**Smarthinking Tutor Response Form**

Your tutor has written overview comments about your essay in the form below. Your tutor has also embedded comments **[in bold and in brackets]** within your essay. Thank you for choosing Smarthinking to help you improve your writing!

Hello, Shelleena! My name is Louise L., and I look forward to working with you on this **Extended Essay Review**to improve your writing today. Let's get started!

**\*Writing Strength:**   
  
Your introduction ends with a clear thesis statement. Let’s take a look at your thesis:

*However, despite the decrease in marriages, there has been an increase in divorce for two main reasons.*

Your thesis presents the main idea of your essay. As a result, readers are informed of what to expect from your discussion. Nice work!  
  
**\*Shelleena 8352605 has requested that you respond to the Main Idea/Thesis:**    
  
Some of your points need to be explained further. Let’s take a look at this excerpt:

*These couples later reconsider marriage because that is the goal of a relationship but they are more likely to get divorced again because they accept the fact that they can cohabitate without being married.*

You mention that couples who cohabitate eventually get married but get divorced because they know that they can cohabitate. This idea seems confusing, so you will want to explain your point further. Why would couples who are comfortable with cohabitating get married only to get divorced and cohabitate again? What evidence or study might you include to support or further illustrate your point? Consider these questions as you explain your point further.  
  
**\*Shelleena 8352605 has requested that you respond to the Introduction/Conclusion:**

Your conclusion adds new information about your discussion. Let’s take a look at this excerpt:

*Before the no-fault divorce, couples use to work things out or separate for long periods so that they can figure things out unless they are able to prove that the other partner is at fault for putting the marriage in an unfixable state.*

Here, you add information about what couples would do before the no-fault divorce law. However, adding information in the conclusion might confuse readers about whether your discussion is ending. Thus, you will want to eliminate new information and focus on recapping and reflecting on your key points. What, again, are the causes of the increase in the rate of divorce? What are the future implications of the increased rate of divorce? Consider these questions as you revise your conclusion.

You can visit this link from the Writer’s Handbook to learn more about [Strong Conclusions](http://services.smarthinking.com/static/document_library/docs/writeman/3_02.cfm)  
  
  
**Use of Resources**

One of your in-text citations misplaces the year of publication. Let’s take a look at this excerpt:

*Warren indicated that “between 1940 and 1950, divorce rates remained near 10 divorces for every 1,000 married women; however, by 1979, the rate had doubled” (2019).*

You place the year of publication at the end of the sentence. However, when making use of a signal phrase, the year of publication should follow the last name of the author. Here’s an example:

Jones (2013) revealed that “corporal punishment hinders the cognitive development of a child.”

The example above shows how to make use of a signal phrase when following the APA style. Now, based on my example, how might you revise your citation?

You can visit this link from the Writer’s Handbook to learn more about [APA Style](http://services.smarthinking.com/static/document_library/docs/writeman/2_03_09_02.cfm)   
  
**Summary of Next Steps:**

* Further explain some of your points.
* Focus on recapping and reflecting on your points in your conclusion.
* Cite your sources accordingly.

Thank you for submitting your essay for a review, Shelleena. I enjoyed helping you with this step in the revision process. Have a good day! ~Louise L.

You can find more information about writing, grammar, and usage in the[Smarthinking Writer's Handbook](http://services.smarthinking.com/static/Document_Library/docs/writeman/contents.cfm" \t "http://services.smarthinking.com/offlinerequest/showEssayResponse/_blank).

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Please look for comments **[in bold and in brackets]** in your essay below.  
Thank you for submitting your work to Smarthinking! We hope to see you again soon.

Divorce Rates Increase

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Divorce Rates Increase

To get marriage is the goal of all or the majority of intimate relationships. However, they seem to be a shift amongst our generation. Young adults no longer seem to be interested in marriage and when they do get married, they easily get a divorce for different reasons. Some couples fight before they get a divorce while others do not. Some exhaust counseling, try separation, include other parties in their marriages and when all fails, the result is divorce. Research done by marriage lawyers indicates that “It is commonly believed that 50 percent of marriages will end in divorce” (Attorneys.com, n.d.). This means that as the younger generations see divorce happening frequently, it is accepted as the solution to marital problems. **[<Why might it be important to learn about the causes of the increase in divorce? Whom might benefit from this information? Adding these details will help further develop your introduction.]** This also has a direct impact on the incidence of marriages. However, despite the decrease in marriages, there has been an increase in divorce for two main reasons.

First, divorce rates have increased since the introduction of no-fault divorce law. This law was introduced in the 1950s and was only introduced in some states only. By the 1970s, it was introduced in almost every state. Before this law, couples had to prove that the marriage is unfixable and show that someone was at fault (Pew Research Center, 2017). However, with this law, they simply had to say that the marriage is not working out between the two and then move forward with a divorce. Warren indicated that “between 1940 and 1950, divorce rates remained near 10 divorces for every 1,000 married women; however, by 1979, the rate had doubled” (2019). Therefore, the laws had a great effect on divorce rates because divorce became easier with the implementation of no-fault divorce.

Second, divorce rates have also increased because cohabitation has become more acceptable. Society has painted a picture that it is okay to live together before marriage. However, couples that live together before marriage have a higher chance of divorcing after marriage (Pew Research Center, 2017). Couples exit their marriages through a divorce with the perception that cohabitation is an alternative to marriage. Some couples don’t even consider marriage because they accept cohabitation is an alternative. However, that is just what it is, a perception. These couples later reconsider marriage because that is the goal of a relationship but they are more likely to get divorced again because they accept the fact that they can cohabitate without being married. **[<Your sentence is missing a comma. The conjunction “but” connects the independent clauses in your sentence. Thus, you need to place a comma before the conjunction to show readers the relationship between your ideas.]** Therefore, breaking their marriages becomes acceptable since there is less responsibility to sustain relationships when couples cohabitate. If this continues, not only will divorce rate rise, marriage rates will also decrease as well (Chon, 2012). **[<You need a concluding sentence that will tie your ideas together. Based on your discussion, what is the significance of the role cohabitation plays in the increased rate of divorce?]**

Nevertheless, divorce rates will continue to increase if nothing is done. Before the no-fault divorce, couples use to work things out or separate for long periods so that they can figure things out unless they are able to prove that the other partner is at fault for putting the marriage in an unfixable state. So, putting something in place of no-fault divorce will reduce the likelihood of divorcing so that it does not spill into reducing the incidence of marriage. In addition, if cohabitation is acceptable, not only will it increase divorce rates, but also will reduce the incidence of marriages in the future if our younger generation sees marriage as something that can be easily broken. Therefore, a value must be added to marriage so that others can see divorce as the last resort regardless of the reason for considering divorce.

References

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