

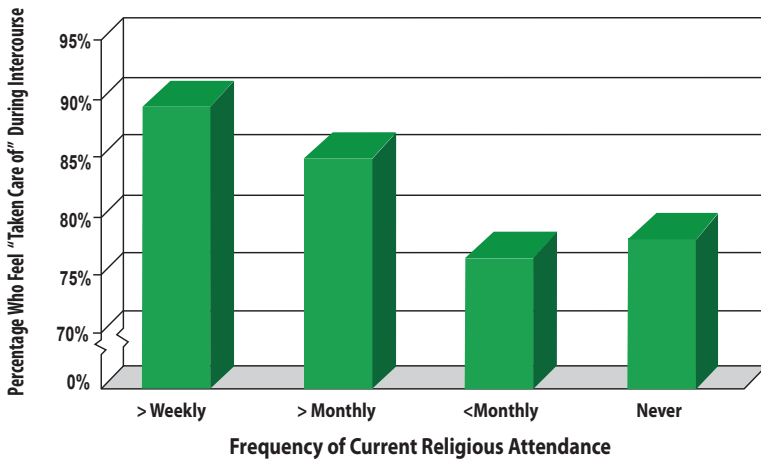
## Mapping America – Number 119

### “Feels ‘Taken Care of’ During Intercourse with Current Sexual Partner” by Marital Status and Religious Attendance

Percentage Who Feel “Taken Care of” During Intercourse with Current Sexual Partner

by Current Religious Attendance (adults aged 18-59)

Source: National Health and Social Life Survey, 1992

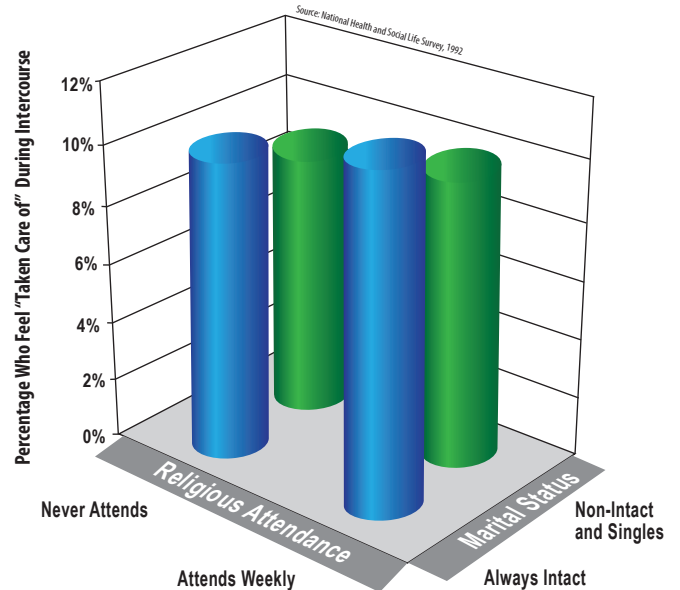


Althea Nagai, Ph.D.

Percentage Who Feel “Taken Care of” During Intercourse with Current Sexual Partner

by Marital Status and Religious Attendance (adults aged 18-59) Combined

Source: National Health and Social Life Survey, 1992

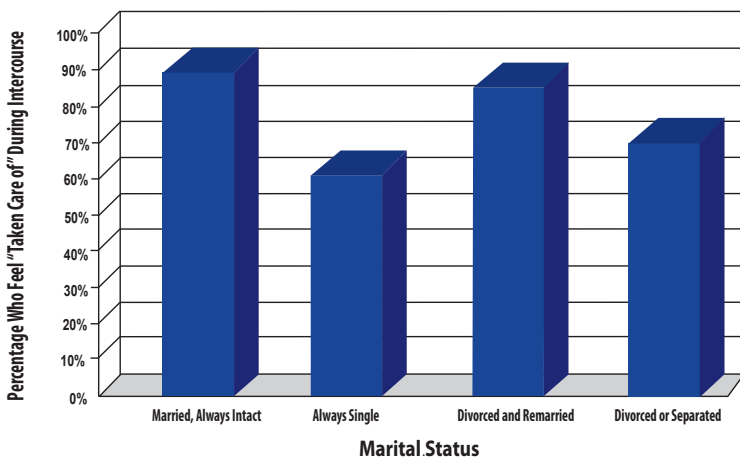


Althea Nagai, Ph.D.

Percentage Who Feel “Taken Care of” During Intercourse with Current Sexual Partner

by Marital Status (adults aged 18-59)

Source: National Health and Social Life Survey, 1992



Althea Nagai, Ph.D.

This chart looks at adults who feel taken care of during intercourse with their current sexual partner at the extremes of four demographic quadrants.

These four quadrants are derived from combining two sets of marital statuses (always-intact vs. non-intact\* and singles) and two sets of religious attendance (high vs. low).

The individuals occupying the four corners (or four extremes) of these quadrants are:

The always-intact married individual that worships weekly;

The always-intact married individual that never worships;

The non-intact\* or single individual that worships weekly;

The non-intact\* or single individual that never worships.

(\* The non-intact group consists of divorced or separated and divorced and remarried individuals.)

## Feels “Taken Care of” During Intercourse with Current Sexual Partner

The 1992 National Health and Social Life Survey shows that, of adults aged 18 to 59, those in intact marriages who worship weekly were most likely to report feeling “taken care of” during intercourse with their current sexual partner.

**Religious attendance:** Those who worship weekly (89.6 percent) were most likely to report feeling “taken care of” during intercourse with their current sexual partner, followed by those who worship less than weekly but at least monthly (85.2 percent), those who never worship (78.2 percent), and those who worship less than monthly (76.5 percent).

**Marital status:** Those in always-intact marriages were most likely (90.7 percent) to report feeling “taken care of” during intercourse with their current sexual partner, followed by those who were divorced and remarried (86.3 percent), those who were divorced or separated (70.9 percent), and those who were always single (62.1 percent).

**Religious attendance and marital status combined:** Those in intact marriages who worship weekly (94.4 percent) were most likely to report feeling “taken care of” during intercourse with their current sexual partner. Those in intact marriages who never worship (83.3 percent) and those in non-intact family structures or who are single and who worship weekly (81.5 percent) are less likely to feel “taken care of”; those in non-intact family structures or who are single who never worship (75.1 percent) are least likely to feel “taken care of.”

### Related Insight from Other Studies

The period after childbirth is a relatively uncomfortable and vulnerable period for many women; between one quarter and one half feel less physically attractive postpartum.<sup>1</sup> Marital quality is associated with tenderness between spouses and with intercourse during this postpartum period as well as during the pregnancy itself.<sup>2</sup>

Patrick F. Fagan, Ph.D. and Althea Nagai, Ph.D.

*Dr. Fagan is senior fellow and director of the Marriage and Religion Research Institute (MARRI) at Family Research Council.*

*Althea Nagai is a visiting fellow at Family Research Council.*

- 
- 1 L.C. Holtzman, “Sexual Practices during Pregnancy,” *The Journal of Midwifery and Women’s Health* 21 (1976): 29-38; R.P. Perkins, “Sexuality in Pregnancy: What Determines Behaviour?” *Obstetrics and Gynecology* 9 (1982): 189-198; C.P. Cowan and P.A. Cowan, *When Partners become Parents* (New York, Basic: 1992), all as cited in Kirsten von Sydow, “Sexuality during Pregnancy and after Childbirth: A Metacontent Analysis of 59 Studies,” *Journal of Psychosomatic Research* 47, no. 1 (1999): 38.
  - 2 S.A. Elliott and J.P. Watson, “Sex during Pregnancy and the First Postnatal Year,” *Journal of Psychosomatic Research* 29 (1985): 541-548; Wendy Ellen Miller and Steven Friedman, “Male and Female Sexuality During Pregnancy: Behavior and Attitudes,” *Journal of Psychology and Human Sexuality* 1, no. 2 (1988): 17-37; B. Reichle, *Die Geburt des ersten Kindes—eine Herausforderung für die Partnerschaft* (Bielefeld: Kleine, 1994); G. Gloger-Tippelt and M. Huerkamp, “Parental relationship and security of infant-mother attachment,” manuscript submitted for publication, all as cited in Kirsten von Sydow, “Sexuality during Pregnancy and after Childbirth: A Metacontent Analysis of 59 Studies,” *Journal of Psychosomatic Research* 47, no. 1 (1999): 41.

Marriage and Religion Research Institute / Editor: Patrick F. Fagan, Ph.D. / Managing Editors: Julia Kiewit and Anna Dorminey

Please feel free to make additional copies of this resource. We only ask that you comply with standard norms of attribution to the Family Research Council and to the Marriage and Religion Research Institute.

WWW.MAPPINGAMERICAPROJECT.ORG



MARRIAGE AND RELIGION  
RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
801 G STREET NW  
WASHINGTON DC 20001  
800-225-4008  
WWW.MARRI.US

MA12H06