Two-Parent Households at an All-Time Low

In addition to being viewed as a season of religious devotion, Christmas has also become a time of family traditions and togetherness.

But will those traditions and togetherness continue if the American family disappears?

According to the Pew Research Center's [latest report](#), there has been a 20 percentage point drop in two-parent families in the last 50 years:

> *"The share of children living in a two-parent household is at the lowest point in more than half a century: 69% are in this type of family arrangement today, compared with 73% in 2000 and 87% in 1960. And even children living with two parents are more likely to be experiencing a variety of family arrangements due to increases in divorce, [remarriage](#) and cohabitation. Today, fully 62% of children live with two married parents — an all-time low. Some 15% are living with parents in a remarriage and 7% are living with parents who are cohabiting. Conversely, the share of children living with one parent stands at 26%, up from 22% in 2000 and just 9% in 1960."*

That two-parent households are at an all-time low should give cause for concern, particularly since children growing up in divorced or cohabiting homes are more [at risk for](#):

— Decreased Academic Performance

— Decreased Conflict Management

— Crime

— Out-of-Wedlock Births

— Drug and Alcohol Usage

— Suicide

Today we're told that it doesn't matter what type of lifestyle we choose as long as it makes us happy. As a result, many have chosen to abandon the idea of a lifelong committed marriage in which to raise children. But given the many documented problems which such a choice brings, can we honestly say that such a choice is wise, or even brings happiness? Should Americans once again embrace the value of the two-parent family?