Divorce: Causes and Financial Implications on Professional Athletes

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Abstract

The idea of marriage as a lifelong commitment often for the primary purpose to have and raise children has changed significantly, and is gradually evolving into an emphasis on individual fulfillment and satisfaction. Despite increase access to marital education, marriage counseling, and family therapy, divorce is an ever constant reality in our society. This article examines the cases of professional athletes who lost big fortune in divorce settlements, highlighting the profound effects of these legal battles can have on their fortunes and wellbeing. The cost implication of divorce on athletes and their children since professional sports have become a lucrative industry, with top athletes earning millions of dollars annually. The high earning nature in the sports industry means that divorce involving athletes can be incredibly expensive, often leading to financial ruin. Divorce often comes with significant emotional and financial costs, particularly for those in the spotlight. For professional athletes, the stakes are even higher due to their public profiles and substantial earnings. Despite their vast wealth, some athletes find themselves in financial difficulties, with some going bankrupt after their divorce. However, the negative effect of divorce on children is known to be hard. Sometimes, parents might not know the aftermath effects of divorce on their children development. It is essential for couples to introspect and discuss the potential effects of divorce on the long-term mental and physical health of their children.

Key words: Sports, Divorce, Professional Athletes, Children, Financial Fortune

Introduction

The word sports is derived from the Latin root 'desporto', which means to carry away. The term sports have been used through the ages to refer to physical

activities that are competitive and organise for diverse people to engage in business of sustaining life or producing economic gain. Sports can be thought of as a specialised or higher order of play and as a kind of game with certain characteristics that set it apart. Such characterristics are that it must be physical component. Perhaps the most crtical characteristics of sports is that it involves a physical component. Sports involve physical movement and skill, use of physical coordination, strength speed, endurance and flexibility. Also, sports is also competitive and involve outcomes that are important to participnts and often to others. Competition involves winning and loosing and this reality powerfully motivates participants to train faithfully and give their best effort. Similarly, sports are governed by an outside group or institution that enforces rules and oversees conduct and results. In addition, sports always require specified facilities and equipment. Equipment is particularly important at the professional level, where athletes rely on the precise quality. However, the definition of sport in a given society reflects the culture, beliefs, and attitudes of that society toward a variety of concerns, including warfare, gender, identity survival, and the honouring of any gods.[1]

Who is an Athlete

The term athlete comes from the Greek word "athlos" which means an achievement. There are different meaning on who an athlete is. Athlete is commonly consider as an individual who posseses superior physical or psychological conditions leading him or her to record an athletic excellence amomg his co-athletes competiting for a particular event. Also, athlete is an individual who is engage in physical activity and exercise on regular basis either for competitive or recreational purposes. Elite or professional athletes constitute a subgroup within competitive athletes who achieve athletic excellence and usually compete at an international level, earning a living out of their sport participation.[2] An athlete is an individual who participates in sports or physical activities at a competitive level. Athletes possess exceptional physical abilities, skills, and often undergo rigorous training to excel in their chosen sports. This set of athletes dedicate significant time and effort to develop their athletic prowess, aiming to achieve peak performance and compete at the highest level possible. Discipline, perseverance, and determination are some of the high qualities they exhibit in the course of competing for any sports event. Also, they are to demonstrate a strong

work ethic, pushing their bodies and minds beyond their limits to improve their performance.

Types of Athletes

There are various types of athletes, each specializing in different sports and activities in their respective careers. Among such in this category are the followings:

Team Sports Athletes: This type of athletes engage in various sports event which require joint and team work as well as coordination with other players within the same sport. One common thing about team sports athletes is that it involves more than two players taking part in a particular sport. The numbers vary from three to twenty as the case may be. Common examples of team sports athletes include football players which normally has eleven players on the field while nine other players usually be on reserve bench. Others such as basketball features twelve players while hockey, volleyball, handball and rugby and many others have more than ten players at a time. One characteristics of these athletes is that they train together, strategize game plans, and work collectively to achieve victory. They possess skills specific to their sport, such as passing, shooting, tackling, and defending, while also exhibiting strong communication and cooperation within their team.

Individual Sports Athletes: These athletes solely compete individually in their sports because of its peculiarity to them. They train extensively on their own, mastering the techniques of the sport, improving their physical abilities, and setting personal goals to reach peak performance. Athletes in this catgeory include those in track and field event, swimming, gymnastics, and golf. Others are in table tennis, tennis, chess, scrabble, badminton and amongst. Their primary focus is to attain personal performance and strive to achieve the best results as possible as they can.

Olympic Athletes: Though, the Olympic Games come every four years globally, but athletes participating in sports that are part of the Olympic Games represent their respective countries on the international stage by competing against athletes from around the world. Olympic athletes train rigorously and strive to qualify

through qualifying series for the Olympic Games, where they will evetually compete for medals and national pride. There are wide range of sports in which they compete at the Games. Different sports are outline for the Games among them are athletics, swimming, gymnastics, football, judo, boxing, wrestling, basketball, volleyball badminton, rowing and yatching, handball, cycling and many others.
Extreme Sports Athletes: These athletes participate in high-risk, adrenaline-fueled sports and activities. They often perform daring tricks and maneuvers, pushing the limits of their physical abilities, thriving on the excitement and challenges of their sports, showcasing skill, courage, and creativity. Examples of these athlets are skateboarders, snowboarders, surfers, and rock climbers.

Paralympic Athletes: Paralympic Games is usually hold after the main Olympic Games. It is a kind of Games specifically design for special athletes with disabilities. Paralympic athletes are individuals with disabilities who compete in special sports for athletes with impairments. They showcase incredible athleticism and determination, participating in a wide range of sports, including powerlifting, athletics, swimming, wheelchair basketball, and para-cycling. These athletes compete at the highest level, representing their countries and inspiring others with their achievements.

Professional Athletes: Professional athletes are individuals who compete at the highest level of their respective sports and earn a living through their athletic abilities. Their main purpose of being professional athletes is to make money in order to cater for their training expenses and family too. They play for professional sports, teams, participate in leagues, and engage in competitive tournaments. Professional athletes often have contractual obligations, endorsements, and sponsorship deals that contribute to their career and financial success. Examples include professional football players, basketball players, tennis players, wrestlers, boxers, golfers, rugby players, baseball players and amongst.[3]

Moreover, professional sports is a big business venture and any decisions make at this level often reflect the goal of earning money by these elite or professional athletes being their means of livelihood.[4] Most of the professional athletes nowadays have risen from the ranks of talented amateur athletes in the course of their active period to become what they are today. Professional athletes earn

money for playing sports for a living, achieved top standing in their chosen field through years of training, and these are people with natural talent, stamina, and competitive drive, while same cannot be said of the amatuer athletes who only compete for honour and pride. They posses excellent reflexes, coordination and are well disciplined when it comes to rigorous practice and training. They play for profit-making teams like professional football, baseball, basketball, and hockey teams to name several. In individual sports including golf, tennis, and boxing, athletes play in tournaments in which prize money is awarded to the winner.[5] The high financial rewards accumulates as professional athletes can elevate a family name, status, and reputation. It can also elevate the expectations place on the individual athlete to fulfill their family obligations as soon as they sign a professional contract.[6]

Marriage and Divorce

Marriage and divorce are two key events that shape many areas of people's lives, including their happiness, health, and economic resources. The meaning of marriage is viewed from two competing views, that is, the conjugal view and revisionist view. Firstly, from the conjugal view of marriage, it is describe as the union between a man and a woman who make a permanentt and exclusive commitment to each other with the puprose of naturally fulfil by bearing and rearing children together. The three elements that point to the conjugal standing of marriage include the involvment of comprehensive union of spouses; a special link to children, and as norms of permanence, monogamy and exclusivity. On the other hand, the vivid anaylsis from the revisionist view sees marrrige as the union of two people whether of same sex or opposite sex who commit to romantically loving and caring for each other and to sharing the burdens and benefits of domestic life. It is essentially a union of hearts and minds, enhance by whatever forms of sexual intimacy both partners find agreeable.[7]

According to Edet Ukpong (quoted by Ubong Eyo) defines divorce as "a legal dissolution of the marriage relation; any formal separation of a man and his wife according to established custom; a complete separation of any kind". It is generally and originally refer to the dissolution of legal marriage by a competent court of law. Though, it is now being used for the separation of two institutions or situations, one from the other, e.g. the separation of the state from the church or

other religious bodies. But there can be no divorce when the self-accalaimed couple were not legally bond by the court of law, beacuse this people simply co-habited and cannot be regarded as officially married couple since they are not legaly married.[8] Moreover, divorce is rated as one of the most traumatic life experiences that people pass through and next to the death of a loved one or serious illness. When a couple decide to go on their separate ways, it is a huge deal that brings with it a lot of financial, personal and legal trouble between the parties inlvolve. It is not surprising that when someone goes through a divorce, the stress that results can often leave the person in extreme distress. Such pain and agony not only affects his or her wellbeing, but also affect performance, especially for sportsmen and sportswomen in particular.[9]

Causes for Divorce among Profesional Athletes

Being a professional athlete is tasking and difficult, because it takes a particular person to have the physical skills, and the mental make-up to succeed. Living the lifestyle of being an athlete also poses a severe challenge. The divorce rate for professional athletes is higher than ordinary people who are not into sports nowadays.[10] Divorce does not occur for a single reason, but of multiple factors involve leading to divorce and separations especially among the professional athletes across the wolrd.[11] The most common reasons for divorce are fairly subjective questions because the reasons for people to divorce are as diverse as the reasons they fall in love in the first place. However, some issues come up frequently among couples on the road to split including conflict, infidelity, poor communication, incompatibility, and lack of romantic intimacy or sex, and amongst.

Frequent Conflicts and Arguments

When a home that is suppose to be a safe abode, place of peace and release from daily stress has become a place of nightmare, after having a worst day at work, frequent coflicts and arguments are not far from happening in such marriage. Constant conflict, bitter battles, and going to bed angry every night are no one's idea of a healthy marriage. A good and conducive marriage should be a place whereby your spouse is your partner, your shelter from the storm, and your number one cheerleader when you are down. However, in a high conflict marriage, a spouse is as emotionally dangerous as a terrible boss. The only saving

grace from turbulent and collapsing marriage is to seek marriage counsellor or therapist, this negative spiral will continue downward until the only solution left is to go for divorce by the parties involve.

Lack of Mutual Commitment

Adequate commitment from both husband and wife is require to experience a happy and healthy marriage in life. Unfortunately, a lack of mutual commitment on the part of either husband or wife will lead the relationship to experience doom. Failure on the part of a partner to be fully committed to the other, then the marriage will eventually suffer. Sometimes, the spouse who is still committed to the relationship believes they can singlehandedly save their marriage if they work harder at it. But when the marriage relationship finally ends, after the shock and disbelief have worn-off, their rage at being used and taken for granted during the relationship may lead to a very difficult divorce.

Infidelity and Extramarital Affairs

Infidelity and extramarital affairs are two different phenomenon contributing immensely to disolution of marriage across the world beacuse of the breakdown of trust on the part of husband or wife. Cheating by the person who vowed to remain faithful to you forever is a bitter pill to swallow, and most people consider this to be an unforgivable offense. At times infidelity does not always lead to divorce, but destroy how one perceive his or her relationship. When wife of husband discover that one has been engaging in an extramarital affair makes either to begin to ask questions while answers to these questions depend on whether both are willing and able to repair their relationship almost certainly with the help of a marriage counselor and family therapist. To rescue such a relationship from drifting, one will have to forgive the other partner with the promise that he or she will have to make a genuine apology and commit to end their cheating for good. If someone has been drifting apart, the best is to focus on reconnecting rather than pointing fingers and playing the blame game.

Communication Breakdown

Communication is a very essential commondity in cementing a good marriage. A breakdown in communication is one of the biggest predictors of divorce. Couples who always keep to themselves without adequate communication cannot resolve

issues amicably, tend to suffer more misunderstandings and experience hurt feelings than those who have learned how to resolve conflict respectfully. Inability to communicate turns problem-solving sessions into shouting matches, which will eventually kill love, intimacy, and respect in a relationship. Good communication is physical as well as verbal, and it is a requirement for almost everything in a good relationship, including sex, a couple's finances, whether or not to have children, areas of disagreement, and other sensitive topics unhappy couple's seems too dangerous to discuss.

Frequent Domestic Violence

Another reason to note is the aspect of frequent domestic violence on the part of an aspiring couple that can arise either from the partner or their parents. Talking about this nemesis, it can include any act of tangible or threatening abuse including verbal, physical, sexual, emotional, and economic abuse. In such a relationship, one person gains or maintains power over their partner via a pattern of abusive behavior. This abuse can be directed solely at a spouse, or it can also involve one or more children in the marriage.[12]

Global Sports Calendar

The professional athletes' lifestyles in achieving greater heights are condition by global sports calendar. The reasons for this are not far-fetched from the fact that professional sports are filled with lots of stress and pressure given the fact that athletes spend a majority of their time travelling around the globe to keep dates with events from one country or continent to another. They tend to spend a lot of time on the road which simply means being away from home for days or weeks, and mostly only a spouse in the field of sports will have better understanding of the demanding nature of their professions.

Raising Family

The aspect of raising family is a very critical issue that has to do with mutual consent between the couple especially when they are both involve in sporting activities, unlike non-sports couple. Athletes who come together as husband and wife must set a time frame for themselves on when to take a break from their illustrious career, and to raise their own family by having children after which they can always return to their sports career, despite the fact that getting back to

peak performance is not a surety after some years of absence. Raising a child could be problematic for professional athletes if the couples do not come to a satisfactory agreement on when and how with constant moving and travelling from one place to another. Though, while it may be easier for athletes to agree on when to start raising a family, the case is usually different and same cannot be said of non-athlete who marries to an athlete as it does not always work out as expected.[13]

Declining Love Rate

When love between a couple is diminishing, hatred starts sprawling in gradually. Many couples prioritise everything except their relationships, and one partner is blindsided when the other says, he or she want a divorce. Contrary to popular belief, romantic love is not self-sustaining, without carving out quality time for intimacy and fun as a couple not just as a family love withers like a plant without water or sunshine. The remedy to avoid this is to remember what they love doing while they were dating, then start doing those things again before it is too late.

Sudden Financial Problems

In a marriage, financial problems are not limited to carrying massive debt or inabilty to cover necessities, but arguments about money can become nasty and vindictive, and if a couple lacks the communication skills to discuss their financial problems calmly and rationally, that can be a reason for divorce. With the way spouses think about money and debt, no matter how much or how little of it they actually have are fundamentally incompatible, it can also cause the breakdown of marriage. If a couple is experiencing financial problems, creating issue at home, hiring an expert specialising in financial divorce issues will help to save money by recommending the most efficient property division, tax, and support strategies.

Early Marriage

Marrying at young age usually pose great danger to marriage in a couple of years because it is a general belief that marriage is not meant for a baby, but for an adult who are mature in mind. Couples who married at young age end up divorce early. Also, couples who marry before the age of 18 are most likely to divorce within 10 years of marriage, comparing to people who marry after the age of 25. This is because those who marry young most likely do not fully grasp marriage. This could be a reason why a lot of young married couples divorced.

Religious Differences and Tolerance

Religious differences can significantly lead to marital discord without open communication and mutual respect. Globally today, there are several religions being practiced by people. Though, the most common religion in the world are Christianity or Islam, but one cannot rule out other religions as well. Religious belief and practice play a pivotal role in shaping an individual's worldview, values, and daily rituals. Sometimes disagreements on fundamental life choices, from dietary habits to child-bearing practices can arise when two partners come from different religious backgrounds. The religious differences can become a source of recurring conflict when many inter-faith couples are trying to find ways to blend their beliefs and traditions. Moreover, during significant life events or ceremonies, the challenge can often lies in reconciling deeply held beliefs and finding common ground. In some cases, external pressures from family or the broader community can exacerbate these differences.[14]

Implications of Divorce on Professional Athletes

Many professional athletes desire having great family like other individuals who are not into sports, as they also have ambitions of attaining greater heights in their respective careers. But the global sports calendars control the lifestyles of majority into marrying their coaches, fellow sports athletes or training partners. This has become a norm in the world of sports. However, professional athletes who married non-sports spouses are likely to have higher rate of divorce than those in sports because of the nature of their chosen careers and better understanding of the sports calendars that involve constant travelling across the world.[15] Many professional athletes who have the luck of playing for one of the professional sports leagues often find themselves the recipients of contracts with large signing bonuses and additional cash for winning championships or even getting to the play-offs. Also, those who become household names get the opportunity to score even more cash with endorsement deals. However, with fame also comes downfall, and not every sports celebrity who gain financial success are able to keep it because many of them married before they achieve their immense wealth without prenuptial agreements to protect their assets, and then end up sharing their wealth with their spouses in the event of divorce. There are numerous of such professional athletes who had to say goodbye to most of their fortune due to divorcing their ex-wives or even husband.

Tiger Woods' Cheating Scandal

Being a world famous professional athlete can sometimes be a blessing or a curse. Tiger Wood, one of the best golfers in the world failed marriage with fashion model, Elin Nordegren is one out of many examples of two different personalities who had to move on from an unsuccessful marriage. The divorce case between the former world number golfer and his wife after six years of marriage rocked the sporting world between 2009 and 2010 that later cost the professional golfer lots of fortune. Woods was accused of involving in a cheating scandal, and soon it came to light that he was involved in more than one extramarital affair. Nordegren confronted Woods about his alleged affairs and did not take too kindly to the news that the rumors were true. Nordegren came after him with a golf club and attacked Woods' SUV, leading to him eventually crashing into a fire hydrant and tree, sustaining facial lacerations. The couple were unable to reconcile, as Woods and Nordegren's divorce was one of the most costly in history, and Nordegren received somewhere between $100 and $110 million from her ex, in addition to monthly child support payments of around $20,000 per month. The Swedish beauty also got to keep a portion of their property, further reducing Woods' financial portfolio.

Michael Jordan Lack of Prenuptial Agreement

Michael Jordan met Juanita Vanoy in 1984, the same year he was drafted to the Chicago Bulls in United States of America, both dated for few years and later married on September 2, 1989. The couple had two boys and a girl, and seemed to enjoy a happy and successful life until it was cut short in the early 2000s, due to Jordan's alleged extramarital affairs that strained their relationship, and the two ended up divorcing in 2006. The divorce settlement cost Jordan sum of $168 million. He also paid $2.1 million in legal fees to Vanoy because they both didn't have a prenuptial agreement, something which he made sure to have in place before his second marriage to Cuban-American model, Yvette Prieto.

Greg Norman Marital Lessons

Greg Norman was a famous Australian golfer who reigned as World number one for over 300 weeks total throughout his career. Despite his success in the game of golf, he was unlucky in his marital life as he married thrice and divorced twice. His first marriage to Laura Andrassy, a flight attendant in 1981 lasted for 25 years,

and they both had two children, a boy and a girl. But in the year 2006, they both annoumced their divorce to the surprise of many people, and this divorce cost his bank account to the tune of $103 million. However, Norman in the course of his second marriage asked for a prenuptial agreement to avoid falling victim of his previous marriage. After divorcing his second marriage, he still asked for same prenuptial agreement for his third marriage so he would not be put in a precarious position. [16]

Mike Tyson Multiple Expensive Divorce

Mike Tyson's personal life was intertwined with his boxing successes, and thus, he was not stranger to a variety of controversies affecting his overall net worth. Tyson has had his ups and downs in life, just as his incredibly successful heavyweight boxing career was interrupted by a stint in prison for sexual assault, though, he was able to stage a come back to the ring to continue after being released from prison and returned to his previous glory days. In general, Tyson mismanaged his money. Tyson married three times and divorced twice, and each separation cost him a pretty penny. His first marriage to actress, Robin Givens in 1988, within 11 months of meeting each other was so quick because Givens told Tyson she was pregnant. However, the couple divorced eight months after the marriage and Tyson reportedly paid Givens sum of $10 million as divorce settlement. Tyson second marriage to Monica Turner in 1997, seven years after meeting her at a party thrown by Eddie Murphy could only lasted for four years including the time Tyson was behind bars as they filed for divorce. Turner received $6.5 million as divorce settlements from the heavyweight champion. He eventually had to declare bankruptcy.

Jeff Gordon Undisclosed Settlement Sum

When Jeff Gordon, the Nascar great first met Brooke Sealey in 1993 at the Daytona International Speedway, and they tied the knot a year after, but the happiness in that marriage did not last more than eight years when Sealey filed for the split and put the blame squarely on Gordon’s shoulders, claiming that their marriage was irretrievably broken as a result of her husband's marital misconduct. Their divorce arrangements and the details of how much Gordon gave Sealey was never released, but most media outlets claimed Sealey received $15 million from the Nascar great while Gordon later said to have paid double the amount.

Lance Armstrong's Controversial Career

Lance Armstrong is one of those controversial names in professional sports especially in cycling who survived metastasized testicular cancer in the mid-1990s to win the Tour de France seven times in a row. Lance Armstrong and his wife, Kristin Richard met in 1997 and got married in 1999. The two had three children together and she was around for the beginning of Armstrong's numerous Tour de France victories. His life took a downward trend when he was accused of doping, and eventually all his accomplishments post-1998, including all of his Tour de France wins were stripped off. Throughout his time of doping, Armstrong also faced personal struggles, and divorced Richard who initaited it in 2003. The two dissolved their union and Armstrong gave Richard sum of $14 million of his fortune.

Evander Holyfield Messy Fortune

Evander Holyfield was a former heavyweight boxing champion has a record of divorce three times from four marriages, all which cost him a significant chunk of money. He had 11 children from six different women. These divorces and child support payments along with some poor personal financial decisions led him to now have a net worth of only $1 million, having controlled over $200 million in the bank before. Holyfield first marriage to Paulette Brown in 1985 lasted till 1991, when the couple called it quits. In return, Brown received $4 million when they split. Holyfield second marriage to Dr. Janice Itson in 1996 finally ended in 2000, while details of their settlement were not disclosed. In 2010, Itson sued Holyfield for $280,000 in past due child support payments while the boxer also wanted to renegotiate his spousal support to Itson. His third marriage in 2003 with Candi Calvana Smith was officially divorced in 2012, although the two filed for foreclosure of their $14 million home in 2010, the division of their assets was not made public either. To say Holyfield's personal life is messy would be an understatement.

Hulk Hogan Personal Wealth Dive

There is no secret about Hulk Hogan not having the easiest of times in his personal life. Hogan marriage two different women during his career days ended in divorce which cost him huge sum of amount. His first marriage to Linda Marie Claridge in 1983 was blessed with two children, but they splitted in 2008 due to the famous

wrestler's alleged infidelity while their divorce settlement in 2009 heavily favored Claridge, who took Hogan to the cleaners. She was given 70% of their total liquid assets, as well as a portion of his properties totaled $3 million. In addition to that, the court papers indicated that Claridge would receive a 40% stake in all of Hogan's earnings, which at the time of the settlement, would amount to about $68,000 per month, factor into that child support payments. Based on this, Hogan's net worth never recover from his first marriage. Moreover, Hogan's second marriage to Jennifer McDaniel did not last long as it also ended in divorce, although the terms of divorce settlement seemed to be a bit more favorable to Hogan. The star has a respectable current net worth of $25 million, but that's a far cry from his previous assets.

Chris Evert Incredibly Marital Misfortune

Chris Evert is an 18-time Grand Slam winner in tennis who was unable to reciprocate her tennis love like in her marriages to three different men. Her first marriage to fellow tennis Professional, John Lloyd lasted eight years as they split in 1987 quite amicably, blaming their youth and for both being at their peak in their respective tennis circuits as cause for their split. In her second marriage, Evert's married Andy Mill, skiing champion in 1988, a year after she split from Lloyd, but the divorce from Mill was not nearly as easy. Although, their relationship lasted for 18 years, with the two finally call it quit in 2006. Evert was required to pay Mill sum of $7 million and their property in Aspen as well as some of their luxury sports cars, adding a few more million to the settlement beacuse she filed for the dissolution, stating that the marriage between the parties is irretrievably broken. She finally married to pro golfer, Greg Norman.[17]

Thierry Henry Financial Struggle

Football icon, Thierry Henry marriage to his wife, Claire Merry produce a daughter during his football career, but things turns the other way around when Claire seeks for divorce. The settlement cost Henry a substantial €10 million significantly affected his financial status. This brings dramatic change in his personal life, a paradigm shift in his professional football life from Arsenal FC in English Premier League where he won many trophies and to FC Barcelona in the Spanish La Liga. The divorce settlements complicated by the custody arrangements for his daughter that further deepening his emotional and financial struggles.

Ashley Cole

Legendary Ashley Cole's marriage to Cheryl ended with a £3.5 million as divorce settlement, a notable sum despite being less destructive compared to his peers. Cole's divorce demonstrates the range of settlement outcomes and the personal adjustments required in the aftermath, emphasising the varied experiences of football players who lost big in divorce settlements. This settlement reflects the potential financial implications of divorce experience by great footballers who lost their fortunes after divorcing their wives.

Steven Gerrard's Personal Upheavals

Steven Gerrard's, lucrative football career spanned almost two decades with Liverpool FC and England national team called Three Lions. He captained both the club and national team before he retires and venture into coaching. The England Skipper marriage to his wife, Alexandra Curran in the year 2007 and the union is blessed with four children. Gerrard"s divorce involved a £2 million settlement which significantly impacted his financial reserves. Talking about professional football players who lost almost everything after divorce, Gerrard divorce settlement marks another chapter while highlighting the financial sacrifices involved in such personal upheavals. The costly nature of his divorce settlements and the emotional resilience undergone during this turbulence period required to navigate the aftermath, positioning him among the football players who lost big in divorce settlements with their wives.[18]

Conclusion

In conclusion, despite the huge fortune earn by these professional athletes duing their playing days, divorce experience has a large impact in their financial fortunes. Not limited to the amount but also affect their children as they have to leave far away from their fathers since the custody of the children are sometimes with their mothers even though that some of them have access to visit as at when due. The monthly child support which is huge sum is another areas that drain the purse while others are to do away with almost all their properties as well as paying huge legal fees at the end.

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