

What Hungarians Think about Good Marriage

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Marriage provides happiness and emotional security, according to Hungarians, reveals a survey published by the Mária Kopp Institute for Demography and Families (KINCS) on the occasion of Marriage Week. The research on marriage and partner choice shows that Hungarians are pro-marriage, stand up for the traditional family model and agree that one must continuously act for a well-functioning marriage.

This is the 16th time this year that the Marriage Week will be held in Hungary, with the extensive cooperation of Christian churches and NGOs. The aim of the national campaign is to draw attention to the values and importance of marriage and the family. On this occasion, KINCS asked Hungarian people what they thought about marriage.

According to the January survey, Hungarians are pro-marriage, with the overwhelming majority (82%) saying that marriage is a voluntary union between a man and a woman. Respondents almost unanimously (97%) believe that for a good marriage one should act every day, which is much easier if the couple shares similar values (83%). Nearly threequarters (73%) say marriage provides emotional security for spouses. Six out of ten people surveyed believe that marriage is made complete by a child, and the same number believe that marriage increases their sense of happiness.

According to the research, the basis of a well-functioning marriage and relationship is based on acceptance, respect, proper communication (97%), quality time spent together (95%), affection, willingness to compromise (92%), love (91%), a sense of humour (89%), a common set of values and the division of labour between married couples (87%).

Among the main obstacles to choosing a partner and the possible reasons for being single, 60% of the respondents mentioned the lack of real social relationships, excessive expectations of the other, the lack of a secure financial background and career development.

One in two people say marriage is a lifelong alliance. Two-thirds of married people agree. Half of the people think it is better to marry before having children, to this the older people agree most.

Today, nearly three-quarters of children born in Hungary have married parents, while a decade ago the same figure was around 50%.

We are experiencing a renaissance of marriages, as evidenced by the fact that the number of marriages in Hungary was higher than in recent years before the regime change, as the number of marriages has exceeded 64,000 every year since 2019.

Methodology: The nationwide representative survey was conducted by telephone interviewing 1000 people among the adult Hungarian population between 11 January 2023 and 20 January 2023.

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