

Why Marriage Matters

	SOCIAL HEALTH	CHILDREN'S ACHIEVEMENT	OVERALL SOCIAL IMPACT
MARITAL SUCCESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better health – Physical & Mental Less Injury, Illness, Disability Longer Life Children Physically Healthier Children Emotionally Healthier Lower Infant Mortality Lower Child Abuse Lower STD Rates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater Overall Success in School Better Reading Abilities More Likely to Attend College More Likely to Get High Status Job Less Likely to Divorce When Married More Likely to Marry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better Parent/Child Relationship Lower Crime Rates Lower Domestic Violence Lower Teen Pregnancy Lower Juvenile Delinquency More Educated Citizens Higher Home Ownership Higher Property Values
VS			
MARITAL FAILURE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher Teen Alcohol/Drug Rates More Domestic Violence More Sexual Assault Teens More Sexually Active Teens More Likely to Smoke Teens More Likely to Use Drugs Greater Overall Violence High Stepparent/Other Sexual Abuse Greater Depression Higher Rates of Suicide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More Likely to Repeat a Grade More Likely to Be Expelled More Likely Developmental Problems More and Worse Social Problems Lower Reading, Spelling & Math Scores Low Self-Confidence & Self-Esteem Difficulty with Peer Relationships More Likely to Drop Out of School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased Out of Wedlock Births Higher Delinquency & Crimes Higher Risk of Being Crime Victim More Violent Crimes More Teens Carrying Weapons More Crimes Leading to Jail Increased Need for Social Services

The Clackamas County Divorce Rate is down 21% since 2001!
 But still, during 2007, there were:
 1,334 Divorces and
 1,334 Children whose parents divorced

Every Marriage Matters, it really does!



www.EveryMarriageMatters.org