Adolescents who worship at least weekly are less likely to get into a fight than those who worship less frequently.

Whereas 37.9 percent of students in Grades 7-12 who never worship have been in a fight, only 27.7 percent of adolescents who worship at least weekly have been in one. Of those who attend religious services between one and three times a month, 33.5 percent have been in a fight, and of those who worship less than once a month, 35.4 percent have been in a fight. The data are taken from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health, Waves I and II.

Other Studies

Several other studies confirm the direction of these findings. Todd Herrenkohl of the University of Washington and colleagues reported that “youths who attended religious services at age 15 had a 25 percent probability of later violence; youths who did not attend religious services at age 15 had a 41 percent probability of [later] violence.”

John Wallace and Tyrone Forman of the University of Michigan also found that religious high school seniors were less likely to get into fights than those who were not religious.
Patricia Clubb of the University of North Carolina and colleagues noted that minority adolescents in Grades 6-8 who attended church more than once a month were less likely to report any recent violent behavior than those who attended church once a month or less.\textsuperscript{4}

Joanne Abbotts and colleagues of the Medical Research Council in Glasgow, Scotland found that 11-year-olds in West Scotland who were members of the Catholic Church or the Presbyterian Church of Scotland and attended church weekly “were less likely to get into fights. Similarly, aggressive behavior, as assessed by both teachers and parents, was less prevalent among weekly attenders.”\textsuperscript{5}

One might say that the more adolescents attend religious services, the more likely they are to turn the other cheek.

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