

Dear Friends,

This week we highlight research on Americans' church attendance, on the effects of pornography on marital break-up, and on character qualities that affect marriage.

NEW RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Church Attendance Patterns in America



Americans who presently attend religious services more frequently than in the past attribute their increased attendance to changing beliefs (such as “becoming more religious”), whereas Americans who participate in worship services less frequently than in the past cite practical circumstances (such as “too busy”) as the reason for their declining attendance. Alan Cooperman and colleagues of Pew Research Center offer a number of additional insights into Americans' church attendance patterns in their [new report](#).



Effects of Pornography on Marriage

Spouses who begin to use pornography during marriage divorce much more frequently. The rate of divorce triples for women and doubles for men, [according](#) to Samuel Perry of the University of Oklahoma.



Character Traits and Marital Well-Being

Marital virtues—especially spousal humility, compassion, and positivity—increase marital satisfaction, especially for wives. Husband's humility serves as a particularly important buffer against stress, [reports](#) Wallace Goddard of the University of Arkansas. In this study husbands have similar effects but not as pronounced.

MARRIPEDIA ENTRIES RELATED TO THESE FINDINGS

- 1) [“Effects of Religious Practice on Society”](#)
- 2) [“Effects of Pornography on Marriage”](#)
- 3) [“Effects of Religious Practice on Marriage”](#)

With an eye to the future of America,

Pat Fagan

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