FAMILIES

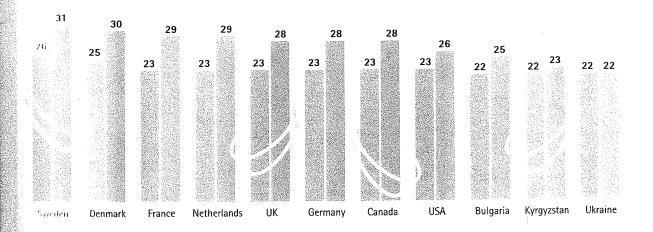
Waiting longer

Average age of women at first marriage 1980 compared with most recent available data since 2000 selected industrialized countries



1980

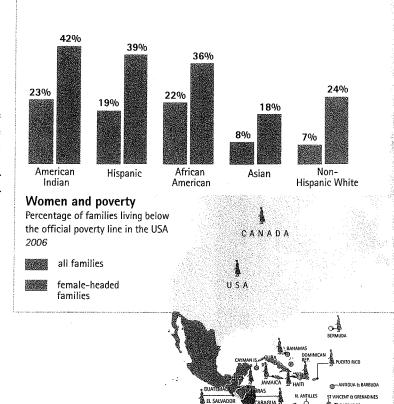
2000



Households

The nature of families and of households is undergoing quite extraordinary changes. Both are smaller; more are headed by women, and more people live alone. Households are smallest in rich countries, having declined there to an average of 2.8 people per household. The number of one-person households is growing dramatically, the result of increases in unmarried adults and in elderly women living alone. Only in some northern African countries have household sizes increased.

More and more women around the world find themselves the only adult in the household. Of all lone-parent households, about 85 percent are headed by women. These are poorer than those headed by men. Households headed by elderly women living alone face the greatest economic disadvantages of all.



Lesbian and gay households in the USA

Top ten cities with highest concentration of:

- esbian households
 lesbian households
 espiration house
- gay male households

Seattle WASHINGTON CorvallisEugene In 2000 23% of households OREGON headed by lesbian couples included a child under age 18; 6% of households headed by gay men included children. Francisco

CALIFORNIA Los Angeles San Diego

Santa Fe
Albuquerque NEW MEXICO

Austin

Between 2% and 5% of households consist of same-sex partner households. The 2000 Census was the first in the USA to enumerate these

> WISCONSIN Madison

IOWA lowa City €

> Atlanta FLORIDA

> > Fort Lauderdale Miami

MAINE

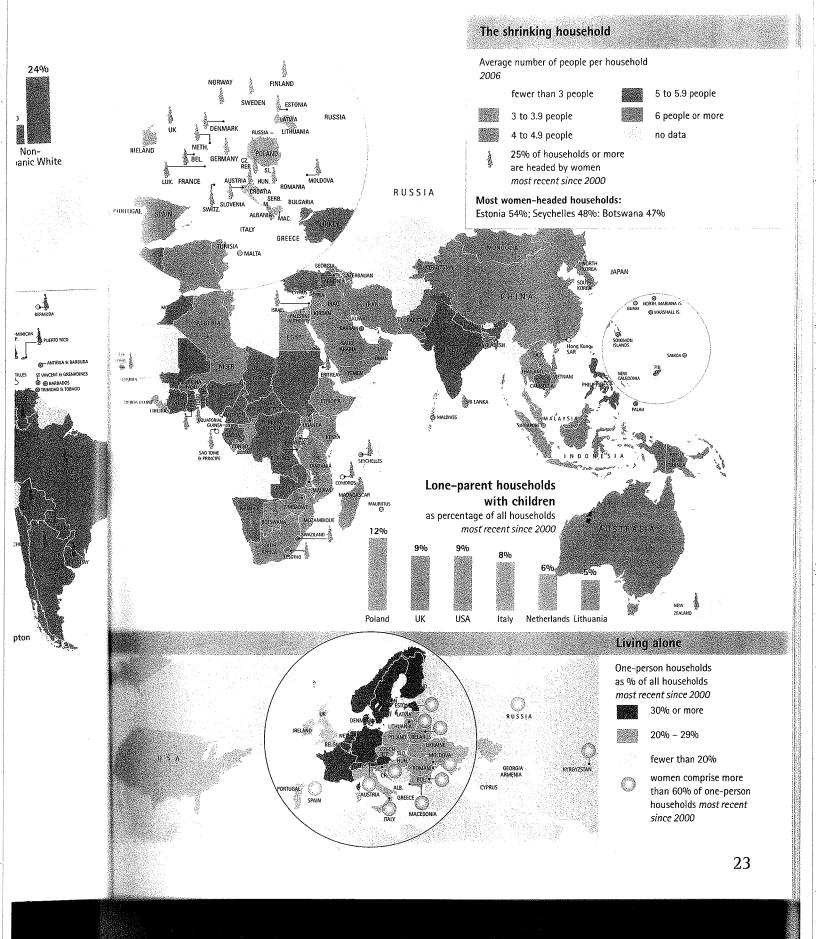
Burlington

Portland

Springfield/Northampton

MASS.

VERMONT



Marriage and Divorce

With the exception of the Caribbean region, which is notable for its relatively low rates of marriage, most women and men in the world spend most of their lives married. However, the nature of marriage varies widely from place to place, and between men and women.

Worldwide, women marry younger than men. In some places the gap is extreme. For example, in Niger, 70 percent of girls, but only 4 percent of boys are married by age 19; in Honduras, the figure is 30 percent of girls and 7 percent of boys.

The idea that married women "belong" to their husbands still dominates gender relations in most countries, and is often backed up by law. In some countries women need their husband's permission to buy or sell property, to have an abortion, to travel outside the country (see Map 3), or to take up employment. In some places, widows can even be "inherited" along with other possessions. The notion that women are the "property" of their husbands is a potent ideological prop of domestic violence (see Map 7).

Marriage is changing. Polygamy is being challenged in many of the countries where it is practiced. In most industrialized countries, the women are marrying later, and more women are not getting married, or cohabiting before marriage. Legal recognition for gay unions expands the boundaries of marriage (see Map 6).

MAURITANIA

SENEGAL

10% - 19%

fewer than 10%

other countries

Worldwide almost 90% of adults are married CANADA for at least some portion of their lives. The highest rates of USA girl-child marriage are found in Bangladesh, CAR, Chad, Guinea, Mali, and Niger. In these countries, more than 60% of girls aged under 18 are married. BELIZE ANTIGUA & BARBUDA MONTSERRAT DOMINICA GUATEMALA HONDURAS EL SALVADOR NICARAGUA COSTA RICA
PANAMA GUYANA COLOMBIA BRAZIL TUNISIA ARGENTINA ALGERIA URUGUAY NIGER SUDAN NIGERIA Polygamous marriages ETHIOPIA take place in significant numbers elsewhere, including in Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Jordan, India, Iran, Iraq, DEM REP Lebanon, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen. ZAMBIA NAMIBIA

ÖÄnöN

NAMIBIA

În Febbi state În Nigeria The

average age of

Belarus

fica marna<mark>ge</mark> bo guls r. 11.

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Polygamy in Africa

2000 or latest available data

50% or more

40% - 49%

30% - 39%

20% - 29%

Percentage of women aged 15-49

married to men who have more than one wife

Average age of women at first marriage In Kuwait the percentage of 2003 girls under 19 who are 400 married dropped from 38% 20% of women 20 years or younger in 1970 to 5% in 1996. over 45 have 20.1 - 23.0 never married rldwide almost 23.1 - 26.0 adults are married ♠ FINLAND east some portion RUSSIA over 26 years of their lives. SWEDEN no data -LATVIA DENMARK — LITHUANIA POLAND BELARUS KAZAKHSTAN CZ. REP. SL. AUS. HUN. MONGOLIA nighest rates of narriage are found in SERBIA BUL UZBEKISTAN ALB. | MAC. KYRGYZSTAN CAR, Chad, Guinea, Mali, GEORGIA. In Nepal 7% of girls are JAPAN MAIN ARMENIA TURKMEN. TAUKISTAN 1 these countries, more married before they're TURKEY ITALY Frince : of girls aged under 18 GREECE 10 years old. CYPRUS **OMALTA** are married. IRAQ and in ISRAEL GUAM CHINA PALESTINE AUTHORITY BHUTAN PAKISTAN ALGERIA LIBYA Hong Kong SAR EGYPT SAUDI ARABIA BANGLADESH INDIA CAPE : VERDE Ø NIGER VANUATU (3) ERITREA YEMEN In UAE the THAILAND SUDAN percentage of HIGERIA girls under 19 TRINIDAD & ST VINCENT & ÉTHIOPIA who are married .⊗ MALDIVES BRUNEI dropped from UGANDA MALAYSIA KENYA RWANDA 57% in 1975 to GABON 8% in 1995. BURUNDI-In the late 1990s, in the TANZANIA SEYCHELLES ()_ 😝 Indian state of Rajasthan, 56% of girls were married MALAWI before age 15, and of ZAMBIA those 17% were married ZIMBABWE MAURITIUS AR () C RÉUNION before age 10. NAMIBIA BOTSWANA MOZAMBIQUE la Estaba state is Nigeria the AUSTRALIA -SWAZILAND fo apr. age of LESOTHO filst marriage **Divorces** Majids c. 11 As a proportion of marriages late 1990s to early 2000s Belarus Russia selected top countries Sweden Latvia Ukraine ZEALAND Finland 63319/0 ous marriages 65% UK USA ignificant numbers ng in Algeria, Bahrain, Germany Jan, India, Iran, Iraq, ıl, Oman, Pakistan, Denmark public, United Arab , and Yemen.

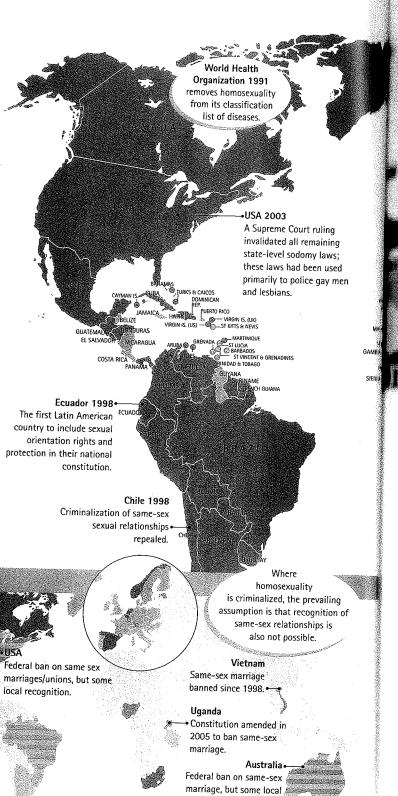
Getting married

6 Lesbian Rights

Lesbians and gay men are increasingly visible in many countries. Lesbian and gay organizing over the past decade has been impressive. In some countries, governments are slowly responding to pressure to offer protection and recognition for lesbian and gay rights.

In other places, though, hatred of homosexuals is institutionalized and encouraged, and repression of lesbians and gay men remains severe. Lesbians are often raped, sometimes by family members, as a punishment or as a "treatment" for their homosexuality. While it is difficult to generalize about what provokes such strong homophobia, it is clear that the presence of lesbians and gay men challenges complacency about narrow definitions of what constitutes a family, a household, or "normal" sexual relationships.

When women step outside of heterosexual norms, they are seen as being doubly subversive — both as members of a sexual minority, and also as women who are rejecting male authority.



recognition of partnerships.

操性the Hands 200 first country to a

Germany

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Same-sex partnership recognition

to heterosexual marriages

same-sex partnerships have legal

parity with heterosexual marriages

national-level legislation bans federal

recognition of same-sex partnerships

same-sex marriages and partnerships accorded the same legal standing as

heterosexual marriages in national law

standing under national law, but not on

legal recognition of same-sex partnerships is extended at some state or local levels

same-sex partnerships have similar status

Status as of mid-2008