Polly Williams

Aughenbaugh

English 12

01 March 2013

Polygamy

Children appear to suffer in polygamous cultures. It has been proven that children of the poorer men in polygamous marriages actually fared better, proving more likely to survive to age 15. Children of monogamous households tend to do better than children in polygamous households. “Why should children with three legal parents be denied the same legal and social protections as children with only two parents have?” Men between ages 24-40 have about 1-17 wife’s. Men often marry young women. Child brides are quite common; they often are abused and end up young and pregnant. Polygamous marriages often have abuse in the home. Domestic Violence: polygamy increases a woman’s chance of being abused from 8 to 15 times above the normal average. There are a lot of concerns about the vulnerabilities of women and children living within oppressive polygamous relationships due to criminalization. The targeted harm in the polygamy provision is rendered vague. “Monogamous marriage reduces crime.” The problem with unmarried men appears to come primarily from their lack of investment in the family life and in children. Young men without futures have riskier behaviors and have less to lose. Polygamy is less about sex than power. Rich old guys win twice: more women to have their babies and do their household work. Polygamy is both an ancient and modern form of marriage where a man or woman has multiple spouses. The technical definition leads to either polygyny, where a man is married to multiple wives, or polyandry, that is, a woman married to multiple husbands. We find the term polygamy being used in many cases to point to the former, as it is more well known than the others. There are some important concepts to remember regarding this subject which has received much attention in the United States due to shows such as Sister Wives and Big Love, but is practiced openly by over 70% of the world's cultures. In order to clear up the issue we must clear up the reasons for polygyny's existence in times past and the present. Overall, polygyny is an economic issue that is in place in more traditional environments that focus on the survival of families, specifically women and children. Breaking this economy down further, we find polygyny exists for the following reasons. Build and maintain wealth in a family or community. It is much easier to accumulate money over time and/or develop ideas and commerce with more hands on deck. Most polygynous families around the world are laborers on their own or the community's land, while other families have various domestic and marketplace duties working for the family business, a corporation, or other people in the area. In some places the population of single mothers may increase due to divorce, warfare, or natural disasters. In traditional cultures outside the United States, which only has four percent of the world's population within its borders, remaining unmarried for lengthy periods of time brings dishonor to the woman. It is the same for men in places such as West Africa, where married men are honored and revered because they have proven themselves to have a stable home life. Women are the dominant gender in most local regions worldwide, and this is more clearly seen once one travels to urban areas. When matched up in a 1:1 ratio more women of marrying age are still left in the open. In the United States this is seen as a normal state of being more so than in other parts of the globe where a higher marriage/low divorce rate exists. This is the ideal, of course, and experienced polygynists have always stressed this point that the women must be treated fairly and with respect to avoid abuse and to maintain a shining reputation. Polygamy is part of the reason the countries that allow it are usually poor. The only ones with real money are those who have oil revenue from the free democratic countries that don't allow polygamy. Polygamy is prohibited by most accepted faiths today and usually unaccepted by society as a whole, shunned upon. Wives have to share a husband which many not like doing. Polygamy only confuses parental roles for children. Polygamy is very disrespectful to women. They dress them up all the same, and they become the slaves to men who "think" that is what love is. It is a way for people with mental illness to extort and take advantage of women who are ill themselves. Most of the major polygamists think they are God or the Son of God. They create their own religion in their mind and brainwash these people into believing they are so great. These men who really can't hold a job in the real world and would be considered unable to fend for themselves, and probably jailed for their want to sexually abuse children, brainwash these people into serving them and into thinking this is the way to God. These very men have sex with their own children! They have an unusual fear of the outside world and as a result, seclude themselves and cut themselves off from it. Mostly because they know they are doing wrong. Polygamy is that it is illegal (not just because we, as a society, favor a one man/one woman relationship), but because medically having sex with many people and then your own children and impregnating them produces defects in the DNA that gets passed down from generation to generation. It is morally wrong; these men are having sex with several women, but because these men are making these people think something that are not true. They say that you will anger God if you do not worship him and do whatever he says. Men have women believing it’s okay to beat these women and kids severely if they don't "perform" in the way he says they should. Of the outside world and of who those men really are these men are hiding all the time. This has nothing to do with God or religion, but they use that as a front to lure people into their communes. They do not have any contact with the outside world, so they have no education. They come out as adults, but with the education of a child. How can they support themselves? What jobs can they do once they decide or are 'rescued' and move back into the real world. Most do end up escaping.