

Dear Friends,

MARRI's New Year's resolution is to equip *you* with the social science data to effect positive change. Our most important findings so far? The two great loves—love of God and love of neighbor, especially of spouse and children—are the two keys to a thriving society.

## RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

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### Divorce Jeopardizes Girls' Health

A recent [study](#) found that family breakup has especially harmful long-term consequences for daughters' health. Read more about the effects of divorce on both girls' and boys' health on [Marripedia](#).



### Parenting in America

A new *Pew Report* tracks the challenges parents face in raising children, and the differences in parenting across demographic groups. [View](#) the report, and learn about the state of the American family on [Marripedia](#).



### Thoughts of Divorce May Help Marriage

According to Dr. Alan Hawkins, "Thoughts about divorce can be a healthy wake-up call to work on a marriage." Read the new study [here](#) and check out the benefits of marital-skills programs on [Marripedia](#).



### The Education-Fertility Link May Be Weakening

In the past, educated women were less likely to get married and have children; however, this is no longer the case. From the Institute of Family Studies read Anna Sutherland's [commentary](#) and check out other factors that affect fertility on [Marripedia](#).

## NEW ON MARRIPEDIA

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### **Effects of Divorce on U.S. Economic Growth**

Marriage is a causal agent of economic growth. It constitutes one-third to one-fourth of the human capital contribution of household heads to macro-economic growth. However, divorce *removes* this agent of economic growth. [Read the full entry.](#)

Sincerely,

Patrick Fagan

Director of the Marriage and Religion Research Institute (MARRI)