

Divorce



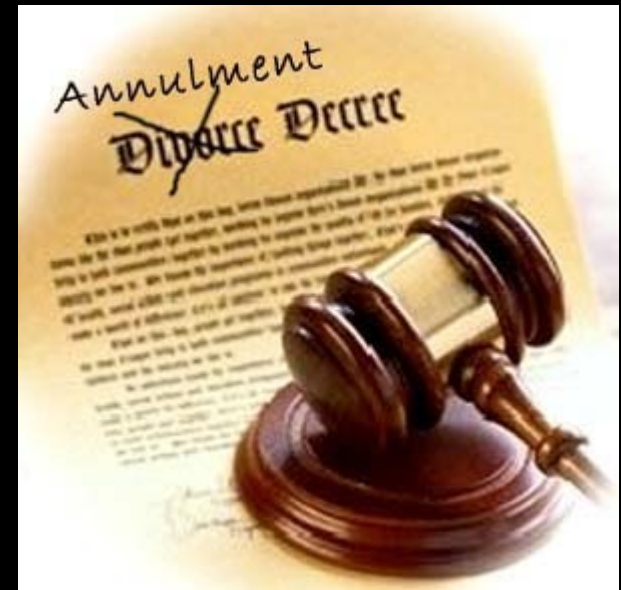
Catholic attitudes to divorce

- Catholics believe that divorce is wrong
- They believe that during the process of making your vows, you say you will show fidelity, and divorcing is hardly being faithful
- They believe that marriage is indissoluble (can never be broken down) and that once you get married, no divorce will count in the eyes of God, therefore if you re-marry, you're committing adultery
"Any man who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her. And if she divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery."



However...

- Catholics believe that you can get an *annulment*, an annulment is the declaration from the Church that a marriage never lawfully existed, because one or both of the couple did not mean their vow, they believe you can re-marry after an annulment
- Catholics believe that the only way a marriage can be dissolved is by death of one of the couple, “till death do us part”- because of this, you can re-marry if you’re partner dies



Other Christians believe...

- Other Christians, such as the *liberal protestants* believe that you can get a divorce as a last resort if you're marriage is really breaking down- they believe divorce can be

...**“the lesser of two evils”**

however, they do believe that if you do get a divorce, and want to re-marry, you should attend marriage counselling so you can see what went wrong in the previous relationship, and make sure it doesn't happen again.

The debate:

For

- Its better than keeping someone in a miserable relationship, which would hardly be a loving, Christian act to do
- People should be given a second chance to go right where they previously went wrong
- People may have been abused in their previous marriage, and think divorce is the only way out
- God is all loving, and would understand why we allow divorce

Against

- Marriage is indissoluble, meaning that it can never be broken down
- Jesus seemed to condemn divorce in Marks gospel, “Any man who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her. And if she divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery.”
- When you married you showed you would show commitment, fidelity, love and sacrifice towards your married partner, you made *an eternal vow*

What would *non-religious* people say about divorce?

- Atheists believe that because it is legal, you can get a divorce freely
- They believe marriage is only by law, just a slip of paper- no eternal vows attached, therefore you can end it when you wish
- They also believe that you have one life, and shouldn't make yourself miserable staying in a marriage that you do not enjoy



How has legislation and society changed towards divorce?

- Societies attitudes have changed immensely towards divorce, this could be due to the fact that our society is becoming multi-faith, (including atheism) and is changing its laws to suit everyone in the country, as oppose to Christian based laws

Divorce, online?

- www.quickie-divorce.com
- Everything is becoming available to the online world, including divorces!
- You can find yourself divorced extremely easily, without having to even see your ex-partner, it can all be done over the web or phone- how could it go from being unacceptable, to so simple and easy?

Legislation and divorce

- Where it used to be unspeakable to have a divorce, it is now at incredible ease due to the changing of the laws towards divorce

The laws effect societies view points a lot, and due to legislation changing, the attitudes of non-religious *and* religious people begin to change

What are the down-sides of divorce?



- The children that came from the marriage may suffer, due to upset or even stress, also having a single parent family may deprive children of some necessities
- Some children who experience divorce at a young age can be effected, due to emotional distraught

Statistics

- Research shows that families with children with a disability are more likely to end in divorce...

I think that this shows very negative on family life, if anything, I would think it could bring a family closer together through looking after their child

Research also shows that...

- Adults who had come from a divorced family, often think the following...

“My life would be different with my parents together”

“I had a harder childhood than most”

“My childhood was cut short”

“I feel doomed I’ll repeat my parents problems”

In conclusion

- Catholics believe that divorce is wrong
- Other Christians believe it can be the lesser of two evils
- Non-religious people believe you can divorce as it is legal
- Divorce has been shown to put children under stress, or pressure by having to make tough decisions at such a young age