



# The Divorce Experience

# A Study of Divorce at Midlife and Beyond

Conducted For **AARP The Magazine** 

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Survey conducted by Knowledge Networks, Inc.

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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Many midlife events cause turmoil. Children leave the nest, a major illness comes, a parent passes on. For some, divorce ends a long marriage.

These and other events become common at a stage in life when people worry about getting older, reflect on their mortality, and ponder about what has been and could have been. Experiencing one midlife event after another may lead to stress and feelings of devastation.

This groundbreaking study, *The Divorce Experience: A Study of Divorce at Midlife and Beyond*, is the first of its kind to document what has become a common experience among midlifers and older people. The study examines the circumstances surrounding divorce at midlife and its impact on men and women. We also wanted to look at how people cope with life and their well-being after divorce, as well as their sexuality.

The results are based on interviews with 1,147 respondents -- 581 men and 566 women ages 40 to 79 who were divorced at least once during their 40s, 50s, or 60s. Some are still divorced, some have remarried, and a few are widowed. Respondents represent divorcees and remarried divorcees in the United States population who divorced when they were between the ages of 40 and 69.

## The Impact of Divorce

Compared to other losses that may occur at midlife or older, people age 40 and older generally feel that divorce is more emotionally devastating than losing a job, about equal to experiencing a major illness, and somewhat less devastating than a spouse's death. When two or more life-churning events occur near the same time, one can only imagine the emotional devastation someone has to face.

Contrary to our expectations, we found that even at an older age, people think long and hard not only about how divorce may impact their future, but how it may impact the welfare of their children. Staying married because of the children is by far the predominant reason some people take so long to decide about getting a divorce,

despite serious problems such as abusive spouses. Verbal, physical, or emotional abuse leads the list of causes for marital dissolution, followed by differences in values and lifestyles, cheating, and alcohol or drug abuse.

In addition, regardless of whether their divorce was more emotionally devastating in their 20s and 30s or in later life, those who experienced divorces both at a younger and older age gave concern for their children as the major reason one was more emotionally devastating than the other. Women gave this reason more frequently than men although children are the top concern for both groups. Men, being the non-custodial parent most of the time, are especially concerned about their post-divorce relationship with their children.

At the time of their divorce, 76 percent of people ages 40 to 79 who divorced later in life had children, the majority of whom were under 18 years old. Although more than a third of those with children (37%) report that their children were supportive, and an additional 17 percent say that their children were "OK" with it, 28 percent recall that their children were somewhat upset, and 18 percent say their children were very upset, about their divorce.

Along with emotional turmoil, people report other difficulties. Foremost among these is dealing with uncertainty or not knowing what's ahead, cited by 40 percent. Many suffer from loneliness or depression (29%), as well as feelings of desertion or betrayal (25%), a sense of failure (23%), feeling unloved (22%), and feelings of inadequacy (20%).

People also face many fears. Greatest among them is the fear of being alone, named by almost half (45%). Divorcees also fear failing again (31%), being financially destitute (28%), never finding someone to marry or live with (24%), staying angry/bitter for a long time (20%), staying depressed for a long time (16%), and not seeing their children as much (14%). Women are especially vulnerable financially and are more likely than men to be troubled about becoming financially destitute. Even with this greater vulnerability, women tend to have no choice, as they are more likely to fault their spouse, especially with abuse. Thus women usually initiate divorce, many times surprising their spouses.

# Coping with Life after Divorce

Despite the worry, torment, and fear they go through making the decision and going through the divorce process, divorcees cope fairly well with life after divorce. The majority feel they are on the top rungs of the ladder of life. Their outlook is on a par with that of the general population age 45 or older, and better than that of singles ages 40 to 69. Those who remarried give themselves a better current outlook on life than those who did not remarry, or those who are either separated or widowed. Three in four (76%) claim they made the right decision to dissolve their marriage. Indeed, their buzzwords are freedom, self-identity, and fulfillment.

However, stress remains, although we cannot determine how much of this stems from the divorce. About half (49%) say they suffer from more than the usual stress or greater. More women than men (63% versus 44%) suffer highly from stress. Depression plagues some (28%), with no difference between those who remained divorced and those who remarried. The rates of high stress and depression are similar to the rates among singles ages 40 to 69, reported in another AARP study in 2003. Again, women report depression more than men (35% women versus 21% men).

# Sexuality

After their divorce, people dated primarily to prove either to themselves or to their spouses that they were getting on with their lives. About a third (32%) remarried. Perhaps because of their long shared history, a few (6%) remarried the same person, or had sex with their spouse occasionally or often for several years after their divorce (4%).

The majority (56%) report sexual touching or hugging in varying degrees of frequency (daily to once or twice a month), while 38 percent of the total claim not doing any of these at all. Many women, especially those who have not remarried (69%), do not touch or hug at all sexually. An even larger majority of women who have not remarried do not engage in sexual intercourse (77% saying not at all), in comparison with about half of men (49%) who have not remarried.

# **Age Differences**

Sixty- and seventy-year-olds appreciate life after divorce most, saying that they like doing things for themselves and having their own identity. However, what they hate most is not having someone to do things with.

Forty-year-olds' major concern is their finances, but they are more likely than older divorcees to have dated after their divorce or even before their divorce became final. They wanted to prove that they could get on with their lives.

Fifty-year-olds seem to have the most difficulty with divorce, evident in their greater likelihood to say that their divorce was more difficult than a major illness. This could be because, unlike forty-year-olds, they worry that they are not young enough to have a good chance at remarriage; and unlike sixty- or seventy-year-olds, they are more concerned about their future at a life stage when a midlife crisis commonly occurs. Fifty-year-olds like best not having to deal with another person.

#### Racial/Ethnic Differences

African Americans find divorce less emotionally devastating than suffering a major illness or even job loss. African Americans are less fearful than whites of financial hardship, of failing again, and of not finding someone after their divorce.

While whites are more likely to think that finding their own self-identity and not dealing with another person are pluses, African Americans are more apt to appreciate having the house the way they want it after their divorce.

# **Religious Differences**

Baptists (grouped separately from other Protestants because of their large number), Catholics, and Protestants other than Baptists differ in many respects from those with no religious affiliation. Baptists and those with no religious affiliation often are on the ends of the spectrum: Baptists found the most comfort in their religious faith or prayer while in the throes of divorce, while those with no religious affiliation did not. Baptists are the most likely to have the brightest outlook on life, and those with no religious affiliation the worst. However, like those with no religious affiliation, Baptists have the least desire to remarry.

Those with no religious affiliation are the most likely to fear for their finances after divorce but most apt to appreciate their freedom.

These differences may be linked to other characteristics that are associated with one's religious faith. One of these characteristics may be age, because people may be more likely to become religious or spiritual as they get older. In addition, the majority of African Americans are Baptists, while the majority of Hispanics are Catholics. Whites most frequently report their religion as Protestant. The sample did not allow analysis for groups affiliated with other religions.

## **Implications**

As life expectancies increase and baby boomers replace their more traditional elders as seniors, it is likely that the number of people going through divorce at midlife or older will increase. Those who experience this event late in life are also likely to leave a long marriage. Yet, there is little awareness and understanding of divorce in the latter stages of life and its impact on older persons.

Knowing what the greatest difficulties are, such as loneliness, depression, and feelings of betrayal and failure, support systems should develop services to ease them. Knowing what the concerns are, especially relating to finances and children, legal and support systems should increase efforts to alleviate them. Knowing what the greatest fears are, such as being alone, support systems should make information available to help deal with them.

While older divorcees may rely on friends, family, and religious faith for support, they do not go to organizations in the community, government agencies, and national organizations representing older persons. This study is an effort to heighten awareness, advance the dialogue, and inspire more research. More importantly, we hope that communities and institutions will be better able to help meet the needs of people who divorce at midlife or older.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

*AARP The Magazine*, AARP's bimonthly publication for its membership, sponsored this study on divorce to obtain a snapshot of the divorce experience at midlife and beyond, recognizing that divorce can profoundly affect people's lives.

# METHODOLOGY: THE STUDY OF DIVORCE AT MIDLIFE AND BEYOND

AARP commissioned Knowledge Networks to conduct this survey using its web-enabled consumer research panel, a randomly recruited and nationally representative sample of the U. S. population. Knowledge Networks sent an email to a stratified random sample of their panel members between the ages of 40 and 79, inviting them to participate in the survey. Only those who reported having been divorced between the ages of 40 and 69 were included in the study. The final data were weighted to be representative of the divorcee population ages 40 to 79.

A benefit of this methodology is that it affords more privacy for respondents than a telephone survey, which is important when a study has sensitive questions, as this one does. This methodology improves response rates and encourages honesty, since panelists are comfortable in completing the survey because their responses are provided anonymously.

A total of 1,148 40- to 79-year-olds who divorced in their 40s, 50s, or 60s completed the survey in December 2003. The maximum margin of sampling error for this sample size is plus or minus 3.0 percentage points at the 95% level of confidence. The technical notes in the appendix describe the sample methodology and the disposition of the sample in more detail.

#### The Questionnaire

AARP developed the survey questionnaire with the assistance of Knowledge Networks. Study participants were asked about:

- the circumstances at the time of their divorce
- the reasons for their divorce
- the impact of their divorce
- their lives after divorce
- their sexuality
- personal and other variables that may relate to the divorce experience

Panel member data obtained from respondents outside of the questionnaire were also used to analyze survey responses. These respondent data include:

- gender
- age
- marital status (widowed, separated, remarried)
- education
- employment
- income
- stress level
- frequency of exercise
- past depression

#### **Data Analysis**

Response frequencies to each question on the survey are reported in the annotated questionnaire in the appendix. The appendix also includes additional respondent data. Statistical tables and graphics are presented as well.

More detailed analyses of responses by attitudes, behavior, and demographic characteristics are available in a separate volume for those who are interested in a more in-depth review of the results.

#### **FINDINGS**

### I. Respondent Profile: Divorcees Ages 40 to 79

Figure 1 shows the respondent profile.

Divorced men and women are split equally: 51% men, 49% women. The majority are in their 50s and 60s.

The majority, about 73 percent, divorced in their 40s. About one in five (22%) divorced in their 50s, while 4 percent divorced in their 60s or older.

Like the general population in this age group, the majority of divorcees are working. The vast majority live in metropolitan areas. They are more predominantly white compared to the general population in this age group.

Somewhat more than half of divorcees, 56 percent, have remained divorced or are separated, while a few are widowed (5%). Almost a third, 31 percent, have remarried and another 9 percent are living with a partner.

Just over half of the divorcees (53%) have divorced only once, while 47 percent have divorced more than once. Of the latter, almost everyone (91%) experienced divorce for the first time in their 20s or 30s.

Divorcees ages 40 to 79 differ from the general population in this age range: their average age is higher. (The older people are, the more likely they are to have had a divorce.)

Divorcees also tend to have a higher education than the older population in this age group.

**GENDER** Male **51% Female** 49% AGE 40-49 **17%** 50-59 39% 60-69 30% 70-79 13% **AGE AT DIVORCE** 40-44 43% 45-49 30% 50-54 **15%** 55-59 7% 60+ 4% **WORK STATUS** Not working 33% Working 57% **RACE/ETHNICITY** White **383% Black** 9% Hispanic **6**% Other 2% **EDUCATION HS** or less 34% Some college 37% College degree + 29% **RESIDENCE** Metro **85%** Non metro **15% CURRENT STATUS Divorced/Separated 56%** Widowed **5**% Remarried 31% Living w/ partner 9% 0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

Figure 1. Respondent Profile

#### II. Circumstances Surrounding the Divorce

Seldom do both parties jointly decide to have a divorce. Women usually initiate the divorce. Although they may have been contemplating action for a long time during a long marriage, women sometimes surprise their spouses when they finally ask for the divorce. For both men and women, children are the major reason for delaying divorce, but economics is an equally powerful divorce deterrent for women.

#### Who Asked

Among women, 66 percent report that they asked for the divorce, while only 41 percent of men say they did. Conversely, 39 percent of men say their spouses asked for the divorce, and 21 percent of women report the same. A small minority, 18 percent of men and 12 percent of women, state that both they and their spouses jointly decided on a divorce.

Victims of physical or verbal abuse, as well as alcohol or drug abuse, are much more apt to ask for the divorce themselves (73% and 70% asking for divorce versus 54% of total). They also tend to have spent less time thinking about having a divorce before asking for one.

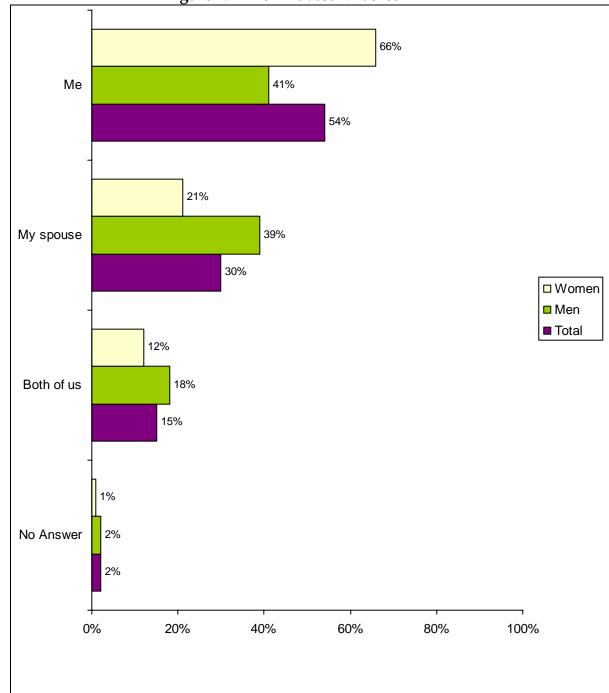


Figure 2. Who Initiated Divorce

Q4. Who asked for the divorce? (Base = 1147, total respondents)

#### Length of Marriage

Since their divorce occurred when they were in their 40s or older, long-term marriages among divorcees are the rule. More than six in ten (64%) were married for ten years or longer when they divorced. Almost a third (32%) were married for 20 years or longer. About a third (35%) were married less than ten years.

African Americans tend to have shorter marriages, averaging 11 years among divorcees in this age group, compared to 15 years for both whites and Hispanics.

Those who report having no religious affiliation divorced at a younger age, with 62 percent who say they divorced at ages 40 to 44, in contrast to 43 percent of the total sample who divorced at the same age.

#### **Deciding to Divorce**

While their marriages were long term, divorcees 40 to 79 years old generally contemplated getting a divorce for a short time before deciding to take the plunge. This is partly because one in five of them were surprised by their spouses (20%). Wives surprised their husbands more often (26% versus 14%). In addition to the surprise from spouses, an additional third (32%) contemplated their divorce for less than a year before taking action.

# <u>Children a Major Factor in Divorce Decision, Plus Economics among Women</u>

Only 17 percent strung out their decision to divorce for five years or longer. Children were the major factor for the delay. Of those who took five years or longer to decide, 43 percent of the total reported they stayed married because of the children, while the second reason was that they had to prepare financially or could not afford the divorce (21%).

Many more men than women say they stayed married because of the children (58% versus 37%). Women, on the other hand, are several times more likely to say they had to prepare financially (27% women versus 6% men). An additional ten percent more women (and less than 1% of men) say that their financial dependence

on their spouse was the reason. Thus, a total of 37 percent of women divorcees mulled over having a divorce for five years or longer and postponed it for financial reasons. This is equal to the percentage of women who postponed divorce because of their children.

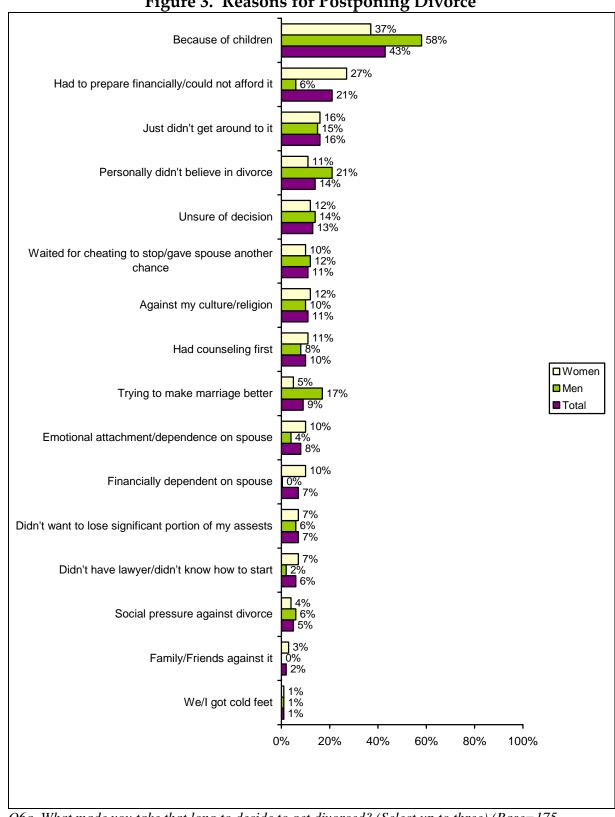


Figure 3. Reasons for Postponing Divorce

Q6a. What made you take that long to decide to get divorced? (Select up to three) (Base=175, *contemplated divorce for 5+ years)* 

Indeed, women are well aware of how dire their finances could become after a divorce. Research studies have confirmed the impact of separation and divorce on the economic well-being of women.

#### **Children When Divorced**

At the time of their divorce, 23 percent had no children. Twenty-nine percent had children younger than 12 at the time of their divorce, 28 percent had children ages 12 to 17, and 36 percent had children 18 or older. Some had both adult children and dependent children of various ages at the same time.

#### Parents' Marriage

It is apparent that divorce became more common among parents of baby boomer children, especially among divorcees in their 40s (39% have divorced parents) compared to the total sample (30% have divorced parents). The attitudes or behavior of respondents generally are not associated with their parents' divorce or staying married.

#### III. Reasons for Divorce

Abuse, lifestyle or value differences, and cheating lead the reasons for divorce. Just as women usually initiate the divorce, they are more apt to put the husband at fault as well. On the other hand, while men also tend to blame their ex-wives, more of them admit to being at fault.

#### **Grounds for Divorce**

Verbal, physical, or emotional abuse is the foremost reason for divorce. Asked what the three major reasons are, three came out among the myriad grounds listed for respondents to mark:

- verbal, physical, or emotional abuse (34%)
- different values, lifestyles (29%)
- cheating (27%)

However, one in four (24%) say they simply fell out of love or had no obvious problems. Alcohol or drug abuse also caused disruption in the marriage of some. The following are other grounds for divorce:

- simply fell out of love/no obvious problems (24%)
- alcohol or drug abuse (21%)
- being a control freak (16%)
- money problems (14%)
- not carrying their weight in the marriage (14%)
- fell in love with someone else (10%)
- abandonment (10%)

Fewer (5-8%) checked always being away, sexual problems, step-children, and in-laws as a reason. Not having children, religious differences, cultural differences, age differences, declining physical health, and homosexuality were named by fewer still (less than 5%).

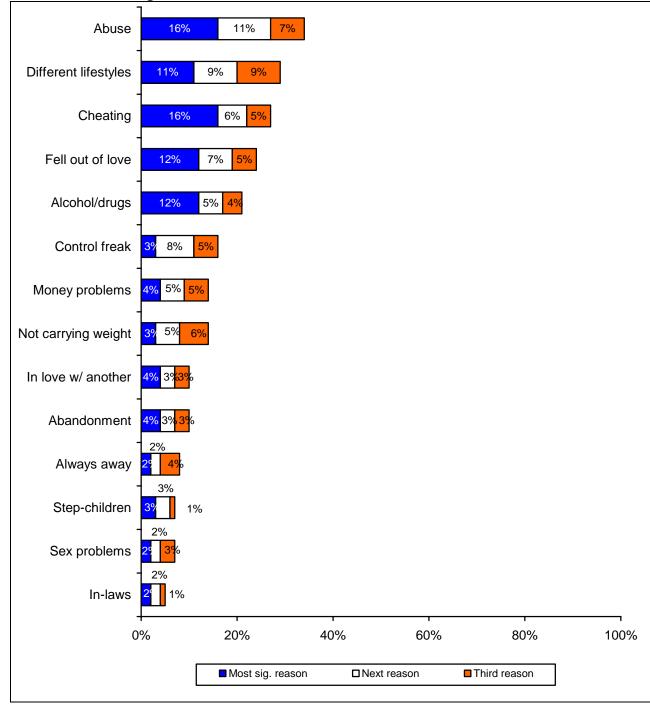


Figure 4. Reasons for Divorce at Midlife or Older

Q2a-c. Of all the reasons listed below, which was the most significant reason for your last divorce? Of the remaining reasons, which was the next most significant reason for your divorce? And finally, what was the third most significant reason for your divorce? (Base = 1147, total respondents)

#### Spouse versus Self as the Erring Partner

Divorcees most often point to the former spouse as the erring partner. The vast majority (86%) say it was their ex-spouse who cheated, and about the same percentage say the ex-spouse was the control freak (86%), or the ex-spouse was not carrying his/her weight in the marriage (83%). Large numbers also say that their spouse was physically, verbally, or emotionally abusive (78%), or used alcohol or drugs (77%). (Only those respondents who gave these as particular reasons for the divorce were asked whether they or their spouses were responsible).

Men and women alike tend to fault their ex-spouses. However, women point to the other person in greater numbers than men, especially for alcohol or drug abuse. Men are generally more likely than women to say that the reasons apply either to them or to both themselves and their spouses.

However, fewer men and women fault their spouses when it came to money as well as to different values and lifestyles, saying that it is they or both parties who caused these problems. About half of the women (53%) say money problems caused by their ex-husbands led to divorce, while 44 percent of men say the same of their ex-wives. Fewer still say "different values and lifestyles" applied to the ex-spouse (30% women, 28% men).

91% Control freak 75% 86% 88% Not carrying weight 72% 83% 86% Verbal, physical, or 60% emotional abuse □Women 78% ■ Men ■ Total 92% Alcohol or drug 46% abuse 77% 53% 44% Money problems 49% 30% Different values, 28% lifestyles 29% 0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

Figure 5. Spouse as the Erring Partner (Percent Saying Reason Applied to Spouse)

Q3a-g. For these top reasons, please indicate if the reason applied mostly to you, mostly to your spouse, or to both of you equally. [Applied mostly to spouse] (Base = 154 to 378, respondents who selected each reason.)

Emotionally, divorce is generally worse than losing a job, about equal to experiencing a major illness, and somewhat less devastating than the death of a spouse. Children may have been mostly sad but not necessarily devastated. Hardships and fears follow. Yet most, especially women, have no regrets. An uncertain future leads the difficulties that both men and women dealt with at the time of their divorce. Being alone was the greatest fear among both sexes at that time. Women report being terrified about becoming financially destitute. Men were fearful about not seeing their children.

#### **Children and Divorce**

At the time of their divorce, 76 percent had children, the majority of whom were under age 18. More than a third (36%) of all divorcees had adult children while more than half (57%) had dependent children under 18 years old at the time they divorced. Some of them had both adult children and children under age 18 at the same time.

Divorcees' assessments of their children's reactions to their divorce were almost evenly split: neutral or positive for some, and negative for others. While slightly less than half say their children had a negative reaction (46%), more than a third who had children say that their children were supportive of their divorce (37%) and another 17 percent say that their children were "OK" with the divorce although they did not necessarily support it. Those whose children had a negative reaction say that their children were somewhat upset (28%) or very upset (18%) about the divorce.

Women's reports of their children's reactions differ from those of men. Whereas women are more than twice as likely to say that their children were supportive of the divorce (50% versus 22% men), men are more likely to say that children did not support it but were OK with it (21% men versus 13% women), and also to say that children were either somewhat or very upset about it (56% men versus 36% women).

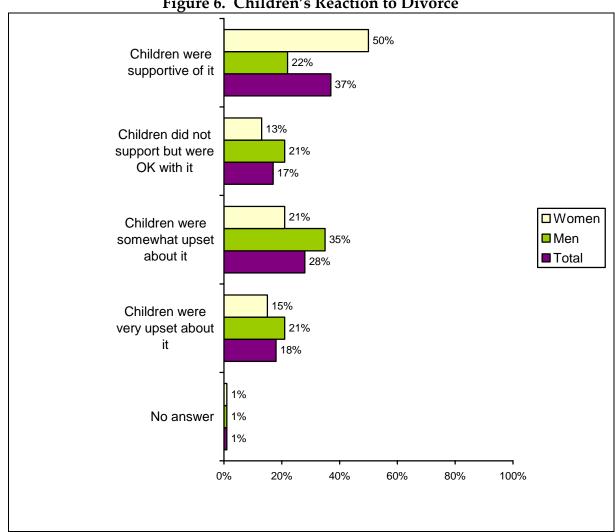


Figure 6. Children's Reaction to Divorce

Q7a. If you had a child or children, what do you think was the children's reaction to the divorce? (Base=846, Had children at time of divorce)

The children's reactions were characterized mostly by their parents as

- sad (67%)
- angry (42%)
- devastated (22%)

Women and men did not differ in their characterizations.

#### **Divorce and Midlife Events**

Many losses occur at midlife, and divorce can compound these losses. A divorce may not be quite as devastating as the death of a spouse or a major illness, but it is worse than the loss of a job. More women than men recall that their divorce was more emotionally difficult to handle than the death of a spouse or a major illness.

Not knowing what's ahead is the most difficult part of divorce, especially for women, followed by loneliness or depression. Women also fear for their finances, while men suffer more from the loss of their children.

#### **Midlife Events Experienced**

In addition to divorce, almost half of the divorcees (45%) had also at some time experienced the loss of a job, while 30 percent had suffered a major illness, and 8 percent had lost a spouse.

Among those who experienced job loss, almost half say that divorce was more difficult (47%) while 28 percent say that job loss was more difficult. There are no differences between men and women. Older men, however, had more difficulty with job loss. Men older than 60 are almost evenly split in saying job loss was more difficult (37%) and saying divorce was more difficult (40%), while the remainder say it was the same.

African Americans tend to have more difficulty with job loss than whites (58% versus 24% among whites). As shown in Table 1 (page D-2 in Appendix), there may be other differences, but the small bases preclude other conclusions.

Among those who suffered a major illness, 30 percent say divorce was more difficult to handle emotionally, and 28 percent say it was the same, while 41 percent consider major illness more difficult. More men than women had a tougher time with a major illness than divorce (48% versus 35%), while women are more likely to say that both events were about the same (35% of women versus 19% of men). See Table 2 (page D-5 in Appendix).

Among those who lost a spouse, 18 percent say that divorce was emotionally more difficult, while 65 percent say that a spouse's death was more difficult. Among women, 70 percent had more difficulty with spousal death and 23 percent had more difficulty with divorce, while among men 58 percent had more difficulty with spousal death and only 11 percent had more difficulty with divorce. However, almost a third of men (32%) think both were equally difficult.

#### Divorce at a Younger Age versus Later in Life

Forty percent of divorces who also experienced this life-altering experience in their 20s or 30s say that divorce was much more difficult when they were younger, while 23 percent say that their later divorce was much more difficult. This trend is true for men and women.

The angst that comes from concern for their children is the major reason for the greater emotional toll of divorce, whether in their 20s and 30s or in later life. The majority, 57 percent, of those who say divorce was more difficult when they were younger wrote in response to an open ended question that their child or children is the reason they feel that was more difficult than their later life divorce. In this concern women overshadowed men (65% versus 48%) although it is the top reason for both groups. Some of their write-in responses show what they went through:

"My daughter was only  $1\frac{1}{2}$  years old, and I was extremely worried about her growing up without her father."

"It was hard raising four children by myself both financially and being the kind of parent my children needed and deserved."

"I had three children with my first husband and worried if I would be able to take care of them and not having their father around to do things with them. It was hard on them because they did not understand why we had to get a divorce."

Those who say divorce was more difficult in later life also mention their children as a reason more often than other reasons but to a lesser degree (22%) than those who find their previous divorce more difficult. Fifteen percent say that with their later divorce they were "wiser" and more aware of difficulties. Yet the same

percentage (15%) also say that their age made it more difficult to adjust and 14 percent say that it is "harder to find someone new."

"There is more pressure on a person when older; younger have more ways to cope... and better chance of remarrying and finding a new companion."

"I had been married a few years then divorced, as opposed to the 26 year marriage."

"Felt betrayed by first husband. Had kids to think about during the second divorce. Upheaval and difficulties about equal but different."

"To tell the truth, when I was younger it did not bother me at all."

"Was better able to handle stress when younger."

"With age, wisdom should be foremost...and the second time around...nobody is prepared for failure or betrayal...I wasn't!"

"...older and set in my ways. When you are older you have more baggage, harder to meet decent people who are not drunks, druggies, sluts, or just plain out mean."

"Neither is easy – when my first marriage ended I was okay, except for worrying about my children (which is huge). When my second husband left me I thought that my life had ended."

"My first marriage was for convenience...my second was for love...."

While the comparison between divorcing at a younger age and divorcing later in life was not posed to those who divorced only once, the fact that they were in long-term marriages with no previous divorce experience may make their divorces a more life-wrenching experience than divorces are for those who experienced one before.

#### **Difficulties in Divorce**

Along with the emotional turmoil that comes with divorce, there are other difficulties that people had to go through during the divorce process. Foremost among these is dealing with uncertainty or not knowing what's ahead, cited by 40 percent, and more by women than men (49% women versus 29% men). Dealing with lawyers seems to be an unwarranted burden for almost a fifth of divorcees. Other difficulties include:

- loneliness or depression (29%)
- feelings of desertion or betrayal (25%)
- sense of failure (23%)
- not having someone to love or to love me (22%)
- feelings of inadequacy, losing self-esteem or self confidence (20%)
- dealing with lawyers (19%)

Only 12 percent say that "not being with my children" was difficult, but many men missed their children, with 29 percent of those with children (22% of the total) saying that not being with their children was one of the most difficult things they endured. With more women likely to get custody of their children or having more contact even among adult children, very few women (2%) say they had a difficult time not being with their children.

#### **Biggest Fears after Divorce**

**Being alone** is the biggest fear after divorce, named by almost half (45%), and almost equally mentioned as the topmost fear by men and women (42% and 47%). Their other fears at the time were:

- failing again (31%)
- being financially destitute (28%)
- never finding someone to marry or live with (24%)
- that they may stay angry/bitter for a long time (20%)
- that they may stay depressed for a long time (16%)
- that they wouldn't see their children as much (14%)

Children and economics separate men and women. Women are four times more apt to be afraid of being financially destitute (44% women versus 11% men), while men are many times more likely to be very fearful about not seeing as much of

their children (27% men versus 3% women). Finances also drive some of the fear and are associated with income and being in their forties. Those who have a bleaker future outlook than others fear failing again.

#### **Sources of Help**

To deal with the feelings, needs, and problems from their divorce, about half of divorcees (49%) frequently called upon friends and co-workers. A distant second source of help was family and relatives (33%), followed by religious faith and/or prayer (31%). Although some sought professional counseling or therapy (16%), very few mention any group of professionals. Only five percent used a support group.

There are no differences by gender, but the youngest divorcees are more apt than their older counterparts to get support from their friends and co-workers (57% among 40- to 49-year-olds and 37% among 70- to 79-year-olds).

## V. Life after Divorce

Freedom, self-identity, and fulfillment are the buzzwords of a better life after divorce. Being alone is the damper, but the experience shows divorcees' resiliency. The majority stand on the upper rungs of the ladder of life, and look forward to climbing even higher.

While women appreciate their new-found self-identity, freedom, and independence, their finances pose hurdles after divorce. Men also like their freedom and being able to do what they want and not having to answer to or deal with another person; however they are more than twice as likely to say that they like being with a better mate. Although only one in ten men say it, they mention having more sex or different sexual experiences five times more than women as something they like best after divorce. They also tend to be better off financially.

On the whole, life is good after divorce. The majority feel they are on the top of the ladder of life, despite stresses that plague them to the same extent as the population in general, and bouts of depression among some. In fact, the vast majority feel that they made the right decision in getting the divorce. This is true among women regardless of whether they remarried or remained single. Among men, those who remarried are more apt to say that they made the right decision.

#### Life after Divorce - What's Best

The following were mentioned as one of the top three things people like about life after divorce:

- Freedom/independence to do what I want to do (41%)
- Having my own self-identity (36%)
- Being able to do things for myself, for my own self-fulfillment (35%)
- Not having to answer to or deal with another person (31%)
- Better off financially (22%)
- Being with a better mate (18%)
- Having my house the way I want it (15%)
- Not having to be responsible for or take care of someone (14%)

Women are more likely than men to appreciate having their own self-identity, their new-found freedom (also true for unmarried men), and not having to deal with another person (also true for unmarried men and women).

The Divorce Experience: A Study of Divorce at Midlife and Beyond, AARP, May 2004

Men are more apt to appreciate their better finances and having a better mate. More men ages 40 to 49, compared to men in other age groups, like being better off financially.

Whites are more likely than African Americans to appreciate their freedom and not having to deal with another person, while African Americans are more apt to appreciate having their homes the way they want them.

Larger incomes generally come with a better mate, while women age 60 and older appreciate most having their own self-identity. Those with no religious affiliation are more likely to appreciate their freedom and not having to deal with another person than are Protestants, Catholics, or Baptists.

#### What's Not Great

The following are the things people like least about life after divorce:

- not having someone around to do things with (34%)
- financial problems/not having enough money (26%)
- not having someone around to talk to (21%)

For women, an added concern is finances. A small minority of men mention disliking not being in a sexual relationship (16%) and the tendency to do unhealthy things (12%). Two or more times the percentage of men compared to women are concerned about missing a sexual relationship and doing unhealthy things (16% and 12% of men versus 7% and 6% of women, respectively).

#### **Well-Being**

After the storm comes the calm. The vast majority of divorcees (80%) feel that on a scale of 1-10 they are on the top half of the ladder of life at present. More than half (56%) feel they are on the uppermost rungs (8-10). These assessments are very similar to those made by the general population age 45 and older in a 2001-02 AARP survey, with 53 percent rating themselves 8-10. These are also better than the outlook of singles ages 40 to 69 from a 2003 AARP study, where 39 percent gave themselves ratings of 8-10.

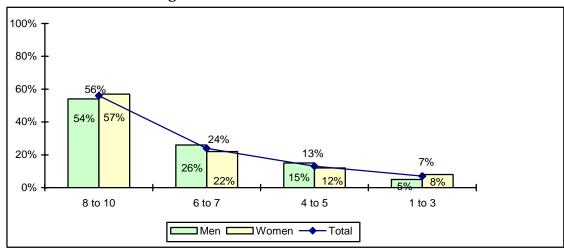


Figure 7. Outlook on Life at Present

Q1a. Imagine a ladder with 10 steps representing the "Ladder of Life." Let's suppose the TOP of the ladder, the TENTH STEP, represents the BEST possible life for you, and the BOTTOM, the FIRST STEP, represents the WORST possible life for you. At which step of the ladder do you stand AT THE PRESENT TIME? (Base=1147, total respondents)

While there is little difference by gender, a gap exists between those who have remarried and those who have remained divorced, separated, or widowed. Those who have remarried have better current outlooks than those who are unmarried. Below are the proportions who gave themselves ratings of 8-10:

Married men: 68% Unmarried men: 42%

Married women: 72% Unmarried women: 51% Unmarried women are somewhat more likely to rate themselves higher than unmarried men.

Many more feel they will be better off in the future: 87 percent say they will be on the top half of the ladder in five years while 75 percent say they expect to stand on the very top (8-10). Women's current and future outlooks tend to become less bright as they get older. The same pattern holds true for men.

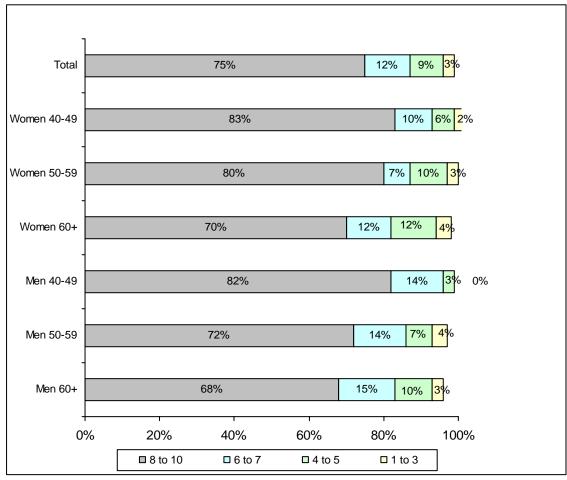


Figure 8. Outlook on Life Five Years from Now

Q1b. Imagine a ladder with 10 steps representing the "Ladder of Life." Let's suppose the TOP of the ladder, the TENTH STEP, represents the BEST possible life for you, and the BOTTOM, the FIRST STEP, represents the WORST possible life for you. At which step of the ladder will you stand FIVE YEARS FROM NOW? (Base=1147, total respondents)

## Perceived State of Health

Just as they have a positive outlook on life, the majority say that their health is good, very good, or excellent. Women and men do not differ in their perceptions.

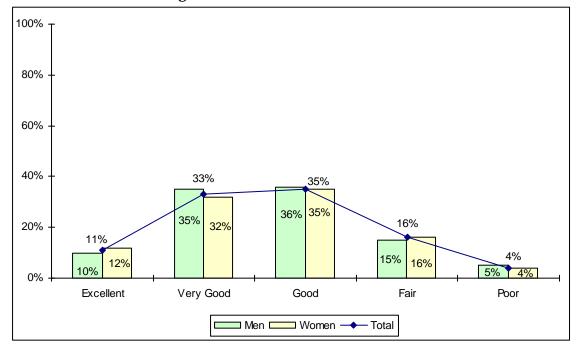


Figure 9. Perceived State of Health

Q. In general, would you say your health is excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor? (Base=1022, total respondents) Panel members responded to this question outside of the current survey.

#### **Stress**

Women report more stress than men. The majority of women report stress that is more than usual, quite a bit, or more than they could bear (63%), in comparison to 44 percent of men.

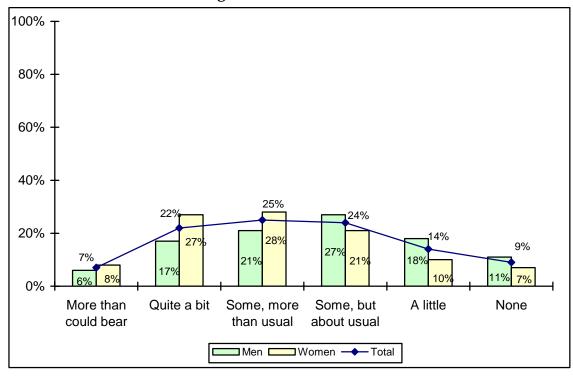


Figure 10. Stress Levels

Q. How much stress, strain, or pressure have you been under during the past few months? (Base=1022, total respondents) Panel members responded to this question outside of the current survey.

#### Depression

On average, 28 percent of divorcees report having had depression. Women, more than men, tend to report having had depression (35% women versus 21% men), especially doctor-confirmed depression (31% women versus 18% men). It is difficult to tell whether this is a real difference or whether men are more reticent in talking to a physician about being depressed.

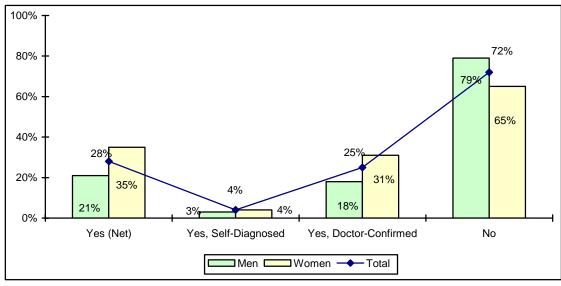


Figure 11. Had Self- or Physician-Diagnosed Depression

Q. Has respondent ever had depression? (Base=984, total respondents) Panel members responded to this question outside of the current survey.

The incidence of experiencing depression is the same as in a previous AARP study of singles ages 40 to 69 (28%). That study also showed women's greater likelihood than men to report depression.

Those with low incomes, who are not active, or who exercise less than once a week or never are more apt to have had depression than those with high incomes, who are very active, or who exercise often.

### **Correlates of Well-Being**

Excellent health, low stress, no previous depression, and exercise correlate with people's current assessment of where they are in the ladder of life: those who feel they are on top of the ladder of life also tend to have high scores in other areas.

Religion appears to play a key role in perceptions of well-being. A greater proportion of Baptists (42%) say they are on the top two rungs of the ladder of life (9-10 on a scale of 1-10), compared to 31 percent of Catholics and 31 percent of Protestants. Those who report no religious affiliation are less likely to say they are on top of the ladder of life (16% on 9-10), while about half of them are in the rungs just below (53% putting themselves at 7-8). Similar trends appear in relation to future outlook.

#### **Confidence in Decision to Divorce**

Three in four (76%) feel that they made the right decision to divorce, with 71 percent saying that they are absolutely sure. However, more women are confident of their decision than men (76% versus 64% men). Women are similarly sure of their decision regardless of whether they have remarried or remained single. Men who have remarried or are living with a partner are more likely to be confident of their decision than men who are unmarried or separated (73 married/partnered men versus 57 percent of unmarried men).

### Remarriage

Remarriage occurred in almost a third of divorcees (32%). In fact, the majority say that their current marriages are on solid ground (67%) and another 20 percent say their marriages are working pretty well. However, those in their 50s, regardless of gender, are less likely to claim than those in their 40s or 60s that their marriages are on solid ground (57%).

Asked what they did differently in their subsequent remarriage, 42 percent report marrying someone with whom they have more in common, while about the same proportion (41%) say they married someone who "shares their values/beliefs."

A fourth (26%) lived together before tying the knot, and the same percentage did the next closest thing, or "got to know the spouse longer."

#### VI. SEXUALITY AMONG LATER LIFE DIVORCEES

Men and women got on with life by dating after divorce, with almost a third of men starting to date even before the divorce was final. The majority of men remarried, but fewer women risked marriage again. Those in their 40s, especially women, were more likely to date than those in their 50s or older.

From sexual touching or hugging to kissing, as well as intercourse, significant proportions of divorcees enjoy their sexuality. The frequency of activity, however, diminishes from touching to intercourse. Other forms of sexual activity such as self-stimulation or oral sex are not as common, and occur much less frequently if at all.

The occurrence and frequency of sexual activity is associated mostly with being married (or remarried), with the exception of self-stimulation (which has a lower incidence), and anal sex (which is hardly done at all). The majority of unmarried women do not have sexual intercourse at all.

#### **Dating after Divorce**

The vast majority (82%) of divorcees dated after their divorce, which led to marriage for most. Here again, men and women differed.

Almost 9 in 10 men (87%) dated after their divorce, compared to 8 in 10 women (79%). Almost a third of men (32%) started dating before the divorce was final, compared to a fifth (20%) of women who did the same. Among those who dated after the divorce, more than half of men (54%) but fewer women remarried (39%).

Their age at the time of divorce also impacts dating, especially among women. Eighty-eight percent of women in their 40s dated (35% did before the divorce was final), while 79 percent of women in their 60s and older did the same (13% did before the divorce was final).

Those with a current household income of \$75,000 per year or more are more likely to have dated, especially before the divorce was final, compared to lower income groups (40% versus 26% for total).

African Americans are the most likely group to date (89% versus 82% of total), with many starting before the divorce was final (38% versus 26% of total).

Those with no religious affiliation are more apt to date than others before the divorce was final. (See Table 7).

The proportion of those who have not dated since the divorce (15%) is not very different from the percentage who have not had a serious, exclusive relationship since the divorce (20%), suggesting that most of those who dated were successful in forging new relationships.

#### Why Date

Divorcees dated after their divorce primarily to prove something, especially proving to themselves that they are getting on with life. Although generally this is the reason most often mentioned (23%), women are more likely to cite this reason than men (27% versus 19%); and African Americans and Hispanics (34% and 35%) are more apt to cite this reason than whites (21%). This urge to prove themselves is also greater among those in their 40s (31%), especially among women in their 40s (35%).

Other related reasons, having to do with proving something are: "proving to myself or ex-spouse that I was still attractive" (5%), and "proving to my ex-spouse that I was getting on with my life" (3%).

Another reason for dating is to "lift my spirits/ease depression" (18%). Women and men differ little in this need.

The next group of reasons for dating revolves around companionship, marriage or cohabitation, and sex, as follows:

- companionship, but no sex (15%)
- sex (11%)
- find a new partner to marry (11%)
- find a new partner to live with (8%)

Men are several times more likely to mention sex than women (17% versus 4%) and slightly more apt to mention finding a partner to live with (11% versus 5%).

Remarriage intentions are not the norm among older divorcees. The majority either did not want to remarry (38%) or were reluctant (14%) to marry again. Marriage is more of a negative proposition among women than men (43% of women do not want to remarry versus 33% of men); especially among women who divorced in their 50s or older (43% versus 42% of women in their 40s).

Those who fear marriage blame their reluctance to remarry on "not wanting another bad marriage" (65%). Other reasons include:

- "too much work finding someone" (19%)
- "having too much fun" (16%)
- bitterness (14%)
- fear of failure (12%)
- lifestyle/work (12%)
- finances (10%)

Among those admitting to the lure of another marriage, their reasons relate to the desired characteristics of a mate, and stood out strongly over other possible reasons:

- compatible personality (57%)
- good character (57%)
- good companion (54%)

Other reasons are to satisfy sexual needs (16%), "to take care of me" (11%), and more money (10%).

## Post-Divorce Relationship with Ex-Spouse

Divorcees may not have any contact with their ex-spouses at all, true among almost a third (31%). They may remarry the same person, but very rarely, as occurred among two percent. A total of about one in twenty (6%) either remarry the same person (2%) or had sex with their spouse either occasionally (3%), or often (1%).

In addition, 27 percent were friendly afterwards while 35 percent were not friendly but talked once in a while. There are no major differences by gender or other factors.

## **Sexual Activity**

The sexual activities of divorced men and women ages 40 to 79 commonly consist of sexual touching or hugging, kissing, and sexual intercourse. The majority (56%) report sexual touching or hugging in varying degrees of frequency (daily to once or twice a month), while 38 percent of the total claim not having any at all. Six percent of the total did not respond to this question.

The majority of women, especially unmarried women (69%), do not touch or hug at all sexually.

47% 45% 4% Daily 5% 20% 23% 21% 6% More than once a week 17% 15% 9% ■ Women (Married/with partner) 6% About once a week 4% 13% ☐ Men (Married/with partner) ■ Women (Un-Married/Separated/Widowed) 6% ☐ Men (Un-14% Married/Separated/Widowed) Once or twice a month 11% 20% ■ Total 13% 10% 7% 69% Not at all 39% 5% 7% No answer 5% 6% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

Figure 12. Frequency of Sexual Touching or Hugging

Q31a-f. During the past 6 months, how often, on average, have you engaged in [Sexual touching or hugging]? (Base=1147, total respondents)

The majority report kissing (59%), and almost half report having sexual intercourse (47%) with some frequency. A large majority of unmarried women do not report kissing (67%) or sexual intercourse (77%).

69% 67% 6% Daily 8% 30% 15% More than once a week 7% 22% 13% 8% □ Women (Married/with partner) 3% 5% About once a week ■ Men (Married/with partner) 5% 5% ■Women (Un-Married/Separated/Widowed) 4% □Men (Un-7% Married/Separated/Widowed) Once or twice a month 10% 20% ■ Total 11% 3% 2% 67% Not at all 39% 35% 5% 7% No answer 5% 6% 6% 0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

Figure 13. Frequency of Kissing

Q31a-f. During the past 6 months, how often, on average, have you engaged in [Kissing]? (Base=1147, total respondents)

8% Daily 1% 0% 2% 21% 24% More than once a week 6% 14% 14% 25% □ Women (Married/with partner) 29% About once a week 2% 13% ☐ Men (Married/with partner) 15% ■ Women (Un-Married/Separated/Widowed) 23% 22% □ Men (Un-Married/Separated/Widowed) Once or twice a month 8% 18% ■ Total 16% 17% 16% Not at all 77% 49% 46% 6% 6% No answer 6% 7% 6% 0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

Figure 14. Frequency of Sexual Intercourse

Q31a-f. During the past 6 months, how often, on average, have you engaged in [Sexual intercourse]? (Base=1147, Total respondents)

Sixty percent report that they do not engage in oral sex at all, and 58 percent do not engage in self-stimulation. Almost everyone does not engage in anal sex or did not answer the question (96%). Among the very few who report this sexual activity (3%), the frequency is usually once or twice a month.

Unmarried men and women are more apt to say they do not engage in oral sex, especially unmarried women (57% unmarried men versus 81 percent unmarried women). Marital status does not play as much of a role in self-stimulation or masturbation. Again, women are less likely to report this activity.

3% Daily 1% 0% 2% 10% 7% More than once a week 8% 6% □ Women (Married/with partner) 8% 14% ☐ Men (Married/with partner) About once a week 2% 10% 8% ■Women (Un-Married/Separated/Widowed) ☐ Men (Un-29% Married/Separated/Widowed) 23% Once or twice a month 7% ■ Total 17% 17% 42% 41% 81% Not at all 57% 60% 12% No answer 7% 8% 9% 0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

Figure 15. Frequency of Oral Sex

Q31a-f. During the past 6 months, how often, on average, have you engaged in [Oral sex]? (Base=1147, Total respondents)

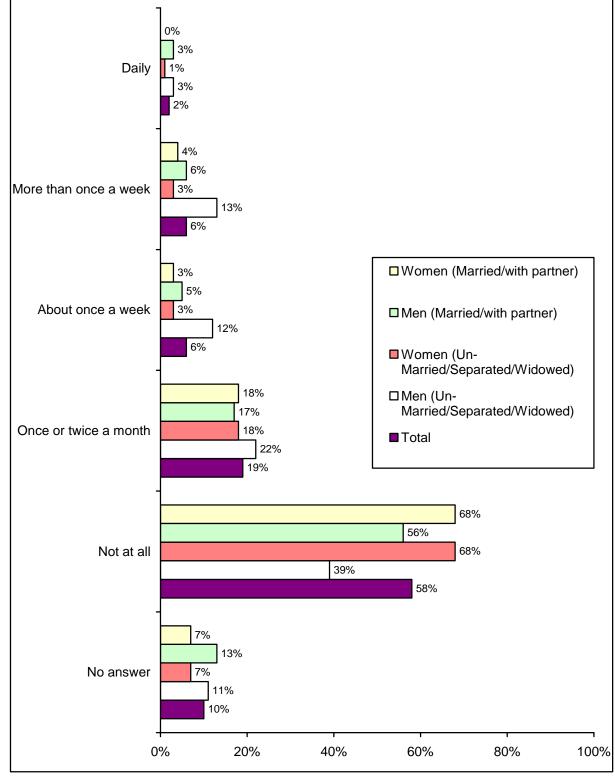


Figure 16. Frequency of Self-Stimulation/Masturbation

Q31a-f. During the past 6 months, how often, on average, have you engaged in [Self-Stimulation/Masturbation]? (Base=1147, Total respondents)

0% 0% Daily 1% 0% 0% 0% 0% 0% More than once a week 0% 0% □ Women (Married/with partner) 1% ☐ Men (Married/with partner) 0% About once a week ■Women (Un-1% Married/Separated/Widowed) 0% □Men (Un-Married/Separated/Widowed) 5% ■ Total 3% Once or twice a month 1% 3% 85% 83% 90% Not at all 83% 86% 9% 14% No answer 8% 11% 10% 40% 0% 20% 60% 80% 100%

Figure 17. Frequency of Anal Sex

Q31a-f. During the past 6 months, how often, on average, have you engaged in [Anal sex]? (Base=1147, Total respondents)

## VII. Demographic Groups

People's divorce experience could vary depending on their characteristics and attitudes. The characteristics that are most strongly associated with divorce experience are gender, age, race or ethnicity, and religion.

#### **Gender Differences**

Women usually ask for the divorce, and surprise their husbands more often than their husbands surprise them. The majority fault their husbands for their unsuccessful marriage, more than husbands fault their wives.

Women are also helped by their children's support. Many more women than men claim that their children were supportive of their divorce.

However, money looms large for women facing divorce. Many more women than men had to prepare financially, or say that they postponed divorce because they were financially dependent on their spouses. More than a third of women (37%) postponed their divorce for financial reasons, equal to the percentage who postponed divorce because of their children. Indeed women's greatest fear after divorce is the fear of being financially destitute, four times the incidence among men (44% versus 11% men).

Almost half of women (49%) had great difficulty dealing with uncertainty or not knowing what's ahead while they were embroiled in their divorce. Men are less likely to experience this difficulty. Women also report more stress and depression than men.

Despite their difficulties, women are confident they made the right decision to divorce, and more so than men. However, they are less likely to date, and thus less likely to engage in sexual activities than men. When women date, however, their reason more often than not is to prove to themselves that they are getting on with their lives, rather than such reasons as sex, companionship, or remarriage.

Men suffer much from being separated from their children, a product of their likelihood to lose custody or perhaps their likelihood to socialize less with adult

children. This is the major divorce deterrent for men. In fact more men than women feel that their children were not supportive of their divorce.

#### Differences by Age

How divorcees face their life after divorce many times depends on their age and other events that leave their mark as one gets older. For example, 70-year-olds are the most likely to have lost a spouse; more than twice the rate of 50- and 60-year-olds. Few in their 40s have experienced this loss. Those in their 50s, 60s, and 70s have about the same likelihood to suffer from a major illness. However, 50-year-olds are the most likely to have lost a job, and are the most likely to perceive divorce as more difficult than a job loss or more difficult than a major illness.

Sixty- and seventy-year-olds seem to appreciate life best after divorce. They are more apt to say that they like doing things for themselves and having their own identity. Fifty-year-olds like best not having to deal with another person.

Sixty-year-olds seem to be the most hungry for companionship. They dislike most not having someone to do things with. Seventy-year-olds tend to feel the most self-conscious, another thing they like least about divorce.

Forty-year-olds fear most for their finances after divorce and also think this is the worst thing about divorce. Forty-year-olds are also the most likely to start dating even before their divorce becomes final, perhaps because they want to improve their finances in a hurry, or because they want to prove to themselves that they can get on with their lives.

Life event: Lost job 20% Life event: Death of spouse Life event: Major illness 24% Divorce more difficult than major illness <sup>'</sup>38% **J** 19% Divorce more difficult than job loss Biggest fear after divorce: Finances Biggest fear after divorce: Kids not forgiving Biggest fear after divorce: Depression Best after divorce: Do things for myself Best after divorce: Own self-identity **70-79 60-69** Best after divorce: Not having to deal w/ another **50-59** person 40-49 Worst about divorce: Nobody to do things with 25% 18% Worst about divorce: feeling self-conscious 12% Worst about divorce: Finances Dating after divorce: Started before divorce was final 21% Motivation for dating: Prove to self about getting on w/ life 0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

Figure 18. Differences by Age

Bases: 40 to 49 – 199; 50 to 59 – 452; 60 to 69 – 346; 70 to 79 – 150.

#### Race/Ethnicity and Divorce

Racial differences play a part in people's experiences and their perceptions of their divorce. African Americans are the most likely to have experienced a major illness, but their job loss experience is on par with others (frequency of job loss was not asked).

African Americans seem to suffer the least emotionally from a divorce. Conversely, they are more apt to perceive that job loss was a more difficult emotional experience than divorce. (African Americans in this study are more likely to be unemployed: 26% versus 20% among whites.)

Major illness was a more difficult experience as well for a larger proportion of African Americans whose lives were marred by these life events. In fact, a larger proportion of African Americans than whites in the study rated their health as fair or poor (30% versus 20% of whites).

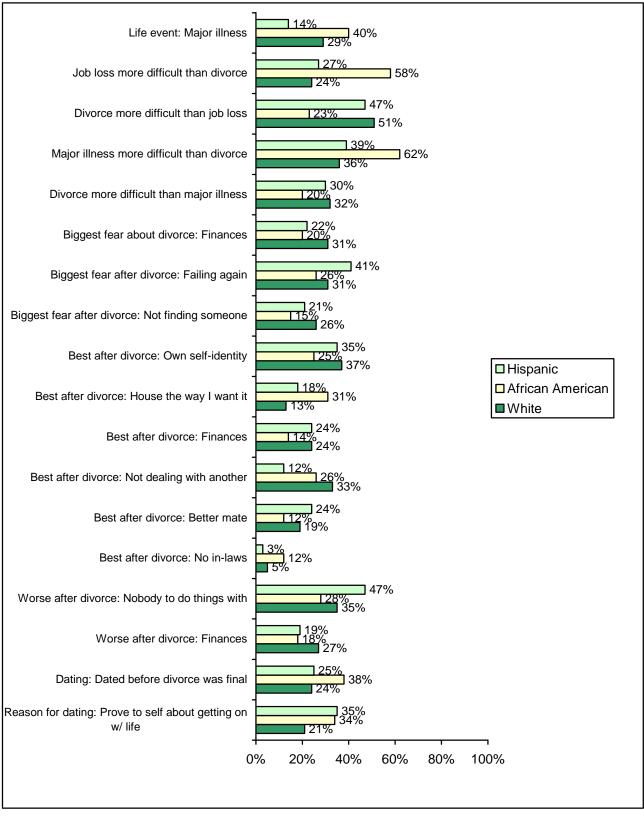
African Americans are also more apt to appreciate having the house the way they want it as a plus. More of them dated even before their divorce was final. They are more apt than whites to say that they dated to prove to themselves that they could get on with life.

Because the Hispanic sample was small, we can make only a few conclusions about how different Hispanics are from other groups. Hispanics are the least likely group to have major illnesses. It seems Hispanics want a spouse's companionship more than other groups: they are the least likely group to say that not dealing with another person is one of the best things in life after divorce; and conversely, much more apt to claim that having nobody to do things with is one of the worst things in life after divorce.

Whites are more fearful than African Americans of reduced finances after their divorce. They are more likely to think that finding their own self-identity is a plus.

These differences between whites and African Americans may be linked to other factors. The research literature shows that the rates of separation and divorce among African Americans are higher than among whites, and the rate of joblessness is higher among African American men than white men.

Figure 19. Race/Ethnicity and Divorce



Bases: White – 956; African American – 100; Hispanic – 66.

The Divorce Experience: A Study of Divorce at Midlife and Beyond, AARP, May 2004

#### **Religion and Divorce**

Using their self-reported religious affiliations, differences were analyzed among the largest groups. Baptists comprised a large proportion of the population and were grouped separately from other Protestants.

Protestants, Catholics, Baptists, and those with no designated religious affiliation make up the majority of divorcees. Other religious groups are represented in small numbers, so data pertaining to them were not analyzed.

Protestants are most likely to fear being alone after divorce, followed by Baptists.

Catholics are the most apt to like doing things for themselves as the best part of life after divorce, followed by Baptists. They also are most likely to date to lift their spirits.

However, Baptists and those with no religious affiliation most often are on the ends of the spectrum. Baptists seem to be the most religious. They found the most comfort in their religious faith or prayer while they were embroiled in this life event, while very few with no religious affiliation found comfort in prayer. Perhaps their religious faith gives Baptists a boost in their outlook on life as well. They are the most likely to put themselves on the uppermost rungs of the ladder of life (much more than those with no religious affiliation), while the majority of Baptists put themselves on top as well in their future outlook. They are the most likely to not want remarriage, surprisingly putting them on the same side on this issue as those who have no religious affiliation.

Those with no religious affiliation are the most likely to fear for their finances after divorce and the most likely to appreciate their freedom. Baptists are the least likely to fear for their finances and to appreciate their freedom. Those with no religious affiliation are also the least likely to appreciate being able to do things for themselves after divorce.

In their future outlook, Protestants, Catholics, and those with no religious affiliation do not differ; but Baptists have the best future outlook on the ladder of life.

People with no religious affiliation went to friends and co-workers most, while others resorted to this to a lesser degree. Prayer or religious faith also served Baptists, Protestants, and Catholics in dealing with divorce.

Fears after divorce: Finances Fears after divorce: Being alone Best after divorce: Freedom Best after divorce: Do things for self Best after divorce: Not having to deal w/ another 36% Dating started before divorce was ■ No Religion 29% final 21% ■ Baptist 11% ■ Catholic Reason for dating: Lift spirits ■ Protestant 16% Current ladder of life: 9-10 31% 31% 65% Future outlook on life: 9-10 48% 45% After divorce: Did not want to 47% remarry 35% **1**9% Source of help: Religions, faith, or 42% prayer 29% 60% Source of help: Friends / co-workers 56%

Figure 20. Religion and Divorce

Bases: Protestant- 270; Catholic-170; Baptist-145.

20%

40%

60%

80%

100%

0%

The differences by religious affiliation may be influenced or confounded by other characteristics associated with one's religious affiliation. For example, persons are more likely to affiliate with a religion as they get older. The majority of African Americans are Baptists, while the majority of Hispanics are Catholics. Among whites, the most frequently cited religion is Protestant.

## **APPENDIX**

Annotated Questionnaire Additional Respondent Data Methodology and Technical Notes Statistical Tables

## **Annotated Questionnaire**

# AARP Divorce Survey December 2003

S1. Which of these best describes your <u>current</u> marital status?

Divorce, never married

Divorce, divorced

Divorce, widow/widower

Married

Married but separated

Living with partner (not married or registered partnership)

Living with registered domestic partner

#### [IF NEVER MARRIED, TERMINATE. IF DIVORCED, SKIP TO \$3. OTHERWISE CONTINUE TO \$2.]

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
S1: Which of these best describes your	Divorce, never married	0	0	0%	0%	0%
current marital	Divorce, divorced	644	636	55%	48%	62%
status?	Divorce, widow/widower	51	57	5%	3%	6%
	Married	350	350	31%	40%	22%
	Married but separated	12	11	1%	1%	1%
	Living with partner (not married or registered partnership)	86	86	8%	6%	9%
	Living with registered domestic partner	4	6	1%	1%	<1%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

#### S2. Have you ever been divorced?

Yes [PROCEED TO S3]
No [TERMINATE]

			TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
S2: Have you ever been divorced?	Yes	503	511	100%	100%	100%
	No	0	0	0%	0%	0%
divolocu:	TOTAL	503	511	100%	100%	100%

## S3. Have you been divorced more than once?

No, just once

Yes, more than once

		TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE		
	Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent	
S3: Have you been	No, just once	626	609	53%	54%	52%
divorced more than once?	Yes, more than once	517	536	47%	46%	47%
	REFUSED	4	2	<1%	<1%	<1%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

#### S4. At what age did you ["MOST RECENTLY" IF MORE THAN ONCE IN S3] get divorced?

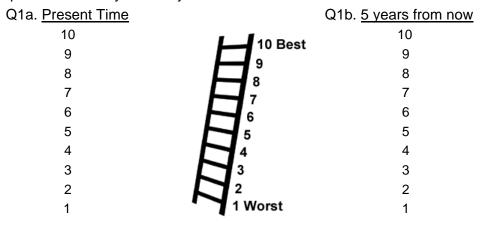
#### [\$4 RESPONSE MUST BE 40 OR GREATER TO CONTINUE.]

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
S4: Age	40 to 44	474	490	43%	41%	45%
at last divorce -	45 to 49	349	346	30%	31%	29%
categories	50 to 54	181	173	15%	14%	16%
	55 to 59	92	85	7%	8%	7%
	60 to 69	47	49	4%	5%	3%
	70 to 79	4	4	<1%	1%	<1%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

#### [MAIN SURVEY BEGINS HERE]

Imagine a ladder with 10 steps representing the "ladder of life." Let's suppose the top of the ladder, the TENTH STEP, represents the BEST possible life for you, and the bottom, the FIRST step, represents the WORST possible life for you.

At which step of the ladder do you stand AT THE PRESENT TIME, and where do you think you still stand FIVE YEARS FROM NOW? Click on the number that best represents where you think you stand on the ladder.



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			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q1a:	10	203	226	20%	22%	18%
Ladder of Life,	9	137	137	12%	9%	14%
Present	8	279	280	24%	23%	25%
Time	7	201	172	15%	16%	14%
	6	102	99	9%	10%	8%
	5	116	116	10%	11%	10%
	4	44	38	3%	4%	2%
	3	37	44	4%	4%	4%
	2	17	14	1%	1%	1%
	1	9	19	2%	<1%	3%
	REFUSED	2	2	<1%	<1%	<1%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighte d	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q1b:	10	350	375	33%	31%	35%
Ladder of Life, 5	9	258	248	22%	22%	22%
years	8	238	229	20%	20%	20%
from now	7	104	90	8%	10%	6%
	6	54	48	4%	4%	4%
	5	59	67	6%	6%	6%
	4	30	32	3%	2%	4%
	3	14	14	1%	1%	1%
	2	10	8	1%	1%	1%
	1	13	17	1%	1%	2%
	REFUSED	17	20	2%	3%	1%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

We are conducting a survey of people's experience in getting a divorce. If you have been divorced more than once, please answer all questions as they pertain to your <u>most recent divorce</u>.

Q2a. Of all the reasons listed below, which was the <u>most significant reason</u> for your last divorce? (Reason may apply to you or to your spouse)

Cheating

Verbal, physical or emotional abuse

Control freak

Step-children got in the way

In-laws

Homosexuality

Sexual incompatibility / poor sexual performance

Inability to have children

Didn't want to have children

Always away at work or business

Fell in love with someone else

Not carrying weight in marriage (sharing chores, etc.)

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Physical appearance declining
Different values, lifestyles
Money problems
Major age difference
Religious differences became intolerable
Cultural differences became intolerable
Alcoholism or drug abuse
Abandonment
No obvious problems, simply fell out of love

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q2a: Of all the	Cheating	182	180	16%	14%	17%
reasons listed below, which was the most significant reason for	Verbal, physical or emotional abuse	174	185	16%	8%	23%
your last divorce?	Control freak	35	31	3%	3%	2%
	Step-children got in the way	31	32	3%	4%	1%
	In-laws	17	17	1%	3%	<1%
	Homosexuality	4	3	<1%	<1%	<1%
	Sexual incompatibility / poor sexual performance	21	23	2%	2%	2%
	Inability to have children	0	0	<1%	<1%	<1%
	Didn't want to have children	3	4	<1%	1%	<1%
	Always away at work or business	31	25	2%	4%	1%
	Fell in love with someone else	52	46	4%	5%	3%
	Not carrying weight in marriage (sharing chores, etc.)	38	34	3%	4%	2%
	Physical appearance declining	3	3	<1%	<1%	<1%
	Different values, lifestyles	134	127	11%	14%	9%
	Money problems	45	40	3%	4%	3%
	Major age difference	6	8	1%	<1%	1%
	Religious differences became intolerable	10	7	1%	1%	<1%
	Cultural differences became intolerable	9	9	1%	1%	1%
	Alcohol or drug abuse	111	137	12%	6%	18%
	Abandonment	42	40	3%	3%	4%
	No obvious problems, simply fell out of love	135	136	12%	17%	7%
	REFUSED	64	61	5%	6%	5%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

# Q2b. Of the remaining reasons, which was the $\underline{\text{next}}$ most significant reason for your divorce?

## [SAME LIST EXCEPT FOR FIRST REASON CHOSEN] No other reason

## [IF 'NO OTHER REASON', SKIP TO Q3]

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q2b: Of the	Cheating	73	68	6%	5%	6%
remaining reasons, which was the next most significant	Verbal, physical or emotional abuse	135	127	11%	7%	14%
reason for your	Control freak	65	87	8%	5%	10%
divorce?	Step-children got in the way	37	33	3%	4%	2%
	In-laws	12	21	2%	3%	1%
	Homosexuality	5	5	<1%	1%	<1%
	Sexual incompatibility / poor sexual performance	30	24	2%	2%	2%
	Inability to have children	3	4	<1%	<1%	1%
	Didn't want to have children	4	6	1%	1%	<1%
	Always away at work or business	28	28	2%	2%	2%
	Fell in love with someone else	34	31	3%	3%	2%
	Not carrying weight in marriage (sharing chores, etc.)	56	54	5%	2%	7%
	Physical appearance declining	10	9	1%	1%	1%
	Different values, lifestyles	99	102	9%	9%	9%
	Money problems	62	59	5%	6%	5%
	Major age difference	13	14	1%	1%	1%
	Religious differences became intolerable	13	14	1%	<1%	2%
	Cultural differences became intolerable	11	10	1%	1%	<1%
	Alcohol or drug abuse	65	61	5%	4%	7%
	Abandonment	25	40	3%	3%	4%
	No obvious problems, simply fell out of love	84	82	7%	9%	5%
	No other reason	79	68	6%	7%	5%
	REFUSED	5	5	<1%	<1%	1%
	Not asked	199	196	17%	23%	12%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

Q2c. And finally, what was the <u>third</u> most significant reason for your divorce? [SAME LIST EXCEPT FOR FIRST TWO REASONS CHOSEN]

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q2c: And finally, what	Cheating	54	56	5%	3%	7%
was the third most significant reason for your divorce?	Verbal, physical or emotional abuse	68	76	7%	6%	7%
your divolor.	Control freak	54	53	5%	2%	7%
	Step-children got in the way	16	16	1%	1%	1%
	In-laws	14	15	1%	1%	1%
	Homosexuality	1	1	<1%	<1%	<1%
	Sexual incompatibility / poor sexual performance	36	34	3%	3%	3%
	Inability to have children	1	1	<1%	<1%	<1%
	Didn't want to have children	3	4	<1%	<1%	<1%
	Always away at work or business	39	42	4%	4%	3%
	Fell in love with someone else	29	33	3%	2%	3%
	Not carrying weight in marriage (sharing chores, etc.)	60	69	6%	4%	8%
	Physical appearance declining	11	7	1%	1%	1%
	Different values, lifestyles	101	107	9%	7%	11%
	Money problems	71	56	5%	4%	5%
	Major age difference	13	12	1%	1%	1%
	Religious differences became intolerable	9	9	1%	1%	1%
	Cultural differences became intolerable	8	9	1%	1%	<1%
	Alcohol or drug abuse	38	43	4%	4%	3%
	Abandonment	29	32	3%	2%	4%
	No obvious problems, simply fell out of love	55	59	5%	6%	5%
	No other reason	148	139	12%	13%	11%
	REFUSED	6	6	1%	1%	<1%
	Not asked	283	269	23%	31%	17%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

**NET: ALL REASONS MENTIONED IN Q2a-Q2c** 

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q2a-Q2c: Net	Cheating	309	303	28%	23%	32%
Reasons for Last Divorce	Verbal, physical or emotional abuse	377	388	36%	24%	47%
	Control freak	154	171	16%	11%	20%
	Step-children got in the way	84	80	7%	10%	5%
	In-laws	43	52	5%	7%	2%
	Homosexuality	10	9	1%	1%	1%
	Sexual incompatibility / poor sexual performance	87	81	7%	8%	7%
	Inability to have children	4	5	<1%	<1%	1%
	Didn't want to have children	10	14	1%	2%	1%
	Always away at work or business	98	94	9%	11%	7%
	Fell in love with someone else	115	110	10%	12%	8%
	Not carrying weight in marriage (sharing chores, etc.)	154	157	14%	10%	18%
	Physical appearance declining	24	19	2%	2%	2%
	Different values, lifestyles	334	336	31%	31%	31%
	Money problems	178	155	14%	15%	13%
	Major age difference	32	34	3%	3%	3%
	Religious differences became intolerable	32	30	3%	2%	3%
	Cultural differences became intolerable	28	28	3%	4%	2%
	Alcohol or drug abuse	214	241	22%	15%	29%
	Abandonment	96	111	10%	7%	13%
	No obvious problems, simply fell out of love	274	277	25%	34%	18%
	Total Responses	2657				

Q3. For these top reasons, please indicate if the reason applied mostly to you, mostly to your spouse, or to both of you equally.

	Applied mostly to me	Applied mostly to spouse	Applied to both of us equally
[REASON 1]			
[REASON 2]			
[REASON 3]			

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		TOTAL			MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q3: [Cheating]	Applied mostly to me	21	22	7%	13%	4%
	Applied mostly to spouse	268	259	86%	76%	92%
	Applied to both of us equally	17	18	6%	11%	3%
	REFUSED	3	4	1%	<1%	2%
	TOTAL	309	303	100%	100%	100%

		TOTAL			MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q3: [Verbal,	Applied mostly to me	46	47	12%	16%	10%
physical or emotional abuse]	Applied mostly to spouse	295	303	78%	60%	86%
	Applied to both of us equally	36	38	10%	24%	3%
	REFUSED	0	0	<1%	<1%	<1%
	TOTAL	377	388	100%	100%	100%

		TOTAL			MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q3: [Control freak]	Applied mostly to me	10	15	8%	21%	2%
	Applied mostly to spouse	137	147	86%	75%	91%
	Applied to both of us equally	7	10	6%	4%	7%
	REFUSED	0	0	<1%	<1%	<1%
	TOTAL	154	171	100%	100%	100%

		TOTAL			MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q3: [Step-	Applied mostly to me	25	23	29%	31%	25%
children got in the way]	Applied mostly to spouse	37	36	45%	44%	47%
	Applied to both of us equally	19	16	20%	21%	19%
	REFUSED	3	5	6%	4%	9%
	TOTAL	84	80	100%	100%	100%

		TOTAL			MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q3: [In-laws]	Applied mostly to me	10	8	14%	17%	8%
	Applied mostly to spouse	26	36	68%	64%	81%
	Applied to both of us equally	6	8	16%	17%	11%
	REFUSED	1	1	2%	2%	<1%
	TOTAL	43	52	100%	100%	100%

		TOTAL			MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q3: [Homosexuality]	Applied mostly to me	1	1	6%	18%	<1%
	Applied mostly to spouse	8	7	84%	82%	85%
	Applied to both of us equally	0	0	<1%	<1%	<1%
	REFUSED	1	1	10%	<1%	15%
	TOTAL	10	9	100%	100%	100%

			TOTAL			FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q3: [Sexual incompatibility / poor sexual performance]	Applied mostly to me	14	13	16%	12%	20%
	Applied mostly to spouse	56	51	64%	75%	52%
	Applied to both of us equally	16	14	18%	13%	23%
	REFUSED	1	2	2%	<1%	5%
	TOTAL	87	81	100%	100%	100%

			TOTAL			FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q3: [Inability to	Applied mostly to me	0	0	<1%	<1%	<1%
have children]	Applied mostly to spouse	3	5	92%	100%	89%
	Applied to both of us equally	1	0	8%	<1%	11%
	REFUSED	0	0	<1%	<1%	<1%
	TOTAL	4	5	100%	100%	100%

			TOTAL			FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q3: [Didn't want	Applied mostly to me	8	10	73%	100%	<1%
to have children]	Applied mostly to spouse	1	2	17%	<1%	61%
	Applied to both of us equally	0	0	<1%	<1%	<1%
	REFUSED	1	2	11%	<1%	39%
	TOTAL	10	14	100%	100%	100%

		TOTAL			MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q3: [Always	Applied mostly to me	42	42	45%	68%	9%
away at work or business]	Applied mostly to spouse	43	38	41%	20%	72%
	Applied to both of us equally	12	14	14%	11%	20%
	REFUSED	1	1	1%	1%	<1%
	TOTAL	98	94	100%	100%	100%

		TOTAL			MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q3: [Fell in love	Applied mostly to me	52	48	44%	42%	46%
with someone elsel	Applied mostly to spouse	58	57	52%	50%	54%
0.001	Applied to both of us equally	5	5	5%	8%	<1%
	REFUSED	0	0	<1%	<1%	<1%
	TOTAL	115	110	100%	100%	100%

		TOTAL			MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q3: [Not carrying weight in	Applied mostly to me	20	19	12%	17%	10%
marriage	Applied mostly to spouse	123	130	83%	72%	88%
(sharing chores, etc.)]	Applied to both of us equally	11	8	5%	11%	2%
, <b>.</b>	REFUSED	0	0	<1%	<1%	<1%
	TOTAL	154	157	100%	100%	100%

		TOTAL			MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q3: [Physical	Applied mostly to me	2	1	4%	<1%	10%
appearance declining	Applied mostly to spouse	18	15	80%	93%	65%
	Applied to both of us equally	2	1	6%	<1%	13%
	REFUSED	2	2	9%	7%	12%
	TOTAL	24	19	100%	100%	100%

		TOTAL			MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q3: [Different	Applied mostly to me	59	63	19%	19%	19%
values, lifestyles]	Applied mostly to spouse	96	98	29%	28%	30%
	Applied to both of us equally	177	170	51%	53%	48%
	REFUSED	2	5	1%	<1%	3%
	TOTAL	334	336	100%	100%	100%

			TOTAL			FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q3: [Money problems]	Applied mostly to me	21	20	13%	13%	14%
	Applied mostly to spouse	97	75	48%	44%	53%
	Applied to both of us equally	59	59	38%	42%	33%
	REFUSED	1	1	1%	1%	<1%
	TOTAL	178	155	100%	100%	100%

			TOTAL			FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q3: [Major age	Applied mostly to me	8	11	34%	28%	38%
difference]	Applied mostly to spouse	15	14	41%	32%	50%
	Applied to both of us equally	9	8	25%	40%	12%
	REFUSED	0	0	<1%	<1%	<1%
	TOTAL	32	34	100%	100%	100%

		TOTAL			MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q3: [Religious differences	Applied mostly to me	13	11	39%	31%	44%
became	Applied mostly to spouse	13	10	33%	39%	28%
intolerable]	Applied to both of us equally	6	8	28%	29%	27%
	REFUSED	0	0	<1%	<1%	<1%
	TOTAL	32	30	100%	100%	100%

		TOTAL			MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q3: [Cultural differences	Applied mostly to me	7	5	19%	16%	26%
became	Applied mostly to spouse	8	10	37%	29%	54%
intolerable]	Applied to both of us equally	12	10	37%	45%	20%
	REFUSED	1	2	7%	10%	<1%
	TOTAL	28	28	100%	100%	100%

			TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q3: [Alcohol or	Applied mostly to me	28	31	13%	33%	3%
drug abuse]	Applied mostly to spouse	170	186	77%	46%	92%
	Applied to both of us equally	15	21	9%	21%	3%
	REFUSED	1	2	1%	<1%	1%
	TOTAL	214	241	100%	100%	100%

		TOTAL			MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q3: [Abandonment]	Applied mostly to me	11	13	12%	26%	5%
	Applied mostly to spouse	81	93	83%	70%	90%
	Applied to both of us equally	4	5	5%	4%	5%
	REFUSED	0	0	<1%	<1%	<1%
	TOTAL	96	111	100%	100%	100%

#### Q4. Who asked for the divorce?

Me

My spouse

Both of us jointly

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q4: Who asked for the divorce?	Me	600	617	54%	41%	66%
	My spouse	359	343	30%	39%	21%
	Both of us jointly	167	170	15%	18%	12%
	REFUSED	21	17	1%	2%	1%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

### Q5. How long were you married before you filed for divorce?

\_\_\_\_ Years

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q5: How long were you	Less than 5 years	168	186	16%	16%	17%
married before	5 to 9 years	205	216	19%	22%	16%
you filed for divorce?	10 to 14 years	193	194	17%	18%	16%
(categories)	15 to 19 years	170	167	15%	13%	16%
	20 to 24 years	201	197	17%	16%	19%
	25 to 29 years	128	108	9%	9%	10%
	30 to 34 years	45	44	4%	4%	4%
	35 years or more	21	18	2%	1%	2%
	REFUSED	16	17	1%	1%	2%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

Q6 How long did you contemplate getting a divorce before finally deciding to do so?

Not my decision; came as a surprise from my spouse

Less than 1 month

1 month to less than 6 months

6 months to less than 1 year

1 year to less than 2 years

2 years to less than 5 years

5 years to less than 10 years

10 years to less than 15 years

15 years to less than 20 years

20 years or longer

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q6: How long did you contemplate getting a divorce before finally deciding to do so?	Not my decision; came as a surprise from my spouse	234	229	20%	26%	14%
	Less than 1 month	62	76	7%	6%	7%
	1 month to less than 6 months	122	120	10%	12%	9%
	6 months to less than 1 year	161	167	15%	16%	13%
	1 year to less than 2 years	186	184	16%	14%	18%
	2 years to less than 5 years	185	171	15%	13%	16%
	5 years to less than 10 years	90	101	9%	7%	10%
	10 years to less than 15 years	53	54	5%	2%	8%
	15 years to less than 20 years	18	19	2%	<1%	3%
	20 years or longer	14	9	1%	<1%	1%
	REFUSED	22	17	2%	2%	1%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

#### [ASK Q6A ONLY IF 5 YEARS OR LONGER IN Q6]

Q6a. What made you take that long to decide to get divorced? (select up to three)

We had counseling first

Personally didn't believe in divorce

We were trying to make the marriage better

We/I got cold feet

Waited for cheating to stop / gave spouse another chance

Unsure of decision

We stayed married because of children

Had to prepare financially; could not afford it

Just didn't get around to it

Did not have a lawyer, didn't know how to start

Family and friends were against it Social pressure against divorce

Dependent on spouse financially

Need spouse to take care of me physically Emotional attachment/dependence on spouse Didn't want to lose significant portion of my assets Against my culture or religion

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q6a: What made you take that long to	We had counseling first	22	19	10%	8%	11%
decide to get divorced?	Personally didn't believe in divorce	29	26	14%	21%	11%
	We were trying to make the marriage better	18	16	9%	17%	5%
	We/I got cold feet	4	2	1%	1%	1%
	Waited for cheating to stop / gave spouse another chance	16	19	11%	12%	10%
	Unsure of decision	20	23	13%	14%	12%
	We stayed married because of children	85	78	43%	58%	37%
	Had to prepare financially; could not afford it	41	39	21%	6%	27%
	Just didn't get around to it	23	29	16%	15%	16%
	Did not have a lawyer, didn't know how to start	10	10	6%	2%	7%
	Family and friends were against it	2	4	2%	<1%	3%
	Social pressure against divorce	11	9	5%	6%	4%
	Dependent on spouse financially	17	12	7%	<1%	10%
	Need spouse to take care of me physically	0	0	<1%	<1%	<1%
	Emotional attachment / dependence on spouse	15	15	8%	4%	10%
	Didn't want to lose significant portion of my assets	12	12	7%	6%	7%
	Against my culture or religion	26	21	11%	10%	12%
	Total Respondents	175	183	100%	100%	100%
	Total Responses	351				

Q7. How old were your children, if any, when you got a divorce? (check all that apply)

Had no children Less than 2 years old 2 to 5 years old 5 to 11 years old 12 to 17 years old 18 years or older

[IF 'HAD NO CHILDREN', SKIP TO Q8]

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q7: How old you're	Had no children	283	268	23%	26%	21%
your children, if any, when you got a divorce?	Less than 2 years old	21	31	3%	3%	2%
divolog.	2 to 5 years old	80	85	7%	8%	7%
	5 to 11 years old	216	215	19%	22%	15%
	12 to 17 years old	347	325	28%	24%	32%
	18 years or older	411	415	36%	30%	42%
	REFUSED	18	14	1%	2%	1%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

Q7a. What do you think was your children's reaction to the divorce?

Children were supportive of it

Children did not support but were OK with it

Children were somewhat upset about it

Children were very upset about it

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q7a: What do you think was your	Children were supportive of it	296	321	37%	21%	50%
children's reaction to the divorce?	Children did not support but were OK with it	149	146	17%	21%	13%
	Children were somewhat upset about it	237	239	27%	34%	21%
	Children were very upset about it	158	154	18%	21%	15%
	REFUSED	24	18	2%	3%	1%
	TOTAL	864	879	100%	100%	100%

[ASK Q7B IF "SOMEWHAT UPSET" OR "VERY UPSET" IN Q7A]

Q7b. If the children were upset about it, how so?

Sad
Angry
Devastated
Other:

		TOTAL			MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q7b: If the children were upset about it, how so?	Sad	265	264	67%	67%	67%
	Angry	180	165	42%	40%	45%
	Devastated	84	88	22%	22%	24%
	Other	40	39	10%	10%	10%
	REFUSED	2	1	<1%	1%	<1%
	TOTAL	395	394	100%	100%	100%

Q8. Thinking about your last divorce, do you think you made the right decision to divorce?

Yes, absolutely

Yes, maybe

Not sure

No, but did not regret it

No, regretted it

I had no choice / it wasn't my decision

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q8: Thinking about	Yes, absolutely	791	809	71%	64%	76%
your last divorce, do you think you made the right decision to	Yes, maybe	68	62	5%	8%	3%
	Not sure	50	48	4%	6%	3%
divorce?	No, but did not regret it	20	24	2%	2%	2%
	No, regretted it	20	21	2%	2%	2%
	Not my decision / I didn't have a choice	174	164	14%	16%	12%
	REFUSED	24	18	2%	2%	1%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

Q9. What three things did you like BEST about life after divorce?

Freedom/independence to do what I want to do

Being able to do things for myself, for my own self-fulfillment

Having my own self-identity

Having my house the way I want it

Better off financially

Not having to answer to or deal with another person

Being able to "play the field" (date any person I wish)

Being with a better mate (more attractive, more fun, nicer, etc.)

Being free of in-laws
Not having to worry as much about my appearance or hygiene
Being free of step children
Having more sex / different sexual experiences
Not having to be responsible for or take care of someone

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q9: What three things did you like BEST about life after	Freedom/ independence to do what I want to do	499	470	41%	39%	43%
divorce?	Being able to do things for myself, for my own self-fulfillment	400	400	35%	31%	38%
	Having my own self- identity	403	408	36%	21%	49%
	Having my house the way I want it	158	177	15%	14%	17%
	Better off financially	257	254	22%	27%	18%
	Not having to answer to or deal with another person	375	358	31%	25%	37%
	Being able to "play the field" (date any person I wish)	48	49	4%	7%	2%
	Being with a better mate (more attractive, more fun, nicer, etc.)	203	205	18%	26%	11%
	Being free of in-laws	58	67	6%	8%	4%
	Not having to worry as much about my appearance or hygiene	2	1	<1%	<1%	<1%
	Being free of step children	51	43	4%	6%	2%
	Having more sex / different sexual experiences	83	74	7%	11%	2%
	Not having to be responsible for or take care of someone	159	159	14%	10%	17%
	REFUSED	63	55	5%	7%	3%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

#### Q10. What TWO things did you like LEAST about life after divorce?

Not having someone around with whom to do things

Not having someone to talk to

Fear of sexually transmitted diseases / HIV

Raising children by myself

Feeling self-conscious about being divorced in a world of mostly couples

Nobody around to take care of me when I'm sick or need help

Fear of crime / being alone

Financial problems / not having enough money

Not getting affection from someone

Not being in a sexual relationship

Tendency to do unhealthy things (e.g. eating poorly, drinking, etc.)

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q10: What TWO things did you like LEAST about life after	Not having someone around with whom to do things	410	393	34	38	31
divorce?	Not having someone to talk to	216	238	21	24	18
	Fear of sexually transmitted diseases / HIV	88	106	9	10	9
	Raising children by myself	108	100	9	5	12
	Feeling self-conscious about being divorced in a world of mostly couples	185	173	15	13	17
	Nobody around to take care of me when I'm sick or need help	110	109	10	10	10
	Fear of crime / being alone	53	62	5	1	10
	Financial problems / not having enough money	292	294	26	14	37
	No getting affection from someone	203	197	17	20	15
	Not being in a sexual relationship	120	125	11	16	7
	Tendency to do unhealthy things (e.g. eating poorly, drinking, etc.)	100	104	9	12	6
	REFUSED	103	94	8	9	7
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

# Q11. Have you ever experienced any of these major personal life events? (check all that apply)

Lost your job Suffered from a major illness Death of a spouse None of these

			TOTAL			FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q11: Have you ever	Lost your job	539	512	45%	50%	40%
experienced any of these major personal life events?	Suffered from a major illness	338	343	30%	29%	31%
	Death of a spouse	91	96	8%	6%	10%
	None of these	436	428	37%	36%	39%
	REFUSED	19	18	2%	1%	2%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

### [ASK Q12A IF 'LOST YOUR JOB' SELECTED IN Q11]

Q12a. Comparing your last divorce to the loss of a job, which was more difficult for you to handle emotionally?

Job loss was more difficult About the same Divorce was more difficult

		TOTAL			MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
difficult for you to bondle	Job loss was more difficult	138	142	28%	30%	26%
	About the same	129	122	24%	22%	26%
	Divorce was more difficult	265	243	47%	48%	47%
	REFUSED	7	5	1%	1%	2%
	TOTAL	539	512	100%	100%	100%

#### [ASK Q12B IF 'SUFFERED FROM MAJOR ILLNESS' IN Q11]

Q12b. Comparing your last divorce to a major illness, which was more difficult for you to handle emotionally?

Major illness was more difficult About the same Divorce was more difficult

			TOTAL			FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
last divorce to a major illness, which was more difficult for you to handle emotionally?	Major illness was more difficult	131	141	41%	48%	35%
	About the same	78	95	28%	19%	35%
	Divorce was more difficult	124	104	30%	31%	30%
	REFUSED	5	3	1%	2%	<1%
	TOTAL	338	343	100%	100%	100%

#### [ASK Q12C IF 'DEATH OF A SPOUSE' SELECTED IN Q11]

Q12c. Comparing your last divorce to the death of a spouse, which was more difficult for you to handle emotionally?

Spouse's death was more difficult About the same Divorce was more difficult

		TOTAL			MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q12c: Comparing your last divorce to the death of a spouse, which was more difficult for you to handle emotionally?	Spouse's death was more difficult	55	63	65%	58%	70%
	About the same	16	15	16%	32%	7%
	Divorce was more difficult	20	18	18%	11%	23%
	REFUSED	0	0	<1%	<1%	<1%
	TOTAL	91	96	100%	100%	100%

Q13. Do you think having a happy marriage is a matter of luck, work in finding the right person, hard work during marriage, or a combination of these?

Luck
Work in finding the right person
Hard work during marriage
Combination of luck and work

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q13: Do you think having	Luck	20	26	2%	3%	2%
a happy marriage is a matter of luck, work in finding the right person, hard work during marriage, or a	Work in finding the right person	188	212	18%	18%	19%
	Hard work during marriage	285	281	24%	23%	26%
combination of these?	Combination of luck and work	634	612	53%	55%	52%
	REFUSED	20	16	1%	2%	1%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

# Q14. Were your parents divorced, or did they stay married throughout their adult lives? Parents divorced Parents stayed married

			TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q14: Were your parents	Parents divorced	308	343	30%	29%	30%
divorced, or did they stay married throughout their	Parents stayed married	819	786	69%	69%	68%
adult lives?	REFUSED	20	18	2%	2%	1%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

#### Q15. How long after your divorce did you start dating again?

Started before the divorce was final Less than 6 months after the divorce 6 months to less than 1 year

1 year to less than 2 years

2 years to less than 5 years

5 years or longer

Have not dated since the divorce

[IF "HAVE NOT DATED" IN Q15, SKIP TO Q20]

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q15: How long after your divorce did you start dating again?	Started before the divorce was final	299	298	26%	32%	20%
	Less than 6 months after the divorce	148	154	13%	15%	12%
	6 months to less than 1 year	139	142	12%	13%	12%
	1 year to less than 2 years	155	163	14%	14%	14%
	2 years to less than 5 years	141	139	12%	10%	14%
	5 years or longer	63	57	5%	3%	7%
	Have not dated since the divorce	181	177	15%	11%	20%
	REFUSED	21	17	1%	2%	1%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

(There were no questions Q16 or Q17.)

#### Q18. What was your PRIMARY motivation for dating?

Companionship, but no sex

Sex

Find a new partner to live with

Find a new partner to marry

Find a new mother / father for children

Lift my spirits / ease depression

Prove to myself that I was still attractive

Prove to ex-spouse I was still attractive

Prove to myself that I was getting on with my life

Prove to ex-spouse that I was getting on with my life

Appease friends/family who coaxed me into dating

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q18: What was your PRIMARY motivation	Companionship, but no sex	140	142	15%	12%	17%
for dating?	Sex	105	102	11%	17%	4%
	Find a new partner to live with	87	79	8%	11%	5%
	Find a new partner to marry	103	102	11%	12%	9%
	Find a new mother / father for children	3	2	<1%	<1%	<1%
	Lift my spirits / ease depression	159	170	18%	16%	20%
	Prove to myself that I was still attractive	42	43	4%	2%	7%
	Prove to ex-spouse I was still attractive	3	6	1%	1%	<1%
	Prove to myself that I was getting on with my life	218	225	23%	19%	27%
	Prove to ex-spouse that I was getting on with my life	23	27	3%	3%	3%
	Appease friends/family who coaxed me into dating	30	28	3%	2%	3%
	REFUSED	53	44	5%	5%	4%
	TOTAL	966	970	100%	100%	100%

# Q19. How long after the divorce did it take before you were in a serious, exclusive relationship?

Less than 6 months

6 months to 1 year

1 year to less than 2 years

2 years to less than 5 years

5 years or longer

I haven't had a serious, exclusive relationship yet

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q19: How long after the divorce did it take before you were in a serious, exclusive relationship?	Less than 6 months	169	171	18%	19%	16%
	6 months to 1 year	112	122	13%	16%	9%
	1 year to less than 2 years	151	154	16%	15%	17%
relationip.	2 years to less than 5 years	206	212	22%	23%	21%
	5 years or longer	103	92	10%	8%	11%
	I haven't had a serious, exclusive relationship yet	200	198	20%	17%	24%
	REFUSED	25	20	2%	2%	2%
	TOTAL	966	970	100%	100%	100%

#### Q20. After your divorce, how did you feel about re-marrying?

I wanted to remarry
I was reluctant to remarry
I did not want to remarry
I was not sure

			TOTAL			FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q20: After your divorce, how did you feel about re-	I wanted to remarry	252	251	22%	27%	17%
	I was reluctant to remarry	167	156	14%	14%	13%
marrying?	I did not want to remarry	424	438	38%	33%	43%
	I was not sure	281	285	25%	24%	26%
	REFUSED	23	16	1%	2%	1%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

#### [ASK Q21A ONLY IF 'WANTED TO REMARRY' IN Q20]

Q21a. If you wanted to remarry, what were you looking for this time around? (select up to 3)

Someone who could satisfy my sexual needs

Someone who was more physically attractive

A personality compatible with mine

Someone with no baggage (previous relationships, spouse, children)

Someone to take care of me

Someone with good character, would be nice to me

Someone with more money, financially stable

Someone who will simply be a good companion

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q21a: If you wanted to remarry, what were you looking for this	Someone who could satisfy my sexual needs	47	40	16%	19%	12%
time around?	Someone who was more physically attractive	19	21	8%	11%	4%
	A personality compatible with mine	151	142	57%	62%	49%
	Someone with no baggage (previous relationships, spouse, children)	21	18	7%	8%	6%
	Someone to take care of me	20	27	11%	7%	15%
	Someone with good character, would be nice to me	143	142	57%	47%	47%
	Someone with more money, financially stable	29	25	10%	4%	4%
	Someone who will simply be a good companion	133	135	54%	57%	57%
	REFUSED	2	2	1%	1%	1%
	TOTAL	252	251	100%	100%	100%

#### [ASK Q21B ONLY IF 'RELUCTANT' OR 'DID NOT WANT TO REMARRY' IN Q17]

Q21b. If you were reluctant or didn't want to marry, why not? (select up to 3)

Having too much fun being divorce

Did not want to have another bad marriage

Sexual orientation, can't really get married

Feel bitter / didn't want to have much to do with the opposite sex

I would not be able to make it work

Children were against it

It would be bad for my finances

It's too much work finding someone

Lifestyle or work/career would make it difficult

Culture or religion does not allow remarriage if spouse is still alive

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q21b: If you were reluctant or didn't want	Having too much fun being divorce	107	96	16%	19%	14%
to marry, why not?	Did not want to have another bad marriage	378	386	65%	67%	63%
	Sexual orientation, can't really get married	2	1	<1%	<1%	<1%
	Feel bitter / didn't want to have much to do with the opposite sex	78	82	14%	10%	17%
	I would not be able to make it work	69	70	12%	14%	10%
	Children were against it	25	29	5%	3%	7%
	It would be bad for my finances	57	58	10%	11%	9%
	It's too much work finding someone	113	113	19%	18%	19%
	Lifestyle or work/career would make it difficult	73	71	12%	18%	8%
	Culture or religion does not allow remarriage if spouse is still alive	31	26	4%	3%	5%
	REFUSED	19	19	3%	2%	4%
	TOTAL	591	595	100%	100%	100%

Q22. What were the most difficult things you had to go through during the divorce process? (select up to 3)

Loneliness, depression

Little or no sex

Dealing with lawyers

Not having someone to love or to love me

Dealing with uncertainty, not knowing what's ahead for me

Being a divorce parent

Dealing with my children

Not being with my children

Working for / fighting for custody of my children

Rejection or disapproval by family or friends Sense of failure Feelings of inadequacy, losing self-esteem or self-confidence Feelings of desertion and/or betrayal

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q22: What were the most difficult things you had to go through during the divorce	Loneliness, depression	325	335	29%	30%	28%
	Little or no sex	79	67	6%	8%	4%
process?	Dealing with lawyers	224	218	19%	21%	17%
	Not having someone to love or to love me	239	252	22%	21%	23%
	Dealing with uncertainty; not knowing what's ahead for me	443	453	40%	29%	49%
	Being a divorce parent	115	109	10%	5%	13%
	Dealing with my children	111	102	9%	11%	7%
	Not being with my children	132	136	12%	22%	2%
	Working for / fighting for custody of my children	61	53	5%	7%	3%
	Rejection or disapproval by family or friends	75	74	7%	5%	8%
	Sense of failure	273	258	23%	21%	24%
	Feelings of inadequacy, losing self-esteem or self-confidence	208	226	20%	15%	24%
	Feelings of desertion and/or betrayal	299	290	25%	26%	25%
	REFUSED	54	53	5%	4%	5%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

#### Q23. What were your biggest fears after the divorce? (select up to 3)

Being financially destitute

Being alone

Never finding someone to marry or live with

Children may never forgive me

I wouldn't see my children as much

My family would never accept me

Fear of failing again (getting divorced again if I chose to remarry)

Children may never have a mother / father

May stay depressed for a long time

May stay angry/bitter for a long time

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q23: What were your biggest fears after the	Being financially destitute	318	326	28%	11%	44%
divorce?	Being alone	490	513	45%	42%	47%
	Never finding someone to marry or live with	286	273	24%	24%	24%
	Children may never forgive me	94	101	9%	10%	8%
	I wouldn't see my children as much	163	163	14%	27%	3%
	My family would never accept me	18	15	1%	2%	1%
	Fear of failing again	341	355	31%	28%	34%
	Children may never have a mother/father	44	49	4%	5%	4%
	May stay depressed for a long time	179	181	16%	21%	11%
	May stay angry/bitter for a long time	227	224	20%	21%	18%
	REFUSED	106	94	8%	9%	8%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

Q24. Where did you get help to deal with your feelings, needs, and problems relating to the divorce? (select up to 3)

Professional counseling or therapy

Religious faith and/or prayer

Going to someone from church, synagogue or religious organization

Reading self-help books or other materials

Going to a support group for people going through divorce

Adult children

Other family members or relatives

Friends or co-workers

Lawyer(s)

Community organizations

Social worker

Employer

Physician or medical professional

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q24: Where did you get help to deal with	Professional counseling or therapy	210	182	16%	14%	18%
your feelings, needs, and problems relating	Religious faith and/or prayer	341	350	31%	23%	37%
to the divorce?	Going to someone from church, synagogue or religious organization	89	93	8%	7%	9%
	Reading self-help books or other materials	176	166	14%	9%	20%
	Going to a support group for people going through divorce	67	61	5%	5%	6%
	Adult children	118	128	11%	7%	16%
	Other family members or relatives	351	373	33%	28%	36%
	Friends or co-workers	581	559	49%	49%	49%
	Lawyer(s)	41	48	4%	4%	5%
	Community organizations	38	43	4%	3%	5%
	Social worker	8	15	1%	2%	1%
	Employer	22	21	2%	3%	1%
	Physician or medical professional	69	62	5%	4%	7%
	REFUSED	123	114	10%	15%	5%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

Q25. What, if any, of the following did you use to cope with the stress of the divorce? (check all that apply)

Took anti-depressant drugs

Took other drugs not prescribed by doctor

Exercise

Drinking

Smoking

Eating or over-eating

Travel

Pornography

Got a pet

Sexual relationship with a new partner

Sexual relationship with several new partners

Hired a prostitute

Withdrew from family and friends / spent more time alone

Focused more on my job / became a workaholic

None of the above, just "toughed it out"

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q25: What, if any, of the following did you	Took anti-depressant drugs	124	125	11%	9%	13%
use to cope with the stress of the divorce?	Took other drugs not prescribed by doctor	20	25	2%	4%	1%
	Exercise	221	200	17%	16%	19%
	Drinking	153	163	14%	21%	8%
	Smoking	153	170	15%	14%	15%
	Eating or over-eating	99	97	9%	6%	11%
	Travel	131	122	11%	15%	7%
	Pornography	12	10	1%	2%	<1%
	Got a pet	82	100	9%	6%	11%
	Sexual relationship with new partner	171	165	14%	20%	9%
	Sexual relationship with several new partners	62	54	5%	8%	2%
	Hired a prostitute	9	12	1%	2%	<1%
	Withdrew from family and friends / spent more time at home	136	142	12%	13%	12%
	Focused more on my job / became a workaholic	228	230	20%	18%	22%
	None of the above, just "toughed it out"	399	407	36%	32%	39%
	REFUSED	33	24	2%	3%	1%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

Q26. What type of relationship did you have with your spouse immediately after and up to several years after your divorce? (select one)

No contact with spouse at all Not friendly, but talked once in awhile Friendly afterwards Had sex with spouse occasionally Had sex with spouse often Remarried the same person

			TOTAL	i	MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q26: What type of relationship did you have with your spouse immediately after and up	No contact with spouse at all	335	353	31%	27%	34%
	Not friendly, but talked once in awhile	421	396	35%	35%	34%
to several years after your divorce?	Friendly afterwards	298	309	27%	27%	27%
your anverse.	Had sex with spouse occasionally	41	36	3%	5%	2%
	Had sex with spouse often	10	9	1%	1%	<1%
	Remarried the same person	20	23	2%	2%	1%
	REFUSED	22	21	2%	2%	2%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

### [ASK Q27-Q29 ONLY IF \$3 = WIDOW/WIDOWER, MARRIED, OR MARRIED/SEPARATED. ELSE SKIP TO Q30.]

Q27. If you remarried (to the same person or another person), what did you do THIS TIME that you didn't do LAST TIME? (select up to 3)

Lived together before marriage

Got to know spouse longer before getting married

Had pre-marital counseling

Married someone closer to my age

Married someone much younger

Married someone much older

Got a pre-nuptial agreement

Chose a partner with whom I had more in common

Chose a partner who shares my values / beliefs

Chose a partner who shared my political orientation

Chose a partner who shared my ethnicity

Chose a partner who was more fun / adventurous

Chose a partner that my family / children liked

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q27: If you remarried (to the same person or	Lived together before marriage	107	108	26%	32%	18%
another person), what did you do THIS TIME that you didn't do LAST TIME?	Got to know spouse longer before getting married	111	110	26%	27%	26%
	Had pre-marital counseling	20	20	5%	3%	8%
	Married someone closer to my age	31	32	8%	10%	4%
	Married someone much younger	60	59	14%	17%	10%
	Married someone much older	14	23	5%	2%	10%
	Got a pre-nuptial agreement	15	13	3%	3%	3%
	Chose a partner with whom I had more in common	167	174	42%	43%	40%
	Chose a partner who shares my values/ beliefs	182	170	41%	39%	43%
	Chose a partner who shared my political orientation	5	3	1%	1%	1%
	Chose a partner who shared my ethnicity	11	12	3%	3%	4%
	Chose a partner who was more fun / adventurous	76	83	20%	21%	19%
	Chose a partner that my family/children liked	41	52	12%	8%	18%
	REFUSED	51	51	12%	10%	15%
	TOTAL	413	418	100%	100%	100%

#### [SKIP Q28 IF WIDOW/WIDOWER IN S3]

Q28. If you remarried (to the same person or another person), what are you doing NOW to prevent another divorce? Check no more than three.

Go to marital counseling

Don't cheat on my spouse

Make more money

Handle finances better

Meet my spouse's sexual needs

Put more effort into staying physically attractive

Be more affectionate day to day

Manage the home better

Have better relationship with in-laws

Give my spouse more freedom

Strike a better balance between work and home life

Not doing anything in particular

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q28: If you remarried (to the same person or	Go to marital counseling	10	9	2%	3%	2%
another person), what are you doing NOW to	Don't cheat on my spouse	53	55	15%	19%	9%
prevent another divorce? Check no more than three.	Make more money	10	12	3%	5%	1%
	Handle finances better	36	39	11%	10%	13%
	Meet my spouse's sexual needs	39	45	13%	10%	17%
	Put more effort into staying physically attractive	20	22	6%	2%	12%
	Be more affectionate day to day	118	124	34%	38%	28%
	Manage the home better	36	42	12%	15%	7%
	Have better relationship with in- laws	10	14	4%	5%	2%
	Give my spouse more freedom	35	39	11%	12%	9%
	Strike a better balance between work and home life	64	62	17%	20%	12%
	Not doing anything in particular	131	119	33%	27%	43%
	REFUSED	29	28	8%	7%	9%
	TOTAL	362	361	100%	100%	100%

#### [SKIP Q29 IF WIDOW/WIDOWER IN S3]

Q29. If remarried (to the same person or another person), what general feeling do you have about your current marriage?

It's on solid ground; I expect it to last all my life It's working pretty well, and I'm optimistic about the future Overall, not much better or worse than my previous marriage

## It's not working well, and I'm not optimistic about the future I think this marriage may also end in divorce

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q29: If remarried, what general feeling do you have about	It's on solid ground; I expect it to last all my life	232	241	67%	68%	65%
your current marriage?	It's working pretty well, and I'm optimistic about the futur	80	74	20%	19%	23%
	Overall, not much better or worse than my previous marriage	13	9	2%	3%	1%
	It's not working well, and I'm not optimistic about the futu	4	4	1%	1%	<1%
	I think this marriage may also end in divorce	14	14	4%	3%	5%
	REFUSED	19	20	5%	5%	6%
	TOTAL	362	361	100%	100%	100%

#### [ASK Q30 ONLY IF 'YES' IN S3]

Q30. While your last divorce was in your 40s or older, did you also experience a divorce when you were younger, in your 20s or 30s?

Yes No

			TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q30: While your last divorce was in your 40s or older, did you also experience a divorce when you were younger, in your 20s or 30s?	Yes	462	486	91%	89%	92%
	No	52	48	9%	10%	8%
	REFUSED	3	2	<1%	<1%	<1%
	TOTAL	517	536	100%	100%	100%

#### [ASK Q30A ONLY IF 'YES' IN Q30; ELSE SKIP TO Q31]

Q30a. Was it more difficult or devastating to divorce when you were younger (in your 20s or 30s) or when you were older (40 or older)?

Much more difficult when I was younger Slightly more difficult when I was younger About the same each time Slightly more difficult when I was older Much more difficult when I was older

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q30a: Was it more difficult or devastating to divorce when you were younger or when you were older?	Much more difficult when I was younger	192	194	40%	46%	35%
	Slightly more difficult when I was younger	27	33	7%	7%	7%
,	About the same each time	82	100	21%	18%	23%
	Slightly more difficult when I was older	44	44	9%	7%	11%
	Much more difficult when I was older	114	112	23%	21%	24%
	REFUSED	3	3	1%	<1%	1%
	TOTAL	462	486	100%	100%	100%

Q30b. Why do you feel this way? Please explain your reasons below. FILTERED ON "MORE DIFFICULT WHEN YOUNGER" FROM Q30A

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q30b: Why do you feel this way? (open- end response to Q30a)	Child / Children involved	106	112	57%	48%	65%
	Deeper emotional bond	21	24	12%	6%	18%
Base = those who	Married longer	13	12	6%	6%	6%
said divorce was	Financially difficult	21	25	13%	8%	17%
more difficult when they were	Expected to be married forever	12	11	6%	8%	3%
YOUNGER]	Spouse wanted divorce	8	8	4%	4%	5%
	Too young / lacked maturity	25	28	14%	15%	14%
	Felt betrayed / marital infidelity	13	13	7%	8%	6%
	Fearful of spouse	7	6	3%	0%	5%
	Feelings of failure or rejection	8	5	3%	1%	4%
	Harder to find someone new	1	2	1%	0%	2%
	Wiser / more aware of difficulties	4	7	3%	3%	4%
	Neither was particularly difficult	1	1	1%	1%	0%
	Other misc.	9	4	3%	4%	0%
	Don't Know	3	4	2%	4%	0%
	TOTAL	189	198	100%	100%	100%

#### FILTERED ON "MORE DIFFICULT WHEN OLDER" FROM Q30A

			TOTAL		MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q30b: Why do you feel this way? (open-	Child / Children involved	28	30	22%	25%	20%
end response to Q30a)	Deeper emotional bond	12	11	8%	14%	5%
[Base = those who	Married longer	12	12	9%	5%	11%
said divorce was	Financially difficult	11	11	8%	2%	12%
more difficult when they were OLDER]	Expected to be married forever	9	7	5%	6%	5%
	Spouse wanted divorce	7	3	3%	4%	2%
	Too young / lacked maturity	5	5	4%	5%	3%
	Felt betrayed / marital infidelity	9	10	7%	1%	12%
	Fearful of spouse	6	8	6%	0%	10%
	Feelings of failure or rejection	7	6	4%	8%	1%
	Harder to find someone new	23	19	14%	16%	12%
	Wiser / more aware of difficulties	16	20	15%	12%	16%
	Older / more difficulty to adjust	18	20	15%	15%	15%
	Neither was particularly difficult	1	1	1%	2%	0%
	Both were equally difficult	1	1	1%	1%	0%
	Other misc.	8	7	5%	2%	8%
	Don't Know	1	1	1%	1%	0%
	TOTAL	135	135	100%	100%	100%

		MORE DIFFICULT WHEN YOUNGRE	MORE DIFFICULT WHEN OLDER
		Percent	Percent
Q30b: Why do you feel this way? (open-	Child / Children involved	57%	22%
end response to Q30a)	Deeper emotional bond	12%	8%
	Married longer	6%	9%
	Financially difficult	13%	8%
	Expected to be married forever	6%	5%
	Spouse wanted divorce	4%	3%
	Too young / lacked maturity	14%	4%
	Felt betrayed / marital infidelity	7%	7%
	Fearful of spouse	3%	6%
	Feelings of failure or rejection	3%	4%
	Harder to find someone new	1%	14%
	Wiser / more aware of difficulties	3%	15%
	Older / more difficulty to adjust	0%	15%
	Neither was particularly difficult	1%	1%
	Both were equally difficult	0%	1%
	Other misc.	3%	5%
	Don't Know	2%	1%
	TOTAL	100%	100%

Q31. During the past 6 months, how often, on average, have you engaged in the following activities? Check one answer for each activity. If an activity does not apply, check "not at all".

	Not at all	Once or twice a month	About once a week	More than once a week	Daily
Sexual touching or hugging					
Kissing					
Sexual intercourse					
Oral sex					
Self-stimulation / masturbation					
Anal sex					

		TOTAL			MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q31: During the past 6	Not at all	413	433	38%	23%	51%
months, how often, on average, have you	Once or twice a month	161	152	13%	17%	10%
engaged in [Sexual	About once a week	88	88	8%	10%	6%
touching or hugging]	More than once a week	171	173	15%	19%	11%
	Daily	241	234	20%	24%	17%
	REFUSED	73	67	6%	7%	5%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

		TOTAL			MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q31: During the past 6	Not at all	381	401	35%	22%	47%
months, how often, on average, have you	Once or twice a month	131	124	11%	14%	8%
engaged in [Kissing]	About once a week	61	57	5%	4%	6%
	More than once a week	158	152	13%	19%	8%
	Daily	347	349	30%	36%	25%
	REFUSED	69	64	6%	6%	5%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

		TOTAL			MALE	FEMALE
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q31: During the past 6	Not at all	522	532	46%	33%	59%
months, how often, on average, have you	Once or twice a month	197	184	16%	19%	13%
engaged in [Sexual	About once a week	172	168	15%	21%	9%
intercourse]	More than once a week	157	163	14%	18%	10%
	Daily	18	27	2%	2%	3%
	REFUSED	81	73	6%	6%	6%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

			TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q31: During the past 6	Not at all	683	683	60%	49%	69%
months, how often, on average, have you	Once or twice a month	187	189	17%	20%	14%
engaged in [Oral sex]	About once a week	97	91	8%	12%	4%
	More than once a week	74	67	6%	7%	4%
	Daily	11	19	2%	2%	2%
	REFUSED	95	98	9%	10%	7%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

				TOTAL		
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q31: During the past 6	Not at all	620	663	58%	47%	68%
months, how often, on average, have you	Once or twice a month	239	216	19%	20%	18%
engaged in [Self-	About once a week	79	66	6%	9%	3%
stimulation /	More than once a week	77	71	6%	9%	3%
masturbation]	Daily	19	20	2%	3%	1%
	REFUSED	113	111	10%	12%	7%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

				TOTAL		
		Unweighted	Weighted N	Percent	Percent	Percent
Q31: During the past 6	Not at all	993	985	86%	83%	89%
months, how often, on average, have you	Once or twice a month	29	33	3%	4%	2%
engaged in [Anal sex]	About once a week	4	4	<1%	<1%	<1%
	More than once a week	5	4	<1%	<1%	<1%
	Daily	2	3	<1%	<1%	1%
	REFUSED	114	119	10%	12%	8%
	TOTAL	1147	1147	100%	100%	100%

### [END]

### ADDITIONAL RESPONDENT DATA

Has Respondent ever had DEPRESSION?

	Hus Respondent ever had BET RESSIOIVE				
		Total	Gender		
		Total	Male	Female	
Total	Weighted	979	469	510	
Total	Unweighted	984	493	491	
	Yes, self-diagnosed only	4%	3%	4%	
	Yes, doctor confirmed	25%	18%	31%	
	No	72%	79%	65%	

During an average week, how often do you exercise?

		Total	Gender	
		Total	Male	Female
Total	Weighted	1016	488	528
Total	Unweighted	1021	514	507
	Never	22%	29%	17%
	Less than once a week	19%	19%	19%
	1-2 times/week	23%	20%	25%
	3-5 times/week	27%	22%	31%
	6 or more times/week	9%	10%	8%

How much stress, strain, or pressure have you been under during the past few months?

		Total	Gender	
		Total	Male	Female
Total	Weighted	1017	489	528
Total	Unweighted	1022	515	507
	Almost more than I Could bear or stand	7%	6%	8%
	Quite a bit of pressure	22%	17%	27%
	Some, more than usual	25%	21%	28%
	Some, but about usual	24%	27%	21%
	A little	14%	18%	10%
	None	9%	11%	7%

Religion

	Kengio		0.	ondor	
		Total	Ge	ender	
			Male	Female	
Total	Weighted	889	462	427	
Total	Unweighted	873	481	392	
	Baptist	21%	23%	19%	
	Protestant	28%	28%	29%	
	Catholic	18%	17%	19%	
	Mormon	1%	2%	1%	
	Jewish	1%	2%	1%	
	Muslim	<1%	<1%	<1%	
	Hindu	0.2%	0.4%	<1%	
	Buddist	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	
	Pentecostal	5%	4%	7%	
	Eastern Orthodox	<1%	<1%	<1%	
	Other Christian	8%	8%	7%	
	Other Non-Christian	6%	5%	8%	
	None	11%	11%	10%	

**Self-Assessment of Health** 

Dell Habbebbillette of Health				
		Total	Ge	ender
		Total	Male	Female
Total	Weighted	1014	486	529
IOlai	Unweighted	1022	514	508
	Excellent	11%	10%	12%
	Very Good	33%	35%	32%
	Good	35%	36%	35%
	Fair	16%	15%	16%
	Poor	4%	5%	4%

**Respondent's Marital Status** 

	-	Total	Ge	ender
		Total	Male	Female
Total	Weighted	1147	553	594
Total	Unweighted	1148	581	567
	Married	31%	42%	22%
	Divorce (Never Married)	1%	1%	1%
	Divorced	61%	53%	68%
	Widowed	5%	3%	6%
	Separated	3%	2%	3%

**Head of Household Status** 

		Total	Ge	ender
		Total	Male	Female
Total	Weighted	1147	553	594
lotai	Unweighted	1148	581	567
	No	15%	15%	14%
	Yes	86%	85%	86%

Household Size (Including adults and children of all ages, including infants)

		Total Gender		ender
		Total	Male	Female
Total	Weighted	1147	553	594
Total	Unweighted	1148	581	567
	1	38%	35%	40%
	More than one	62%	65%	60%

Presence Age in Household (Incidence)

	8	Total	Gender		
		Total	Male	Female	
Total	Weighted	1147	553	594	
Total	Unweighted	1148	581	567	
	1 or younger	1%	<1%	2%	
	2 to 5	3%	4%	2%	
	6 to 12	9%	9%	8%	
	13 to 17	9%	8%	10%	
	18 or older	100%	100%	100%	

Presence Age in Household (Share)

		Total	Ge	ender
			Male	Female
Total	Weighted	2302	1133	1169
Iotai	Unweighted	2257	1182	1075
	1 or younger	1%	<1%	1%
	2 to 5	2%	2%	2%
	6 to 12	5%	6%	5%
	13 to 17	6%	5%	6%
	18 or older	87%	87%	86%

**Respondent's Race/Ethnicity** 

	•	Total	Gender	
		Total	Male	Female
Total	Weighted	1147	553	594
I Stai	Unweighted	1148	581	567
	White (Non-Hispanic)	78%	78%	79%
	Black/African American, Non-Hispanic	13%	12%	13%
	Other, Non-Hispanic	3%	3%	3%
	Hispanic	6%	7%	5%

**Respondent's Highest Completed Education Level** 

		Total	Gender	
		Total	Male	Female
Total	Weighted	1147	553	594
Total	Unweighted	1148	581	567
	Less than high school	5%	7%	4%
	Some high school, no diploma	12%	8%	15%
	High school diploma or equivalent (GED)	32%	34%	31%
	Some college, no degree	22%	22%	22%
	Associate Degree	7%	8%	6%
	Bachelor's Degree	13%	13%	13%
	Master's Degree	7%	5%	8%
	Professional Degree	2%	2%	2%
	Doctorate Degree	1%	2%	<1%

**Respondent's Employment Status** 

		Total	Ge	ender
		Total	Male	Female
Total	Weighted	1147	553	594
Total	Unweighted	1148	581	567
	Unemployed, temporarily Laid off, or looking for work	4%	4%	3%
	Retired	25%	28%	23%
	Homemaker	3%	<1%	5%
	Disabled	13%	14%	13%
	Paid Employee	44%	43%	45%
	Self-Employed	7%	8%	6%
	Owner or Partner	2%	3%	2%
	Work in Family Business	<1%	<1%	1%
	Other	1%	1%	2%

Past Year Household Income Before taxes (Total Respondents)

Detore takes (Total Respondents)					
		Total	Gender		
		Total	Male	Female	
Total	Weighted	1147	553	594	
lotai	Unweighted	1148	581	567	
	Less than \$35k	51%	44%	59%	
	\$35k - \$74k	37%	41%	33%	
	\$75k or more	12%	16%	9%	
	\$125k or more	3%	5%	2%	

### **Household Dual Income Status**

		Total	Ge	ender
		Total	Male	Female
Total	Weighted	1147	553	594
Total	Unweighted	1148	581	567
	No	65%	61%	69%
	Yes	35%	39%	31%

**Household Ownership Status** 

		Total	Total Gender		
		Total	Male	Female	
Total	Weighted	1147	553	594	
Total	Unweighted	1148	581	567	
	Own	69%	71%	67%	
	Rent	26%	24%	28%	
	Do not pay for housing	5%	5%	4%	

**Type of Housing** 

	<i>y</i> 1	Total	Gender	
		Total	Male	Female
Total	Weighted	1147	553	594
	Unweighted	1148	581	567
	Divorce family detached house	61%	64%	58%
	Divorce family attached house	6%	5%	7%
	Apartment	15%	12%	18%
	Condominium or Co-op	4%	5%	4%
	Manufactured or mobile home	11%	11%	11%
	Other	3%	4%	3%

Region 4 (based on State of Residence)

9	•	Total	Gender	
		Total	Male	Female
Total	Weighted	1147	553	594
Total	Unweighted	1148	581	567
	Northeast	17%	17%	18%
	Midwest	20%	20%	20%
	South	39%	40%	39%
	West	24%	24%	24%

Metro/Non-Metro (based on MSA)

		Total	Gender		
			Male	Female	
Total	Weighted	1147	553	594	
Total	Unweighted	1148	581	567	
	Non-Metro	19%	16%	22%	
	Metro	81%	84%	78%	

### **METHODOLOGY AND TECHNICAL NOTES**

#### Introduction

AARP contracted with Knowledge Networks to conduct this survey using its research panel, designed to be representative of the entire U.S. population. The panel is representative because it is recruited using high quality probability sampling techniques and is not limited to current Web users or computer owners. Knowledge Networks selects households using random digit dialing (RDD) and provides selected households with free hardware and Internet access. This allows surveys to be administered using a Web browser and enables the inclusion of multimedia content. Once persons are recruited to the panel, they can be contacted by email (instead of by phone or mail). This permits surveys to be fielded very quickly and economically. In addition, this approach reduces the burden placed on respondents, since email notification is less obtrusive than telephone calls, and most respondents find answering Web questionnaires to be more interesting and engaging than being questioned by a telephone interviewer.

# Panel Recruitment Methodology

Knowledge Networks' panel recruitment methodology uses the quality standards established by the best Random Digit Dialing (RDD) surveys conducted for the Federal Government.

Knowledge Networks utilizes list-assisted RDD sampling techniques on the sample frame consisting of the entire U.S. telephone population. The sample frame is updated quarterly. Knowledge Networks excludes only those banks of telephone numbers (consisting of 100 telephone numbers) that have zero directory-listed phone numbers. Knowledge Networks' telephone numbers are selected from the 1+ banks with equal probability of selection for each number. Note that the sampling is done without replacement to ensure that numbers already fielded by Knowledge Networks do not get fielded again.

Having generated the initial list of telephone numbers, the sample preparation system excludes confirmed disconnected and non-residential telephone numbers. Next, the sample is screened to exclude numbers that are not in the WebTV Internet Service Provider network. This process results in the exclusion of approximately six percent to eight percent of the U.S. population. This percentage is diminishing steadily and as of July 2001, Knowledge Networks began to include a small sample

The Divorce Experience: A Study of Divorce at Midlife and Beyond, AARP, May 2004

from the out of WebTV Internet Service Provider network in the panel to represent these areas and reduce coverage error.

Telephone numbers for which Knowledge Networks is able to recover a valid postal address (about 50%) are sent an advance mailing informing them that they have been selected to participate in the Knowledge Networks Panel. In addition to information about the Knowledge Networks Panel, the advance mailing also contains a monetary incentive to encourage cooperation when the interviewer calls.

Following the mailing, the telephone recruitment process begins. The numbers called by interviewers consist of all numbers sent an advance mailing, as well as 50 percent of the numbers not sent an advance mailing. The resulting cost efficiency more than offsets the decrease in precision caused by the need for sample weights. Cases sent to telephone interviewers are dialed up to 90 days, with at least 15 dial attempts on cases where no one answers the phone and 25 dial attempts on phone numbers known to be associated with households. Extensive refusal conversion is also performed.

Experienced interviewers conduct all recruitment interviews. An interview, which typically requires about 10 minutes, begins with the interviewer informing the household member that they have been selected to join the Knowledge Networks Panel. They are told that in return for completing a short survey weekly, the household will be given a WebTV set-top box and free monthly Internet access. All members in the household are then enumerated, and some initial demographic variables and background information of prior computer and Internet usage are collected.

To ensure consistent delivery of survey content, each household is provided with identical hardware, even if they currently own a computer or have Internet access. Microsoft's WebTV is the hardware platform currently used by the Knowledge Networks panel. The device consists of a set-top box that connects to a TV and the telephone. It also includes a remote keyboard and pointing device. WebTV has a built-in 56K modem that provides the household with a connection to the Internet. The base unit also has a small hard drive to accommodate large file downloads, including video files. File downloads do not require any user intervention and usually occur during off-hours.

Prior to shipment, each unit is custom configured with individual email accounts, so that it is ready for immediate use by the household. Most households

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are able to install the hardware without additional assistance, though Knowledge Networks maintains a telephone technical support line and will, when needed, provide on-site installation. The Knowledge Networks Call Center also contacts household members who do not respond to email and attempts to restore contact and cooperation.

All new panel members are sent an initial survey to confirm equipment installation and familiarize them with the WebTV unit. Demographics such as gender, age, race, income, and education are collected for each participant to create a member profile. This information can be used to determine eligibility for specific studies and need not be gathered with each survey.

## **Survey Administration**

For client-based surveys, a sample is drawn at random from active panel members who meet the screening criteria (if any) for the client's study. The typical sample size is between 200 and 2000 persons, depending on the purpose of the study. Once selected, members can be sent an advance letter by mail several days prior to receiving the questionnaire through their WebTV appliance to notify them of an important, upcoming survey.

Once assigned to a survey, members receive a notification email on their WebTV letting them know there is a new survey available for them to take. The email notification contains a button to start the survey. No login name or password is required. The field period depends on the client's needs, and can range anywhere from a few minutes to two weeks.

Email reminders are sent to uncooperative panel members. If email does not generate a response, a phone reminder is initiated. The usual protocol is to wait at least three days and to permit a weekend to pass before calling. Knowledge Networks also operates an ongoing incentive program to encourage participation and create member loyalty. To assist panel members with their survey taking, each individual has a personalized "home page" that lists all the surveys that were assigned to that member and have yet to be completed.

# Survey Sampling from Panel

Once panel members are recruited and profiled, they become eligible for selection for specific surveys. In most cases, the specific survey sample represents a simple random sample from the panel. The sample is drawn from eligible members using an implicitly stratified systematic sample design. Customized stratified random sampling based on profile data is also conducted, as required by specific studies.

The primary sampling rule is not to assign more than one survey per week to members. In certain cases, a survey sample calls for pre-screening, that is, members are drawn from a sub-sample of the panel (e.g., females, Republicans). In such cases, care is taken to ensure that all subsequent survey sample drawn that week are selected in such a way as to result in a sample that is representative of the panel distributions. Furthermore, Panel Members are not assigned surveys on the same topic in a given three-month period.

# **Design Effects for AARP Divorces Survey**

For estimates computed using the full sample, the design effect is 2.12. The design effect should be used to adjust calculated sampling errors from the study to reflect the deviation of the sample design from a simple random sample design.

The design effect for the AARP Divorce Survey was computed as follows:

$$deff = \frac{n \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i^2}{\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i\right)^2}$$

 $deff = (3501*(7411))/(3501)^2$ 

deff = 2.12

An example of how to use the design effect to adjust estimates of sampling variance is as follows. The example describes the approach for calculating sampling error for estimated proportions. The approach applies directly to calculation of sampling error for other estimates such as totals, means, regression estimators, etc.

Assume you are calculating an estimate of sampling error from your study for estimate p. The formula for calculating the standard error for an estimated proportion from a simple random sample is:

s.e.(p)srs = sqrt (
$$p * (1-p)/n$$
) where n is the sample size.

For a study such as the AARP Divorce Survey that deviates from a simple random sample design (i.e., is considered complex), you include the design effect in the calculation of sampling error as follows:

s.e.(p)complex = 
$$sqrt (Deff *p * (1-p)/ n)$$

where n is the sample size, and Deff is the design effect.

A 90% confidence interval is calculated as

$$p \pm 1.645 * s.e.(p)$$
complex.

A 95% confidence interval is calculated as

$$p \pm 1.964 * s.e.(p)$$
complex.

#### **EXAMPLE:**

If p = 50% is the proportion of people who stated they are presently dating in the AARP Divorce Survey sample, a confidence interval can be computed using the design effect of 2.12 and sample N of 3501.

s.e.(.50)complex = sqrt ( 
$$2.12*(.5)*(1-(.5))/3501$$
) = .0123 or 1.23% and a 95% confidence interval for p = 50% is  $50\% \pm 1.964*(1.23\%)$  or  $50\% \pm 2.41\%$ .

The same approach should be used for calculating the sampling error for all other estimates or model parameters from the survey data. Simply multiply the simple random sample variance estimate by the Deff.

## Response Rate and Qualification/Incidence Rate

Readers and researchers are generally more familiar with the idea of response rates from random digit dial (RDD) surveys. When using panels for survey research, there are several stages where potential bias can be entered. First, people agree to become panel members. This is generally referred to as the panel acceptance rate. The panel acceptance rate is estimated to be 36%, calculated by standards established by the American Association for Public Opinion Research. Second, panel members can attrite from the panel over time. Of the recruited sample, 31% of the recruited panel is estimated to have been active and available for selection at the time of selecting the sample for this study.<sup>1</sup>

Finally, there is the within-survey completion rate or percentage of panel members who completed the questionnaire among all of those who were sent the questionnaire. A total of 11,495 email invitations were sent to panel members aged 40-79. Of that group, 8,070 people (70%) responded to the invitation. Of those that responded, 1,147 (14%) qualified for the survey because they had experienced divorce at age 40 or beyond.

# Weighting for Non-Response Bias

Weighting is generally used in survey analysis to compensate for patterns of nonresponse that might bias results. For the AARP Divorce Survey, the entire base of respondents (regardless of divorce experience) was weighted to match national parameters for gender, age, education, race/ethnicity, and region (U.S. Census definitions). These parameters came from a special analysis of the December 2002 Current Population Survey (CPS).

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The panel recruitment and retention rates listed above reflect the state of the KN panel as of March, 2002.

# STATISTICAL TABLES

**Table 1. Major Life Events** 

		To	otal	Q1	1: Major Life Eve	nts Experien	ced
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Lost your job	Suffered from a major illness	Death of a spouse	None of these
Total	Total	1147	1147	45%	30%	8%	37%
Gender	Male	581	553	50%	29%	6%	36%
Gender	Female	566	594	40%	31%	10%	39%
	<b>Unmarried Men</b>	310	292	51%	30%	8%	35%
	Married Men	271	261	48%	29%	4%	37%
Marital Status	Unmarried Women	397	412	37%	33%	12%	40%
	<b>Married Women</b>	169	182	47%	26%	6%	37%
	Under 25K	346	413	49%	41%	15%	27%
Income	25-50K	401	410	42%	24%	4%	44%
moome	50-75K	219	187	46%	20%	6%	39%
	75K+	181	137	39%	27%	3%	45%
	HS or less	392	560	40%	33%	10%	38%
Education	Some college	421	326	55%	27%	8%	32%
	Bachelors or more	334	261	43%	28%	8% 6% 10% 8% 4% 12% 6% 15% 4% 6% 3% 10% 8% 6% 7% 11% 5% 6% 14% 8%	42%
	White	956	898	46%	29%	7%	38%
Race/Ethnicity	African Amer.	100	145	39%	40%	11%	28%
	Hispanic	66	67	39%	14%	5%	46%
	Employed	657	617	46%	20%	6%	43%
Employment	Retired	304	290	36%	34%	14%	39%
	Unemployed	170	225	52%	54%	8%	21%
Major Illness /	Experienced event	395	405	53%	85%	24%	
Death of Spouse	Didn't experience event	752	742	40%			58%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		To	tal	(	Q11: Major Life Even	ts Experience	d
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Lost your job	Suffered from a major illness	Death of a spouse	None of these
Total	Total	1147	1147	45%	30%	8%	37%
	40-49	199	225	43%	20%	1%	47%
Age Category	50-59	452	434	50%	33%	7%	31%
Age Category	60-69	346	331	42%	30%	9%	39%
	70-79	150	157	38%	bur job         major illness         spouse         the           45%         30%         8%           43%         20%         1%           50%         33%         7%           42%         30%         9%	35%	
	Men 40-49	93	94	44%	12%	3%	50%
	Men 50-59	239	226	57%	29%	5%	29%
	Men 60+	249	232	45%	36%	9%	36%
Age by Gender	Women 40-49	106	131	42%	26%		46%
	Women 50-59	213	208	42%	37%	10%	34%
	Women 60+	247	256	37%	28%	16%	39%
	40-44	474	490	47%	27%	5%	39%
Age at Divorce	45-49	349	346	47%	30%	9%	35%
Age at Divorce	50-54	181	173	40%	33%	12%	37%
	55+	143	138	34%	35%	14%	37%
	Men 40-49	406	396	53%	29%	6%	34%
	Men 50+	175	156	42%	30%	7%	41%
Age at Divorce by Gender	Women 40-49	417	440	43%	28%	7%	41%
	Women 50+	149	155	33%	38%	19%	33%

		To	tal	Q1	1: Major Life Eve	nts Experien	ced
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Lost your job	Suffered from a major illness	Death of a spouse	None of these
Total	Total	1147	1147	45%	30%	8%	37%
	Excellent	142	114	32%	10%	5%	56%
Self-Assessment	Very Good	370	338	43%	16%	6%	48%
of Health	Good	354	358	44%	28%	11%	37%
	Fair/Poor	155	204	50%	64%	10%	17%
Stress Level	High	549	545	49%	34%	10%	32%
Olless Level	Low	472	472	37%	23%	7%	47%
Depression	Has suffered depression	270	277	54%	43%	11%	29%
Depression	Has not suffered depression	713	702	40%	24%	7%	42%
	9 or 10	340	364	32%	29%	12%	44%
Ladder of Life - Current	7 or 8	480	452	48%	28%	8%	35%
	1 thru 6	325	330	54%	34%	5%	32%
	9 or 10	608	622	39%	27%	9%	40%
Ladder of Life - in 5 Years	7 or 8	342	318	49%	28%	8%	39%
	1 thru 6	180	187	57%	44%	9%	25%
Farmeira	3x/week or more	391	365	40%	28%	7%	41%
Exercise Frequency	2x/week or less	442	424	43%	29%	10%	39%
	Never	187	227	48%	31%	7%	36%
	Protestant	270	252	46%	28%	11%	36%
Religion	Catholic	170	161	45%	28%	6%	37%
i tongion	Baptist	145	186	40%	34%	10%	34%
	None	89	94	46%	21%	3%	49%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

Table 2. Divorce and Loss of Job

			tal	Q12a: Comparing of a job, which whan		ficult for you to
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Job loss was more difficult	About the same	Divorce was more difficult
Total	Total	539	512	28%	24%	47%
Gender	Male	299	274	30%	22%	48%
Gender	Female	240	238	26%	26%	47%
	Unmarried Men	163	150	23%	28%	48%
	Married Men	136	124	37%	15%	48%
Marital Status	Unmarried Women	162	152	24%	26%	49%
	Married Women	78	86	29%	25%	44%
	Under 25K	182	200	26%	24%	48%
Income	25-50K	183	172	25%	27%	47%
	50-75K	95	86	33%	21%	45%
	75K+	79	54	32%	15%	50%
	HS or less	166	221	33%	25%	41%
Education	Some college	224	178	22%	27%	50%
	Bachelors or more	149	113	27%	16%	55%
	White	455	417	24%	24%	51%
Race/Ethnicity	African Amer.	42	57	58%	19%	23%
	Hispanic	30	26	27%	26%	47%
	Employed	312	283	29%	22%	48%
Employment	Retired	113	104	24%	31%	42%
	Unemployed	104	117	27%	23%	49%
Major Illness /	Experienced event	242	216	24%	26%	48%
Death of Spouse	Didn't experience event	297	297	31%	22%	47%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		Тс	otal	Q12a: Comparing yo which was more diffic		
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Job loss was more difficult	About the same	Divorce was more difficult
Total	Total	539	512	28%	24%	47%
	40-49	89	97	29%	20%	50%
Age Category	50-59	227	216	27%	22%	52%
Age Category	60-69	158	139	31%	28%	40%
	70-79	65	60	23%	28%	46%
	Men 40- 49	46	42	22%	26%	52%
	Men 50- 59	139	128	26%	22%	53%
	Men 60+	114	104	37%	21%	40%
Age by Gender	Women 40-49	43	55	35%	15%	48%
	Women 50-59	88	88	28%	22%	50%
	Women 60+	109	96	18%	36%	44%
	40-44	237	232	26%	23%	49%
Age at Divorce	45-49	169	164	29%	22%	49%
Age at Divorce	50-54	77	69	30%	33%	36%
	55+	56	47	28%	20%	50%
	Men 40- 49	221	209	26%	23%	51%
Age at Divorce	Men 50+	78	65	40%	19%	38%
Age at Divorce ∔	Women 40-49	185	188	29%	22%	47%
	Women 50+	55	50	14%	39%	47%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

Table 3. Divorce and Major Illness

		To	tal	Q12b: Comparing illness, which w hand		cult for you to
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Major illness was more difficult	About the same	Divorce was more difficult
Total	Total	338	343	41%	28%	30%
Gender	Male	171	161	48%	19%	31%
Gender	Female	167	182	35%	35%	30%
	Unmarried Men	93	86	50%	17%	29%
	Married Men	78	75	46%	22%	33%
Marital Status	Unmarried Women	124	135	35%	36%	29%
	Married Women	43	47	34%	32%	33%
	Under 25K	145	169	48%	29%	21%
Income	25-50K	102	100	38%	31%	30%
moome	50-75K	43	38	32%	6%	60%
	75K+	48	37	24%	35%	41%
	HS or less	119	182	46%	31%	23%
Education	Some college	127	87	34%	27%	37%
	Bachelors or more	92	74	36%	21%	41%
	White	286	265	36%	30%	32%
Race/Ethnicity	African Amer.	34	58	62%	17%	20%
	Hispanic	11	10	39%	31%	30%
	Employed	145	121	30%	28%	41%
Employment	Retired	94	100	52%	19%	28%
	Unemployed	97	122	43%	34%	22%
Major Illness / Death of Spouse	Experienced event	338	343	41%	28%	30%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		Тс	otal	Q12b: Comparing you which was more difficu		
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Major illness was more difficult	About the same	Divorce was more difficult
Total	Total	338	343	41%	28%	30%
	40-49	41	44	43%	36%	19%
A O-1	50-59	132	142	37%	25%	38%
Age Category	60-69	114	100	43%	28%	28%
	70-79	51	57	47%	28%	24%
	Men 40- 49	13	11	35%	32%	27%
	Men 50- 59	67	66	41%	16%	42%
	Men 60+	91	84	56%	20%	23%
Age by Gender	Women 40-49	28	33	46%	37%	17%
	Women 50-59	65	76	33%	32%	34%
	Women 60+	74	73	31%	37%	31%
	40-44	133	133	41%	27%	31%
	45-49	102	105	43%	25%	31%
Age at Divorce	50-54	56	57	45%	25%	29%
	55+	47	49	33%	37%	29%
	Men 40- 49	114	115	51%	19%	29%
Age at Divorce	Men 50+	57	46	42%	20%	36%
by Gender	Women 40-49	121	124	34%	33%	33%
	Women 50+	46	59	37%	39%	24%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		To	otal	Q12b: Comparing illness, which w hand	your last div as more diffi le emotional	cult for you to
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Major illness was more difficult	About the same	Divorce was more difficult
Total	Total	338	343	41%	28%	30%
# of Times	Once	160	169	42%	30%	27%
Divorced	More than once	177	174	40%	25%	34%
	Less than 5 years	58	60	54%	17%	27%
Time Since Divorce	5 to 9 years	58	59	42%	29%	29%
	10 years or more	220	223	38%	30%	32%
	Abuse	132	128	37%	35%	27%
Reason for Divorce	Different values, lifestyles	102	101	48%	20%	32%
	Cheating	98	101	41%	26%	33%
	Alcohol/drug abuse	60	68	37%	34%	29%
	Fell out of love	65	74	38%	33%	28%
	Came as a surprise	71	72	23%	27%	47%
Time Spent	Less than 1 year	99	113	52%	21%	27%
Thinking about Divorce	1 to less than 2 years	55	55	47%	40%	13%
	2 to less than 5 years	51	39	40%	20%	40%
	5 years or more	60	63	39%	34%	27%
	None	86	75	56%	20%	24%
Had Children at Time of Divorce	Age 11 or younger	80	84	39%	22%	38%
	Age 12-17	103	91	31%	33%	34%
	Age 18 or older	126	140	39%	34%	27%
Parents' Marital	Divorced	96	102	41%	24%	33%
Status	Stayed married	239	237	41%	30%	29%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

Table 4. Biggest Fears after Divorce

		To	otal	Q23: V	Vhat were	e your biggest divorce?	t fears after	the
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Finances	Being alone	Never finding someone	Kids not forgiving	Not see kids
Total	Total	1147	1147	28%	45%	24%	9%	14%
	Male	581	553	11%	42%	24%	10%	27%
Gender	Female	566	594	44%	47%	24%	8%	3%
	Unmarried Men	310	292	14%	44%	24%	6%	28%
Marital Status	Married Men	271	261	9%	40%	24%	14%	25%
Indirial Glatas	Unmarried Women	397	412	46%	51%	24%	4%	2%
	Married Women	169	182	41%	39%	22%	16%	4%
	Under 25K	346	413	35%	49%	22%	5%	13%
Income	25-50K	401	410	26%	44%	26%	9%	11%
liicome	50-75K	219	187	25%	42%	26%	10%	17%
	75K+	181	137	19%	35%	21%	17%	25%
	HS or less	392	560	28%	52%	24%	10%	13%
Education	Some college	421	326	29%	37%	23%	8%	15%
	Bachelors or more	334	261	28%	37%	24%	9%	15%
	White	956	898	31%	44%	26%	8%	13%
Race/Ethnicity	African Amer.	100	145	20%	48%	15%	12%	13%
	Hispanic	66	67	22%	49%	21%	10%	21%
	Employed	657	617	31%	42%	25%	9%	16%
Employment	Retired	304	290	24%	44%	22%	12%	12%
	Unemployed	170	225	27%	52%	24%	3%	13%
Major Illness /	Experienced event	395	405	30%	48%	20%	9%	13%
Death of Spouse	Didn't experience	752	742	27%	43%	26%	9%	15%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		То	tal	Q2	Q23: What were your biggest fears after the divorce? (cont.)						
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Family would not accept me	Failing again	Kids not have 2 parents	Stay depressed	Stay angry/ bitter	No Answer		
Total	Total	1147	1147	1%	31%	4%	16%	20%	8%		
Camalan	Male	581	553	2%	28%	5%	21%	21%	9%		
Gender	Female	566	594	1%	34%	4%	11%	18%	8%		
	Unmarried Men	310	292		24%	5%	26%	22%	10%		
	Married Men	271	261	4%	32%	5%	14%	20%	7%		
Marital Status	Unmarried Women	397	412	0%	32%	4%	13%	19%	7%		
	Married Women	169	182	2%	38%	3%	8%	16%	9%		
	Under 25K	346	413	0%	30%	5%	17%	20%	7%		
Income	25-50K	401	410	1%	32%	4%	15%	21%	9%		
ncome 50	50-75K	219	187	2%	35%	3%	16%	19%	7%		
	75K+	181	137	3%	26%	4%	17%	15%	12%		
	HS or less	392	560	1%	32%	4%	14%	19%	6%		
Education	Some college	421	326	1%	32%	4%	17%	24%	9%		
	Bachelors or more	334	261	2%	27%	6%	19%	16%	12%		
	White	956	898	1%	31%	3%	16%	18%	7%		
Race/Ethnicity	African Amer.	100	145	1%	26%	5%	15%	26%	15%		
	Hispanic	66	67	1%	41%	15%	16%	20%	5%		
	Employed	657	617	1%	29%	4%	15%	18%	8%		
Employment	Retired	304	290	2%	31%	3%	17%	23%	10%		
	Unemployed	170	225	2%	36%	7%	17%	20%	6%		
Major Illness /	Experienced event	395	405	2%	30%	4%	18%	23%	8%		
Death of Spouse	Didn't experience event	752	742	1%	31%	4%	15%	18%	8%		

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		To	tal	Q23: W	hat were	your biggest fea	rs after the di	vorce?
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Finances	Being alone	Never finding someone	Kids not forgiving	Not see my kids
Total	Total	1147	1147	28%	45%	24%	9%	14%
	40-49	199	225	36%	43%	25%	7%	14%
Age Category	50-59	452	434	28%	44%	24%	8%	16%
rigo outogory	60-69	346	331	24%	46%	24%	8%	13%
Age Category	70-79	150	157	28%	47%	21%	17%	12%
	Men 40- 49	93	94	17%	44%	20%	9%	31%
	Men 50- 59	239	226	11%	41%	28%	7%	28%
	Men 60+	249	232	9%	43%	22%	13%	23%
Age by Gender	Women 40-49	106	131	50%	42%	28%	5%	1%
	Women 50-59	213	208	46%	47%	20%	9%	4%
Age by Gender	Women 60+	247	256	40%	50%	24%	9%	3%
	40-44	474	490	26%	44%	21%	12%	17%
A 1 Di	45-49	349	346	32%	42%	26%	9%	14%
Age at Divorce	50-54	181	173	28%	46%	24%	3%	8%
	55+	143	138	27%	53%	26%	3%	13%
	Men 40- 49	406	396	12%	42%	21%	12%	29%
Age at Divorce	Men 50+	175	156	10%	42%	32%	4%	20%
by Gender	Women 40-49	417	440	44%	44%	26%	10%	4%
	Women 50+	149	155	46%	56%	18%	2%	

		To	tal	Q23: Wha	t were yo	ur biggest f	ears after the	e divorce?	? (cont.)
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Family would not accept me	Failing again	Kids not have 2 parents	Stay depressed	Stay angry/ bitter	No Answer
Total	Total	1147	1147	1%	31%	4%	16%	20%	8%
	40-49	199	225		35%	6%	14%	18%	6%
Age	50-59	452	434	1%	31%	5%	21%	20%	8%
Category	60-69	346	331	2%	30%	3%	11%	21%	8%
	70-79	150	157	3%	28%	2%	12%	17%	11%
	Men 40- 49	93	94		22%	7%	22%	22%	7%
	Men 50- 59	239	226	1%	28%	5%	28%	21%	8%
Age by	Men 60+	249	232	3%	31%	3%	13%	21%	10%
Gender	Women 40-49	106	131		45%	6%	9%	% 16%	6%
	Women 50-59	213	208	0%	34%	4%	14%	19%	8%
	Women 60+	247	256	2%	28%	2%	10%	18%	9%
	40-44	474	490	1%	38%	6%	13%	21%	9%
Age at	45-49	349	346	2%	25%	3%	20%	20%	6%
Divorce	50-54	181	173	1%	29%	1%	15%	19%	9%
	55+	143	138	0%	23%	4%	18%	15%	10%
	Men 40- 49	406	396	2%	29%	5%	21%	22%	8%
Age at	Men 50+	175	156	1%	27%	4%	19%	19%	11%
Divorce by Gender	Women 40-49	417	440	1%	36%	5%	10%	19%	8%
	Women 50+	149	155	0%	26%	1%	14%	15%	7%

Table 5. What's Best After Divorce

		То	otal		Q9: 1	hings Lil	ked Bes	t After Divo	orce	
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Freedom	Do things for myself	Own self- identity	House the way I want it	Finances	Not having to deal with another person	Dating
Total	Total	1147	1147	41%	35%	36%	15%	22%	31%	4%
Gender	Male	581	553	39%	31%	21%	14%	27%	25%	7%
Gondon	Female	566	594	43%	38%	49%	17%	18%	37%	2%
	Unmarried Men	310	292	45%	34%	18%	22%	25%	33%	6%
	Married Men	271	261	31%	28%	25%	5%	28%	16%	7%
Marital Status	Unmarried Women	397	412	44%	40%	49%	20%	16%	41%	3%
	Married Women	169	182	42%	36%	49%	11%	23%	28%	0%
	Under 25K	346	413	45%	38%	40%	18%	19%	33%	5%
Income	25-50K	401	410	39%	36%	35%	14%	21%	33%	4%
	50-75K	219	187	39%	29%	28%	16%	29%	27%	4%
	75K+	181	137	38%	31%	35%	11%	26%	25%	4%
	HS or less	392	560	38%	35%	35%	17%	22%	30%	6%
Education	Some college	421	326	46%	36%	34%	15%	24%	34%	3%
	Bachelors or more	334	261	41%	34%	38%	13%	20%	31%	3%
	White	956	898	42%	36%	37%	13%	24%	33%	4%
Race/Ethnicity	African Amer.	100	145	36%	27%	25%	31%	14%	26%	7%
	Hispanic	66	67	35%	36%	35%	18%	24%	12%	1%
	Employed	657	617	42%	31%	35%	16%	23%	34%	4%
Employment	Retired	304	290	46%	40%	37%	11%	20%	28%	4%
	Unemployed	170	225	32%	40%	35%	22%	21%	31%	4%
Major Illness /	Experienced event	395	405	43%	38%	35%	16%	21%	31%	5%
Death of Spouse	Didn't experience event	752	742	40%	33%	36%	15%	23%	31%	4%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		To	tal		Q	): Things Like	d Best Af	ter Div	orce (cont.)	
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Better mate	No in- laws	My appearance/ hygiene	No step children	More sex	Not responsible for another	No Answer
Total	Total	1147	1147	18%	6%	0%	4%	7%	14%	5%
Gender	Male	581	553	26%	8%		6%	11%	10%	7%
Gerider	Female	566	594	11%	4%	0%	2%	2%	17%	3%
	Unmarried Men	310	292	10%	8%		6%	9%	11%	7%
	Married Men	271	261	43%	8%		6%	13%	9%	7%
Marital Status	Unmarried Women	397	412	3%	5%	0%	2%	1%	18%	2%
	Married Women	169	182	28%	2%		2%	4%	15%	5%
	Under 25K	346	413	9%	8%	0%	3%	6%	13%	4%
Income	25-50K	401	410	19%	6%		3%	5%	14%	5%
mcome	50-75K	219	187	25%	3%		6%	9%	18%	6%
	75K+	181	137	32%	2%		5%	9%	8%	6%
	HS or less	392	560	18%	7%		5%	7%	13%	4%
Education	Some college	421	326	18%	5%	0%	3%	5%	11%	4%
	Bachelors or more	334	261	17%	4%		3%	7%	18%	7%
	White	956	898	19%	5%	0%	4%	7%	14%	5%
Race/Ethnicity	African Amer.	100	145	12%	12%		2%	6%	14%	6%
	Hispanic	66	67	24%	3%		2%	7%	12%	6%
	Employed	657	617	19%	4%	0%	4%	5%	15%	5%
Employment	Retired	304	290	19%	4%	0%	4%	8%	11%	7%
	Unemployed	170	225	14%	12%		3%	7%	15%	2%
Major Illness /	Experienced event	395	405	16%	6%	0%	4%	6%	16%	3%
Death of Spouse	Didn't experience event	752	742	19%	6%	0%	3%	7%	12%	6%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		To	tal		Q9: 1	hings Lil	ked Bes	t After Dive	orce	
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Freedom	Do things for myself	Own self- identity	House the way I want it	Finances	Not having to deal with another person	Dating
Total	Total	1147	1147	41%	35%	36%	15%	22%	31%	4%
	40-49	199	225	42%	30%	35%	17%	27%	27%	5%
Age	50-59	452	434	41%	31%	30%	17%	20%	36%	4%
Category	60-69	346	331	39%	41%	41%	17%	23%	31%	3%
	70-79	150	157	43%	39%	39%	8%	19%	25%	4%
	Men 40-49	93	94	36%	35%	22%	18%	37%	19%	7%
	Men 50-59	239	226	38%	26%	22%	10%	23%	32%	7%
Age by	Men 60+	249	232	40%	35%	20%	15%	26%	21%	6%
Gender	Women 40-49	106	131	47%	27%	45%	15%	19%	33%	4%
	Women 50-59	213	208	44%	38%	39%	24%	16%	40%	2%
	Women 60+	247	256	40%	45%	59%	12%	18%	37%	1%
	40-44	474	490	40%	33%	37%	14%	23%	32%	4%
Age at	45-49	349	346	39%	35%	35%	14%	21%	29%	7%
Divorce	50-54	181	173	44%	37%	37%	16%	27%	37%	1%
	55+	143	138	45%	39%	31%	22%	17%	27%	3%
	Men 40-49	406	396	38%	31%	19%	14%	26%	25%	8%
Age at Divorce	Men 50+	175	156	40%	31%	26%	13%	28%	25%	4%
by Gender	Women 40-49	417	440	41%	36%	51%	15%	18%	36%	3%
	Women 50+	149	155	49%	45%	43%	24%	16%	40%	0%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		To	tal		Q	): Things Like	d Best Af	ter Div	orce (cont.)	
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Better mate	No in- laws	My appearance/ hygiene	No step children	More sex	Not responsible for another	No Answer
Total	Total	1147	1147	18%	6%	0%	4%	7%	14%	5%
	40-49	199	225	22%	4%		2%	5%	13%	5%
Age	50-59	452	434	16%	6%	0%	3%	6%	16%	6%
Category	60-69	346	331	16%	7%		5%	8%	13%	3%
	70-79	150	157	22%	7%	1%	6%	6%	12%	5%
	Men 40-49	93	94	23%	5%		3%	10%	12%	10%
	Men 50-59	239	226	21%	6%		5%	8%	13%	9%
Age by	Men 60+	249	232	30%	11%		8%	14%	7%	5%
Gender	Women 40-49	106	131	20%	3%		2%	2%	14%	2%
	Women 50-59	213	208	10%	7%	0%	2%	3%	19%	3%
	Women 60+	247	256	7%	2%	0%	2%	1%	17%	3%
	40-44	474	490	21%	6%	0%	3%	5%	11%	6%
Age at	45-49	349	346	18%	6%	0%	5%	10%	16%	5%
Divorce	50-54	181	173	13%	6%		5%	3%	16%	3%
	55+	143	138	12%	5%		3%	7%	14%	5%
	Men 40-49	406	396	27%	9%		6%	13%	11%	7%
Age at Divorce	Men 50+	175	156	21%	5%		7%	8%	8%	7%
by Gender	Women 40-49	417	440	13%	3%	0%	2%	2%	15%	3%
	Women 50+	149	155	4%	5%		1%	2%	22%	1%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		Tot	al		Q9: T	hings Lil	ked Bes	t After Dive	orce	
		Un- wgted	Wgt- ed	Freedom	Do things for myself	Own self- identity	House the way I want it	Finances	Not having to deal with another person	Dating
Total	Total	1147	1147	41%	35%	36%	15%	22%	31%	4%
	Excellent	142	114	49%	31%	38%	18%	14%	33%	2%
Self- Assessment	Very Good	370	338	43%	32%	35%	13%	23%	36%	4%
of Health	Good	354	358	41%	37%	38%	15%	26%	29%	4%
	Fair/Poor	155	204	37%	35%	30%	20%	18%	27%	3%
Stress Level	High	549	545	42%	36%	38%	17%	20%	33%	3%
Oliess Level	Low	472	472	41%	33%	33%	15%	24%	29%	5%
Depression	Has suffered depression	270	277	41%	34%	42%	19%	19%	36%	3%
Depression	Has not suffered depression	713	702	42%	34%	33%	15%	23%	29%	4%
Ladder of	9 or 10	340	364	35%	33%	37%	12%	22%	24%	4%
Life -	7 or 8	480	452	45%	33%	35%	14%	25%	35%	5%
Current	1 thru 6	325	330	42%	40%	35%	21%	18%	35%	4%
Ladder of	9 or 10	608	622	39%	34%	36%	15%	25%	28%	4%
Life - in 5	7 or 8	342	318	44%	36%	33%	16%	21%	34%	5%
Years	1 thru 6	180	187	42%	38%	39%	16%	15%	38%	2%
Fyereiee	3x/week or more	391	365	46%	36%	33%	17%	20%	37%	3%
Exercise Frequency	2x/week or less	442	424	39%	35%	39%	16%	23%	26%	3%
	Never	187	227	40%	30%	33%	15%	22%	32%	7%
	Protestant	270	252	45%	31%	36%	14%	22%	36%	5%
Religion	Catholic	170	161	43%	45%	41%	16%	25%	34%	2%
	Baptist	145	186	34%	38%	30%	22%	28%	25%	8%
	None	89	94	52%	20%	33%	15%	17%	42%	3%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		Tot	al		Q	e: Things Like	d Best Aft	er Div	orce (cont.)	
		Un- wgted	Wgt- ed	Better mate	No in- laws	My appearance/ hygiene	No step children	More sex	Not responsible for another	No Answer
Total	Total	1147	1147	18%	6%	0%	4%	7%	14%	5%
	Excellent	142	114	13%	2%		4%	6%	12%	6%
Self- Assessment	Very Good	370	338	19%	5%		3%	6%	12%	6%
of Health	Good	354	358	19%	4%	0%	5%	6%	14%	5%
	Fair/Poor	155	204	16%	13%		2%	11%	15%	5%
Stress Level	High	549	545	18%	8%	0%	2%	7%	14%	4%
Stiess Level	Low	472	472	17%	4%	0%	6%	6%	12%	6%
Depression	Has suffered depression	270	277	12%	8%	0%	2%	7%	14%	4%
Depression	Has not suffered depression	713	702	20%	5%	0%	4%	7%	14%	6%
Ladder of	9 or 10	340	364	24%	6%	0%	4%	6%	10%	7%
Life -	7 or 8	480	452	20%	6%		5%	5%	17%	2%
Current	1 thru 6	325	330	9%	6%	0%	2%	8%	14%	6%
Ladder of	9 or 10	608	622	23%	5%		4%	5%	13%	5%
Life - in 5	7 or 8	342	318	14%	10%	0%	5%	7%	14%	3%
Years	1 thru 6	180	187	7%	3%		3%	9%	18%	7%
Fuencies	3x/week or more	391	365	16%	4%	0%	3%	6%	15%	6%
Exercise Frequency	2x/week or less	442	424	17%	7%	0%	4%	6%	15%	4%
	Never	187	227	22%	7%		6%	10%	8%	6%
	Protestant	270	252	22%	6%	0%	5%	7%	12%	6%
Religion	Catholic	170	161	18%	6%		5%	7%	8%	2%
Ivelidion	Baptist	145	186	10%	7%		3%	8%	13%	7%
	None	89	94	22%	5%		2%	8%	18%	2%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

Table 6. What's Liked Least About Divorce

		То	tal	(	Q10: Things	s Liked	Least Af	ter Divorce	
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Someone to do things	Someone to talk to	STDs	Raising kids by self	Feeling self- conscious	Nobody to take care of me
Total	Total	1147	1147	34%	21%	9%	9%	15%	10%
Gender	Male	581	553	38%	24%	10%	5%	13%	10%
Geridei	Female	566	594	31%	18%	9%	12%	17%	10%
	Unmarried Men	310	292	37%	25%	10%	4%	13%	12%
	Married Men	271	261	39%	23%	10%	6%	13%	7%
Marital Status	Unmarried Women	397	412	33%	20%	9%	10%	18%	11%
	Married Women	169	182	26%	12%	9%	16%	13%	6%
	Under 25K	346	413	31%	24%	12%	9%	14%	13%
Income	25-50K	401	410	35%	20%	7%	8%	17%	7%
liicome	50-75K	219	187	38%	22%	9%	8%	15%	10%
	75K+	181	137	37%	12%	7%	9%	14%	7%
	HS or less	392	560	33%	24%	12%	8%	14%	10%
Education	Some college	421	326	35%	19%	8%	9%	14%	10%
	Bachelors or more	334	261	36%	15%	4%	9%	19%	9%
	White	956	898	35%	20%	8%	9%	15%	10%
Race/Ethnicity	African Amer.	100	145	28%	23%	14%	11%	19%	8%
	Hispanic	66	67	47%	19%	8%	8%	10%	17%
	Employed	657	617	35%	19%	11%	8%	11%	8%
Employment	Retired	304	290	38%	18%	7%	8%	24%	12%
	Unemployed	170	225	26%	30%	7%	12%	14%	10%
Major Illness /	Experienced event	395	405	35%	21%	8%	10%	17%	10%
Death of Spouse	Didn't experience event	752	742	34%	21%	10%	8%	14%	9%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		To	tal	Q1	0: Things L	iked Leas	t Afte	r Divorce (c	ont.)
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Fear of crime/ alone	Finances	No affection	No sex	Unhealthy behaviors	No Answer
Total	Total	1147	1147	5%	26%	17%	11%	9%	8%
Gender	Male	581	553	1%	14%	20%	16%	12%	9%
Gender	Female	566	594	10%	37%	15%	7%	6%	7%
	Unmarried Men	310	292	1%	13%	21%	21%	12%	7%
	Married Men	271	261	1%	14%	18%	10%	13%	13%
Marital Status	Unmarried Women	397	412	10%	35%	18%	9%	3%	5%
	Married Women	169	182	9%	41%	7%	1%	13%	12%
	Under 25K	346	413	8%	27%	15%	10%	9%	7%
Income	25-50K	401	410	3%	26%	20%	13%	10%	7%
liicome	50-75K	219	187	4%	23%	16%	11%	7%	9%
	75K+	181	137	6%	22%	16%	8%	10%	14%
	HS or less	392	560	8%	24%	16%	11%	9%	8%
Education	Some college	421	326	3%	28%	17%	10%	11%	7%
	Bachelors or more	334	261	4%	27%	21%	12%	6%	10%
	White	956	898	6%	27%	17%	12%	10%	8%
Race/Ethnicity	African Amer.	100	145	4%	18%	17%	6%	5%	14%
	Hispanic	66	67	6%	19%	23%	6%	14%	2%
	Employed	657	617	5%	30%	18%	11%	8%	8%
Employment	Retired	304	290	5%	18%	14%	10%	8%	11%
	Unemployed	170	225	9%	24%	19%	12%	13%	6%
Major Illness /	Experienced event	395	405	6%	26%	19%	10%	8%	8%
Death of Spouse	Didn't experience event	752	742	5%	25%	16%	12%	9%	8%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		To	tal		Q10: Thing	s Liked	l Least Aft	er Divorce	
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Not w/ Someone to do things	Someone to talk to	STDs	Raising kids by self	Feeling self- conscious	Nobody to take care of me
Total	Total	1147	1147	34%	21%	9%	9%	15%	10%
	40-49	199	225	28%	16%	15%	9%	9%	8%
Age	50-59	452	434	35%	22%	9%	9%	12%	9%
Category	60-69	346	331	38%	24%	8%	7%	18%	10%
	70-79	150	157	32%	16%	5%	10%	25%	12%
	Men 40- 49	93	94	33%	22%	13%	9%	9%	6%
	Men 50- 59	239	226	36%	26%	10%	5%	8%	9%
Age by	Men 60+	249	232	42%	23%	8%	3%	20%	11%
Gender	Women 40-49	106	131	25%	12%	17%	9%	9%	9%
	Women 50-59	213	208	34%	18%	6%	14%	17%	10%
	Women 60+	247	256	31%	20%	6%	12%	21%	10%
	40-44	474	490	32%	18%	10%	12%	14%	9%
Age at	45-49	349	346	28%	20%	12%	7%	15%	9%
Divorce	50-54	181	173	42%	25%	6%	4%	19%	8%
	55+	143	138	47%	26%	4%	5%	16%	12%
	Men 40- 49	406	396	34%	23%	12%	5%	13%	10%
Age at Divorce by	Men 50+	175	156	47%	28%	5%	4%	14%	9%
Gender	Women 40-49	417	440	27%	16%	10%	15%	15%	9%
	Women 50+	149	155	41%	22%	5%	5%	21%	10%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		To	tal	Q	10: Things	Liked Leas	st Afte	r Divorce (con	t.)
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Fear of crime/ alone	Finances	No affection	No sex	Unhealthy behaviors	No Answer
Total	Total	1147	1147	5%	26%	17%	11%	9%	8%
	40-49	199	225	4%	35%	18%	11%	10%	7%
Age Category	50-59	452	434	4%	27%	20%	11%	9%	8%
Age Calegory	60-69	346	331	7%	20%	14%	12%	11%	7%
	70-79	150	157	6%	21%	15%	9%	6%	14%
	Men 40- 49	93	94	3%	24%	17%	17%	7%	12%
	Men 50- 59	239	226	1%	13%	22%	17%	13%	10%
Age by	Men 60+	249	232	0%	11%	18%	13%	14%	8%
Gender	Women 40-49	106	131	5%	43%	18%	6%	12%	4%
	Women 50-59	213	208	9%	43%	17%	4%	4%	5%
	Women 60+	247	256	13%	29%	11%	9%	4%	10%
	40-44	474	490	5%	26%	15%	10%	10%	9%
Age at	45-49	349	346	5%	30%	21%	10%	10%	7%
Divorce	50-54	181	173	6%	26%	21%	10%	6%	7%
	55+	143	138	6%	14%	11%	17%	8%	10%
	Men 40- 49	406	396	1%	15%	22%	15%	13%	9%
Age at	Men 50+	175	156	1%	9%	13%	18%	11%	11%
Divorce by Gender	Women 40-49	417	440	9%	38%	13%	6%	7%	8%
	Women 50+	149	155	11%	32%	20%	8%	3%	6%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		Tot	al	Q1	0: Things I	Liked Leas	t Afte	r Divorce (co	nt.)
		Un- wgted	Wgt- ed	Fear of crime/ alone	Finances	No affection	No sex	Unhealthy behaviors	No Answer
Total	Total	1147	1147	5%	26%	17%	11%	9%	8%
	Excellent	142	114	3%	24%	18%	7%	6%	13%
Self- Assessment	Very Good	370	338	6%	23%	19%	13%	8%	7%
of Health	Good	354	358	6%	26%	14%	11%	11%	8%
	Fair/Poor	155	204	6%	23%	19%	7%	10%	7%
Stress Level	High	549	545	5%	27%	17%	11%	10%	7%
Oli COO LCVCI	Low	472	472	6%	21%	17%	10%	8%	10%
	Has suffered depression	270	277	6%	30%	22%	12%	9%	4%
Depression	Has not suffered depression	713	702	6%	21%	16%	10%	9%	10%
	9 or 10	340	364	5%	23%	17%	8%	8%	14%
Ladder of Life - Current	7 or 8	480	452	5%	23%	17%	13%	9%	5%
	1 thru 6	325	330	7%	33%	19%	12%	11%	5%
Ladder of Life	9 or 10	608	622	6%	25%	15%	9%	9%	10%
- in 5 Years	7 or 8	342	318	3%	26%	23%	16%	10%	5%
	1 thru 6	180	187	7%	28%	14%	7%	10%	6%
	3x/week or more	391	365	6%	24%	18%	13%	6%	10%
Exercise Frequency	2x/week or less	442	424	6%	26%	17%	7%	11%	8%
	Never	187	227	4%	22%	17%	13%	11%	6%
	Protestant	270	252	5%	23%	17%	15%	8%	9%
Religion	Catholic	170	161	10%	27%	17%	7%	8%	9%
Trengion	Baptist	145	186	6%	19%	16%	4%	9%	12%
	None	89	94	5%	35%	14%	18%	17%	6%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		Tot	al		Q10: Thing	s Liked	l Least Af	ter Divorce	
		Un- wgted	Wgt- ed	Someone to do things	Someone to talk to	STDs	Raising kids by self	Feeling self- conscious	Nobody to take care of me
Total	Total	1147	1147	34%	21%	9%	9%	15%	10%
# of Times	Once	517	536	37%	24%	12%	7%	13%	8%
Divorced	More than once	626	609	32%	18%	7%	10%	17%	11%
Time	Less than 5 years	168	186	26%	30%	16%	4%	13%	10%
Since	5 to 9 years	205	216	33%	20%	8%	9%	10%	11%
Divorce	10 years or more	758	728	37%	18%	8%	10%	17%	9%
	Abuse	377	388	30%	17%	9%	11%	17%	8%
Reason	Different values, lifestyles	334	336	36%	17%	8%	6%	19%	8%
for	Cheating	309	303	37%	21%	12%	15%	17%	10%
Divorce	Alcohol/drug abuse	214	241	35%	22%	11%	11%	15%	10%
	Fell out of love	274	277	31%	23%	11%	8%	13%	11%
	Came as a surprise	234	229	38%	21%	8%	8%	15%	10%
Time	Less than 1 year	345	363	34%	29%	11%	7%	13%	8%
Spent Thinking about	1 to less than 2 years	186	184	33%	21%	5%	11%	13%	13%
Divorce	2 to less than 5 years	185	171	32%	12%	14%	7%	14%	12%
	5 years or more	175	183	36%	14%	8%	14%	22%	5%
	None	283	268	34%	21%	10%	0%	13%	13%
Had Children	Age 11 or younger	286	298	28%	19%	8%	18%	12%	10%
at Time of Divorce	Age 12-17	347	325	32%	20%	8%	15%	17%	8%
	Age 18 or older	411	415	40%	21%	10%	5%	20%	8%
Parents'	Divorced	308	343	30%	22%	8%	9%	15%	12%
Marital Status	Stayed married	819	786	36%	20%	9%	9%	15%	9%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		Tot	tal	Q1	0: Things I	gs Liked Least After Divorce (cont.)					
		Un- wgted	Wgt- ed	Fear of crime/ alone	Finances	No affection	No sex	Unhealthy behaviors	No Answer		
Total	Total	1147	1147	5%	26%	17%	11%	9%	8%		
# of Times	Once	517	536	7%	22%	18%	14%	9%	7%		
Divorced	More than once	626	609	4%	29%	17%	8%	9%	9%		
Ti 0!	Less than 5 years	168	186	7%	15%	16%	17%	8%	9%		
Time Since Divorce	5 to 9 years	205	216	2%	22%	28%	12%	10%	9%		
	10 years or more	758	728	6%	30%	14%	9%	9%	7%		
	Abuse	377	388	8%	34%	15%	10%	8%	7%		
	Different values, lifestyles	334	336	4%	29%	18%	11%	7%	7%		
Reason for Divorce	Cheating	309	303	3%	27%	18%	5%	10%	5%		
	Alcohol/drug abuse	214	241	9%	27%	17%	12%	8%	4%		
	Fell out of love	274	277	4%	22%	18%	10%	12%	6%		
	Came as a surprise	234	229	5%	25%	20%	12%	15%	5%		
Time Spent	Less than 1 year	345	363	4%	17%	19%	14%	5%	9%		
Thinking about	1 to less than 2 years	186	184	9%	21%	22%	9%	11%	10%		
Divorce	2 to less than 5 years	185	171	7%	39%	14%	9%	9%	5%		
	5 years or more	175	183	4%	40%	8%	7%	9%	6%		
	None	283	268	4%	20%	21%	17%	11%	9%		
Had Children at	Age 11 or younger	286	298	1%	31%	17%	10%	9%	7%		
Time of Divorce	Age 12-17	347	325	8%	33%	12%	6%	10%	7%		
DIVOICE	Age 18 or older	411	415	7%	28%	16%	9%	6%	7%		
Parents'	Divorced	308	343	4%	22%	18%	11%	10%	8%		
Marital Status	Stayed married	819	786	6%	28%	17%	11%	9%	7%		

**Table 7. Dating After Divorce** 

		Тс	otal	Q15: H	ow long a	after your aç	divorc	e did y	ou start	dating
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Started before the divorce was final	Less than 6 months after the divorce	6 months to less than 1 year	1 year to less than 2 years	years to less than 5 years	5 years or longer	Have not dated since the divorce
Total	Total	1147	1147	26%	13%	12%	14%	12%	5%	15%
Condor	Male	581	553	32%	15%	13%	14%	10%	3%	11%
Gender	Female	566	594	20%	12%	12%	14%	14%	7%	20%
	Unmarried Men	310	292	26%	9%	14%	15%	13%	3%	18%
	Married Men	271	261	40%	21%	11%	14%	7%	2%	2%
Marital Status	Unmarried Women	397	412	16%	10%	11%	11%	15%	7%	28%
	Married Women	169	182	29%	16%	15%	20%	11%	8%	1%
	Under 25K	346	413	23%	13%	10%	14%	15%	6%	18%
Income	25-50K	401	410	21%	14%	13%	15%	11%	6%	18%
liicome	50-75K	219	187	32%	12%	19%	15%	9%	3%	9%
	75K+	181	137	40%	15%	8%	12%	10%	4%	9%
	HS or less	392	560	26%	15%	12%	14%	13%	5%	13%
Education	Some college	421	326	26%	12%	14%	16%	10%	5%	17%
	Bachelors or more	334	261	25%	12%	10%	13%	13%	5%	19%
	White	956	898	24%	15%	12%	14%	12%	4%	17%
Race/Ethnicity	African Amer.	100	145	38%	4%	14%	13%	10%	10%	8%
	Hispanic	66	67	25%	18%	16%	12%	10%	3%	12%
	Employed	657	617	28%	13%	12%	15%	11%	4%	15%
Employment	Retired	304	290	23%	11%	15%	15%	15%	5%	14%
	Unemployed	170	225	24%	17%	8%	10%	11%	9%	20%
Major Illness /	Experienced event	395	405	24%	14%	12%	12%	14%	6%	17%
Death of Spouse	Didn't experience event	752	742	27%	13%	12%	15%	11%	4%	15%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		To	tal	Q15: Ho	w long afte	er your div	orce did	l you sta	rt dating	again?
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Started before the divorce was final	Less than 6 months after the divorce	6 months to less than 1 year	1 year to less than 2 years	2 years to less than 5 years	5 years or longer	Have not dated since the divorce
Total	Total	1147	1147	26%	13%	12%	14%	12%	5%	15%
	40-49	199	225	36%	13%	12%	13%	9%	2%	14%
Age	50-59	452	434	24%	12%	10%	14%	14%	6%	18%
Category	60-69	346	331	22%	15%	16%	14%	12%	5%	16%
	70-79	150	157	27%	15%	12%	17%	11%	5%	11%
	Men 40- 49	93	94	36%	12%	10%	14%	6%	2%	17%
	Men 50- 59	239	226	28%	16%	11%	15%	13%	3%	11%
Age by	Men 60+	249	232	35%	15%	16%	14%	8%	2%	8%
Gender	Women 40-49	106	131	35%	15%	14%	11%	10%	3%	11%
	Women 50-59	213	208	20%	7%	10%	13%	15%	9%	25%
	Women 60+	247	256	13%	15%	13%	16%	15%	7%	20%
	40-44	474	490	30%	14%	15%	16%	11%	5%	8%
Age at	45-49	349	346	28%	15%	10%	12%	15%	4%	14%
Divorce	50-54	181	173	20%	8%	9%	12%	13%	10%	27%
	55+	143	138	15%	14%	13%	17%	9%	2%	29%
	Men 40- 49	406	396	34%	15%	13%	13%	11%	3%	8%
Age at Divorce	Men 50+	175	156	28%	15%	12%	17%	8%	2%	17%
by Gender	Women 40-49	417	440	24%	14%	13%	15%	14%	6%	13%
	Women 50+	149	155	8%	6%	10%	11%	15%	10%	39%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		Tot	al	Q15:	How long		divorce	e did yo	u start o	lating
		Un- wgted	Wgt- ed	Started before the divorce was final	Less than 6 months after the divorce	6 months to less than 1 year	1 year to less than 2 years	2 years to less than 5 years	5 years or longer	Have not dated since the divorce
Total	Total	1147	1147	26%	13%	12%	14%	12%	5%	15%
	Excellent	142	114	25%	12%	11%	19%	8%	6%	16%
Self- Assessment	Very Good	370	338	27%	11%	13%	12%	12%	5%	18%
of Health	Good	354	358	24%	13%	13%	17%	13%	5%	14%
	Fair/Poor	155	204	29%	18%	11%	11%	10%	7%	14%
Stress Level	High	549	545	25%	14%	12%	13%	12%	6%	16%
Otiess Level	Low	472	472	27%	12%	13%	17%	11%	4%	14%
Depression	Has suffered depression	270	277	26%	14%	10%	12%	11%	9%	19%
Depression	Has not suffered depression	713	702	26%	13%	14%	16%	12%	4%	14%
Ladder of	9 or 10	340	364	25%	15%	14%	12%	10%	6%	16%
Life -	7 or 8	480	452	28%	14%	13%	17%	12%	5%	11%
Current	1 thru 6	325	330	25%	11%	10%	12%	15%	4%	22%
Ladder of	9 or 10	608	622	27%	16%	13%	14%	11%	4%	14%
Life - in 5	7 or 8	342	318	26%	11%	13%	14%	12%	6%	17%
Years	1 thru 6	180	187	22%	9%	11%	18%	17%	5%	18%
Francis	3x/week or more	391	365	23%	12%	12%	18%	13%	3%	17%
Exercise Frequency	2x/week or less	442	424	27%	13%	15%	11%	12%	6%	15%
	Never	187	227	28%	16%	9%	16%	8%	8%	13%
	Protestant	270	252	21%	11%	16%	21%	12%	4%	14%
Religion	Catholic	170	161	29%	14%	9%	15%	14%	4%	14%
Iteligion	Baptist	145	186	24%	22%	12%	11%	11%	5%	11%
	None	89	94	38%	11%	10%	11%	13%	4%	12%

<sup>\*</sup>Significant differences are in bold

		Tot	al	Q15: Hov	v long afte	r your div	orce di	d you st	art datin	g again?
		Un- wgted	Wgt- ed	Started before the divorce was final	Less than 6 months after the divorce	6 months to less than 1 year	1 year to less than 2 years	years to less than 5 years	5 years or longer	Have not dated since the divorce
Total	Total	1147	1147	26%	13%	12%	14%	12%	5%	15%
# of	Once	517	536	24%	16%	14%	14%	13%	5%	14%
Times Divorced	More than once	626	609	28%	11%	11%	15%	12%	5%	17%
Time	Less than 5 years	168	186	24%	17%	14%	14%	10%	6%	15%
Since Divorce	5 to 9 years	205	216	26%	10%	16%	16%	12%	6%	13%
Divoice	10 years or more	758	728	27%	13%	11%	14%	13%	4%	17%
	Abuse	377	388	28%	15%	14%	11%	11%	5%	17%
Reason	Different values, lifestyles	334	336	23%	15%	16%	13%	13%	6%	13%
for Divorce	Cheating	309	303	25%	12%	11%	15%	13%	7%	16%
Divoice	Alcohol/drug abuse	214	241	22%	16%	12%	14%	12%	4%	19%
	Fell out of love	274	277	35%	15%	10%	18%	9%	4%	9%
	Came as a surprise	234	229	17%	10%	10%	21%	13%	4%	25%
Time	Less than 1 year	345	363	23%	19%	17%	10%	12%	5%	14%
Spent Thinking about	1 to less than 2 years	186	184	34%	7%	12%	18%	10%	4%	14%
Divorce	2 to less than 5 years	185	171	31%	15%	12%	14%	10%	5%	11%
	5 years or more	175	183	32%	12%	9%	11%	16%	8%	13%
	None	283	268	27%	15%	14%	14%	8%	4%	16%
Had Children at Time	Age 11 or younger	286	298	30%	11%	13%	13%	14%	6%	13%
of	Age 12-17	347	325	22%	14%	14%	17%	14%	5%	13%
Divorce	Age 18 or older	411	415	28%	15%	9%	12%	12%	4%	20%
Parents'	Divorced	308	343	32%	9%	15%	12%	12%	5%	14%
Marital Status	Stayed married	819	786	24%	15%	11%	15%	12%	5%	16%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

**Table 8. Reasons for Dating** 

		То	tal	Q18: What	was y	your PRIMA dating?	ARY motiva	ation for
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Companion- ship, but no sex	Sex	Find a new partner to live with	Find a new partner to marry	Find a new mother/ father for children
Total	Total	945	953	15%	11%	8%	11%	0%
Gender	Male	502	481	12%	17%	11%	12%	0%
Gender	Female	443	472	17%	4%	5%	9%	0%
	Unmarried Men	244	232	16%	24%	7%	4%	
	Married Men	258	249	9%	12%	15%	20%	0%
Marital Status	Unmarried Women	279	292	20%	4%	5%	4%	
	Married Women	164	179	13%	4%	6%	16%	0%
	Under 25K	270	334	16%	11%	7%	9%	0%
Income	25-50K	325	330	15%	10%	6%	10%	0%
lincome	50-75K	189	166	13%	10%	12%	11%	
	75K+	161	123	14%	13%	11%	17%	0%
	HS or less	335	479	14%	11%	7%	11%	0%
Education	Some college	345	267	13%	10%	9%	10%	
	Bachelors or more	265	207	20%	12%	11%	11%	0%
	White	777	733	14%	11%	9%	12%	0%
Race/Ethnicity	African Amer.	90	130	16%	11%	4%	4%	
	Hispanic	55	57	17%	5%	7%	20%	1%
	Employed	533	514	15%	11%	8%	10%	0%
Employment	Retired	258	246	16%	8%	8%	11%	0%
	Unemployed	138	178	14%	14%	9%	13%	0%
Major Illness /	Experienced event	325	334	18%	8%	10%	6%	
Death of Spouse	Didn't experience event	620	619	13%	12%	8%	13%	0%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		To	tal	Q18: What v	vas your Pl	RIMARY mo	otivation	for datin	g? (cont.)
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Lift my spirits/ ease depression	Prove to myself that I was still attractive	Prove to ex- spouse I was still attractive	Prove to myself that I was getting on with my life	Prove to ex- spouse that I was getting on with my life	Appease friends/ family who coaxed me into dating
Total	Total	945	953	18%	4%	1%	23%	3%	3%
Gender	Male	502	481	16%	2%	1%	19%	3%	2%
Gender	Female	443	472	20%	7%	0%	27%	3%	3%
	Unmarried Men	244	232	19%	0%	2%	17%	2%	4%
	Married Men	258	249	12%	3%		22%	3%	1%
Marital Status	Unmarried Women	279	292	24%	7%	0%	25%	3%	4%
	Married Women	164	179	13%	7%		31%	3%	3%
	Under 25K	270	334	19%	5%	1%	21%	4%	4%
Income	25-50K	325	330	15%	6%	1%	28%	2%	2%
lincome	50-75K	189	166	21%	2%		23%	2%	3%
	75K+	161	123	17%	2%		19%	1%	3%
	HS or less	335	479	18%	6%	1%	23%	4%	2%
Education	Some college	345	267	18%	3%	0%	28%	2%	3%
	Bachelors or more	265	207	15%	3%		20%	1%	4%
	White	777	733	18%	5%	1%	21%	3%	3%
Race/Ethnicity	African Amer.	90	130	20%	2%	1%	34%	3%	2%
	Hispanic	55	57	4%	5%		35%	6%	
	Employed	533	514	18%	4%	1%	25%	2%	2%
Employment	Retired	258	246	17%	6%	1%	24%	2%	5%
	Unemployed	138	178	15%	3%		18%	6%	2%
Major Illness /	Experienced event	325	334	22%	4%	0%	22%	4%	4%
Death of Spouse	Didn't experience event	620	619	15%	5%	1%	25%	2%	3%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		To	tal	Q18: What	was y	our PRIMARY	motivation for	dating?
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Companion- ship, but no sex	Sex	Find a new partner to live with	Find a new partner to marry	Find a new mother/ father for children
Total	Total	945	953	15%	11%	8%	11%	0%
	40-49	165	190	11%	11%	6%	10%	
Age	50-59	364	350	14%	9%	9%	10%	0%
Category	60-69	288	277	17%	11%	8%	11%	0%
	70-79	128	136	17%	13%	9%	13%	0%
	Men 40- 49	74	75	15%	12%	9%	16%	
	Men 50- 59	203	196	14%	15%	10%	11%	0%
Age by	Men 60+	225	210	9%	22%	13%	12%	0%
Gender	Women 40-49	91	115	9%	10%	3%	7%	
	Women 50-59	161	154	14%	2%	9%	8%	
	Women 60+	191	203	25%	1%	4%	11%	0%
	40-44	424	440	11%	10%	7%	14%	
Age at	45-49	291	291	15%	14%	8%	7%	0%
Divorce	50-54	130	125	22%	7%	9%	9%	1%
	55+	100	97	25%	13%	13%	7%	
	Men 40- 49	358	353	11%	18%	9%	13%	
Age at	Men 50+	144	128	15%	16%	17%	10%	1%
Divorce by Gender	Women 40-49	357	378	13%	5%	6%	9%	0%
	Women 50+	86	94	34%		3%	6%	

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		To	tal	Q18: Wha	t was your	PRIMARY m	otivation	for dating	? (cont.)
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Lift my spirits/ ease depression	Prove to myself that I was still attractive	Prove to ex- spouse I was still attractive	Prove to myself that I was getting on with my life	Prove to ex- spouse that I was getting on with my life	Appease friends/ family who coaxed me into dating
Total	Total	945	953	18%	4%	1%	23%	3%	3%
	40-49	165	190	18%	5%		31%	3%	2%
Age	50-59	364	350	19%	5%	1%	21%	4%	3%
Category	60-69	288	277	19%	2%	0%	23%	1%	3%
	70-79	128	136	12%	7%	1%	21%	3%	3%
	Men 40-49	74	75	13%	3%		24%	2%	2%
	Men 50-59	203	196	16%	2%	1%	20%	4%	3%
Age by	Men 60+	225	210	16%	2%	1%	19%	1%	2%
Gender	Women 40-49	91	115	21%	6%		35%	4%	2%
	Women 50-59	161	154	22%	10%		22%	4%	3%
	Women 60+	191	203	18%	6%	1%	27%	2%	4%
	40-44	424	440	16%	5%	0%	27%	4%	2%
Age at	45-49	291	291	21%	3%	2%	22%	3%	3%
Divorce	50-54	130	125	18%	7%		20%	0%	4%
	55+	100	97	14%	3%		17%	1%	2%
	Men 40-49	358	353	15%	2%	1%	22%	3%	2%
Age at Divorce	Men 50+	144	128	17%	2%		14%	0%	3%
by Gender	Women 40-49	357	378	21%	6%	0%	28%	3%	3%
	Women 50+	86	94	14%	10%		25%	1%	4%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		To	tal	Q18: What was your PRIMARY motivation for dating?							
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Companionship, but no sex	Sex	Find a new partner to live with	Find a new partner to marry	Find a new mother/ father for children			
Total	Total	945	953	15%	11%	8%	11%	0%			
	Excellent	114	92	12%	20%	6%	7%	1%			
Self- Assessment	Very Good	301	273	17%	11%	8%	14%				
of Health	Good	292	304	12%	8%	7%	11%	0%			
	Fair/Poor	132	174	16%	13%	9%	4%	0%			
Stress Level	High	443	451	15%	10%	9%	10%	0%			
Olless Level	Low	396	395	14%	14%	6%	11%				
	Has suffered depression	216	224	15%	12%	6%	6%				
Depression	Has not suffered depression	589	589	15%	11%	8%	12%	0%			
	9 or 10	286	297	14%	7%	6%	18%	0%			
Ladder of Life - Current	7 or 8	411	401	16%	13%	11%	8%	0%			
	1 thru 6	246	253	14%	12%	7%	7%				
Ladder of	9 or 10	516	526	15%	8%	9%	12%	0%			
Life - in 5	7 or 8	279	263	15%	18%	7%	10%	0%			
Years	1 thru 6	139	150	14%	10%	9%	5%				
	3x/week or more	317	295	17%	10%	7%	12%	0%			
Exercise Frequency	2x/week or less	367	359	13%	11%	9%	9%	0%			
	Never	154	191	13%	15%	6%	11%				
	Protestant	221	213	22%	11%	8%	13%				
Religion	Catholic	145	136	9%	10%	9%	10%	1%			
Neligion	Baptist	122	157	18%	16%	3%	6%				
	None	78	82	6%	22%	11%	14%	_			

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		Тс	otal	Q18: Wh	at was you	r PRIMAR) (cont.)		ion for d	ating?
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Lift my spirits/ ease depression	Prove to myself that I was still attractive	Prove to ex- spouse I was still attractive	Prove to myself that I was getting on with my life	Prove to ex- spouse that I was getting on with my life	Appease friends/ family who coaxed me into dating
Total	Total	945	953	18%	4%	1%	23%	3%	3%
	Excellent	114	92	13%	4%		25%	1%	4%
Self- Assessment	Very Good	301	273	15%	2%	1%	26%	1%	1%
of Health	Good	292	304	18%	6%	0%	27%	3%	4%
	Fair/Poor	132	174	20%	7%	1%	20%	5%	2%
Stress Level	High	443	451	19%	6%		23%	3%	3%
Stress Level	Low	396	395	15%	3%	1%	27%	2%	2%
Depression	Has suffered depression	216	224	25%	8%	0%	19%	4%	3%
Depression	Has not suffered depression	589	589	14%	3%	1%	28%	2%	2%
Ladder of	9 or 10	286	297	12%	6%	1%	25%	2%	3%
Life -	7 or 8	411	401	17%	2%	1%	25%	3%	3%
Current	1 thru 6	246	253	25%	6%		19%	3%	4%
Ladder of	9 or 10	516	526	15%	5%	1%	26%	2%	2%
Life - in 5	7 or 8	279	263	18%	4%	0%	20%	2%	4%
Years	1 thru 6	139	150	24%	2%	1%	23%	6%	4%
Eversion	3x/week or more	317	295	21%	4%	1%	21%	1%	2%
Exercise Frequency	2x/week or less	367	359	16%	5%		27%	3%	2%
	Never	154	191	14%	4%	2%	28%	4%	2%
	Protestant	221	213	13%	2%	2%	19%	1%	4%
Religion	Catholic	145	136	26%	3%		29%	2%	0%
	Baptist	122	157	14%	7%		27%	4%	3%
	None	78	82	11%	5%		23%	2%	2%

<sup>\*</sup> Significant differences are in bold.

		То	tal	Q18: What was y	our P	RIMARY m	otivation for	or dating?
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Companionship, but no sex	Sex	Find a new partner to live with	Find a new partner to marry	Find a new mother/ father for children
Total	Total	945	953	15%	11%	8%	11%	0%
# of Times	Once	443	459	17%	12%	8%	8%	0%
Divorced	More than once	498	492	13%	10%	8%	13%	
Time Since	Less than 5 years	142	156	18%	9%	5%	7%	
Divorce	5 to 9 years	177	187	10%	20%	6%	10%	0%
	10 years or more	620	600	16%	8%	10%	12%	0%
	Abuse	308	320	16%	9%	7%	10%	0%
December for	Different values, lifestyles	290	291	18%	12%	11%	12%	0%
Reason for Divorce	Cheating	254	251	14%	6%	9%	9%	0%
	Alcohol/drug abuse	177	196	18%	13%	10%	6%	0%
	Fell out of love	244	252	11%	18%	6%	8%	0%
	Came as a surprise	178	168	13%	13%	5%	10%	
Time Spent	Less than 1 year	290	311	18%	9%	7%	12%	
Thinking about	1 to less than 2 years	159	158	10%	14%	9%	10%	0%
Divorce	2 to less than 5 years	163	151	14%	12%	9%	11%	1%
	5 years or more	148	159	16%	6%	13%	9%	
	None	244	223	12%	15%	6%	14%	
Had Children at	Age 11 or younger	243	258	17%	14%	7%	10%	0%
Time of Divorce	Age 12-17	294	280	16%	9%	7%	10%	
	Age 18 or older	319	330	15%	7%	10%	9%	0%
Parents'	Divorced	264	293	14%	13%	9%	6%	0%
Marital Status	Stayed married	673	651	15%	10%	8%	13%	0%

		Total		Q18: What was your PRIMARY motivation for dating? (cont.)					
		Un- wgted	Wgted	Lift my spirits/ ease depression	Prove to myself that I was still attractive	Prove to ex- spouse I was still attractive	Prove to myself getting on w/my life	Prove to ex- spouse getting on w/my life	Appease friends/ family who coaxed me into dating
Total	Total	945	953	18%	4%	1%	23%	3%	3%
# of Times Divorced	Once	443	459	19%	4%		21%	2%	3%
	More than once	498	492	16%	5%	1%	26%	3%	3%
Time Since Divorce	Less than 5 years	142	156	18%	3%		29%	2%	3%
	5 to 9 years	177	187	21%	2%		25%	2%	1%
	10 years or more	620	600	16%	5%	1%	22%	3%	4%
Reason for Divorce	Abuse	308	320	19%	4%		26%	4%	3%
	Different values, lifestyles	290	291	18%	2%		20%	3%	3%
	Cheating	254	251	18%	2%	2%	28%	3%	4%
	Alcohol/drug abuse	177	196	21%	5%	1%	20%	4%	2%
	Fell out of love	244	252	18%	5%		26%	2%	3%
Time Spent Thinking about Divorce	Came as a surprise	178	168	20%	5%	1%	23%	4%	3%
	Less than 1 year	290	311	18%	5%	0%	22%	2%	2%
	1 to less than 2 years	159	158	16%	4%		28%	2%	4%
	2 to less than 5 years	163	151	20%	7%		21%	1%	2%
	5 years or more	148	159	15%	2%	2%	25%	5%	4%
Had Children at Time of Divorce	None	244	223	13%	4%		26%	3%	2%
	Age 11 or younger	243	258	22%	3%	1%	19%	2%	3%
	Age 12-17	294	280	22%	5%		22%	2%	4%
	Age 18 or older	319	330	16%	7%	1%	25%	4%	3%
Parents' Marital Status	Divorced	264	293	17%	2%		30%	5%	1%
	Married	673	651	17%	6%	1%	21%	2%	4%

