

# Why divorce rates have went up in the prospective of conflict theory

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### Why Divorce Rates have Increased in the Prospective of Conflict Theory

In the early 1900's, there were few divorce cases in the United States as illustrated by the collected figures. In fact, divorce cases were rare and close to zero. On the other hand, there were many people that made vows of marriages. As time went by, the numbers of marriages in the United States were steadily rising. A bizarre turn of events however was to change the whole scenario where divorce cases started rising gradually. By 1960, it was estimated that there were over 1.5 million marriages in the United States. This was countered by close to half a million divorce cases in the same year. Many people have come up with theories that try to define this scenario to make it understood (Lawler, 2008).. The most pragmatic theory to figure the reasoning behind these scenarios is the conflict theory.

Karl Max states that the most fundamental cause of conflict in human beings is the divergence in their class. There are a few people in the society that control production (Lawler, 2008). Since production is the source of massive wealth, many people are left on the line since they do not have enough resource allocation. This causes conflict between many people in the society. The same is explained in marriages where some people feel that their importance in marriage is not felt. This is mostly due to garnering of resources in the family. Most family partners feel that their importance is jeopardized especially when they do not have enough sources to run their family. On the other hand, their partners have enough resources and have their weight in the relationship. This brings an internal conflict since the person with massive resources has the last say. This states the reason why

there are increased conflicts and divorce cases in the United States.

#### Reference

Lawler, S. (2008). Identity: Sociological perspectives. New York: Polity.