

Conservatives Have More Kids Than Liberals, but Will It Help?

A July 2021 Western Journal headline announced, "Birth Rates Are the Right's Secret Weapon as Liberal Values Backfire." The article by Miska Salemann stated, "Data from the General Social Survey indicates that in the 1970s 'there was little or no difference in fertility rates between liberal and conservative women,' according to the Institute for Family Studies."

Over time, though, that statistic has changed dramatically, and Salemann says, "As of 2018, the gap had widened markedly, with conservative women between the ages of 30-44 averaging near 2.5 children and liberal women just over 1.5." She continues, "To approach the data another way, the survey also shows that a random sample of 100 conservative adults will raise 208 children. One hundred liberal adults will raise only 147 kids, according to Fatherly."

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But what does this mean in practical terms? "That gap means that conservatives could hold a political edge, as the size of liberal families continues to dwindle. The evidence that supports this idea is overwhelming."

As noted by Ryan Burge on Oct. 4, 2021, in the U.S.,

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The group that is the least likely to have children are

atheists and agnostics. They hit peak fertility around 42 years old, when about 40% of them have children. It's noteworthy that, according to this data, potentially half of atheists and agnostics never reproduce. Thus, for these groups to grow, they have to rely on conversion more than retention.

Writing on the Fatherly website on Aug. 3, 2018 (and updated July 8, 2022), Joshua Krisch pointed out:

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