

Chapter 4 Families and households
Topic 5 Changing family patterns
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Activity: Media
The impact of divorce on children

Learning objective

At the end of this activity you should be able to:

- Analyse some of the impacts of divorce on children.

Tamara Afifi is a Professor in the Department of Communication at UCSB.

A. Watch the clip and answer the questions that follow.

<http://tedxtalks.ted.com/video/TEDxUCSB-Tamara-D-Afifi-The-Imp;search%3Atag%3A%22tedxucsb%22>

1. What does Tamara Afifi say is the impact of divorce on children?
 2. List the short term effects of divorce that Tamara Afifi states?
 3. List the long term effects of divorce that Tamara Afifi states?
 4. What is the pattern of the effect according to Paul Amoto (see also clip B)?
 5. How has divorce changed since the 1970s according to Tamara Afifi?
 6. What does Afifi say has happened to parent-child relationships?
 7. Why does the change in parent-child relationships mean the effects of divorce are different?
 8. What is the most important variable in determining the effect of divorce on children?
 9. Which group of children does Afifi say have the most problems in later life?
 10. What does the research on stress tell us about the impact of divorce on children?
- B. Write a summary paragraph to answer the question, 'What is the impact of divorce on children?'