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# Divorce Evil

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## THE DIVORCE EVIL

The question that has presented itself time without number is the advisability of adopting throughout our Country a universal law on Divorce. The prevalence of this branch of equity cannot be denied. Many remedies have been suggested for the purpose of lessening this "evil"; but to no avail.

It may be interesting to know that nearly every State in our Union differs on the number and character of the grounds. This, in the humble opinion of the writer, should be corrected.

There is no question but differentiation of grounds in the various States has a tendency to make people who are seeking freedom join in collusion to avoid the law of the forum. When the reader considers the fact that hundreds every year leave the great metropolises of New York and Chicago, and seek out places like Reno, Nevada, Panama, Mexico City and Paris, in order to avoid the requirement of a particular state, he gains some idea of the extent that people will go to. The Divorce Law in Nevada has been amended several times on the residence question. At the present writing the residence requirement of "Reno" is three weeks. This amendment by the Nevada Legislature was a measure of business, for it readily became apparent that business in general dropped off when the residence requirement was six months.

If a Universal Divorce Law were adopted requiring good ground for the severance of the "holy union," less people would be applying for divorce, and consequently there would be more happiness throughout the country.

There is no question, in the opinion of the writer, but that "Divorce Law" as it now exists is an evil, but until a

better substitute is offered it must exist. Man made laws are not flawless. We must have laws regulating human conduct, and the law pertaining to Divorce is a regulation of human conduct just as much as laws pertaining to the "criminal" or any of the myriad of laws pertaining to human conduct in relation to business.

Religious training of all kinds and creeds has done much toward the lessening of the "Evil," for all religion has as a basis, education and morality, but just as long as mankind exists we are bound to have disputes. These disputes arise in business and in the homes alike, and become so acute that severances occur. In the home a serious dispute may cause disruption of the family ties. This is deplorable where children of tender years are involved, sometimes causing the children to be left on the charge of the "County" or cast into an orphanage. This is the great tragedy of the "Evil."

There are sundry causes of divorce—not among the least is that of "hasty marriages." "Hasty marriage" is induced by "Sex appeal," "Fascination" or "Money." A marriage founded on any of these as an inducement fails. "Sex appeal" in itself, is nothing more than "lust," and must necessarily fail.

"Fascination" is usually a temporary proposition, and as soon as the gloss wears off the newlyweds are usually on their separate ways, and one or the other is applying for the inevitable divorce.

"Money," the "root of all evils," is a great contributor to the ever endless stream of divorce seekers. Without considering the questions of temperament, social equal, or mutual understanding, one or the other is induced by "money," thinking that with "money" comes happiness. Result—"Divorce."

Another great present day contributing cause of divorce, and one that can properly be laid at the door of the wife, is

that she continues at her old position. If she were really concerned with happiness and the art of "getting along," she would remain in the home, even sacrificing the things that she may have been accustomed to, in order to insure domestic tranquility. But a certain increasing "type" will not do so, and the result is divorce.

Finally, if marriage were taken more seriously—if the immortal words, "Whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder," really meant something—there would be fewer divorces.

There can never, in the opinion of the writer, be a total cessation of the "Evil," but there can be a great deal less of it by adopting a universal "divorce law," and by education.

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