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### Labor Market Decisions, Children's Health, and Divorce

**Michael Snipes** 

University of Colorado

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Center for Economic Analysis

Department of Economics



University of Colorado at Boulder Boulder, Colorado 80309

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#### Abstract

There are numerous contributing factors that should be taken into account in any marriage or divorce decision. This paper examines the interaction e<sup>®</sup>ects of a child's health with other important factors on the likelihood of divorce, such as labor market decisions and the type of divorce legislation in place. Most often, children are treated as a quasi-public good that enhances marriage quality. However, if the child is sick, the appeal of the marriage decreases. Likewise, living in a state with a unilateral divorce legislation decreases the costs of divorce, which implies a higher likelihood of divorce. When both parents work full time in the market, there may be less time available to devote to addressing any problems or to enhance the quality of the marriage. The interaction of the e<sup>®</sup>ects of decreased divorce costs through unilateral divorce legislation, both parents working full time in the market, and an unhealthy child is shown here to play a role in the stability of marriages and the decision to divorce. The main <sup>-</sup>nding of this paper shows that interaction e<sup>®</sup>ects do in fact exist and account for 24 percent of the total e<sup>®</sup>ect of having both parents working full time in the market and 49.8 percent of the total e<sup>®</sup>ect of having an unhealthy child. This interaction is signi<sup>-</sup>cant at a 95 percent con<sup>-</sup>dence level. The direct e<sup>®</sup>ect of these shocks is also shown to be signi<sup>-</sup>cant.

### 1 Introduction

The existence of children in a marriage can dramatically change the interactions between the parents. Most often, children are treated as a quasi-public good that enhances the marriage quality. Indeed, many researchers <sup>-</sup>nd that the existence of children in a marriage not only increases the overall welfare of the parents, but also decreases the likelihood that the parent's will divorce. Most people who decide to have a child will give birth to a healthy child. However, there is an unfortunate minority who will give birth to children who are born with defects that will require a doctor's attention. If this condition is chronic, then the unhealthy child may place additional strain on a marriage; if these strains are great enough, the couple may even decide to divorce. This paper empirically explores the relationship between the health of a child with the likelihood that their parents are divorced. The child's health is also interacted with other key variables, such as labor market decisions and divorce legislation, which allows for cumulative e<sup>®</sup>ects of the individual stresses.

Several factors must be taken into account when a couple decides to divorce. The type of divorce legislation that is in place, be it unilateral, where only one partner needs to desire a divorce before one is granted, or mutual consent, where both parties must consent to the divorce, can serve to induce divorce or prevent it. Since the unilateral divorce revolution in the early 1970s, 28 states introduced some form of unilateral divorce legislation. As of 2002, 34 states had some form of unilateral divorce legislation in place. In states where mutual consent divorce legislation is in place, both partners need to agree to the divorce before one is granted. This serves as a barrier to divorce in marriages in which only one partner desires a divorce. Unilateral divorce legislation decreases the economic cost of divorce and further serves to encourage divorce as only one partner needs to consent before a divorce is granted.

Divorce can have important economic implications for both the parents and the child. According to the Census Bureau, roughly 50% of marriages in the United States end in divorce. As of 2002, 23% of children under 18 lived with their mother only. The overall proportion of persons married has also gone down over time. As of 2002, 59% of the population was married. This is down from 72% in 1970 and 62% in 1990<sup>1</sup>. The percent of people who have never married by the age of 35 is 23 percent for males and 16 percent for females as of 2002. These facts are important for several reasons. Pedersen, Rubenstein, and Yarrow (1979) found that infants raised without fathers were less cognitively competent than infants raised in two-parent families even though mothers in single- and two-parent families behaved similarly. Children from single-female-headed households are more likely to drop out of high school, less likely to attend college, and experience teen births. Children who come from single-parent households also tend to earn less income in their adulthood (McLanahan and Sandefur, 1994). Divorce decisions can a®ect not only the distributions of marital surplus before the divorce occurs, but the individual decision to work or stay home after the divorce.

The fact that an unhealthy child may destabilize a marriage has not only important economic implications but can also have important policy implications. Between 1996 and 2004, 7.9% of all children born were underweight, with 1.5% having a very low birth weight<sup>2</sup>. As of 2006, 15.8% of individuals had no form of health insurance. Unhealthy children need more time and resources than their healthy counterparts. This makes them more likely to be subject to the economic hardships that often follow divorce. Fertig (2005) <sup>-</sup>nds that parents of less healthy children in the United States were 50% more likely to divorce. This was not the case in the United Kingdom, which has a universal health care policy. Speci<sup>-</sup>c policies may be needed to deal with the needs of disabled children who live with a single parent, or to reduce the stresses on couples who are raising disabled children.

Fertig's 2006 <sup>-</sup>ndings that unhealthy children in the United Kingdom, where there is a universal health care system, do not signi<sup>-</sup>cantly increase the incidence of divorce, can

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>http://www.divorcemag.com/statistics/statsUS.shtml

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>http://209.217.72.34/HDAA/TableViewer/tableView.aspx?ReportId=224

have some potentially interesting policy implications in the United States. As noted in

the gains from marriage. This is due to the fact that under mutual consent laws, the partner who retains custody of the child is worse o<sup>®</sup> in divorce as they will have to accept more of the negative shock of a sick child. This implies that the custodian will require a higher post-divorce transfer from the non-custodian partner in order to be willing to divorce. The

healthier child in order for the marriage to remain attractive.

This paper uses the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth 1979 (NLSY79) and develops a probit MLE model in order to empirically test the existence of these interaction e®ects. Interaction terms are included in the estimation that control for parent's labor force decisions, divorce regimes, and the health of the child along with several controls that are of importance in the marriage-divorce decision. The data covers all years starting in 1979 through 1986 and covers every other year through 2004 and initially surveyed 12686 individuals. Over time, though, individuals dropped out of the survey and so the number of viable observations also decreases over time.

As suggested by Snipes (2007), interaction e<sup>®</sup>ects should be taken into account as each variable contributes stress to the marriage individually, but they may also play upon each other, enhancing each other's e<sup>®</sup>ects so that they play a larger role than they would individually. This paper takes these cumulative e<sup>®</sup>ects into account.

The main <sup>-</sup>nding of this paper shows that interaction e<sup>®</sup>ects do in fact exist and account for 24 percent of the total e<sup>®</sup>ect of having both parents working full time in the market and 49.8 percent of the total e<sup>®</sup>ect of having an unhealthy child. These interactions are signi<sup>-</sup>cant at a 95 percent con<sup>-</sup>dence level. The direct e<sup>®</sup>ect of these shocks is also shown to The remainder of this paper proceeds as follows. Section 2 provides a brief review of the literature. Section 3 describes the data used. Section 4 describes the empirical methodology, discusses the results, and examines di®erent speci<sup>-</sup>cations and techniques in order to test the robustness of the results and are discussed further in section 4. Section 5 concludes.

of individuals in a marriage can potentially have large repercussions for the stability of the marriage and their roles are examined here.

Other papers explore the role of children. The existence of children is found to play an important role in determining the share of marriage rents that an agent receives (Chiappori, 1997). Weiss and Willis (1997) <sup>-</sup>nd that the existence of children also decreases the likelihood of divorce, as do the existence of high divorce costs and types of divorce legislation in place; however, they do not take into account the e<sup>®</sup>ects of the child's health. Brown and Flinn (2007) develop a continuous time model that allows for strategic behavior between parents in making child quality investment choices. They <sup>-</sup>nd that changes in the family law environment have relatively small impacts on the value of child quality, but that the impact on the welfare distribution of the parents is substantially greater. These papers did not take into account the fact that the child may be unhealthy, which would serve to decrease the appeal of the marriage. While the presence of a child may serve to enhance the appeal of a marriage, the fact that the child is unhealthy will serve to o<sup>®</sup>set some, if not all, of the bene<sup>-</sup>ts derived from the child.

Mauldon (1992) explores how a child's characteristics a®ect the child's experience of divorce instead of the e®ects of children on adults probability of divorce. She -nds evidence that both congenital and non-congenital problems put children at higher risk of parental divorce at every age up to nine. She also -nds that older black children are no more likely to experience divorce than older white children; however, younger black children are more likely to experience divorce. She also -nds that having a mother who married young increases the likelihood of divorce as do mothers with higher education levels. Fertig (2006) estimates reduced form equations and shows that the presence of sick children, speci-cally children of low birth weight, increased the likelihood of divorce in the United States by about 50 percent. She further argues that the e®ect of low birth weight on parental divorce in the United States is causal given that there are few direct channels through which a parents'

divorce can lead to a low birth weight birth, reducing the probability of reverse causality. She also nds that in the United Kingdom, which has universal health care, a child's low birth weight has no e<sup>®</sup>ect on divorce. This is due to the fact that the universal coverage helps to mitigate infant health problems. As noted in the introduction, this nding can have some potentially important policy implications.

This paper is an attempt to take into account all of these factors, divorce legislation, labor market decisions, and not only the presence of children but their health as well, that had previously been examined separately. It examines the cumulative e<sup>®</sup>ects of these separate stresses while allowing them to be individually signi<sup>-</sup>cant as well. The stresses examined here all need to be taken into

questions on educational attainment, training investments, income and assets, health conditions, workplace injuries, insurance coverage, alcohol and substance abuse, sexual activity, and marital and fertility histories. Starting in 1986, speci<sup>-</sup>c questions regarding the children of the original NLSY respondents were also collected every other year thereafter. The data collected in these surveys covered questions about their health, attitudes, reading and comprehension test scores, and several other variables. Starting in 1994, children of NLSY respondents who were at least 15 years old were also interviewed.

Information pertaining to speci<sup>-</sup>c divorce laws and child custody and child support payments were obtained from the Cornell University School of Law website<sup>3</sup>. Table 1 lists the years the states <sup>-</sup>rst changed to a unilateral divorce legislation. As of 2004, 17 states (including the District of Columbia) had not adopted a unilateral divorce legislation.

#### 3.1 Descriptive Statistics

Table 2 provides descriptive statistics for the sample demographic variables. There are several things worth noting upon examining Table 2, such as the data on the number of children in the household, including biological, step, and adopted children. The average number of children present in the house is increasing over time until 2002. This is to be expected; as the respondents grew older, they became more likely to have given birth. Starting in 2002, the average number of children in the house decreases. This is due to the fact that children who were born early in the survey are now more likely to be adults and are then more likely to have moved out of the house. Coupling this with the fact that, as the respondents got older, they were less fertile and thus less likely to have given birth, helps explain this trend.

The percentage of spouses that work full time remains fairly constant over the sample period with a low of 87 percent to a high of 93 percent. The percentage of respondent's that work full time, however, changes signi<sup>-</sup>cantly. Starting around 1988, the percentage of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>http://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/index.php/Divorce

respondent's working full time rises. In 1988, 43.8 percent of respondents worked full time. By 2002, that number had jumped to 65.81 percent. The percentage of female respondents in the NLSY79 is about 50 percent and this proportion remains fairly constant over the sample period. The percentage of respondents with a high school education or better is 74.6 percent after 1984 and 64 percent over the entire sample. This is at least due in part to the fact that a number of respondents may not have been old enough in 1984 to have yet graduated from high school. The percentage of couples in which both parents work full time in the market is 54.8 percent over the sample period. This is close to the percentage found in the general population, which is around 50 percent.

Descriptive statistics for health measures are given in Table 3. For the purposes of this

The most important column is column one, which provides correlations between the divorce decision and the key shocks examined in this paper. All variables are positively correlated with divorce, as should be expected. The largest correlation is between the labor market decision and the decision to divorce. Also of note are the correlations between the \shock"

Variable	De <sup>-</sup> nition
Div	indicator equaling one if the person is divorced and zero otherwise
income	log of the income of the respondent
spinc	log of spouse's income
age⁻rst	respondent's age when their <sup>-</sup> rst child was born
⁻rstmar	respondent's age when they <sup>-</sup> rst married
rhrwork	

variables. We would expect that a unilateral divorce legislation to have a low correlation with the child health variables, as the type of legislation in place should play little, if any, role in determining the health of a child. The fact that unilateral divorce legislation is in place could be taken into account in determining the distribution of marital rents and then in turn these rent shares may a®ect the health of the child is one avenue that a unilateral divorce legislation could a®ect a child's health. Examining the column containing containing the unilateral divorce legislation variable, we see that the correlations are indeed low. Similarly, the correlation between living under a unilateral divorce regime and the fact that both parents work full time in the market is very low. The correlations between both parents working full time in the market and the health of the child are also small.

Table 5 provides estimates for the baseline probit regression. The -rst column shows estimates with limited child health information in order to give baseline estimates for comparison. Column two includes several other child health parameters. Column three includes child health information as well as several interaction variables. This is the main speci-cation. Table 6 provides the marginal e<sup>®</sup>ects of the probit estimates and Table 7 provides coe±cients for alternate speci-cations.

#### 4.1 Probit Results

As can be seen from table 5, the coe±cient for whether or not a child with a condition that requires a doctor's supervision is present in the house is positive, indicating that a child's adverse health plays a role in the parents deciding to divorce. However, the coe±cient is insigni<sup>-</sup>cant in the main speci<sup>-</sup>cation, with a p-value of 0.15. In columns one and two, however, the presence of an unhealthy child is a signi<sup>-</sup>cant factor in the parent's decision to divorce at at least a 90 percent con<sup>-</sup>dence level. According to Table 6, the presence of an unhealthy child increases the likelihood of divorce by about 2 to 2.6 percent at the average. This positive relationship is in line with Fertig (2006) who also found that parents

of unhealthy children were more likely to divorce, although the e<sup>®</sup>ect found here is less than what was found there. One way we can interpret this <sup>-</sup>nding is to say that the coe±cient on the health measure implies that the economic costs of staying married are increased, or alternately that the gains from marriage fall. Snipes (2007) argues that the adverse health of the child introduces a shock that reduces the utility of both parents in a marriage. In divorce, then, at least one parent is better o<sup>®</sup> in divorce as they will not have to bear the full brunt of the burden of the sick child, assuming that only one parent has primary custody. The estimate for total number of children requiring a doctor's supervision is negative but insigni<sup>-</sup>cant, with a p-value of 0.509.

Table 5 shows that an increase in the total number of children with a chronic condition present in the household increases the likelihood of divorce. The estimate for the total number of children with a chronic condition is positive at 0.2161 and is signi<sup>-</sup>cant at a 95 percent con<sup>-</sup>dence. Table 6 implies that each chronically ill child increases the likelihood of divorce by about 3 percent. This is not surprising as a chronic condition is more likely to be around to stay. We would expect that the more children with a chronic condition that exist in a household, the larger would be the associated costs and strain and would thus be more likely to induce divorce. The fact that the condition is chronic means that the costs associated with the sick child are also prolonged and the marriage will therefore have to endure the shock for a much longer time, if not forever. In a marginal marriage where only one partner desires a separation, divorce may temporarily be able to be prevented through such mechanisms as intra-household reallocation of resources. For example, one partner may have to leave the labor market and stay at home with the child. However, these reallocations may not be a sustainable arrangement over time and the temporary <sup>-</sup>x may not be enough

number of children in a household with a chronic condition with the estimate for any child having a chronic condition. The estimate for the total number is larger than the estimate

divorce before one is granted. Marriage contracts in this case will not necessarily be  $e\pm$ cient. This is not the case under a unilateral divorce regime. Under a unilateral divorce regime, the partner that desires the divorce can now leave. Further, it may serve to enhance the  $e\pm$ ciency of marriage contracts by providing more perfect information pre-marriage.

The coe±cients on the hours worked per week in the market by the respondent and their spouse are negative; however, only the estimate for the spouse is signi<sup>-</sup>cant in all speci<sup>-</sup>cations. These estimates imply that for every additional hour the spouse worked in the market, the couple is about 0.05 percent less likely to be divorced. These estimates, however, are small and their marginal e<sup>®</sup>ects are correspondingly small. At least part of this e<sup>®</sup>ect could be explained by the fact that, up until 1989, most of the respondents did not work full-time in the market. Any additional income that is brought into the household from working an extra hour (up until full-time) would then more than likely be seen as a positive addition to the marriage and would thus decrease the probability of divorce.

What is much more important than the changes in the number of hours worked is the estimate for both parents working full time in the market. This e<sup>®</sup>ect is large and signi<sup>-</sup>cant in all speci<sup>-</sup>cations, with an estimate of around 0.46 at a 95 percent signi<sup>-</sup>cance. This implies that if both parents work full time in the market, ceteris paribus, they are around 7.5 to 8 percent more likely to be divorced. There are several reasons why this might be so. If both partners work full-time outside of the home, there will be less time to devote to the marriage and to each other. If problems arise, be they health related or otherwise, there may not be as much time to address and settle these issues before they become serious and potentially marriage ending. Less time will be spent toward enhancing the quality of the marriage or simply gaining pleasure from each other's company, decreasing the attractiveness of the marriage. The added stresses that often come with a full-time job, such as working overtime or the strains from trying for promotions, can spill over into the marriage and cause strain that would otherwise not necessarily be there. The magnitude of the estimates for

both parents working full time are robust to changes in speci<sup>-</sup>cation as is their signi<sup>-</sup>cance.

have time to stabilize before the shock of a child is introduced into the household. Younger parents may also not be able to handle the additional stress of a child. The estimate shows that this is not the case. The education levels of both the respondent and their spouse are both positive and signi<sup>-</sup>cant. Education decisions as well as labor market decisions that are made before marriage provide a potential partner with information that may serve to better match individuals before marriage which in turn makes for more stable marriages. If an individual puts o<sup>®</sup> getting married or having children, then these decisions are more likely to be made. Minorities are more likely to be divorced in the sample. However, the estimate for minorities is insigni<sup>-</sup>cant.

Three interaction terms are included in the main speci<sup>-</sup>cation and in all other alternate speci<sup>-</sup>cations.<sup>4</sup> There are three possible interactions between the three key variables, *unidoc*, *unifull*, and *docfull*, where the de<sup>-</sup>nitions of each are given in the table above. Table 5 shows that the interaction between both parents working full time in the market and the presence of an unhealthy child is negative and signi<sup>-</sup>cant at a 95 percent con<sup>-</sup>dence. The estimate is -0.1585, which implies that this interaction decreases the the likelihood of divorce by about 0.02602 percent. In order to obtain the total e<sup>®</sup>ect of an unhealthy child and both parents working full time in the market, one needs to add both the direct e<sup>®</sup>ect, given as the marginal e<sup>®</sup>ect of the variable itself, with the interaction e<sup>®</sup>ect. Doing this shows that the interaction e<sup>®</sup>ect of having both parents working full time and 49.8 percent of the total e<sup>®</sup>ect of an unhealthy child. Seventy six percent of the e<sup>®</sup>ect of an unhealthy child is then driven by direct e<sup>®</sup>ects. This shows that interaction e<sup>®</sup>ects do indeed play a role in the divorce decision and should be taken into account when estimating the determinants of divorce. The e<sup>®</sup>ects of the individual variables not only play

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>When the interacted variables are both dummy variables, the interaction e<sup>®</sup>ect is the discrete double di<sup>®</sup>erence:  $\frac{\mathbb{C}^2 F(u)}{\mathbb{C} x_1 \mathbb{C} x_2} = \mathbb{O}(\beta_1 + \beta_2 + \beta_{12} + X\beta) - \mathbb{O}(\beta_1 + X\beta) - \mathbb{O}(\beta_2 + X\beta) + \mathbb{O}(X\beta)$ 

a role independently but they also interact with each other and have a cumulative e<sup>®</sup>ect that is not captured when considering the variables individually. A three way interaction term combining all three e<sup>®</sup>ects was also included in similar estimations used here. However, the e<sup>®</sup>ect was always insigni<sup>-</sup>cant and is thus not included here. The other two interactions considered are insigni<sup>-</sup>cant with p-values of 0.268 for

are more likely to marry each other and less likely to divorce once married. More importantly, the magnitudes, signs, and signi<sup>-</sup>cance levels for the estimates of the other variables remain fairly constant throughout all speci<sup>-</sup>cations, showing that the results presented above in section 4.1 are robust to changes in speci<sup>-</sup>cation.

As mentioned above, missing data issues are of particular importance in the NLSY79. Therefore, the data used in estimation include mean-value imputed data. One alternative to this is multiple imputation. This process was "rst developed by Rubin (1987). Instead of "Iling in a single value for each missing value, Rubins multiple imputation strategy replaces each missing value with a set of plausible values. This replaces missing observations with values that re°ect the uncertainty in the missing value. By allowing more than one value on a missing variable to be estimated, multiple imputation corrects for sampling variability. Missing values are "Iled in using a Markov Chain-Monte Carlo (MCMC) simulation. A Markov chain is a sequence of random variables in which the distribution of each element depends on the value of the previous one. In MCMC, one constructs a Markov chain long enough for the distribution to stabilize to a common distribution. In essence, this method takes into account all available information and predicts plausible values for missing data. This method was attempted but abandoned as it failed to obtain convergence in distribution for the missing values.

Robust errors were also taken into account when estimating equation (1). Robust errors seek to provide methods that emulate classical methods, but which are not unduly a<sup>®</sup>ected by outliers or other small departures from model assumptions. The probit regression was run

### 5 Conclusions

There are numerous contributing factors that need to be taken into account in any marriage or divorce decision. These factors may play upon each other and serve to compound any potential problems that the individual factors taken by themselves would not capture. This paper examines the interaction between several important variables. Not only can living in a state with a unilateral divorce legislation decrease the costs of divorce, but combining this e<sup>®</sup>ect with the fact that both partners spend more time out of the house and the presence of a sick child can greatly decrease the appeal of the marriage. This will in turn increase the likelihood of divorce. The interaction of two of these e®ects, the stress of an unhealthy child and having both parents working full time in the market, is shown here to be signicant. This <sup>-</sup>nding combines several other <sup>-</sup>ndings that show that these factors, while individually signi<sup>-</sup>cant, are also signi<sup>-</sup>cant when interacted, depending on the e<sup>®</sup>ects interacted. This implies that the stresses that accompany having an unhealthy child and having both parents work full time in the market enhance each other and serve as further deterrents to remaining married. This <sup>-</sup>nding has some potentially important policy implications. The e<sup>®</sup>ects of a divorce can be signicant and long-lasting for both the parents and especially for children. If health care provisions are provided, the e<sup>®</sup>ects of an unhealthy child will be reduced by o®setting at least the pecuniary consequences associated with increased medical costs. If pre-natal care is provided, the potentially deleterious e<sup>®</sup>ects of an unhealthy child may be o<sup>®</sup>set all together. Increased maternity leave may also help to combat the negative a<sup>®</sup>ects of these variables as it will allow a parent to spend more time at home with a new child. This may be especially important since early childhood is of particular importance in the development of cognitive abilities.

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State	Year	State	Year
Alabama	1971	Michigan	1972
Alaska	1935	Minnesota	1974
Arizona	1973	Montana	1973
California	1970	Nebraska	1972
Colorado	1972	Nevada	1967
Connecticut	1973	New Hampshire	1971
Delaware	1968	New Mexico	1933
Florida	1971	North Dakota	1971
Georgia	1973	Oklahoma	1953
Hawaii	1972	Oregon	1971
Idaho	1971	Rhode Island	1975
Indiana	1973	South Dakota	1985
Iowa	1970	Texas	1970
Kansas	1969	Utah	1987
Kentucky	1972	Washington	1973
Maine	1973	Wisconsin	1978
Massachusetts	1975	Wyoming	1977

Table 1 - Year of Switch to Unilateral Divorce Legislation Across States

### Table 2 - Parameter Averages

Year	Number of Children in	Respondent Works Full	Spouse Works Full	Percent of Respondents
	the Household	Time in the Market	Time in the Market	with a High School Degree or Better
1979	0.17	33.4%	87.94%	11.4%
1980	0.12	33.9	89.21	20.5
1981	0.24	40.4	90.5	27.6
1982	0.33	47.6	90.14	39.2
1983	0.42	33.3	88.85	52.2
1984	0.52	26.4	90.26	71.3
1985	0.58	6.3	90.82	80.9
1986	0.68	40.0	91.5	79.9
1987	0.79	*	90.74	77.3
1988	0.91	43.8	89.23	71.6
1989	1.00	50.0	90.97	73.0
1990	1.08	55.6	*	71.2
1991	1.14	16.67	93.0	78.9
1992	1.21	33.3	90.7	75.1
1993	1.28	66.67	88.78	71.7
1994	1.32	61.67	89.63	72.1
1996	1.40	61.73	93.24	73.2
1998	1.46	61.37	93.5	78.8
2000	1.43	65.19	93.82	68.0
2002	1.38	65.81	92.83	80.5
2004	1.29	64.63	92.44	70.7

Year	Percent of Households With a Child Requiring	Average Number of Children Requiring a Doctor	Percent of Households With a Child	Average Number of Children With a Chronic Condition
	Doctor Supervision	Per Household	With a Chronic Condition	Per Household
1986	8.3%	0.089	*	*
1988	8.7	0.095	63.1%	0.673
1990	9.6	0.102	66.6	0.719
1992	10.1	0.115	71.2	0.738
1994	9.7	0.109	64.3	0.701
1996	11.1	0.127	67.1	0.767
1998	9.8	0.108	71.0	0.798
2000	10.4	0.114	73.6	0.802
2002	7.6	0.082	72.5	0.781
2004	7.6	0.080	71.4	0.774

### Table 3 - Health Parameter Averages for Households With Children

\* Variable is not available for that year

-0.0160-0.0088 <u>Table 4</u> - Ordinary Correlation

	Divorced	Both	U
		Full	D
Both	0.4214		
Full			
Unilateral	0.0368	0.0068	
Divorce			
Any	0.0195	-0.0160	-0
Doctor			
Total	0.0209		İ
Doctor			

	Total	Any
	Doctor	Chronic
545		

### Table 5 - Parameter Estimates

Variable	Estimate 1	Estimate 2	Estimat
Income	0.0232865*	0.0232088*	0.0232276
	(0.0018302)	(0.0018311)	(0.001831
Spouse Income	-0.0203922*	-0.0204504*	-0.020536
	(0.002948)	(0.0029487)	(0.002948
Age at First Birth	0.0306396*	0.0305475*	0.0305171
	(0.0009589)	(0.0009768)	(0.000976
Age at First Marriage	-0.0857065*	-0.085869*	-0.085841
	(0.0023739)	(0.0023781)	(0.002378
Hours Worked Per Week	-0.0014138	-0.0014231	-0.001411
	(0.0012641)	(0.0012646)	(0.001264
Hours Worked Per Week (Spouse)	-0.003833*	-0.0038508*	-0.003835
	(0.0008218)	(0.000822)	(0.000822
Both Parents Work Full Time	0.4333244*	0.4320322*	0.4596028
	(0.0557044)	(0.0557321)	(0.058716
Education	0.0280868*	0.0280973*	0.0279103
	(0.0061167)	(0.0061154)	(0.006117
Minority	0.0218805	0.022177	0.022039
	(0.0141021)	(0.0141071)	(0.014109
Number of Children in	-0.0250035*	-0.0263055*	-0.026505
Household	(0.006469)	(0.0065427)	(0.006544
Spouse's Education	0.0156368*		

Table 6 - Marginal	E <sup>®</sup> ects of	Probit Estimates
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Variable	Estimate 1	Estimate 2	Estimate 3
Income	0.0033626*	0.003351*	0.0033519*
Spouse Income	-0.0029447*	-0.0029527*	-0.0029636*
Age at First Birth	0.0044244*	0.0044105*	0.0044039*
Age at First Marriage	-0.0123762*	-0.012398*	-0.0123876*
Hours Worked Per Week (Respondent)	-0.0002042	-0.0002055	-0.0002037
Hours Worked Per Week (Spouse)	-0.0005535*	-0.000556*	-0.0005535*
Both Parents Work Full Time	0.0766403*	0.0763587*	0.0821992*
Minority	0.0031759	0.0032187	0.0031971
Number of Children in	-0.0036106*	-0.0037981*	-0.0038249*
Household			
Spouse's Education	0.002258*	0.0022379*	0.00222392*
Unilateral Divorce	0.0189215*	0.0189099*	0.0196494*
Legislation in Place			
Any Child Requiring Doctor	0.0198901*	0.0260674**	0.0262492
Supervision			
Total Number of Children		-0.0084615	-0.0091109
Requiring a Doctor's Supervision			
Any Child Has a Chronic Condition		-0.0156272	-0.0172627
Total Number of Children With a		0.0300096*	0.0311857*
Chronic Condition			
unidoc			0.0315086
unifull			0.0015229
docfull			-0.0260278*