

Humanist: Why is marriage declining?

Cohabitation: People living together unmarried is increasing, therefore people are getting married later on in life.

Secularisation: Religion is declining and often marriage is perceived as a religious ceremony.

Financial Reasons: Marriage is becoming increasingly expensive.

Increase in Divorce: Due to the increase in divorce rate people are more critical of the importance of marriage.

Reasons why Hindu's avoid Divorce

'I promise never to abandon her, whatever happens' - This is said during the wedding vows

Marriage is seen as a spiritual stage of life

Reasons why Sikhs avoid Divorce

Marriage is seen as a sacrament, a holy gift from God

Marriage is a lifelong commitment, uniting two souls

Children are the focus of marriage and they believe it is important to stay together for them

Key Terms

Marriage	The legal union of a relationship
Annulment	Declaration that a marriage is void
Divorce	The legal ending of a marriage
Adultery	Cheating on your wife/husband
Vows	Promises made at a wedding
Nuclear Family	Two parents and children
Same-Sex Family	Two parents of the same sex and children
Extended Family	Parents, children and other relations in one home e.g. Aunties/Uncles
Single Parent Family	One parent raising children alone
Blended Family	Parents living together with children that one or both of them had in a previous relationship
Procreation	To have sex and produce children
Samagree	A mixture thrown into a fire to bless the couple at a Hindu wedding
Anand Karaj	The name of a Sikh wedding
Ardas Prayer	Spoken at the beginning of a Sikh wedding
Karah Parshad	Sikhs blessed food at a wedding

Purposes of Marriage

Procreation	Marriage is a place where children should be created and raised
Stability	It allowed children to be raised in a stable environment
Legal Protection	It provides legal protection for both partners and children
Love	To show commitment to the ones you love

Quotes

Christian	'That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh'
Christian	I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, and marries another woman commits adultery.
Hinduism	Unite, O Lord, this couple like a pair of Chakravakas. May they surrounded by children be, living both long and happily. Rig Veda XIV 2, 64
Hinduism	With sons and daughters at their side they live a good long span of years, both decked with precious gold. Rig Veda VIII 31, 5-9

