

## THE ALL-OR-NOTHING MARRIAGE

presented by Eli Finkel

Professor of Psychology | Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences Professor of Management and Organizations | Kellogg School of Management Northwestern University



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The Firehouse Grill 750 Chicago Avenue Evanston Historical shifts in the institution of marriage in America have produced two major consequences. First, the quality of average marriages has weakened over time. Second, the quality of the best marriages has strengthened over time. In tandem, these two consequences have pushed marriage toward an all-or-nothing state. This presentation introduces a theoretical framework for understanding such temporal effects, along with sclence-based analysis of how individuals can strengthen their own marriages.