

Percentage and causes of divorce in the us

Sociology



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The paper " Percentage and Causes of Divorce in the US " is an excellent example of a sociology research paper. In 18th and 19th century America, well into the 20th century, people did not often marry for love or faith-based foundations or mutual interests. They married to join good families, to produce heirs, and to have children to work on the family farm. They often married for survival, especially among the pioneer's blazing trails to California, Washington State, and Oregon. Though some married for love or had the fortune of falling in love with their spouse after an arranged marriage, this was not the usual trend (Inglis, 2007). Currently, men and women are on an equal standing when it comes to employment, and other social needs. It has become possible for women to live independent of a man, be it husband, father or breadwinner. This is one of the reasons that rates of divorce have increased in America. An Associated Press article states that America's divorce rate began climbing in the late 1960s and skyrocketed during the '70s and early '80s, as virtually every state adopted no-fault divorce laws. The rate peaked at 5.3 divorces per 1,000 people in 1981. This has now come down to 3.6/1000 in 2007. According to www.divorcerate.org, 50% of all American marriages end in divorce and people who marry between the ages of 20 and 24 years show the highest divorce percentages. Apart from this, people who marry for a second and a third time also show divorce rates of 67% and 74% respectively. It is certain that the cause of divorce varies from couple to couple, yet the lack of communication, money, and children, are among the most common causes of divorce. Lack of communication, in a matter however trivial, in a marital relationship, results in people being unable to solve problems that may occur in the marriage. Added to this is the resentment that arises when one spouse

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makes more money or makes financial decisions that are not approved by the other. While being childless results in divorce in 66% of cases, having children is again not a big help. Children need a lot of nurture and love and while they have the ability to bring their parents together, the lack of time and difference in priorities can lead to jealousy and more problems. Other causes of divorce include infidelity, failed expectations, sexual, physical and emotional abuse etc. While everyone marries for happiness and not for divorce, people do tend to take marriage for granted these days. Love vanishes in the face of responsibility. People should learn to make the love that they have for their spouse last. Children are entitled to a happy childhood and both their parents and parents should remember this while feeling resentment or self-pity over everyday problems.