



## THE RUTH INSTITUTE

References for our brochure called, “Children and Divorce.”

Compared to children raised with their own married biological parents, children of divorce are at elevated risks for the following:

Beginning smoking. <sup>1,2</sup>	Dying at a younger age. <sup>1,2</sup>
Falling behind in math. <sup>2</sup>	Fewer close friends. <sup>1,2,3</sup>
Getting sick. <sup>2,3</sup>	Suffering academically. <sup>1,2</sup>
Needing Ritalin. <sup>2</sup>	Not finishing high school. <sup>1</sup>
Losing contact with grandparents. <sup>1</sup>	Having a stroke. <sup>2</sup>
Engaging in drug or alcohol abuse. <sup>1,3</sup>	Engaging in early sexual activity. <sup>1,3</sup>
Engaging in criminal activities. <sup>1,2</sup>	Having sleep problems. <sup>1</sup>
Getting divorced as an adult. <sup>2,3</sup>	Having less parental supervision. <sup>1,2</sup>
Not finishing college. <sup>1</sup>	Not attending church. <sup>1</sup>
Doubting parents’ religious beliefs. <sup>1</sup>	Feeling a lack of compassion from their church. <sup>1</sup>
Persistent feelings of loneliness. <sup>1</sup>	Thoughts of suicide or violence. <sup>1,2</sup>

1. Hawkins, Alan J. and Frackell, Tamara A., “Should I Keep Trying to Work It Out?” Salt Lake City: Utah Commission on Marriage, 2009. Online PDF. Accessed August 2015.
2. Hansen, Lauren. “9 negative effects divorce reportedly has on children.” The Week, March 28, 2013. Web. Accessed August 2015.
3. Desai, Amy. “How Could Divorce Affect My Kids?” Focus on the Family, n.d. Web. Accessed August 2015.