



Californians and Divorce

Final Report

September 6, 2016

AVVO

Legal. Easier.

The Study

These findings are based on a non-probability online sample of data collected from August 24 – September 3, 2016. A sample of over 650 California residents aged 25-55 were surveyed. The margin of error for this study is plus or minus 3.85 percentage points.

Avvo conducts periodic studies of topics at the intersection of lifestyle and the law to better understand the issues facing individuals engaging with attorneys and the legal system. Given that divorce and family law are two of the largest and most routine legal actions taken in the United States, Avvo strives to uncover American attitudes and behaviors of Americans regarding marriage and divorce.

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15 – Does being divorced make you a less appealing date? Attitudes on dating someone who is divorced

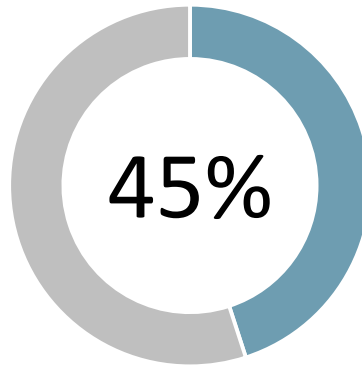
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Does divorce mean
failure to Californians?

Not necessarily....

Almost half of Californians don't think of marriage in terms of happily ever after



believe that marriages aren't all meant to last

Men and women feel about the same:

47% of men

&

43% of women

believe marriages aren't all meant to last

Different age groups feel the same:

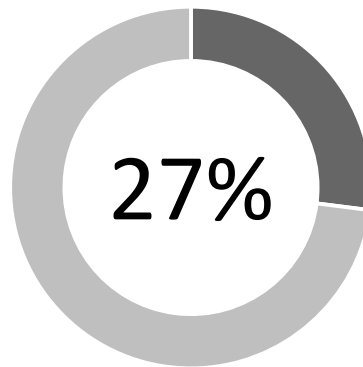
43% of 25-34 year-olds

&

46% of 35-55 year-olds

believe marriages aren't all meant to last

Only 1 in 4 Californians think divorce happens because couples aren't trying hard enough



believe that people who get divorced don't try hard enough to make the marriage work

Men and women feel about the same:

29% of men

&

25% of women

believe that people who get divorced don't try hard enough to make the marriage work

Different age groups feel the same:

26% of 25-34 year-olds

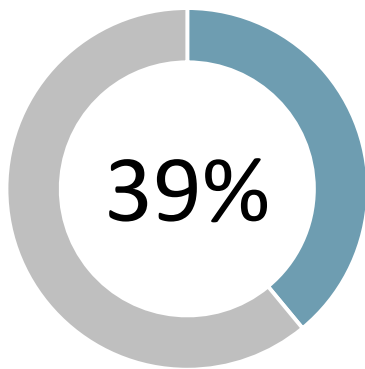
&

27% of 35-55 year-olds

believe that people who get divorced don't try hard enough to make the marriage work

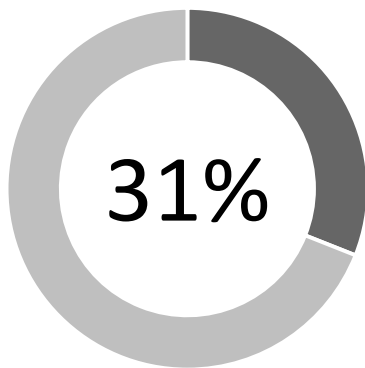
Married couples in CA are more likely to believe in ever-after and to blame divorce on the couple

Married



39%

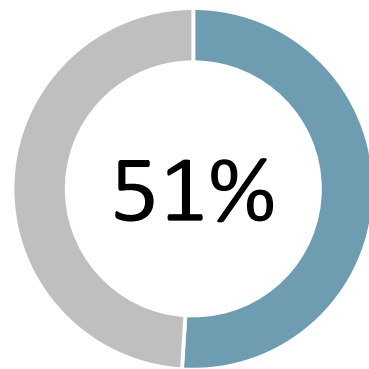
believe that marriages aren't all meant to last



31%

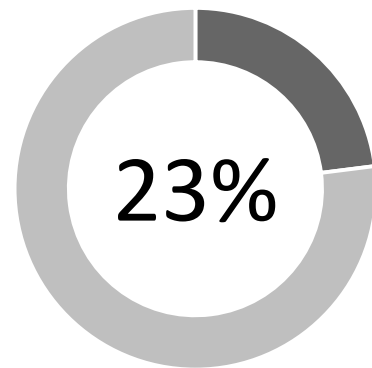
believe that people who get divorced don't try hard enough to make the marriage work

Not Married



51%

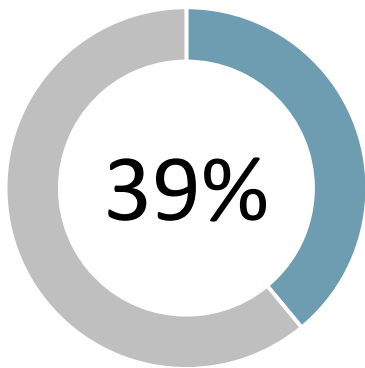
believe that marriages aren't all meant to last



23%

believe that people who get divorced don't try hard enough to make the marriage work

Just as many in CA think divorce leads to something better as think that divorce is a failure

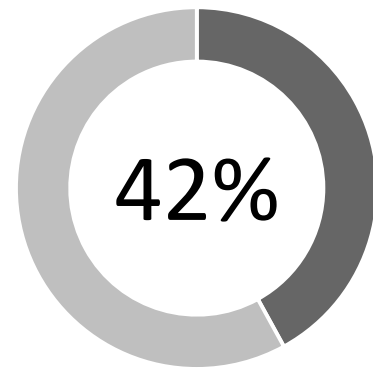


believe divorce is a type of failure

Different age groups feel the same:

41% of 25-34 year-olds
&

38% of 35-55 year-olds believe divorce is a type of failure



believe divorce opens up opportunities for a better life

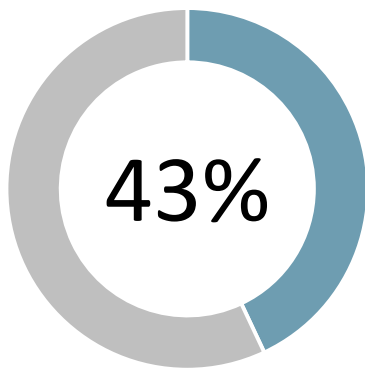
Different age groups feel the same:

47% of 25-34 year-olds
&

40% of 35-55 year-olds believe divorce opens up opportunities for a better life

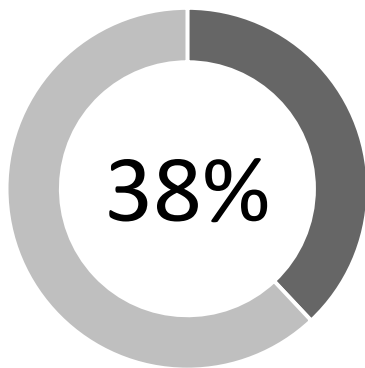
Men are more likely to see divorce as a failure; women more likely to see it as an opportunity

Men



43%

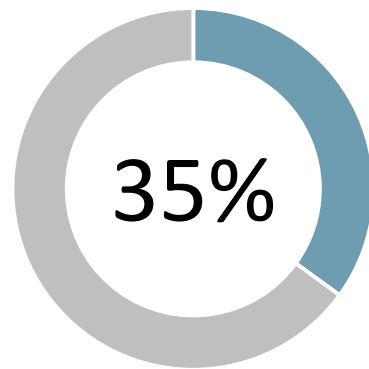
believe divorce is a type of failure



38%

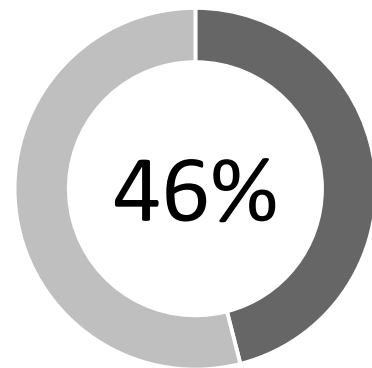
believe divorce opens up opportunities for a better life

Women



35%

believe divorce is a type of failure

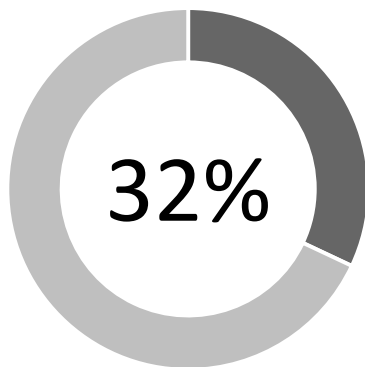


46%

believe divorce opens up opportunities for a better life

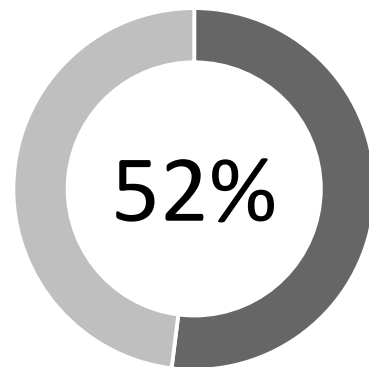
Married Californians are less likely to see divorce as an opportunity for something better

Married



believe divorce opens up opportunities for a better life

Not Married



believe divorce opens up opportunities for a better life

Married and unmarried Californians are similar in believing divorce is a type of failure:

40% of married

&

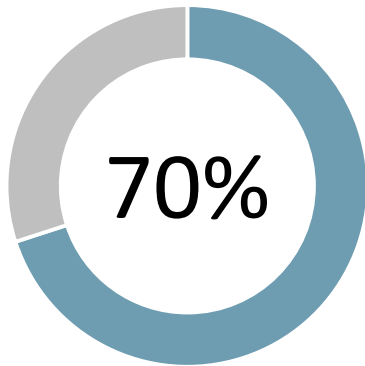
37% of unmarried

Californians believe divorce is a type of failure

According to
Californians, is divorce
bad for the kids?

Not necessarily....

Most Californians can imagine divorce being OK for the kids



believe it's better for children to see their parents divorced and happy than together and unhappy

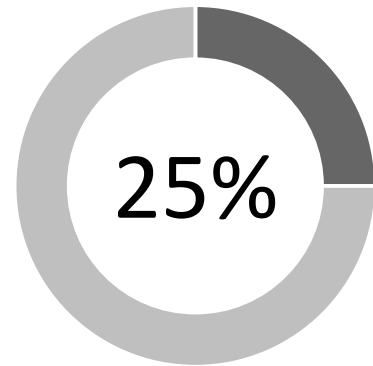
Different age groups feel the same:

70% of 25-34 year-olds

&

70% of 35-55 year-olds

believe it's better for children to see their parents divorced and happy than together and unhappy



believe divorce ruins children, no matter what

Different age groups feel the same:

25% of 25-34 year-olds

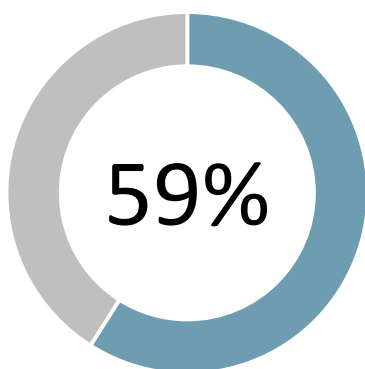
&

25% of 35-55 year-olds

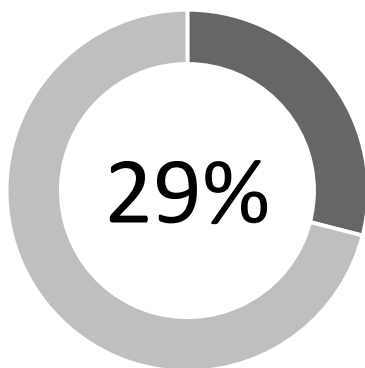
believe divorce ruins children, no matter what

Men are more likely than women to see divorce as bad for the kids

Men

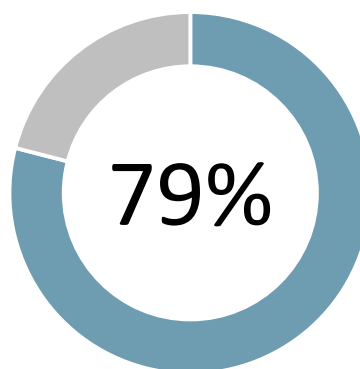


believe it's better for children to see their parents divorced and happy than together and unhappy

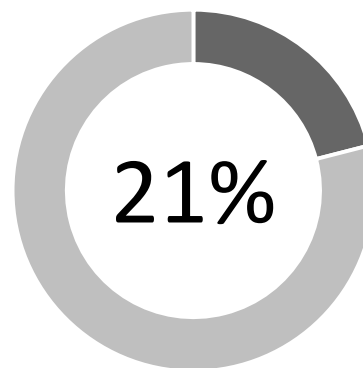


believe divorce ruins children, no matter what

Women



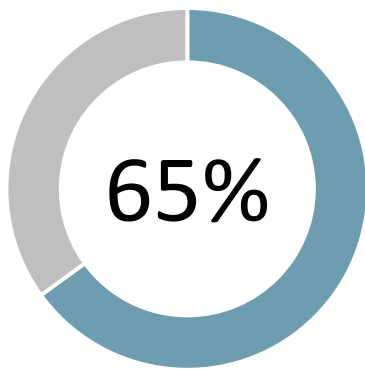
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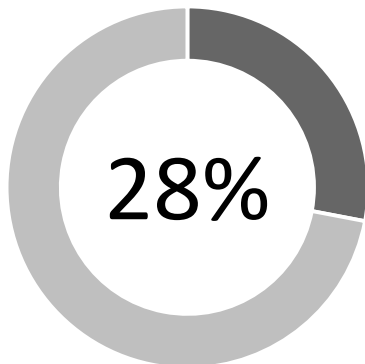
believe divorce ruins children, no matter what

Married couples in CA are more likely to think divorce can harm the kids

Married

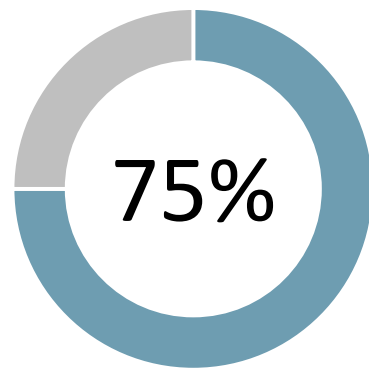


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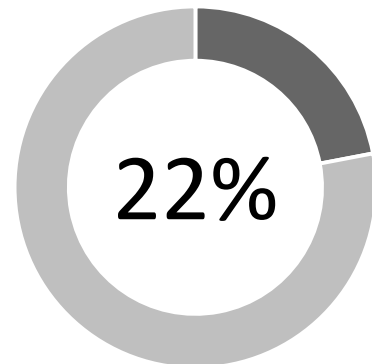


believe divorce ruins children, no matter what

Not Married



believe it's better for children to see their parents divorced and happy than together and unhappy

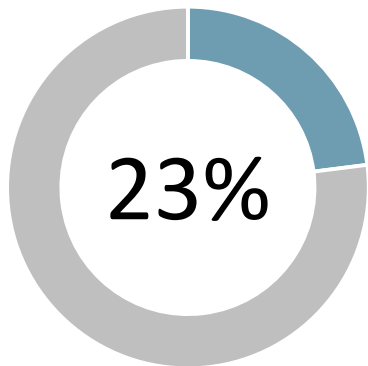


believe divorce ruins children, no matter what

In California, does being divorced make you a less appealing date?

Not totally, but it helps to be older....

Californians prefer dating divorced people than people who have never married



are more worried about dating someone who's divorced than never married

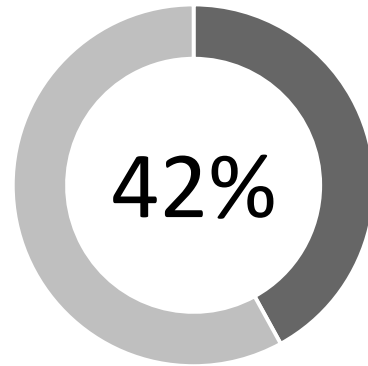
Men and women feel about the same:

26% of men

&

21% of women

are more worried about dating someone who's divorced than never married



are more worried about dating someone who's never married than divorced

Men and women feel about the same:

41% of men

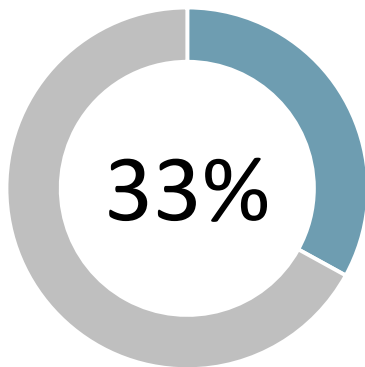
&

43% of women

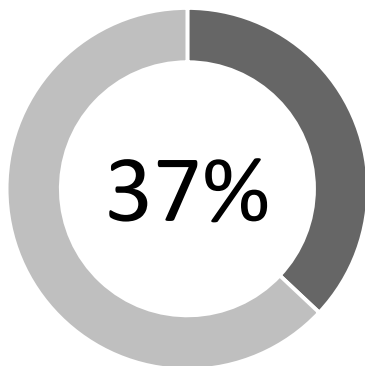
are more worried about dating someone who's never married than divorced

Younger Californians are more hesitant about dating people who are divorced

25-34

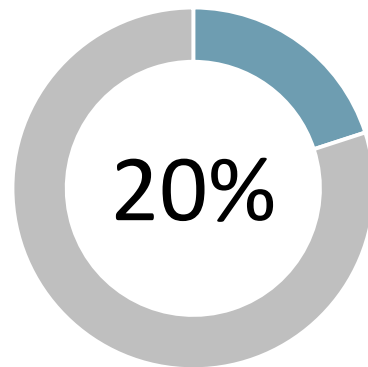


are more worried about dating someone who's divorced than never married

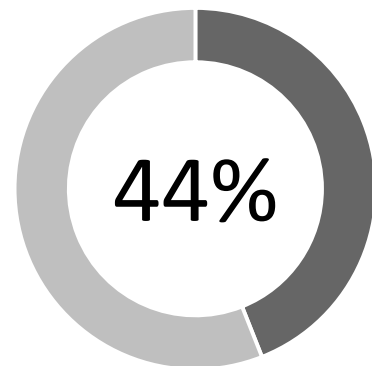


are more worried about dating someone who's never married than divorced

35-55



are more worried about dating someone who's divorced than never married



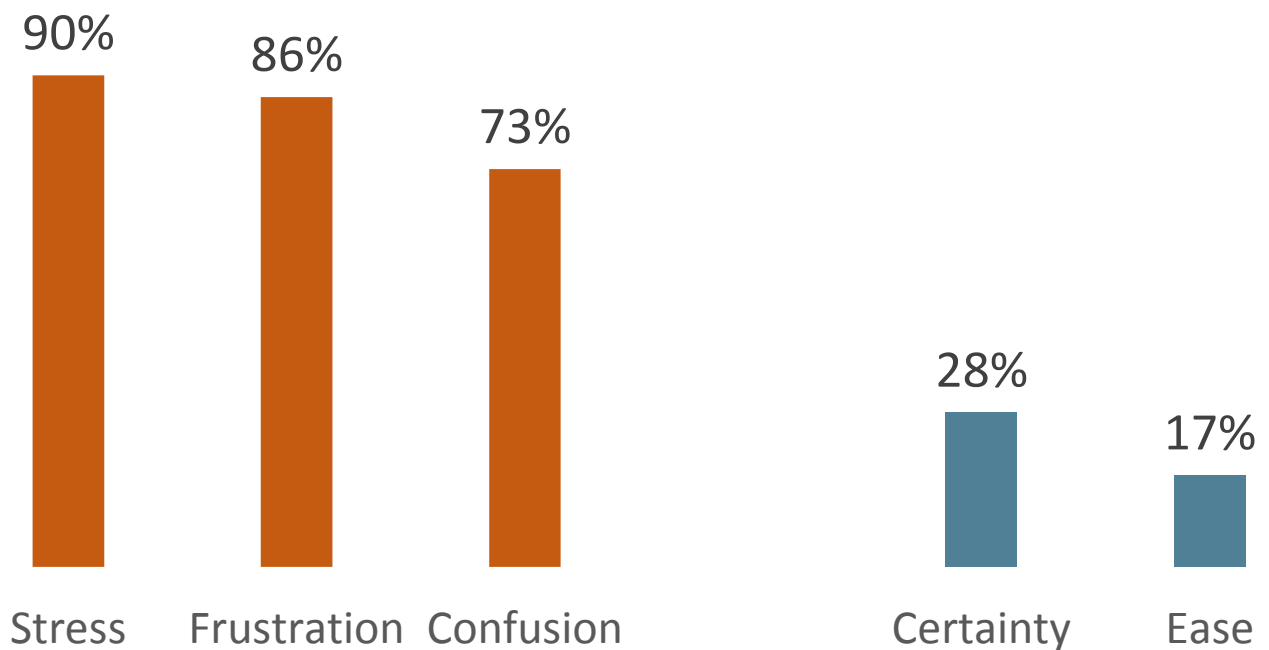
are more worried about dating someone who's never married than divorced

Does the process of
divorce in California
suck?

Pretty much....

Most Californians equate divorce with stress

How would you describe the process of divorce when it comes to...?



“Based on everything you've heard or experienced, whether you've personally experienced divorce or not, how would you describe the process of getting a divorce when it comes to each of the following?” n=661 adults 25-55

They also equate divorce with spending a lot on lawyers' fees

How much would a divorce lawyer cost for ...?

\$5,000	Uncontested divorce, no children
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\$7,300	Uncontested divorce, children
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\$25,000	Contested divorce
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Thank you!

