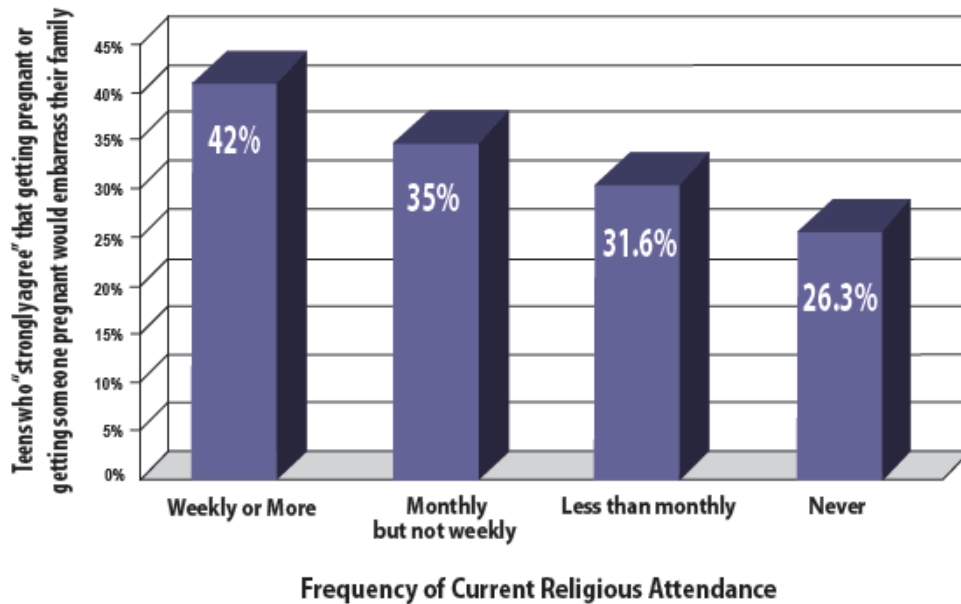


Teen Pregnancy and Family Response: Analysis by Religious Worship

Wave 1 of the *National Longitudinal Survey of Adolescent Health (Add Health)*¹ found that adolescents aged 13 to 19 in families that worshipped weekly or more were most likely to “strongly agree” that a pregnancy would embarrass their family.²

Teen Pregnancy and Family Response: Analysis by Religious Worship

Source: National Longitudinal Survey of Adolescent Health Wave 1, ages 13 to 19



Paul Sullins and Patrick F. Fagan

Religious Worship

Teens who frequently worshipped were more likely to “strongly agree” that getting pregnant (or getting someone pregnant) would embarrass their family. Thirteen- to nineteen-year-olds who attended religious services weekly or more often within the past year were more likely to believe that a pregnancy would embarrass their family (42.0%) than those who attended monthly but not weekly (35.0%), less than monthly (31.6%), or never (26.3%).

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

² Respondents were asked to react to the statement “If you got pregnant [males: if you got someone pregnant], it would be embarrassing for your family.” Their options included: “strongly agree,” “agree,” “neither agree nor disagree,” “disagree,” “strongly disagree,” “refused,” “don’t know,” or “not applicable.”