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GALLUP PAKISTAN POLL FINDINGS ON

DRUG ADDICTION IS A LEGITIMATE REASON FOR SEEKING DIVORCE

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DRUG ADDICTION IS A LEGITIMATE REASON FOR SEEKING DIVORCE

According to the findings of a Gallup poll drug addiction is viewed by Pakistanis as a legitimate cause to seek divorce. This view is held by a majority among men slightly less than a majority among women. The advocates of divorce on ground of addiction say that it either of the spouses takes to drug addiction. The survey was conducted by Gallup Pakistan with a statistically selected sample of households in 200 villages and towns all over the country. The findings of survey were computer processed. The findings of survey show that 64% of men consider drug addiction as a legitimate cause to seek talaq (divorce sought by men in Islamic law) and 51% consider drug addiction sufficient reason for khulla (divorce sought by women in Islamic law). Interestingly women appear to be more tolerant or forbearing on the drug issue. 45% among women consider addiction to be a sufficient cause for seeking talaq and 34% for seeking khulla. Views on drug addiction as a cause for divorce are related to the education of the respondent. The educated men as well as woman are more lax on the drug issue as is illustrated by the following table:

DRUG ADDICTION, A LEGITIMATE CAUSE TO SEEK DIVORCE

Percent of respondents		
	Talaq (divorcer sought by men)	Khulla (divorcer sought by women)
MEN		
All	64	51
Education beyond Matriculation	67	56
Educated up to Primay school	67	47
Illiterate	61	50
WOMEN		
All	45	34
Education beyond Matriculation	51	38
Educated up to Primay school	46	34
Illiterate	34	24

The respondents in the survey were to give their views on the justification of talaq and khulla for a variety of resources such as ill-health of the spouse, lack of financial resources, incompatible temperament, infertility and drug addiction. It was noteworthy that drug addiction was viewed more serious than any of the other causes listed in the survey by both men and women.