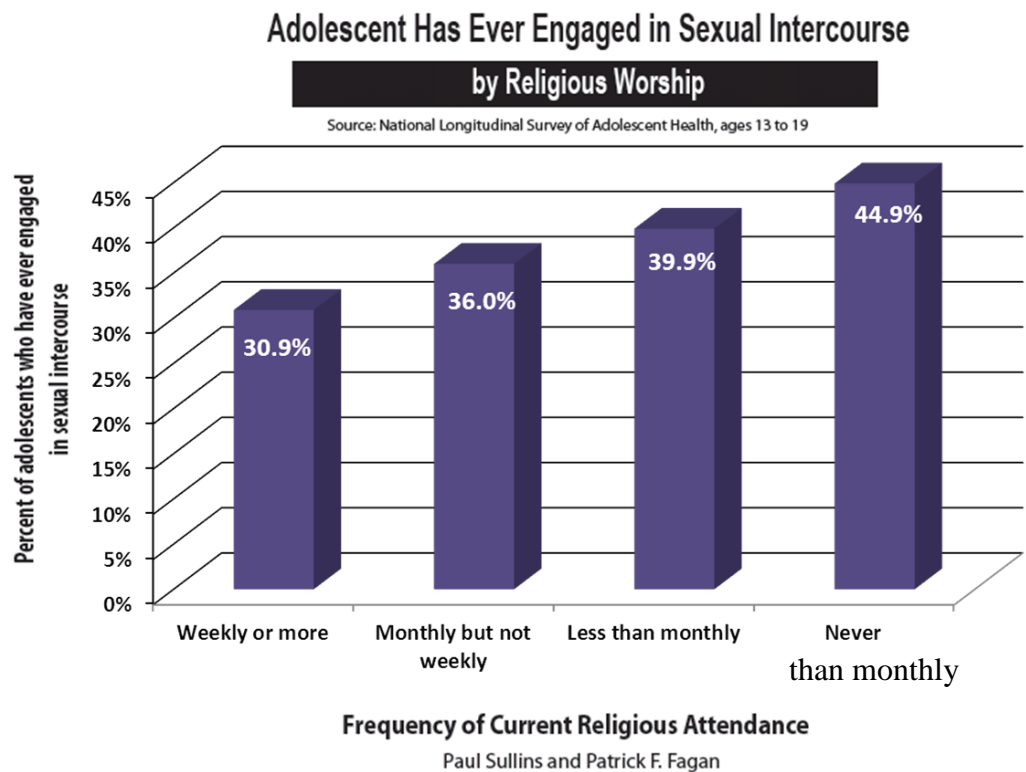


Percentage of Adolescents Who Have Ever Engaged in Sexual Intercourse by Religious Worship

Wave I of the National Longitudinal Survey of Adolescent Health (Add Health)¹ found that teenagers who worshipped weekly were least likely to have engaged in sexual intercourse.

Religious Worship

The likelihood that an adolescent had ever had sex decreased as the adolescent's religious involvement increased. Thirteen to nineteen year-olds who attended religious services weekly or more within the past year were less likely to have engaged in sexual intercourse (30.9%) than those who attended less but not weekly (36.0%), less than monthly (39.9%), or never (44.9%).



¹ The National Longitudinal Survey of Adolescent Health (Add Health) is a congressionally-mandated longitudinal survey of American adolescents. Add Health interviewed a random sample of 20,745 adolescents aged 13-19 in 1995 drawn from junior high and high schools (Wave I) and has followed them in successive waves in 2001 (Wave III) and 2009 (Wave IV).