

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

A COMPARISON OF DESERTING AND DESERTED HUSBANDS IN RESPECT
TO SOME ASPECTS OF THEIR ADJUSTMENT TO ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND
MARITAL SITUATIONS PRIOR TO DESERTION.

Being the Report of a Research Project
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of Social Work.

By

Donald W. Mc Callum

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Family desertion is a broad topic and is of concern to almost every social agency. Indications are that the incidence of desertion has been increasing in recent years. Desertion is not however the primary concern of most agencies who deal with it. They see it rather in one or more of its effects on family life. The relief agency for example sees non-support and the attendant economic need to which it gives rise, while child welfare agencies are usually concerned with neglect both physical and emotional, which results from desertion. In the majority of cases, the deserter has already left and is only known to the agency by hearsay. For these reasons, desertion is often defined in terms of its effects and many biases exist regarding its causes.

Treatment in the past has usually been punitive and has been related to laws which seek to compel support or to forbid neglect, but these efforts appear to have had little effect on the rate of desertion itself. Social agencies tended to relieve the effects of desertion through financial assistance or child welfare programs, but have not as a rule been able to deal directly with desertion in a preventive or treatment way.

Since desertion by the breadwinner in the family often has the greatest economic effect on the family, the deserting

man has commonly come to be considered the typical deserter. Usually, he has already left and is therefore convicted in the public mind and held responsible for all the results of family disorganization whether these existed prior to the leaving or not.

In view of these facts, this study will focus on the male deserter, with a view to trying to see if there are any distinctive common patterns of behavior exhibited by the deserter which might lead to an explanation of this particular type of behavior. When one compares desertion with other forms of family disorganization such as divorce, separation, and various degrees of estrangement, which form a good part of social agencies' case loads, one is struck not only by the many effects that these have in common, but also by the many causes attributed to them in common. At this point the question that comes to mind is, what if anything is there that is distinctive about desertion? If we could answer this question it might lead to a better and earlier approach to the problems involved and better programs for both the deserter and the deserted family.

Interest in this subject seems to have been increasing in the last few years. The Canadian Welfare Council has set up a committee on desertion, and indeed it was a former secretary of that committee, Mr. C. Patrick, presently the Director of the City of Winnipeg Public Welfare Department, who suggested the topic to the Manitoba School of Social Work for study. The result has been a group research project carried out by ten members of the second year class in co-operation with the faculty advisers and five social agencies in the city of Winnipeg on the

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general topic of desertion. The study is limited to the area of Winnipeg proper and bases its results on information from a sample of cases open in the five agencies during the month of October, 1957.

This report will deal with one aspect of that study in an effort to answer the question, what if anything is distinctive about the deserter? Because it was desirable to limit the subject in terms of time available, the author felt that since the effects of desertion by the breadwinner are of more general interest, it would be logical to study only the male deserter. Also, it was felt there might be different factors involved between men and women deserters and that this division might well serve to exclude some of the uncontrollable variables and so produce results that were more comparable.

When one considers causes and effects of desertion, they are usually in terms of, marital conflict, environmental, economic or social pressures, economic need, and physical or emotional neglect. All of these can, however, be shown to accompany most other forms of marital disorganization so that if there is anything distinctive about desertion, it would probably be found in the personality of the individual who resorts to this solution in the face of any of the above pressures. However, because the results of this study will be based only on information available in records of social agencies, it is apparent that there are severe limitations, regarding what might be learned about the personality of the deserter. If, however, desertion is a solution for marital conflict or outside pres-

asures, the use of which depends on certain personality traits, then the effect of these traits might be seen in the stability of adjustment made by the deserter in other life situations. Desertion may represent the results of several types of personality traits, for instance, some persons might use escape or running away as a defence against the anxiety caused by pressures and conflicts of marriage while the sociopathic person may simply not have any sense of responsibility and might leave difficult situations for what appear to be less difficult ones at the time. In either case, the results would be similar. However, since it has often been demonstrated that people tend to use the same patterns of behavior repeatedly, it ought to be possible to see the results of the use of these patterns in the adjustment made by deserters to other life situations. If this can be shown, the study might serve to indicate the possible validity of this approach and present some ideas or methods of approach which might be useful in a further more detailed study.

In order to investigate this hypothesis regarding male deserters, the male partners in this study will be divided into two groups according to whether they are deserting or deserted husbands. These groups will be compared with regard to their adjustment in five different respects. These include, the frequency of previous desertion in marriage or common law unions, the stability and type of occupation, the type and amount of educational attainment, their use of alcohol, and their use of leisure time. It was thought that an investigation of previous desertion might demonstrate the tendency for behavior to be repeat-

ed and that it would be significant if it could be shown to be used exclusively by deserters. Work history, education, use of alcohol were selected as areas in which information might be available within the limits of this study, which would show patterns of adjustment. Where possible comparisons will be made with other studies or census figures.

The source of the data used in this study is the records of the social agencies co-operating in the study. The reading of the files was done by all ten members of the project, and they were not confined to any specific part of the file, but only to the file open in the agency where the sample had placed the individual. No clues were followed to other agency records or to agency records other than files.

The method of securing the necessary data was simply the reading of the files. An effort to obtain an objective and consistent interpretation of the available information was made in that a schedule, see appendix A, was prepared from questions submitted by each investigator, and a set of instructions for answering the questions was drawn up. Controversial points and ambiguities were discussed, settled, and added to the instructions as the study progressed. Because the original number of cases selected by the agencies was too large, in view of the time available, a random sample was taken except that the percentages contributed to the sample by the various agencies were kept in the same ratio as their contribution to the original group.

The original group was collected by the agencies from

records open during Oct. 1957, according to a definition of desertion, the elements of which were that desertion consists of apartness without agreement. During the course of time this was found to be an inadequate definition and it was modified. Any cases which did not fit the new definition were discarded from the sample. The final definition contained three elements: that there must be apartness without agreement, non-support, and that the deserter was determined by intent to live apart without agreement and not to support. This was to include three general categories as follows; that the husband was wilfully living apart from the family and non-support existed; that the husband was wilfully living apart from the family and there was a court order to support the family; or that the wife was living apart from the family and had not followed up with a court action for support, or if she had she was not upheld by the court's decision.

The question of who deserted was determined on the basis of intent to live apart and will be referred to as the deserting group for purposes of this report. The other partners will be grouped and referred to as the deserted group. In this report, only the men are included in both of these groups. Previous desertions could not be defined with regard to duration since in most cases this was not given so that it was presumed that if they were significant enough to be recorded, they constituted previous desertion. This will be interpreted as a measure of ability or desire to adapt to marriage and will be taken as an indication of adjustment.

Adjustment in work history and occupation will be measured by stability through such things as employment status at the time of desertion, type of employment, regularity of employment over a number of years, mobility of employment. Adjustment in education will be measured by level of education and by tendency to complete courses of education.

Adjustment in regard to drinking habits will be measured by how often it was considered to be a problem by the wife and the social worker, and by whether it was done in the family setting or away from it and finally by a count of referrals to alcoholics anonymous. Adjustment in leisure time activities will be determined largely on whether leisure time was spent with the family or outside of it.

The limitations in this study fall into three general categories. The limitations regarding available data come from the fact that the study was done from agency records. These records were not prepared for research purposes so that the data available was not consistent and the results available were reduced. The fact that five agencies were involved with their different foci and policies further reduced the possibility of getting complete data for any but the most superficial questions. The fact that the records were prepared by numerous people with a variety of levels of professional ability and that the information could not be verified, reduced the accuracy of the data. Data concerning some of the absentee deserters was gathered by hearsay from the remaining partner and so doubtless added bias to the data. The fact that there were ten readers may have introduced some difference of inter-

pretation despite efforts to guard against this. Regarding this particular study, the alteration of definition reduced the deserted group and thus in many cases made comparisons less reliable. The lack of valid detailed information rendered the results suspect and so limited the conclusions to an indication of a possibility. Regarding the comparability of the results with outside studies or norms the number of cases in the samples were too small to give reliably comparable results. The area of the study was limited but the significance of this was not evaluated. Since Winnipeg proper is the centre of a large metropolitan area, which some groups tend to leave to live in the suburbs, comparisons could not be made without evaluating this factor. The time of the study was limited but again was not evaluated to see if it affected the sample. The records were selected from social agencies and so were only representative of the part of the population using social agencies. Here again the results could not be said to be valid for social agencies in Winnipeg since the agencies used were selected arbitrarily and did not represent all or a random sample of agencies in Winnipeg.

In view of these limitations, the results of this study can only be said to be true of the group studied at the time and place as defined, that comparisons either with norms or other studies are suspect and that all conclusions must be limited to an indication of a possibility.

Chapter two will review some of the background with respect to trends of interest in, and approach to the subject, similar approaches to the present study, and any material re-

lating to the areas of adjustment under investigation. Chapter three will outline the method of collection and analysis of data. Chapter four will analyze the data. Chapter five will summarize the results and present the conclusions and suggestions for further study.

CHAPTER II

BACKGROUND

A perusal of some of the literature on family desertion indicates that this subject has been approached in many ways in the past. Most legal systems reflect the public's concern to preserve family stability, either by legislation directed against desertion itself or against its effects. There have been a few studies attempting to analyze the causes and effects of desertion statistically. Others have included it with large studies and compared it with divorce and other forms of family breakdown. Some of these studies were concerned with changing social pressures; others were concerned with linking it with social, racial or religious groups; still others were concerned with marital conflict. Desertion has been defined in various ways depending on whether the focus was legal, social or individual. A very cursory resume is all that will be attempted in this study.

In Canada with one exception, it is the effects of desertion that are legislated against. The criminal code provides that no one shall abandon a child under ten years of age, article 189, and men shall support wives and children, article 186.¹ This act, in addition to this provides for interprovin-

¹Canada, Criminal Code and Selected Statutes, 1953-54, Chap., 51, Part IV, sec. 186 and 189, PP 67-68.

cial extradition and stiff Penal sentences. Each of the provinces have additional and separate legislation that is comparable in a general way. Manitoba's will serve as an example. The Wives and Children's Maintenance Act of Manitoba provides for court orders against non-supporters.¹ Most provinces have a child welfare act in addition to this which provides for the removal of children where neglect exists and the collection of payments for their support either from the parents or their municipality of residence.² At about the turn of the century, the legislative approach to the problem of desertion was a live issue. Articles in the Charities Review for the year 1905, by such authors as Mary Richmond and W. H. Baldwin, indicated a lively controversy over the use of punitive legislation and the possibility of inter-state extradition. There were those who felt that the punitive approach was useless while others felt deserters should be made to accept their responsibilities.

Early in the century some interest developed in studying desertion statistically and these studies concerned themselves with some of the causes and effects of desertion. Lillian Brandt did one of these early studies in 1901 and reported on it in an article in the Charities Review in 1905.³ Another study

¹Revised Statutes of Manitoba, 1954, Vol., 4; Chap., 294, PP 369-477; The Wives and Children's Maintenance Act.

²Revised Statutes of Manitoba, 1954, Vol., 1 Chap., 35, PP 303-364; The Child Welfare Act of Manitoba.

³L. Brandt, "Broken families," Charities, XIV (April-1905), PP 665-670.

done by Zelma Smith in the Associated Charities of Boston was reported on by Mr. W. H. Baldwin in his article in the same magazine in 1905.¹ Another noteworthy study was done by Colcord and published in book form in 1919.² Following this Mary Richmond treated desertion in one chapter of her *Social Diagnosis* and posed a number of questions about desertion designed to help understand the deserter and the problems he left his family to face.³ All of these studies and articles were concerned with the social problems resulting from desertion and to a lesser degree with causes of desertion and the deserter himself. They tried to relate cause to a rather heterogeneous mixture of social and economic pressures, marital conflicts and some individual personality traits. Their classification of results was a mixture the significance of which was difficult to interpret.

In the 1920's, the emphasis seems to have shifted to a study of the family itself and was focused on the sequence of events leading to desertion and divorce, rather than on the actual breakdown or its results. Authors like Groves, Mowrer, Nimkoff and others began to evaluate the changing role of the family in a changing society. They classified causes of marital

¹W. H. Baldwin, "Family Desertion and Non Support", *Charities*, XIV (April-1905), PP 660-664.

²J. C. Colcord, Broken Homes-A Study of Family Desertion and Its Social Treatment, (New York: The Russell Sage Foundation, 1919).

³Mary E. Richmond, Social Diagnosis, (New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 1917), Chap., 22, PP 395-400.

al conflict under broad headings and began to define divorce and desertion as solutions or results of marital conflict.

Mowrer says, "Divorce and desertion are but forms of family disorganization, and may be taken to indicate the completion of the process of family disorganization, ie. that series of events leading to the breakdown and discontinuance of family relationships."¹ Or again, "The legal aspects of marriage and divorce are recognition by the community or state that family attitudes have been established or discontinued."² These definitions are typical of the thinking of the time. This group of authors seems to be primarily concerned to show how the change in social and cultural values upsets traditional family organization. Groves says, "Desertion, like divorce, is an expression of the instability of modern family life and it can be more successfully attacked by efforts to reinforce the family and to procure social conditions that will add to its health than by regarding desertion as a crime that deserves just punishment."³ While this is no doubt true to an extent, an argument as to whether society produces the individual or the individual produces society, is much like the old argument of which came first, the chicken or the egg. It is almost certainly true that both are locked in an inseparable chain of cause and effect. The truth of the matter is probably that people like social work-

¹Ernest R. Mowrer, Family Disorganization, (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1927), P 143.

²I bid., P. 4.

³Ernest R. Groves, Social Problems of the Family, (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1927), P 160.

ers and teachers, who work with individuals or small numbers of individuals, gain more from an understanding of the individual which leads to individual progress, while society constitutes the limitations and pressures; on the other hand the social reformer may gain more by his understanding of society which leads to social progress, while individuals provide the limitations and pressures.

Since the advent of the Freudian influence on social work, the concentration has been on understanding the individual personality, particularly regarding treatment. We evaluate the environment, but we deal with the individual. As early as 1901, Lilian Brandt described the deserter in terms of personality as follows, "He is young, able bodied, more or less dissipated, capable of earning good wages, but rarely in a mood for making the exertion, and, above all he is lacking in the quality which makes an obligation to others, outweigh considerations of personal comfort or preference."¹ This is obviously an evaluation of personality although it hasn't proved to be typical in the face of subsequent studies. It is an illustration of an early attempt to evaluate personality in relation to a problem. J. T. Zukerman in a recent article defined desertion as follows, "A man who deserts his family is abnormally fleeing from a situation which he cannot face and work out - either for the purpose of living with it or working it through intelligently by the use of accepted

¹L. Brandt, Five Hundred and Seventy-five Deserters and Their Families, PP. 18-19; Cited by Colcord, Broken Homes. (New York: Russell Sage Foundation 1919), PP. 44-45.

community channels."¹ ¹⁵ Here again the abnormal fleeing could be part of a personality pattern dependent on several traits.

The idea that there is any particular type of personality more apt to succeed in marriage is untenable because marriage consists of two people living together. As long as success is measured in terms of duration and compatability, the compatability must be measured rather than any average or fictitious norm. This has been well demonstrated by Bergler² and also by Hollis³ in their books on the subject.

On the other hand, in considering desertion, if one considers only the solution to the conflict rather than the conflict itself, because it contains intent without agreement, one can neglect the other partner and hypothesize that the use of desertion is specifically dependent on the personality of the deserter. It would appear feasible that desertion could depend on a fairly specific personality characteristic or on several fairly specific types of characteristics.

This is of course the point of departure of this study with the modification that since data is not directly available on personality, this study will try to locate patterns specific to deserters in other areas of living which might indicate the validity of this approach.

¹Jacob T. Zukerman, "The role of the public agency with the deserted family", Public Welfare, Vol., XV (July 19, 1957), P. 105.

²Edmund Bergler, Unhappy Marriage and Divorce; a study of neurotic choice of Marriage Partners. (International Universities Press, 1946).

³Florence Hollis, Women in Marital Conflict, a case-work study. (New York family service assn., of America, 1949).

The idea that behavior and attitude are dependent on personality and that they tend to be repeated either in the face of pressure from without or in an effort to satisfy an internal drive, was originally demonstrated by Freud and has been in use for some time. There are a variety of personality types in which repetition takes place and these are well documented by Fenichel with original references to Freud and others¹. In explanation Fenichel says, "Neurotic phenomena are characterized by the fact that the patients, instead of reacting vividly to actual stimuli, according to their specific nature, react repeatedly with rigid patterns. The instinctual impulses themselves are also repetitive: they are felt periodically and tend to take the same course each time. Besides, there are unproblematic repetitions, like other repetitions of actions and attitudes that once proved useful, that occur whenever similar conditions again prevail, or generally, repetitions in response to repeating (or similar) stimuli."² It is because of this tendency for behavior and attitudes to be repeated that the author hopes to find indications of adjustments in other areas of living similar to those made by deserters in their marital situations.

¹Otto Fenichel, M. D., The Psychoanalytic Theory of Neurosis, (New York: W.W. Norton and Company Inc., 1945), PP 525, 542, 153.

²Ibid., PP 541-542.

CHAPTER III

METHOD

The material for this research project was obtained as part of a group study, done by ten students from the second year class in the School of Social Work, carried out in five social agencies in Winnipeg. The agencies finally included in the study were, Manitoba Family Court, Family Bureau of Greater Winnipeg, Children's Aid Society of Greater Winnipeg, City of Winnipeg Public Welfare Department, and the Manitoba Division of Public Welfare Services. Of these, the agency covering the smallest area was the City of Winnipeg Public Welfare Department, so this was taken as the area of the study. The population investigated was therefore Winnipeg residents who use the five agencies listed above.

The five agencies were responsible for listing all cases of family desertion which were open during the month of October, 1957. These cases were selected by them on the basis of a tentative definition drawn up by the class which specified that they must be cases where marital partners were living apart without agreement, and that one partner must be living within Winnipeg. In this manner, 773 cases were selected in six social agencies and formed the original sample based on area and time. The Child Guidance Clinic of Winnipeg was the sixth agency, but was excluded later as will be seen.

Each student chose the aspect of desertion in which he was interested and prepared questions whose answers it was hoped would throw light on that particular aspect. These questions were included in a tentative schedule which was to be completed by the students by reading agency files. A test run was made with this schedule and the results pointed out some of the limits of information available, resulting in modifications, omissions, and reorganization of the schedule which appears in its final form in appendix A. The test run also provided a measure of the probable time involved in reading files and it was decided in view of this to use a one third sample of the original 733 cases.

The sample was prepared by a random sampling method with the following two exceptions. The ratio of the cases from each agency included in the sample was kept in proportion to the number originally submitted by that agency. It was also decided that because of the small size of the sample, duplications arising from cases carried in two agencies and names drawn twice from one agency should be avoided. Duplications between agencies were eliminated by a draw in which the chances of either agency being drawn were balanced in proportion to the number of times the duplication had appeared in that agency sample. All duplications were discarded and then replaced by a further draw. This procedure resulted in a list of 260 cases from six agencies. As the schedule was produced and tested, a more definite definition of desertion was arrived at and it was found that on reading the files, many of the cases did not fall within the definition and so these were excluded. The one case which was

to have come from the Child Guidance Clinic was excluded on this basis, so the final sample consisted of 111 cases from five social agencies and included one duplicate which eluded us and was not noticed until much later. For purposes of this study, this duplication was allowed to remain since many of the calculations had already been made.

The reading of the files and the filling in of the schedules was done by all students according to an instruction sheet prepared to help ensure uniformity of interpretation. Any problems which arose were discussed at the time and the decision added to the instruction sheet. The information came from any part of the file. The fact that ten people read files might introduce some limitations in accuracy and uniformity despite the precautions taken, however, this was probably more than compensated for by the dilution of personal bias which would result from this method. The completed schedules were checked to ensure that all answers were completed in accordance with instructions and to exclude any obvious inconsistencies. It was however impossible to reread all the files or check the actual information in any way. All the data from the checked schedules was coded and photostated onto 111 cards which were used in the analysis of the separate studies by each student.

The analysis for this study was based on the questions presented by this author for inclusion on the schedule and fell into six categories. (For actual questions see schedule appendix A.) The first of these was based on question eleven which was concerned with who was the deserter and was to be answered on the basis of intent, ie. who had made the decision to desert.

It was expected that by the answers to this question the men could be divided into the deserted and deserting groups and these could be compared in respect to the remaining categories. There were two cases where both partners deserted which will be ignored in this study because they could not form a significant group of their own. A table will be set up to show the breakdown of this group and percentages will be calculated to allow comparison with other figures. They will be compared with the results of the trial run in order to show the effect of definition on these figures.

The two groups of deserted and deserting husbands will be compared to see how often desertion was used previously. This will be taken as an indication of marital adjustment in that temporary desertion previous to final desertion indicates previous attempts to break up the marriage, while the deserted husband, if he has not resorted to this has apparently been content to continue to live with his family. If desertion occurs repeatedly in the deserting group, it should show that the idea, that behavior is repeated, is true for this area at least. The percentage of repeaters will be calculated and compared to other studies. The information regarding previous desertion will come from questions sixteen and seventeen on the schedule.

The next category will deal with work history of the man and it was hoped that some distinctive behavior patterns would be found for the deserter as compared to the deserted. The information came from questions thirty-five, thirty-six, thirty-seven, thirty-nine and forty. These questions tried to establish a classification of occupation according to the one used by

the Unemployment Insurance Commission¹, (only the very broad headings were used, but each case was classified according to that definition), to determine employment status at the time of desertion, to determine the type of employment- ie. full time, seasonal or casual, to establish regularity of employment- ie. number of times employed in the last three years, and to determine whether the man was employed in town or out of town. If the deserting husbands are not as well adjusted in their work settings, the answers should indicate irregular types of jobs and irregular employment, both with regard to place and time.

The next category to be dealt with will be education and the information will be based on answers to question fifty-two. From this information two aspects will be considered, the level or educational attainment and the fact of whether the various levels of education had been completed or not. Lower average education for either group will indicate that they were not as well adjusted to the trend toward higher education which has taken place of late years. A comparison with census figures will also show whether the groups are above or below the norm for Winnipeg. A comparison of the two groups to see which one has a higher percentage who complete their courses will also indicate which group is the more stable.

The next category will deal with drinking habits and problems. The information will come from questions thirty to thirty-three inclusive. These questions sought to show where the drink-

¹U. S. Division of Standards and Research, Department of Labour, Dictionary of Occupational Titles, Part II (United States Government Printing Office Washington, 1939)

ing was done, whether it constituted a problem in the opinion of the wives and the social workers, and attempted to count the incidence of alcoholics by the number of referrals to Alcoholics Anonymous. The author chose to look at this question because it is often related to marital discord, both in the public mind and in books on the subject. It was felt that information would be available and might indicate a specific pattern for deserting husbands. Drinking itself was not considered to be associated directly with desertion or any form of marital conflict on the other hand since marital stability depends on compatibility it might be possible to show that in those cases where desertion occurs the couple did not enjoy drinking together in the home. It was therefore asked whether the husbands drank at home or away from home. With regard to those who would be shown to be drinking to excess, it was thought this might indicate instability and so it was asked how many had been refused to Alcoholics Anonymous. Because an evaluation of the effect of drinking on marital happiness is very difficult, it was felt that a comparison of the wife's and the social worker's opinions would be interesting.

The next category to be dealt with will be the use of leisure time and the data will come from question thirty-four. This will be limited to a consideration of whether the marital partners spent their leisure time together or apart and who went out. Here word answers were given as quotations from the file and will be classified according to the above two aspects. It is hoped that the results may show that the use of leisure time by the deserting group may represent desertion in miniature, ie.

it may be found they spent their time away from home and separate from their wives.

The comparisons in this study will be made by working out percentages and presenting them in tables where the differences between the deserting and deserted groups can be noted.

Several comparisons will be made with previous studies regarding the incidence of repeaters among deserters, and the incidence of unemployment among deserters. Others will be made with the incidence of alcoholics in Manitoba and the number of years of schooling for males in Winnipeg. While the validity of these comparisons may be questioned because of the small numbers in some of the samples and the specialized definition by which they were selected, it is thought that they may prove interesting.

There are several limitations to the method of comparing the two groups of deserting and deserted husbands in this study. The total group was selected by a special definition while only one element of that definition was considered in separating the two groups. The deserted group is too small. The severest limitation is of course the large number of times when information was not given which cut down the figures and made the validity of the findings doubtful.

CHAPTER IV

ANALYSIS

Of the 111 cases studied, it was found that the husbands could be divided into two groups according to whether they did the deserting or whether they were deserted, in view of the data from question eleven. As shown in table one, the basic groups will consist of eighty-six deserting husbands and twenty-three deserted husbands. The two where both partners deserted will be ignored in all subsequent tables and comparisons.

TABLE I

DISTRIBUTION OF CASES BY MARITAL PARTNER DESERTING

Deserting Partner	Number	Percentage
Husband	86	77.5%
Wife	23	20.8%
Both	2	1.7%
Total	111	100.0%

Percentages have been calculated so as to be comparable with other studies, but the limitations of comparability must be remembered. As an illustration of these limits regarding comparability in the deserted group, the question of who deserted was decided by intent, while the whole group was selected on the basis of non-support being a part of desertion. This would tend to cut down the proportion of wives deserting in the sample since there is no legislation to compel wives to support husbands.

This was borne out by my own memory of several cases discarded for this reason and by the test run in which the total group was selected on the basis of apartness without agreement. In this test run, there were fourteen male deserters, fourteen female deserters and one where both deserted, out of a total of twenty-nine.

TABLE 2

A COMPARISON BY NUMBERS AND PERCENTAGE OF DESERTING AND DESERTED HUSBANDS BY WHETHER OR NOT THERE WAS PREVIOUS DESERTION

Previous Desertion	Deserted Husband		Deserting Husband	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Previous Desertion	0	0%	32	36%
No Previous Desertion	18	78%	32	36%
Not Given	5	22%	22	28%
Total	23	100%	86	100%

The next question to be looked at is marital adjustment as shown by previous use of desertion. As shown in table two, none of the deserted group had ever deserted, but 50% of the deserting husbands, for whom this information was available, had deserted previously. Regarding frequency of previous desertion of the thirty-two cases where previous desertion occurred, the number of times was available in only half the cases and these varied from one to five. The balance stated that it had occurred several times or often so that all that can be concluded is that in more than half the cases where previous desertion occurred, it occurred several times.

If one presumes that amount of marital conflict or pressure on the marriages is roughly equal in these two groups, then it is interesting that none of the deserted group ever used this

solution. Also, the idea that patterns tend to be repeated is borne out by the number of times desertion was used more than once.

One can compare the incidence of previous desertion with that found in other studies, Colcord reported eighty-seven percent in her study¹ had deserted more than once, while O'Neill reported fifty percent in his study². In making this comparison, the limitations of comparability must be kept in mind and it is probable that the differences are due largely to differences in definition and groups studied. Also, the fact that this study only considers desertion by men, would limit the comparability.

The next category to be considered is work history and the first aspect of this is occupation. Occupations are classified according to the classification used by the unemployment insurance commission with an added category for armed services. The ones which could not be classified for lack of information were coded separately but are classed along with those not given for this study.

It is interesting that the percentage of clerical and service occupations are larger in the deserted group and smaller in the deserting group, while the percentage of skilled and unskilled in the deserting group are very large and considerably smaller in the deserted group. It should be mentioned that

¹J.C. Colcord, Broken Homes, A Study of Family Desertion and its Social Treatment, New York, Russell Sage Foundation, 1919 PP. 7-8.

²E.F. O'Neill, "Report on a study of one hundred cases of desertion", The Family, IX (January 1929) PP. 287-91.

skilled labourers included truck drivers and there was a considerable number of these in the deserting group.

TABLE 3

A COMPARISON OF DESERTING AND DESERTED HUSBANDS BY
OCCUPATION

Occupation *(N.E.S. Classification)	Deserted Husbands		Deserting Husbands	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Professional	1	4.3%	1	1.2%
Clerical	3	13.1	6	6.9
Agricultural	0	0.0	1	1.2
Skilled	5	21.7	33	38.4
Semi-skilled	0	0.0	3	3.5
Unskilled	2	8.7	22	25.6
Armed Services	1	4.3	2	2.3
Not Given	8	30.4	15	17.4
Service	3	13.1	3	3.5
Total	23	100.0%	86	100.0%

*U.S. Division of Standards and Research, Department of Labour, Dictionary of Occupational Titles, Part ii (United States Government Printing Office Washington, 1939).

The next aspect of work history to be considered is employment status at the time of desertion. The subjects were classified as to whether they were employed, unemployed or retired in table four, (Page 29). This study is mainly concerned in showing a significant difference between the two groups and while the deserted group shows a slightly higher percentage of employment than the deserting group, and the deserting group shows a slightly higher percentage of unemployed. It is difficult to tell how significant this is in view of the small numbers involved.

TABLE 4

A COMPARISON OF DESERTING AND DESERTED HUSBANDS BY EMPLOY-
MENT STATUS

Employment Status	Deserted Husbands		Deserting Husbands	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Employed	14	60.9%	46	53.5%
Unemployed	3	13.1	19	22.1
Retired	1	4.3	0	0.0
Not Given	5	21.7	21	24.4
Total	23	100.0%	86	100.0%

The incidence of unemployment in the deserting group is quite high, but is certainly not present in the majority of cases as was stated in a study done on desertion in Manitoba by the Welfare Supervision Board (in 1931). They claimed that in the majority of cases where desertion occurred, the man had been unemployed for several years¹. This is more likely a product of the depression than a direct cause of desertion, if their statistics are accurate.

The next aspect of work history was a comparison of types of employment, that is, whether employment was full time, seasonal or casual. The results appear in table five, (Page 30). This table shows a lower percentage of deserting husbands with regular full time jobs and regular seasonal jobs. On the other hand, there is a large number of deserting husbands with casual jobs compared to none in the deserted group. The percentage of those not given remains about the same, so the main limitation here appears to be the small numbers involved.

TABLE 5

A COMPARISON OF DESERTING AND DESERTED HUSBANDS BY TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT

Type of Employment	Deserted Husbands		Deserting Husbands	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Full Time Regular	10	43.5%	29	33.7%
Seasonal Regular	2	8.7	3	3.5
Casual	0	0.0	14	16.3
Not Given	11	47.8	40	46.5
Total	23	100.0%	86	100.0%

The next aspect of work history considered was the number

¹Report on the Problem of Family Desertion in Manitoba. By the Welfare Supervision Board of Manitoba. Report #7, Dept. of Public Health and Welfare, April 1931, P 12.

of jobs held in the past three years. The results are given in table six. The three year period was considered fairly short, but represented the maximum that could be expected in

TABLE 6

A COMPARISON OF DESERTING AND DESERTED HUSBANDS BY NUMBER OF JOBS FOR THE THREE YEARS

Number of Jobs In Three Years	Deserted Husbands		Deserting Husbands	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
One	5	21.7%	11	12.7%
Several	3	13.1	28	32.6
Not Given	15	65.2	47	54.7
Total	23	100.0%	86	100.0%

the files. The classification was therefore simplified to show only those with one job and those with several. The ones with several are presumed to be an indication of instability. Obviously, there would be exceptions to this since stable persons do change jobs sometimes, but the results show sufficient difference between the two groups that this probably could not be accounted for by normal job changes. Again the deserted group showed a larger percentage with one job than did the deserting group and the reverse is true of those with several jobs. There is a difference of ten percent in the not given category. This would probably depress the results for both those with one and several jobs in the deserted group. If this is true, the slight difference this would cause probably would not affect the observed trend, but would modify the ratio to some extent.

Of the three deserted and twenty-eight deserting husbands who had several jobs in the last three years, it was determined, by the data from question forty-one, that all three of the deserted husbands had had all their jobs in town while

nine of the deserting husbands had jobs out of town. Employment mobility might also indicate instability of employment. Again there are mobile types of employment which are stable these days and no attempt was made to evaluate this. It is, however, doubtful if this factor could account for all of the trend shown.

The next category to be examined is adjustment to education. The results are rather superficial in this area because of the few details one could hope to get. In table seven, (page 32), since answers were available for both academic and other types of training for some and not for others, these two types of training have been separated to allow counting cases in both categories when possible.

TABLE 7

A COMPARISON OF DESERTED AND DESERTING HUSBANDS BY EDUCATION

Level of Education	Deserted Husbands		Deserting Husbands	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Academic Training				
Incomplete Public School	0	0.0%	11	12.8%
Complete Public School	0	0.0	8	9.3
Incomplete High School	2	8.7	11	12.8
Complete High School	1	4.3	3	3.5
Incomplete University	0	0.0	1	1.2
Complete University	1	4.3	0	0.0
Not Given	19	82.7	52	60.4
Total	23	100.0%	86	100.0%

Additional Training

Level of Education	Deserted Husbands		Deserting Husbands	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
On The Job Training	1	4.3%	6	7.0%
Vocational Training	0	0.0	4	4.7
Professional Training	1	4.3	2	2.3
Not Given	21	91.4	74	86.0
Total	23	100.0%	86	100.0%

Certainly these results are too limited to be valid, but there are a couple of interesting points. Of the answers given, the deserted group tend to be concentrated a little higher on the scale than do the deserting group. Other training was reported a little oftener in the deserting group, but this may partially be due to the slightly higher percent reporting, or may be related to the higher percentage of skilled labour reported in the work history.

A more interesting point, however, is that in the academic training, the deserting group shows a distinct concentration in the incomplete categories while the deserted group does not. If the figures were large enough, this should be valid evidence of a specific pattern of adjustment.

In order to assess the sample in comparison with the population of Winnipeg, the cases for which there was information were compared to years of schooling for the male population of Winnipeg as it appears in the 1951 census. Since the figures were given in years of schooling for age groups ten to seventy and over, in five and ten year periods for males not attending school, it was necessary to figure out the distribution of age in this sample as of 1951, and to compare them with the equiva-

lent from the census table. This sample was found to vary from twelve to fifty-nine years of age in 1951, and so had to be compared with the figures for the male population of Winnipeg from ten to sixty-four. These groups were totaled and percentages worked out and the results appear in table eight (page 34). It was necessary to combine the second and third categories in the census into the class one to eight years schooling as this division was not made in this study. One limitation of this method is that years of school are not directly comparable with grade attained. It is interesting to notice that the deserting group maintained a level slightly below the norm for Winnipeg, while the deserted group are above, but the figures are obviously too small to mean much.

TABLE 8

A COMPARISON OF DESERTED AND DESERTING HUSBANDS AND MALE POPULATION OF WINNIPEG FROM CENSUS BY YEARS OF SCHOOLING

Years at School	Male Pop. of Wpg.*		Deserted Husb.		Deserting Husb.	
	No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage
0	1230	1.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
1-8	27966	39.8	0	0.0	19	50.0
9-12	34071	48.4	3	60.0	14	36.8
13-16	4971	7.1	1	20.0	5	13.2
17	2115	3.0	1	20.0	0	0.0
Total	70353	100.0%	5	100.0%	38	100.0%

*Census of Canada, 1951, Population, Vol II, Years of Schooling by Cities and Age, (Queen's Printer Ottawa 1951), table 29-17.

The next category is the use of alcohol. In order to assess the number of persons whose drinking was thought to constitute a problem, it was asked in how many cases the wife thought this was a problem and in how many cases the social

worker thought so. The results are given in table nine, and it would appear that there is more difference in the opinions of the observers than in the drinking habits of the husbands. The wives of the deserted husbands felt it was a problem nine percent oftener than the wives of the deserting husbands, while the social worker felt it was a problem only eight percent oftener in the deserted group. This is offset by the fact that there were nineteen percent more answers for the deserted group and if the percentage was calculated excluding those for which the data was not available, the trend would have been reversed.

TABLE 9

A COMPARISON OF DESERTED AND DESERTING HUSBANDS BY WIVES' AND SOCIAL WORKER'S OPINIONS AS TO WHETHER DRINKING WAS A PROBLEM

Opinion re Drinking	Deserted Husbands		Deserting Husbands	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage

Opinion of Wife

A Problem	10	43.4%	30	34.9%
Not a Problem	4	17.5	6	7.0
Not Given	9	39.1	50	58.1
Total	23	100.0%	86	100.0%

Opinion of Social Worker

A Problem	2	8.7%	14	16.3%
Not a Problem	5	21.7	5	5.8
Not Given	16	69.6	67	77.9
Total	23	100.0%	86	100.0%

It was also thought that drinking habits might be different as regards where the drinking was done so it was asked whether they drank away from home or at home. These results appear in table ten. From the results it appears that there is no significant difference in the place of drinking between the

TABLE 10

A COMPARISON OF DESERTED AND DESERTING HUSBANDS BY PLACE OF DRINKING

Place of Drinking	Deserted Husbands		Deserting Husbands	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Drank at Home	1	4.3%	3	3.5%
Drank Out	5	21.8	18	20.9
Not Given	16	69.6	64	74.4
Not Applicable	1	4.3	1	1.2
Total	23	100.0%	86	100.0%

two groups. It is interesting that the figures are so high for those who drank away from home. Since both of these groups can be considered to have been living in a state of marital conflict, perhaps this is not surprising. The not applicable group consisted of those who could definitely be said not to drink, therefore it is rather interesting to see a slightly larger percentage in the deserted group. The fact that the figures are so small makes it impossible to conclude anything, but perhaps it indicates that stability or instability could more easily be shown by counting none-drinkers than attempting to look at differences in the use of alcohol.

Finally in an effort to evaluate the actual incidence of alcoholism in these groups, all files which mentioned a referral to Alcoholics Anonymous were counted. The results appear in table eleven. The numbers involved are rather small, but are presented with these reservations. There is a higher percentage of referrals in the deserted husbands but whether this indicates more alcoholics, more knowledge of deserters, or more use of community resources is difficult to tell. If, however, one compared the results with the normal incidence of alcoholism

TABLE 11

A COMPARISON OF DESERTED AND DESERTING HUSBANDS BY REFERRAL
TO ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Referral to A.A.	Deserted Husbands		Deserting Husbands	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Referral to A.A.	2	8.7%	2	2.3%
No Referral to A.A.	21	91.3	84	97.7
Total	23	100.0%	86	100.0%

in Manitoba, this might shed some light on the meaning of these figures. The Committee on Alcoholism for Manitoba, using the Parran formula, estimated that 65% of the adult population of Manitoba consume alcoholic beverages and that 6% of these are alcoholics, and that the ratio of men to women is five to one¹. It follows therefore that 3.25% of the adult male population should be alcoholics. In view of this it follows that our 8.7% of deserted husbands is a relatively high figure and that the 2.3% figure for deserting husbands is slightly below that expected.

The last category that we were interested in investigating was use of leisure time. Few results were obtained but they are given and classified in table twelve. Of the

TABLE 12

A COMPARISON OF DESERTED AND DESERTING HUSBANDS BY USE OF
LEISURE TIME

Use of Leisure Time	Deserted Husband		Deserting Husband	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Husband Went Out Wife Stayed Home	1	4.3%	6	6.9%
Husband Stayed Home Wife Went Out	1	4.3	0	0.0
Went Out Together	2	8.7	0	0.0
Not Given	19	82.7	80	93.1
Total	23	100.0%	86	100.0%

¹The Committee on Alcoholism for Manitoba, The Problem of Alcoholism, Brief, presented to The Manitoba Liquor Enquiry Commission; (The Alcoholism Foundation of Manitoba, 1954), P 5.

answers given, it is interesting that the deserting group all did the same thing, while the deserted group were spread in all categories. In the deserting group the activities included gambling, drinking with friends, and parties. The deserted husband who stayed home had a hobby raising rare gold fish. Of the two cases in the deserted group where they still went out together, they could not agree while they were out together.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

The data presented in Chapter IV shows some differences in the two groups as compared in this study. The numbers of cases where data was not available, constitutes^t an extreme limitation and when this is added to the other limitations already discussed, it becomes difficult to say whether these differences would be maintained even for this study if data were available. All that can be said then is that there appears to be a tendency for these differences to exist in the subjects for which data was available. The results can have no applicability to other areas or groups but might be used to indicate possible further study.

The author will therefore draw no general conclusions, but will present a summary of the specific observations and then content himself with a few suggestions concerning their possible use in any further study.

There were five general areas in which observations and comparisons were made between deserting and deserted husbands. The first of these was concerned with previous marital adjustment. The results tended to corroborate previous findings in that the deserting group tended to use desertion repeatedly as a solution for marital conflict while the desert-

ed group did not. The author presumed that marital conflict existed in both groups.

Observations were also made regarding work history to see if any differences in patterns exist between the two groups. In this study, there was a tendency for the deserted group to have a slightly higher concentration in the professional, clerical and service types of employment, while the deserting husbands had a slightly higher concentration in the unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled categories. At the time of desertion, the deserting group had a slightly higher percentage of unemployment. A comparison of regularity of employment based on type of work done, ie., full time, full time seasonal or casual labour, indicated that there was a higher percentage of casual laborers in the deserting group. A comparison of the number of jobs held in the last three years showed the same general distribution with the deserted group having the highest percentage of people with one steady job and the deserting group with the largest percentage of people having had several jobs. Of those in both groups who had several jobs, none in the deserted group worked out of Winnipeg, while half of the ones from the deserting group worked out of Winnipeg.

It therefore becomes evident that for this group at least there is probably a tendency for the deserting group to have a work history characterized by instability of employment in time, place, and type of employment, and to choose jobs of types which generally require less consistent participation in these areas. It was of course impossible within this study to

get any indication of the basis for this.

Another area investigated was the educational standing and history of the two groups. Three observations were made here. First, that the educational attainment of the deserting group tended to be below that of the deserted group. There also seemed to be a tendency for the deserting group to have incomplete school standings more often than did the deserted group. Further a rough comparison with census information indicated that the deserted group had a higher than average number of years schooling, while the deserting group had a lower than average number of years schooling.

Another aspect investigated was the use of alcohol and while there was some slight difference in some figures, no general trend could be seen in this study. Several isolated differences came out. There was a vast difference between the wife's and the social worker's opinions as to whether alcohol constituted a problem. Referrals to Alcoholics Anonymous were higher for the deserted than the deserting group, and also, they were higher than the estimated average for Manitoba. This might partly be due to an broader use of community resources by the deserted group but there may also be a higher incidence of alcoholism.

Another area of interest was the use of leisure time by these two groups. In every case reported from the deserting group, the husband went out alone and the wife was left at home. In the deserted group, this happened in only one case, while in another case the wife went out and left the husband at home,

and in the other two they went out together, but did not agree while they were out. It would appear that about all that can be said is that neither of these two groups spend their leisure time together successfully, but there is a tendency, in that part of the deserting group for which we had answers, for leisure time to constitute a miniature desertion. The numbers are of course too small to even generalize for our own sample.

The most significant thing that this study indicates is that in comparing these two groups, differences can be obtained with some degree of consistency even though both groups have passed through a period of marital conflict which resulted in the dissolution of the marriage. I believe that this difference is a function of whatever is the causal factor in the person's decision to solve his difficulties by means of desertion. Many studies have been done on similarities of divorce, desertion and separation but since these are particular solutions to common problems, I believe these similarities have all been related to the similarity of the common problem and that the real clues to the use of the different solutions lies in a study of their differences.

In desertion, as long as the deserter is defined as one who abandons, with intent and without agreement, he can be thought of as solely responsible for the decision to desert. It therefore follows that in investigating the differences between the deserter and the deserted, one is in effect separating desertion as such from all the other ramifications of marital conflict for which the deserted may be equally respon-

sible. This is unique in desertion because it simplifies the study to a consideration of one partner at a time. In separation and divorce, often both partners have a hand in deciding on the solution to be used. For these reasons, I believe this study has demonstrated a possible valid approach for finding the differences that would indicate the specific personality traits of the deserter. This is borne out by the findings for those of this group for which information was available and within the limitations as stated. There was a tendency for the deserter to use desertion repeatedly, to have an unstable work history, to have a slightly lower and incomplete educational standing, and to spend his leisure time away from his family. Further study might corroborate these findings with a higher degree of reliability, but if the dynamics of the personality involved were to be investigated at a greater depth, the case study method should be employed.

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APPENDIX A

STUDY OF DESERTION School of Social Work University of Manitoba

1957-58

Code _____
Agency File # _____
Agency _____
Reader _____

I Identifying Information

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| *1. Birthdate of husband | 2. Birthdate of wife |
| 3. Country of birth of husband | 4. of wife |
| 5. Year of entry to Canada of husband | 6. of wife |
| 7. Ethnic origin of husband | 8. of wife |
| *9. Religious denomination of husband | 10. of wife |
| 11. Who deserted? 1) husband 2) wife 3) both | |

II Marriage History

12. Date of Marriage 1) _____ 2) N.G. 13. Date of desertion
1) _____ 2) N.G.
- *14. Is this a C.L.U. 1) Yes 2) No 3) N.G.
15. If so, how many years standing 1) _____ 2) N.G. 3) N.A.
16. Did the man desert previously at any time within the
present marriage? 1) Yes 2) No 3) N.G.
17. If yes, record 1) number of times _____ 2) actual
words in record describing frequency of desertion:

18. Did the woman desert previously at anytime within the
present marriage? 1) Yes 2) No 3) N.G.
19. If yes, record 1) number of times _____ 2) actual
words in record describing frequency of desertion:

II cont'd:

- *20. Was man married previously (circle if C.L.U.)
1) Yes 2) No 3) N.G.
21. If yes, was previous marriage dissolved by:
1) desertion 2) divorce 3) separation
4) death 5) other 6) N.G. 7) N.A.
22. Was woman married previously (circle if C.L.U.)
1) Yes 2) No 3) N.G.
23. If yes, was previous marriage dissolved by 1)
desertion 2) divorce 3) separation 4) death
5) other 6) N.G. 7) N.A.
24. Did deserted person set up a C.L.U.? 1) Yes 2) No
3) N.G.
25. If so, how long after 1) _____ 2) N.G.
3) N.A.
26. Did deserting person set up a C.L.U. 1) Yes 2) No
3) N.G.
27. If so, how long after 1) _____ 2) N.G.
3) N.A.
28. Is whereabouts of the deserter known+ 1) Yes 2)
No 3) N.G. 4) Doubtful
29. Was wife pregnant at the time of the desertion? 1)
Yes 2) No 3) N.G.
30. If man drank, was it mainly 1) at home 2) outside
home 3) N.G. 4) N.A.
31. Was man's drinking considered a problem by the wife?
1) Yes 2) No 3) N.G. 4) N.A.
32. by the social worker 1) Yes 2) No 3) N.G.
4) N.A.
33. Was mention made in the file of attempts to get man to
AA., or that he was in AA. 1) Yes 2) No 3) N.A.
- *34. How did husband and wife typically spend their leisure
time? Quote: _____

III Occupation, Work History and Economic Status

- *35. Occupation of husband 1) _____
36. At time of desertion was man 1) employed 2) unemployed 3) unemployable 4) retired 5) N.G.
- *37. Was work 1) full time regular 2) full time regular, seasonal 3) casual (all other than 1) and 2)) 4) N.G.
38. Was man working 1) at night 2) regularly out of town for a few days at a time 3) out of town for a longer time 4) worked regular hours in town 5) N.G. 6) N.A.
39. How many jobs did man have in the 3 years prior to desertion 1) one 2) several 3) N.G.
40. If more than one, were all jobs other than the last in Winnipeg 1) Yes 2) No 3) N.G. 4) N.A.
41. If not, did family move around with him 1) Yes 2) No 3) N.G. 4) N.A.
- *42. At time of desertion was family in receipt of any public assistance? 1) Yes 2) No 3) N.G.
- *43. Approximate income (from all sources) at time of desertion 1) _____ 2) N.G.
44. Was there a contribution from 1) husband 2) wife 3) both 4) neither 5) N.A.
45. Was wife working 1) Yes 2) No 3) N.G.
46. Wife's occupation 1) _____ 2) N.G. 3) N.A.
47. If family was not receiving assistance at time of desertion were they enrolled subsequently 1) Yes 2) No 3) N.G. 4) N.A.
48. If yes, give date 1) _____ 2) N.G. 3) N.A.
49. In month of October 1957 was family in receipt of any public assistance 1) Yes 2) No 3) N.G.
50. Approx. income (from all sources) for October or previous month 1) _____ 2) N.G.
51. Was there a contribution from 1) husband 2) wife 3) both 4) neither 5) N.G.

IV Education and Social Status

	Public School		High School		Additional Training	Vocation- on job al or oth- er Train- ing	Pro- fes. Train- ing
	Complete	Incomplete	Complete	Incomplete			
52. Husb.	1)	2)	3)	4)	5)	6)	7)
53. Wife	1)	2)	3)	4)	5)	6)	7)

V Children and Others in Family

54. Birthdates of Children in order of birth	55. Sex	56. If not Child of union, state whose	57. School, employed, etc.	58. With whom are children
--	---------	--	----------------------------------	-------------------------------------

1)	
2)	
3)	
4)	
5)	
6)	
7)	
8)	
9)	
10)	
11)	
12)	
13)	
14)	

59. Date help sought with child's prob- lem	60. Date prob- lem first recognized	61. No. of stated problem	62. Was child placed after desertion	63. Give Reason for Placement
---	---	---------------------------------	--	--

1)	
2)	
3)	
4)	
5)	
6)	
7)	
8)	
9)	
10)	
11)	
12)	

VI Reasons given for the Desertion

*64. By the deserted person:

*65. Source of above information _____

*66. By deserting person

*67. Source of above information _____

*68. By Social worker

*69. Source of above information _____

VII Agency Service

*70. How did deserted person's contact with this agency begin:

- 1) through deserted person's own initiative
- 2) through referral from a social agency
- 3) through referral from a lawyer
- 4) through referral from church
- 5) through referral from neighbor or relative or friend
- 6) other
- 7) was already an active case
- 8) N.G.