Changing fertility patterns significantly impact society in a number of ways: increasing single parenthood, exacerbating poverty, and weakening intergenerational relationships. A reinvigoration of the intact married family that worships frequently is key to reversing these trends.

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Fertility and Religious Practice

In the last several decades, the intact married religious family has diminished as the cultural norm in the Western world. The new patterns that weaken it—extra-marital and non-marital sexual practices, a rejection of childbearing, and areligious sentiments—have prompted a fertility crisis. Read more on Marripedia.

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS



Nonmarital Births by Race and Ethnicity

Over the last two decades the share of births to unwed mothers has increased while the racial/ ethnic gap in nonmarital births has narrowed, according to Esther Lamidi of Bowling Green State University. <u>Find the report here</u> and learn about marriage trends across races/ ethnicities on <u>Marripedia</u>.



Family Structure and Poverty

In *The Family in America* Glenn Stanton <u>traces</u> the link between family formation and poverty over the last 50 years. Dig deeper into these statistical trends in MARRI's <u>State of the Black Family</u> report and on <u>Marripedia</u>.



Changing Demography of Grandparenthood

Changes in marriage and fertility patterns have affected the time that grandparents have to build relationships with their grandchildren, as Rachel Margolis of the University of Western Ontario shows. Go to Marripedia.org to learn how different family structures can impact family relationships.

Sincerely,

Patrick Fagan

Director of the Marriage and Religion Research Institute (MARRI)