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Crisis In The American Family

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CRISIS IN THE AMERICAN FAMILY

I. Is there a crisis?

- A. 1 out of 4 marriages broken by divorce.
- B. Out of 3 remaining some desertion.
- C. 2 or 3 that stay together emotionally shattered & functional do not work.
- D. Could it be 1 out of 4 only are reaching ultimate
- E. Bill Cox said 183 divorces for elders, deacons, preachers in Dallas last yr. by 1 lawyer.

Ps. 11:3 "If the fd. be destroyed, what can the

1. Suppose 3 out of 4 cars wrecked; 3 out of 4 houses fell?
2. What's more important than your home?

II. Believing there is a crisis we ask:

- A. What causes it?
- B. Can it be successfully met?
 1. Wrong to cite cause w/o remedy.
 2. Not infallible - RSVP? Child, "Rush In, Shake Hands, Vanish Pleasantly."
 3. From Eden till now home assaulted.
 - (a) Muncy #1.
 - (b) We move to specific cases.

III. Causes of Crisis. - All cl

A. Communication.

1. Peterson #2. - *Words, Action language, Silence, Listen*
2. Wiese #3. - *Self, others, God*
3. Hugs a Bourdeau #4.
4. Brant & Dowdy #5. *& ride on diff. of opinion*
5. Adams #6.
6. Hostetter, "Many a married couple is like a team of horses, separated by a tongue."

7. "In matters controversial

My perception is quite fine.

I always see both points of view

The one that's wrong & mine." (?)

8. Look at these scriptures:

Prov. 21:19 "It is better to dwell in the wilderness,
than with a contentious and an angry woman."

Prov. 18:13 "He that answereth a matter before he
heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him."

Prov. 11:12 "He that is void of wisdom despiseth his
neighbour: but a man of understanding holdeth his
peace."

Prov. 12:16 "A fool's wrath is presently known: but a
prudent man covereth shame."

Prov. 12:18 "There is that speaketh like the piercings
of a sword: but the tongue of the wise is health."

Eph. 4:31 (Phillips) "Let there be no more resentment,
no more anger or temper, no more violent self-
assertiveness...and no more malicious remarks."

9. Watch enemies of communication, could be

(a) TV.

(b) I'm tired - hard day - routine - you won't be
interested - thus days move into oblivion.

(c) Psychiatrist, "What do you have in common?"
Wife, "One thing - we can't stand each other."

(d) J. Wesley's wife sat in City Rd. Chapel & made
faces while he preached. J. Milton's wife a
rose? "I'm no judge of flowers but it may be
so, for I feel the thorns daily."

(e) Qt. on communication by Wiese #8.

B. Crisis of Captains. # 2

- 1. 2 captains wreck the boat. *that it any obey not*
- 1 Pet. 3:1 "Likewise ye wives be in subjection
 - (a) Williams: submissiveness)
 - (b) "No muddled role" (Dr. Linden) "we need he-men & she-women instead of the present reversed roles of he-women & she-men -
 - I bet* "Nobody loves a worm." *giving honor unto the wife*
 - Heb. 3:7 "Likewise ye husband dwell with *ecc. to kn heirs & prayers*
 - (c) Husband = house band.
 - Eph. 5:23-24 "For the husband is the head
 - Gen. 3:16 "Thy desire shall be to thy *Church subject*
 - (d) Dehoney #9.
 - (e) Streeter: 53% wife dominated marriages unhapp 67% are happy when husband is; 87% happy in partnership.
 - (f) Partnership (?) "My husband & I both like the same thing, only it took him several years to learn.
 - (g) A fellow and a girl who wed *WE 9/30/73 Linda McCreary - Bapt Marie Johnson - Bapt*
 Began to live as one, 'tis said:
 But many couples can't agree
Which one of them they wish to be.

C. Crisis of Currency. # 3

- 1. Dehoney #10.
- 2. Couple & car - timer saved 30% on gas, spark plugs saved 40%, carburetor 40% - drove 20 miles & tank overflowed.
- 3. All in town - all needs purchased - who has a garden. (Sheridan Courthouse posters)

4. Weise #11. Luxuries become necessities
5. Common qt.: MK 10:21 "One thing thou lackest
 (a) Who holds the money Ps 51:7 "So this is the man
 (b) How spent that made not God his strength but trust.
 (c) How & to what is money given ECC 5:12 "The abound. of the rich
 (d) How much saved Lu 12:15 for 2 man's life can.
 (e) Who blames for being out of balance
 (f) Overdrawn vs. under-deposited! I Tim 6:10 "For the
 (g) Not biscuits like Ma; nor dough like daddy. love of money
 (h) Drakeford & Budget #12.
- (i) Wesley, "Earn all you can, save all you can,
 give all you can."

D. Crisis of Cousins. #4

1. Kids come later but cousins come instantly with
 "I do."
2. Crisis of kinfolk comes instantly.
3. Qt.:
- (a) Where spend holidays?
- (b) All present or draw names?
- (c) Loan from other set of parents?
- (d) Grandma spans - but what if grandma ain't
 my ma?
- (e) Dehoney #13. Wife & Mother love same man
 Matt. 19:4-6 for this cause, shall 2 man leave
 Gen. 2:24 "Therefore shall a man leave his
 (f) Mother kept "I live a safe mother-in-law
 distance." #14 - See card
- (g) Going to see newly weds - "No wait for 1st
 baby - grandmothers are more welcome than
 mothers-in-law."

(h) Bride carried over threshold - "wrestled" from dad - but don't ck. too quickly on his "prize."

(i) Mystery "How does the dumbest guy who ever called become father of smartest grandbaby that ever lived."

(j) Behind every successful man stands an astonished mother-in-law.

(k) Geisan #16. 1st page es precisely

E. Crisis of Children #5

1. 7 million women on pill, yet "be fruitful & multiply" obeyed.

2. Divorce 3x hi among childless

3. Ave. 2.3 children - .3 child?

4. Brandt #16. 2 million cell-thimble; 1 ^{genes} sperm pin,

5. Marriage Manual by Drs. Hannah and Abraham Stone - now having sold perhaps 700,000 copies - comes this interesting paragraph, "The genes may be present in an enormous number of combinations within the chromosomes. When you consider that each parent contributes 23 chromosomes to the fertilized egg, you can see that the number of chance combination of genes in a given individual is almost infinite. It has been mathematically calculated that there are some sixteen million possible combinations of hereditary traits from each parent. The chance of the same combination of genes in an egg and sperm occurring twice is one in three hundred trillion. Geneticists state that there have not been two identical men."

6. Drakeford #17. -\$30,000

7. Fruit of womb - arrows in quiver - David
Children - Kingdom of Heaven. - Jesus

8. Anna Wolf points out these characteristics of parents, "In the end, parents will teach with their lives, not with their words; with what they are, not with procedures and methods. Growing up in a home where two adults have lived together lovingly, loyally and responsibly teaches more than any other experience or any special methods can possibly teach. Parents must put their own house in order as best they can and must be willing, if they feel in danger of failing, to seek help for themselves as well as for their children. Their way of working out their problems as adults, the manner and direction of their own loving and hating will, when all is said and done, be the paramount facts in their child's emotional development and happiness. The Christian parent has ample resource to assure him of doing an adequate job."

9. Southward #19, 20, 21.

Gate Keeper
Acceptation
Retirement

10. Rockaby Baby #22, 23.

11. Douglas #24, #25.

12. Mullen #26.

(Odd dispositions)

13. At camp, mother said, "Our Horatio has tantrum at 3:00 P.M. - will any camp activities interfere c that schedule?"

14. Daddy spank - yes.

Mother spank - yes.

Who hurts most? I do

15. Brandt #26 1/2

16. Kids stop asking qt. & start qt. answers.

2 Tim. 3:15 "Thou hast known from a child

Deut. 6:6-9 "And these words

17. Dehoney #27. - *when kids leave*

Josh. 24:15 "And if it seems evil unto you

F. Crisis of Cream Separator. #6

1. Recall two - blue job & crank type.

2. Home has centrifugal forces.

(a) 20% move annually.

(b) Every yr. 3 million move with their 1 million kids.

(c) 1 million live in trailers.

(d) 1 million teenagers live by themselves - "cut flower" generation, True blood

3. Some forces centrifugal are:

(a) TV.

(1) 30,000 murders last yr. plus all drunkenness, immorality, violence.

(b) Sub family recreation for it - Dr. Lofton Hudson Midwestern Counselling Clinic said of 3,000 cases, 80 to 90% no recreation. Dr. Karl Menniger says outstanding characteristic of mentally ill - do not know how to play.

(c) Nietzsche, "Nothing on earth consumes a man like resentment."

(d) Joey ans. how fite started, "It really started when Bobby hit me back."

(e) Gallup say 4 out of 5 couples scrap (eyebrows raised on 5th) 50th anniversary "we never had

an argument in 50 yrs. of course we have engaged in serious discussions neighbors could hear a block away."

- (f) Troubles come most to those who marry in late teens; late 20's have fewest - they adjust better read more, accept advice.
- (g) Columbia Uni. says people lose temper quickest B-4 meals - feed him quickly!
- (h) Nagging disc via sweetness, repetition, illness, fatigue, silence, comparisons.
- (i) In L. M. Terman's "Psychological Factors in Marital Happiness" this order of marital grievances according to their seriousness was given by 792 husbands and 792 wives, "Husband listed the following against their wives: nagging, lack of affection, selfishness, inconsiderateness complains too much, slovenly in appearance, and is quick-tempered. Included in the complaints of the wives were: selfishness, inconsideration, lack of success, untruthfulness, complains too much, lack of affection and failure to talk things over. Almost all the balance of the listings were also basic personality characteristics." Solomon's words seem appropriate as you recall he said, "A continual dropping in a very rainy day and a contentious woman are alike." (Prov. 27:15).

(j) Poem #27 A

(k) Douglas #29. - *The tozt is burnt*

(l) Dehoney #30.

(m) This section is closed with these words, "For one thing, the family of today is no longer the economic self sufficient unit it formerly was. The members of the family do not work together, and an increasing proportion of married women engage in occupations outside the home. Nor is the family today the major center for the education, recreation, or protection of its members. Formerly the home was the factory, the schoolhouse, the playground, the hospital. People were born, bred, and educated in the home, and they worked, lived and died within the family unit. Today many of the family's social functions are being taken over by communal or commercial agencies. The functions as well as the form of the family are changing to conform to these new cultural conditions."

G. Crisis of Conviction. #7 1 Pet 3:1 Stone

1. Toward Christ & moral cleanliness. 2 Cor 6:14
 - 1 Cor. 7 "Better to marry than to burn" 1 Cor 7:39
 2. Lynn Anderson, Highland Church, Abilene, Texas 1 Tim 5:14
- told of a study of mixed marriages: one is a member of the church and one is not. Using the base figure of 49 he found in such marriages 21 out of 49 left the church when they entered mixed marriages. 12 out of 49 remained faithful but never converted either mate or children. 9 out of 49 were able to win their mate to the Master and to be his instrument of converting the whole family. If you are one of 4,000 couples who

marry today, weigh well your choice of a help-mate!

- 3. Religious News #31. *5 out of 100*
- 4. Faithful Rebels #32. *Compartment or daisy*
- 5. Harvard #33. *Interfaith marriage*
- 6. Burgess #34. *- Attendance*
- 7. Moral purity necessary.

Heb. 13:4 "Marriage is honorable in all

- 8. Know = intercourse - sex is for marriage #35.
- 9. Wiese #36. *(Read)*
- 10. Rosfand #37. *Read*
- 11. Read Prov. 5:15-23; 1 Cor. 7:1-5. (Read)
- 12. Counsellors think that only 15% of the people fail because they're inadequately trained in rules of sex and marriage. The other 85% fail because of ignorance in knowing how to deal with the other person successfully. If they know what sex is, how to use a few techniques, and have a smattering of personal hygiene, many people think they have the basic ingredients of a happy marriage. Far more important than these aspects of marriage is the **ability** to get along with people: an understanding of how to preserve intact and build the other person's self-respect.

13. Husbands cheat

- (a) Little sexual love at home.
- (b) Little tender love at home.
- (c) To prove how worthwhile they are
- (d) Lonely.

(e) Afraid growing old.

(f) Immature.

(g) Sin. (This one added)

Matt 19:6 what is

H. Crisis of Continuity.

#8 God hath joined

1. Address has gone as long as some of Eliz. Taylor's marriages. 400,000 divorce annually

2. Worth of wife #39. Physical proposal

3. Don't chase streetcar after caught it???

Eph. 4:2 "Accept life c humility & patience, make allowances for one another because you love one another." (Phillips) Matt 19:9 - Fornication

4. Wise #40. - Communication - Work - Prayer

5. Wise #41. External pressures - inward insecurity

6. Car #42. "Progressive Menzies"

7. Maturity #43. - 5 points maturity

8. Permanent Union #44.

Prov. 18:22 Who findeth a wife findeth

Prov. 19:14 House and riches are the inheritance of fathers & a prudent wife is from the Lord.

Gen. 1:27 "So God created man in

Songs of Sol. 1:15-17 ✓ Read

Eph. 5:25-33 ✓ Read

*After divorce
Jesus took so + kids
they want
Matt 19:6
19:15-20*

Ps. 33:11 "The counsel of the Lord standeth forever, the thots of his heart to all generations."

9. Have you ever gone outside on a frosty morn and tried to scrape the frost off your car window?

On a cold morning it's almost impossible to remove it. Here's an easy way to do it. Go out about 5 minutes early. Start your car and turn the heater on. When the warm air from the

heater heats the interior of your car, the ice will fall off your windshield. And if you want others to love you, start warming up your heart toward them. Watch the frost disappear from their faces.

10. Men and women marry for any number of individual reasons. Basically, however, they seek in marriage 3 main objectives: a stable, permanent association based on mutual affection, on love & companionship; the freedom and privilege of a sexual relationship; an establishment of a home and a family. Love & companionship, sexual intimacy, and procreation are, then, in our culture at least the main motives for marriage.
11. Relative to the things on which a successful marriage depends: one is respective personalities of the husband and the wife, the degree of their emotional maturity, their balance and stability. The second is the extent to which the two are mutually compatible and congenial in their interests, their taste and their ways of life, as well as the extent to which the marriage meets their basic individual needs for love and companionship, for sex satisfaction and for the building of a family. The third involves outside influences--economic security, social adjustments, satisfactory family relations. These three factors often interact so that in actuality there are multiple causes which enter into the making of the quality of a marriage.
12. 3 words: "Independence, privacy, control" as we deal c others

Amos
3:3
21
2 will
of the
of the
of the
of the
of the

II kings 6:16 "They that be c us are more

West End 9-30-73, 10-7-73, 10-14-73, 10-28-73, 11-4-73

Ellen Robertson - Ident.

Highland New Church, Oak Ridge, Tenn. 4-8+4-9-74

To father a child means more than being responsible for bringing a life into the world. To be a real father a man must do his part to train up his child in the way he should go. (Prov.22:6). Fathering requires of fathers their physical and mental presence, which produces direct contact with the children and close collaboration with their wives. The head of the house surely ought to know, in a term today's youth uses, "what gives" with the children.

28

"Building a Christian Home"

Brandt and Dowdy

Page 45

Daddy

21

When two parents stand alone at the airport or bus station and wave good-bye to the last child going away to college or into service, they are entering into one of their most critical periods of marital adjustment. The common tasks of parenthood that have bound them together and consumed their interests for so long are suddenly gone. They are alone for the first time in twenty years, entirely dependent upon each other for companionship, emotional satisfactions, and security.

"Homemade Happiness"

By Wayne Dehoney

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29

A careless word may kindle a strife;
A cruel word may wreck a life;
A bitter word may hate instill;
A brutal word may smite and kill;
A gracious word may smooth the way;
A joyous word may light the day;
A timely word may lessen stress;
A loving word may heal and bless.

"Homemade Happiness"

By Wayne Dehoney

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29A
~~1128~~

1. the 1:7 Bishop .. not soon angry
S. of Sol 2:15

Take as the eyes, the
little foxes that spoil the
vines for our vines have

Col 3:21 "Fathers provoke
not your ch. to anger
lest they be discouraged"

Prov 14:17 "He that is soon angry
deals with foolishly"

Prov 29:22 an angry man
stirren up strife & a furious
man aboundeth in transgression

Matt 5:22 "whoever is angry
with his bro w/o cause deserves jail"

Eph 4:26 be angry & sin not
let not the sun

7 ARISE, MY LOVE

#29

The toast is burnt; the coffee's weak-
It's amber in the cup.
There's no hot water, either;
The children used it up.

The clock stopped and I overslept
(I'm wakeful as a rule).
I'll have to write the kids a note;
They'll all be late for school.

The morning paper's on the roof;
That newsboy's such a clown.
You'll have to get a ladder
If you want to get it down.

The car won't start, I tried it
But I think the battery's dead.
Arise, my love, and greet the dawn...
I'm going back to bed. (~~29~~) 30

"Chin Up, Mom"
Suzanne Douglass
Page 38

The wife is continually irritated because ^{#130} her husband leaves the top off the toothpaste, or his fishing tackle lying around, or spills ashes on the floor. The husband is irritated because his wife is always tardy or leaves her stockings ^{- Patti Nose} hanging on the shower rail. The personality conflicts stemming from these minor irritations led one sociologist to call this the tragedy of the "tyranny of the trivial." These are the biblical "little foxes that spoil the vines." ~~(28)~~ 31

"Homemade Happiness"


by Wayne Dehoney

Page 74-75

Religious News Service reported that of all the newcomers #131
moving into Washington, D. C., in 1965, 55 percent moved into
apartments. Of the 55 percent less than five out of a hundred
established connections with a local congregation (Mimeo Release,
Nov. 16, 1965). Such a report causes serious evaluation of the
traditional congregational structure. (~~29~~33)

"Faithful Rebels" - By Roy Blumhorst - Page 15

Put folks in filing cabinet's bad

I was using a diagram I had learned in high school. ⁷¹²² The first drawing was a set of compartments in an old pigeonhole-type desk. I explained that many people had a separate compartment for work, family, fun, and other activities. Their trouble was that they had a separate compartment for God, the church, and Sunday. Then I drew a daisy. The center was God, and each petal was thus connected to God--work, family, fun. Exciting, I thought. 

"Faithful Rebels" - By Roy Blumhorst - Page 51

Two Harvard researchers, Dr.C.C. Zimmerman^{#33} and Dr. L.F. Cervantes, after surveying sixty thousand American families, also reported a higher than average divorce rate in inter-faith marriages--two or three times as great! These psychologists also discovered that when the mixed marriage did not end in divorce, it often was still a "sick" marriage. They found that the children of an interfaith marriage are less likely to finish high school than children whose parents are of the same faith.

"Homemade Happiness"

by Wayne Dehoney

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(31)
~~25~~

34

A woman needs a husband; a man needs a wife; and they both need Christ to make a success of their marriage. Burgess and Cottrell in their pioneer study Predicting Success and Failure in Marriage discovered religious couples were, on the average, happier than the irreligious. Those who were married by justices of the peace were more unhappy than happy. When the husband stopped going to Sunday school before he was eleven years of age, the couple was one tenth as happy as the average. If husband and wife continued attending Sunday school until they were nineteen and attended two thirds of the time after marriage, the marriage was 50 per cent happier than the average

couple. J

"Homemade Happiness"

by Wayne Dehoney

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