

Divorce Marriage Although divorce records are generally open to the public, they are still subject to state laws. In fairness to these state services that are catering to the demands of this information, they were able to provide the public with what they need.

Is remarriage after divorce always adultery? Before we even begin to answer this question, let us reiterate, "God hates divorce" Malachi 2: The pain, confusion, and frustration most people experience after a divorce are surely part of the reason that God hates divorce. Even more difficult, biblically, than the question of divorce, is the question of remarriage. The vast majority of people who divorce either remarry or consider getting remarried. What does the Bible say about this? These Scriptures clearly state that remarriage after a divorce is adultery, except in the instance of "marital unfaithfulness. It is our view that there are certain instances in which divorce and remarriage are permitted without the remarriage being considered adultery. These instances would include unrepentant adultery and abandonment of a believing spouse by an unbelieving spouse. We are not saying that a person under such circumstances should remarry. The Bible definitely encourages remaining single or reconciliation over remarriage 1 Corinthians 7: At the same time, it is our view that God offers His mercy and grace to the innocent party in a divorce and allows that person to remarry. A person who gets a divorce for a reason other than the reasons listed above, and then gets remarried has committed adultery Luke The question then becomes, is this remarriage an "act" of adultery, or a "state" of adultery. The present tense of the Greek in Matthew 5: At the same time, the present tense in Greek does not always indicate continuous action. Sometimes it simply means that something occurred Aoristic, Punctiliar, or Gnostic present. For example, the word "divorces" in Matthew 5: It is our view that remarriage, no matter the circumstances, is not a continual state of adultery. Only the act of getting remarried itself is adultery. In the Old Testament Law, the punishment for adultery was death Leviticus At the same time, Deuteronomy The Bible explicitly says that God hates divorce Malachi 2: The Bible nowhere commands a remarried couple to divorce. Ending a remarriage through divorce would be just as sinful as ending a first marriage through divorce. Both would include the breaking of vows before God, between the couple, and in front of witnesses. No matter the circumstances, once a couple is remarried, they should strive to live out their married lives in fidelity, in a God-honoring way, with Christ at the center of their marriage. A marriage is a marriage. God does not view the new marriage as invalid or adulterous. A remarried couple should devote themselves to God, and to each other "and honor Him by making their new marriage a lasting and Christ-centered one Ephesians 5:

Chapter 2 : Marriage Divorce

Indices divorce records usually contain the following information: file number, full name and age of the husband, first and last name, and age of the woman, children aged 18 and below, the wedding date, date of divorce, county code and county.

Monogamy Monogamy is a form of marriage in which an individual has only one spouse during their lifetime or at any one time serial monogamy. This pattern was found in a broad swath of Eurasian societies from Japan to Ireland. The majority of Sub-Saharan African societies that practice extensive hoe agriculture, in contrast, show a correlation between " bride price " and polygamy. In all cases, the second marriage is considered legally null and void. Besides the second and subsequent marriages being void, the bigamist is also liable to other penalties, which also vary between jurisdictions. Serial monogamy Governments that support monogamy may allow easy divorce. Those who remarry do so on average three times. Divorce and remarriage can thus result in "serial monogamy", i. This can be interpreted as a form of plural mating, as are those societies dominated by female-headed families in the Caribbean , Mauritius and Brazil where there is frequent rotation of unmarried partners. Bob Simpson notes that in the British case, serial monogamy creates an "extended family" – a number of households tied together in this way, including mobile children possible exes may include an ex-wife, an ex-brother-in-law, etc. These "unclear families" do not fit the mould of the monogamous nuclear family. As a series of connected households, they come to resemble the polygynous model of separate households maintained by mothers with children, tied by a male to whom they are married or divorced. Polygamy Polygamy is a marriage which includes more than two partners. The suffix "-gamy" refers specifically to the number of spouses, as in bi-gamy two spouses, generally illegal in most nations , and poly-gamy more than one spouse. Societies show variable acceptance of polygamy as a cultural ideal and practice. According to the Ethnographic Atlas , of 1, societies noted, were monogamous; had occasional polygyny; had more frequent polygyny; and 4 had polyandry. The actual practice of polygamy in a tolerant society may actually be low, with the majority of aspirant polygamists practicing monogamous marriage. Tracking the occurrence of polygamy is further complicated in jurisdictions where it has been banned, but continues to be practiced de facto polygamy. There have been calls for the abolition of polygamy in developing countries. Concubinage Polygyny usually grants wives equal status, although the husband may have personal preferences. Although a society may be classified as polygynous, not all marriages in it necessarily are; monogamous marriages may in fact predominate. It is to this flexibility that Anthropologist Robin Fox attributes its success as a social support system: To correct this condition, females had to be killed at birth, remain single, become prostitutes, or be siphoned off into celibate religious orders. Polygynous systems have the advantage that they can promise, as did the Mormons, a home and family for every woman. In some cases, there is a large age discrepancy as much as a generation between a man and his youngest wife, compounding the power differential between the two. Tensions not only exist between genders, but also within genders; senior and junior men compete for wives, and senior and junior wives in the same household may experience radically different life conditions, and internal hierarchy. Often, however, it is difficult to draw a hard and fast line between the two. Although it does not involve multiple now illegal formal marriages, the domestic and personal arrangements follow old polygynous patterns. The de facto form of polygyny is found in other parts of the world as well including some Mormon sects and Muslim families in the United States. The relationships are considered polygynous, not polyandrous, because the female husband is in fact assuming masculine gendered political roles. It is allowed in Islam and Confucianism. Judaism and Christianity have mentioned practices involving polygyny in the past, however, outright religious acceptance of such practices was not addressed until its rejection in later passages. They do explicitly prohibit polygyny today. Polyandry , Polyandry in Tibet , and Polyandry in India Polyandry is notably more rare than polygyny, though less rare than the figure commonly cited in the Ethnographic Atlas which listed only those polyandrous societies found in the Himalayan Mountains. More recent studies have found 53 societies outside the 28 found in the Himalayans which practice polyandry. It is associated with partible paternity, the cultural belief that a

child can have more than one father. If every brother married separately and had children, family land would be split into unsustainable small plots. In Europe, this was prevented through the social practice of impartible inheritance the dis-inheriting of most siblings, some of whom went on to become celibate monks and priests. Of the societies reported by the American anthropologist George Murdock in , only the Kaingang of Brazil had any group marriages at all. Child marriage A child marriage is a marriage where one or both spouses are under the age of Child marriage was common throughout history, even up until the s in the United States, where in CE, in the state of Delaware , the age of consent for marriage was 7 years old. Twelve years later, in , John filed for divorce. Today, child marriages are widespread in parts of the world; being most common in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa , with more than half of the girls in some countries in those regions being married before In developed countries child marriage is outlawed or restricted. Girls who marry before 18 are at greater risk of becoming victims of domestic violence , than those who marry later, especially when they are married to a much older man. Same-sex marriage and History of same-sex unions As noted above, several kinds of same-sex, non-sexual marriages exist in some lineage-based societies. This section relates to same-sex sexual unions. Some cultures include third gender two-spirit or transgender individuals, such as the berdache of the Zuni in New Mexico. The Codex Theodosianus C. Examples include the Celtic practice of handfasting and fixed-term marriages in the Muslim community. The matrilineal Mosuo of China practice what they call "walking marriage". Cohabitation and Common-law marriage In some jurisdictions cohabitation , in certain circumstances, may constitute a common-law marriage , an unregistered partnership , or otherwise provide the unmarried partners with various rights and responsibilities; and in some countries the laws recognize cohabitation in lieu of institutional marriage for taxation and social security benefits. This is the case, for example, in Australia. However, in this context, some nations reserve the right to define the relationship as marital, or otherwise to regulate the relation, even if the relation has not been registered with the state or a religious institution. In some cases couples living together do not wish to be recognized as married. This may occur because pension or alimony rights are adversely affected; because of taxation considerations; because of immigration issues, or for other reasons. Such marriages have also been increasingly common in Beijing. Social status Main article: Hypergamy Some people want to marry a person with higher or lower status than them. Others want to marry people who have similar status. In many societies women marry men who are of higher social status. There are other marriages in which the man is older than the woman. Prohibited degree of kinship , Cousin marriage , Affinity canon law , and Avunculate marriage Societies have often placed restrictions on marriage to relatives, though the degree of prohibited relationship varies widely. Marriages between parents and children, or between full siblings, with few exceptions, [61] [62] [63] [64] [65] [66] [67] [68] have been considered incest and forbidden. Such marriages are illegal in most countries due to incest restrictions. However, a small number of countries have legalized it, including Argentina, Australia, Austria, Malaysia , [72] and Russia. In various societies the choice of partner is often limited to suitable persons from specific social groups. Religion has commonly weighed in on the matter of which relatives, if any, are allowed to marry. Relations may be by consanguinity or affinity , meaning by blood or by marriage. On the marriage of cousins, Catholic policy has evolved from initial acceptance, through a long period of general prohibition, to the contemporary requirement for a dispensation. In a wide array of lineage-based societies with a classificatory kinship system , potential spouses are sought from a specific class of relative as determined by a prescriptive marriage rule. Pierre Bourdieu notes, however, that very few marriages ever follow the rule, and that when they do so, it is for "practical kinship" reasons such as the preservation of family property, rather than the "official kinship" ideology.

Chapter 3 : The Effects of Marriage and Divorce on Families and Children | MDRC

Detailed marriage and divorce tables by state A Demographic, Attitudinal, and Behavioral Profile of Cohabiting Adults in the United States, [PDF - KB] Urban and Rural Variation in Fertility-Related Behavior Among U.S. Women,

Your partner did seem stern, aloof and resentful that last time you spoke to each other. Like always you expect them to come around, let go of the steam and become their normal self with time. Instead, one day, you come home to find their clothes missing from their cupboards and a piece of paper on the dinner table- a divorce notice. Do you think this scenario could transpire into your life? What are the real reasons for divorce? Infidelity, lack of communication, financial troubles, sparing sessions of sex and intimacy are some of the reasons for divorce. Top 10 Reasons for Divorce 1. Infidelity Extra-marital affairs are responsible for the breakdown of most marriages that end in divorce. This is one of the most common causes of divorce. Anger and resentment are common underlying reasons for cheating, along with differences in sexual appetite and lack of emotional intimacy. Infidelity often begins as a seemingly innocent friendship, says cheating expert Ruth Houston. Everything from different spending habits and financial goals to one spouse making considerably more money than the other, causing a power struggle can strain a marriage to the breaking point. Clearly, money and stress do seem to go hand in hand for many couples. Lack of communication Communication is crucial in marriage and not being able to communicate effectively quickly leads to resentment and frustration for both, impacting all aspects of a marriage. On the other hand, good communication is the foundation of a strong marriage. Yelling at your spouse, not talking enough throughout the day, making nasty comments to express yourself are all unhealthy methods of communication that need to be ditched in a marriage. Constant arguing From bickering about chores to arguing about the kids; incessant arguing kills many relationships. Weight gain It may seem awfully superficial or unfair, but weight gain is a common reason for divorce. In some cases a significant amount of weight gain causes the other spouse to become less physically attracted while for others, weight gain takes a toll on their self-esteem, which trickles into issues with intimacy. These expectations can put a lot of strain on the other person, leaving you feeling let down and setting your spouse up for failure. If you are constantly giving your spouse the cold shoulder, then know that over time it can become the ground for divorce. Making your relationship intimate and special is the responsibility of both partners. Practice little acts of kindness, appreciation and enjoy physical intimacy as much as possible to sweeten your relationship. Lack of equality When one partner feels that they take on more responsibility in the marriage, it can alter their view of the other person and lead to resentment. Every couple must negotiate through their own and unique set of challenges, and find their own way of living together as two equals who enjoy a respectful, harmonious and joyful relationship. Not being prepared for marriage A surprising number of couples of all ages have blamed not being prepared for married life for the demise of their relationship. Divorce rates are highest among couples in their 20s. Almost half the divorces occur in the first 10 years of marriage, especially between the fourth and eighth anniversary. Abuse Physical or emotional abuse is a sad reality for some couples. Regardless of the reason, no one should tolerate abuse and be removing yourself from the relationship safely is important. No marriage is easy. Even couples with the best intentions are sometimes unable to overcome their challenges and end up in courtrooms. Practice kindness, make intimacy a priority, go on holidays and seek marriage counseling even when things are fine to preserve the health and longevity of your relationship. Try your very best before you decide that things are beyond your control and it is time to give up. That way you can have the peace of knowing you tried all of the alternatives before the big step.

Chapter 4 : Is remarriage after divorce always adultery?

Marriage counseling or divorce prevent counseling is a better option to the couples who think their marriage is over and nothing can be done to save it. Divorce decision can never be good option.

It is very interactive and straight to the point. My plan is to discuss different ideas from the book and elaborate on them a bit more incorporating the vast number things we discussed in class. I will also be including many of my thoughts on the different subjects and we will move on from there. Byron in your Marriage and Divorce class you taught us many different things. One thing in particular being that before two people decide to get married, and become One they should be whole themselves. When in reality you should never marry to live your feeling of loneliness or your feeling of being incomplete. These are both major pitfalls in many relationships today. The goal is for two people who are whole and confident with who it is that they are individually can Join together as two whole people and form a strong bond. This is also discussed in Relationship Rescue briefly stated that before you can be truly happy together that you need to be happy and confident within yourself. This wholeness of self gives you the ability to retain your sense of identity when you Join together with another person. Like the example of the Unity Candle we discussed in class. It two half wicks Join together they just make one whole wick. If more people could see how important it is to be whole prior to entering into a covenant as important as marriage I think the divorce rates in America would be drastically lower. Wholeness is absolutely essential, and if there is a marriage where only one individual is whole and the other is not, the reliance of the half on the whole can and not only that will begin to cause conflict. Because once they leave and take your happiness with them you will realize Just how incomplete you are and it will affect you greater than someone who was indeed whole from the beginning. Phil does not dive as deeply into the subject as I would have liked him to but it was mentioned to some extent in the book which I do indeed appreciate. Byron in our Marriage and Divorce class we talked a lot about problem solving. Now in solving and conflict resolution. In class we discussed the importance of problem solving skills in a relationship. The lack of these skills or the presence of really bad methods of problem solving could truly devastate a marriage. In class we did the Couple House Foundation and problem solving was actually a very thick layer in that foundation accompanied by decision making and style of conflict resolution. And that in no way can be healthy for any relationship. He also mentions that the statement ,developing problem solving skill is present in a good relationship, is a allegations myth. This is something I once again do not agree with him on. It is great to have problem solving skills and maybe even develop new ones that are better for the both of you within your relationship. And within this area I believe compromise comes in, compromise can and will diffuse and even eliminate many problems within a relationship. When I say this I am speaking of healthy compromise from both parties not Just one individual constantly giving in to the demands of the other. But healthy compromise in my opinion is present in any and every healthy thriving allegations or marriage. When your mate is willing to compromise, sit down with you and put forth an honest effort to solve the problems you two are having that shows a great deal of commitment. Being able to see and be reminded of the fact that your mate is truly committed to you within itself will strengthen the relationship to some extent and evoke an even greater desire to fix any problems. Things like problem solving help to develop communication skills within the relationship to an even greater extent. These skills expand well beyond Just solving the problem to Just ending the fighting. Problem solving and conflict resolution tap into some many other parts of the relationship in a very positive manner. It also brings the two closer together in the relationship working together on the same team in pursuit of the same goal to find a solution and to better as well as strengthen their relationship. So this is one portion of the book 4 that I had to disagree with Dry. Phil on because problem solving and conflict deserves a lot of credit that he neglected to give. Byron in your Marriage and Divorce class we discussed values and qualities needed or desired in a good relationship. In Relationship Rescue Dry. Phil also covers some of these same things. In class we discussed some of these very characteristics. Values and qualities such as the 10 Heart Qualities and the 10 Character Qualities. The 10 character qualities are these Honesty, Responsibility, Respect, Self-control, Commitment, Equality, Obedience, Patience, The courage to

do what is hat are very important for the individuals in a healthy relationship to obtain. Love is the ability of one person to be or at least strive to be self-less in regards to the one they claim to love. Love exudes patience, kindness and is Just undeniably genuine. Another heart quality is empathy which is taking on a genuine care for your significant other and what they may be going through. Being able to place yourself in their shoes and truly provide purport in a way you would want to be supported in such a situation. Another is forgiveness which is super important in any relationship. As people who are in no manner perfect we make mistakes and no one wants to be involved with someone incapable of forgiveness. If someone is incapable of 5 forgiveness that means anything you may do that they do not like they will not forgive you for and will constantly bring it up and use it against you. They will leave it hanging over your head but when they do something and are in search of your forgiveness they may expect it immediately. A situation like this makes the allegations very uneven. This is why forgiveness is indeed a very important heart quality. Moving on to character qualities beginning with honesty people truly desire someone who is honest. You feel you can trust someone who you view as honest. And with trust come respect Just an entire slew of great qualities a thriving relationship needs. Respect is actually another character quality and respect is truly caring about the opinion of your mate and even being proud of who they are as well as the things they do. Even in a certain situation looking up to your mate because you see them growing and challenging you to do the same. The last character quality I would like to talk about is patience which is beautiful and often ignored. Patience within a relationship can take it so far and really build it up. I think patience also reveals the level of commitment or desire to remain in the relationship. And that upon marriage many individuals believe their spouse is going to turn into the person they have always wanted their spouse to be. Which is Just so untrue and Relationship Rescue touched on this very subject. It mentions that in some way you are to blame with problems that occur in your relationship McGraw, Byron in your Marriage and Divorce class we discussed deal breakers which are also discussed briefly in Relationship Rescue. To touch on a few one being finances such as debt upon marriage all of your debt combines. And debt can be a very big deal especially if the person who has acquired all of the debt is Just interested in racking up more. This leads us into finances if you are planning to marry someone who is a spender big spender. Also the desire to have children or the lack thereof could be a deal breaker in what was thought to be a strong relationship. Last but not least is religion, this is also very important and it could cause a rift when it comes to the type of wedding ceremony. This could very well be a deal breaker. Which is way it is good to discuss these things prior to marriage and 7 not Just these things many more. Encountering a deal breaker before marriage could stats decrease the divorce rate in the U. I feel many people have been encountering deal breakers after the vows then Just ending it all because they failed to discuss these things prior to marriage. Very important and should probably be a requirement for any couple intending to marry. Overall the book was rather interesting and in no way a terrible waste of my time, which I must admit I thought it would be. Byron I found your class to be extremely interesting and I wish it was a longer series than Just the workshop. You provided advice for those that asked questions concerning their own lives which is very admirable. I am glad I took this workshop it gives an entirely new view to singles how they approach future relationships. Thanks again for teaching the class and teaching it with bluntness and spunk.

Chapter 5 : Divorce Marriage

Expert Advice About Getting Divorced. The definition of divorce is that it is the formal end of a marriage and involves a legal process. It is the dissolution of the relationship and a typically painful process for all concerned.

Want to learn more about this and related topics? Sign up for our twice-monthly email newsletter. My name is Gordon Berlin. I am the executive vice president of MDRC, a unique nonpartisan social policy research and demonstration organization dedicated to learning what works to improve the well-being of disadvantaged families. We strive to achieve this mission by conducting real world field tests of new policy and program ideas using the most rigorous methods possible to assess their effectiveness. I am honored to be invited to address your committee about what we know and do not know about the effects of marriage and divorce on families and children and about what policies and programs might work to promote and strengthen healthy marriages, especially among the poor. My goal is to briefly summarize the evidence in three areas: The central focus of my remarks will be to explicate the role that marital education, family counseling, and related services might play in promoting and strengthening healthy marriages and to discuss what we know about the potential of strategies that seek to ameliorate the key stressors for example, job loss, lack of income, domestic violence, and childbearing that make it difficult to form marriages in the first place or act as a catalyst that eventually breaks up existing marriages. To summarize my conclusions: First, children who grow up in an intact, two-parent family with both biological parents present do better on a wide range of outcomes than children who grow up in a single-parent family. Single parenthood is not the only, nor even the most important, cause of the higher rates of school dropout, teenage pregnancy, juvenile delinquency, or other negative outcomes we see; but it does contribute independently to these problems. Neither does single parenthood guarantee that children will not succeed; many, if not most, children who grow up in a single-parent household do succeed. Third, we do not know whether these same marital education services would be effective in reducing marital stress and eventual divorce among low-income populations or in promoting marriage among the unmarried. Low-income populations confront a wide range of stressors that middle-class families do not. The evidence is limited, and mixed, on whether strategies designed to overcome these stressors, for example, by providing job search assistance or by supplementing low earnings, rather than relying solely on teaching marital communication and problem-solving skills would also increase the likelihood that low-income couples would marry or that married couples would stay together. Fourth, to find out whether and what types of policies and programs might successfully strengthen marriage as an institution among low-income populations as well as among a wide variety of ethnically and culturally diverse populations, our national focus should be on the design, implementation, and rigorous evaluation of these initiatives. The rationale is reasonably straightforward: About a third of all children born in the United States each year are born out of wedlock. Similarly, about half of all first marriages end in divorce, and when children are involved, many of the resulting single-parent households are poor. For example, less than 10 percent of married couples with children are poor as compared with about 35 to 40 percent of single-mother families. Moreover, research shows that even after one controls for a range of family background differences, children who grow up living in an intact household with both biological parents present seem to do better, on average, on a wide range of social indicators than do children who grow up in a single-parent household McLanahan and Sandefur, For example, they are less likely to drop out of school, become a teen parent, be arrested, and be unemployed. Put another way, equalizing income and opportunity do improve the life outcomes of children growing up in single-parent households, but children raised in two-parent families still have an advantage. If the failure of parents to marry and persistently high rates of divorce are behind the high percentage of children who grow up in a single-parent family, can and should policy attempt to reverse these trends? Since Daniel Patrick Moynihan first lamented what he identified as the decline of the black family in his report, *The Negro Family: The Case for National Action*, marriage has been a controversial subject for social policy and scholarship. The initial reaction to Moynihan was harsh; scholars argued vehemently that family structure and, thus, father absence was not a determinant of child well-being. But then in the s,

psychologists Wallerstein and Kelly, ; Hetherington, began producing evidence that divorce among middle-class families was harmful to children. Renewed interest among sociologists and demographers Furstenberg and Cherlin, in the link between poverty and single parenthood soon emerged, and as noted above, that work increasingly began building toward the conclusion that family structure did matter McLanahan and Sandefur, Of course, the debate was not just about family structure and income differences; it was also about race and gender. When Moynihan wrote in , 24 percent of all births among African-Americans occurred outside of marriage. Today, the black out-of-wedlock birthrate is almost 70 percent, and the white rate has reached nearly 24 percent. If single parenthood is a problem, that problem cuts across race and ethnicity. But the story has nuance. In fact, there is some evidence that second marriages can actually be harmful to adolescents. Moreover, marriage can help children only if the marriage is a healthy one. Marital hostility is associated with increased aggression and disruptive behaviors on the part of children which, in turn, seem to lead to peer rejection, academic failure, and other antisocial behaviors Cummings and Davies, ; Webster-Stratton, While our collective hand-wringing about the number of American births that occur out-of-wedlock is justified, what is often missed is that the birthrate among unmarried women accounts for only part of the story. In fact, birthrates among unmarried teens and African-Americans have been falling by a fourth among unmarried African-American women since , for example Offner, Because the nonmarital birth ratio is a function of 1 the out-of-wedlock birthrate births per 1, unmarried women , 2 the marriage rate, and 3 the birthrate among married women births per 1, married women - the share of all children born out of wedlock has risen over the last thirty years, in large measure, because women were increasingly delaying marriage, creating an ever larger pool of unmarried women of childbearing age, and because married women were having fewer children. Indeed, families acted to maintain their standard of living in the face of stagnant and falling wages, earnings, and incomes during the s and s by having fewer children and sending both parents into the workforce, a strategy that undoubtedly has increased the stress on low-income two-parent families Levy, , and that contributed to the rise in out-of-wedlock births as a proportion of all births. Concern about these trends in out-of-wedlock births and divorce, coupled with the gnawing reality that child poverty is inextricably bound up with family structure, has encouraged conservatives and some liberals to focus on marriage as a solution. Proponents of this approach argued that many social policies welfare and tax policy, for example were actually anti-marriage, even if research only weakly demonstrated that the disincentives to marry embedded in these policies actually affected behavior. Moreover, they maintained that social policy should not be neutral it should encourage and support healthy marriages and they stressed the link between child poverty and single parenthood and the positive child effects associated with two-parent families. The focus on marriage was met with skepticism by others. Critics argued that marriage was not an appropriate province for government intervention and that income and opportunity structures were much more important factors than family structure. They questioned why the focus was on low-income families when the normative changes underlying the growth in single-parent households permeated throughout society, as witnessed by the prevalence of divorce across all economic classes. Among mothers who were not married when their child was born, 83 percent reported that they were romantically involved with the father, and half of the parents were living together. Nearly all of the romantically involved couples expressed interest in developing long-term stable relationships, and there was universal interest in marriage, with most indicating that there was at least a fifty-fifty chance that they would marry in the future. Looking at employment history and other factors, researchers estimated that about a third of the couples had high potential to marry; another third had some problems, like lack of a job, that could be remedied; while the final third were not good candidates due to a history of violence, incarceration, and the like McLanahan, Garfinkel, and Mincy, There was certainly reason to be cautious about presuming a link between what people said and what they might actually do, and longer follow-up data did indeed throw some cold water on initial optimism. However, when the Fragile Families data were thrown into the mix with the trend data and with the data that suggested that family structure was a determinant of poverty, the reaction was catalytic. The notion was reinforced that more marriage and less child poverty would result if public policies could just be brought in line with the expressed interests of low-income couples. Marital Education Can Work But what, if anything, could government

actually do to promote marriage among low-income families? For some policy analysts, the discovery of marriage education programs seemed to provide the missing link. To the surprise of many, not only did these programs exist, but there was a body of evidence, including more than a dozen randomized trials, indicating that marriage education programs could be effective. Marriage education refers to services that help couples who are married or planning to marry to strengthen their communication and problem-solving skills and thus their relationships. Some of the cutting-edge work now underway provides a flavor of the approaches being developed. Phil Cowan and Dr. Carolyn Cowan, both professors of psychology at the University of California, Berkeley, have been involved in the development and rigorous testing of family instruction models for more than twenty years. Benjamin Karney, a psychologist at the University of Florida, has been conducting a longitudinal study of newly married couples. John Gottman, who leads the Relationship Research Institute where he focuses on marriage, family, and child development, has developed and carefully evaluated some of the most innovative new approaches to marital education and group instruction. Pamela Jordan developed the Becoming Parents Program, a couple-focused educational research program being tested in a large randomized trial. Among the skills-training programs, PREP is the most widely used with couples who are about to marry. It teaches skills such as active listening and self-regulation of emotions for conflict management and positive communication. PREP also includes substantial content on topics such as commitment, forgiveness, and expectations clarification. PREP appears to have a significant effect on marital satisfaction initially, but the effect appears to fade over time Gottman, , and there is some indication that it improves communication among high-risk couples but not low-risk couples Halford, Sanders, and Behrens, Therapeutic interventions are more open-ended and involve group discussions, usually guided by trained professionals to help partners identify and work through the marriage problems they are facing. Couples meet in a group with a trained therapist over a six-month period that begins before the child is born and continues for another three months after the birth. Initially, marital satisfaction soared and divorce rates plummeted relative to a similar group of families that did not participate in the program. But the divorce effects waned by the five-year follow-up point, even while marital satisfaction remained high for those couples who stayed together Schultz and Cowan, More recent work by Cowan and Cowan and by John Gottman appears to produce more promising results. The Cowans found positive effects in the school performance of children whose parents participated in their couples instruction and group discussion program. Gottman describes improved cooperative interaction between the parents and their infant child and sustained increased involvement by fathers. While the results from the marriage education programs are encouraging, they are not definitive. Most of the studies are small, several have serious flaws, and only a few have long-term follow-up data and those that do seem to show decay in effectiveness over time. Moreover, only a handful of the studies collected information on child well-being. Most importantly, all of the programs studied served mostly white, middle-class families, not the low-income and diverse populations that would be included in a wider government initiative. They are more likely to experience job loss, have an unexpected health or family crisis, be evicted from or burned out of their home, be the victim of a violent crime, and so forth. As a result, they face greater difficulty than middle-class individuals in forming and sustaining marriages. With the exception of African-Americans, low-income couples are not less likely to marry; but they are more likely to divorce when they do marry. Yet evidence from the Fragile Families survey of 5, low-income couples who have just given birth to a child and ethnographic interviews conducted with low-income women in Philadelphia by Kathy Edin of Northwestern University provide convincing evidence that low-income people share the same normative commitment to marriage that middle-class families demonstrate. The poor want to marry, but they insist on marrying well. This is the only way to avoid an almost certain divorce. One possible explanation is the mismatch between a large number of stressful events they face and few resources with which to respond to those stressors. The imbalance places greater demands on the individuals in a dyad, leaving less time together and less time to dedicate to relationship building than might be the case for a middle-class couple. In addition, the problems low-income couples have to manage — problems such as substance abuse, job loss, eviction, chronic infidelity, a child with a chronic condition like asthma or developmental delays, and criminal activities — may be more severe than those confronted by better-off couples. Edin, ; Karney, Story, and Bradbury, ;

Heyman, Because the problems low-income couples confront are likely to be more acute and chronic than those faced by middle-class couples, it is an open question whether the problem-solving and communication skills taught by marital education programs will be as effective among low-income couples as they appear to have been for middle-class couples where the evidence base is still evolving. Clearly, the skill sets taught in those programs and the strategies applied by therapists and counselors to solve the problems couples present will need to be adapted. Moreover, it is possible that these kinds of stressors overwhelm the abilities of individuals to use the skills they are taught. Such concerns have elicited two kinds of responses: Adapting Marital Education to the Needs of Low-Income Families Underpinning the interest in public support for marital education programs is a conviction that low-income individuals do not have good information about the benefits of marriage. In part, this dearth results from their experience of having grown up in single-parent households where they were simply not exposed to role models that might inform their own relationships. In part, it is a consequence of their lack of access to the same kinds of supports and information, counseling, and therapy that are often available to middle-class couples contemplating marriage or divorce. The objective is to equip low-income couples with relationship skills to improve couple interaction by reducing negative exchanges anger, criticism, contempt, and blaming and strengthening positive behaviors expressions of support, humor, empathy, and affection. The logic is obvious: When couples enjoy positive interaction and are successful in handling conflict, their confidence and commitment would be reinforced, thereby fostering satisfaction and stability. But the designers of these programs recognize that they must adapt marital education as middle-class families know it to better meet the different needs of low-income households.

Chapter 6 : Divorce - Wikipedia

Marriage and divorce are both common experiences. In Western cultures, more than 90 percent of people marry by age 30. In Western cultures, more than 90 percent of people marry by age 30. Healthy marriages are good for couples' mental and physical health.

An Overview A divorce formally dissolves a legal marriage. While married couples do not possess a constitutional or legal right to divorce, states permit divorces because to do so best serves public policy. To ensure that a particular divorce serves public policy interests, some states require a "cooling-off period," which prescribes a time period after legal separation that spouses must bear before they can initiate divorce proceedings. Courts in the United States currently recognize two types of divorces: An absolute divorce is a judicial termination of a legal marriage. Limited divorces are typically referred to as separation decrees. Some states permit conversion divorce. Conversion divorce transforms a legal separation into a legal divorce after both parties have been separated for a statutorily-prescribed period of time. Many states have enacted no-fault divorce statutes. No fault divorce statutes do not require showing spousal misconduct and are a response to outdated divorce statutes that require proof of adultery or some other unsavory act in a court of law by the divorcing party. Nevertheless, even today, not all states have enacted no fault divorce statutes. Instead, the court must only find 1 that the relationship is no longer viable, 2 that irreconcilable differences have caused an irretrievable breakdown of the marriage, 3 that discord or conflict of personalities have destroyed the legitimate ends of the marital relationship and prevents any reasonable possibility of reconciliation, or 4 that the marriage is irretrievably broken. Look to various state laws to determine the divorce law within a particular jurisdiction. The Uniform Marriage and Divorce Act may provide further guidance. **Property Division** Following a divorce, the court must divide the property between the spouses. Before legislatures equalized property allocation between both spouses, many divorce statutes substantially favored property allocation to the wage-earning spouse. These statutes greatly disadvantaged women disproportionately because during the 18th, 19th, and early 20th centuries, the participation of women in the workplace was much less than it has become during the latter-half of the 20th century and early part of the 21st century. The statutes failed to account for the contributions of the spouse as homemaker and child-raiser. Modern courts recognize two different types of property during property division proceedings - marital property and separate property. Marital property constitutes any property that the spouses acquire individually or jointly during the course of marriage. Separate property constitutes any property that one spouse purchased and possessed prior to the marriage and that did not substantially change in value during the course of the marriage because of the efforts of one or both spouses. If the separate property-owning spouse trades the property for other property or sells the property, the newly-acquired property or funds in consideration of the sale remain separate property. Modern division of property statutes strive for an equitable division of the marital assets. An equitable division does not necessarily involve an equal division but rather an allocation that comports with fairness and justice after a consideration of the totality of the circumstances. By dividing the assets equitably, a judge endeavors to effect the final separation of the parties and to enable both parties to start their post-marital lives with some degree of financial self-sufficiency. While various jurisdictions permit recognition of different factors, most courts at least recognize the following factors: Most jurisdictions also give the family court judge broad jurisdiction by providing judges with the right to consider any other just and proper factor. When assigning property, judges cannot transfer the separate property of one spouse to another spouse without the legislature having previously passed an enabling statute. Whether such an enabling statute exists varies between jurisdictions. **Alimony** Alimony refers to payments from one spouse to the other. A court can order one spouse to pay three different types of alimony - permanent alimony, temporary alimony, and rehabilitative alimony. Temporary alimony requires payments over a short interval of time so that the payment recipient can stand alone once again. The period of time covers the length of the property division litigation. Similar to temporary alimony, rehabilitative alimony requires the payer to give the recipient short-term alimony after the property division proceedings have concluded. Rehabilitative alimony endeavors to help a spouse with lesser employability or

earning capacity become adjusted to a new post-marital life. Courts allocate alimony with the intention of permitting a spouse to maintain the standard of living to which the spouse has become accustomed. If a couple had children together while married, a court may require one spouse to pay child support to the spouse with custody, but one should note that alimony and child support differ.

Chapter 7 : Basics - divorce_or_separation_selfhelp

Divorce, also known as dissolution of marriage, is the process of terminating a marriage or marital union. It usually entails the canceling or reorganizing of the legal duties and responsibilities of marriage, thus dissolving the bonds of matrimony between a married couple under the rule of law of the particular country or state.

The first 5 years are relatively divorce-free, and if a marriage survives more than 20 years it is unlikely to end in divorce. Social scientists study the causes of divorce in terms of underlying factors that may possibly motivate divorce. One of these factors is the age at which a person gets married; delaying marriage may provide more opportunity or experience in choosing a compatible partner. To Teachman, the fact that the elevated risk of divorce is only experienced when the premarital partner s is someone other than the husband indicates that premarital sex and cohabitation are now a normal part of the courtship process in the United States. Divorce is sometimes caused by one of the partners finding the other unattractive. Although this may not always be true, studies suggest that children from divorced families are more likely to exhibit such behavioral issues than those from non-divorced families. There are, however, many instances when the parentâ€™child relationship may suffer due to divorce. Financial support is many times lost when an adult goes through a divorce. The adult may be obligated to obtain additional work to maintain financial stability. In turn, this can lead to a negative relationship between the parent and child; the relationship may suffer due to lack of attention towards the child as well as minimal parental supervision [58] Studies have also shown that parental skills decrease after a divorce occurs; however, this effect is only a temporary change. In economics this is known as the Zelder Paradox , and is more common with marriages that have produced children, and less common with childless couples. In divorced families in which one parent moved, the students received less financial support from their parents compared with divorced families in which neither parent moved. These findings also imply other negative outcomes for these students, such as more distress related to the divorce and did not feel a sense of emotional support from their parents. Although the data suggests negative outcomes for these students whose parents relocate after divorce, there is insufficient research that can alone prove the overall well-being of the child [61] A newer study in the Journal of Family Psychology found that parents who move more than an hour away from their children after a divorce are much less well off than those parents who stayed in the same location [62] Effects on children[edit] Psychological[edit] Divorce is associated with diminished psychological well-being in children and adult offspring of divorced parents, including greater unhappiness, less satisfaction with life, weaker sense of personal control, anxiety, depression, and greater use of mental health services. A preponderance of evidence indicates that there is a causal effect between divorce and these outcomes. They are also more likely to be involved in short-term cohabiting relationships, which often dissolve before marriage. There are two key factors that make this transmission of divorce more likely. There is nothing worse, for most children, than for their parents to denigrate each other. Parents simply do not realize the damage they do to their children by the battles they wage over them. Separating parents rarely behave reasonably, although they always believe that they are doing so, and that the other party is behaving unreasonably. Children involved in high-conflict divorce or custody cases can experience varying forms of parental alienation , which courts often consider to be a form of child abuse. Specific examples of parental alienation include brainwashing the child to cease their relationship with the other parent, telling the child that the other parent does not love them, teaching the child to call another adult by a parental name in effort to replace the other parent, limiting communication between the child and the other parent, and limiting quality time between the child and the other parent. If evidence reveals that a parent is actively alienating the child from their other parent, their case for custody can be severely damaged. Fortunately, there are approaches by which divorce professionals can help parents reduce conflict. Options include mediation, collaborative divorce, coparent counseling, and parenting coordination. This time period before the separation tends to be more detrimental for the children than the actual divorce or separation. This can be due to parental conflict and anticipation of a divorce, and decreased parental contact. Many couples believe that by separating, or becoming legally divorced that they are helping their children, and in situations

of extreme parental conflict of abuse it most likely will be beneficial. Several mechanisms are likely to be responsible. First, observing overt conflict between parents is a direct stressor for children. Furthermore, modeling verbal or physical aggression, parents "teach" their children that disagreements are resolved through conflict rather than calm discussion. As a result, children may not learn the social skills such as the ability to negotiate and reach compromises that are necessary to form mutually rewarding relationships with peers. Studies also showed that girls who were separated from their fathers at a younger age tended to be more angry toward the situation as they aged, anger and sadness were also observed at common feeling in adolescents who had experienced parental divorce. In the womb they expect the mother to nourish them. It is their only will to survive. When they are born, it is their parents responsibility to take care of their every need as they grow up. They are seen as sort of "super heroes" to the extent that "their parents should be able to work through and solve any issue. For instance if the child in question is below the age of three years old, they most likely will not even know what is going on or why their parents are no longer together. Through all of this gender plays roles in each age group differently. It is shown that through each age group males were often more affected and at a more consistent rate than females with the exception of the teenage years where females are far more emotional and expectant of throwing tantrum like behaviors more than males. Their way of thinking is all about "me" and will remain that way until they hit around seven. Because of this way of thinking, they are at the most risk of thinking that they are at fault with their own parents splitting up. They are the most vulnerable age and are usually the most negatively affected. They have most likely never seen a functional relationship from their parents so they will grow up with a sort of distorted image of what a marriage should be like unless the parents are remarried in to a successful marriage. When boys are in this situation, they will most likely still have a strong relationship with both parents. When typically this aggression is towards the father, this could lead to difficult relationships with men in the future. As well as many different trust issues depending on the reasoning behind the divorce. Infidelity being the top reason here in the United States. Taking from personal experiences, there can be longer lasting effects in what the emotional damage can do to a child who has experienced an unhealthy relationship and a divorce. As well as when school becomes more difficult to focus on. When there is more of an emotional toll if you will. With school in session, children may bottle up their feelings and not be as talkative or act like their normal selves. During this age, it is very important to understand how to talk to your child who is going through this. With all of the stress as well as schooling it could all become very overwhelming. You may see the grades of the child start to slip. If this happens it is a sign that the child is distracted. This is a good indicator as to what the child may be thinking or feeling. As we get into the higher ages more matters factor in. At the age of thirteen to about seventeen is when you must factor in the hormone levels coming from puberty. This could be pretty overwhelming for someone who feels as if their whole life is turning upside down anyway. Being a teenager is hard enough as it is and when you are going through puberty on top of a divorce it can feel like the end of the world. As for males, they always seem that they have less of an emotional toll from this situation. Although this is more of when males have more resentment towards their fathers. They often see them as the cause of the situation. This is because they are very attached to their mother and to see their mother go through something this emotionally straining can take a toll on them. They often act out their aggression since their hormones are also off the wall due to puberty they do not know how to channel their own aggression in a healthy way. This is when they can actually see the situation for what it really is. They understand that sometimes adults get married for the wrong reasons and they see that sometimes things just do not work out for the best. This is when everything comes in to focus and the parents can talk to their children like adults and know that they will understand and not be as hurt. Males and females often behave the same in this age group because they are understanding adults. Their whole universe revolves around them. Taking into account these factors, this can help figure out the effects it may have on your child. These children from divorced families may also be less likely to attend college, resulting in the discontinuation of their academic career. Studies have shown that this issue may be directly related to the economical influence of divorce. A divorce may result in the parent and children moving to an area with a higher poverty rate and a poor education system all due to the financial struggles of a single parent. These outcomes are associated with lower educational achievement. These negative effects tend to persist, and even

escalate after the divorce or separation occurs. More and more seniors are staying single; an analysis of census data conducted at Bowling Green State University predicted that divorce numbers will continue to rise. Baby boomers that remain unmarried are five times more likely to live in poverty compared to those who are married. They are also three times as likely to receive food stamps, public assistance or disability payments. Women, especially, are becoming more and more financially independent which allows them to feel more secure with being alone, in addition to changing perceptions of being divorced or single. This has resulted in less pressure for baby boomers to marry or stay married.

Chapter 8 : Unhappy marriage not grounds for divorce, supreme court rules | Law | The Guardian

The dissolution of a marriage is almost always an unhappy event, at the very least marked by disappointment and the loss of dreams and expectations. In addition, there are usually many legal.

What does the Bible say about divorce and remarriage? First of all, no matter what view one takes on the issue of divorce, it is important to remember Malachi 2: God realizes, though, that, since marriages involve two sinful human beings, divorces are going to occur. It can mean fornication, prostitution, adultery, etc. Jesus is possibly saying that divorce is permissible if sexual immorality is committed. Sexual relations are an integral part of the marital bond: Therefore, any breaking of that bond by sexual relations outside of marriage might be a permissible reason for divorce. If so, Jesus also has remarriage in mind in this passage. It is important to note that only the innocent party is allowed to remarry. Some understand 1 Corinthians 7: However, the context does not mention remarriage but only says a believer is not bound to continue a marriage if an unbelieving spouse wants to leave. Others claim that abuse spousal or child is a valid reason for divorce even though it is not listed as such in the Bible. While this may very well be the case, it is never wise to presume upon the Word of God. God has forgiven us of so much more. Surely we can follow His example and even forgive the sin of adultery Ephesians 4: However, in many instances a spouse is unrepentant and continues in sexual immorality. That is where Matthew Many also look to quickly remarry after a divorce when God might desire them to remain single. God sometimes calls people to be single so that their attention is not divided 1 Corinthians 7: Remarriage after a divorce may be an option in some circumstances, but that does not mean it is the only option. The Bible makes it abundantly clear that God hates divorce Malachi 2: However, God recognizes that divorce will occur, even among His children.

Chapter 9 : NVSS - Marriages and Divorces

Reasons for divorce: What are the 10 major causes of divorce? If infidelity, intimacy issues, lack of communication and marriage finances are straining your relationship, delve into this article to gain insights into resolving relationship challenges with your spouse to avoid the pitfall of divorce.

It is not necessary for both spouses or domestic partners to agree to end the marriage. To get a no fault divorce, 1 spouse or domestic partner has to state that the couple cannot get along. Think about how you are going to handle your case. Planning before you start and talking to a lawyer can save you time and money as you go through the court process. And keep in mind that, normally, it does not matter who is the first to file the divorce or separation case. The court does not give any preference to the first person to file or a disadvantage to the person who responds to the case. If you want to end a registered domestic partnership, domestic partners must also file for dissolution divorce , legal separation, or annulment to end their relationship. There is a limited exception where domestic partners can end their relationship in a summary process through the Secretary of State if they have been registered for less than five years and they have no children, no real property, very few assets or debts, and a written agreement on dividing their property, in addition to other restrictions. Click to learn more about this shorter process to see if you are eligible to end your domestic partnership that way. Domestic partners may be recognized for some federal purposes, such as Social Security. In addition, domestic partners may not have the same rights if they leave California because other states may not recognize domestic partnerships. Talk to a lawyer if you are ending a domestic partnership and any of these issues may apply to you. You may also want to talk to an accountant who is knowledgeable about these issues. Click for help finding a lawyer. The family law facilitator or self-help center in your court may be able to help you with the divorce or legal separation process and help you understand what your options are, decide what you want to do, and get started with your paperwork. You can also talk to a lawyer to get legal advice. If you are worried about how a divorce or legal separation will affect your immigration status, talk to an immigration lawyer or a family law lawyer with a lot of experience with immigration issues. Immigration law can be very complicated, especially as it relates to divorce. If there is domestic violence in your relationship, make sure you are safe and protected while you go through this court process. Read the domestic violence section of this website for more information. Or call TDD: If you or your spouse or domestic partner are currently in the military, special rules apply under the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. Talk to your family law facilitator , self-help center , or a lawyer.