



What's the difference if we live together or get **married**?



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Living together has risks...

- For those couples living together before marriage, statistics show that they are nearly 50% more likely to divorce.
- 75% of children in cohabiting households experience the trauma of parental separation compared to 33% of children in married households.
- Women and children are more likely to be abused in cohabiting environments than in marriage.
- Children whose parents fail to get and stay married are at an increased risk of poverty, dependency, substance abuse, educational failure, juvenile delinquency, early unwed pregnancy, and a host of other destructive behaviors.

What makes marriage different? Commitment. Those who enter into a lifelong commitment to one another live a different kind of relationship than cohabiting couples.



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