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  **Love Shouldn't be Divided**

Should polygamous marriages be legalized in the United States? For many centuries, marriage has been a symbol of union and love. Marriage is the beginning of a family and a lifelong commitment between couples. And is not only a physical but a spiritual and emotional union as well. But not all marriages are the same, there is many cultures where in addition to traditional marriages plural marriages, or polygamy, are also practiced. Polygamy is the practice of having more than one spouse at the same time. Many countries who still practice polygamy, have shown to have negative impacts in individuals and society. It also causes psychological problems for children and women in poligamous families. Although many polygamists claim that they are like any other family in the United States, the evidence tells us otherwise. Therefore Polygamy should not be legalize in the United States.

 On the positive side polygamy provides opportunities for those people with multiple relationships to live a happy life. Some men and women are bisexual and through polygamy bisexual couples can marry another person that they both love. It can provide financial securities for both men and women. Women can divide housework and take turns taking care of children. The husband takes responsibility for supporting all children regardless of whether they are from a legal marriage or not. All the responsibilities and the income is divided between all wives and children and everyone lives happy. Unfortunately this is the the case for many polygamous families. Unfortunately this is not the case for many of these families. The reality is that the coexistence of several wives in polygamous marriages generates jealousy and competence since the attention of the father has to be divided between all his wives and children. This can create a stressful and frustrating environment for everyone especially for the children.

 Many consider that the negative impacts of polygamy to individuals and to society are profound. It causes psychological problems for children and women. Women suffer from psychiatric conditions such as low self-esteem, loneliness, anxiety, and somatization. Women feel rejected by their partner since they do not have the necessary care and attention for a healthy relationship with their spouse. Many wives in polygamous marriages suffer both physical and psychological abuse by the husband. They live in an unhealthy environment when the only one that can have a benefit from this situation is the husband and not the wives or children.

 In addition to this we also see a very high rate of child abuse among polyganous families. Children from polygamous families had a hihger level of psycophatological symptoms than those from monogamous families. This includes mental health problems, depression, hostility, anxiety, social difficulties, attention problems and delinquent problems. A lot of times children in polyganous families suffer from child neglect, children do not get the care and attention they need for a healthy growth. These families have so many children from all the wives that it makes it really hard for the father to provide the essential clothing for all of them. The love and care being divided between all children also makes it hard for them to develop a healthy and strong relationship with their father. This situation can be traumatic for many children.

 Finally, polygamous marriages should not be legalized in the United States since they violate the rights of women and children. Love should not be divided between several wives. A healthy marriage needs love and commitment between couples. At the same time children need to grow up in a stable family, where they get the love and care that they need for a healthy development and not competition to have a little of attention from their father. Love shouldn't be divided, one family one marriage.