Marriage values

mirror changes

By Lisa Doriovan

in social conditions

Although Americans consistently view marriage as an important societal institution, marital attitudes seem to reflect the

social and economic conditions of the times, one UNL professor said.

Lincoln sociology professor, said, "Society is moving toward a liberal swing that may

have consequences for marriage and fam-

Students and non-students alike are more Johnson said.

'swing away from the 'meism' of the '80s.

stability of the family took priority to happi-

ness, because it was necessary to survive.

With the changing roles of men and women, Johnson said, "society is more

and job opportunities were tight, people

would have to rely on each other a lot more.

think that the family unit would become

there are several signs of the times.

to have big traditional weddings

before getting married.

Johnson said if the economy took a plunge

"If there was a depression tomorrow, I

But as couples venture into married life.

Johnson said as people move away from

the materialism associated with the '80s,

they are less willing to do things like "blow

big bucks on wedding rings.'
On the other hand, people will continue

And following a trend of the 1980s, Johnson said we will see more and more

couples waiting until they're a little older

individually, before they can make a good and happy life with one another.

Although qualifying a good marriage is subjective, Johnson said he thinks there are

a few things he sees as prerequisite.

Many couples want to fulfill themselves

According to Johnson, society is seeing a

A long time ago, Johnson said, economic

The economic centrality of the family

aware of social issues, Johnson said.

has declined," he said.

individually oriented.'

stronger," he said.

Craig Johnson, University of Nebraska-

Many tasks to be done

# an ahead for an easier wedding

Many things have to be taken care of before a couple is ready to walk down the aisle. The following is a partial list of things that the bride and groom will need to accomplish before the actual ceremony and a time-table to schedule those tasks.

Enlisting a friend -- or two -- to help plan the wedding can ensure that nothing is left

### BRIDE

## 9 to 12 months before the ceremony:

- Select a wedding date and time.
- Set up a preliminary budget.
- Reserve ceremony and reception location.
- Decide on size of guest list; compile names and addresses.
- Select attendants.
- Select caterer, photographer and florist.
- Pick out dress and bridesmaids' dresses. Announce engagement.
- Decide on officiant (minister/judge/priest).

#### 4 to 6 months before the ceremony:

- Some religions require pre-marital counseling. If this is necessary, schedule it now. Make final ceremony arrangements with any contract or deposits.
- Order invitations.
- Check legal requirements.
- Shop for wedding rings.
- Start planning for honeymoon.
- Select and order wedding invitations.
- Decide on final menu for reception.
- Choose flowers to be carried, flowers for church.

# 3 to 6 months before the ceremony:

- Plan music for ceremony and reception. Address invitations (mail four to six weeks
- before wedding).

- Make rehearsal dinner arrangements.
- Register with bridal registry.

# 1 month before the ceremony:

- Have final fittings of wedding apparel.
- Have blood test and get marriage license. Be sure all accessories are purchased (in-
- cluding extra pairs of hose, etc.).

### 1 week before:

- •Give final count of guests to the caterer (or whoever is supplying food for the wedding).

  Give photographer a list of desired pic-
- Send change of address cards to the post office, if moving.
- Release wedding news to local papers.
   Give musicians list of music desired.
- Pack honeymoon suitcase. • Have rehearsal and rehearsal dinner with
- participants.

#### The day of the ceremony:

- ·Be sure to eat something before the ceremony.
- Have music start one-half hour before the ceremony.
- Have guests seated.
- Have groom's parents seated five minutes before ceremony.
- Have bride's mother seated.

#### GROOM

#### 6 to 12 months before:

- Purchase bride's engagement ring. •Discuss date and type of ceremony with
- fiancee.
- Choose best man and ushers. Start planning honeymoon.

#### 4 months before:

- Shop for wedding rings.
- Complete guest list. Select and order men's formals.
- •Finalize all honeymoon plans.

#### 2 months before:

- Meet with officiant to finalize details.
- Assist parents with rehearsal dinner party plans.
- Discuss floral arrangement (expenses are traditionally the groom's responsibility).

# 1 month before:

- Make sure attendants have been fitted and formals have been ordered.
- Get wedding rings, make sure they fit.
- Take care of legal aspects.

#### 2 weeks before:

- Gather necessary documents with fiancee. Arrange transportation for wedding day.
- olf moving, give change of address card to
- post office.
- olf not, make room for fiancee's belongings.

#### 1 week before:

- Discuss final details with fiancee.
- Pick up wedding attire and try it on.
- Reconfirm honeymoon arrangements.
- Attend rehearsal and rehearsal dinner party.

# The day of the ceremony:

- Eat something in the morning.
- Start dressing one hour before ceremony.
- •Give best man the bride's wedding ring, officiant's fee and marriage license to hold. ·Have best man and maid of honor sign

Sharing common interests as well as the wedding certificate.

same educational background can produce a healthy and happy marriage. Research indicates that people who pur-

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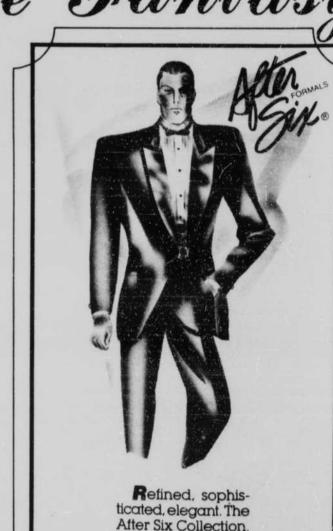
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