

A386\_2018AbstractAndlerSterling

## Abstract

Marriage is an institution that is at the heart of our culture. But, marriage today isn't the same as it has always been. Changes in the social, political and economic mores of our society have created an environment where marriage is arguably unnecessary. Marriages of the past are depicted as a social and financial agreement between families. These agreements are not based on love, but on business, and they are necessary for the prosperity of all parties involved. In contrast, marriages of today, while they do provide some financial benefit, aren't usually based on fiscal agreements between families. Instead, they are based on emotion and attraction between two individual people. With the institution of marriage no longer being thought of as necessary for basic quality of life, and with the divorce rate being so high in the United States, questions arose as to why people even still get married. Through a series of conversations with individuals who possess knowledge and experience on the topic of marriage, this project aims to answer the question, "Why do people still get married?"

Honors College  
Ball State University  
Muncie, IN 47306