

HomeFront. PROJECT

KIDS

Teach, Empower and Enjoy Your Children.

Sequence of Success Consider the Children

In the movie, *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*, Adam, the oldest of seven brothers, goes into town in order to find a wife. He and his six brothers live in the mountains in Oregon when the western part of the United States is being settled. Adam's brothers fall in love with six girls. Adam and his brothers come up with a plan to marry the girls by taking them and a Reverend (a Reverend is a pastor for a church). However, they realize they made a mistake and try to fix it by taking the girls home. Unfortunately, the girls love the brothers, and do not want to go home. The girls' families have also come to the brothers' farm in the mountains to bring the girls home. Pay careful attention to the comments from the girls' fathers about the situation, and the concern the Reverend has for the child. What happens when they think about the child?



Watch this scene from:
Seven Brides for Seven Brothers, then discuss:
Why do you think the Reverend was so concerned to find out
which woman the baby belonged to?

The Reverend and the fathers of girls know that children need their mother and father to be married for greatest success. Having married parents is central to a child's wellbeing. People recognize the importance of having the two parents care for the child but would say marriage is not needed. Many today would suggest that cohabiting parents are equal to married parents, but the research shows that just isn't true. Children who live with an adult, not biologically related to them, are at greater risk of abuse. Further, when compared to the children of married parents, children of cohabiting parents are still at a greater risk for abuse. They also experience greater emotional problems such as depression, and they are more likely to use drugs.

The research is clear: two people in a house together isn't a replacement for the stability marriage brings to the couple and to their children.