
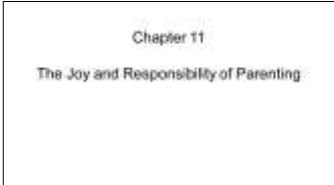




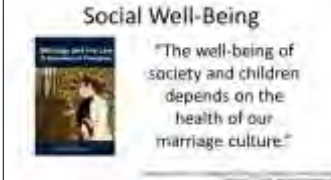


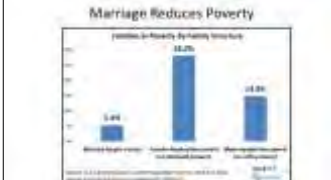


Chapter 11  
The Joy and Responsibility of Parenting

This lesson will:

- Show the value of living in 3-generational families.
- Use published, peer-reviewed, sociological studies to demonstrate some of the significant and positive results of the intact married family structure.
- Point out that the primary responsibilities of the leaders of government, religion and culture are to prepare young people for family-building, i.e. for marriage and parenting.

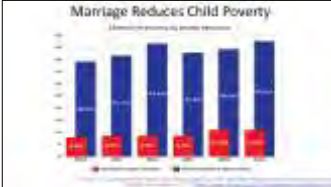
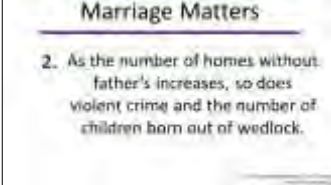
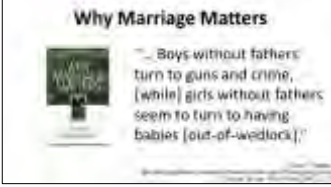


| No. | Slide Thumbnail   | Narrative  |
|-----|---|--|
| 1.  |    | <p><i>PUBLISHER’S NOTE TO PRESENTERS:</i></p> <p><i>This is an exposition of the main themes of a true love character education curriculum. It is a blueprint for subjects and positions educators should use in presenting these themes in a way appropriate to the target age group.</i></p>   |
| 2.  |    | <p><b>The Joy and Responsibility of Parenting</b></p> <p>We will be examining sociological research that shows the strengths and weaknesses of various family structures. The purpose is not to look in the past and accuse, blame or point fingers at anyone. Young people are making decisions that will impact their own future and the culture that their children and grandchildren live in. If we do not learn from our mistakes, we will likely repeat them. We cannot change the past, but we can build a bright future for ourselves and descendants.</p> |
| 3.  |  | <p><b>The Joy of Parents and Grandparents</b></p> <p>The heart of a parent wishes most of all see their children happily married. Ultimately, however, parents find the greatest joy in welcoming and helping to raise grandchildren. Mother Moon put it this way,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">When three generations—the grandparents, parents and children—join in true love and melt together in oneness, a garden of true harmony can be established in that family...</p>  |
| 4.  |  | <p>This is because the best environment to nurture and raise children is the 3-generational family. Together parents and grandparents help to love and education children. In the 3-generataional family it is like there are three kingships living under one roof:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grandparents — The king and queen of the past</li> <li>• Parents — The king and queen of the present</li> <li>• Children — The princes and princesses which means the future kings and queens</li> </ul>   |
| 5.  |  | <p>The joy of parenting reaches its highest point in the relationship of grandparents to their grandchildren.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">A grandfather and grandmother wish to love their grandchildren more than they do their own children.</p>  |

| No. | Slide Thumbnail   | Narrative  |
|-----|---|--|
| 6.  |    | <p>In lineage-building, marriages are like the links in the chain. Since everyone has a vested interest in seeing marriages succeed, they all support newlyweds so they can make a successful marriage. Social support is especially important during difficult times. Unfortunately, the network of social support is substantially weaker or even non-existent among cohabiting couples who never marry.</p> <p>We will review sociological studies on the subject of marriage, family and parenting. Most of the research is focused on western societies, particularly the United States. The reason is that this data has been collected on a national level running over a century. Studies conducted in other countries, arrive at the same conclusion—marriage is vitally important for everyone’s well-being.</p> |
| 7.  |    | <p>Overwhelmingly, sociologists agree.</p> <p>“The well-being of society and children depends on the health of our marriage culture.”<sup>1</sup></p> <p>In any culture or nation, if marriages start to fail and that trend is not reversed, then that society is in trouble.</p>   |
| 8.  |   | <p>The fundamental conclusion from science (which is not twisted by media bias or corporate-consumerist agendas) is that,</p> <p>“Marriage is important for public well-being; it is associated with a range of economic, health, educational, and safety benefits that help local, state, and federal governments serve the common good.”<sup>2</sup></p> <p>Let’s look at a few of these findings.</p>   |
| 9.  |  | <p>Number 1: Marriage reduces the risk of poverty for children and communities.</p>  |
| 10. |  | <p>Marriage Reduces Poverty<sup>3</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In a married-couple family, 5.4 % live in poverty</li> <li>• In a female-headed household, 28.2% live in poverty</li> <li>• In a male-headed household, 14.9% live in poverty</li> </ul> <p>For one thing, divorce is expensive. Another thing is that saving and spending habits of married couples are better. They are less self-centered. Married couples think about their partner’s happiness more than their own and are especially concerned about the future of their children.</p>  |

<sup>1</sup> Marriage and the Law: A Statement of Principles, Institute for American Values, *New York, NY*, at [www.americanvalues.org](http://www.americanvalues.org).

<sup>2</sup> Why Marriage Matters, *Twenty-Six Conclusions from the Social Sciences*, Second Edition, 2005.

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2015 and 2016, Annual Social and Economic Supplements (Table 6).

| No. | Slide Thumbnail  | Narrative   |
|-----|--|---|
| 11. |   | <p>Marriage Reduces Child Poverty<sup>4</sup></p> <p>A decade of data shows that children in female-centered households are, on average, 4.7 times more likely to live in poverty than children in married-couple families.</p>   |
| 12. |   | <p>Number 2: As the number of homes without father's increases, so does violent crime and the number of children born out of wedlock.<sup>5</sup></p>   |
| 13. |   | <p>Glen Stanton in his book, <i>Why Marriage Matters</i> explains that "... Boys without fathers turn to guns and crime, [while] girls without fathers seem to turn to having babies [out-of-wedlock]."<sup>6</sup></p> <p>Boys without father figures at home, more easily form and join gangs where might makes right.</p>  |
| 14. |  | <p>Father-daughter relationships:</p> <p>In a research project that studied 253 girls living in a Baltimore, USA inner city that was drug-ridden with high-crime it was noted that "not one [girl] who had a good relationship with a live-in father had [an out-of-wedlock] baby."<sup>7</sup></p> <p>Fatherly love protected the daughter for two reason: 1) the girl was not starving for male attention because her father loved her and lived with her, and 2) she had good model of love that was established where love meant being married and being responsible.</p>   |
| 15. |   | <p>This chart shows the rate of juvenile incarceration vis-à-vis family structure. Setting the intact two-parent family as 1, the children in families where the couples were married but are currently separate were nearly 5 times more likely to go to jail. In single parent divorced families the children are 12.4 times more likely to experience prison life. The highest risk of teenage incarceration, 22%, was found in children from single-parent, never married families. Clearly family structure impacts behavior and correlates to an increased risk of incarceration for teenagers.<sup>8</sup></p> |

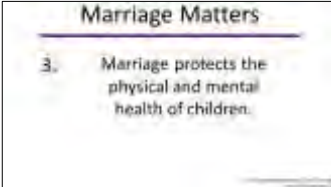
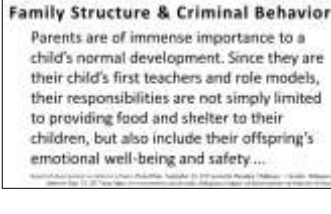
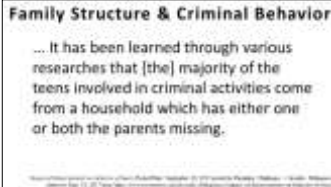


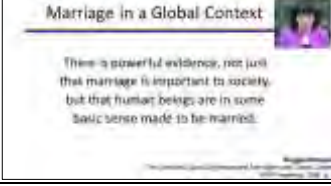
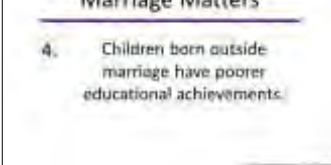
<sup>4</sup> Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; ASEP Issue Brief: Information on Poverty and Income Statistics. September 12, 2012 <http://aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/12/PovertyAndIncomeEst/ib.shtml>.

<sup>5</sup> Institute for American Values, 2011 - 48 pages from [www.americanvalues.org](http://www.americanvalues.org).

<sup>6</sup> Stanton, Glenn T., *Why Marriage Matters: Reasons to Believe in Marriage in Postmodern Society*, (Colorado Springs: Pinon Press, 1997), p. 113.

<sup>7</sup> Barbara Dafoe Whitehead, "The Importance of Fathers in the Lives of Girls," *American Educator* 18/4 (1994): pp. 22-29.


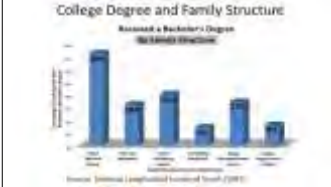
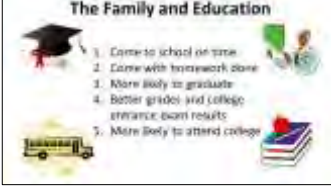


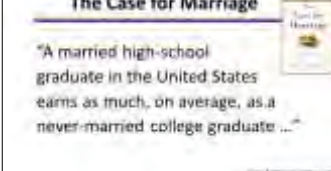
<sup>8</sup> Juvenile Incarceration & Family Breakdown, source: The Heritage Foundation, Washington DC, USA.

| No. | Slide Thumbnail   | Narrative  |
|-----|---|--|
| 16. |    | Number 3:<br>Marriage protects the physical and mental health of children.   |
| 17. |    | Parents are of immense importance to a child's normal development. Since they are their child's first teachers and role models, their responsibilities are not simply limited to providing food and shelter to their children, but also include their offspring's emotional well-being and safety ...          |
| 18. |    | It has been learned through various researches that [the] majority of the teens involved in criminal activities come from a household which has either one or both the parents missing.  |
| 19. |   | Rates of physical abuse is lowest in families that are intact were the couples were always married. The highest rates of physical abuse were found in step cohabiting families (means the couples are not married but living together and only one person is the biological parent of the child). <sup>9</sup> |
| 20. |  | Children raised in intact married families are more likely to attend college, are physically and emotionally healthier, are less likely to be physically or sexually abused ... <sup>10</sup>  |
| 21. |  | One sociologist concludes:<br>There is powerful evidence, not just that marriage is important to society, but that human beings are in some basic sense made to be married. <sup>11</sup>  |
| 22. |  | Number 4: Children born outside marriage have poorer educational achievements.   |

<sup>9</sup> Relative Rates of Physical Abuse by Family Structure, source: NIS-2, 2010.

<sup>10</sup> "Why Marriage Matters: 26 Conclusions from the Social Sciences," Bradford Wilcox, Institute for American Values, [www.americanvalues.org/html/r-wmm.html](http://www.americanvalues.org/html/r-wmm.html).

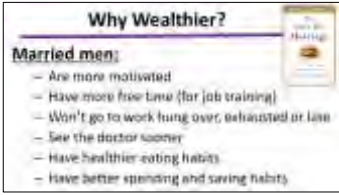
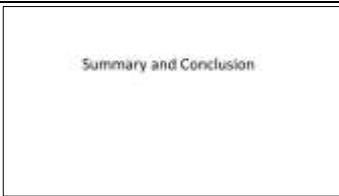
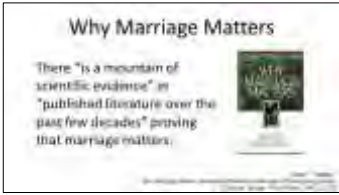

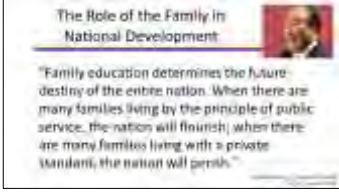
<sup>11</sup> Gallagher, Maggie, *The Moral and Social Significance of Marriage in the Global Context*, Inter-Religious and International Federation for World Peace Assembly 2000, p. 4.

| No. | Slide Thumbnail   | Narrative   |
|-----|---|---|
| 23. |    | <p>When the average combined English and math grade point averages (GPA) are compared, it indicates that children from intact, married families have the highest scores among all the other family structures.<sup>12</sup></p>   |
| 24. |    | <p>Family structure where the parents are married and live together also has a positive impact on whether a child graduates from college earning a bachelor's degree.<sup>13</sup> The family were parents were intact and married more than doubled most other family forms.</p>   |
| 25. |    | <p>It is well-known that family structure influences education. Children from intact families whose parents are married have many advantages:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Come to school on time</li> <li>2. Come with homework done</li> <li>3. More likely to graduate</li> <li>4. Better grades and college entrance exam results</li> <li>5. More likely to attend college</li> </ol> |
| 26. |   | <p>Number 5: Married couples are wealthier.</p>   |
| 27. |  | <p>“Married couples seem to build more wealth on average than singles or cohabiting couples.”<br/>Let examine this more closely.</p>  |
| 28. |  | <p>“A married high-school graduate in the United States earns as much, on average, as a never-married college graduate... According to some estimates, getting a wife increases a man’s salary by about as much as a college education.”<sup>14</sup></p>   |

<sup>12</sup> Fagan, Pat, Kirk Johnson, Jonathan Butcher, *Average GPA in English and Math (combined) by Family Structure*, A Portrait of Family and Religion in America, The Heritage Foundation, 2006, chart 10, based on data from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health.

<sup>13</sup> *Family Structure During Adolescence, Received a Bachelor's Degree*, source: National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (1997).


<sup>14</sup> Waite, L., & Gallagher, M. (2000). *The Case for Marriage: Why Married People are Happier, Healthier, and Better Off Financially*. New York, NY: Doubleday, pg. 100.

| No. | Slide Thumbnail   | Narrative   |
|-----|---|---|
| 29. |    | <p>There are several reasons for this.</p> <p>Married men:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Are more motivated</li> <li>- Have more free time (for job training)</li> <li>- Won't go to work hung over, exhausted or late</li> <li>- See the doctor sooner</li> <li>- Have healthier eating habits</li> <li>- Have better spending and saving habits</li> </ul>   |
| 30. |    | Summary and Conclusion  |
| 31. |    | <p>As you can begin to see,</p> <p>There “is a mountain of scientific evidence” in “published literature over the past few decades” proving that marriage matters.<sup>15</sup></p>   |
| 32. |   | <p>To help the UN achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, Dr. Wade Horn addressed the United Nations General Assembly, Oct. 2016. In the book <i>Family Capital and the SDGs</i>, funded by International Organization for the Family, it states,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“The state’s foremost obligation is to respect, defend and protect the family.”<sup>16</sup></p> <p>The government has many functions. It must oversee and direct economic planning, educational programs, judicial and military institutions, to name just a few. Good roads, clean water, reliable electricity are governmental responsibilities. But often overlooked is that the state’s most important responsibility is to safeguard the institution of the family.</p> |
| 33. |  | <p>Father Moon advised,</p> <p>“Family education determines the future destiny of the entire nation. When there are many families living by the principle of public service, the nation will flourish; when there are many families living with a private standard, the nation will perish.”<sup>17</sup></p>   |

<sup>15</sup> Stanton, Glenn T. (1997). Why Marriage Matters: Reasons to Believe in Marriage in Postmodern Society, p. 100.

<sup>16</sup> Wade Horn at UNGA, Family Capital and the SDGs, Oct. 2016, funded by International Organization for the Family and other NGOs

<sup>17</sup> World Scripture 2, Chapter 20: Family (31:243, June 4, 1970).

| No. | Slide Thumbnail   | Narrative   |
|-----|---|---|
| 34. |    | Thank you.  |
| 35. | <p><u>Activity #1:</u></p> <p>Answer one of the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Why do children with two parents come to school on time and get better grades?</li> <li>2. Why are people who live in intact two-parent families healthier?</li> <li>3. Why is everyone happier if they are living in a family?</li> </ol> | <p>Activity #1:</p> <p>Answer one of the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why do children with two parents come to school on time and get better grades?</li> <li>• Why are people who live in intact two-parent families healthier?</li> <li>• Why is everyone happier if they are living in a family?</li> </ul>   |
| 36. | <p><u>Activity #2:</u></p> <p>What do these scientific findings tell us about the importance of parental love?</p>  | <p>Activity #2:</p> <p>What do these scientific findings tell us about the importance of parental love?</p> <p><i>Possible Answers:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Children born and raised in an intact, loving, two-parent family generally do better in many areas of life, including: education, physical and mental health, wealth, and less likely to be involved in crime and violence.</i></li> <li>2. <i>Marriage is important for public good because it strengthens conjugal love between couples which, in turn, is the foundation for parental love once children are born.</i></li> </ol> |
| 37. | <p><u>Activity #3:</u></p> <p>For a person to be a good parent, what are some of the most important things for them to keep in mind?</p>  | <p>Activity #3: For a person to be a good parent, what are some of the most important things for them to keep in mind?</p> <p><i>Possible Answers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>They should love their spouse.</i></li> <li>• <i>Honor the institution of marriage.</i></li> <li>• <i>Live for the sake of their children.</i></li> <li>• <i>Be unselfish.</i></li> </ul>  |