

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! Promoting strong marriages and frequent religious attendance is essential to making 2017 a successful year. This week, we highlight research on the state of religion in America, on the religious composition of the 115th Congress, and on the effects of marital status on stroke victims.

NEW RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS



Religion in America

Seventy four percent of Americans identify with a Christian religion, and 53 percent say that religion is very important in their lives, according to a recent [Gallup report](#).



Religious Composition of Congress

Ninety one percent of America's Congressional members describe themselves as Christian—only a minimal decline from 95 percent of Congressional members in the 1960s, reports [Pew Research](#).



Marriage: The Key to Surviving a Stroke

Married adults are more likely to survive a stroke than never married, divorced, or widowed people, [according](#) to researchers at Duke University.

MARRIPEDIA ENTRIES RELATED TO THESE FINDINGS

- 1) [“Effects of Religious Practice on Society”](#)
- 2) [“Effects of Religious Practice on Work Ethic”](#)
- 3) [“Effects of Marriage on Physical Health”](#)

With an eye to the child, the future of America,

Pat Fagan
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