

# A man's top 5 reasons to grow up and get married

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The author and his wife on his wedding day in August 2012. (COURTESY OF THE AUTHOR.)

Six months ago, I wrote a column here at FoxNews regarding the fact that my wife and I made the choice to wait until marriage. Some people claimed offense. As per usual, I'm okay with that.

Here's why; I'm pro-marriage. I always have been, always will be and I'll make no apologies for it. As a matter of fact, most of you should be apologizing to me. Yeah, I said it. Whether you're one with a successful marriage who's remained silent on its myriad virtues, or merely a single, lonely critic... America, you've got some 'splaining to do.

*Sadly, marriage has become a punchline in today's society. From referring to the wife as "the old ball and chain" to nearly every poorly written sitcom that we watch, the message we're sending to today's generation is clear... Marriage = no fun.*

Men on TV constantly joke about how wives are incredibly expensive, demanding and overall vacuums of all things fun. By that same token, the women complain about their fat, lazy, insensitive husbands as they swoon over their trimmed, manicured and chest-waxed Hollywood counterparts.

Ever see a commercial with a wife and husband shopping together? Yeah, we always play the idiot.

I know plenty of people my age that will never get married because they genuinely believe the false cultural meme that marriage has sadly become. There's only one problem. It's completely untrue.

Even more of a problem, those who know it to be untrue often do nothing to correct the lie.

As someone who comes from a family of lifers (along with my wife), I just want to say, flat out...

... **Marriage is a really good deal.**

Let's assume for a second that you don't think of humans as inherently spiritual beings. So let's remove the fact that married people claim to be happier, more fulfilled, complete and purposeful. Some of you are even thinking,

"Love? Who needs love!"

Okay. Here are a few purely statistical reasons as to why marriage (when done correctly) is conducive to an undeniably better life. Hold onto your butts.

- 1. You'll be richer** – Yes. Not only do married couples **make more, save more**, have a higher net worth and qualify for more benefits/financial incentives than lonely, single folk... but your kids will be richer too. Which brings me to my next point
- 2. Would somebody please think of the children!!** – The single biggest indicator of child poverty is whether both original parents are still together. Not only that, but children in married households **get better grades**, are less disruptive in class and less likely to develop behavioral disorders than children from **non-married households**. So be married long and prosper. Your kids will too.
- 3. You'll have more sex... A LOT MORE SEX** – Okay so you may not want kids. You may despise them. I get it. Sticky hands. Let's say you're just another selfish, narcissistic bachelor (or bachelorette) who quite frankly, isn't deserving of the unconditional love you may oh-so-luckily find. You just want the sex. Statistically, not only do married people have **more sex**, they have better, **more satisfying sex**. If the two of you should hold off on sex until marriage, those statistics become even more promising. Here's a perfect example of where Hollywood gets it wrong. In the real world, while Alfie fruitlessly toiled away at picking up harlots from the bar, suffering a mean case of whiskey-wiener, Mr. Cleaver was getting busy on the regular. Them's the real breaks.
- 4. You won't be such a pathetic sloth** – Married people are more productive. Married men in particular, have higher employment rates, work longer hours and receive better wages. It's time to stop wading through puddles of your own filth as you reach for the hotpockets and have a dame whip you into shape. You're welcome.
- 5. Don't die sick, miserable and alone.** This would seem to be self-explanatory. Sadly, it's not. Young people think that being young and single is the "fun and free" time of your life, while marriage is something that can wait for the days when you're ready to grow fat, boring and settle down. Married people not only live longer lives, they live healthier lives. There are too many factors at play here to even list. From married people statistically maintaining healthier weights, being more active and having lower mortality rates, to married women incurring less severe illnesses, enjoying better cancer survival rates and of course... lower rates of domestic abuse (as opposed to those merely cohabitating). Yes ladies, it's true, living with an uncommitted, self-absorbed jackass can be hazardous to your health.

All of this to basically say that people need to start being more honest and vocal about the virtues of marriage. Americans need to stop feeding and buying into the lie that we've all been fed. Whether you're young old, male, female, marriage (when done correctly) will make your life, and this country better off. The facts are undeniable. If the facts aren't enough, maybe this'll help...

Picture coming home every night to your best friend, your greatest fan, and your number one supporter. She (or he) makes each good day better, and each bad day good again. Every day, you get to live what is essentially a 24/7 sleepover party with the greatest friend you've ever had.

... Now add sex and sandwiches.

Get married, like, now.

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