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marri *Findings*

FAITH & FAMILY



““Living together often weakens chances for a long, happy marriage.” –
Scott Stanley

Young Cohabiting Adults
Born in the 1950s differ from
Those Born in the 1980s

Adolescent Family
Environment Predicts
Likelihood of Cohabitation



A 2018 study using [data from the National Longitudinal Surveys of Youth](#) investigating the duration of first cohabitation between young adults born in the 1950s and young adults born in the 1980s found that while cohabitations among young adults were short-lived for both cohorts, those born in the 1980s are more likely to dissolve their union and less likely to transition into marriage.

Cohabitation Portends Greater Family Instability for Children

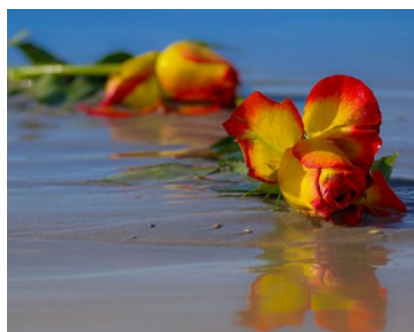


A 2016 study using [data from the National Survey of Family Growth](#) found a sustained rise in nonmarital births, in particular to cohabiting mothers, coupled with a decrease in the number of these cohabiting mothers who eventually marry.



A 2017 study using [data from Add Health](#) found that adolescents exposed to family instability, parental cohabitation, low parental socioeconomic status (SES), and low sense of family belonging are more likely to cohabit.

Cohabitors Have Worse Mental Health When Compared to Married Individuals



A [2018 Finnish study](#) found that cohabiters were more likely than married couples to purchase prescribed psychotropic medications (a proxy for mental health).

Therefore, it is likely that the children of these unions will experience more family instability than their counterparts of a generation ago, compounding the marriage deficit into the future.



For More Information about [Healthy Marriages](https://www.marripedia.org/Healthy-Marriages), please visit [Marripedia.org](https://www.marripedia.org)

From the Blog: Faux Belonging



To belong deeply some others is man's deepest need. It lasts beyond death. First and foremost children need to belong to both their parents and thrive most when those parents belong to each other and to their children. Then life is good, no matter the material circumstances. [Continue Reading...](#)



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