

Children Born Out of Wedlock: Unexpected Consequences

✘ I've written before about the results and consequences facing children who are born out of wedlock. The whole "I don't need to be married in order to have a child" lifestyle, encouraged by the example of numerous celebrities who the media glorify, will continue to have an enormous negative impact on society. Legitimate studies already show that women who have children outside of marriage are less educated, are less likely to achieve monetary security and more likely to live in poverty. Their children are destined for a similar fate. These statistics, of course, don't apply to celebrities who've chosen to live this way and, of course, have the means to support themselves and their children.

This unmarried with children lifestyle also contributes to the never-ending devaluation of men in our society. I've also written numerous times that men, on television today, are depicted as superfluous, low achieving buffoons who simply take up space in the household. Because this characterization is so prevalent in sitcoms and is a reflection of society, I'm guessing this depiction of men is supposed to be humorous, but I find it incredibly sad and demeaning, having been raised during a time when television showed men to be strong, smart supporters, both emotionally and financially, of their families. Those days are long gone and now men are seen to be mere incidental inseminators.

Sadly, available statistics show that more and more children are being born out of wedlock and the problems, for society, will continue to grow and in ways many of us may not have foreseen.

While I've been aware of the obvious consequences, i.e., the inevitable life of poverty and no education for these women

and children, I hadn't realized an unexpected consequence that will befall these families. Last month, I read an article in the WSJ entitled, "Seeking Clues to Heart Risk in a Patient's Family Tree."

Doctors are now focusing on the value of knowing a patient's family history of cardiovascular illness in order to provide preventive care for their patients. Scorecards for cardiac risk consider things like whether a patient's mother or father had a heart attack and at what age.

When I think of my 20+ year experience in the foster care system dealing with abused and neglected children, the whole idea of parentage is pretty much a black hole. I regularly saw unwed mothers come into court for their first hearing who could not provide the court with any information about the identity of the father.

I routinely heard a woman run down a litany of possible contenders for fatherhood, many of whom would have nothing more than a first name. Forget having information about the man's last name, his birth date, his Social Security number, his address or any members of his family. I've seen cases where three or four men actually showed up in court and, after hundreds of taxpayer dollars had been spent to conduct HLA/DNA testing, none of these guys had won the brass ring.

I'm still amazed each January 1st when I take a look at my new calendar and still see Father's Day listed on the third Sunday of June. It's just a matter of time before that day is no longer celebrated.

So, because of the sexual revolution, the indoctrination of women with the belief that men are unnecessary, the glorification of motherhood without marriage, and the inevitable financial burdens put on society by this lifestyle as well as numerous other consequences, we will now have generations of people who have absolutely no idea of their

ancestry and lineage and will be unable to assist their doctors in establishing risk factors throughout their lives.

I don't get it, but if you do, God bless you.