

Pre-Prewriting

Pop Culture

- Creating who we are as Americans indicates what defines us vs. pop culture reflects us.
 - What we are interested defines us
 - Pop culture influenced by Americans and how pop cultural defines us vs. pop cultural how we influence pop culture
 - Reality Shows
 - Sports
 - Music & Genres
 - How music can effect your mood
 - How companies target teens the most and why
 - Teens have a disposable income
 - What our society would be without pop culture
 - The income that comes with it
- The image that comes with it

Rough Draft

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AP Comp

Nov. 18, 2014

Driven Towards Divorce

Marriage is such a simple word with such a complex meaning. What does marriage really mean? According to Barbara de Angelis, the meaning of marriage is "...in the heart, not in the ballroom or church or synagogue. It's a choice you make – not just on your wedding day, but over and over again – and that choice is reflected in the way you treat your husband or wife." One will find that it's the process by which two people make their relationship public, official, and permanent. It's the joining of two people in a bond that should last until death. One may ponder on how they will have ever-lasting love with their soul mate due to the fact that there is not one marriage that is free of conflict.

In today's society, marriage rates have fallen drastically, which leads to divorce rates increasing rapidly. Marriage all around as changed significantly apposed to what it used to be in early decades. The reason for that all starts around 1939–1945, where the World War I broke out. During the 1900– 1939, women's only agenda was to keep the house clean and take care of the family. Millions of husbands were drafted overseas to fight for our country. Due to all the men being drafted or fighting in the war; millions of companies had a work force shortage. To help prevent companies from going bankrupt women were required to take up factory jobs. When the war ended in 1945 all women who were working were required to quit their jobs and to go back to being

housemothers. That acts enraged millions of women. Women soon joined groups of feminist movements to influence on how women viewed the existing gender roles.

Just in America alone, more than 50% of all marriages end in a divorce. In the article Divorce in America [info graphic] the writer shows statistics on how divorce rates are increasing over the years. The article states that every 13 seconds someone in the U.S. are filing for a divorce. That means that there are 6,646 divorces per day and 46,523 divorces per week. If one were to remarry they would have a 60% chance of getting a divorce. If one were to get a divorce and remarry for the third time they will have a 73% of getting a divorce with their spouse.

The top three reasons why relationships end in a divorce is:

1. Addiction to anything. The top addictions are the following; alcohol, drugs, food, social media, shopping, and gambling. Any type of addiction can sour a marriage fast. Lisa Bahar, a licensed marriage and family therapist say, "Your addiction quickly becomes a third party in your marriage." 2. Avoiding sex. If a spouse continuously makes up excuses about why sex has dwindled or just is nonexistent, that marriage is headed for trouble. Couples therapist Valerie Shinbaum says, "You can't sit a potted plant in a corner for 20 years and expect it to live. "Lastly the 3rd, Not communicating. If each conversation that one has with his or her spouse turns into an argument or even a fight than their marriage will boil up quickly. Shinbaum says, "Learning to really listen to each other is so important and can be surprisingly hard to do."

To have a successful every lasting marriage each spouse should understand every aspect of one another. The key is to communicate, without communication ones marriage will dwindle rapidly, and will end with a divorce. If more married couple were to understand each other, and are able to communicate than divorce rates would drastically go down.

Final Copy Also Shows Revision

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Marriage is a simple word with a complex meaning. What does marriage really signify? According to Barbara de Angelis, the meaning of marriage is "in the heart, not in the ballroom or church or synagogue. It's a choice you make – not just on your wedding day, but also over and over – and that choice is reflected in the way you treat your husband or wife." Marriage is the process by which two people make their relationship public, official, and permanent. It is the joining of two people in a bond

that should last until death. One may ponder on how they will have everlasting love with one's soul mate because there is not one marriage that is free of conflict.

Just in America alone, more than 50% of marriages end in divorce. In the article Divorce in America [info graphic] the writer shows statistics on how divorce rates are at an all time high. The article says that in the United States every 13 seconds a married couple is filing for divorce. That means that there are 6,646 divorces per day. If one were to remarry they would have a 60% chance of getting a divorce. If one were to get a divorce and remarry for the third time they will have a 73% chance of getting a divorce with their spouse.

There are many faults that lead to a divorce, one of those faults being addiction such as a dependency on drugs & alcohol, gambling, etc. Addiction can induce trouble in one's marriage says Lisa Bahar, a licensed marriage and family therapist, "your addiction quickly becomes a third-party in your marriage." Addiction to anything can overtake your desire to be with your spouse and ultimately lead to an end in marriage.

Avoidance of any intimate contact with one's partner can arouse problems in a marriage. If a spouse continuously makes up excuses about why sex has dwindled or just is nonexistent, the marriage might be spiraling downward. Therapist Valerie Shinbaum says, "you can't sit a potted plant in a corner for 20 years and expect it to live." Just like the potted plant not getting attention, an issue such as lack of intimacy can lead to the same unhappy ending.

Deprivation of communication can paralyze a relationship to extreme measures. If each conversation that one has with his or her spouse turns into an argument or fight than expect the marriage to struggle. Shinbaum says, "Learning to really listen to each other is so important and can be surprisingly hard to do." I personally believe communication to be a very important tool in a relationship because it is truly the foundation for a long lasting marriage.

With recent advances in technology keeping in touch with family and friends has never been easier. With the digital age among us, it is easy to get caught up in social media such as Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter. Social media could potentially pose a threat to a marriage according to a study published in The Journal Computers in Human Behavior by researchers from Boston University. Their study found a link between decreased marriage quality and social media use. The authors stated, "Although it may seem surprising that a Facebook profile could have a significant statistical relationship with divorce rates and marital satisfaction, it nonetheless seems to be the case." With divorce rates at an all time high, is it possible social media is a large contributing factor?

With that being said, let us look at marriage from a completely different standpoint. Is it possible that marriage is a cultural barrier that keeps us in the same cycle of limited growth that we have been in for

hundreds of years? Some stray away from marriage due to the belief that it keeps us from reaching our full potential as humans by grounding us in the same social system that limits our self-expression and ties us down into a marriage that may or may not have the same “spark” that it once did before.

We are approaching an age of great change and we, as humans must look deeper into the advantages and disadvantages of marriage not only from a traditional standpoint but also from an evolutionary standpoint. With a decline in the number of couples following through with marriage is it possibly a sign the “traditional way of life” is under threat? By continuing this traditional lifestyle are we potentially stopping the next vital step in our perceptual, moral, and cultural evolution? Or is marriage a trait that defines us as human?

As a society we need to understand that in order to have a successful every lasting marriage, we need to make sure each spouse recognizes every aspect of one another. The key is communication and without it we as humans will find that our marriages will end as fast as they began. If we possessed more empathy for each other I truly believe marriage could potentially thrive here in the United States as well as around the world. With passionate communication between both spouses less couples will file for a divorce.