Endnotes


2. Data from the 2006–2008 National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG) indicate that from 2005 to 2008, 24 percent of children were born to cohabiting parents and 16 percent were born to a single mother.


4. Data from the NSFG indicate that 71 percent of children were living with both of their parents at age fourteen in the 1980s, compared to 65 percent in the 2000s (2000–2007).


15. *Ibid.* In a study of largely white middle-class children, E. Mavis Hetherington reports that two-third of young men and three-quarters of young women whose parents divorced did not have close relationships with either their father or a stepfather. E. Mavis Hetherington and John Kelly, *For Better or For Worse: Divorce Reconsidered* (New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 2002).


19. Amato and Booth, *Generation at Risk*.


27. Osborne and McLanahan, “Partnership Instability.”
29. Osborne and McLanahan, “Partnership Instability.”
31. Manning, Smock, and Majumdar, “Relative Stability”
34. Our own analysis of the NSFG suggests that the percentage of fourteen-year-olds living with both of their parents fell from 71 percent in the 1980s to 65 percent in the 2000s.
35. Wilcox, *When Marriage Disappears*.


47. Marin Clarkberg, “The Price of Partnering: The Role of Economic Well-Being in Young Adults’ First Union Experiences,” *Social Forces* 77, no. 3 (March 1999): 945–68.


51. Stanley, Whitton, and Markman, “Maybe I Do.”


64. See, for example, Kingsley Davis, ed., *Contemporary Marriage: Comparative Perspectives on a Changing Institution* (New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 1985): “Although the details of getting married—who chooses the mates, what are the ceremonies and exchanges, how old are the parties—vary from group to group, the principle of marriage is everywhere embodied in practice….The unique trait of what is commonly called marriage is social recognition and approval…of a couple’s engaging in sexual intercourse and bearing and rearing offspring” (5). See also, Helen Fisher, *Anatomy of Love: A Natural History of Mating, Marriage and Why We Stray* (New York: Fawcett Columbine, 1992), 65–66; George Peter Murdock, *Social Structure* (New York: Macmillan, 1949).


80. Mazur and Michalek, “Marriage, Divorce, and Male Testosterone.”
84. Bruce J. Ellis et al., “Does Father Absence Place Daughters at Risk?”
90. For example, one recent study found that 81 percent of children living in nonmarried households will experience poverty during the course of their childhood, compared to 22 percent of children living with married parents. Fifty-two percent of children in nonmarried households will experience dire poverty (income 50 percent or less of the official poverty threshold) compared to just 10 percent of children in married households. Mark R. Rank and Thomas A. Hirschl, “The Economic Risk of Childhood in America: Estimating the Probability of Poverty across the


92. Manning and Lichter, “Parental Cohabitation and Children’s Well-Being.”


103. Lichter, Graefe, and Brown, “Is Marriage a Panacea?”

105. Thomas and Sawhill, “For Richer or for Poorer.”


124. Fomby and Cherlin, “Family Instability.”


140. The reduced risks associated with marriage are not equally distributed, however. In general, marriage appears to confer the strongest benefits on children of mothers who are already advantaged: older, white, and better educated. Marital status does not appear to reduce the infant mortality rates of children born to teen mothers or to college graduates. Bennett et al., “Maternal Marital Status as Risk,” 252ff.


142. Bennett, “Marital Status and Infant Health Outcomes.”


144. Siegel et al., “Mortality from Intentional Injury.”


158. Men with health problems, for example, are more likely to remarry than are otherwise similar healthy men. However, men with healthy lifestyles are more likely to marry than are other men. Lee A. Lillard and Constantijn Panis, “Marital Status and Mortality: The Role of Health,” *Demography* 33, no. 3 (August 1996): 313–27.


161. Pienta, Hayward, and Jenkins, “Health Consequences of Marriage.”

162. The primary exception to the clear marital advantage in the study was that married adults in this study did not always perform better than never-married adults. However, they consistently performed better than widowed, divorced, and cohabiting adults on virtually every health outcome the study investigated. See Schoenborn, “Marital Status and Health.”


172. Schoenborn, “Marital Status and Health.”

173. Shafer, “Effect of Marriage on Weight.”


176. Ross and Mirowsky, “Parental Divorce, Life-Course Disruption,”1034ff.; Andrew J. Cherlin, P. Lindsay Chase-Lansdale, and Christine McRae,

177. Wallerstein, Lewis, and Blakeslee, *Unexpected Legacy of Divorce*.
179. Wallerstein, Lewis, and Blakeslee, *Unexpected Legacy of Divorce*.
182. D’Onofrio et al., “Genetically Informed Study of Marital Instability.”
183. D’Onofrio et al., “Children of Twins Study.”
186. Acs and Nelson, *The Kids Are Alright?*
194. Amato, “Impact of Family Formation Change.”
195. Brown, “Effect of Union Type.”
198. Williams, Sassler, and Nicholson, “For Better or For Worse?”
204. Harper and McLanahan, “Father Absence and Youth Incarceration.”


208. Nelson, Clark, and Acs, *Beyond the Two-Parent Family*.


212. Ibid., 249.


223. DeKlyen et al., “Mental Health of Married Parents.”


231. Siegel et al., “Mortality from Intentional Injury.”

232. Finkelhor et al., “Sexually Abused Children.”


240. Ibid., 56, 25.

241. Amato, “Impact of Family Formation Change.”
