

The Divorce Revolution Perpetually Reduces U.S. Economic Growth

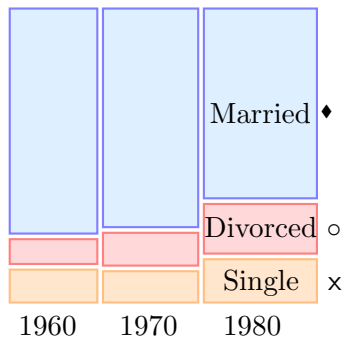
Divorce Removes a Fourth of Head-of-Household

Productivity Growth

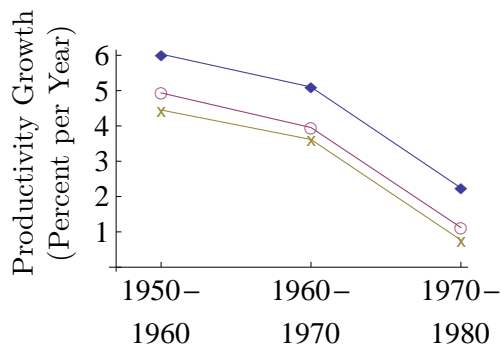
Henry Potrykus, Patrick Fagan

Chart 1 Determining the Effect of Divorce on the United States: Population Change & Differential Productivity

Counts of Household Heads



Workers' Wage Gains over their 30s



Divorce, now acculturated, constantly inhibits U.S. economic growth.

- Human capital is one of three major contributors to the growth of the U.S. economy.
- Marriage lends between one third to one quarter of the human capital contribution for adult men to economic growth.
- The “Divorce Revolution” (1960s-1970s) tripled the rate of divorce in the United States thus imprinting, in a natural experiment, the effects of divorce on the economy.
- Through divorce men become less productive.
- Divorce *causes* this drop in productivity, thus contracting economic growth.