11 reasons divorce is better than staying in a bad marriage

Description

This post is copied from huffingtonpost.com. Good points for people in failing marriages to know and consider. However, when it comes to divorce, or anything involving deep feeling and emotion, no one is as sober as a third party bystander. But, I am not saying the bystanders know the best thing for the people caught in divorce. People are just different.

For Chinese women, divorce can be an issue of life or death. Many women prefers living in a dead marriage instead of breaking out for a fresh life. One of the reasons is that many are not economically independent thus fearing an uncertain future alone. The uncertainty is not only about financial stability but also about having a normal relationship with another man partly attributable to traditional values and social prejudice towards divorced women.

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When you're considering divorce ? or reeling from your ex's decision to end the marriage ? it's easy to focus on the negatives: How will I possibly get by living on my own again? How will the kids be impacted by this? Am I doomed to be alone for the rest of my life?

While those concerns are understandable, it's equally important to focus on the good that can come of being single. Below, HuffPost Divorce bloggers share 11 reasons divorce is preferable to staying in an unhappy, unhealthy marriage.

1. Marriage may give you a sense of security but divorce gives you a new lease on life.

"Staying in a bad marriage can provide security because at least you know how your life will go. But getting a divorce gives you hope ? the hope to be who you want to be, the hope to be happy and the hope to find someone else to love." ? Barry Gold

2. Being a single parent is better than modeling an unhealthy relationship.

"If you're a parent with young kids, getting a divorce is better than staying in a bad marriage because these are formative years for them. They will likely seek out and emulate the types of relationships they see modeled. I want my relationships to be happy, healthy and mutually respectful, so that my children never settle for anything else in their own lives." ? Lindsey Light

3. Divorce clears the way for you to meet the right partner.

"Divorce is painful but it's kind of like pulling off a Band-Aid: The anticipation is horrible but once it's over, it's pure relief. Bonus: It allows you the freedom to meet the person you were meant to be with!" ? Al Corona

4. You get to focus on you for once.

“After divorce, you find yourself again and fall in love with the wonderful attributes that make you you. As a mother especially, you can parent with just your own mama instincts and all your love and energy can flow into your little one(s). You find genuine peace and happiness and an appreciation for life that may have been sucked out of you during your bad marriage.” ? Shelley Cameron

5. Divorce isn’t the worst thing that can happen to your kids. Enduring a hostile home life is.

“After my first wife and mother of my five children left us permanently, I felt like going through divorce was the worst thing that could happen to a family. So when my second marriage was falling apart, as my kids sole and single parent, I was desperate to protect them from the trauma of another divorce. As a result, I kept the family in a situation that wasn’t good for any of us. The reality is, the worst thing for your children is for them to live in a hostile home and have them see you unhappy. My life and my children’s’ lives have gotten better and happier with each passing day after the divorce.” ? Matt Sweetwood

6. There’s a big difference between loneliness and solitude.

“My divorce helped me discover the gift of solitude when I once experienced the pain of loneliness. Now that I’ve learned to enjoy being alone, I’m free from that awful feeling of separation that comes from being with the wrong person.” ? Tammy Letherer

7. You and your partner may be stifling each other’s growth.

“I feel that divorce should rarely be the first choice because generally the only thing keeping a ‘bad’ marriage from being a ‘good’ marriage is sustained mutual effort. That being said, there are times that divorce is the best choice in order to allow both partners to grow and achieve the life they desire, and in some scenarios, the life they deserve.” ? Derick Turner

8. A happier parent is a better parent.

“Learning to let go and step into the unknown may be the single most important thing you can do for your own sanity and the sanity of those around you. Divorce proves that you have the courage to live a life of happiness. And if you’re happier, you’ll be a far more effective parent.” ? Carey Fan

9. You can devote your energy to other important areas of your life.

“If you have done all the work of trying to make the marriage better and nothing is changing, finding the courage to leave and move forward pays off in the long run. The pay off? You stop putting all your energy into a relationship that no longer works and put more energy into yourself and your kids.” ? Cherie Morris

10. You deserve a partner who’s just as invested in the relationship as you are.

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> “Divorce is preferable to a marriage without love. We all deserve to be loved. I never want to be in a marriage where that partnership isn’t sacred and a priority.” ? Carly Israel

11. You lose a spouse but you gain happiness.

> “Divorce brought me happiness. Life is far too short to spend it immersed in an unhealthy relationship.” ? Nicole Lavery

Love the last sentence too: life is too short to spend it immersed in an unhealthy relationship.

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