Women in Their Twenties Experience a Higher Divorce Rate

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When getting married, nobody can ever say for sure how successful the marriage will be. The tricky thing is there's no unique recipe or guideline to be followed in order to achieve an ever-lasting and happy married life. However, there are some recent observations made by researchers who identify common tendencies that may influence whether or not a marriage endures.

A social survey reveals that women who get married in their early twenties rather than later are more likely to separate from their husbands before they are 30. The number of couples divorced in England and Wales is terrifying – 153,490 couples in 2003! This figure has increased significantly during the last two years. It has been noted that marriages which end up in divorce lasts on average 11 years (Divorces in England and Wales, 2003). Some studies show that most women are likely to divorce between the ages of 25-29. When it comes to men, this age index goes up to 30-34. However, the Office of National Statistics highly questions the accuracy of these figures for broken relationships because, these days, a great many couples live together without getting married at all. These kinds of relationships are even more likely to break down over time.

Dr. Andrew Parker from the Department of Sociology at Warwick University says: “The traditional household, where women do most of the housework and men are the main breadwinners, is probably still quite pervasive, particularly among the working class. Britons are working longer hours than other Europeans and taking fewer holidays. Still, women in these kinds of households are more financially secure and confident” (Parker, 2004).

Relate, a marriage guidance group, said that it is seeing more cases in which husbands or wives are starting affairs with old friends or former lovers they had reconnected with through the Internet. Christine Northam, a senior counselor, said: “It's easy to surf around and see what happened to so-and-so. If you are feeling insecure in your relationship, you may look back on a rose-tinted past” (Northam, 2004). However, Carolynne Bull-Edwards, a spokesman for Friends Reunited, stated that the Internet is no more responsible for divorce than the telephone. She emphasizes, “We are an intermediary that reunites people. What happens after that is beyond our control.”

Couples who have both been divorced before their new relations begin are likely to divorce as well. There's every possibility their previous experience will make them act the same way they did earlier. The rate for such divorce cases is one out of ten. Half of these couples have at least one child was under 16 years of age. In 20% of such cases, the children were under 5 years old. About 65% of all divorce cases were granted to the wife. In the majority of cases, the reason for divorce indicated issues with the husband's behavior.

Relate comments that: “We need to make sure that people are properly prepared for marriage. Sometimes, they think about the lovely wedding day and assume that the rest of their lives will echo that experience, but life’s realities are different. You have two people coming together into one relationship, and they have to be prepared to make adjustments” (Northam, 2004). The old saying goes, “Marry in haste; repent at leisure.” It might be better to think twice before getting married. A little bit of waiting can truly prevent an increase in the current divorce rate.

References

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