**Divorce**

You probably already know that, by and large, children of divorced parents are more likely than other children to suffer one or more of several difficulties, including depression, delinquency, low school performance, and social problems. The key question, of course, is whether these problems stem from the divorce or from other factors that tend to show up often with divorce. We don’t have a clear-cut answer. In the absence of some factors, however, research indicates that children of intact but unhappy homes are on average happier and better adjusted than children whose parents have divorced. The groundbreaking research of Judith Wallerstein shows that:

• Divorce isn’t just a short-term crisis for children. It’s a long-term threat to their academic performance, their ability to commit to relationships, and their mental health.

• Parenting after divorce continues to be a challenge for decades after the divorce decree is signed.