

## Reaction paper

« Is marriage outdated? ». On Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November took place a debate organized by Fan, Imad, Romain and Nathan, related to the latter topic. On the one hand, the defending team composed of Elio, Thibaud and Alexander insisted on the fact that marriage could be replaced with alternatives, which are less expensive than the actual marriage. On the other hand, Mohamed and Younes were opposed to that and tried to convince the audience by saying that marriage solidifies love and love is present since the beginning of human life, hence marriage is a life goal and always was. I honestly am sharing this point of view and I also can add that marriage is a proof of love and passion for the one we admire. Indeed, marriage is the result of love of two human beings and leads in most cases to happiness but at what price?

When two individuals love one another, what solidifies the love is the inclusion of their larger community: friends and family are part of that. Indeed, love is not just two persons, it extends to the community around the two of them, and it allows this community to celebrate and feel good about one life's most important objectives: to love and be loved. Marriage is still important in society as a rational view of what a loving committed relationship actually is. In his debate, Younes made reference to family. According to *Princeton.edu* marriage and family provide the social support necessary for a stable society. Furthermore, a healthy family provides love necessary for success in life. This leads us to the next point where success leads to money.

In addition to love, there is a variety of reasons why people marry. One of them is a financial purpose. According to the defending team, marriage is expensive and *businessinsider.com* affirms it: the average cost to get married in 2018 is \$37,700 according to *WeddingWire's Newlywed report*. Furthermore, marriage can bring a measure of uncertainty to your taxes as well and when you become two, you may feel more pressure to get your personal financial act together. "It's one thing to ignore your finances when you are the only one being hurt – it's a whole other thing to be putting in jeopardy the financial future of the one you love most" says Manisha Thakor, director of wealth strategies for women at Buckingham. However, this is a great thing because you have more consciousness of how you are spending and saving. Marriage creates a mindset of wanting to care for and protect the other person. Another important upside of getting married is that you and your partner will be able to build wealth together. In many cases, people will not be able to financially afford to build or to buy a house on their own, and they need a partner in order to accomplish this goal. Finally, what is the most important the price of the marriage itself or the price it costs to be loved?

In many countries all over the world, marriage is considered to be the standard approach towards long-term relationships. But in some regions, you might even get socially isolated if you refuse to marry your partner and your family might even abandon you for that. Many people in those regions often marry just to please their family. Hence, in many countries, people see marriage as a kind of cultural necessity. This kind of "forced marriage" can lead to domestic violence and difficulties to divorce. Alexander talked about it in his speech. Marriage can be a source of violence and can have negative psychological aspects.

To put in a nutshell, love is here since the beginning and having as Mohamed perfectly said in his speech "Having a partner is essential", marriage is the result of a long period of love for most humans (but can be dangerous if it is forced), so marriage will still be present for a very long time. By the way, the honeymoon is for many people the most beautiful trip of their lives, so do not hesitate.