

# The high divorce rate: its causes and its cures

Explained by Shaykh Fawzan

**Question:** May Allah give you give good. Umm Imaan says:

Oh Noble Shaykh may Allah preserve you. What are the reasons for success in remaining upon a stable marital life? And what is the main reason during our current time for the high rate of divorce among some of the people and among the youth?

**Shaykh Fawzan:** Allah the Exalted has commanded us to live with our spouses in an honorable manner. Allah the Exalted said:

***And live with them honorably.*** (An-Nisa 4:19)

Thus it is obligatory upon each spouse to interact with the other in an honorable manner. And to fulfill what Allah has made obligatory as it relates to the rights of their spouse. And if they find something that they hate from the other spouse, then they should be patient. Allah the Exalted said:

***If you dislike them, it may be that you dislike a thing and Allah brings through it a great deal of good.*** (An-Nisa 4:19)

The Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah are upon him said:

*Let not a believing man hate a believing woman, if he dislikes a character trait from her then he will be pleased with another character trait from her.*

The Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah are upon him said:

*Verily the woman was created from the bent rib and the most crooked part of the rib is the top part. And if you try to straighten her out you will break her, and breaking her is to divorce her, and if you leave her alone she will remain crooked.*

Thus this shows the necessity of patience. Therefore the husband should be patient with what he may find from his wife's deficiencies (lack of completeness) in some matters. He should be patient. And if he dislikes some things about her then it may be that he dislikes a thing and Allah will bring through it a great deal of good.

The same applies to her. She should be patient with things that she sees in her husband that she is not pleased with. She should be patient. And the condition will change, and their affair will improve and the hatred will go away by the permission of Allah; by having patience and tolerance.

**Question:** And as for the reason for divorce during our current times oh Shaykh?

Shaykh Fawzan: In brief, the reasons for divorce is he is not patient with the things he dislikes about her and if she is patient the final consequence is it ends in divorce. For this reason Allah the Exalted said:

***As to those women on whose part you see ill conduct, admonish them (first), (next), refuse to share their beds, (and last) beat them (lightly, if it is useful), but if they return to obedience, seek not against them means (of annoyance).***

(An-Nisa 4:34)

This (verse) is in relation to the husband. He said concerning the wife:

***And if a woman fears cruelty or desertion on her husband's part, there is no sin on them both if they make terms of peace between themselves; and making peace is better. And human inner-selves are swayed by greed.***

(An-Nisa 4:128)

And Allah the Exalted said:

***If you fear a breach between them (the man and his wife), appoint (two) arbitrators, one from his family and the other from her family; if they both wish for peace, Allah will cause their reconciliation.***

(An-Nisa 4:35)

Thus the legislation came with the remedy for that which occurs between the spouses in order to remove the conflict and return the love and intimacy regardless of what problems had occurred.

Translated by Rasheed ibn Estes Barbee