

What is the Secret Behind 25 Years of Marriage?

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ABSTRACT This paper is a report on marriages solemnized during the last part of the 20th century, specifically on how couples propose to each other before they get married. Changes in life's circumstances can have profound implications on a marriage and research results have shown that divorce rates are increasing. This research had a qualitative research paradigm. Five couples, living in either Famagusta or Iskele in Cyprus were chosen by purposeful sampling techniques. Data was collected using semi-structured interviews and the questions were analyzed by way of thematic analysis. The findings indicate that coming from a traditional family influences both the decision to get married and the choice of a marriage partner. The participants' expectations of marriage include being happy, being peaceful and to continue their lives in this manner. A healthy marriage is based on comprehension, understanding, respect, love and empathy. Satisfaction in a marriage is obtained in this way.