



SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

... HELPING NEIGHBORS STARTS AT HOME ...

What the Social Sciences Say About Family Structure...

- “The share of births to unwed mothers stands at 40 percent—up from 5 percent in 1960.” (“Love, Marriage, and the Baby Carriage,” 1)
- “The share of teenage women who are sexually active is 2.5 times higher today than in the early 1960s.” (“Love, Marriage, and the Baby Carriage,” 1)
- “Nearly 70 percent of births to Black women are nonmarital, compared to 35 percent among White women, 50 percent among Hispanic women, and just 17 percent among Asian women.” (“The State of Our Unions, 2019,” 28-29)
- “Men and women who are currently married and were raised in an intact family enjoy an annual “family premium” in their household income that exceeds that of their unmarried peers who were raised in nonintact families by at least \$42,000.” (“For Richer, For Poorer,” 3)
- “The fraction of children living in single-parent households is the single strongest [negative] correlate of upward income mobility among all the variables we explored.” (“Where is the Land of Opportunity?,” 40)
- “Parental divorce increases the odds that adult children will also divorce by at least 50 percent.” (Why Marriage Matters, 19)
- “Boys raised in single-parent homes are about twice as likely (and boys raised in stepfamilies are more than two-and-a-half times as likely) to have committed a crime that leads to incarceration by the time they reach their early thirties.” (Why Marriage Matters, 37)
- “Family structure is one of the strongest, if not the strongest, predictor[s] of variations in urban violence across cities in the United States.” (Why Marriage Matters, 38)