

# Family Breakdown and Civilization Decline

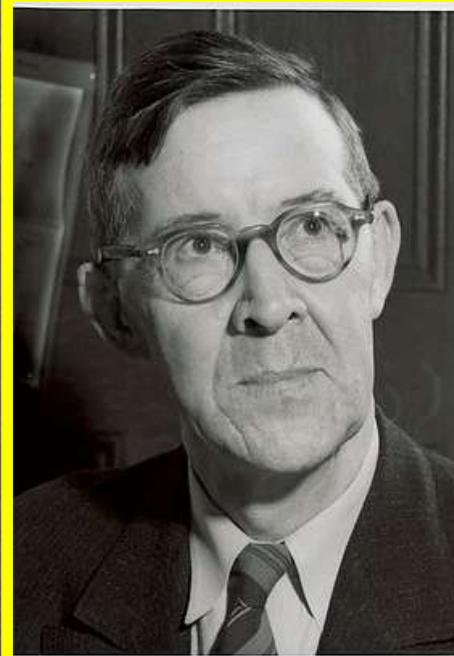
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**Arnold Toynbee**



**Dr. Joseph Daniel Unwin**



**Pitirim Sorokin**



**Dr. Carle  
Zimmerman**

Historical Research – Important Lessons from History

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# Family Breakdown leads to Social Instability

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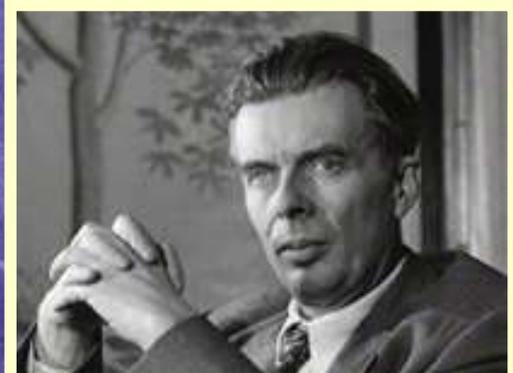
Joseph Daniel UNWIN (6-12-1895 – 18-6-1936)

## Important Lessons from History

Immorality leads to family breakdown

Family breakdown leads to social instability

Social instability leads to the decline of the civilization



**Aldous Huxley**



**Arnold Toynbee**



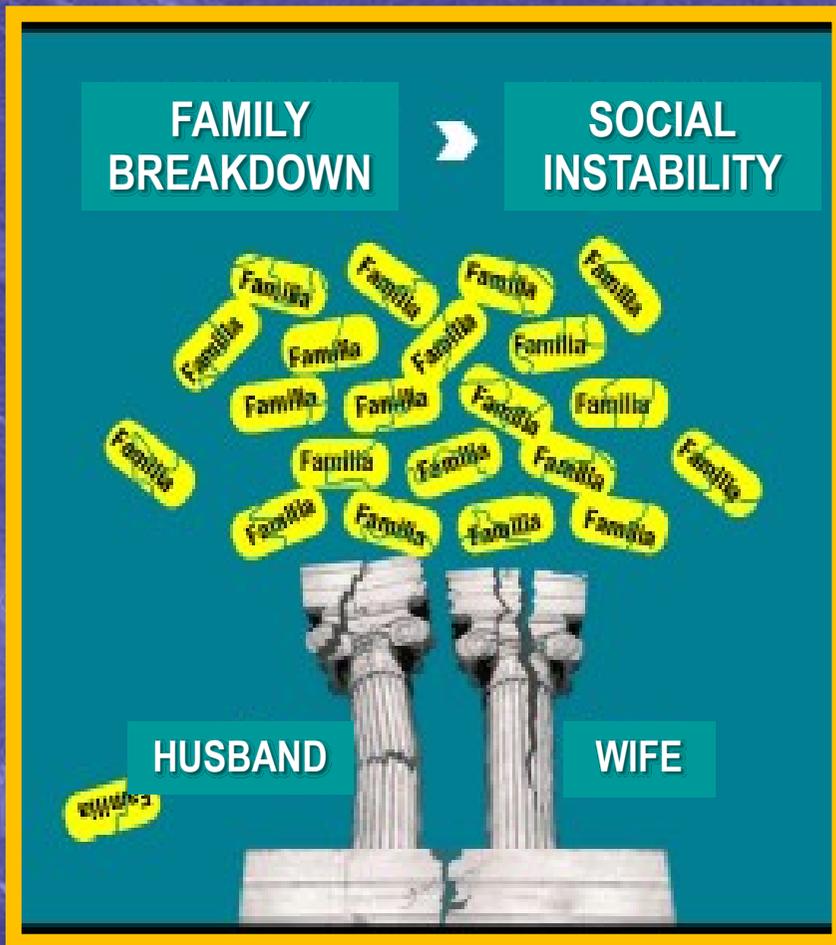
**Pitirim Sorokin**



**Dr. Carle Zimmerman**

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# Family Breakdown leads to Social Instability

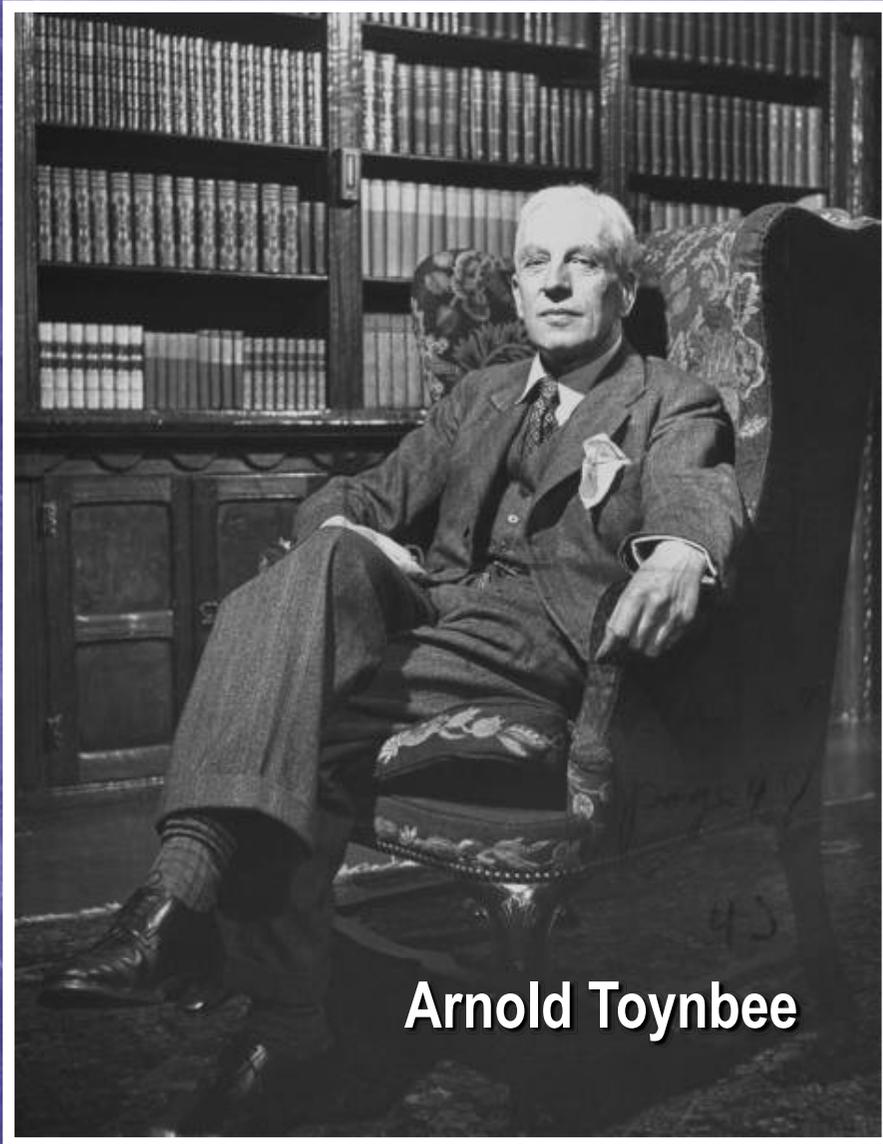


- ✓ Sexual promiscuity, infidelity, and pornography lead to sexually transmitted disease, divorce, and family breakdown
- ✓ Family breakdown undermines social stability, good citizenship, educational development, and contributes to crime, youth alienation, and suicide.
- ✓ To build a world of lasting peace, we need to restore true love, true parenthood, and true family

Modern statistics support many of these propositions. But are there historical investigations over long periods of time that prove such premises?

# Family breakdown and Civilization decline

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Arnold Toynbee

Historian **Arnold Toynbee** observed,

*“Out of twenty-one notable civilizations, nineteen perished not by conquest from without but by moral decay from within.”*

Source: Why Character Matters: How to Help Our Children Develop Good Judgment, Integrity and Other Essential Virtues - By Thomas Lickona

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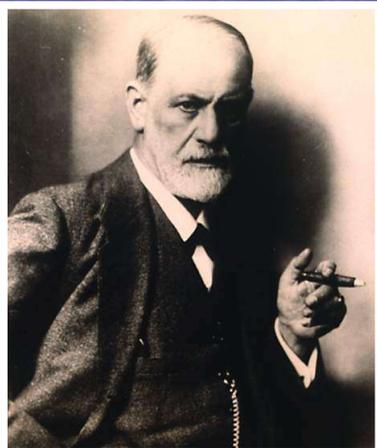
# Family breakdown and Civilization decline



**Dr. Joseph D.  
Unwin**

British ethnologist and social anthropologist at Oxford University and Cambridge University, **Joseph Daniel Unwin MC (1895 - 1936)** conducted a massive study of 6 major civilizations and 80 lesser societies covering 5,000 years of history. He set out his study expecting to find evidence supporting **Sigmund Freud's theory** that civilizations are essentially neurotic and destroy themselves by restricting sex too much. But to Unwin's surprise, all the evidence he discovered pointed exactly to opposite conclusions.

In his exhaustive examination of sexual behavior and their affect upon society, **Unwin observed that monogamous cultures prosper and those disinclined to restrain sex to monogamous marriage remain primitive or, if once successful, they decline.**



**Sigmund Freud  
(1856-1939)**

## **Joseph Daniel Unwin - Main Works:**

***Sex and Culture*** (London: Oxford University Press, 1934);

***Sexual Regulations and Cultural Behavior*** (London: Oxford University Press, 1935)

***Hopousia: Or the Sexual and Economic Foundations of a New Society*** (London: George Allen and Unwin, 1940).

# Family breakdown and Civilization decline

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***“Sexual Regulations and Cultural Behavior”*** by **Joseph Daniel Unwin, Ph.D.**,  
Address given March 27, 1935, to the Medical Section of the British Psychological Society



**Dr. Joseph Daniel Unwin**

*“Thousands of years and thousands of miles separate the events; and there is no apparent connection between them. In human records, there is no case of an **absolutely monogamous** society failing to display great [cultural] energy. I do not know of a case on which great energy has been displayed by a society that has not been **absolutely monogamous**...”*

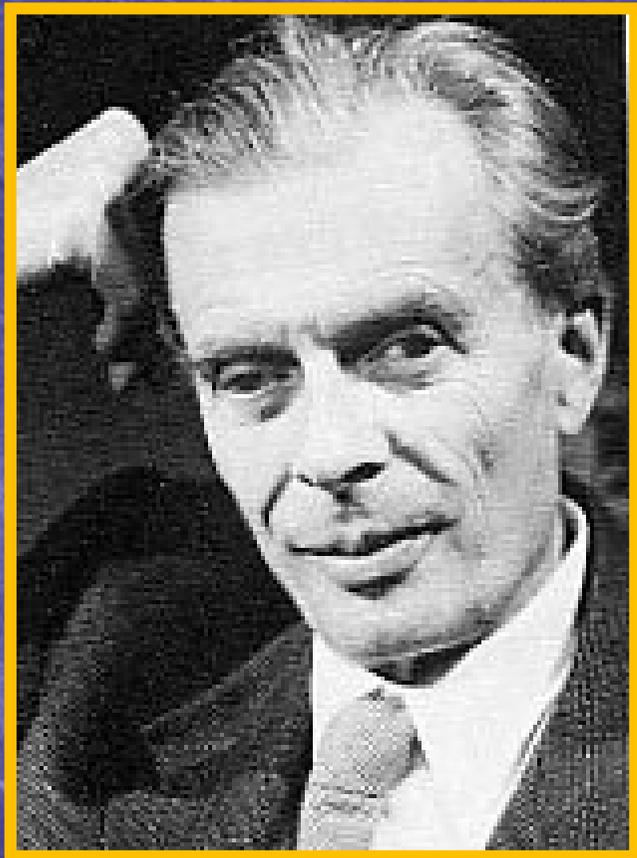
*“The whole of human history does not contain a single instance of a group becoming civilized unless it has been **absolutely monogamous**, nor is there any example of a group retaining its culture after it has adopted less rigorous customs.”*

*(Unwin, J. D. (1927). “**Monogamy as a Condition of Social Energy**,” *The Hibbert Journal*, Vol. XXV, p. 662.)*

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**“Unwin's conclusions**, which are based upon an enormous wealth of carefully sifted evidence, may be summed up as follows. All human societies are in one or another of six cultural conditions: zoistic, manistic, deistic, rationalistic, expansive, productive. Of these societies the zoistic displays the least amount of mental and social energy, the productive the most. **Investigation shows that the societies exhibiting the least amount of energy are those where pre-nuptial continence is not imposed and where the opportunities for sexual indulgence after marriage are greatest. The cultural condition of a society rises in exact proportion as it imposes pre-nuptial and post-nuptial restraints upon sexual opportunity.**”

**(Huxley, Aldous (1946). “Ethics.” In: Ends and Means. London: Chatto & Windus, pp. 311–12.)**

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# Family breakdown and Civilization decline



Dr. Joseph Daniel Unwin

Dr. Joseph Daniel Unwin, discovered:

***“Absolute monogamy” generates  
“social energy”***

**Societies with high levels of “social energy” progress in every category of creative growth. This would be expressed in all areas of culture such as economics, science, justice, education, arts, and so on...**

**When the levels of what he called “absolute monogamy” were compromised by the increase pre-nuptial (premarital) and post-nuptial (extramarital) continence, such society decline in the span of three generations**

**What is surprising and worrying, Unwin says:  
... I know of no exceptions to these rules!!!**

# Dr. Unwin's studies were interrupted by his death at age 40

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<http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v138/n3484/abs/138234b0.htm>  
[Nature 138, 234-234 \(08 August 1936\) doi:10.1038/138234b0](#)

## Obituary - Dr. Joseph Daniel Unwin August 8, 1936

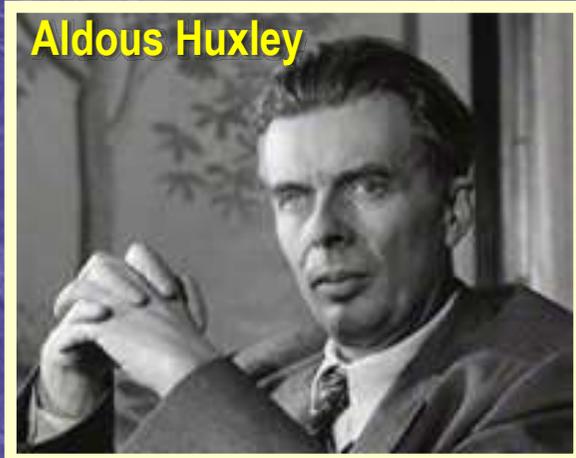
WE regret to record the death of Dr. J. D. Unwin, anthropologist and head of Cambridge House, the University social settlement in south London, which took place after an operation at the age of **forty years**.

**Unwin** died before fully developing his theory of '*the sexual foundations of a new society*,' but the incomplete results were published in another book, '**Hopousia**,' with an introduction by Aldous Huxley."

***Hopousia: Or the Sexual and Economic Foundations of a New Society***  
(London: George Allen and Unwin, 1940).

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# Dr. Unwin's studies were interrupted by his death at age 40



Joseph Daniel UNWIN (6-12-1895 – 18-6-1936)

**Aldous Huxley** writes in the introduction of HOPOUSIA: Or the Sexual and Economic Foundations of a New Society :

*“J. D. Unwin, whose untimely death in 1936 deprived the world of a mind at once original and methodical, unorthodox and sound, was one who liked to stress the spiral and undulatory nature of human history.”*

*“...At the time of his death Unwin was at work on a sequel to his Sex and Culture. This book of which the unfinished fragments are now being published under the title Hopousia, treats at length of a single question: What are the conditions which must be fulfilled if a society is to go on displaying maximum energy for an indefinite period? ...”*

# Family breakdown and Civilization decline



**Dr. Pitirim A. Sorokin** - Founder of the Department of Sociology at Harvard University - 55th President of the American Sociological Association.



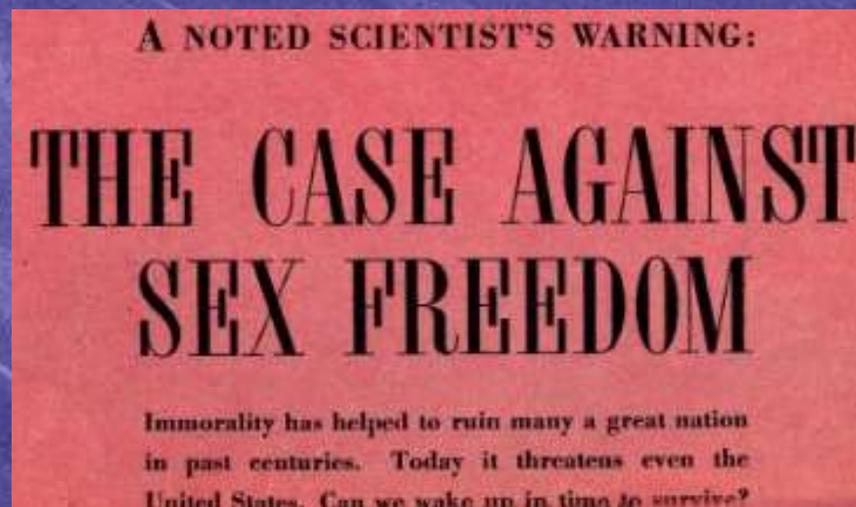
Following J. D. Unwin's *Sex and Culture*, Sorokin asserts that societies tend to blossom, be creative, and grow when the sexual mores favor exclusivity, monogamy, fidelity, responsibility, and family stability. Conversely, when mores encourage permissiveness, sexual exploration, serial monogamy, easy divorce, and brief and changeable family relationships (particularly with children), then societies become unstable and alienating, and they decline.



*The American Sex Revolution* (Boston: Porter Sargent Publishers, 1956)



Sorokin, Pitirim



*“The appearance of this little book is due to a voluminous reaction of the readers to my article, 'The Case Against Sex Freedom,' published in This Week Magazine, January 3, 1954.*”



### **Tell Them the Truth**

**T**HE hope of mankind in the face of its present-day difficulties is to preserve the family unit intact.

We must not spend our capacity for physical enjoyment profigately, but put it to work. Sex should be used to strengthen the family, not tear it to pieces.

Give our children sex education? Certainly. Tell them the real truths about sex. Teach them to look forward to sex within the marriage bond as the keenest source of happiness.

And let us ourselves learn to regard sex activity not as an end in itself but as one means — and a very important means — toward achieving the fullest harmony in human relationships. *The End*

**The Article** discusses the impact of sexual revolution on American society. Published 1954

# Family breakdown and Civilization decline

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**Dr. Sorokin, Pitirim**

Pitirim Sorokin wrote of his own country's revolution:

***"During the first stage of the Revolution, its leaders deliberately attempted to destroy marriage and the family. Free love was glorified by the official 'glass of water' theory. If a person is thirsty, so went the Party line, it is immaterial what glass he uses when satisfying his thirst; it is equally unimportant how he satisfies his sex hunger. **The legal distinction between marriage and casual sexual intercourse was abolished.*****

*The Communist law spoke only of contracts between males and females for the satisfaction of their desires either for an indefinite or a definite period, a year, a month, a week, or even for a single night. One could marry and divorce as many times as desired. Husband and wife could obtain a divorce without the other being notified. It was not even necessary that marriage be registered. Bigamy and even polygamy were permissible under the new provisions... Premarital relations were praised and extramarital relations were considered normal.*

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# Family breakdown and Civilization decline



*P. Sorokin*

**Dr. Sorokin, Pitirim**

*Within a few years, hordes of wild, homeless children became a menace to the Soviet Union. Millions of lives, especially of young girls, were wrecked; divorces sky-rocketed, as did abortions. The hatreds and conflicts among polygamous and polyandrous mates rapidly mounted--and so did psychoneurosis.*

*The results were so appalling that the government was forced to reverse its policy. **The propaganda of the 'glass of water' theory was declared to be counter-revolutionary, and its place was taken by official glorification of premarital chastity and of the sanctity of marriage...***

*Considering that the whole cycle occurred under a single regime, the experiment is highly informative. **It clearly shows the destructive consequences of unlimited sexual freedom.**"*

# Family breakdown and Civilization decline

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**Pitirim Sorokin**

Harvard sociologist Dr. Pitirim Sorokin, analyzing studies of cultures spanning several thousand years on several continents, found that virtually all political revolutions that brought about societal collapse were preceded by a sexual revolution in which marriage and family were devalued

Sorokin, Pitirim - *The American Sex Revolution* (Boston: Porter Sargent Publishers, 1956)

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*The*  
AMERICAN MAGAZINE  
*November 1950*  
SOMETHING FOR EVERY MEMBER OF THE FAMILY

*Your Family*  
the key  
to happiness



*The Author*

"A greater force than the atom bomb" . . . A noted educator, who was  
condemned to death by the Reds, tells you about the world's first scientific  
study of human kindness and the conquest of hate

<http://cdm15126.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/ref/collection/p201201coll4/id/4404>

# Family breakdown and Civilization decline

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<http://www.case-studies.com/nation-in-decline>

In 1947, Harvard sociologist Dr. Carle Zimmerman wrote "Family and Civilization." He studied the decline of several civilizations and empires, discovering eight patterns of domestic behavior that signaled the decline of a civilization:

1. The breakdown of marriage and rise of divorce.
  2. The loss of the traditional meaning of the marriage ceremony.
  3. The rise of Feminism.
  4. Increased public disrespect for parents and authority in general.
  5. Acceleration of juvenile delinquency, promiscuity and rebellion.
  6. Refusal of people with traditional marriages to accept their family responsibilities.
  7. A growing desire for and acceptance of adultery.
  8. Increasing interest in and spread of sexual perversions (homosexuality) and sex-related crimes.
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# Family breakdown and Civilization decline

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Dr. Zimmerman identified eleven 'symptoms of final decay' observable in the fall of both the Greek and Roman civilizations. See how many characterize our society:

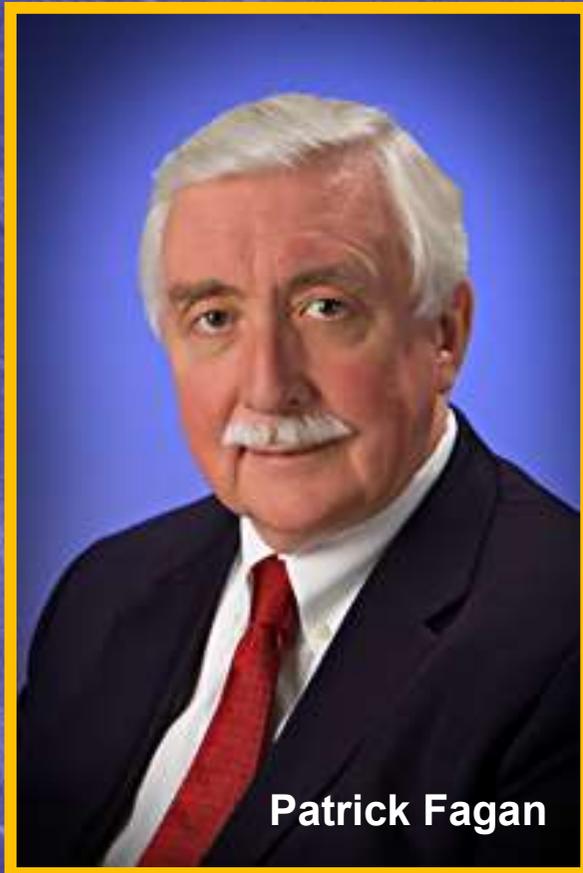


**Dr. Carle  
Zimmerman**

1. No-fault divorce
  2. "Birth dearth"; increased disrespect for parenthood and parents
  3. Meaningless marriage rites/ceremonies
  4. Defamation of past national heroes
  5. Acceptance of alternative marriage forms
  6. Widespread attitudes of feminism, narcissism, hedonism
  7. Propagation of antifamily sentiment
  8. Acceptance of most forms of adultery
  9. Rebellious children
  10. Increased juvenile delinquency
  11. Common acceptance of all forms of sexual perversion
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# Family breakdown and Civilization decline

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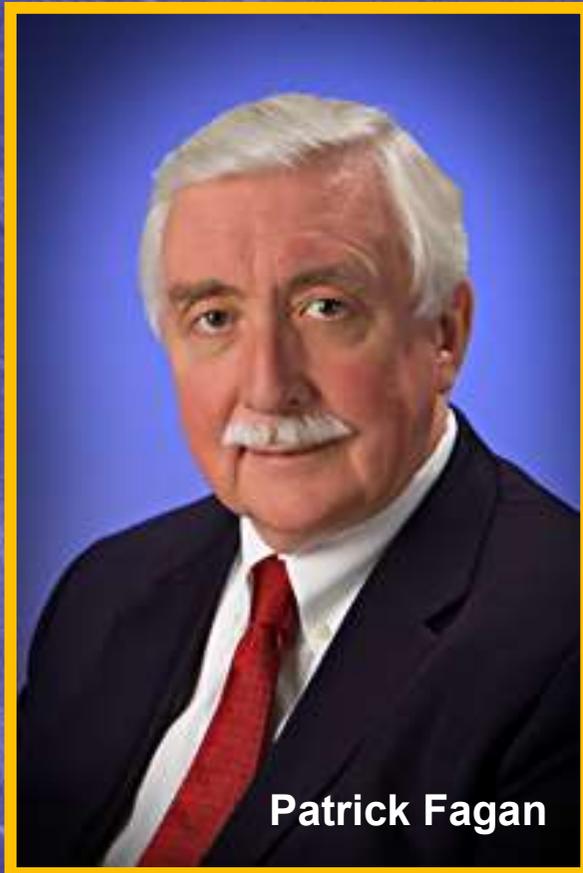
“When the number of single parent families reaches about 30%, the community begins to break down, and the rate of crime begins to soar. The community changes from a supportive environment to one that jeopardizes the development of children... whenever there is too high a concentration of broken families in any community, that community will disintegrate.”

Patrick Fagan, The Heritage Foundation - *“The Breakdown of the Family”*

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# Family breakdown and Civilization decline

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Patrick Fagan

Essay: The real root-causes of violent crime

## **CONCLUSION**

**“The professional literature of criminology is surprisingly consistent on the real root causes of violent crime: the breakdown of the family and community stability. The sequence has its deepest roots in the absence of stable marriage.”**

**Patrick Fagan, The Heritage Foundation**

<http://www.heritage.org/about/staff/f/patrick-fagan>

<http://www.heritage.org/research/reports/1995/03/bg1026nbsp-the-real-root-causes-of-violent-crime>

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# Family breakdown and Civilization decline

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An example of this social decline -

USA from 1970 to 2000:

- ✓ Rate of marriage **declined** by one third
- ✓ Divorce rate has **doubled**
- ✓ Married couples with children **declined** by one third
- ✓ Out-of-wedlock births have **tripled**
- ✓ Cohabitation (couples living together without marriage) has **increased 1000 %**

**Source: U. S. Bureau of the Census  
Current Population Reports, 1970-2000**

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# Family breakdown and Civilization decline

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The USA leads the industrialized world in the:

- ✓ percentage of single-parent homes (23%)
- ✓ abortion rate (22.9 / 1,000 women aged 15-44),
- ✓ sexually transmitted diseases
- ✓ teenage birth rate
- ✓ use of illegal drugs by students (44.9 % in '98)
- ✓ size of the prison population (327 / 100,000).

*Source: "Lost in America" by Tom Clegg and Warren Bird*

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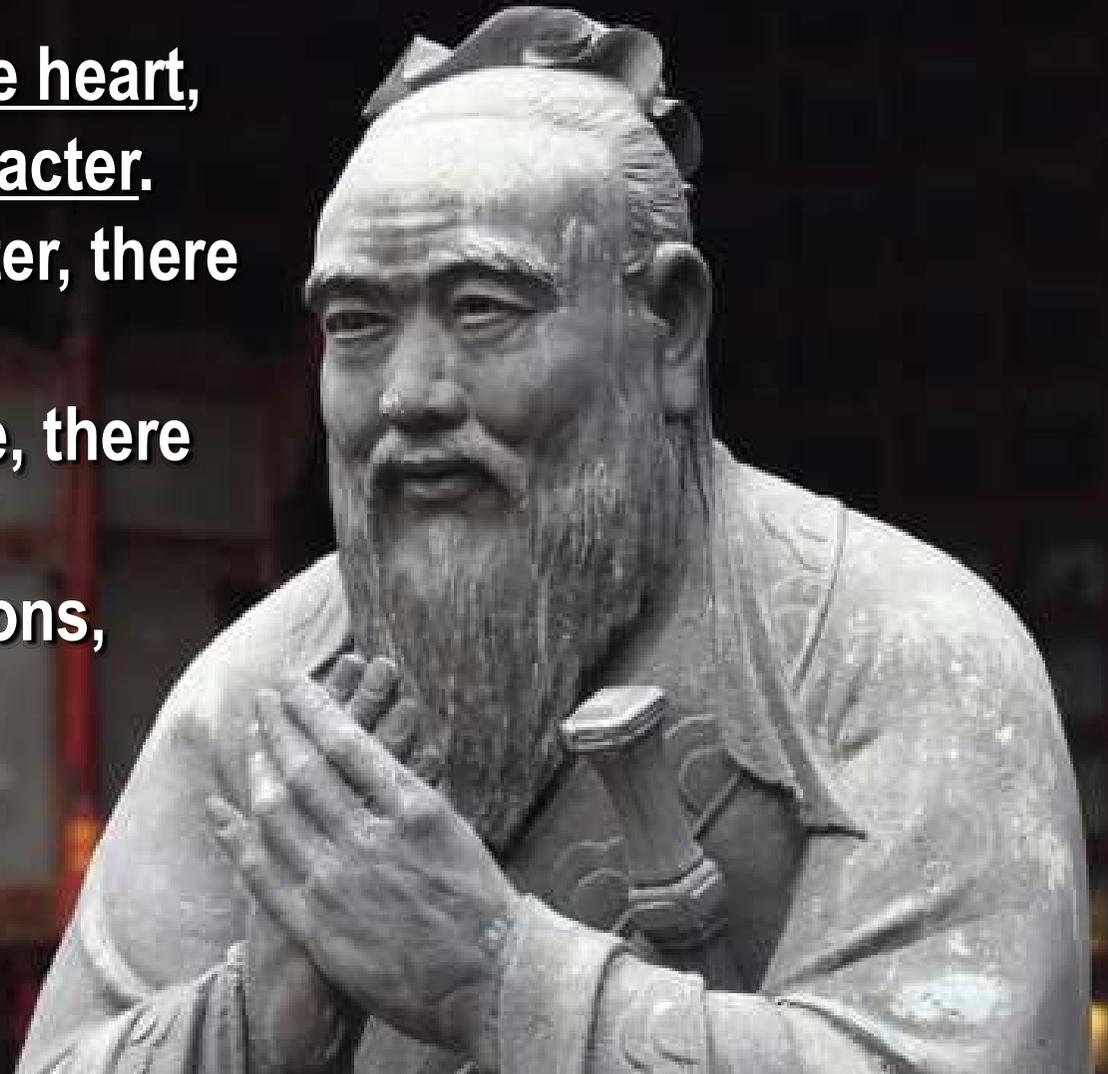
# Family breakdown and Civilization decline

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## Family Stability and Civilization Prosperity

“If there is righteousness in the heart,  
there will be beauty in the character.  
If there is beauty in the character, there  
will be harmony in the home.  
If there is harmony in the home, there  
will be order in the nations.  
When there is order in the nations,  
there will peace in the world.”

—Confucian Proverb



**Family breakdown and Civilization decline**

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**Family Stability and Civilization Prosperity**



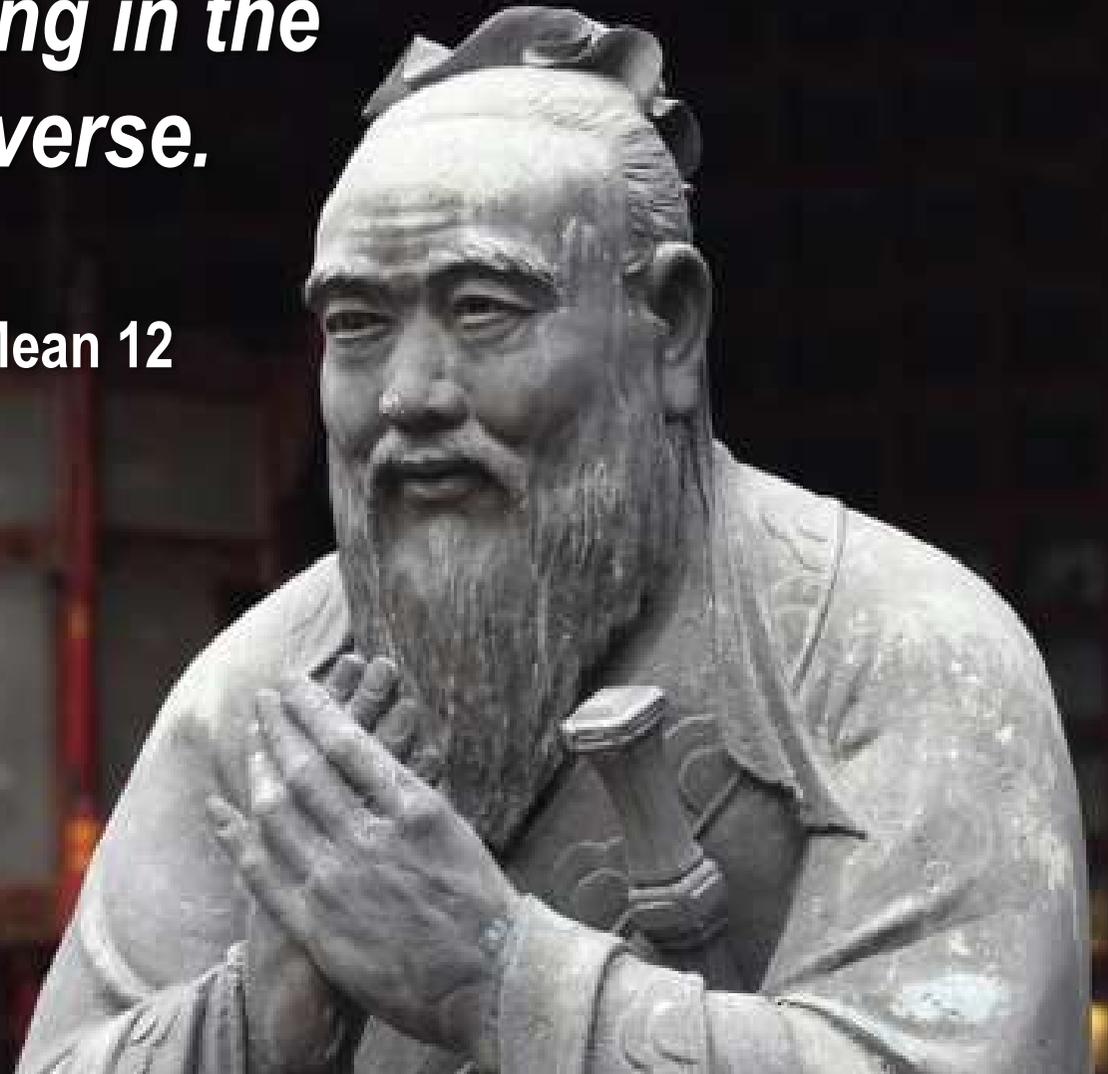
*“Righteousness in the heart...  
beauty in the character...  
Harmony in the home...  
order in the nation...  
peace in the world.”*

*The Great Learning*

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*The moral man finds **the moral law beginning in the relation between man and woman**, but ending in the vast reaches of the universe.*

(Confucianism) Doctrine of the Mean 12



# THANK YOU VERY MUCH...

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