



HISTORY

MANY AMERICAN STATES ENACTED DIVORCE LEGISLATION IN THE 1700'S-EACH STATE WAS DIFFERENT-HOWEVER MOST WERE DURING THE 1780'S AND 1790'S...AFTER WE GAINED OUR INDEPENDENCE

- CONNECTICUT-GROUNDS FOR DIVORCE
- CALIFORNIA-GROUNDS FOR DIVORCE

CONNECTICUT DIVORCE RULES AND REGULATIONS:

- MOST LIBERAL STATE AT THE TIME
- COULD ONLY GET DIVORCE ON GROUNDS OF:
 - ADULTERY
 - DESERTION FOR 3 YEARS
 - PROLONGED ABSENCE WITH PRESUMPTION OF DEATH
- 1843: HABITUAL DRUNKENNESS AND INTOLERABLE CRUELTY WERE ADDED TO LEGISLATION
- 1849: DIVORCE GRANTED ON ACCOUNT OF:
 - LIFE IMPRISONMENT
 - INFAMOUS CRIME
 - MISCONDUCT

CALIFORNIA HAD HIGHEST DIVORCE RATE IN THE WORLD DURING THE GOLD RUSH

- "NATURALLY LOOKED UPON WITH FAVOR AND GRANTED"
- 1851 GROUNDS FOR DIVORCE

FAULT/NO FAULT

"MARRIAGE CAN END WHETHER DIVORCE IS POSSIBLE OR NOT - BUT DIVORCE MAKES IT POSSIBLE TO REMARRY"

FAULT BASED DIVORCEE

- GROUNDS WERE ADULTERY, EXTREME CRUELTY, WILLFUL DESERTION, WILLFUL NEGLECT, HABITUAL INTEMPERANCE, CONVICTION OF A FELONY AND INCURABLE INSANITY

NO-FAULT DIVORCE

- CALIFORNIA 1969
 - **GOV. RONALD REAGAN SIGNED THE FAMILY LAW ACT WHICH WAS THE FIRST NO-FAULT DIVORCE LAW. THIS STARTED THE "DIVORCE LAW REVOLUTION"**
- 1985: 18 STATES ENACTED NO-FAULT DIVORCE LAWS. OF THOSE:
 - 14 STATES MADE MARITAL BREAKDOWN A REASON FOR DIVORCE
 - 3 MADE "INCOMPATIBILITY" A REASON FOR DIVORCE
- 22 ADDED THE NO-FAULT STANDARD OF "MARITAL BREAKDOWN" TO ALREADY EXISTING FAULT-BASED LAWS
- NO-FAULT DIVORCE WAS CONCEIVED AS A WAY TO MAKE DIVORCE LESS HOSTILE AND RESTRICTIVE

CONTESTED/UNCONTESTED

- AN UNCONTESTED DIVORCE IS WHEN BOTH PARTIES IN AN ENDING RELATIONSHIP REACH A MUTUAL ACCORD ABOUT THE DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY, FINANCES, CHILDREN, AND OTHER OFTEN CONTENTIOUS ISSUES.
- CONTESTED DIVORCE IS A SITUATION IN WHICH AN AGREEMENT CAN NOT BE REACHED ON EVERY ISSUE AND THE COUPLES HAVE TO TAKE THE ISSUE TO THE JUDGE.

SIMPLIFIED DIVORCE

- THIS KIND OF DIVORCE IS ALSO KNOWN AS SUMMARY DIVORCE.
- SIMPLIFIED DIVORCES ARE UNCONTESTED, NO - FAULT DIVORCES WHERE THERE IS NO CONFLICT BETWEEN THE SPOUSES.
- USUALLY THESE KINDS OF DIVORCES ARE TAKEN WHEN THE MARRIAGE IS SHORT AND WHEN THERE ARE NO CHILDREN.
- THIS TYPE OF DIVORCE IS LESS EXPENSIVE AND LESS STRESSFUL.

DEFAULT DIVORCE

- DEFAULT DIVORCE IS LIKE ALL THE OTHER DIVORCES BUT THE PROCEEDINGS OF THIS DIVORCE ARE VERY DIFFERENT
- IF A RESPONDENT DOES NOT SIGN DIVORCE PAPERS OR RESPOND TO PETITIONER IN A GIVEN TIME PERIOD A 'DEFAULT' DIVORCE IS GRANTED
- INCLUDES A LOT OF PAPER WORK AND CAN BE A VERY LENGTHY PROCESS

MISSING SPOUSE DIVORCE

- THIS DIVORCE INVOLVES A PROCEDURE IN WHICH THE PERSON SEEKING A DIVORCE DOES NOT KNOW ABOUT THE WHEREABOUTS OF THEIR SPOUSE.
- IF YOU DO NOT KNOW WHERE SPOUSE IS AT THE PRESENT TIME, THEN YOU CAN FILE FOR THIS DIVORCE.
- YOU CAN USE THIS DIVORCE EVEN IF YOUR WIFE OR HUSBAND IS RESIDING IN A DIFFERENT STATE.

LIMITED DIVORCE

- LIMITED DIVORCE IS VERY SIMILAR TO LEGAL SEPARATION.
- THIS KIND OF DIVORCE IS USED BY THOSE COUPLES WHO WISH TO END THEIR MARRIAGE BUT DO NOT HAVE GROUNDS FOR AN ABSOLUTE DIVORCE.
- PEOPLE WHO WANT TO SETTLE THEIR FINANCES AND OTHER ISSUES BEFORE SEPARATING CAN USE THIS KIND OF DIVORCE

ABSOLUTE DIVORCE

- ABSOLUTE DIVORCE IS THE LEGAL END OF A MARRIAGE AND IT ENDS ALL LEGAL BONDS BETWEEN TWO PEOPLE IN REGARDS TO BEING A COUPLE.
- THE REASONS NEEDED FOR THIS DIVORCE ARE DIFFERENT IN DIFFERENT STATES.

COLLABORATIVE DIVORCE

- COLLABORATIVE DIVORCE ENCOURAGES DIVORCING COUPLES TO PART IN A MORE DIGNIFIED MANNER.
- IN THIS DIVORCE YOU CAN TAKE THE HELP OF FINANCIAL SPECIALISTS AND DIVORCE COACHES.

DIVORCE STATISTICS

- IT IS ESTIMATED THAT BETWEEN 40 PERCENT AND 50 PERCENT OF FIRST MARRIAGES END IN DIVORCE IN THE UNITED STATES.
- SECOND MARRIAGES FAIL AT A RATE OF 60-67 PERCENT
- THIRD MARRIAGES FAIL AT A RATE OF 73-74 PERCENT

DIVORCE STATISTICS

- DIVORCE STATISTICS INDICATE THAT ABOUT ONE-FOURTH OF ADULTS IN THE UNITED STATES HAVE BEEN DIVORCED AT LEAST ONCE IN THEIR LIFETIME.
- RATES DECREASED IN THE 1980'S AND 1990'S, HOWEVER COUPLES ARE STILL FACING A 50% CHANCE OF GETTING A DIVORCE-
 - DO YOU THINK IT'S BECAUSE MARRIAGE RATES ARE GOING DOWN?

TWENTIETH CENTURY

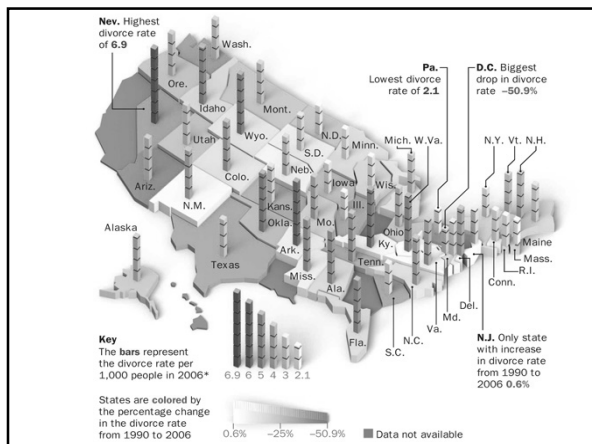
- 1958: 2.1 PER THOUSAND
- 1968: 2.9 PER THOUSAND
- 1979: 5.3 PER THOUSAND

3 POSSIBLE FACTORS TO EXPLAIN INCREASE:

- EASIER ACCESS TO DIVORCE
- WOMEN NOW HAD FULL TIME JOBS
- CHANGE IN SOCIAL VALUES

*[HTTP://WWW.LIBRARY.CA.GOV/CRB/98/04/STATE GROUND.PDF](http://www.library.ca.gov/crb/98/04/stateground.pdf)

[HTTP://WWW.LIBRARY.CA.GOV/CRB/98/04/DIVORCERATE.PDF](http://www.library.ca.gov/crb/98/04/divorcerate.pdf)



Rank	Country	Percent
1	India	1.1
2	Sri Lanka	1.5
3	Japan	1.9
4	Republic of Macedonia	5.0
5	Bosnia and Herzegovina	5.0
6	Turkey	6.0
7	Armenia	6.0
8	Georgia	6.6
9	Italy	10.0
10	Azerbaijan	10.3
11	Albania	10.9
12	Israel	14.8
13	Spain	15.2
14	Croatia	15.5
15	Greece	15.7
16	Singapore	17.2
17	Poland	17.2
18	Romania	19.1
19	Slovenia	20.7
20	Bulgaria	21.1
21	Switzerland	25.5
22	Portugal	26.2
23	Slovakia	26.9
24	Moldova	28.1
25	Latvia	34.4
26	Canada	37.0
27	Hungary	37.5
28	Netherlands	38.3
29	France	38.3
30	Lithuania	38.9

31	Germany	39.4
32	Iceland	39.5
33	Ukraine	40.0
34	Norway	40.4
35	United Kingdom	42.6
36	Russia	43.3
37	Czech Republic	43.3
38	Austria	43.4
39	Belgium	44.0
40	Denmark	44.5
41	Estonia	46.7
42	Luxembourg	47.4
43	Finland	51.2
44	Belarus	52.9
45	United States	54.8
46	Sweden	54.9

DIVORCE STATISTICS CONT.

- THERE WERE APPROXIMATELY 2,230,000 MARRIAGES IN 2005 – DOWN FROM 2,279,000 THE PREVIOUS YEAR, DESPITE A TOTAL POPULATION INCREASE OF 2.9 MILLION OVER THE SAME PERIOD.
- THE **DIVORCE RATE** IN 2005 (PER 1,000 PEOPLE) WAS 3.6 – THE **LOWEST RATE SINCE 1970**, AND DOWN FROM 4.2 IN 2000 AND FROM 4.7 IN 1990

DIVORCE RATE REASONS

- THE DIVORCE RATE HAS BEEN CLIMBING IN EVERY INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRY IN THE WORLD. THERE ARE TWO SIGNIFICANT FACTORS AFFECTING THE RISING DIVORCE RATE IN THE UNITED STATES AND ELSEWHERE:
 - (1) MEN AND WOMEN ARE LESS IN NEED OF EACH OTHER FOR ECONOMIC SURVIVAL, AND
 - (2) GAINS MADE IN BIRTH CONTROL ALLOW MEN AND WOMEN TO SEPARATE SEXUAL ACTIVITY FROM HAVING CHILDREN.

MORE REASONS FOR CHANGES IN DIVORCE RATES:

- DECREASE IN MARRIAGE
- ECONOMY
- MORE WOMEN BREAKING OUT OF THE 'HOMEMAKER' ROLE
- DIVORCES ARE BECOMING EASIER TO OBTAIN
- RELIGION

CHANGE IN ECONOMY AFFECTING RATE OF DIVORCE

IN A POOR ECONOMY DIVORCE RATES RISE

THIS IS COULD BE BECAUSE COUPLES CANNOT AFFORD TO GET DIVORCED. (CAN'T SELL THE HOUSE, CAN'T AFFORD TO HAVE A SINGLE INCOME, ETC.)

IN A GOOD ECONOMY DIVORCE RATES RISE

COUPLES CAN AFFORD TO DIVORCE, BETTER CHANCE OF SELLING HOUSE, INCOME NOT AS BIG OF AN ISSUE

<http://www.ksl.com/index.php?sid=6913166>

Cost of Divorce \$\$\$

AVERAGE COST OF DIVORCE IN THE UNITED STATES IS:

\$15,000

IN UTAH, AS OF MAY 12, 2009, THE COURT FILING FEE FOR A DIVORCE CASE IS \$310

PROBLEMS THAT LEAD TO DIVORCE

- MISCOMMUNICATION
- MARITAL CONFLICT
- DESTRUCTIVE ARGUING
 - THESE 3 LEAD TO...
 - LOSS OF LOVE
 - LOSS OF SEXUAL ATTRACTION
 - LOSS OF FRIENDSHIP
 - LOSS OF TRUST
 - LOSS OF COMMITMENT

RISK FACTORS OF DIVORCE

- DEPRESSION - MORE FREQUENT IN WOMEN
- CHILD MISCONDUCT
 - "THERE IS A HIGH CORRELATION BETWEEN FAMILY AND DISRUPTION AND THE RATE OF CRIME AND JUVENILE DELINQUENCY."
([HTTP://WWW.LIBRARY.CA.GOV/crb/98/04/STATEGROUND.PDF](http://www.LIBRARY.CA.GOV/crb/98/04/STATEGROUND.PDF))
- ANXIETY
- DEPRESSION
- POOR PHYSICAL HEALTH

NOW WE'RE DIVORCED.....

ANNULMENT

- **ANNULMENT** IS A LEGAL PROCEDURE FOR DECLARING A MARRIAGE NULL AND VOID
- **UNLIKE DIVORCE IT IS RETROACTIVE:** AN ANNULLED MARRIAGE IS CONSIDERED NEVER TO HAVE EXISTED

ANNULMENT

- LEGAL DECREE THAT THE MARRIAGE WAS INVALID
 - ONE SPOUSE IS ALREADY MARRIED
 - RELATED TO EACH OTHER
 - UNDERAGE AND DID NOT ATTAIN APPROPRIATE PARENTAL CONSENT

ANNULMENT

- MOST COMMON GROUND TO AN ANNULMENT IS FRAUD, WHEN ONE SPOUSE NEVER DISCLOSED INFORMATION PREVIOUS TO MARRIAGE
 - CRIMINAL RECORD
 - INFECTIOUS DISEASE
 - INABILITY TO HAVE CHILDREN
 - NO DESIRE TO HAVE CHILDREN

PRENUPTIAL AGREEMENT

- AN AGREEMENT MADE BETWEEN A COUPLE BEFORE MARRIAGE RELATING TO THE ARRANGEMENT OF FINANCIAL MATTERS AND DIVISION OF PROPERTY IN THE EVENT OF THEIR DIVORCE
- TWO TYPES:
 - PRENUPTIAL AGREEMENT: COUPLES ABOUT TO BE MARRIED
 - COHABITATION AGREEMENT: UNMARRIED COUPLES

PRENUPS

- ASSETS OWNED PREVIOUS TO MARRIAGE ARE PROTECTED, REMAIN SOLE POSSESSION OF THAT PARTY
- WHEN THERE IS NO AGREEMENT MADE THEN THE TWO PARTIES INVOLVED MUST COME TO AN AGREEMENT REGARDING THEIR BELONGINGS AND OTHER ASSETS

PRENUPS CONT.

<http://video.yahoo.com/watch/567598?fr=yvmtf>

ALIMONY

- HISTORY OF ALIMONY
- GUIDELINES IN RECEIVING IT
- HOW IS IT DETERMINED
- HOW LONG DOES ONE RECEIVE IT

HISTORY OF ALIMONY

THE ORIGINS OF ALIMONY, AS WE KNOW IT IN THE UNITED STATES, CAN BE TRACED BACK TO THE ECCLESIASTICAL COURTS IN ENGLAND. BECAUSE THE HUSBAND WAS THE PROPERTY OWNER, AND THE WIFE DEPENDED UPON HIM TO PROVIDE FOR HER SUSTENANCE, THE ENGLISH ECCLESIASTICAL COURTS CONSISTENTLY RULED THAT THE HUSBAND HAD THE DUTY TO PROVIDE FOR THE WIFE AFTER DIVORCE.

HOW IS ALIMONY DETERMINED

THE FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE PARTIES
THE NATURE AND VALUE OF THEIR RESPECTIVE PROPERTY
THE CONTRIBUTION OF EACH TO ANY PROPERTY HELD BY THEM AS TENANTS BY THE ENTIRETY
THE DURATION OF THE MARRIAGE
THE HUSBAND'S INCOME, HIS EARNING CAPACITY, HIS AGE, HEALTH, AND ABILITY TO LABOR
THE WIFE'S AGE, HEALTH, STATION, AND ABILITY TO EARN A LIVING.

HOW LONG DOES ONE RECEIVE ALIMONY?

- THE LENGTH OF THE MARRIAGE
- SOMETIMES IT CAN BE AWARDED IN ONE LUMP-SUM
- NOT OFTEN, BUT IT HAS OCCURRED, THE SPOUSE CAN BE AWARDED LIFETIME ALIMONY

HUMAN CAPITAL INVESTMENT

WHAT IS HUMAN CAPITAL?

- A PERSON'S WORTH
- A PERSON'S EARNING CAPACITY

HUMAN CAPITAL AS MARRIAGE PROPERTY?

- SOME COURTS HAVE RULED A PROFESSIONAL DEGREE IS NOT MARITAL PROPERTY BECAUSE IT IS NON-TRANSFERABLE
- SOME COURTS HAVE FOUND A DEGREE TO BE MARITAL PROPERTY
- MANY OF THE CONCERNS OVER THE RULES FOR DIVISION OF HUMAN CAPITAL ASSETS, ARISE FROM THE POSSIBILITY OF STRATEGIC DIVORCE

HOW TO DISTRIBUTE A DEGREE CONSIDERED TO BE MARITAL PROPERTY

- AWARDING THE SPOUSE THEIR ACTUAL CASH CONTRIBUTION
- ADDING A RETURN BASED ON THE PASSBOOK SAVINGS RATE
- AWARDING THE WIFE SOMETHING LESS THAN 40 PERCENT OF THE ESTIMATED PRESENT VALUE OF THE PORTION OF THE HUSBAND'S EARNINGS ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE DEGREE

MEASURING CONTRIBUTION

- TYPICALLY THE COURT MEASURES BY THE SUPPORTING SPOUSE'S CONTRIBUTION LESS THEIR ESTIMATED CONSUMPTION
 - ESTIMATED CONSUMPTION IS USUALLY TAKEN TO BE TOTAL HOUSEHOLD SPENDING LESS TUITION AND OTHER SCHOOL-RELATED SPENDING, ALL DIVIDED BY TWO
 - TYPICALLY, DOLLAR COSTS OF SCHOOLING, RATHER THAN OPPORTUNITY COSTS, ARE MEASURED
 - TYPICALLY, HOME PRODUCTION BY THE SUPPORTING SPOUSE IS NOT COUNTED AS PART OF HER CONTRIBUTION

EXAMPLE

A COUPLE DECIDES TO INVEST IN ONE SPOUSE RECEIVING A MEDICAL DEGREE:

COST OF EDUCATION:

- TUITION
- LIVING EXPENSES
- LOSS OF INCOME

BENEFITS OF SPOUSE CONTRIBUTING TO EDUCATION COSTS

- REDUCES THE AMOUNT OF LOANS NEEDED
- REDUCES INTEREST RATES AND INTEREST PAYMENTS
- INCREASED INCOME FOLLOWING COMPLETION

STRATEGIC DIVORCE?

- MANY OF THE CONCERNS OVER THE RULES FOR DIVISION OF HUMAN CAPITAL ASSETS, ARISE FROM THE POSSIBILITY OF STRATEGIC DIVORCE
- ONE SPOUSE (INVESTING SPOUSE) INTENDING TO DIVORCE ONCE THE INVESTMENT IS COMPLETE WITHOUT THE OTHER SPOUSE'S (SUPPORTING SPOUSE) KNOWLEDGE

DIVORCE POLICIES IN UTAH

- RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS
- WAITING PERIODS
- MEDIATION
- REQUIREMENTS IS CHILDREN ARE INVOLVED (DIVORCE EDUCATION CLASS)
- ONLINE COURT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

[HTTP://WWW.STANDARDLEGAL.COM/STATE_DIVORCE_CHARACTER.HTML](http://www.standardlegal.com/STATE_DIVORCE_CHARACTER.HTML)

- 3 MONTHS IN UTAH - TO COMPARE WITH OTHER STATES:
 - ALABAMA: FILING SPOUSE MUST BE A RESIDENT FOR 6 MONTHS PRIOR TO FILING
 - ARIZONA: 90 DAYS
 - CALIFORNIA: 6 MONTHS IN THE STATE, 3 MONTHS IN THE COUNTY
 - IOWA: 1 YEAR

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS CONT.

- KANSAS: 60 DAYS
- MARYLAND: NO WAITING PERIOD
- MICHIGAN: 180 DAYS IN THE STATE, 10 DAYS IN THE COUNTY

WAITING PERIODS

- UTAH HAS A 90 DAY WAITING PERIOD FOR DIVORCE TO BECOME FINALIZED (SECTION 30-3-18 OF THE UTAH CODE)
- THE WAITING PERIOD CAN BE WAIVED IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES

SECTION 30-3-18 OF THE UTAH CODE

- WAIT NINETY (90) DAYS FROM THE DATE YOU FILE FOR DIVORCE BEFORE THE COURT WILL GRANT THE DIVORCE
- THIS WAITING PERIOD IS A COOLING-OFF PERIOD DESIGNED TO HELP YOU AND YOUR SPOUSE THINK ABOUT WHETHER YOU CAN RECONCILE YOUR DIFFERENCES AND REMAIN MARRIED
- THE WAITING PERIOD DOES NOT APPLY IF YOU AND YOUR SPOUSE ATTEND THE DIVORCE EDUCATION FOR PARENTS COURSE
- IF YOU HAVE PARTICIPATED IN A COURT-ORDERED MEDIATION PROGRAM, THE WAITING PERIOD DOES NOT APPLY

-IN ALL OTHER CASES, YOU MUST WAIT THE OBLIGATORY NINETY (90) DAYS UNLESS THE COURT DETERMINES THAT THERE IS A GOOD CAUSE FOR NOT REQUIRING A WAITING PERIOD

- WAITING PERIOD CAN BE WAIVED IN THE CASE OF ABUSE
- JUDGES ARE OFTEN WILLING TO WAIVE THE WAITING PERIOD IF YOU CAN DEMONSTRATE THAT THERE IS NO HOPE OF RECONCILIATION
- IF YOU HAVE PARTICIPATED IN MARRIAGE COUNSELING
- BEEN LIVING SEPARATELY FOR LONGER THAN NINETY (90) DAYS
- BOTH AGREE IN WRITING TO WAIVE THE WAITING PERIOD

IN CASES WHERE THE WAITING PERIOD IS WAIVED, IT IS BEST TO EXPECT THE DIVORCE TO TAKE AT LEAST THIRTY (30) DAYS TO FINALIZE

MEDIATION

DISCLAIMER:

THIS VIDEO MAY BE OFFENSIVE
TO SOME, PLEASE FEEL FREE
TO STEP OUT

[HTTP://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/
WATCH?V=JLWTFHIQYOG&
EATURE=RELATED](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JLWTFHIQYOG&feature=related)

MEDIATION

- NEUTRAL THIRD PARTY TO FACILITATE A PRODUCTIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR CLIENT SELF-DETERMINATION TO RESOLVE DISPUTES, CONFLICTS WHILE STAYING OUTSIDE OF THE COURTHOUSE
- OFTEN TIMES IN A CONTESTED DIVORCE, THE COURTS WILL REQUIRE MEDIATION PRIOR TO LITIGATION (EXCEPTION IS ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIPS)

BENEFITS OF MEDIATION

- LESS EXPENSIVE
- MORE INFORMAL
- NOT BASED ON SETTLING ANY PARTICULAR CASE, BUT TO MAKE PROGRESS HELPING BOTH PARTIES UNDERSTAND THE POINTS AND CONCERNS OF THE OTHER PARTY AND THEN HELPING THEM TO BE ABLE TO RATIONALLY COME UP WITH GOOD POSSIBLE IDEAS ABOUT A SOLUTION
- OFTEN KEEPS THE RELATIONSHIP AMICABLE
- DOESN'T ALWAYS WORK, BUT IT BETTER THAN GOING STRAIGHT TO LITIGATION

DIVORCE EDUCATION CLASS

- IN UTAH, IF CHILDREN ARE INVOLVED, PARENTS ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE THE DIVORCE EDUCATION CLASS BEFORE THE DIVORCE CAN BE FINALIZED
- REQUIRED ONLY FOR ALL PARENTS OR LEGAL GUARDIANS OF CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 18 WHO FILE FOR DIVORCE IN THE STATE OF UTAH
- COST: \$35.00 PER PERSON
- IF YOU LIVE IN AN AREA WHERE AN ON-SITE CLASS ISN'T AVAILABLE WITHIN 60 MILES, YOU MAY SATISFY THE DIVORCE ORIENTATION AND EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS BY VIEWING A RECORDING OF EACH CLASS

GOALS OF DIVORCE EDUCATION CLASS

1. GIVE PARENTS INFORMATION WHICH WILL HELP THEM SUPPORT THEIR CHILDREN'S EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING BOTH DURING THE DIVORCE PROCESS AND LATER AS A DIVORCED FAMILY.
2. CREATE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF HOW AND WHY CONFLICT BETWEEN PARENTS CREATES STRESS FOR CHILDREN WHETHER CHILDREN ARE EXPOSED TO THAT CONFLICT IN AN INTACT FAMILY OR IN A DIVORCED FAMILY. THE CLASS WILL ENCOURAGE GREATER EFFORT BY BOTH PARENTS TO DECREASE THE CONFLICT THEIR CHILDREN ARE EXPOSED TO.
3. ENCOURAGE PARENTS TO COOPERATE WITH EACH OTHER IN CO-PARENTING THEIR CHILDREN IF POSSIBLE. IF THAT IS NOT POSSIBLE, THEN PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ENGAGE IN "PARALLEL PARENTING."
4. ENCOURAGE PARENTS TO UNDERSTAND THAT, IN MOST CASES, CHILDREN NEED CONTINUED AND MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS WITH **BOTH** PARENTS IF IT IS SAFE TO DO SO

THERE IS ALSO A DIVORCE ORIENTATION CLASS FOR PARENTS CONSIDERING DIVORCE:

- EDUCATE PARENTS ABOUT THE DIVORCE PROCESS, INCLUDING THE VARIOUS LEGAL ALTERNATIVES TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES
- EDUCATE PARENTS ABOUT REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES TO DIVORCE
- EDUCATE PARENTS ABOUT THE LONG TERM EFFECTS OF DIVORCE ON FAMILY MEMBERS.

ONLINE COURT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (UTAH)

REQUIREMENTS:

- YOU AND YOUR SPOUSE HAVE NO MORE THAN SIX CHILDREN
- YOU AND YOUR SPOUSE'S COMBINED INCOME IS LESS THAN \$10,100 PER MONTH
- COSTS AN ADDITIONAL \$20

GOVERNMENT ENCOURAGING MARRIAGE

▪ HEALTHY MARRIAGE INITIATIVE

TO HELP COUPLES, WHO HAVE CHOSEN MARRIAGE FOR THEMSELVES, GAIN GREATER ACCESS TO MARRIAGE EDUCATION SERVICES, ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS, WHERE THEY CAN ACQUIRE THE SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE NECESSARY TO FORM AND SUSTAIN A HEALTHY MARRIAGE.

GOALS

- INCREASE THE PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN WHO ARE RAISED BY TWO PARENTS IN A HEALTHY MARRIAGE
- INCREASE THE PERCENTAGE OF MARRIED COUPLES WHO ARE IN HEALTHY MARRIAGES
- INCREASE THE PERCENTAGE OF PREMARITAL COUPLES WHO ARE EQUIPPED WITH THE SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE NECESSARY TO FORM AND SUSTAIN A HEALTHY MARRIAGE.

- INCREASE THE PERCENTAGE OF YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS WHO HAVE THE SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE TO MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS ABOUT HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS INCLUDING SKILLS THAT CAN HELP THEM EVENTUALLY FORM AND SUSTAIN A HEALTHY MARRIAGE
- INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS ABOUT THE VALUE OF HEALTHY MARRIAGES AND THE SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE THAT CAN HELP COUPLES FORM AND SUSTAIN HEALTHY MARRIAGE
- ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT RESEARCH ON HEALTHY MARRIAGES AND HEALTHY MARRIAGE EDUCATION
- INCREASE THE PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN, MEN AND CHILDREN IN HOMES THAT ARE FREE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

PREP: PREVENTION AND RELATIONSHIP ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

- ACCORDING TO THEIR WEBSITE
[HTTP://WWW.PREPINC.COM/MAIN/ABOUT_US.ASP](http://www.prepinc.com/main/about_us.asp)

PREP IS ONE OF THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE AND WELL RESPECTED DIVORCEE PREVENTION/MARRIAGE ENHANCING PROGRAMS IN THE WORLD. PREP IS A SKILLS AND PRINCIPLES-BUILDING CURRICULUM DESIGNED TO HELP PARTNERS SAY WHAT THEY NEED TO SAY, GET TO THE HEART OF PROBLEMS, AND INCREASE THEIR CONNECTION WITH EACH OTHER.

PREP CONT.

- 6 2-HOUR SESSIONS/LECTURES THAT ARE PRESENTED AS EDUCATION - NOT AS COUNSELING OR THERAPY
 - CORE THEMES
 - DANGER SIGNS OF FUTURE PROBLEMS
 - GENDER DIFFERENCES
 - VALUE OF STRUCTURE IN PROMOTING SAFETY
 - SPEAKER/LISTENING TECHNIQUES
 - PROBLEM SOLVING
 - HANDLING CONFLICT
 - FORGIVENESS
 - COMMITMENT
 - HOW TO PRESERVE AND ENHANCE FUN, FRIENDSHIP, AND SENSUALITY
- ASSIGNED READINGS

PREP CONT.

- PREP ALSO TEACHES ABOUT DESTRUCTIVENESS OF "NEGATIVE INTERPRETATIONS." PARTICIPANTS ARE TAUGHT TO RECOGNIZE DANGER SIGNS OF MARITAL FAILURE
- USED AROUND THE WORLD - AUSTRALIA, HOLLAND, GERMANY (PREP IS AN OPTION FOR PRE-MARITAL COUNSELING IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH)

LABOR BEFORE/AFTER

- THE MALE TYPICALLY DOES NOT HAVE TO CHANGE OR GIVE UP HIS JOB AFTER MOST DIVORCES
- TWO MAJOR HYPOTHESES HAVE DEVELOPED CONCERNING THE EFFECT OF WIVES' LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION ON THE STABILITY OF MARRIAGE
 - ROLE SPECIALIZATION AND INTERDEPENDENCE
 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY HYPOTHESIS

ROLE SPECIALIZATION AND INTERDEPENDENCE

- MOST STABLE MARRIAGES ARE THOSE IN WHICH THE WIFE EXCHANGES HER DOMESTIC SERVICES (INCLUDING CHILDBEARING) FOR THE HUSBAND'S ECONOMIC SUPPORT, AND VICE VERSA.
- IF BOTH HUSBAND AND WIFE SPECIALIZE IN PAID EMPLOYMENT, SPECIALIZATION IS REDUCED AND THE GAINS IN THE MARRIAGE MUST DECLINE.

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY HYPOTHESIS

- WIVES' EMPLOYMENT DOES NOT CAUSE UNSATISFACTORY MARRIAGE, BUT THE EMPLOYMENT AFFORDS WIVES IN UNSATISFACTORY MARRIAGES AN ECONOMICALLY VIABLE ALTERNATIVE TO REMAINING MARRIED

2001 SOUTH STUDY

- EVENT HISTORY ANALYSIS WERE PERFORMED USING DATA ON 3,523 MARRIED COUPLES SURVEYED BY THE PANEL STUDY OF INCOME DYNAMICS BETWEEN 1969 AND 1993 ON THE EFFECTS OF A WIFE'S EMPLOYMENT AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO DIVORCE

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF SPOUSES

- DIVORCED MEN AND WOMEN ARE MORE LIKELY TO DEFAULT ON THEIR DEBT OBLIGATIONS THAN MARRIED HOUSEHOLDS
- AFTER DIVORCE, HOUSEHOLDS OFTEN TURN TO GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

BALANCE SHEET

- MARITAL BALANCE SHEET (MBS): IS A TERM THAT REFERS TO A SINGLE LISTING OF ALL ASSETS AND DEBTS OF AN ENTITY AND EMBODIES AND BASIC ACCOUNTING PREMISE: "ASSETS MINUS LIABILITIES EQUALS EQUITY"

SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS POST DIVORCE

AGREEMENT	STANDARD OF LIVING%	PARENTING%
▪ BOTH EXPECT IT		
▪ WILL NOT BE WORSE	13.8%	16.4%
▪ BOTH EXPECT IT		
▪ WILL BE WORSE	39.7%	45.7%
▪ MOTHER EXPECTS WORSE,		
▪ FATHER DOES NOT	32.1%	14.5%
▪ FATHER EXPECTS WORSE,		
▪ MOTHER DOES NOT	14.4%	23.4%
▪ TOTAL=	100 %	100%

SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS MEN VS. WOMEN

- WHILE WOMEN TYPICALLY UNDERGO MARKED DECLINES IN INCOME AND MEASURES OF ECONOMIC STATUS, MEN UNDERGO MINIMAL INCOME LOSS AND EVEN EXPERIENCE IMPROVEMENTS IN FAMILY SIZE-ADJUSTED MEASURES OF ECONOMIC STATUS
- PREDISRUPTION ECONOMIC STATUS, EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, AND WEEKS WORKED ARE EACH ASSOCIATED WITH HIGHER LEVELS OF PER CAPITA INCOME AFTER MARITAL DISRUPTION FOR BOTH MEN AND WOMEN.
- WOMEN'S ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE AFTER DIVORCE STEMS FROM THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES TOWARDS THEIR CHILDREN.

MOTHERS AS FATHERS EXPECTATIONS OF STANDARD OF LIVING IN THEIR DIVORCE

EXPECTATION MOTHERS (%) FATHERS (%)

STANDARD OF LI	MOTHERS (%)	FATHERS (%)
MUCH BETTER	.4	1.7
BETTER	3.8	8.4
SAME	24.1	35.7
WORSE	46.8	42.1
MUCH WORSE	24.9	12.1
M	3.92	3.54A
% WORSE OR MUCH WORSE	70.7	54.1A

EMOTIONAL WELL BEING POST DIVORCE

- FATHER-CHILD CONTACT HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE ONGOING PAYMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT, WHICH IS VITAL TO THE OVERALL WELL-BEING OF CHILDREN.
- FACTORS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO FATHER WELL-BEING POST DIVORCE: AGE, TIME SINCE DIVORCE, EDUCATION, ROLE CLARITY, INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP (POST-DIVORCE), ENCOURAGEMENT FROM OTHERS, INCOME, CUSTODY ARRANGEMENT, AND ROLE SATISFACTION.

▪ "WHATEVER THE CAUSE OF THE GROWING DIVORCE RATE--THE ANXIETIES IN OUR WORLD, A SOCIETY OF ROOTLESSNESS AND INCREASING MOBILITY, AN EROSION OF THE MORAL ABSOLUTE--DIVORCE PRODUCES NOT ONLY BROKEN HOMES BUT BROKEN LIVES. IT ERODES THE VERY FOUNDATION OF OUR SOCIETY, THE FAMILY...SOCIETY IS PAYING AN ALMOST INTOLERABLE PRICE FOR THIS BREAKDOWN OF FAMILY LIFE--IN TERMS BOTH OF HUMAN MISERY AND OF PUBLIC FINANCIAL RESOURCES."

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