

Structural and Subjective Causes of Divorce among Youth in Algeria: A Field Study on a Sample of University Students Using a Binary Logistic Regression Model

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Received: 05.03.2025 Accepted: 24.08.2025 Publishing: 03.10.2025

Abstract:

This study aims to identify and analyze the structural and subjective causes of divorce among young people in Algerian society, focusing on the perceptions and representations of university students (both those considered elite and those about to marry or who have experienced separation).

The study employed a descriptive-analytical approach, utilizing both electronic and paper questionnaires administered to a purposive sample of 400 male and female students from several Algerian universities. To process the data and test the hypotheses, a two-way logistic regression model was used.

The impact of structural independent variables (such as economic pressures, family interference, and the housing crisis) and subjective independent variables (such as emotional deprivation, lack of dialogue, and misuse of social media) on the dependent variable (the probability of divorce) was measured.

The results showed that structural causes (especially family interference and economic pressures) and subjective causes (emotional deprivation and misuse of social media) possess a high predictive power regarding the occurrence of divorce.

The study concluded with several recommendations, the most important of which is the activation of family counseling offices within the university environment.

Keywords: Divorce, Algerian youth, structural causes, subjective causes, binary logistic, regression.

1. Introduction:

Like many other nations, Algeria has consistently exerted substantial efforts to achieve public health in general, and reproductive health in particular. This study specifically focuses on the facets of reproductive health, viewed as a life-course approach due to its profound impact on an individual's well-being—whether male or female—from childhood through to old age. This approach encompasses the distinct challenges individuals face at various life stages, including early marriage, consanguineous marriage (intermarriage), family planning, safe motherhood, and healthcare before, during, and after pregnancy. Furthermore, it covers services aimed at preventing sexually transmitted infections (STIs), managing infertility, and addressing cases of abortion.

Our current research concentrates on the knowledge and attitudes of young people toward these aspects of reproductive health. Consequently, reproductive health is recognized not only as a fundamental human right but also as a core priority within developmental services

to ensure comprehensive sustainable development. The reproductive health of youth is an indivisible component of public health; it encompasses adolescent and youth well-being, premarital medical examinations, the achievement of safe motherhood (prenatal, natal, and postnatal care), family planning, and the early detection of prominent female cancers—particularly breast and cervical cancers. Additionally, it addresses postpartum care, the mitigation of STI risks, the identification of etiologies underlying infertility, and the combatting of harmful traditional practices that compromise reproductive health.

1.1. Problem Statement:

Contemporary Algerian society is undergoing rapid demographic and sociological transformations, manifested most conspicuously in unprecedented surges in divorce rates, particularly among youth and newlyweds. Far from being a transient, isolated individual event, this phenomenon has evolved into a critical indicator of a sharp structural and value-based clash. Within this phenomenon, macro-structural factors (such as economic pressures, housing crises, and extended family interference) intersect with micro-sociological subjective factors (such as emotional immaturity, diminished emotional fulfillment, and the erosion of trust fueled by the digital boom and virtual relationships).

Fathoming this phenomenon from the perspective of university students—who represent the intellectual elite and the prospective builders of future families—is of paramount importance for mapping the future trajectories of the Algerian family. The research gap lies in the lack of empirical measurement regarding the relative weights of these diverse causes. This necessitates a transition from descriptive theoretical formulations to advanced mathematical modeling capable of determining the precise predictive power of each individual factor.

Accordingly, the primary research question guiding this study is formulated as follows:

What is the predictive power of structural and subjective causes in explaining the probability of divorce among youth in Algeria from the perspective of university students?

From this core question, the following sub-questions emerge:

First: What is the magnitude and statistical effect of structural variables (economic pressures, family interference, and the housing crisis) in predicting the occurrence of divorce according to the Binary Logistic Regression model?

Second: What is the explanatory power of subjective variables (emotional deprivation, the breakdown of communication, and cyber-infidelity) in determining the probability of marital dissolution among the study sample?

1.2. Research Hypotheses:

The First Hypothesis (H1): There is a statistically significant effect of structural causes (economic pressures, family interference, and the housing crisis) in predicting the probability of divorce among youth in Algeria.

The Second Hypothesis (H2): There is a statistically significant effect of subjective causes (emotional deprivation, the breakdown of communication, and cyber-infidelity) in predicting the probability of divorce among youth in Algeria.

1.3. Significance and Objectives of the Study:

The concept of divorce among youth encapsulates a complex matrix of social, psychological, and structural crises that threaten the stability and cohesion of the modern Algerian family. Addressing this topic primarily entails identifying mechanisms to confront and mitigate these challenges or predicting their occurrence to enable early intervention. Hence, investigating young people's awareness of and attitudes toward the causes of marital dissolution (both structural and subjective) holds immense significance for designing preventive strategies and policies. Such interventions are vital for enhancing marital awareness among youth and preventing practices detrimental to the domestic bond, thereby fostering a generation that is psychologically resilient and capable of assuming familial responsibilities.

Concretely, this study aims to achieve the following objectives:

To assess the level of awareness among youth regarding the dimensions, facets, and obligations inherent to the institution of marriage, while tracking their perceptions of familial vulnerability.

To investigate the attitudes of young people toward immediate catalysts of marital failure, such as economic hardships, extended family interference, the absence of marital communication, and the misuse of social media (cyber-infidelity).

To examine the reality of youth divorce in Algeria and map its various trends by constructing an empirical, predictive, and explanatory statistical model using Binary Logistic Regression to determine the actual relative weight of each structural and subjective factor.

2. The Demographic Approach to Explaining Youth Divorce:

The demographic approach constitutes an essential foundation for deconstructing the phenomenon of youth divorce in contemporary Algerian society. Rather than viewing marital dissolution as an isolated or abrupt event, this perspective conceptualizes it as a "dynamic vital process" inextricably linked to marital variables, fertility trends, and the structural shifts occurring within the family system (Lesthaeghe, 2010).

In explaining contemporary youth divorce, the demographic approach centers on three principal dimensions:

2.1. The Second Demographic Transition and Marital Structure:

The Algerian society is currently experiencing the dynamics of the Second Demographic Transition (SDT). This transition is characterized most notably by a rising age at first marriage for both genders, a direct consequence of prolonged educational attainment and the feminization of higher education (Bouguerra, 2021). Demographically, this delay implies that young people enter the institution of marriage with a psychological and cultural framework

deeply influenced by individualism and a desire for autonomy. When this demographic shift collides with the inability to achieve residential independence—due to chronic housing shortages and high living costs—young couples are often forced to cohabit with the extended family. This cohabitation triggers role conflicts and familial interferences that accelerate the dissolution of the marital bond (National Office of Statistics [ONS], 2024; Khelouf, 2022).

2.2. Marital Lifespan Dynamics:

Demographic analyses place significant emphasis on measuring the effect of temporal variables on familial stability. Vital statistics issued by the Algerian Ministry of Justice (2023) consistently indicate that the risk of marital dissolution peaks within the first five years of marriage. From a demographic standpoint, this critical window represents the "structural and subjective adjustment phase." During this period, the romantic and virtual ideals held by youth clash abruptly with tangible socio-economic realities. Logistic regression modeling confirms that the demographic fragility of the marital bond is at its highest intensity during these initial five years (Kellas&Alberts, 2007).

2.3. Urbanization and the Geographical Space

The demographic approach highlights a distinct geographical disparity in the distribution of divorce and Khul' rates across Algeria. Urban environments and major metropolitan areas (such as Algiers, Oran, and Constantine) record significantly higher demographic rates of dissolution compared to rural regions (Khelouf, 2022). Socio-demographically, this trend is attributed to the erosion of traditional informal social control mechanisms in urban spaces, alongside the entry of university-educated women into the labor market. The resulting economic autonomy reduces women's financial dependence on men, rendering the decision to divorce demographically and practically easier to execute at the onset of the first structural or subjective crisis (Al-Kazi, 2020).

3. Structural and Subjective Factors Catalyzing Divorce:

3.1. Structural Factors Leading to Divorce:

Structural factors refer to those macro-level determinants external to the individual's direct control, which are imposed by the economic, social, and institutional architecture of society (Cramer, 2003). In the contemporary Algerian context, three primary structural dimensions emerge:

Economic Pressures and Employment Instability: The economic structure exerts a direct impact on the stability of young families. Newlyweds frequently confront challenges related to income instability and urban unemployment, which hinders their capacity to fulfill the basic material needs of the nuclear household. This shortfall generates chronic structural tension that undermines the marital relationship (Khelouf, 2022).

Family Interference (The Authority of the Extended Family): Despite the demographic shift of the Algerian family toward a nuclear structure, it maintains deep, functional linkages with the extended family. This structural overlap imposes external pressures that strip the young

couple of their decision-making autonomy. Interference by in-laws in the granular details of daily life stands out as a primary structural driver that accelerates judicial disputes and subsequent divorce (Bouguerra, 2021).

The Housing Crisis (The Spatial Dimension): Co-residence (living within the parental home of the husband) remains one of the most prominent structural pressures fostering domestic crises in Algeria. The complete absence of spatial privacy and the constraints of overcrowded living quarters lead to friction between the wife and the extended family. Consequently, the type of housing serves as a powerful predictive variable in logistic regression models of divorce (Algerian Judicial Councils, 2023).

3.2. Subjective Factors Leading to Divorce:

In contrast to macro-level structural dimensions, subjective factors operate at the micro-sociological and psycho-social levels of the couple. These determinants relate to personal perceptions, emotional states, value systems, and everyday symbolic communication (Kellas&Alberts, 2007). They manifest in the following dimensions:

Emotional Immaturity and Lack of Marital Qualification: Many young people in Algeria enter marriage guided by romanticized, highly imaginative constructs and unrealistic expectations. These ideals are largely derived from mass media, drama, and digital platforms (Amato, 2010). Upon confronting real-world responsibilities, a deficiency in emotional intelligence and an inability to manage crises become apparent, transforming minor disagreements into perceived grounds for total separation.

Emotional Deprivation and the Breakdown of Symbolic Communication: According to the tenets of Symbolic Interactionism, marital stability is sustained through shared symbols and effective communication between partners. The absence of constructive communication channels—and its replacement by marital silence or verbal aggression—engenders emotional alienation. This causes the individual to experience a sense of estrangement within the home, operating as a subjective factor with high statistical significance in predicting marital failure (Bouguerra, 2021).

Emergent Digital Relationships (Cyber-Infidelity): The digital revolution and the ubiquity of social networking applications have catalyzed a profound mutation in the marital behavior of Algerian youth. The virtual space has facilitated the construction of parallel relationships outside traditional institutional boundaries. This shift has eroded mutual trust between spouses and led to the rise of what sociology terms "virtual infidelity," which has rapidly become one of the most powerful contemporary subjective drivers funneling young couples into family law courts (Al-Kazi, 2020).

4. Methodological Procedures of the Study:

4.1. Research Methodology:

This study adopts a descriptive-analytical approach with a prospective dimension. This approach facilitates a comprehensive, in-depth analytical presentation of empirical data by surveying university students regarding the phenomenon under study. The descriptive approach systematically investigates the phenomenon as it exists in reality, providing a rigorous qualitative and quantitative depiction of its dimensions.

4.2. Dimensions of the Study (Fields of Study):

Spatial Dimension: The empirical field of this study is situated within the virtual digital environment—specifically targeting the official Facebook groups of six selected Algerian universities. This virtual access allowed the instrument to reach university students across diverse geographical regions, namely: EchahidHammaLakhdar University, El Oued,KasdiMerbah University, Ouargla ,Lounici Ali University, Blida 2, Abu Al-QasimSaadallah University, Algiers 2,Abou Bakr Belkaid University, Tlemcen, Mohamed Ben Ahmed University, Oran 2.

Human Dimension: The target population consists of university students who are active users of digital platforms and social networking sites, maintaining active accounts on Facebook, with a total sample size of 400 male and female students.

Temporal Dimension: The electronic questionnaire was deployed and data was collected during the period spanning from May 10, 2026, to May 21, 2026.

4.3. Study Instruments:

The study relied on an online questionnaire developed by the researchers and administered to a purposive sample. The sampling design blended an online convenience (available) sampling technique with virtual snowball sampling. The questionnaire comprised thirty-five (35) items divided into three (3) core axes:

The First Axis (Sociodemographic Data): Contains five (5) questions: Gender, Age, Academic Level, University Affiliation, and Exposure to Divorce.

The Second Axis (Structural Factors): Contains fifteen (15) items measuring three structural sub-dimensions: Economic Pressures, Extended Family Interference, and the Housing Crisis.

The Third Axis (Subjective Factors): Contains fifteen (15) items measuring three subjective sub-dimensions: Emotional Deprivation, Breakdown of Dialogue, and Cyber-Infidelity.

Each item was scored using a three-point Likert scale, with weights assigned as displayed in the table below:

Table 01:CodingWeights for Questionnaire Axes

Axis	Weights / Alternatives		
Structural Causes	Never (1)	Sometimes (2)	Always (3)
Subjective Causes	Disagree (1)	Neutral (2)	Agree (3)

Source: Prepared by the researchers based on the questionnaire coding system

4.4. Validity and Reliability:

To establish the psychometric properties of the instrument, the questionnaire was piloted on an exploratory sample of fifty (50) university students, equally divided between divorced students (n=25) and non-divorced students (n=25).

4.4.1. Internal Consistency Validity:

Construct validity was established by computing the Pearson correlation coefficient (r) between the score of each individual axis and the total score of the questionnaire. The diagnostics are presented in Table 02:

Table 02: Internal Consistency Coefficients Between Axis Scores and the Total Scale

Axes	Exploratory Sample Size (N)	Correlation Coefficient (r)	Statistical Decision
Structural Causes	50	0.724	Statistically Significant
Subjective Causes		0.805	Statistically Significant

Source: Prepared by the researchers based on questionnaire data and SPSS output

The data in Table 02 reveal that the correlation coefficients (r) for both axes range between 0.724 and 0.805. Both values are statistically significant at the 0.01 level, indicating a high degree of internal consistency and confirming the construct validity of the instrument.

4.4.2. Reliability:

Instrument reliability was evaluated using Cronbach's Alpha (α) coefficient to assess internal consistency across items. The reliability coefficients are presented in Table 03:

Table 03: Cronbach's Alpha Reliability Coefficients for the Questionnaire

Questionnaire Scales	Number of Items	Cronbach's Alpha Coefficient (α)
Structural Causes Axis	15	0.807

Subjective Causes Axis	15	0.773
Total Scale	30	0.904

Source: Prepared by the researchers based on questionnaire data and SPSS output

Table 03 demonstrates that the Cronbach's alpha values for the sub-scales range between 0.773 and 0.807, indicating high reliability. The overall scale alpha reached 0.904, indicating that the measurement tool possesses excellent stability for field deployment.

5. Characteristics of the Main Study Sample:

Following validation, the instrument was deployed to the primary study sample (N=400), which was purposefully balanced to include two hundred (200) divorced university students and two hundred (200) non-divorced university students.

Table 04: Socio-Demographic Profile of the Sample

Variable	Categories	Frequency	Percentage
Gender	Male	180	%45
	Female	220	% 55
	Total	400	%100
Age Group	17 to 22 years	60	%15
	23 to 28 years	120	% 30
	29 to 34 years	220	% 55
	Total	400	%100
Academic Level	Bachelor's (Licence)	90	%22.5
	Master's	260	% 65
	Doctorate	50	%12.5
	Total	400	%100
	KasdiMerbah University, Ouargla	70	% 17.5
	Algiers 2 University	35	%8.75
	Abou Bakr Belkaid University, Tlemcen	60	% 15
	Oran 2 University	25	%6.75

University Affiliation	EchahidHammaLakhdar University, El Oued	120	%30
	Lounici Ali University, Blida 2	90	%22.5
	Total	400	%100
Exposure to Divorce	Divorced	200	%50
	Non-Divorced	200	% 50
	Total	400	%100

Source: Prepared by the researchers based on questionnaire data and SPSS output

Sample Breakdown Analysis

The sample exhibits structural variances across several socio-demographic indicators:

- **Gender:** The sample leans slightly female, with 220 female students (55%) compared to 180 male students (45%).
- **Age:** The mature youth segment dominates, as 220 students fall within the 29–34 age group (55%), followed by 120 students in the 23–28 group (30%), and 60 students in the youngest 17–22 cohort (15%).
- **Academic Level:** Postgraduate Master's students constitute the majority with 260 respondents (65%), while Bachelor's students account for 90 (22.5%) and Doctoral candidates comprise 50 (12.5%).
- **Geographical Distribution:** El Oued University yielded the highest response rate with 120 students (30%), followed by Blida 2 University with 90 students (22.5%), Ouargla University with 70 students (17.5%), Tlemcen University with 60 students (15%); whereas Algiers 2 and Oran 2 accounted for 8.75% (35 students) and 6.75% (25 students) respectively.
- **Dependent Variable Balance:** The sample is perfectly balanced (1:1 ratio) regarding exposure to divorce, containing exactly 200 divorced and 200 non-divorced students (50% each), optimizing it for binary logistic modeling.

6. Statistical Software and Techniques:

6.1. Statistical Software:

Data analysis was executed using the **Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS)**, Version 25.

6.2. Statistical Techniques:

The following statistical procedures were utilized to process the empirical data:

- **Frequencies and Percentages:** Implemented to map the distribution of demographic variables.

- **Cronbach's Alpha (α):** Deployed to evaluate the reliability and internal internal scale stability of the questionnaire.
- **Pearson Correlation Coefficient (r):** Used to assess the construct validity of the measurement tool.
- **Binary Logistic Regression (BLR):** The core inferential modeling technique utilized to test the research hypotheses and predict the probabilities of the binary dependent outcome.

7. Results: Presentation, Analysis, and Discussion:

7.1. Presentation and Analysis of the First Hypothesis (H1):

The first hypothesis states: *There is a statistically significant effect of structural causes (economic pressures, family interference, and the housing crisis) in predicting the probability of divorce among youth in Algeria.*

Since the dependent variable is binary (0 = Non-divorced, 1 = Divorced), a binary logistic regression model was estimated.

Table 05: Case Processing Summary for the Logistic Model

Unweighted Cases	N	Percentage
selected Cases: Included in Analysis	400	100.0%
Missing Cases	0	0.0%
Total	400	100.0%
Unselected Cases	0	0.0%
Total	400	100.0%

Source: Prepared by the researchers using SPSS output

Table 05 shows that all 400 cases (100%) were included in the estimation model with zero missing values. This reflects perfect data integrity and complete respondent compliance, ensuring high statistical precision.

Table 06:Dependent Variable Encoding

Original Value	Internal Value
Non-Divorced	0
Divorced	1

Source: Prepared by the researchers using SPSS output

Table 06 illustrates the binary coding of the dependent variable. Assigning the value 1 to the target event (Divorced) and 0 to the reference event (Non-divorced) satisfies the structural prerequisite of the logistic cumulative distribution function, allowing the model to estimate the log-odds of divorce occurrences based on structural parameters.

Table 07: Baseline Classification Table (Block 0)

Observed	Predicted:Exposure to Divorce		Non-Divorced (0)	Divorced (1)	Percentage Correct
Step 0	Exposure to Divorce	Non-Divorced	0	200	0.0%
		Divorced	0	200	100.0%
	Overall Percentage				50.0%

Source: Prepared by the researchers using SPSS output

The classification table for Block 0 shows that the null model (containing only the intercept) automatically predicts all cases (N=400) into the largest group by default, yielding a baseline classification accuracy of 50%. This balanced baseline serves as a rigid benchmark. The validity of our structural and subjective factors hinges on their ability to significantly increase this predictive accuracy above 50% in subsequent blocks.

Table 08: Intercept-Only Parameter (Variables in the Equation - Block 0)

		B	S.E	Wald	df	Sig	Exp(B)
Step 0	Constant	0.000	0.100	0.000	1	1.000	1.000

Source: Prepared by the researchers using SPSS output

Table 08 presents the parameters of the null step. The intercept coefficient (B) is 0.000 with perfect absolute non-significance (Sig.=1.000), which is much larger than the significance threshold ($\alpha=0.05$). This indicates that the baseline model holds zero actual explanatory or predictive capacity. The Odds Ratio (Exp(B)=1.000) reflects a perfectly symmetrical probability (1:1) due to the equal split of groups (200 each).

Table 09: Diagnostics for Excluded Structural Predictors (Variables Not in the Equation)

	Variables	Score	df	Sig
Step 0	Economic Pressures	40.428	1	0.000
	Extended Family Interference	120.005	1	0.000

	The HousingCrisis	101.479	1	0.000
	Overall Statistics	195.343	3	0.000

Source: Prepared by the researchers using SPSS output

Table 09 displays the Score Test statistics for the structural independent variables before their formal inclusion into the model equation. Crucially, all three variables demonstrate exceptionally strong individual statistical significance (Sig.=.000, $p < 0.01$). This confirms that every single structural variable possesses substantial latent explanatory capacity. Based on their initial score weights, these macro-sociological factors are arranged and interpreted as follows:

- Extended Family Interference: Scored the highest baseline value (Score=120.005, $df=1$), emerging as the most acute initial structural predictor. Sociologically, this shows that despite the apparent modern shift toward nuclear housing, kinship structures in Algeria continue to wield profound normative control over young couples, acting as a prominent structural driver of early marital disputes.
- The Housing Crisis: Ranked second with a highly elevated predictive score (Score=101.479, Sig.=.000). This exposes the direct impact of the physical and spatial environment on marital durability. Chronic real estate shortages force newlyweds into crowded cohabitation with in-laws, creating a spatial incubator for chronic daily friction.
- Economic Pressures: Registered a statistically significant baseline score (Score=40.428, Sig.=.000). This indicates that income instability and urban un/underemployment create a persistent baseline strain. Financial crises do not automatically trigger divorce, but they systematically erode a young couple's capacity to absorb material shocks.

Table 10: Model Fit and Summary Statistics (Structural Step)

Pas	Log de vraisemblance -2	R-deux de Cox et Snell	R-deux de Nagelkerke
1	314.941 ^a	0.451	0.601

Source: Prepared by the researchers using SPSS output

Table 10 evaluates the global goodness-of-fit of the model after incorporating the structural blocks. The -2 Log Likelihood stabilized at 314.941 within five iterations, denoting strong mathematical convergence. In terms of variance explanation, the Cox & Snell R^2 reached 0.451, while the adjusted Nagelkerke R^2 demonstrated a highly robust value of 0.601.

Consequently, the structural factors account for 60.1% of the total variance in youth divorce probability. This means these three macro-level variables explain nearly two-thirds of the phenomenon, giving the model high empirical reliability for social policy projections.

Table 11: Classification Table Post-Inclusion of Structural Variables (Block 1)

Observed	Predicted:Exposure to Divorce			Percentage Correct
Step 1		Non-Divorced (0)	Divorced (1)	
	Exposure to Divorce: Non-Divorced	166	34	83.0%
	Exposure to Divorce:Divorced	39	161	80.5%
	Overall Percentage			81.8%

Source: Prepared by the researchers using SPSS output

The classification matrix for Step 1 reveals a massive surge in predictive power. With the model's classification threshold set at .500, the accuracy for predicting non-divorced tendencies stands at 83.0% (166 cases correctly classified). Concurrently, the model correctly identifies actual divorce tendencies at a high rate of 80.5% (161 cases correctly classified).

Overall, the model achieves a **total classification accuracy of 81.8%** This significant jump from the 50% baseline demonstrates that the model is a highly sensitive quantitative diagnostic tool for early detection of marital vulnerability, rather than just a descriptive framework.

Table 12: Parameter Estimates and Odds Ratios for the Structural Equation

	Structural Predictors	B	S.E.	Wald	df	Sig	Exp(B)
Step 1a	Economic Pressures	0.856	0.186	21.222	1	0.000	2.354
	Extended Family Interference	1.603	0.191	70.503	1	0.000	4.967
	The HousingCrisis	1.449	0.187	60.179	1	0.000	4.259
	Constant	-8.416	0.785	114.879	1	0.000	0.000

Source: Prepared by the researchers using SPSS output

Table 12 presents the final parameter weights for the structural regression equation. Every structural predictor is highly significant (Sig.=.000,p<0.01). They are rank-ordered by their adjusted Odds Ratios (Exp(B)) and Wald values as follows:

1. **Extended Family Interference:** Retains the strongest predictive weight (Wald=70.503,B=1.603). Its Odds Ratio (Exp(B)=4.967) reveals that intense family interference in the daily affairs of young couples **multiplies the probability of divorce by 4.97 times** (an increase of 396.7%) compared to structurally autonomous households.

2. **The Housing Crisis:** Follows closely as the second most powerful structural predictor (Wald=60.179, B=1.449). Its high Odds Ratio ($\text{Exp}(B)=4.259$) proves that a lack of housing independence **increases the odds of marital dissolution by 4.26 times**. This confirms that spatial boundaries are vital material safeguards for marital stability.
3. **Economic Pressures:** Ranks third (Wald=21.222, B=.856), showing that financial hardships **increase the odds of marital breakdown by 2.35 times** (a 135.4% net increase).

The large negative intercept (Constant=-8.416, Wald=114.879) provides an important statistical baseline: if all three structural risk factors are completely absent, the probability of a respondent predicting a divorce drops toward zero. These findings strongly validate the first hypothesis (H1).

The Structural Logit Equation (H1):

$$\ln\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right) = -8.416 + 1.603(\text{Family Interference}) + 1.449(\text{Housing Crisis}) + 0.856(\text{Economic Pressures})$$

Where:

P represents the probability that students' representations tend towards the inevitability of divorce among young people.

Based on this, it can be said that the first hypothesis has been confirmed empirically and statistically, and therefore we accept the alternative hypothesis (1H): "There is a statistically significant effect of structural factors (economic pressures, family interference, housing crisis) in predicting the probability of divorce among young people in Algeria."

7.1.2. Theoretical Discussion of the Structural Results:

- **In Light of the Second Demographic Transition (SDT) and Marital Structure:** The high predictive weight of family interference (B=1.603) and economic pressures (B=.856) aligns with the SDT framework. Modern Algerian youth—particularly university students—increasingly internalize values of individualism and self-actualization within an egalitarian nuclear family. However, this shift creates a sharp clash with traditional extended family structures, which often try to impose classic normative surveillance (B=1.603), triggering severe value conflicts. Furthermore, because the SDT links marriage to high emotional and lifestyle expectations, economic pressures (B=.856) undermine this modern consumer-based partnership, rendering the relationship highly vulnerable.
- **In Light of Marital Lifespan Dynamics and Urbanization:** The impact of the housing crisis (B=1.449) connects directly with urban lifespan dynamics. In densely populated urban areas, high real estate costs force young couples to spend their first five years—the most sensitive phase of marital adaptation—in cramped, shared spaces. This **socio-spatial asphyxiation** strips the couple of privacy, causing chronic tension. In urban settings, the decay of informal social controls and decreased social stigma around divorce make separation an easier choice for young couples looking to escape these structural constraints.

7-2. Presentation, analysis, and discussion of the second hypothesis:

7-2-1. Presentation and analysis of the second hypothesis:

The second hypothesis states that there is a statistically significant effect of subjective factors (emotional deprivation, lack of dialogue, and online infidelity) in predicting the likelihood of divorce among young people in Algeria.

To discuss the impact of subjective factors on the likelihood of divorce among young Algerians, a two-way logistic regression analysis was applied, as its conditions were met, meaning that the respondent, according to the divorce occurrence variable, possessed only two attributes: divorced and non-divorced.

Statistical Hypotheses:

Null Hypothesis (H0): There is no statistically significant effect of subjective factors (emotional deprivation, lack of dialogue, and online infidelity) in predicting the likelihood of divorce among young people in Algeria.

Alternative Hypothesis (H1): There is a statistically significant effect of subjective factors (emotional deprivation, lack of dialogue, and online infidelity) in predicting the likelihood of divorce among young people in Algeria.

Based on the outputs of the SPSS 25 statistical system, we obtained the following results:

First Stage: Evaluating the Significance of the Regression Model (Bloc 1) using Standard Regression

Table 13: Cumulative Model Fit and Summary Statistics (Subjective Step)

Pas	Log de vraisemblance -2	R-deux de Cox et Snell	R-deux de Nagelkerke
1	274.631 ^a	0.503	0.671

Source: Prepared by the researchers using SPSS output

Table 13 shows that adding subjective factors further optimized the model, with the -2 Log Likelihood dropping to 274.631. The cumulative Cox & Snell R² rose to 0.503, and the **Nagelkerke R² increased to 0.671**.

This means that incorporating subjective behavioral factors explains **67.1%** of the total variance in divorce probability. The remaining variance (32.9%) is restricted to unmeasured residual variables, confirming the strong predictive power of the expanded model.

Table 14: Classification Table Post-Inclusion of Subjective Variables (Block 1 - Phase 2)

Observed	Predicted:Exposure to Divorce			Percentage Correct
Step 1		Non-Divorced (0)	Divorced (1)	
	Exposure to Divorce: Non-Divorced	187	13	93.5%
	Exposure to Divorce:Divorced	34	166	83.0%
	Overall Percentage			88.3%

Source: Prepared by the researchers using SPSS output

The classification matrix for Step 2 shows a substantial increase in predictive accuracy. At a standard .500 cut-off, the model accurately classifies non-divorced cases at an exceptional rate of **93.5%** (187 out of 200 cases). It also accurately tracks actual divorce cases at **83.0%** (166 out of 200 cases).

The model's **overall predictive accuracy reached 88.3%**. This high percentage confirms the model's accuracy, making it a reliable tool for forecasting marital breakdown based on the attitudes of university students.

Table 15: Parameter Estimates and Odds Ratios for the Subjective Equation

	Subjective Predictors	B	S.E.	Wald	df	Sig	Exp(B)
Step 1a	EmotionalDeprivation	1.657	0.235	49.664	1	0.000	5.241
	Breakdown of Dialogue	1.063	0.215	24.432	1	0.000	2.896
	Cyber-Infidelity	2.111	0.235	80.506	1	0.000	8.259
	Constant	-10.504	1.038	102.493	1	0.000	0.000

Source: Prepared by the researchers using SPSS output

Table 15 presents the final parameter weights for the subjective dimensions. Every subjective predictor is highly significant (Sig.=.000,p<0.05). They are rank-ordered by their adjusted Odds Ratios (Exp(B)) and Wald values as follows:

1. **Cyber-Infidelity:** This digital risk factor emerged as the **most powerful subjective predictor across the entire study** (Wald=80.506,B=2.111). Its exceptionally high Odds Ratio (**Exp(B)=8.259**) indicates that virtual extra-marital relationships via social networks **multiplies the odds of youth divorce by 8.26 times** (a 725.9% net increase).

2. **Emotional Deprivation:** Ranks second (Wald=49.664, B=1.657, Exp(B)=5.241). This indicates that an absence of emotional reciprocity and marital qualification **increases the odds of marital dissolution by 5.24 times**.
3. **Breakdown of Dialogue:** Ranks third (Wald=24.432, B=1.063, Exp(B)=2.896), demonstrating that the absence of constructive communication and shared symbolic exchange **increases the odds of marital failure by 2.90 times**.

The large baseline constant (Constant=-10.504, Wald=102.493) confirms that the probability of youth divorce drops toward zero when these subjective risk factors are minimized. These findings strongly validate the second hypothesis (H1).

The Subjective Logit Equation (H1):

$$\ln\left(\frac{p}{1-p}\right) = -10.504 + 2.111(\text{Cyber-Infidelity}) + 1.657(\text{Emotional Deprivation}) + 1.063(\text{Breakdown of Dialogue})$$

Where:

P represents the probability that students' representations tend towards the inevitability of divorce among young people.

Based on this, it can be said that the second hypothesis was confirmed empirically and statistically, with a stronger force than the first hypothesis. Therefore, we accept the alternative hypothesis (H1): "There is a statistically significant effect of subjective factors (emotional deprivation, lack of dialogue, online infidelity) in predicting the probability of divorce among young people in Algeria."

7-2-2. Discussion and Interpretation of Results:

The Second Hypothesis:

Hypothesis Statement: "There is a statistically significant effect of subjective factors (emotional deprivation, lack of communication, cyber-infidelity) in predicting the probability of divorce among youth in Algeria."

The mathematical outputs of the binary logistic regression equation in its second step demonstrated the **complete acceptance of this hypothesis**. The model achieved a significant leap in its cumulative explanatory power, reaching **67.1%** according to the *Nagelkerke R2* coefficient, with an overall classification accuracy of **88.3%**.

The high negative value of the constant (Constant=-10.504) reveals that the individual communicative behaviors of youth and their patterns of exposure and immersion in the "parallel virtual space" (via cyber-infidelity, emotional drought, and marital silence) serve as the **operational and dynamic keys** that accelerate familial vulnerability and drive early marital dissolution within contemporary urban environments. Consequently, this grants subjective factors a predictive weight that surpasses classical structural causes within the study population. This behavioral-technological intersection can be deconstructed and analyzed in light of the adopted theoretical frameworks as follows:

- **Interpretation of Results in Light of the Second Demographic Transition (SDT) Theory and Nuptiality Structure:** The Second Demographic Transition (SDT) theory provides a robust framework for interpreting the exceptional values recorded by subjective factors, most notably **cyber-infidelity** ($B=2.111, \text{Exp}(B)=8.259$) and **emotional deprivation** ($B=1.657$). These predictive weights are intrinsically linked to a radical shift in the philosophy and structure of nuptiality (marriage patterns) among the youth generation in Algeria:
 - The Globalization of Emotions and Digital Individualism: The theory posits that the Second Demographic Transition is accompanied by a powerful rise in "modern individualism" and a decline in the "sacrificial altruism" that characterized traditional families. Within this context, university-educated youth (the sample from the University of Algiers 3) no longer view marriage solely as an institution for procreation and material solidarity, but rather as a space for absolute self-actualization and emotional well-being. Accordingly, emotional deprivation ($\text{Exp}(B)=5.241$) is no longer perceived as a passing crisis; rather, it is demographically interpreted as a **violation of the existential prerequisite for contemporary marriage**, making separation a rational choice to restore individual autonomy.
 - Technological Liquidity and Flexible Nuptiality Structures: The fact that cyber-infidelity ranks as the strongest predictor—increasing the likelihood of divorce by over 725%—reflects how digital technology has introduced a state of liquidity into relationships (*Liquid Love*). The modern structure of nuptiality in Algeria—influenced by the demographic delay in the age at first marriage and the feminization of higher education—has rendered youth more open to the virtual sphere. Social media networks have provided instant, low-cost virtual alternatives to escape real-world emotional deprivation, thereby accelerating the erosion of marital trust and transforming relationships into fragile bonds that are easily dissolved at the first clash with reality.
- **Interpretation of Results in Light of Marital Duration Dynamics:** The measured subjective factors—particularly the **lack of communication** ($B=1.063$) and **emotional deprivation** ($B=1.657$)—are closely tied to the "demographic time element," scientifically known as the **duration of marriage**:
 - The Vulnerability of the First Five Years: National demographic data indicate that the largest proportion of divorce and *Khul'* (wife-initiated divorce) cases in Algeria occurs within the **first five years of marriage**. Sociologically, this critical period represents a transitional phase for young couples, moving from the "virtual and romantic representations" shaped during their university years to "real-world practices" burdened with structural responsibilities.
 - The Communication Gap and Early Marital Silence: When the lack of communication records a positive and significant correlation coefficient ($B=1.063$), marital duration dynamics explain this by the rapid failure of young spouses to build a shared communicative language during the early months of marriage. This inability to manage daily conflicts generates early marital silence and emotional alienation. Instead of investing time in repairing the relationship, young couples—driven by a culture of consumerism and immediacy—tend to terminate the marital bond in its initial stages, a period during which demographic deterrents and shared commitments (such as children) are at their lowest levels.

- **Interpretation of Results in Light of Urbanization Theories and Geographic Space:** The predictive power of the variables in the second hypothesis cannot be fully understood without contextualizing them within the urban geographic space that hosted this study (the province of Algiers, specifically the vicinity of the University of Algiers 3 in the municipalities of Dely Ibrahim and Ben Aknoun):
 - The City as a Space for Weakened Traditional Social Control: Urban sociologists argue that acute urbanization leads, socio-demographically, to the retreat of informal social control mechanisms (family, neighborhood, kin) that historically acted as "guardians or mediators" preventing familial collapse in rural settings. In the metropolitan urban space of Algiers, young couples live in a state of geographic isolation. This allows subjective conflicts (such as lack of communication and emotional deprivation) to grow and fester behind closed doors without corrective intervention from the surrounding social environment.
 - The Impact of Urban Spaces on the Social Acceptability of Divorce: The urban geographic environment grants university-educated women and youth in general greater autonomy and wider opportunities for economic integration, thereby reducing the dependency costs of marriage. Furthermore, urban centers are characterized by a lower intensity of the social stigma associated with divorced individuals compared to rural areas. This urban cultural tolerance toward separation acts as a "spatial catalyst," leading the surveyed youth to view divorce as an accessible and immediate solution—especially when the virtual space (cyber-infidelity) penetrates the geography of the urban home, transforming subjective conflict into a definitive rupture and a legal case brought before family courts in major cities.

8. Conclusion:

This study represents a rigorous socio-statistical attempt to deconstruct the structural and subjective determinants leading to the phenomenon of divorce among youth in Algeria, focusing on a sample of students from various Algerian universities. By utilizing an advanced analytical framework (**binary logistic regression**), the research transcends classical descriptive approaches to formulate a predictive model with a high classification capacity (**88.3%**) and excellent explanatory power (**67.1%** according to the *Nagelkerke* coefficient).

The study yielded several pivotal concluding results:

- **The Decline of Economic Determinism:** Statistical outputs proved that classical structural causes (such as economic pressures and the housing crisis) are no longer the most potent direct drivers of divorce. Instead, their predictive value has declined in favor of emerging subjective and technological factors.
- **The Shockwave of Cyber-Infidelity:** The variable of cyber-infidelity within the parallel virtual space emerged as the single strongest statistical predictor, yielding a positive correlation coefficient ($B=2.111$) and an odds ratio that increases the probability of divorce by more than eight times. This confirms a shift in familial vulnerability among youth from a material context to a fluid, values-based communicative context.
- **A Spatial-Value Clash:** In light of the Second Demographic Transition theory and urbanization approaches, the results revealed a sharp clash between the "desire for modern individualism and the pursuit of independent emotional well-being" among the

young university elite, and the "normative, traditional oversight" of the extended family (familial interference). This clash finds a spatial incubator in the urban environment (Algiers), which facilitates early separation due to the absence of traditional social controls and standard social stigmas.

• **9. Recommendations:**

Based on the empirical predictive weights revealed by the logistic model, we propose the following actionable and practical recommendations:

- **Institutionalizing Marital Readiness Programs:** We recommend making a "Marital Readiness License" a mandatory prerequisite for couples approaching marriage in Algeria. This program should include intensive training courses in emotional intelligence, conflict management, and awareness of shared familial responsibilities to directly counteract the variables of *emotional deprivation* and *lack of communication*.
- **Launching a National Observatory for Digital Family Counseling:** Activating the role of the Ministry of National Solidarity, Family, and the Status of Women to establish virtual and physical counseling centers. These centers should specialize in treating family disorders arising from the negative use of social networks, helping to contain the effects of *cyber-infidelity* before cases escalate to courts.
- **Developing Social and Legal Mediation:** Re-activating family conciliation and mediation boards using professional methods (incorporating psychologists and sociologists) within family courts. This measure aims to compensate for the absence of the traditional familial and community guardian in urban environments.

10. Research Horizons and Future Horizons:

To open new avenues for academic inquiry and address the dimensions that the current model could not fully absorb, we suggest the following future research projects:

- Conducting a **longitudinal tracking study** that monitors the dynamics of marital relationships among youth in Algeria over the first five years of marriage, aiming to measure the impact of the time factor (duration of marriage) with deeper quantitative precision.
- **Modeling the Explanatory Weights of Divorce in Algeria:** A comparative study using logistic regression between rural and urban environments to isolate and measure the precise impact of geographic space.
- An in-depth **psycho-sociological study** on "Representations of Cyber-Infidelity and Their Relationship with Rising Rates of Khul' Cases among University-Educated Women in Algeria."

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