



# **The Case for Marriage: Why Married People are Happier, Healthier and Better Off Financially**

*Linda J. Waite, Maggie Gallagher*

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A groundbreaking look at marriage, one of the most basic and universal of all human institutions, which reveals the emotional, physical, economic, and sexual benefits that marriage brings to individuals and society as a whole.

*The Case for Marriage* is a critically important intervention in the national debate about the future of family. Based on the authoritative research of family sociologist Linda J. Waite, journalist Maggie Gallagher, and a number of other scholars, this book's findings dramatically contradict the anti-marriage myths that have become the common sense of most Americans. Today a broad consensus holds that marriage is a bad deal for women, that divorce is better for children when parents are unhappy, and that marriage is essentially a private choice, not a public institution. Waite and Gallagher flatly contradict these assumptions, arguing instead that by a broad range of indices, marriage is actually better for you than being single or divorced—physically, materially, and spiritually. They contend that married people live longer, have better health, earn more money, accumulate more wealth, feel more fulfillment in their lives, enjoy more satisfying sexual relationships, and have happier and more successful children than those who remain single, cohabit, or get divorced.

*The Case for Marriage* combines clearheaded analysis, penetrating cultural criticism, and practical advice for strengthening the institution of marriage, and provides clear, essential guidelines for reestablishing marriage as the foundation for a healthy and happy society.

“A compelling defense of a sacred union. *The Case for Marriage* is well written and well argued, empirically rigorous and learned, practical and commonsensical.” -- William J. Bennett, author of *The Book of Virtues*

“Makes the absolutely critical point that marriage has been misrepresented and misunderstood.” -- *The Wall Street Journal*

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