

Marriage and Family as Investment for Society*

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Matthew 6:19-21

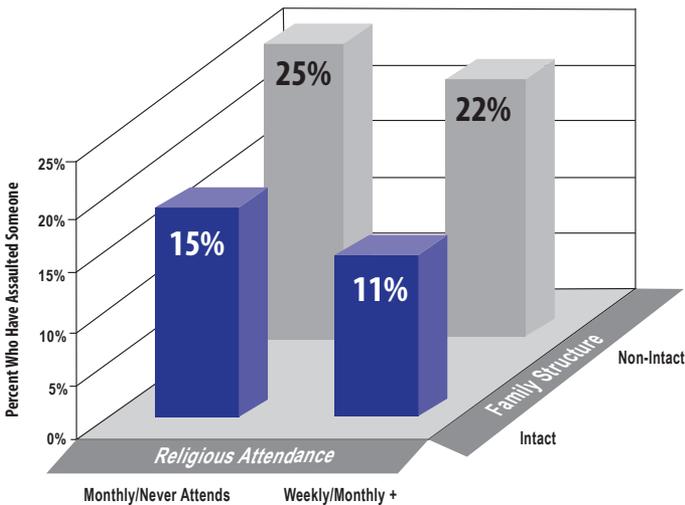
Marriage is an investment for all individuals and for society. Among many other benefits it protects against delinquency and increases concern for others. Social science research shows that:

- Children from intact families have fewer behavioral problems in school.
- Young men from two-parent families have the lowest risk of committing a violent crime.
- People who marry are more likely to worship regularly, which in turn has many beneficial effects.
- Individuals who regularly attend religious services are more likely to feel concern for the disadvantaged and to donate time or money to charity.

Have you let your children know about the many benefits that they receive from your marriage?

**Percentage of Those Who Have Ever Assaulted Someone,
 by Religious Attendance and Family Structure**

Source: National Longitudinal Survey of Youth, 1997



This chart shows that those from intact families are less likely to assault someone than those from non-intact families. Also, those from families that worship weekly are less likely to assault someone than those who never worship.

For links to the research behind these statements, please visit www.marri.us/one-pagers/

*It bears emphasizing that these patterns hold for the groups involved, not for all the individuals who make up each group. There is naturally a wide variation among individuals.

THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

ILLUSTRATING THE WAY GOD MADE MAN



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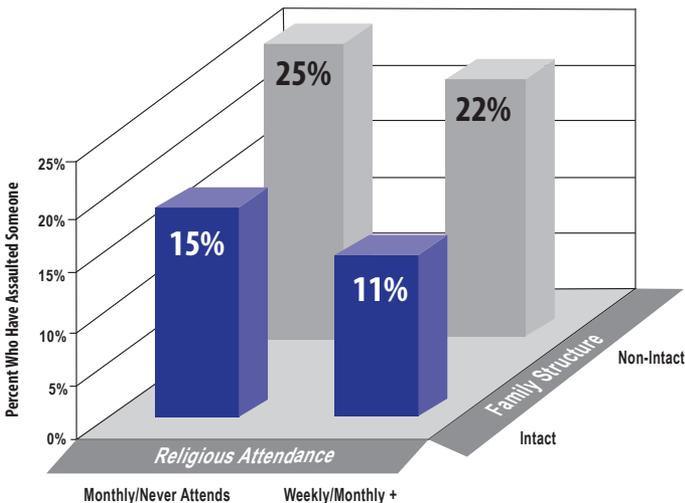
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