

## POST-DIVORCE PARENTING. EXPERIENCES OF ALBANIAN WOMEN

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### **Abstract**

The purpose of this paper research is to explore the post divorce experiences of Albanian women. Data were collected during 2010-2012 years from twenty individual interviews of divorced women from Tirana, which had at least one child. For this study, was conducted semi-structured interviews which were analyzed based on the phenomenological method of data analysis. Based on these interviews, the study focuses on mothers' attitudes toward father involvement in parenting after divorce. Three models are distinguished in post-divorce parenting. Cooperative parenting, distant parenting, characterized by loss of contact with the child and single parenting, without a non-resident parent get involved and without his financial support. Most women have had difficulty in establishing cooperative relationships with fathers. Father's involvement in children's lives after divorce has been limited even though most of women wanted the father to be involved in the child's life. Also even though in the divorce court decisions were determined days of visitation of nonresident parent with the child, they were not respected. Non-resident parent was also not correct with contribution for nutritional retirement, and mothers as a response to them stopped contact with children. These behaviors and attitudes of parents victimize only the children. This paper discusses the effectiveness of policies and divorce practices and misunderstandings between divorced parents about parental responsibility after divorce and parental relationships. Also is discussed the lack of interest of the child and understanding the role of the father after divorce giving an important role to co-parenting as a necessity in legal practice in our country. The policy implications of this study are: parenting education during divorce, improving the support for children and social support for single mothers.

**Keywords:** *post-divorce parenting, cooperative parenting, distant parenting, single parenting*

