

Family Stresses

**SECTION
19-3**

Thinking About Family Crises

Directions. Divorce, moving, and death can all cause family problems. For each statement about these situations, place next to it the number that expresses your feelings about that statement. For the ratings, choose from the list below. Be prepared to discuss your answers.

RATINGS

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1 = Strongly disagree | 4 = Agree |
| 2 = Disagree | 5 = Strongly agree |
| 3 = No opinion | |

Divorce

- _____ 1. It's better for children to live with both parents, even if they often fight, than to suffer through a divorce.
- _____ 2. Children do best if they live with the mother after a divorce.
- _____ 3. If their parents divorce, boys need an adult male they can look up to and talk to.
- _____ 4. After a divorce, children should spend equal time in each parent's home.
- _____ 5. Once parents divorce, neither one should remarry until the children are old enough to have their own homes.
- _____ 6. Divorce is easier for a child to accept if he or she has brothers or sisters.
- _____ 7. Divorce is harder on younger than older children.
- _____ 8. Divorce is usually the fault of one of the partners.

Moving

- _____ 9. Moving doesn't cause problems for children before they start school.
- _____ 10. Moving is easy on a family if they stay within the same town. It's only hard if they go farther away.
- _____ 11. Moving is easier for children if they're at an age when they're going to change schools anyway.
- _____ 12. Children shouldn't think about their friends in the last few weeks before a move because it will only make them sad.

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- _____ 13. Moving is painful and sad. There aren't any benefits from a move.
- _____ 14. Getting to know a new place after moving can be fun.

Death

- _____ 15. A parent widowed by the death of a spouse shouldn't remarry.
- _____ 16. After a child's parent dies, the surviving parent and the children shouldn't talk about the parent who died.
- _____ 17. After someone dies, parents should wait until the child is ready to talk and not bring the subject up.
- _____ 18. A quick accidental death is harder for family members to accept than a prolonged illness.
- _____ 19. Children under ten shouldn't attend funerals.
- _____ 20. Parents shouldn't make a big deal of it when a child's pet dies.