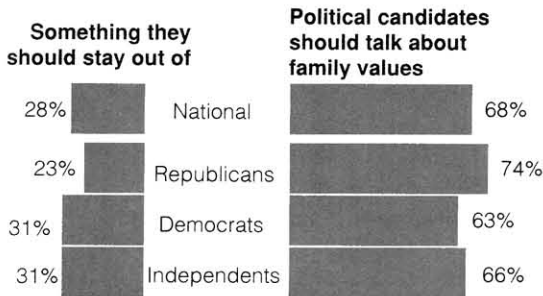


FAMILY VALUES

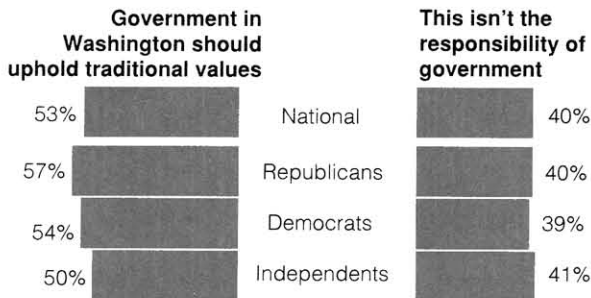
The words "family values" were invoked repeatedly at both political conventions this summer. Americans are plainly uneasy about the status of the family and believe this is an appropriate subject for broad political discussion. It isn't a private matter; the social fabric is affected. And, in many cases, private behavior is leaving the institution more vulnerable.

Question: **Do you think political candidates should talk about family values or is this something political candidates should stay out of?**



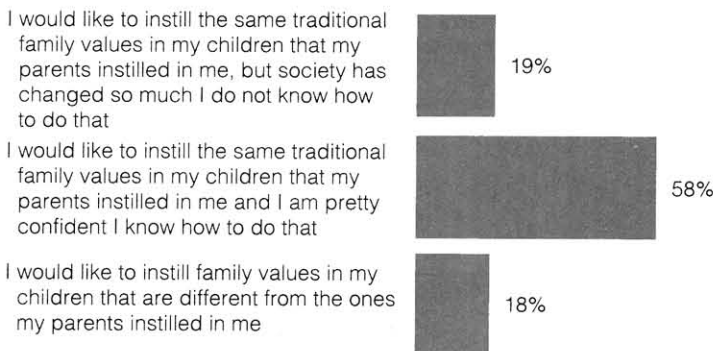
Note: Sample=registered voters.
Source: Survey by CBS News/*New York Times*, June 17-20, 1992.

Question: **Do you think the government in Washington should uphold traditional family values, or isn't this the responsibility of the government in Washington?**



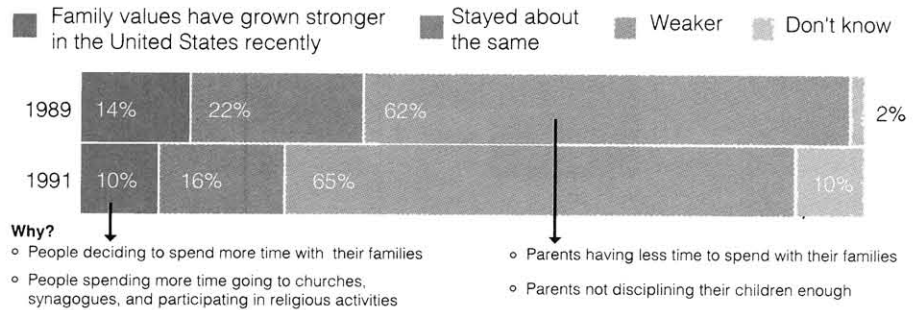
Note: Sample=registered voters.
Source: Survey by CBS News/*New York Times*, June 17-20, 1992.

Question: **Which of the following statements comes closest to your view?**



Source: Survey by Mellman & Lazarus for Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company, June 20-27, 1989.

Question: **Generally speaking, do you think family values have gotten stronger in the United States recently, stayed about the same, or have family values gotten weaker—or aren't you sure about this?**



Note: In 1991, respondents were not asked why family values have grown weaker, so the 1989 response is shown here.
Source: Survey by Mellman & Lazarus for the Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company, September 1991.

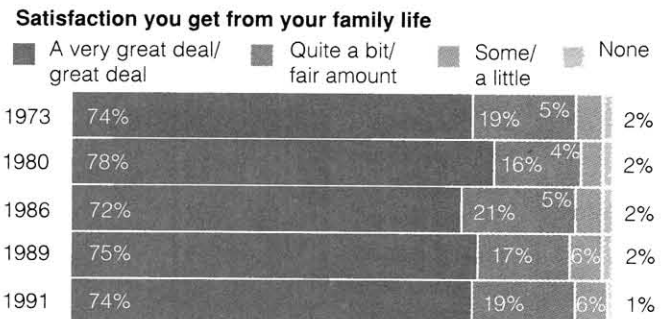
Question: **After each of the following statements, please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the statements. If you don't know how you feel about a particular statement, or if it is not applicable to you, just say so and we'll move on.**

Family is the place where the most basic values are instilled



Source: Survey by Mellman & Lazarus for Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company, June 20-27, 1989.

Question: **For each area of life I am going to name, tell me the number that shows how much satisfaction you get from that area....Your family life**

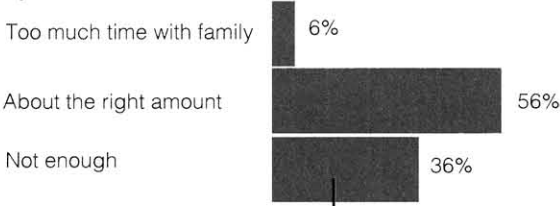


Source: Survey by the National Opinion Research Center, February-April of the years shown.

Over a third of Americans say they don't spend enough time with family. There is deep concern about the impact on children of both parents working, even when it appears necessary. We're also worried about the influences on young people today. Many think fathers in the past did a better job of the profound teaching experience of family life than dads do today.

Question: **Would you say that you spend too much, about the right amount, or not enough time with your family?**

Spend...

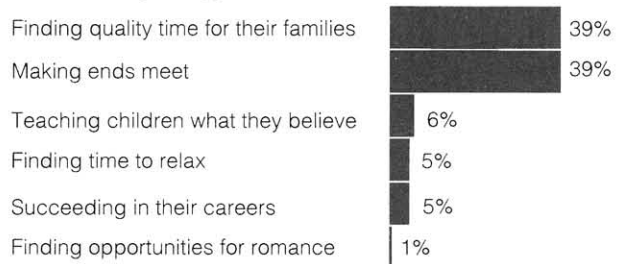


Why? I have to spend time working in order to earn enough money to support myself and my family (52%).

Source: Survey by Mellman & Lazarus for Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company, September 1991.

Question: **What do you think fathers today struggle with most?**

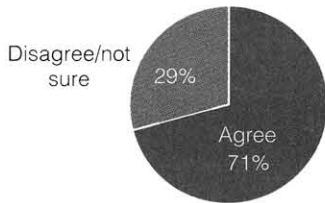
Fathers today struggle most with...



Source: Survey by Bruskin/Goldring Research for the Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company, April 1992.

Question: **I'd like to read you some statements that people have made about working parents and children. For each one, please tell me whether you agree or disagree...**

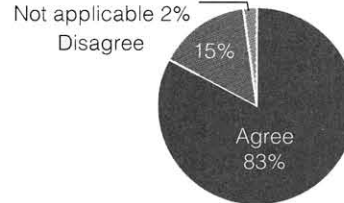
It's better for children if one parent does not work, even if it means less money



Source: Survey by Louis Harris and Associates, April 22-27, 1992.

Question: **After each of the following statements, please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the statement. If you don't know how you feel about a particular statement, or it is not applicable to you, just say so and we'll move on...**

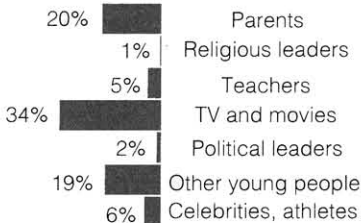
It is not getting to be impossible to support a family on just one income



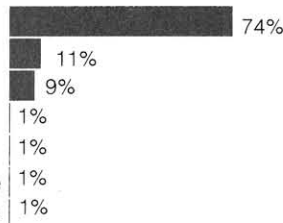
Source: Survey by Mellman & Lazarus for the Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company, September 1991.

Question: **What do you think (has/should have) the most influence on the values of young people?**

Has the most influence on the values of young people today



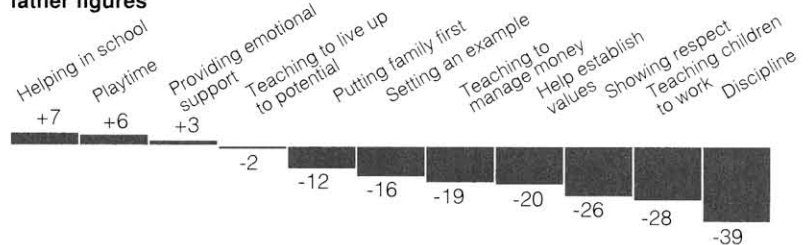
Should have



Source: Survey by Mellman & Lazarus for the Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company, September 1991.

Question: **I'd like to ask you a few questions about fathers. This could be your natural father, adoptive father, stepfather or someone else who you think of as your father or a father figure. When you were growing up, did your father (father figure) do an excellent, good, fair, or poor job of...? Do fathers today do better than, about the same, or not as well as their own fathers at...?**

What dads today do better minus what they do not do as well as their fathers/father figures



Source: Survey by Bruskin/Goldring Research for the Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company, April 1992.

FAMILY STATUS: Socioeconomic Position and Social Outlook

Throughout history, concerns about moral questions, changing patterns of social conduct and standards of behavior have often been central elements of political debate. They touch the family, but involve the society more generally as well. The data on pp. 85-86 show the nature of the debate in 1992.

The family is also discussed in another way today—in terms of how different family statuses and needs influence our political and social outlook. To explore this subject, we combined two decades of NORC General Social Surveys and focused in on two sets of comparisons shown on pp. 87-90: first, a comparison of young (21-39 years of age) black and white intact families with children, and second, of four groups of young whites: married with children, married without children, singles with children, and not now married, without children.

On many issues, young black and white families are quite similar, more so than the other groups—all blacks and whites—which we show here for comparison. Some of our views and behavior are shaped by racial experience. The difference in the way these young black and whites with children voted reveals this, but the large difference shown on this is still more the exception than the rule.

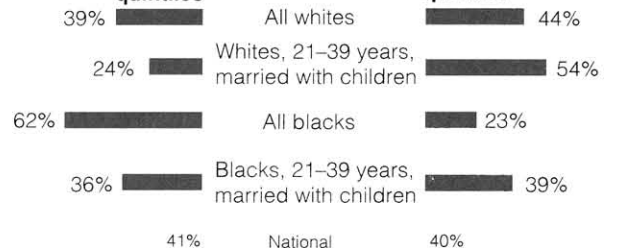
How much does family status tell us about social and political views? The question and its answer are complex. One sees here a number of social issues where young marrieds with children take notably more conservative stands than do young marrieds without children. But is this because they are married or is it for some other reason?

For example, young marrieds with children have had much less formal education than those without children. Levels of education powerfully and independently affect our stands on issues such as abortion. On abortion, when we take education into account, the large differences between young marrieds with and without children mostly disappear. The split between the two family groups is largely confined to the college educated segments of the populations.

Overall, family status is associated with certain social and political orientations. Young marrieds with children do appear to be a generally conservative group, especially on social issues. Voting differences are not as great as some have suggested, but they are not trivial. Sixty-three percent of those married with children said they voted Republican in the preceding presidential election for the composite of the elections covered here (1968-88). Sixty-one percent of young marrieds without children voted Republican as did 56% of the singles with children, and 55% of those not now married, without children.

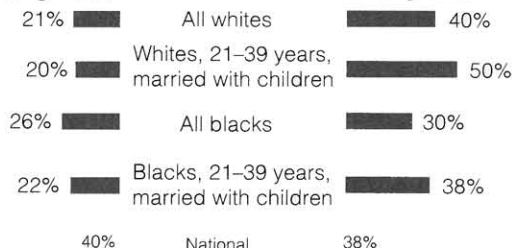
Family pre-tax income

Lowest two income quintiles



During the last few years financial situation has been...

Getting worse



Getting better

Family pre-tax income

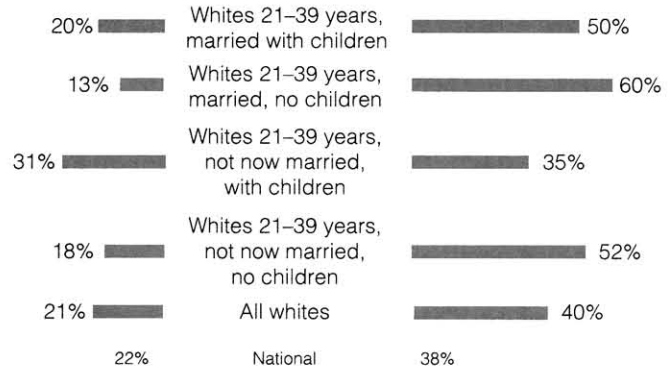
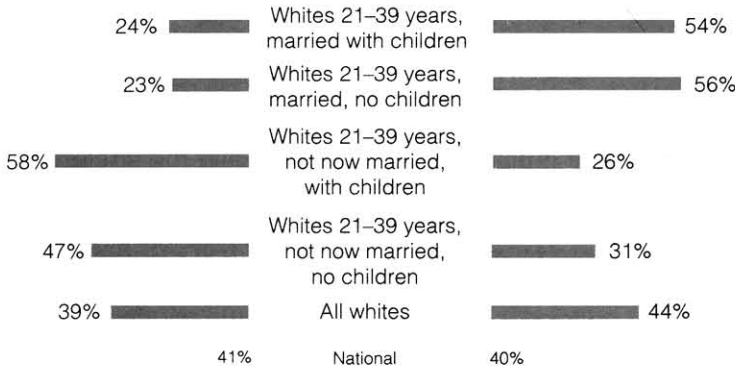
Highest two income quintiles

During the last few years financial situation has been...

Lowest two income quintiles

Getting worse

Getting better

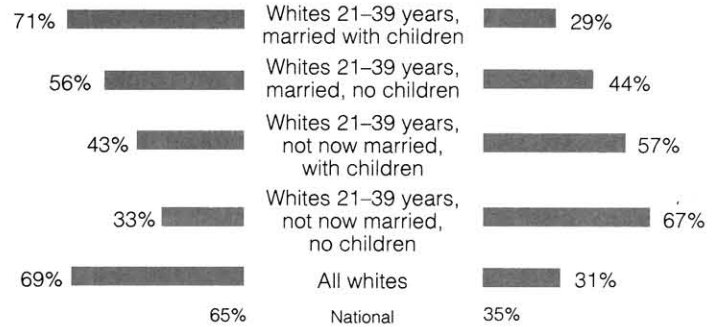
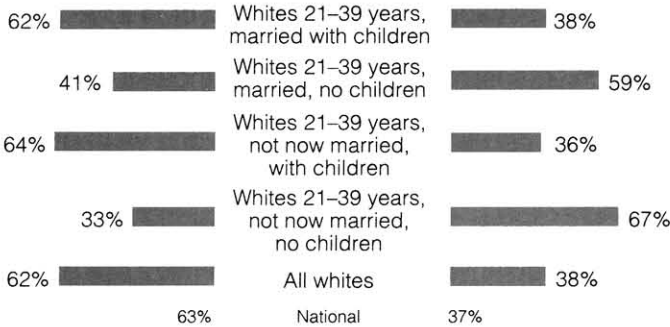


Less than H.S. grad.+ H.S. grad.

Some college+ college grad.+postgrad.

You/your family own your home/apartment

Pay rent

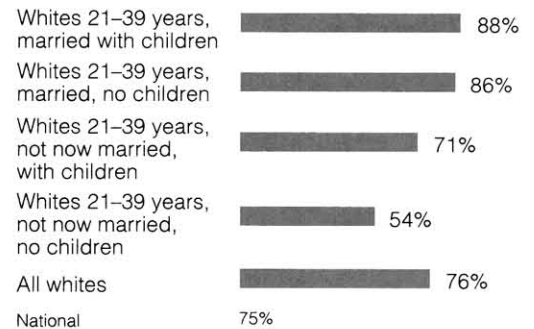
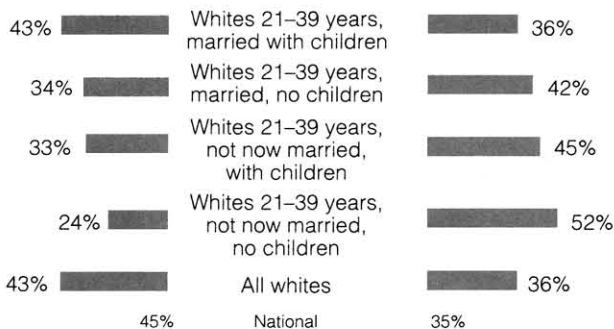


Attend religious services...

Satisfied with your family life

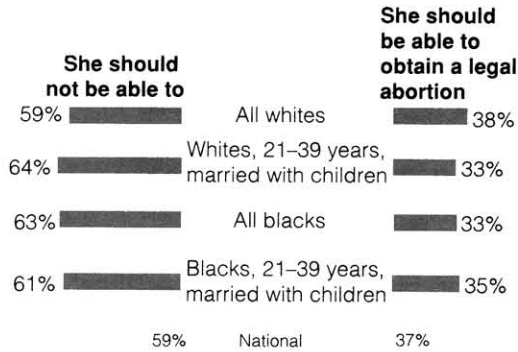
Regularly/every week

Never/seldom

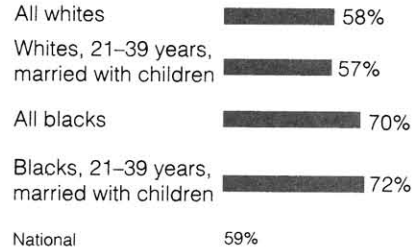


Source: Surveys by the National Opinion Research Center, 1972-1991 data combined.

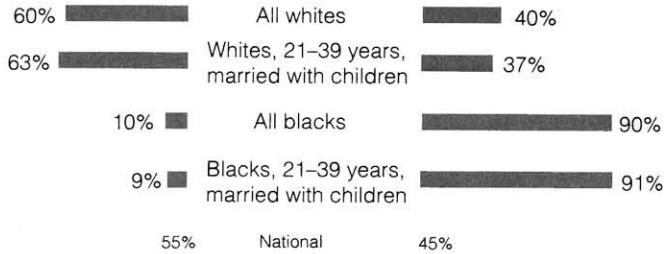
If a woman wants an abortion for any reason...



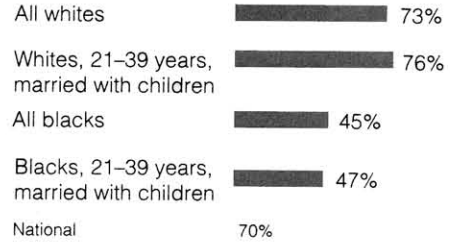
Disapprove of the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that no state or local government may require the reading of the Lord's Prayer or Bible verses in public schools



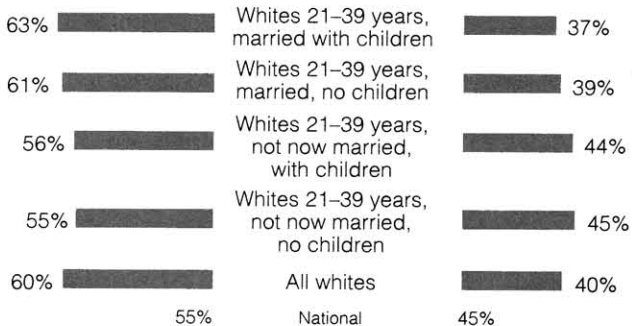
Voted for Republican presidential candidate



Favor the death penalty for persons convicted of murder

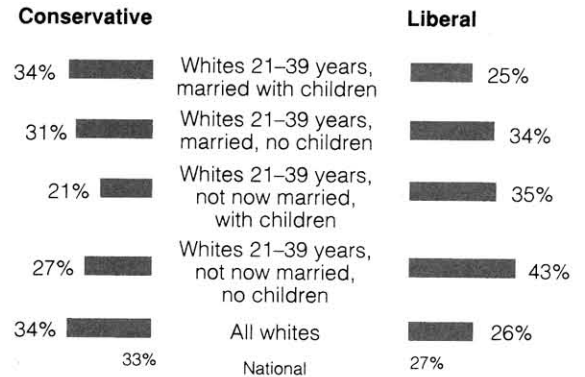


Voted for Republican presidential candidate



Voted for Democratic presidential candidate

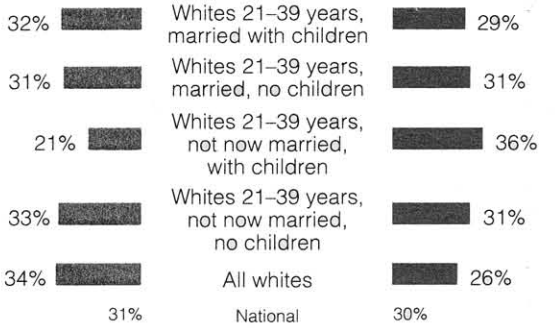
Consider own views...



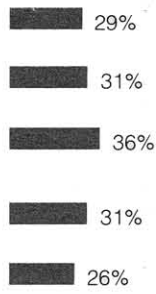
Source: Surveys by the National Opinion Research Center, 1972-1991 data combined.

The government in Washington...

Is trying to do too many things that should be left to individuals and private businesses



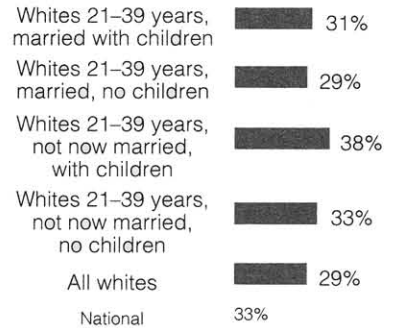
Should do even more to solve the country's problems



It is not the government's responsibility/each person should take care of himself

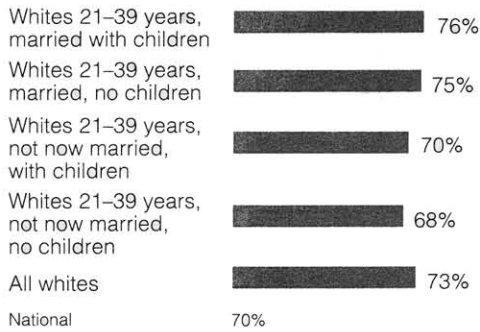


The government in Washington should do everything possible to improve the standard of living of all poor Americans

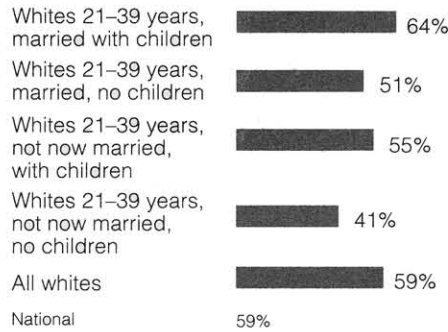


"Both" responses=39%, 38%, 42%, 36%, 40%, and 40% respectively.

Favor the death penalty for persons convicted of murder

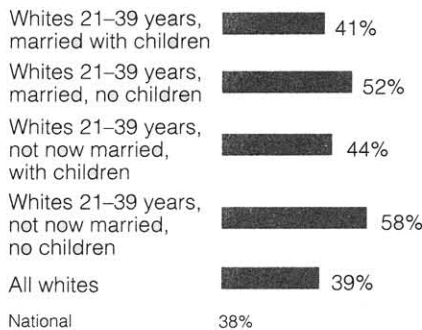


Should not be possible for a pregnant woman to obtain a legal abortion if the woman wants it for any reason

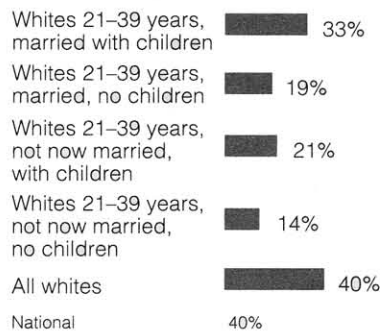


High school grad. 70%
College grad. 50%

Disapprove of U.S. Supreme Court ruling that no state or local government may require the reading of the Lord's Prayer or Bible verses in public schools



Premarital sex is always wrong/almost always wrong



Source: Surveys by the National Opinion Research Center, 1972-1991 data combined.