FORUM NOTES
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The Benefits of Marriage

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Marriage is Good for Us!
by: Bridget Maher

How Marriage Benefits Children

・ Children living with married parents are much safer than children living with single parents, because they are less likely to be aborted and less likely to be abused or neglected.[1]

・ Compared to children in single-parent families, children raised in married-parent homes have better emotional and physical health[2] and engage in fewer risky behaviors, such as premarital sex, substance abuse, delinquency, and suicide.[3]

・ Children with married parents do better academically and fare better economically.[4]

・ Children raised in intact homes are less likely to cohabit and more likely to view marriage positively and maintain life-long marriages.[5]

How Marriage Benefits Adults

・ Married people have better emotional and physical health and live longer than do unmarried people.[6]

・ Married couples have greater incomes than do single adults, and the longer they stay married, the more wealth they accumulate.[7]

・ Married couples enjoy greater sexual satisfaction than do unmarried people.[8]

・ Married women are safer than unmarried women. Never-married, cohabiting, separated, and divorced women experience higher rates of domestic violence than do married women.[9]

How Marriage Benefits Society

・ Marriage helps ensure that human life is protected and cherished, since married women are less likely to abort their children than are unmarried women.[10]

・ Marriage makes homes safer places to live, because it curbs social problems such as domestic violence and child abuse.[11]

・ Communities with more married-parent families are safer and more attractive places to live, because they are less likely to have substance abuse and crime among young people. [12]

・ Marriage is the best antidote to poverty and welfare dependency. [13]
Married people are more likely to be healthy, productive, and engaged citizens, benefiting businesses and, ultimately, the economy. [14]

END NOTES


SOURCE: Family Research Council