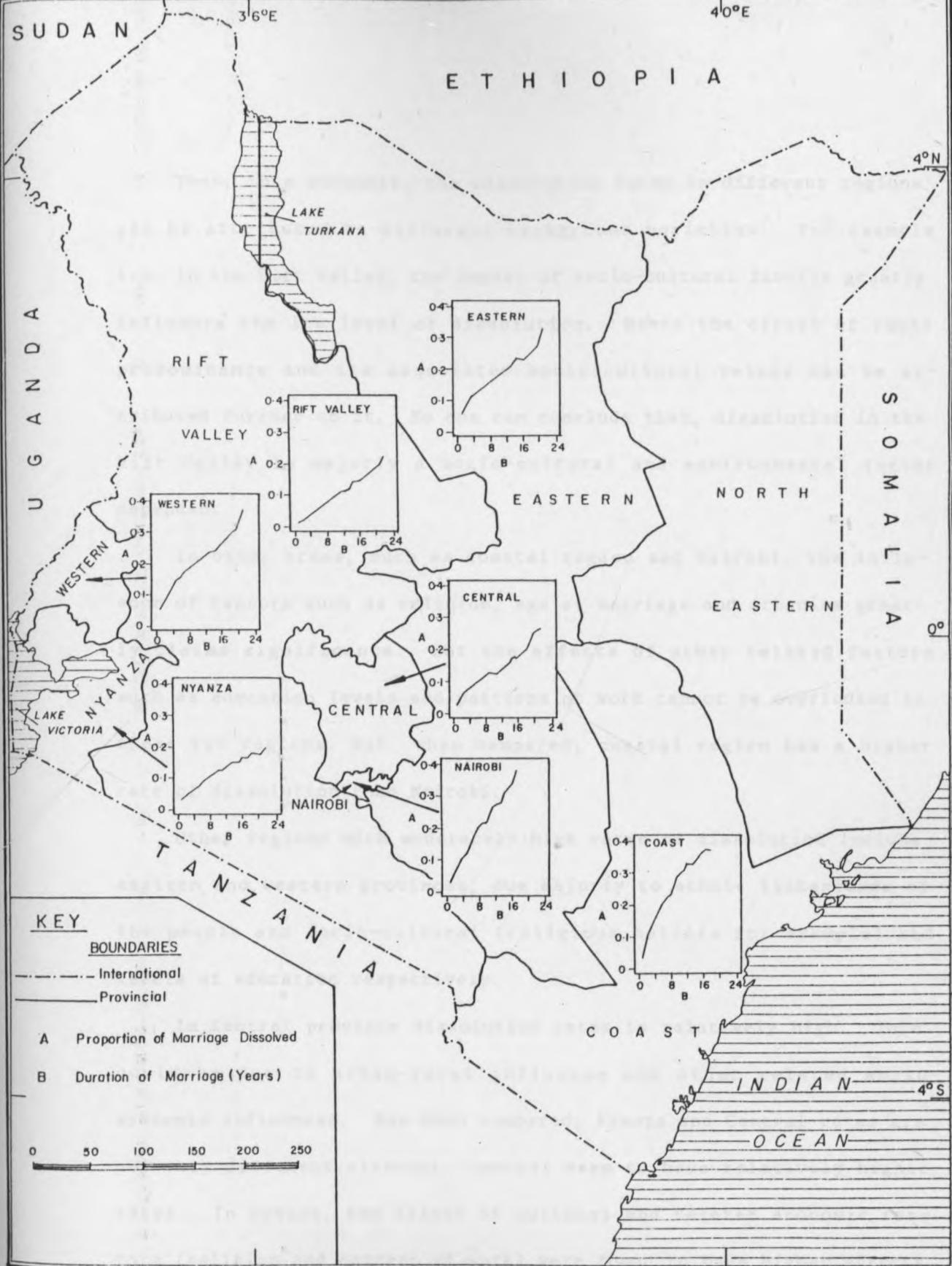


Fig. 9: REGIONAL PATTERN OF DURATION—SPECIFIC—MARITAL DISSOLUTION RATES.



Thus, in a nutshell, the dissolution rates in different regions can be attributed to different background variables. For example i.e. in the Rift Valley, the impact of socio-cultural fabrics greatly influence the low level of dissolution. Hence the effect of rural predominance and its associated socio-cultural values can be attributed further to it. So one can conclude that, dissolution in the Rift Valley is majorly a socio-cultural and environmental factor dependent.

In other areas, such as coastal region and Nairobi, the influence of factors such as religion, age at marriage and urbanism greatly claims significance. But the effects of other related factors such as education levels and patterns or work cannot be overlooked in these two regions. But when compared, coastal region has a higher rate of dissolution than Nairobi.

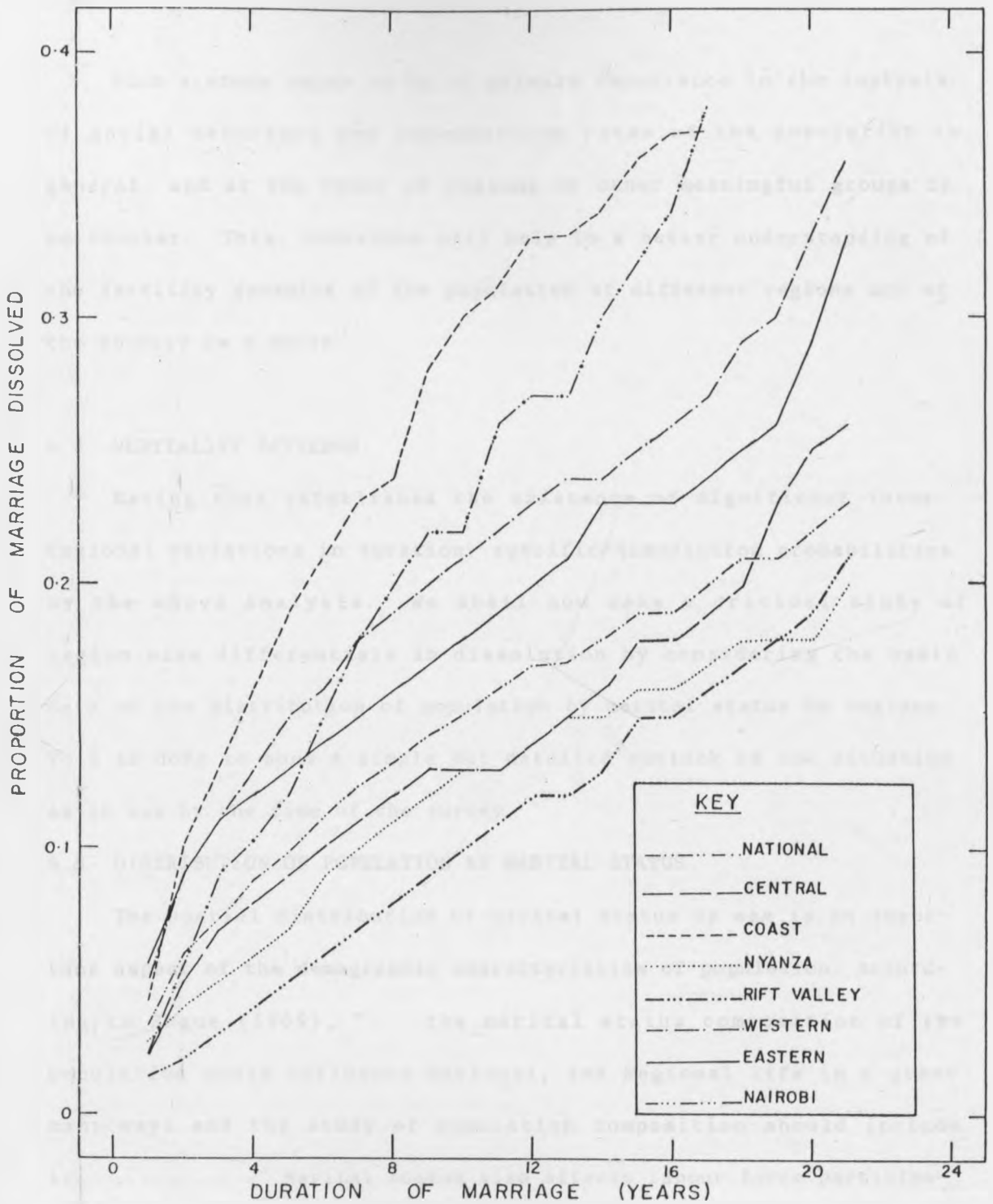
Other regions with moderately high rates of dissolution include eastern and western provinces, due majorly to ethnic backgrounds of the people and socio-cultural (religious beliefs for example) and levels of education respectively.

In Central province dissolution rates is relatively high. This could be due to urban-rural influence and other related socio-economic influences. But when compared, Nyanza and Central rates are not very different although, Central seem to have relatively higher rates. In Nyanza, the effect of cultural and related economic factors (religion and pattern of work) were found to have higher effects of dissolution.

#### 4.6.0 INTER REGIONAL VARIATIONS IN MARITAL DISSOLUTION

In the previous sections examination of regional dissolution rates have been carried. Variations in duration-specific-marriage dissolution rates have been clearly brought out using the life table approach. Now attention is focussed on the regional differences and patterns.

Fig. 10: CUMMULATIVE PROPORTION OF FIRST MARRIAGES DISSOLVED BY DURATION OF UNION — PROVINCES.



Such a study seems to be of primary importance in the analysis of social structure and reproduction rates of the population in general, and at the level of regions or other meaningful groups in particular. This, therefore will help in a better understanding of the fertility dynamics of the population of different regions and of the country as a whole.

#### 4.7 NUPTIALITY PATTERNS

Having thus established the existence of significant inter-regional variations in duration-specific-dissolution probabilities by the above analysis. We shall now make a critical study of region-wise differentials in dissolution by considering the basic data on the distribution of population by marital status by regions. This is done to show a simple but detailed outlook of the situation as it was by the time of the survey.

#### 4.8 DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY MARITAL STATUS

The spatial distribution of marital status by age is an important aspect of the demographic characteristics of population. According to Bogue (1969), "...the marital status composition of the population would influence national, and Regional life in a great many ways and the study of population composition should include it. ...." Marital status also affects labour force participation, school attendance, urban-rural residence, and almost every other topic in which demographers are or may be interested. This fact alone makes demographers to treat it as one of the fundamental variables of their discipline". In the present work the basic data have been collected from Kenya Fertility Survey (K.F.S) 1977/78, and

Fig. II: CUMMULATIVE PROPORTION OF FIRST MARRIAGES DISSOLVED BY DURATION OF UNION BY DIFFERENTIALS — COAST.

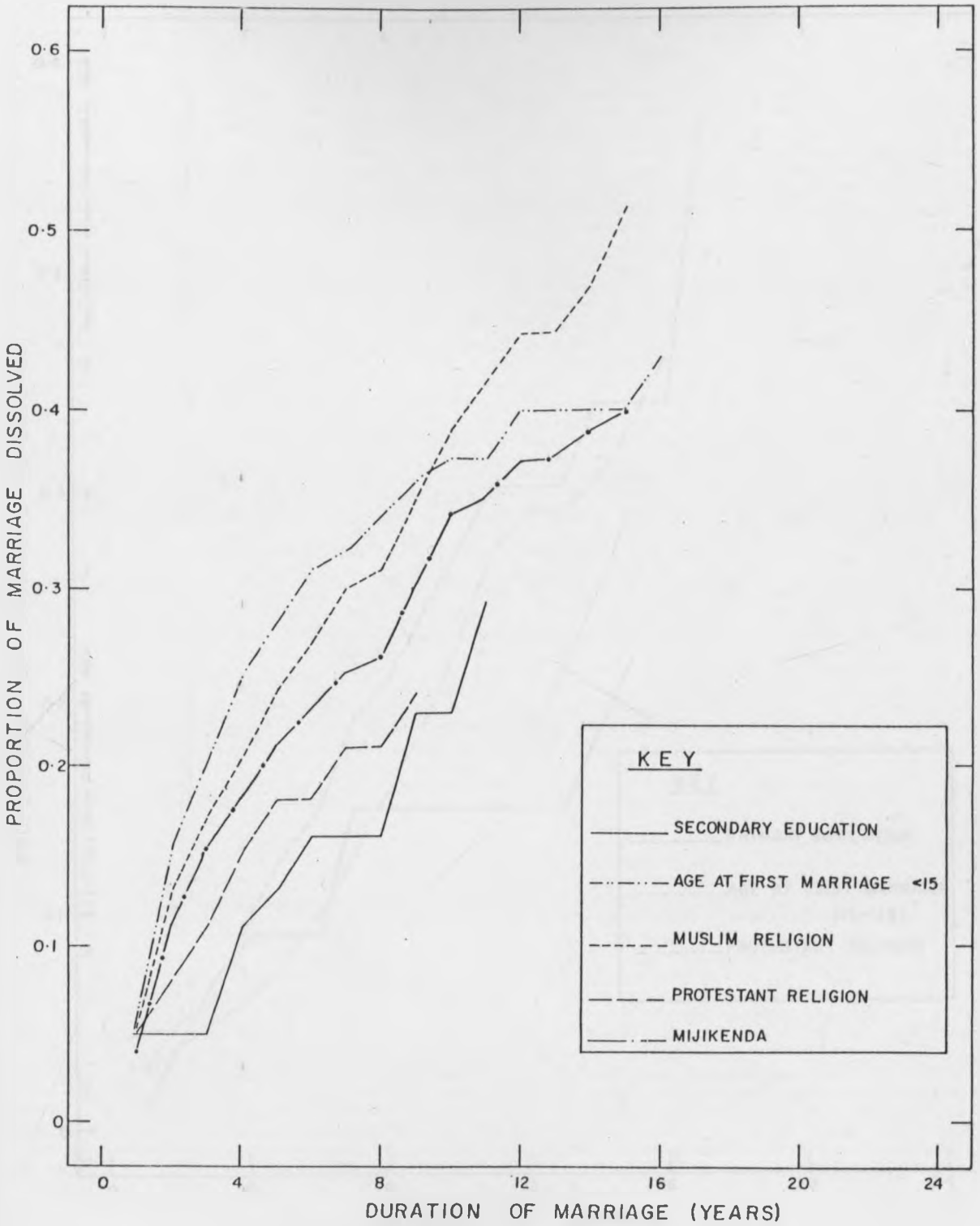


Fig. 12: CUMMULATIVE PROPORTION OF FIRST MARRIAGES DISSOLVED BY DURATION OF UNION BY DIFFERENTIALS — NAIROBI.

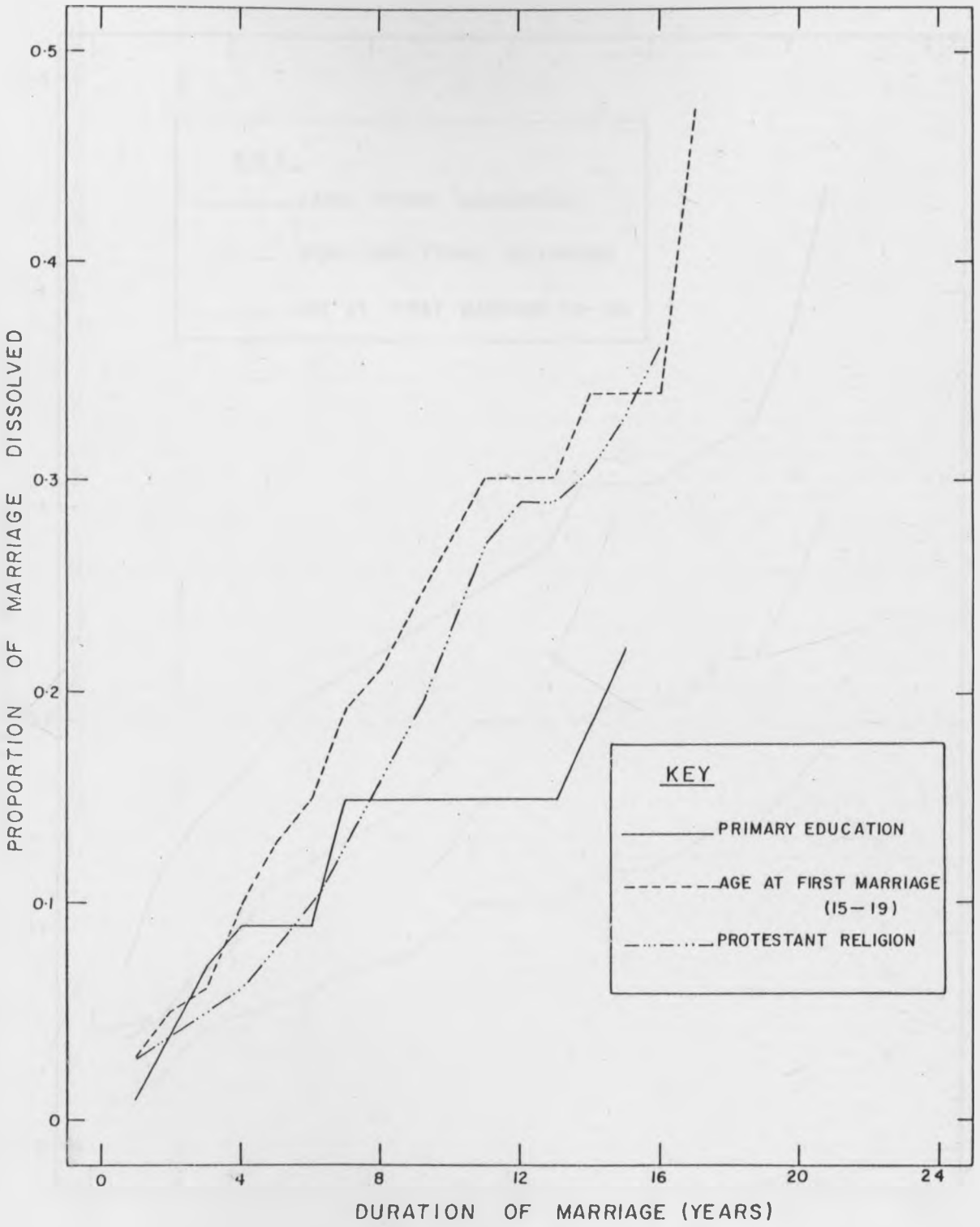


Fig. 13: CUMMULATIVE PROPORTION OF FIRST MARRIAGES DISSOLVED BY DURATION OF UNION BY DIFFERENTIALS—EASTERN.

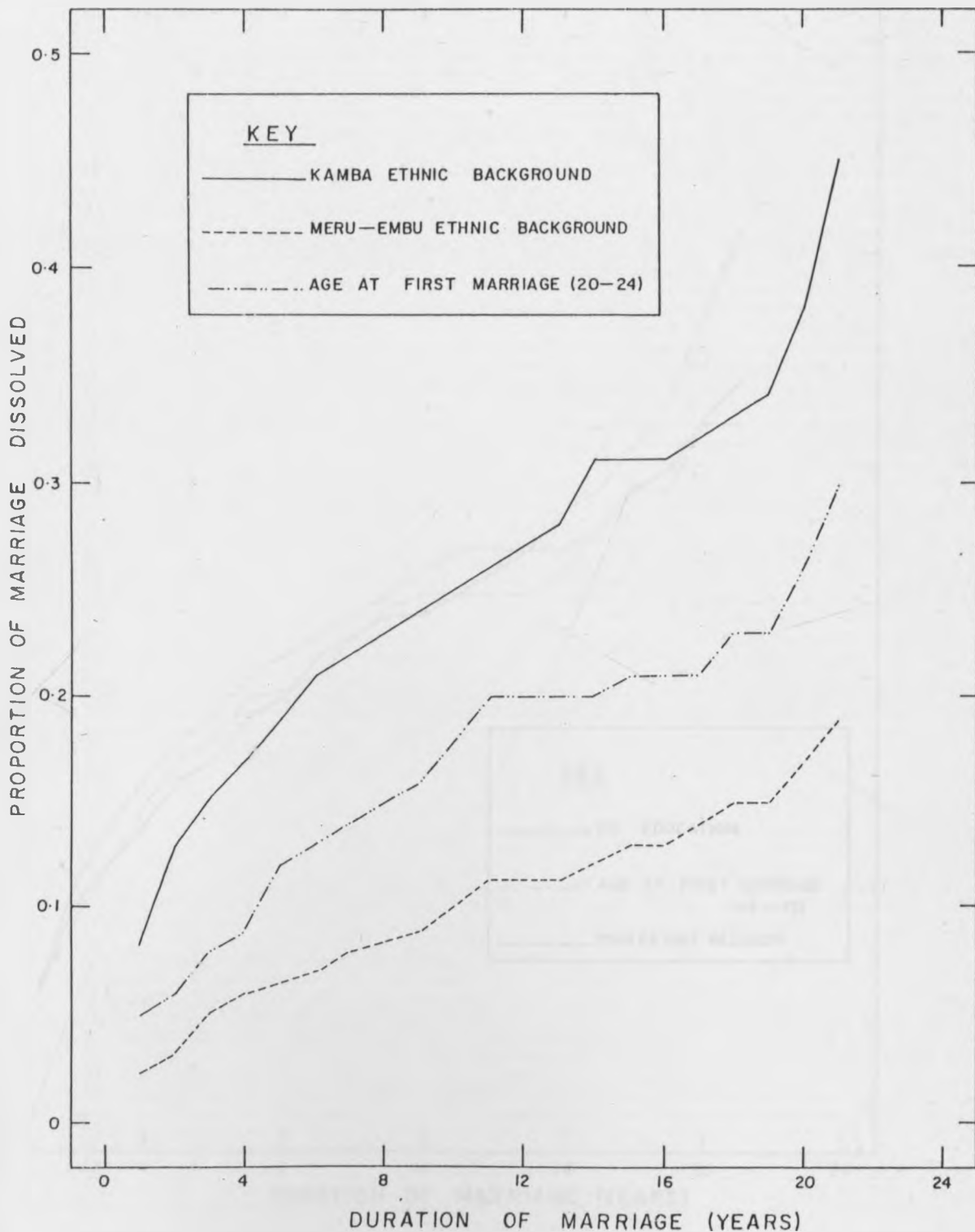


Fig. 14: CUMMULATIVE PROPORTION OF FIRST MARRIAGES DISSOLVED BY DURATION OF UNION BY DIFFERENTIALS — WESTERN.

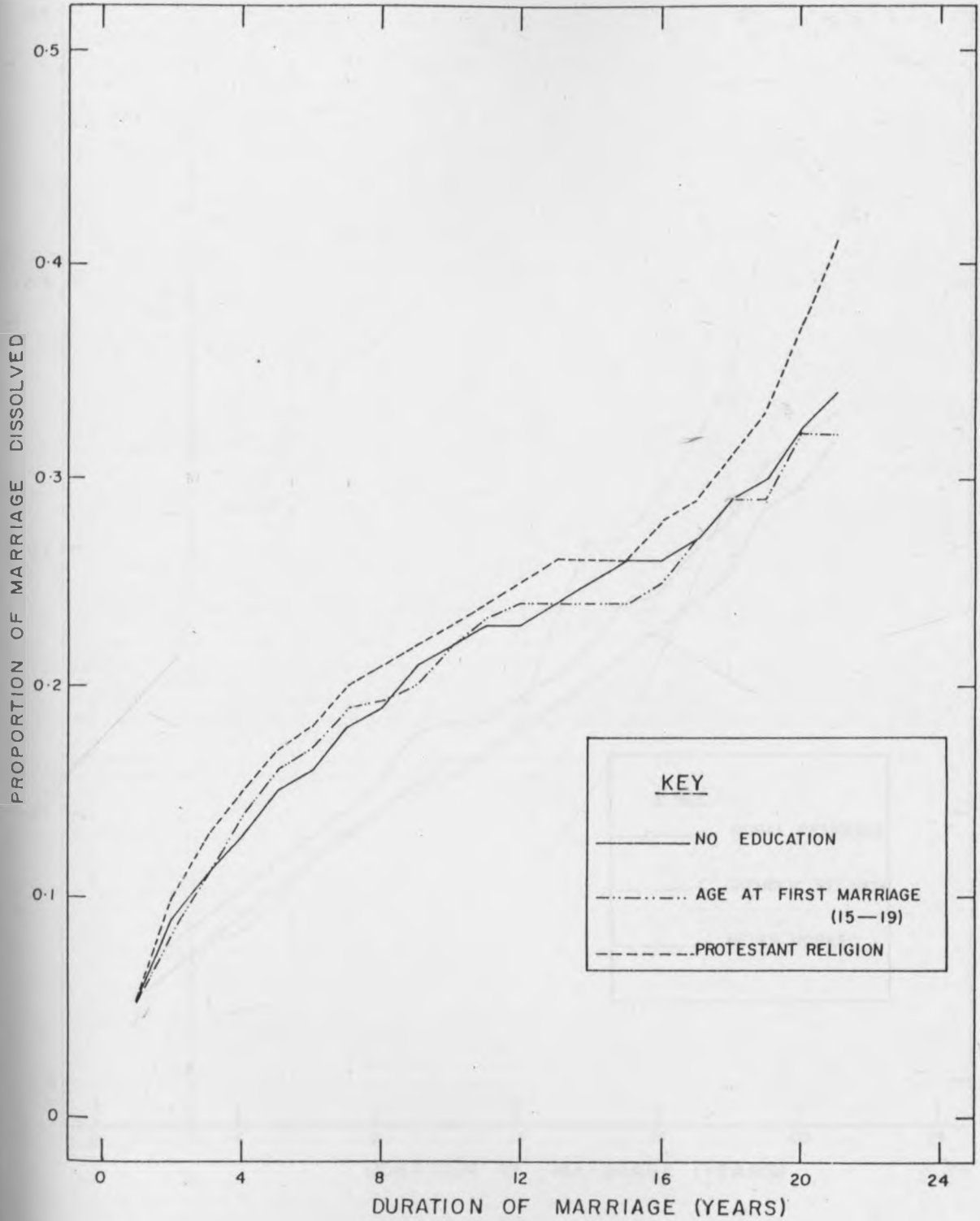




Fig. 15: CUMMULATIVE PROPORTION OF FIRST MARRIAGES DISSOLVED BY DURATION OF UNION BY DIFFERENTIALS--CENTRAL

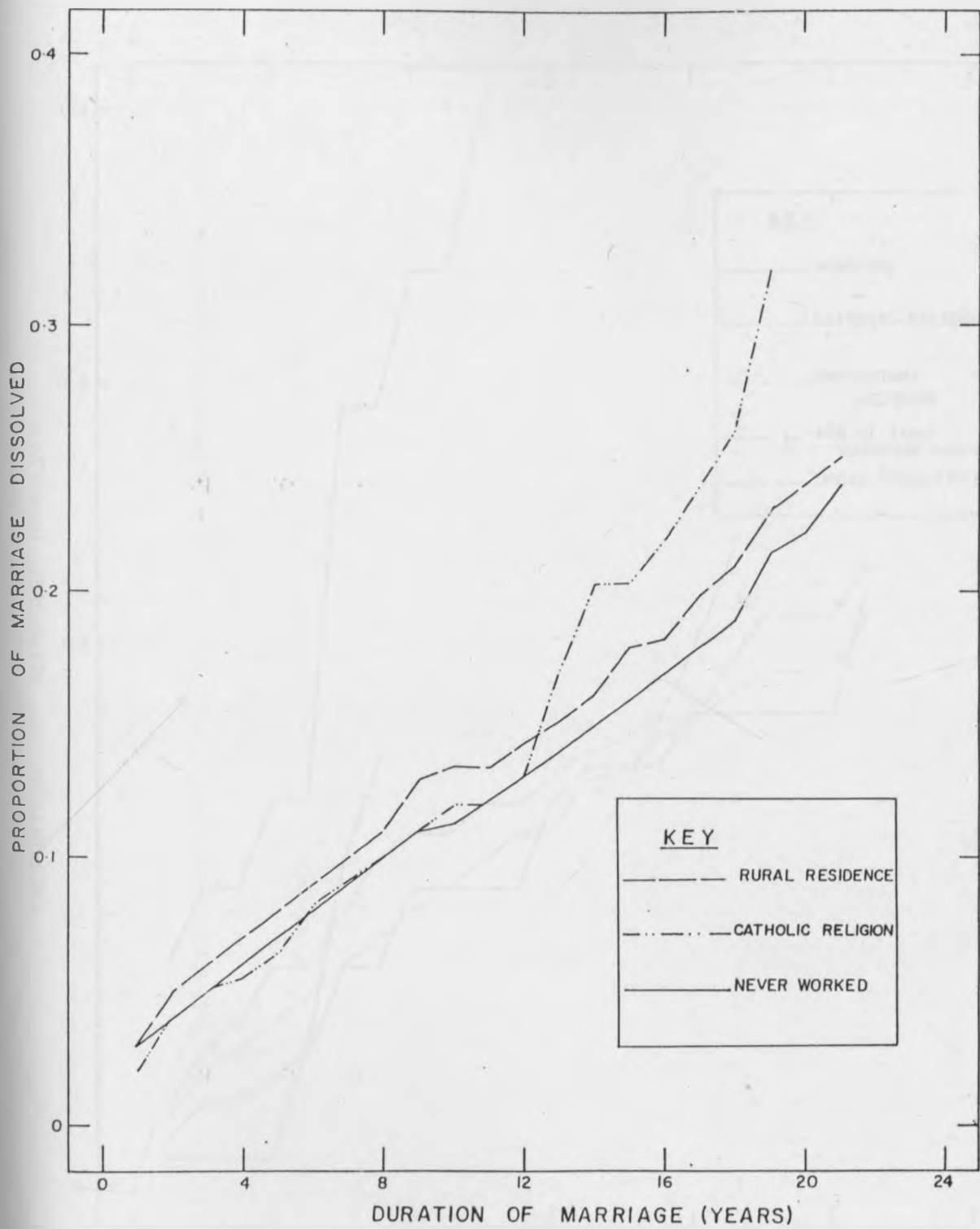


Fig. 16: CUMMULATIVE PROPORTION OF FIRST MARRIAGES DISSOLVED BY DURATION OF UNION BY DIFFERENTIALS — NYANZA.

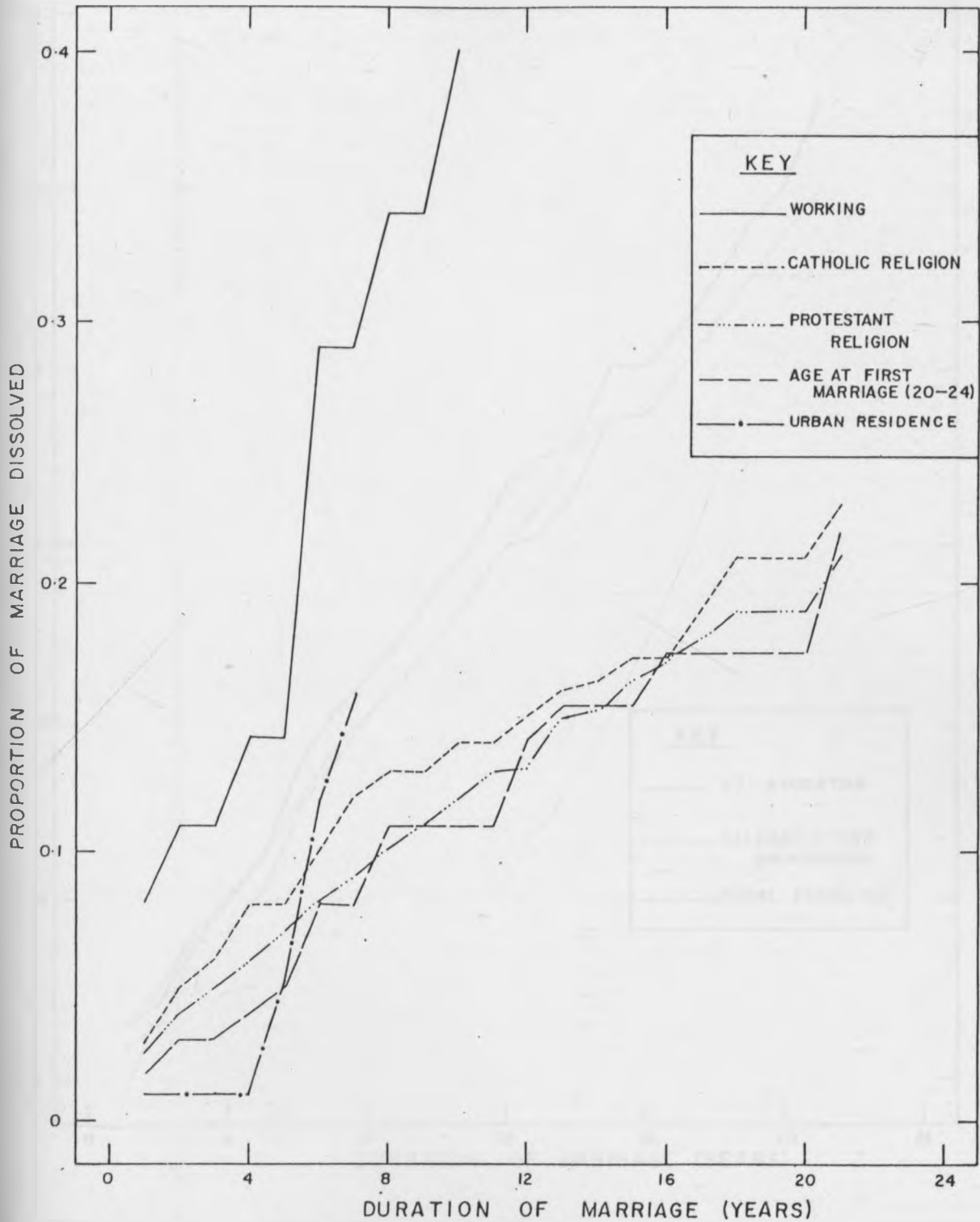
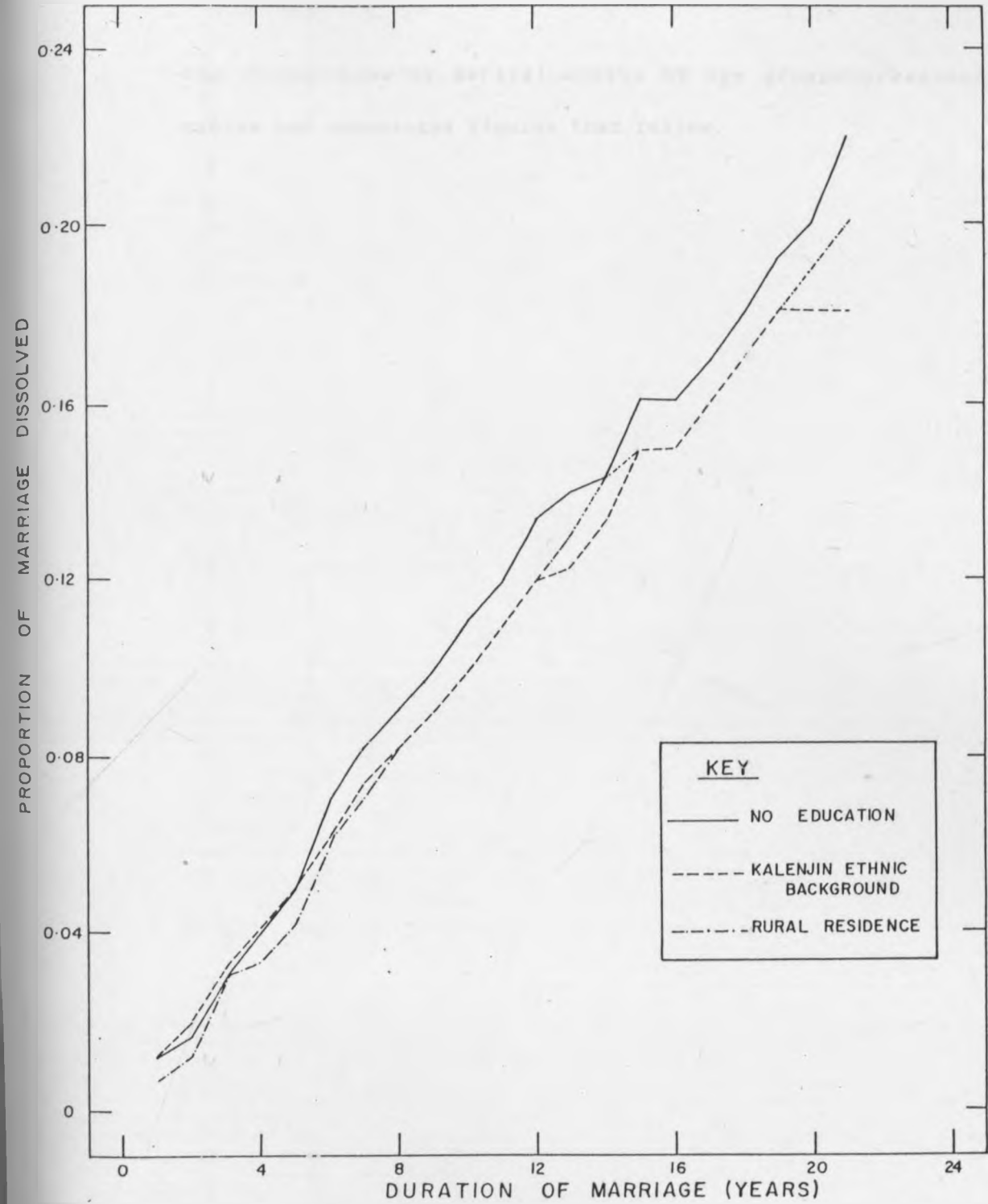


Fig. 17: CUMMULATIVE PROPORTION OF FIRST MARRIAGES DISSOLVED BY DURATION OF UNION BY DIFFERENTIALS—RIFT VALLEY.



the proportions by marital status by age groups presented in the tables and associated figures that follow.

Tables 65,66. PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF ALL-WOMEN ACCORDING TO MARITAL STATUS BY AGE AND REGIONS

NATIONAL	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49
NEVER MARRIED	72.8	22.6	5.3	1.6	0.9	0.8	0.3
CURRENTLY MARRIED	24.8	68.4	80.5	82.2	81.6	78.9	72.3
WIDOWED	0.2	0.7	1.9	3.5	5.9	10.6	14.1
DIVORCE & SEPARATED	2.1	8.4	12.3	12.6	11.6	9.7	13.3
-----							
NAIROBI							
-----							
NEVER MARRIED	67.1	33.0	12.7	8.1	4.1	4.2	0.0
CURRENTLY MARRIED	32.4	60.4	71.1	78.4	73.5	87.5	52.4
WIDOWED	0.0	0.5	0.7	6.8	2.0	4.2	28.6
DIVORCED & SEPARATED	0.6	6.2	15.4	6.8	20.4	4.2	19.6

Source: Computed from 1977/78 K.F.S Survey.

Tables 67 & 68. PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF ALL-WOMEN ACCORDING TO MARITAL STATUS BY AGE AND REGIONS

EASTERN	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49
NEVER MARRIED	88.3	32.5	6.8	0.6	1.1	0.0	0.0
CURRENTLY MARRIED	9.9	57.9	79.7	78.8	80.1	73.1	68.4
WIDOWED	0.3	0.5	0.8	2.5	5.5	11.8	14.0
DIVORCE & SEPARATED	1.5	9.1	9.1	18.1	13.2	15.1	17.7
-----							
COAST							
-----							
NEVER MARRIED	48.3	11.3	3.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CURRENTLY MARRIED	41.5	72.6	71.9	73.0	73.3	62.0	55.6
WIDOWED	0.8	0.8	3.4	6.3	5.3	16.0	11.1
DIVORCED & SEPARATED	9.3	15.4	21.2	20.6	21.4	22.0	33.3

Source: Computed from 1977/78 K.F.S Survey.

Tables 69 & 70 PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF ALL-WOMEN ACCORDING TO MARITAL STATUS BY AGE AND REGIONS

CENTRAL	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49
NEVER MARRIED	87.1	33.3	6.9	0.6	0.7	1.8	2.0
CURRENTLY MARRIED	11.9	59.8	82.1	85.4	84.8	80.4	76.5
WIDOWED	0.0	0.0	1.4	2.3	6.9	9.8	15.7
DIVORCE & SEPARATED	1.0	6.9	9.7	11.7	7.6	9.1	5.9
WESTERN							
NEVER MARRIED	70.6	9.8	1.1	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0
CURRENTLY MARRIED	27.8	74.9	77.4	77.0	79.1	81.0	59.5
WIDOWED	0.0	1.1	1.6	3.2	9.9	9.5	18.9
DIVORCED & SEPARATED	1.6	14.2	19.9	19.9	9.9	9.5	21.6

Source: Computed from 1977/78 K.F.S Survey.

Tables 71 & 72. PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF ALL-WOMEN ACCORDING TO  
MARITAL STATUS BY AGE AND REGIONS

NYANZA	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49
NEVER MARRIED	63.5	15.2	1.9	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
CURRENTLY MARRIED	34.2	76.3	84.2	85.4	86.5	83.3	83.7
WIDOWED	0.3	0.4	4.5	4.0	5.5	12.7	11.1
DIVORCE & SEPARATED	2.0	8.1	9.5	10.0	8.0	4.0	5.2
RIFT							
NEVER MARRIED	70.1	20.5	6.2	2.6	1.4	1.9	0.0
CURRENTLY MARRIED	27.1	74.4	86.6	87.9	82.4	81.7	78.7
WIDOWED	0.3	1.4	1.0	3.2	4.7	6.7	11.2
DIVORCED & SEPARATED	2.4	3.7	6.2	6.3	11.5	9.6	10.1

Source: Computed from 1977/78 K.F.S Survey



Fig. 18: PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO WHETHER CURRENTLY MARRIED OR WIDOWED, DIVORCED OR SEPARATED, BY AGE GROUP—NATIONALLY

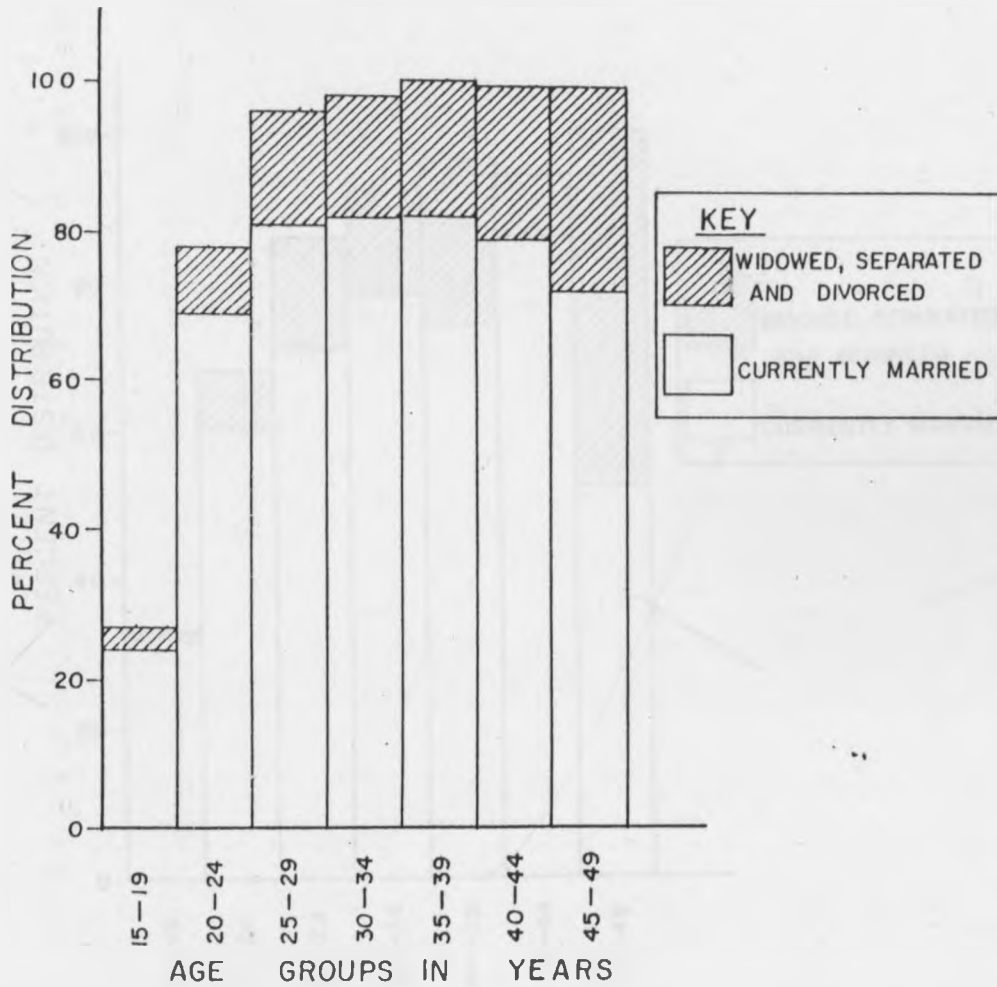


Fig. 19: PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO WHETHER CURRENTLY MARRIED OR WIDOWED, DIVORCED OR SEPARATED, BY AGE GROUP—NAIROBI

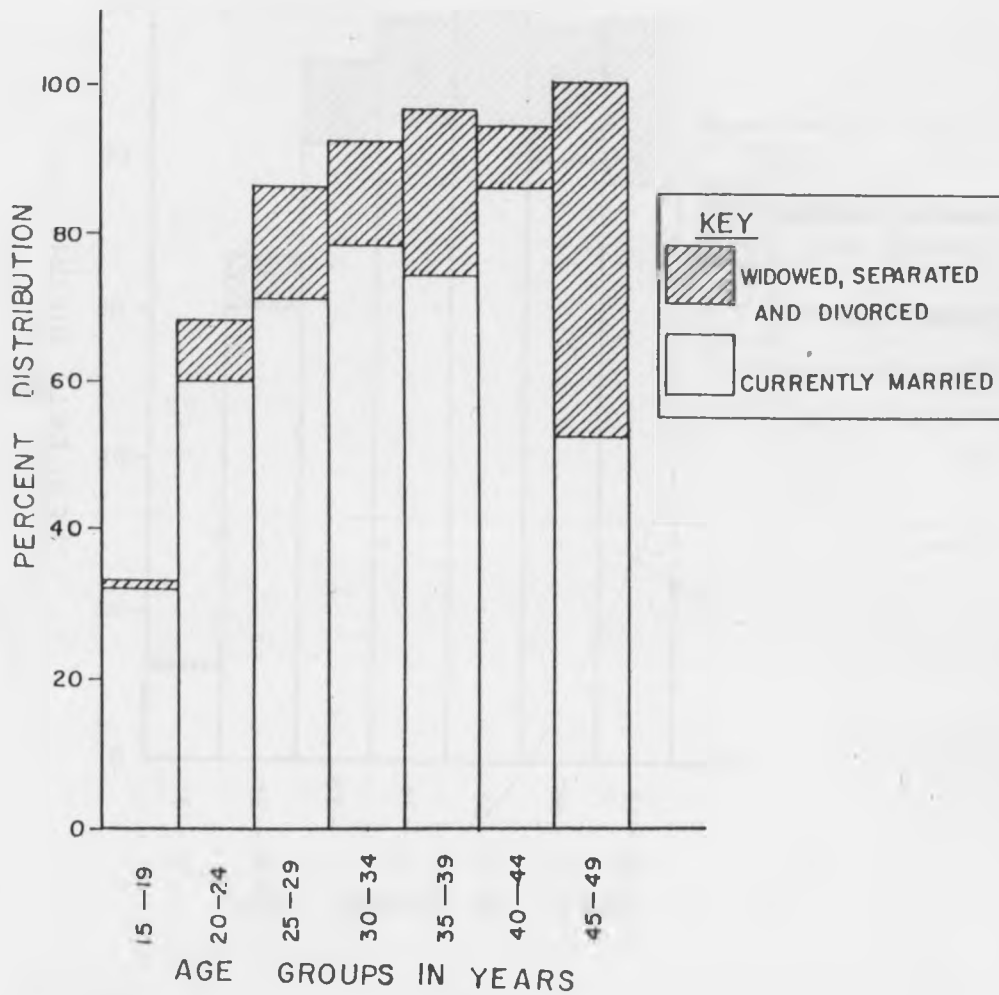


Fig. 20: PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO WHETHER CURRENTLY MARRIED OR WIDOWED, DIVORCED OR SEPARATED, BY AGE GROUP—CENTRAL.

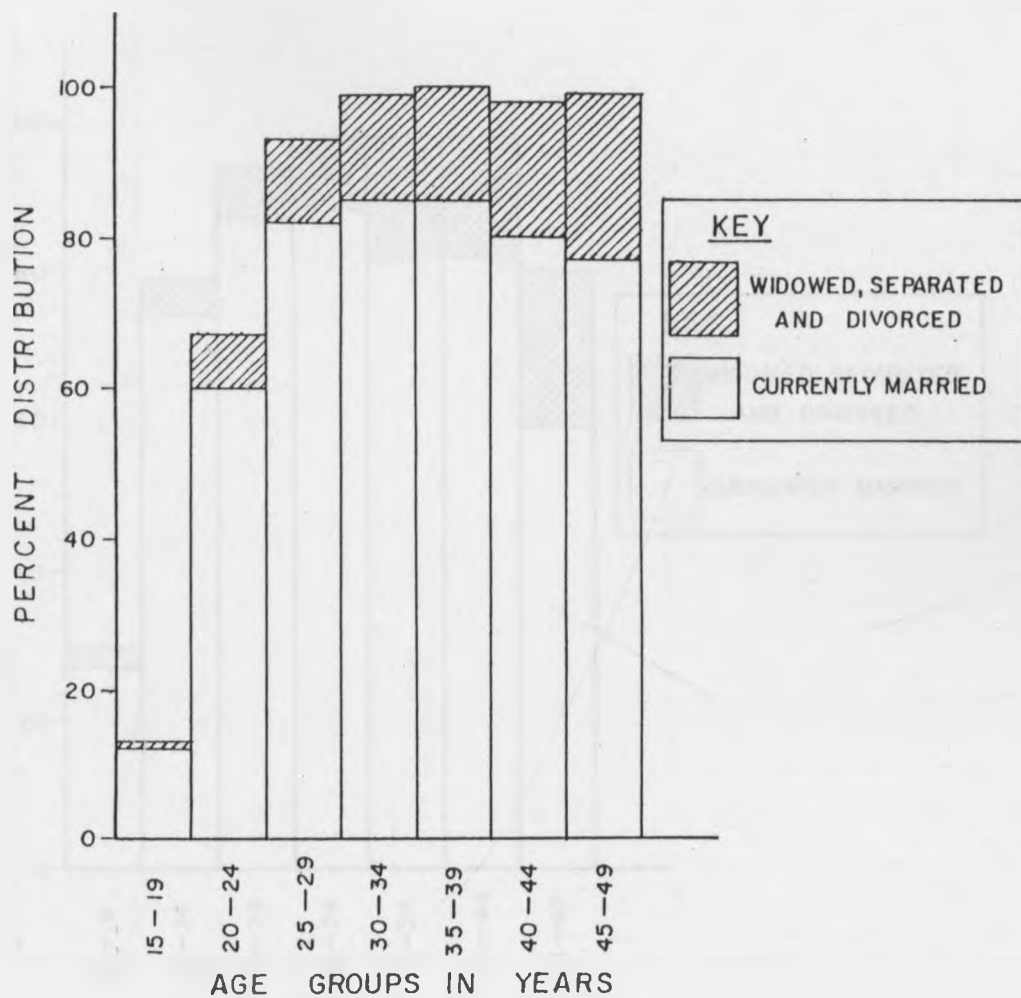


Fig. 21: PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO WHETHER CURRENTLY MARRIED OR WIDOWED, DIVORCED OR SEPARATED, BY AGE GROUP—RIFT VALLEY

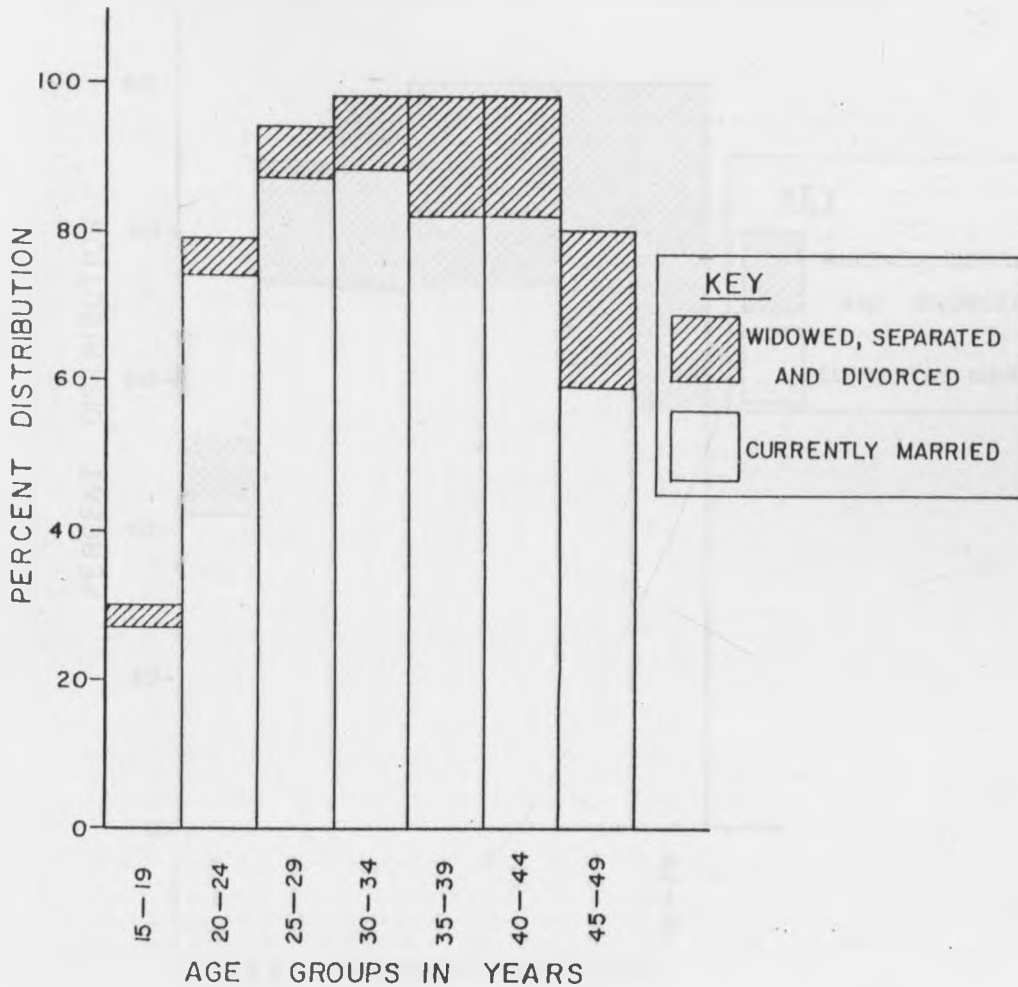


Fig.22: PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO WHETHER CURRENTLY MARRIED OR WIDOWED, DIVORCED OR SEPARATED, BY AGE GROUP - COAST .

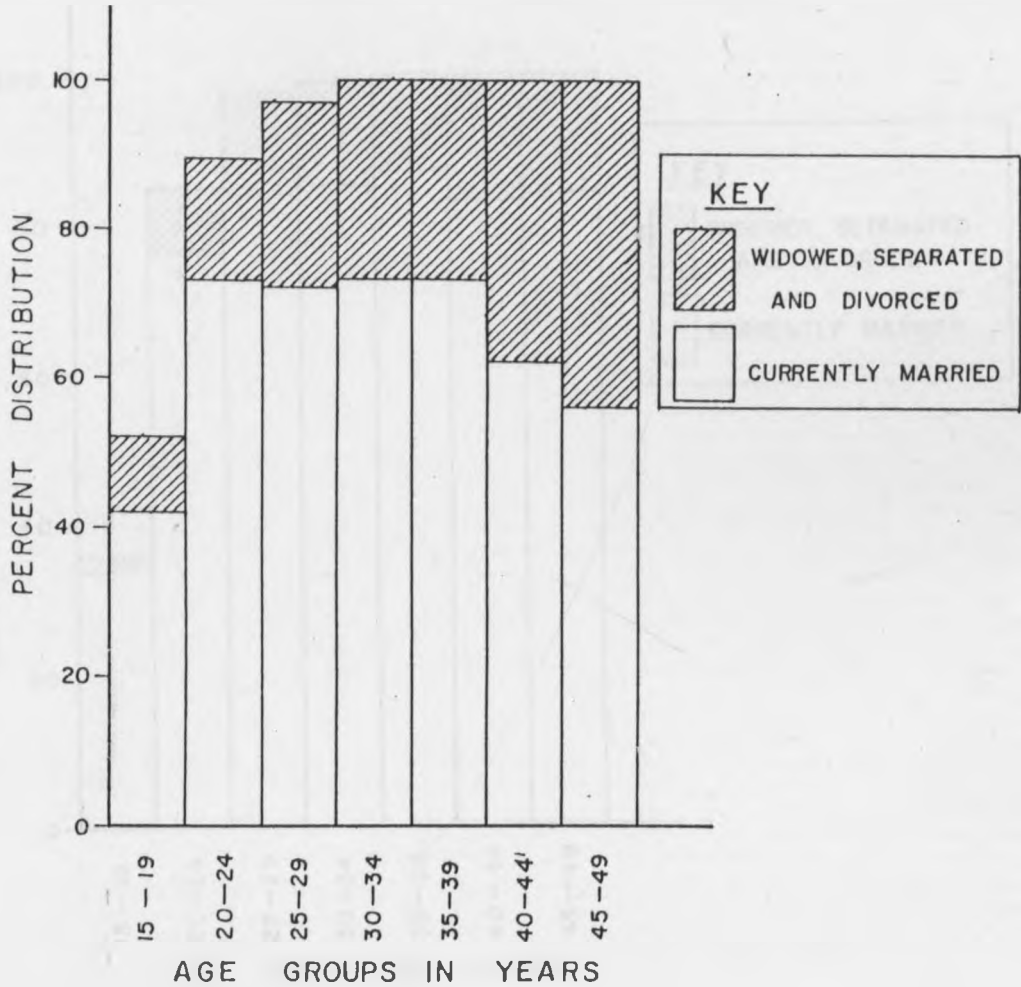


Fig. 23: PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO WHETHER CURRENTLY MARRIED OR WIDOWED, DIVORCED OR SEPARATED, BY AGE GROUP-NYANZA

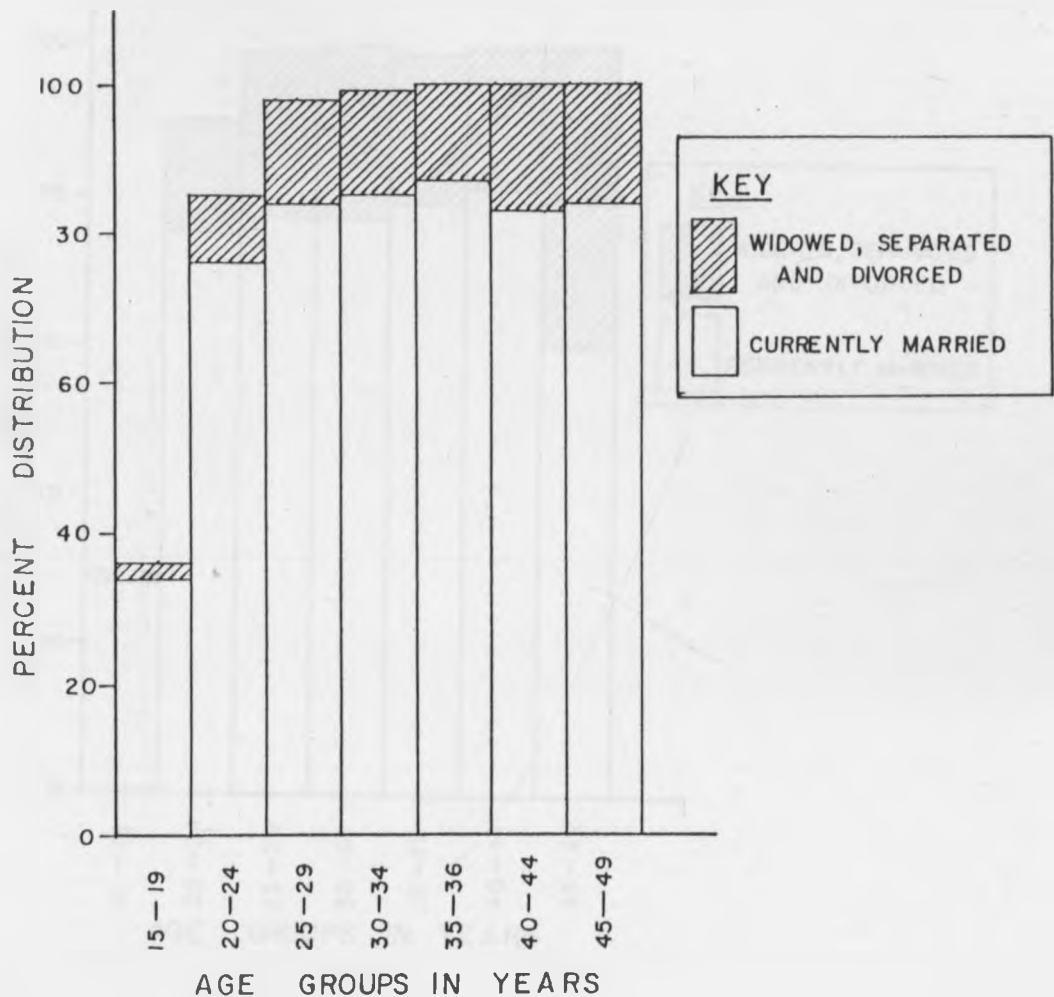


Fig. 24: PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO WHETHER CURRENTLY MARRIED OR WIDOWED, DIVORCED OR SEPARATED, BY AGE GROUP — WESTERN

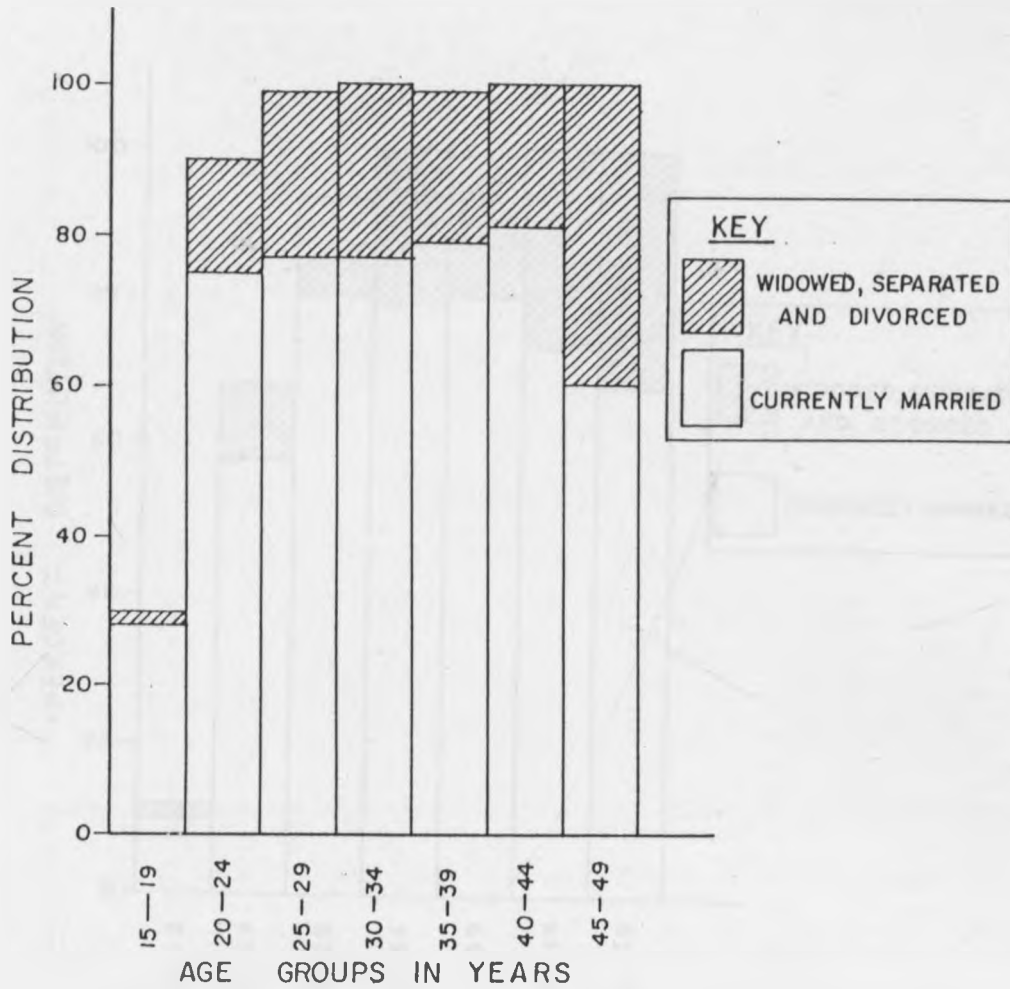
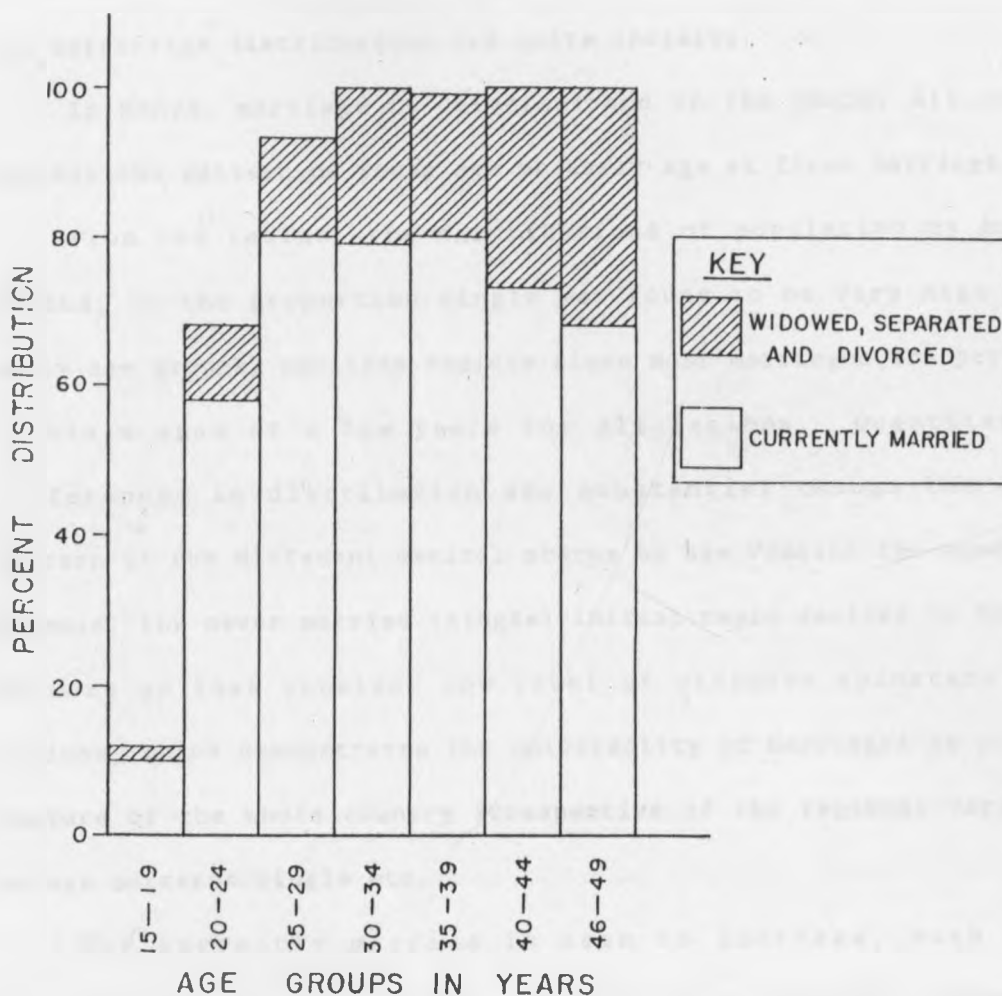


Fig. 25: PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF EVER-MARRIED WOMEN ACCORDING TO WHETHER CURRENTLY MARRIED OR WIDOWED, DIVORCED OR SEPARATED, BY AGE GROUP—EASTERN





#### 4.9 DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

A study of the above tables and the related figures highlights the inter-regional variations in the marital statuses. Differences in the percentage distributions are quite incisive.

In Kenya, marriage is universal and on the whole, all cohorts exhibit the pattern of young age or early age at first marriage.

From the tables, the distributions of population by marital status, of the proportion single was found to be very high in the early age groups, declines rapidly since most marriages are performed within a span of a few years for all regions. Quantitatively, differences in distribution are substantial though the general pattern of the different marital status by age remains the same. For example, the never married (single) initial rapid decline is followed by more or less constant low level of ultimate spinsters in all regions, which demonstrates the universality of marriages as a common feature of the whole country irrespective of the regional variations in age patterns single etc.

The currently married is seen to increase, with a high proportion or percent falling between ages 25-39, although the increase tends to decrease, but not drastically at later years.

Widowhood, divorce or separation cases increases, as the age increases, with initial low proportions in dissolved unions, and increases although not rapidly. Comparatively the proportion of marriages dissolved through divorce or separation seems to be higher than the proportion dissolved through widowhood in the younger age groups 15-29, but from ages 35+ widowhood becomes the major cause of dissolution of marriage. The above findings therefore gives us the

general picture, nationally.

#### 4.9.1 NEVER MARRIED OR SINGLE GROUPS

Regionally, the never married cases (single) is relatively high at very early ages (15-19), declines rapidly since most marriages are performed within a span of a few years. But the differences as per region are quite significant.

For example, at age group 15-19, the proportions single is very high in Eastern province (88%) Central (87%); Western (70%) and Rift Valley (70%). Moderately high levels of single females was realised in Nairobi (67%); Nyanza (63%) with Coast having the least proportions single (48%). But these proportions declines rapidly except for Nairobi and Central provinces where at age group 20-24 (cf other regions), there exists relatively high proportions single, (33%) respectively.

Thus, from the above findings early or young age at first marriages can be derived. For example, in coast province by age 30 there is no proportion single or very few if any. Other regions also depict or point towards that direction, although they are not as conspicuous as for the region mentioned above.

#### 4.9.2 CURRENTLY MARRIED OR EVER-MARRIED

For the currently married cases there is generally low level or percent married in the earlier age groups. But marriages seems to occur mostly from age 20. Out of the seven regions (provinces) considered coast province shows the highest proportion married at age group 15-19 (41%). This is followed by Nyanza in the same age group. Thus confirms further the fact about early age at marriage in the coast province. Although Nairobi seem to posses such character-

istics, this may be due to high prevalence of adolescent pregnancy (fertility) hence the victims tend to runaway from their parents and eventually elopes. Other factors could due to the in-migration of young couples.

The proportions married decreases with the increase in age with Coast (56%) and Nairobi (52%) having the lowest percentages by age group 45-49. This could be due to urban influence and other related aspects of marital dissolutions. For example, coast is seen to have the highest divorce or separation cases (33%) whereas Nairobi leads in widowhood (29%) - may be due to in-migration of widows to look for ways of earning a living and also those who are widowed in urban centres (Nairobi for example) when they go back to their rural homes they are socially segregated hence return to these centre for survival. So, this may be the case for high number of the proportions widowed in Nairobi.

#### 4.9.3 WIDOWHOOD

Widowhood was found to be highest in Nairobi (29%) at age group 45-49 but very low at age group 15-19. This could be due to the fact that those who are widowed come to Nairobi to look for sustenance. So the need for supporting activity attract the widowed lot from the rural areas to the urban centres, Nairobi being the largest in Kenya. But one should not assume the affect of industrialization as a cause of widowhood in Nairobi. This therefore coupled with high rates of divorce or separation - associated with urban influence attests to the high dissolution of marriages in Nairobi. But Western province is also found to have high percent of widowed cases. This could be because of socio - cultural and environmental conditions of the

region. But this needs further consideration and research, because comparatively its neighbouring region - Nyanza - which is also in more or less similar ecological zone seems not to have as high proportion widowed as is Western. In Central and Eastern, relatively similar proportions widowed was realised, 16% and 14% respectively. But in younger age groups (15-24) the proportion widowed in Eastern is higher than that of Central. This could be due to proper health care in Central province as opposed to Eastern province at those ages.

Also, one can rightfully conclude that these proportions widowed in different regions differs with different ages at first marriage. For example, the highest proportion widowed at age group 15-19 was found in the coast province (effect of early age at first birth due to young age at first marriage). But this doesn't seem to affect Nairobi, may be due to proper medical care. Widowhood cases in Central province was found to be very low in the age groups 15-19 but rose rapidly as age increased. This may be due to socio-cultural and economic factors operating in Central province.

But low proportion widowed at age group 15-19 in Western province could be due to low rates of marriages at this age group. Thus at age group 15-19, Nyanza, Eastern and Rift Valley posses moderately low percent widowed, with Nairobi, Central and Western having the lowest percentages, with the highest proportions found in coast province.

#### 4.9.4 DIVORCE OR SEPARATION

Divorce or separation was found to be highest in coast province at age groups 15-19 and 45-49. This could be attributed to both socio-cultural factors (early age at first marriage and Islam religious belief) and to some extent urbanism. This is closely followed by Nairobi at age group 45 - 49, may be due to population migration to the urban areas hence urban stress and to some extent the high risks due to the urban economic activities. Other regions that have high proportions of divorced or separated cases are Western and Eastern. With the relatively low proportions found in Rift Valley, Nyanza and Central with varying proportions at varying age groups.

#### 4.9.5 SUMMARY

In this chapter life table analysis of marriage dissolution has been carried. Dissolution tables have been constructed for the whole country and the regions (Tables presented. For the construction of the dissolution tables, number of marriages dissolved (widowed, divorced, separated) during the year by cause of dissolution per 1000 marriages existing at the beginning of the year of duration has been used. Thus the dissolution probabilities have been estimated and the related proportion of marriages dissolved.

Rates by different background variables have been analysed with each differential showing different rates at different levels. This has therefore helped in further explanations of the regional rates by differentials. From these rates, regional dissolutions have been found to differ not very much although one can still determine which region has high dissolution rates and why it is so.

For example, high rates of dissolution were found in the coast whereas Rift Valley has the lowest dissolution rate. Thus the dissolution probabilities and the related rates in this chapter have helped in the knowledge of a regional spatial dissolution.

Other studies which have been undertaken in this chapter deal with variations and patterns in nuptiality. The basic data used are the proportions by marital status in five-year age groups at the National and Regional levels. The index used is proportions percent by marital status by age groups, although mean age at marriage was also derived.

From the figures, widowhood has been found to be highest in Nairobi and lowest in Coast, Nyanza and Rift Valley at age groups (45-49). This shows areas with high age at first marriage and low age at first marriage respectively. But it is interesting to note that, although Nairobi has high age at first marriage it also experiences high divorce or separation rates. This may be due to urban influences. But the highest proportions divorced or separated are found in the coast followed by western in older age groups, with central and Nyanza having the lowest in the same age groups.

But, a distinctive feature of the Kenyan data is that, at older age groups (40-49) widowhood and divorce or separation proportions are generally not different. Whereas, in the early age groups, the differences are very significant. This is seen even when regional figures are taken into account.

Thus, socio-economic, environmental and demographic factors may explain, more correctly the Inter-Regional variations in Kenyan nuptiality and more specifically dissolution patterns.

## CHAPTER 5

### 5.0 REGRESSION ANALYSIS

#### 5.1 INTRODUCTION

An examination of Inter-Regional variations in dissolution of marriage and the related patterns have been undertaken in chapter 4.

Much attention has been paid by demographers to explain the variations in fertility in terms of various socio-economic, environmental and demographic components. One of the important determinants of fertility is nuptiality. The status of marriage (widowhood, divorce or separation) and the extent to which couples are involved in them have been and still have an important bearing on the population structure of a country, for example.

Dissolution of marriage depends on age; age at first marriage; duration of marriage; fertility levels; education; religion; place of residence; premarital births and sex, age at first births e.t.c as has been indicated in the literature review. Thus its notable that the part played by these variables on dissolution patterns in Kenya may be quite different in type and magnitude ever space (regions). So, the formulation of an appropriate statistical model showing the effect of particular variable on dissolution is indeed a worthy study to be undertaken. Opposite forces are often at work and the isolation of the effect of a particular variable on nuptiality is extremely difficult.

To construct an appropriate framework a number of variables have been examined. After a critical study of several variables, a set of six variables assumed to represent some broad measures of socio-economic, environmental and demographic situation has finally been

taken for the study - arrived at through or by using stepwise selection procedure or estimation.

This framework has been used here to analyse inter-Regional variation in marriage dissolution patterns in Kenya in terms of socio-economic, environmental and demographic components using a multivariate approach and the findings presented.

A detailed list of the variables considered for the analysis of this chapter has been presented in the next section. A number of hypotheses were proposed about the effect of different socio-economic, environmental and demographic variables on marriage dissolution patterns of the population under study.

## 5.2 VARIABLES USED IN THE MODEL

Independent variables (  $x_i$  )

- (i) Education levels
- (ii) Religion
- (iii) Place of Residence
- (iv) Pattern of work
- (v) Ethnicity
- (vi) Age at first marriage

Note: The values of the variables are life table probabilities by Regional differentials.

Dependent variable ( $P_i$ )

(i) Regional duration - specific - marital dissolution dependent probability.

N/B. The indicator of nuptiality seems to be useful for a correct appraisal of marital dissolution patterns of the population although other common summary measures of marital dissolution also exists e.g.



Median duration of dissolution, etc.

The formulation of the hypotheses stated earlier regarding the impact of different factors on marriage dissolution rate proposed, is discussed using multiple regression analysis results to explain variations in the regional patterns.

The dissolution rates for different regions and by differentials and the patterns for different regions and by differentials have been discussed earlier in chapter 4. In general, different regions show more or less similar patterns but with graphs of varying gradients portrayed by the line graphs. This, therefore, shows the relative risks; whether high or low in one region or the other.

But, in our model prediction seems to be more important, and thus regression analysis technique seems to be justified.

It is important therefore to note that, under the usual regression assumptions, the linear regression model (equations) and results obtained using the ordinary least squares estimation procedure are:

(i)  $t$  - values obtained by taking the ratio of any regression coefficient to its estimated standard error, and for each equation, the square of multiple correlation coefficient ( $R^2$ ) and the adjusted ( $R^2$ ) and the standard error of the estimate (S.E.E) are given.

(ii) To test for the general goodness of fit,  $F$  - values are also given.

The model consisting of equations and results provides a statistically satisfactory socio-economic environmental and demographic explanation of Regional (or inter-Regional) variations in marriage dissolution levels in Kenya.

The results of the multiple-Regression analysis have therefore

been represented in the subsequent pages.

### 5.3 DETERMINANTS OF REGIONAL PATTERNS

The variations of marital dissolution in Kenya is a function of varied factors. These factors have been found to play very important role in the study of marital dissolution (refer to Literature review). When looked at from the value of coefficient of determination (adjusted  $R^2$ ) as much as 88% of the variation in dissolution in Kenya is explained by the criterion (duration-specific-dissolution probabilities). The overall goodness of fit indicated by F- test is significant for the indicator of dissolution (F calculated 22.22, F critical 2.83), with the regional coefficients of determination as brought out by the selected predictors ranging from ( $R^2$ , adjusted) 84% to 99%.

striking. As much as 95% ( $R^2$  adjusted) of dissolution in Kenya can be explained by four socio-economic, environmental and demographic variables. The overall goodness of fit indicated significant results.

Regarding the role of individual socio-economic, environmental and demographic variables, at the National level, the best predictors of marriage dissolution include, ethnicity, education levels, place of residence and Age at first marriage, with the pattern of work showing no relationship. That is, when stepwise selection procedure was conducted to determine which of the variables are important predictors of dissolution, pattern of work didn't appear as one of the important variables in the final model.

Furthermore, when the variables which were estimated were further analysed to determine the level of significance, rural place of

residence, Mijikenda ethnic background and the secondary level of education were found to be positively correlated to marital dissolution. Age at first marriage (15-19) was found to be significant but negatively correlated to dissolution, with the urban influence less significant.

Table 73. RESULTS OF REGRESSION ANALYSIS IN THE MODEL AT NATIONAL LEVEL

PREDICTORS	R <sup>2</sup>	Adj R <sup>2</sup>	F. value d. f	S.E.E
ETHNICITY (MIJI) (4.5908)				
EDUCATION (Sec) (2.2714)				
RESIDENCE (RURAL) (5.58.3)	0.96	0.95	69.13 5,15	1.56782E <sup>-3</sup>
RESIDENCE (URBAN) (1.6399)				
AGE AT MARRIAGE 15-19				

Note: The figures in bracket are t-values tested at 95% confidence level.

Thus a model consisting of regional equations provides statistically satisfactory socio-economic, environmental and demographic explanation of the inter-regional comparisons of marital dissolution patterns in Kenya.

5.3.1 REGIONAL RESULTS

The results of the analyses are very illuminating when the regional coefficients of determination ( $R^2$ ) are considered. But from them no major variations and conclusions can be depicted, as those values gives the aggregate performance of the variables indicated and not how each variable determines the phenomena and where.

Tables 74,75. RESULTS OF REGRESSION ANALYSIS IN THE MODELS (REGIONAL RESULTS)

	PREDICTORS	$R^2$	Adj $R^2$	F.value & d.f	S.E.E
RIFT	No-education (4.890) Ethnicity KALENJIN ( 2.1639)  Rural Residence (4.5036)	0.887	0.867	44.701 3,17	1.6131E <sup>-3</sup>
NYANZA	Working (0.6304) Catholic - Relgion (21.1080)  Protestant - Religion (14.2532) Age at marriage 20-24 (0.7586)	0.992	0.989	493.182 4,16	6.7786E <sup>-4</sup>

Note: The figures in parenthesis are t-values tested at 95% confidence level.

Tables 76,77,78

	PREDICTORS	R <sup>2</sup>	Adj R <sup>2</sup>	F. value & d. f	S. E. E
EASTERN	Kamba-ethni- city (18.7692) Meru-Embu ethnicity ( 2.1639) Age at marriage 20-24 (-0.1916)	0.987	0.985	452.114 3,17	1.97137E <sup>-3</sup>
NAIROBI	Age at Marriage(<15) Protestant - Religion (6.9761) Education- Primary (2.4066)	0.864	0.840	36.0392 3,17	6.89361E <sup>-3</sup>
WESTERN	Protestant- Religion (8.7389) No-education (3.0263) Age at Marriage 15-19 (2.0690)	0.962	0.955	143.840 3,17	2.86009E <sup>-3</sup>

Tables 79,80

	PREDICTORS	R <sup>2</sup>	Adj R <sup>2</sup>	F. value & d. f	S. E. E
CENTRAL	Rural Residence (4.1810) Not working (5.5523) Urban - Residence -0.9980 Religion - catholic (4.3800)	0.961	0.751	96.67 4,16	1.78665E <sup>-3</sup>
COAST	Education (Sec) (1.5915) Ethnicity (miji) (5.8113) Age at marriage(<15) (-1.4513) Religion - Protestanism (1.2639)	0.8778	0.8598	31.6779 4,16	6.7994E <sup>-3</sup>

The results of the analysis shows very high coefficients of determination ranging from 84% - 99% (adjusted R<sup>2</sup>). This therefore shows how powerful the selected predictors are, as explanatory variables of marital dissolution. From the above tables one can also see the coefficients of determination of each and every region.

Regions, seems to posses different though comparable predictors of marital dissolution. In the Rift valley, no- education and rural place of residence was found to be best predictors of marital dissolution. However ethnicity (Kalenjin background) was found to be

negatively though significantly correlated to dissolution of marriage. This shows therefore that marital dissolution is a function of education levels and places of residence though controlled by the ethnic background, that is, the socio-cultural aspect of life.

Age at marriage (<15 yrs), religion (protestanism) and education (primary) was found to play a major role in marital dissolution in Nairobi. This younger age at marriage was found to be the best predictor of marital dissolution in Nairobi. This is followed by the effect of religion (protestanism) and lastly education levels (primary). All these factors were thus found to be positively significant determinants of dissolution patterns of Nairobi.

For Western Province, individual predictors of dissolution were found to be religion (protestanism), no- education and age at marriage (15-19). But religion proved to be the best variable, accounting for about two thirds of the dissolution patterns in the region. All these factors were found to be positive and significantly correlated with marital dissolution in this region.

Unlike other regions in Coast Province one variable seemed to dominate. This was confirmed by performing several regression equation with different sets of variables and combinations. The best individual predictor was found to be ethnic background of the Mijikenda, with other variables such as age at marriage and Muslim religion significant when ethnicity is controlled. Other factors such as religion (protestanism), education (secondary) are performing a positive but less or insignificant role in dissolution. Age at first marriage (<15) was found to be negative and not significantly correlated to marital disruption.

Note: These factors such as age at marriage (<15), Moslem- religion was found to be highly correlated to ethnicity, hence was dropped from the model.

In Central province, those who do not work were found to be positively and significantly correlated to marital dissolution. Other positively significant predictors of dissolution were found to be rural place of residence and Catholic Religion. But urban place of residence turned out to be not significant and negatively correlated to dissolution.

In Nyanza the effect of religion showed most prominently. Here Catholicism and Protestantism were the best predictors of dissolution, with highly positive and significant correlation to dissolution. Other factors such as work and age at first marriage (20-24) were found to be positive but insignificantly correlated to marital dissolution.

In eastern province unlike other areas, ethnicity (Kamba and Meru-Embu groups) turned out to be the best predictors of dissolution. These two groups were found to be very highly significant and positively correlated to dissolution. But other factors such as age at first marriage (20-24) was found to be negatively and insignificantly correlated to marital dissolution.

#### 5.4 DISCUSSION

The result of the analysis in this chapter throw some light on the possible behaviours of several socio-economic, environmental and demographic variables on marital dissolution in the regions of Kenya.

The present analysis reveals that: (i) Marital dissolution can



economic, environmental and demographic variables, such as ethnicity, age at first marriage, place of residence, education levels, pattern of work and religion.

(ii) Duration-specific-marital dissolution dependent risks (or probabilities) seems to be good predictor(s) type, of marital behaviour.

This research on the correlates of marriage dissolution in Kenya has shown that certain factors have strong relationship to the probability of dissolution. Analysing data from the dissolution statistics, it was found that, ethnic background, rural-urban place of residence, education levels, age at marriage, and pattern of work contributes significantly to marital dissolution.

The effect of ethnicity as a major factor in coast province could be offered several explanations. First the effect of Muslim religion and its liberalism towards marriage laws offers great relief to those who intends to stop their marriages. It is therefore important to note that, the majority of the coastal inhabitants are Muslims. Another factor related to ethnicity is age at first marriage. The ethnic Mijikendas which are the major tribe in this region and also generally all the coastal tribes enter into marriage at very early ages. So this coupled with the issue of marrying off girls when they are still young by the parents (child-betrothal) make the marriage very unstable. Thus the unpreparedness, which the couple or one of the couple enters with into marriage lends credence to marital instability. Other reasons for marital dissolution here could be the associated risks related to early child bearing, that is, young age at first birth sometimes leads to deaths of the mother.

relationship to marital dissolution is assumed to work through the socio-cultural characteristics of the society. Hence it can be associated with the ethnic behaviours. Thus independently, it seems unimportant factor in influencing marital dissolution in this region. It is also important to note here that, due to early age at marriage, automatically, there is low level of education. But unlike other regions its not significant to marital dissolution. But marriages, involving those with higher education finds it difficult to cope with the cultural or customary views attached to marriages such as, being married off (betrothal) or marrying anybody so long as the parents have approved of it. Other reasons for marital dissolution include, the issue of co-wives which is acceptable in the Muslim society particularly when it involves reasonably educated women. Others includes infertility which leads to childlessness.

In central province, the pattern of work (not-working) seems to contribute more than the rest of the factors in influencing marital dissolution. Regionally, this area is mostly affected by urbanization, Nairobi being the most important. Thus one finds that employment seems to be very necessary, with the expectation that, each and every individual whether woman or man is expected to provide for the family. Thus women who are married and are not working finds life very hectic, as they are normally frustrated by their husbands or normally general animosity creeps into the family. This eventually leads to divorce or separation. But other reasons for dissolution of marriages here include the breakdown in socio-cultural (customary norms and taboos) beliefs of the society.

has been found in the Rift valley. This could be because of the relatively low interference with the societal norms. Most of the people living in the Rift valley, Kalenjins for example, still value their customs and taboos. Thus, this means that institutions such as marriage is still highly protected and respected to the chagrin of the society. Hence this means that most of the marriage dissolutions are due to widowhood. The majority of Rift valley residents, being rural and with low level of education, are gravely attached to the socio-cultural ways of life. This strong attachment or belief into the traditional ways of life thus explains the low level of separation or divorce. Also, Rift valley, being less urbanised explains further the reasons for low marital dissolution, more specifically, separation or divorce.

Religious beliefs seems to play a very significant part in marital dissolution in Nyanza. This could be due to religious contradictions which has come as a result of religiosity - a common feature of the people of Nyanza. This has greatly affected the traditional setting of the region. Coupled with high level of literacy, the marriage bonds reflected from the socio-cultural norms of the society is thus loosened hence leads to marital breakdowns, majorly through separation or divorce. But one cannot also overlook the influences of migration and environmental hazards on marriages and marriage institutions. The effect of diseases which may lead to death such as malaria, cholera e.t.c and long separations as a result of labour migration e.t.c influence marital dissolutions, either through divorce or separation or widowhood. The influence of religion on marital dissolution is dependent on socio-cultural, environ-

mental and economic factors, which generally leads to divorce or separation or widowhood in this region.

In Eastern province studies have indicated the influence of socio-cultural and environmental factors on marital dissolution (Penwill, 1957; Mbula 1977). This is also realised in this study, where, ethnicity (majorly the Kamba and the Meru-Embu way of life) is found to be positively significant to marital dissolution. Thus the unfaithfulness of the Kamba women could be said to influence their marriage state. Whereas for the Meru-Embu society, the effect could be due to the socio-cultural regards about women whereby they are expected to subordinate and be totally submissive. The coastal region influence can also be said to influence this regions socio-cultural and other related factors.

The effect of age at marriage (<15 yrs) has been found to be paramount in influencing marital dissolution in Nairobi. This could be due to the fact that young couples at marriage are easily swayed away by the urban (influences) way of life. It has also been found that early age at marriage means, low education attainment as couples enter into marriage before they go far with education. This, therefore means that, these people (couple) cannot get or have gainful employment and even if they get, upward mobility may be impossible due to low educational qualification. Hence with the expected heavy marital responsibility and high standard of living in town, the chances that such marriages will dissolve becomes very high. Thus, the effect of young age at marriage, on marital dissolution in Nairobi is underlined with other socio-cultural and economic factors - which raises the chances of marital dissolution. Other reasons for

dissolution include the general urban influence and the religious, educational and environmental factors. But for widowhood in Nairobi, apart from being an in-migration problem from the rural areas and deaths within the region, it can also be associated with urban risks. Thus, factors such as low level of education (primary and below) with the expected low gains and the challenges of urban environment eventually constraints the couples hence leading to marital dissolution.

Lastly, the present analysis reveals that marital dissolution pattern in Western Province can be predicted by variables such as religion (protestanism), no-education, and age at first marriage (15-19). No-education and environmental risks in western province, chances of widowhood (Adult mortality) becomes very high (Ayiemba, 1983). Other reasons could be due to the relative liberal Protestant beliefs on divorce or separation and the spatial mobility associated with Western Province border districts such as Bungoma (Ayiemba, 1983). Thus these socio-cultural and environmental aspects therefore, leads to relatively high marital dissolution in the region.

## 5.5 SUMMARY

Marriage - duration - specific dissolution probabilities show variations from region to region. Thus, the question that one may ask is which socio-economic, environmental and demographic variables influence the inter- regional dissolution patterns.

For analysis of the data, the technique of multiple regression was used for each and every region. Eight regression models were carried out with a set of six socio- economic, environmental and

demographic variables considered at different levels.

Different regions were found to have different factors determining dissolution patterns, although some variables compared favorably over the regions. The combined effects of these variables can be seen in the coefficient of determination with the highest found in Eastern and Nyanza provinces and the lowest found in Nairobi, 99% and 84% respectively.

In general, ethnicity, education and place of residence were found to be good predictors of marital dissolution with age at marriage negatively but significantly correlated to dissolution. In the Rift valley, no-education, and rural place of residence were found to positively and significantly correlated to dissolution, with ethnicity (Kalenjin way of life) negative but significantly correlated to marital dissolution. For Nyanza, pattern of work (working) and Age at marriage (20-24) were found to be positive but not significantly correlated to dissolution. In Eastern Province, ethnicity (Kamba and Meru-Embu way of life) were found to be positive and significantly correlated to dissolution, whereas age at marriage (20-24) showed a negative and insignificant correlation to dissolution. Nairobi was found to have Age at marriage (<15), Protestant religion and primary level education as positive and significantly correlated to dissolution. In Western Province, religion (protestanism), no-education and Age at marriage (15-19) was found to be positive and highly significant to dissolution, whereas in Central Province, rural place of residence, pattern of work (not working) and catholic religion were found to be positive and significantly correlated to dissolution, with urban residence negative and not significant to dissolution.

Lastly in Coast, ethnicity was the best predictor of dissolution with other factors such as secondary education, Religion (protestanism) positive but not significant. Whereas age at marriage was negative and not significant to dissolution. But when ethnicity was removed from the equation, Religion (Muslim) and age at first marriage (<15) was found to be positively significant to marital dissolution. This, therefore means that the effects of religion and age at first marriage (<15) works through the socio-cultural background of the coastal inhabitants.

## CHAPTER 6

### 6.0 SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 6.1 SUMMARY

In the overall, the picture in the country and its regions is one of marked differences in rates of dissolution by age at marriage, ethnic characteristics, education levels, place of residence, religion and pattern of work.

The study's main objective was to determine the correlates of marital dissolution through duration specific dissolution probabilities for various regions and subgroups and applying regression model to estimate relative risks. The study therefore focussed on the following hypotheses: (i) Regional pattern(s) of marital dissolution is not a function of the of the following: socio-cultural, economic, environmental and demographic factors (age at marriage, education levels, religion, place of residence, pattern of work and ethnicity e.t.c; (ii) There is homogeneity in the following socio-cultural, economic, environmental and demographic variables (age at marriage, education levels, religion, place of residence, pattern of work, ethnicity e.t.c) in determining regional variations and patterns of marital dissolution.

Furthermore , the study objectives were: (i) to determine marital dissolution by specific durations of marriage for selected characteristics of women per region, and to determine regional differentials of these factors as determinants of marital dissolution; (ii) to find out the nuptial patterns of those in stable and unstable unions; (iii) to suggest policy recommendations.

From the objectives the following results were obtained:



Regional marital dissolution depended on different factors, although in general, a number of conclusions can be made: Those who marry early (<20 years) had higher chance of marital dissolution. Religious affiliation seems to have a noticeable effect on dissolution probabilities, the higher probabilities for non-Catholics and mainly Muslims being statistically significant. Women who reside in large urban centres (Nairobi and Mombasa) were found to experience higher rates of dissolution than those in small urban centres or in the rural areas. Also the effect of no-education or low level of education was seen to significantly influence dissolution, although education categories do not show much difference as between those who work and those who do not work.

Thus, the study found that those who marry early, lived in large urban centres (Nairobi or Mombasa), are Moslem, possessing low level or no education and do not work have a high chance of marital dissolution.

From the regional perspective different factors were found to influence regional patterns of dissolution although some variables were found to influence dissolution across regions.

In addition, on the strength of the regression model statistic the following variables emerged as relatively, good regional predictors of marital dissolution rates. In Rift valley; no-education (4.8901), rural place of residence (4.5036) and ethnic characteristics of the Kalenjins (-2.1639) was found to be important. Age at marriage, <15 (7.4074), Protestant religion (6.9761) and primary level of education (2.4066) was found to determine dissolution in Nairobi. Whereas in Coast; ethnic characteristics of Mijikendas (5.8113), secondary level of education (1.5915), came out as most

important.

For the Central province; rural place of residence (4.1810), not working (5.5523), and catholic religion (4.3800) were the most important factors. Ethnic characteristics of the Kamba and Meru-Embu (48.769; 4.5610) respectively and Age at marriage, 20-24 (0.1916) came out prominently in Eastern province.

In Western province; Protestant religion (8.7389), no- education (3.0263) and Age at marriage, 15-19 (2.0690) were the important factors. Whereas, catholic and Protestant religion (21.1080; 14.2532) were found to be important in Nyanza.

All these were tested for significance at 0.05 level of confidence with their significance determined (refer tables 73-80).

## 6.2 CONCLUSION

On the basis of the above findings socio-economic, cultural, environmental and demographic variables seem to play an important role in marital dissolution pattern in Kenya. Thus with the changing socio-economic, cultural and demographic aspects of the country and general behaviour and perceptions of the populace about the family, the research, therefore suggests the following recommendations for policy makers and further research.

## 6.3 RECOMMENDATIONS TO GOVERNMENTS OR POLICY MAKERS

From the study a spatial or regional aspects of marital dissolution was analysed. The composition of the predictor variables of dissolution was realised to differ regionally although some similarities were noted. So, the study had these to recommend:

The complexity of education on how it related to marital

formation and dissolution and more so when other factors such as age at marriage, place of residence e.t.c are taken into account have been indicated in the literature review. In this study therefore, little formal education (primary) or no-education has been found to increase marital dissolution. However, secondary and post secondary education were observed to effectively reduce marriage dissolution. Therefore, education and more so population education policy, is the best remedy under such circumstances. This should be done under well institutionalised programs such as marriage counseling programmes, family life education programmes and other general problem areas of family institutions in established family counseling centres and other institutions having the groups at risks, to help overcome the effects of little or no formal education by changing attitudes on family formation and dissolution.

Also, in view of the government policy of providing basic or primary education to everybody, which from the research, is realised to be positively contributory to marital instability, there's need to intensify further, family life education to supplement the already acquired formal education so as to stabilise such marriages. The government efforts should also be geared towards compulsory female education above primary level which therefore calls for a way of instituting relatively less burdensome post primary education for girls in the spirit of cost-sharing. For example, in the case of the cherished bursary to assist in the education cost of girls should be seriously thought about.

A minimum acceptable age at first marriage for all regardless of the religion and cultural background should be instituted. This is

because from research, it is realised that, early age at marriage affects the females educational attainment; influences early school drop out, hence affects the future gainful employment due to low level of education. Also, young age at marriage is found to lessen the expected family sustainance skills and hence affects the couples power to reason and to tolerate for the simple reason of marriage unpreparedness and its related heavy responsibilities. Thus the government should institute and declare a legally acceptable age at marriage taking into account all round socio-cultural and biological development of the spouse.

Also, the government should make sure that all religious education and ethnical issues are geared towards a successful family unit. For example, just like other studies which have been carried out Moslem communities were found to experience higher marital dissolution may be due to separation or divorce and risks of early child-bearing due to early age at marriage as a result of laxed laws. But it is plausible to suggest an intensification of Christian religious education and ethnics to reinforce moral restrain among couples and to discourage the incidence of divorce or separation, after all, cases of dissolution is experienced even amongst the Protestant and Catholic churches. Thus there's need for the government to withdraw the handling of the divorce or separation cases from the churches instead churches should only be left with reconciliatory role and other related socio-economic support development issues.

Several studies cited in the literature review revealed a desired income and work pattern which influence marital stability. Explicitly stated, unemployed single woman exposed to greater

economic insecurity, are likely to rush into early marriages through peer or group influence or child betrothal. Moreover, unemployed and illiterate women who are married are mostly found in polygamous unions - which have a lot of marital contradictions such as jealousy, and large familial pressures. Also the unemployed women who become premaritally pregnant often rush into marriage without serious plan or considerations, hence possess high chance of marital dissolution. So, a policy of welfare assistance to get something to do in such cases should be looked into or the government should insist on or provide vocational training for women before and after marriage for the sake of the family welfare and stability.

Finally, there is need for a general health care with specific emphasis on adulthood effects which may lead to adult mortality in order to raise the life expectancy of the population. Also a policy should be addressed towards areas such as, and incidences associated with adolescent marriages and births. Hence these can avert mortality which may lead to widowhood of the concerned couples.

#### 6.4 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE RESEARCH

Following also the findings of this study, it is recommended that research should be conducted to investigate the following areas:

(a) There is need to carry out a research to see the impact and level of divorce, separation and widowhood separately in Kenya and the role they play on fertility levels and trends.

(b) Also, there's need to identify how changing individual and societal perceptions due to migration influence family norms (family formation and dissolution) in areas where marital dissolution is high specifically and other areas in general and suggest solutions to the

problem.

(c) Lastly research should be carried on the ethnic variations in marital dissolution thus capture the proper socio-cultural and other related aspects influencing marital dissolution.

## 6.5 APPENDIX

### (i) STEPS IN CONSTRUCTING MARRIAGE DISSOLUTION LIFE TABLE

I - The duration from marriage to interview and from marriage to dissolution (if the marriage was dissolved) is recorded for all ever-married women.

So, the dissolution rate for the first year of marriage,  $lq_0$ , is found as the proportion of marriages that were dissolved within the first year among all marriages that began one or more years before the interview. More recent marriages are omitted, since their one-year dissolution rates would not be known at the time of the survey.

II - For the proportion dissolved during the second year,  $lq_1$ , women whose marriages ended in the first year are dropped from the denominator, together with women whose marriages began in the two years before the interview. The remainder comprises women at risk of dissolution during the second year, among whom the proportion whose marriages are dissolved is the desired rate.

III - To get the cumulative proportion dissolved after the two years, the chance of marriages being dissolved in the first year and the chance of marriages being dissolved in the second year after continuing through the first year are added. This can be expressed as follows:-

$$lq_0 + (1-lq_0) \cdot lq_1.$$

IV - The Rates for later years are found by the same process or

procedure.

(ii) PROCEDURE OF STEPWISE SELECTION

Stepwise selection procedures are forward in nature, but differ from other sequential methods in that the decision to include a predictor is not irreversible.

STEPS TAKEN IN A STEPWISE SELECTION PROCEDURE

I - Calculate the correlations of all the predictor variables with the dependent variable. As the first variable to enter the regression, select the one most highly correlated with the criterion. Let  $X_i$  denote the selected predictor variable.

II - Regress Y on  $X_i$ , the selected predictor variable.

Retain  $X_i$  in the fitted model if the overall F-test shows that the regression equation is statistically significant.

III - Calculate the partial correlation coefficients of all the variables not in the regression equation with the criterion. Select as the next variance to enter the one with the highest partial correlation coefficient. Denote the selected predictor variable by  $X_j$ .

IV - With both  $X_i$  and  $X_j$  in the model, compute the regression equation. Retain the new variable  $X_j$  in the regression equation if its partial F-value is statistically significant as compared to critical tabulated  $(1 - \alpha)$  - values under the F - distribution with 1 and  $n - 2 - 1$  d.f. Next check to see whether  $X_i$  warrants retention in a model that already includes  $X_j$ , in other words check the contribution that  $X_i$  would have made if  $X_j$  had been entered first.

Compare the partial F-value of  $X_i$  with the critical  $(1 - \alpha)$  value under the F-distribution with 1 and  $n-2-1$  d.f.

Retain the variable  $X_i$  in the regression equation i

already includes  $X_j$  , if its partial F-values is statistically significant at the predetermined level.

V - Now select as the next variable to enter, the one most highly correlated with the dependent variable, given that the variables  $X_i$  and  $X_j$  are already in the regression equation. Denote this predictor variable by  $X_k$  .

VI - Enter the new variable  $X_k$  into the model, and compute the regression equation including  $X_i$  ,  $X_j$  and  $X_k$  . The decisions as to whether:-

1.  $X_k$  should be included in the regression given that  $X_i$  and  $X_j$  are already in;
2.  $X_i$  , warrants retention in the model given that  $X_j$  and  $X_k$  have been already included; and
3.  $X_j$  warrants retention in the model given that  $X_i$  and  $X_k$  have already been included can be made on the basis of the partial F-values of the three variables.

Note: If the lowest partial F-value was for variable  $X_i$  , the first variable to enter, and if its value was less than the critical  $(1 - \alpha)$  - value under the F-distribution with 1 and  $n-3-1$  d.f. then remove  $X_i$  from the regression equation. This leaves  $X_j$  and  $X_k$  in the model. Now recompute the regression equation and examine the partial F-values associated with these two variables for possible deletion.

VII - The stepwise procedure continues in a similar fashion. Termination occurs when no variable can be either entered or removed from the regression equation.

Thus the method was used in this research to determine an opti-



mal combination of independent variables, with the thoroughness of "all possible regressions". Here the independent variables were examined at each stage to identify any that have become superfluous following the introduction of subsequent items or to permit use of previously rejected variables. In so doing stepwise regression takes particular note of the problems of multicollinearity.

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