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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 8, 1995

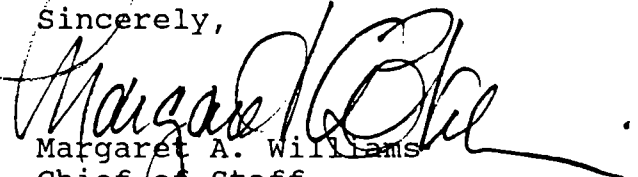
Sister Mary Rose McGeady, D.C.
Covenant House
346 West 17th Street
New York, NY 10011-5002

Dear Sister McGeady:

I received your recent package
regarding the Covenant House's recent
study on young adults at-risk.

Our young people are so very
important. I appreciate the information.

Sincerely,


Margaret A. Williams
Chief of Staff
to the First Lady

I will pass the packet
on to Mrs. Clinton



COVENANT HOUSE

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SISTER MARY ROSE McGEADY, D.C.
PRESIDENT

August 30, 1995

Honorable Margaret A. Williams
Assistant to the President
and Chief of Staff to the First Lady
United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Ms. Williams:

Covenant House released a study on July 18, 1995 conducted by Yankelovich Partners which I would like to share with you. This study, entitled Young Adults at-Risk: Public Perceptions about a Growing National Problem and What Should be Done, is based on telephone interviews with 2,801 individuals who represent a cross section of America in terms of age, sex, income, education, marital status, community size, and race. (See page 4 of the study for Demographic Profile.)

This study indicates the following:

- * 85% of Americans agree that as a nation we should be paying more attention to young adults at risk.
- * 65% believe the government should be doing more to help young adults at risk.
- * 82% believe that proposed welfare reforms will offer less help or no change in improving prospects for these young adults.
- * Over 60% feel that the main need for these young adults is for programs which provide job training and job placement.

Enclosed is a copy of the Yankelovich study. I hope you will find it informative and useful as you formulate budget priorities. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me or Peter Ribicoff, a member of my staff, at (212) 727-4082.

Sincerely,


Sister Mary Rose McGeady, D.C.

Young Adults at-Risk:

***Public Perceptions about a Growing National
Problem and What Should be Done***

Presented by:
Covenant House

Prepared by:
Yankelovich Partners Inc.

July 1995

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Background and Study Purpose

The purpose of this research study is to raise public consciousness and concern about the problems encountered by young adults between the ages of 17 and 21 today.

The study examines Americans' perceptions of the nature of these problems, the proportion of young adults who are "at-risk", and programs which could help remedy the situation.

This research is sponsored by Covenant House, a non-profit Christian organization providing aid, shelter and counseling to troubled youth. Its goal is to focus public and government attention on these issues in order to better help the many young adults who have difficulties leading normal lives.

Survey Methodology

Findings are based on telephone interviews conducted among 2,801 Americans, including:

- ❖ **1,201 Americans age 21 and older nationwide.**
- ❖ **An additional 200 residents age 21 and older in each of the following areas where Covenant House facilities are located:**
 - Anchorage, Alaska
 - Fort Lauderdale, Florida
 - Houston, Texas
 - Los Angeles, California
 - New Jersey
 - New Orleans, Louisiana
 - New York City
 - Washington, D.C.

Interviews were conducted between April 29 and May 9, 1995.

- ❖ **The sampling error for the national sample is $\pm 3\%$ and is $\pm 7\%$ for each area location.**

Interviews were also conducted among a panel of 25 experts drawn from a national sample and the eight locations listed above.

Survey Methodology

Demographic Profile -- National Sample of Adults 21 and Older

<u>Age</u>	Total %
21-24	9
25-29	11
30-34	12
35-39	12
40-49	19
50-64	19
65 or older	18
Average	46 yrs.

<u>Education</u>	%
High school graduate/less	43
Some college	24
College graduate/ postgraduate study	33

<u>Marital status</u>	%
Married	59
Single, never married	22
Divorced/Separated	10
Widowed	9

<u>Race</u>	%
White	82
Black	8
Hispanic	5
Asian	2
Other	3

<u>Community size</u>	Total %
Big city	14
Medium-sized city	19
Suburb	19
Small city	15
Small town or rural area	33

<u>Household income</u>	%
Less than \$20,000	22
\$20,000 - \$34,999	28
\$35,000 - \$49,999	22
\$50,000 - \$74,999	16
\$75,000 or more	12
Average (in '000s)	\$42.1

<u>Have children between 17 - 21</u>	%
Yes	15
No	85

<u>Gender</u>	%
Female	52
Male	48

Summary of Findings

Prevalence of At-Risk Youth

- ❖ **In the view of the American public, a substantial number of 17-21 year olds are “at-risk” in the communities in which they live -- an average of 31%.**
 - ♦ At-risk youth are reported to be prevalent in all types and sizes of communities -- in small towns and rural areas (27%), in suburbs (31%), as well as in big cities (38%).
- ❖ **Close to half of all Americans say they personally know a young adult who is at-risk.**
 - ♦ Among parents of 17- 21 year olds, 1 in 4 say they have a child who is at-risk.
- ❖ **Two out of three Americans think the percentage of at-risk youth has grown in the past five years, and 60% expect the proportion to increase further still in the next five years.**

Summary of Findings

Causes of At-Risk Youth

❖ **A wide array of factors are seen as contributing to the rising proportion of at-risk youth. Most prominent are:**

- ♦ The prevalence and use of drugs.
- ♦ A lack of parental supervision.
- ♦ Broken or dysfunctional families.
- ♦ A lack of jobs and job skills.

❖ **Closely behind these in terms of importance are:**

- ♦ Alcohol use and abuse.
- ♦ Teenage pregnancy.
- ♦ Crime, gangs, and violence.

❖ **Other major contributors are:**

- ♦ A lack of recreational activities and facilities.
- ♦ Failure of schools to provide better education.

Summary of Findings

Solutions

- ❖ **Most Americans (65%) believe the government should be doing more to help young adults at-risk.**
 - ♦ Few think current welfare proposals will be of much help.
- ❖ **The main perceived need is for programs which provide job training and job placement.**
 - ♦ Other important services include education and scholarship opportunities, family counseling, drug and alcohol abuse counseling, and access to living quarters.

I. The Problems Confronting Young Adults Today

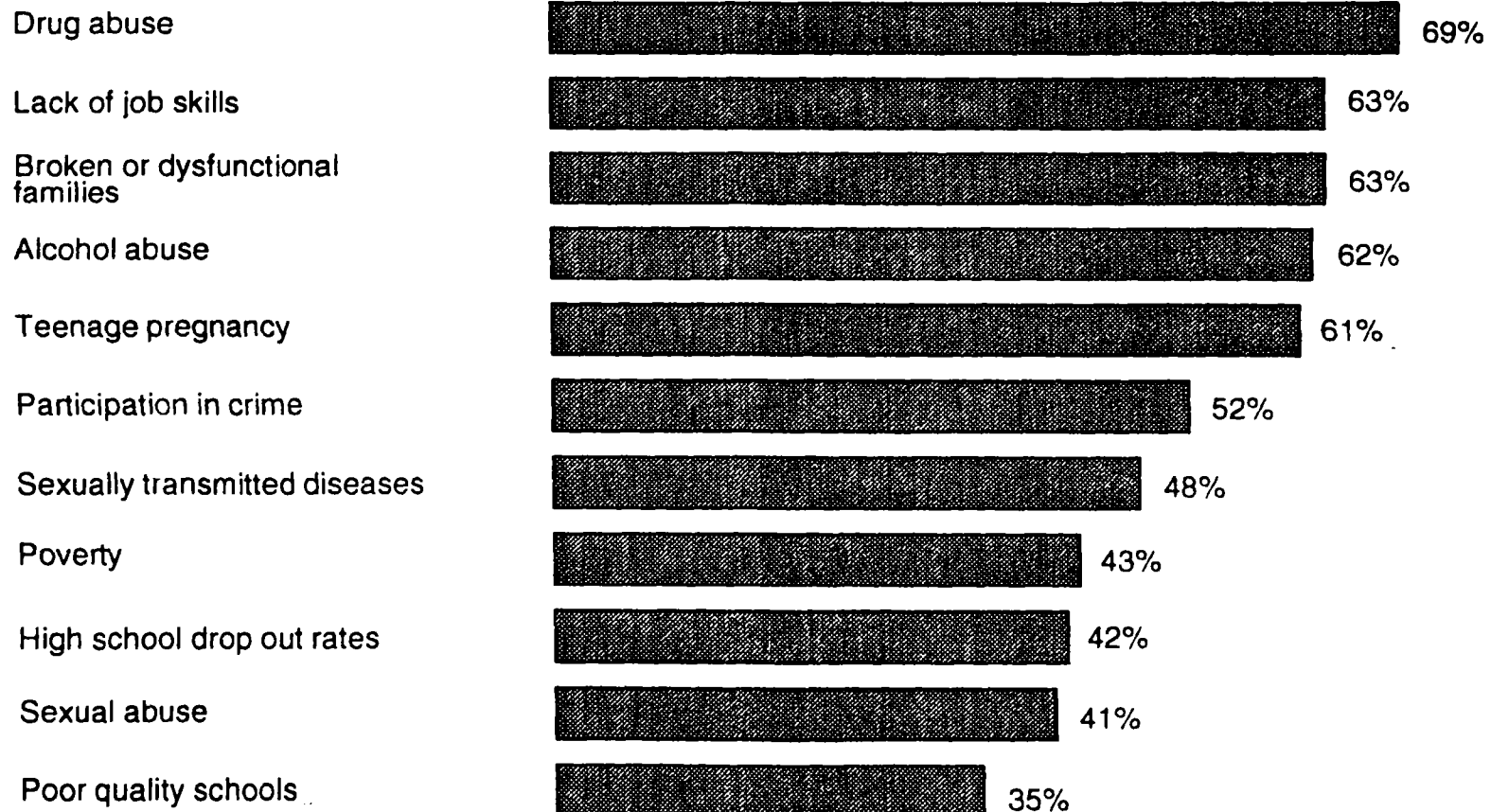
I. Drugs, Job Skills & Families Are Greatest Problems

❖ A wide array of factors are seen as contributing to the rising problem of at-risk youth.

- ♦ Most prominent are drug abuse, lack of job skills and broken or dysfunctional families.

Do you think each of the following items is a very serious problem among young adults aged 17-21 in your community, a fairly serious problem, only a somewhat serious problem, or not serious at all?

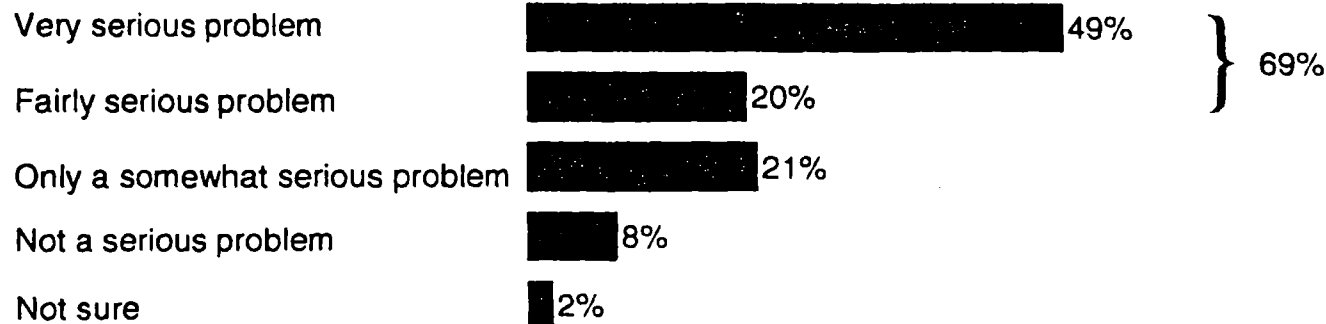
% Saying "Very" or "Fairly" Serious



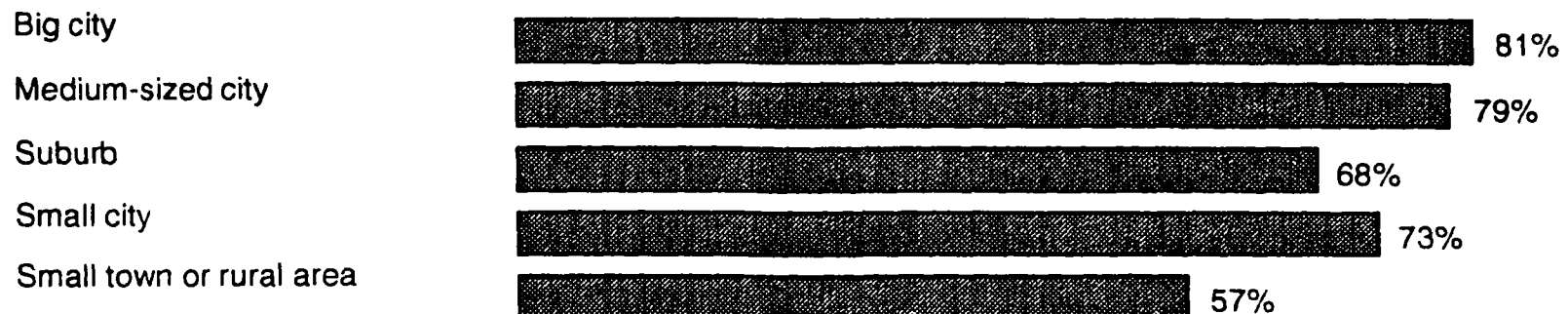
I. Drug Abuse Is the Foremost Concern

- ❖ Despite more than a decade of national and local anti-drug campaigns, 7 in 10 Americans (69%) feel drug abuse is still a very or fairly serious problem among young adults in their community.
 - ♦ Eight in ten big and medium-sized city residents think drug abuse is a "very" or "fairly" serious problem in their community.

Do you think drug abuse is a very serious problem among young adults aged 17-21 in your city or community, a fairly serious problem, only a somewhat serious problem, or not serious at all?



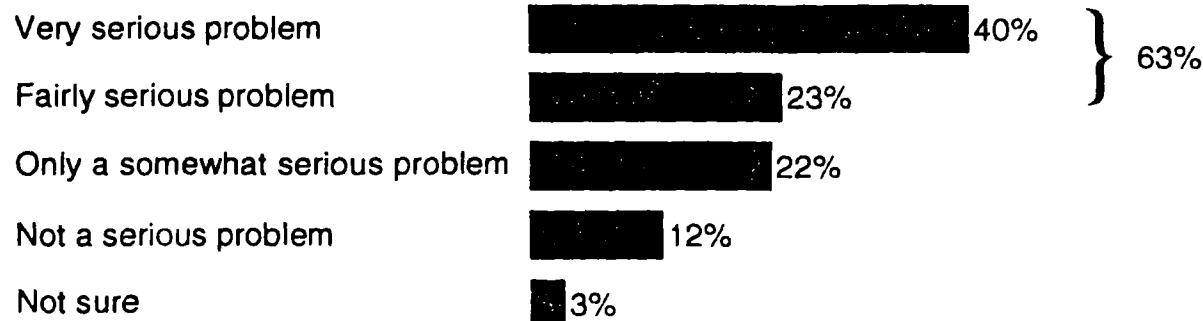
% Saying "Very Serious" or "Fairly Serious" Problem



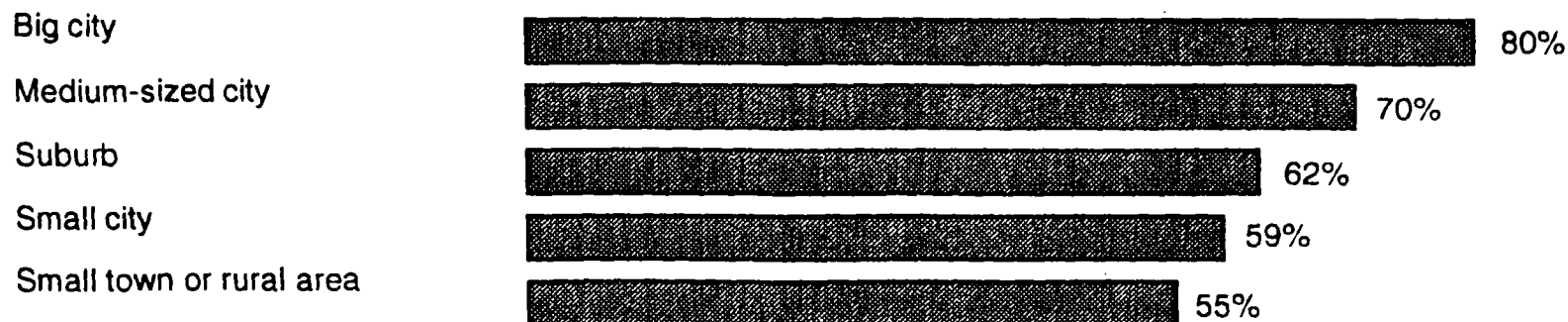
I. Lack of Job Skills Put Youth “At-Risk”

- ❖ Following closely behind drug abuse as an area of concern is young adults who lack job skills -- 63% of Americans call this a very or fairly serious problem in their community.
- ♦ Eight in ten big city residents feel a lack of job skills is a major problem in their community.

Do you think lack of job skills is a very serious problem among young adults aged 17-21 in your city or community, a fairly serious problem, only a somewhat serious problem, or not serious at all?



% Saying “Very Serious” or “Fairly Serious” Problem

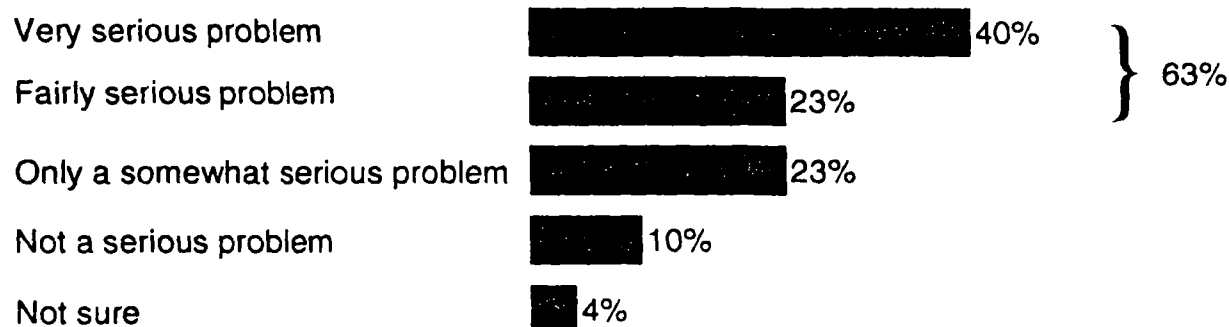


I. Problems Often Begin at Home

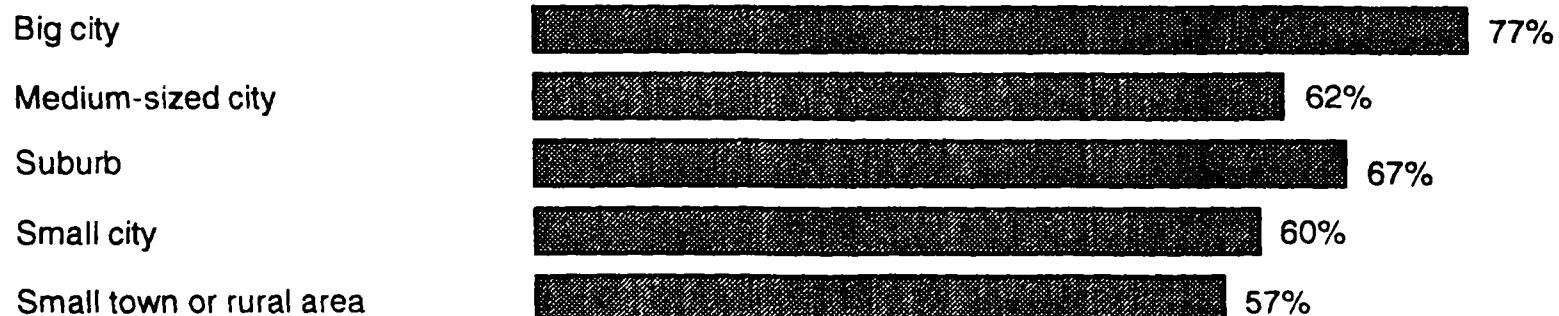
❖ More than 6 in 10 Americans (63%) believe young adults' problems begin at home with broken or dysfunctional families.

- ♦ A majority feel this way in communities of all sizes.

Do you think having a broken or dysfunctional families is a very serious problem among young adults aged 17-21 in your city or community, a fairly serious problem, only a somewhat serious problem, or not serious at all?



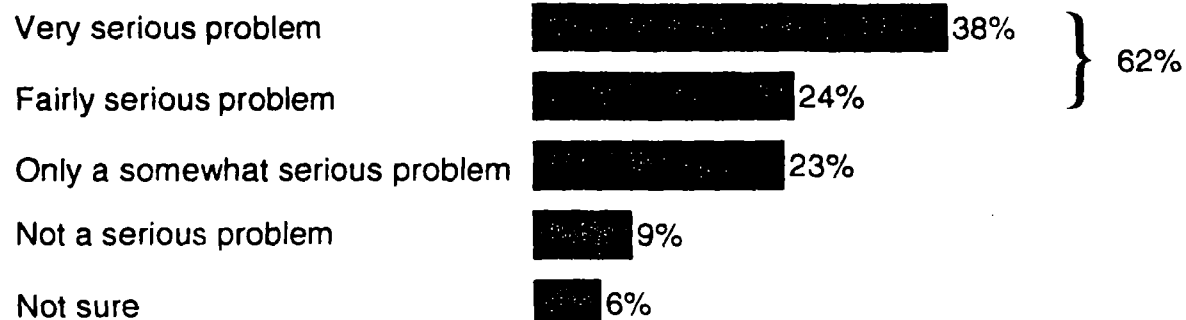
% Saying "Very Serious" or "Fairly Serious" Problem



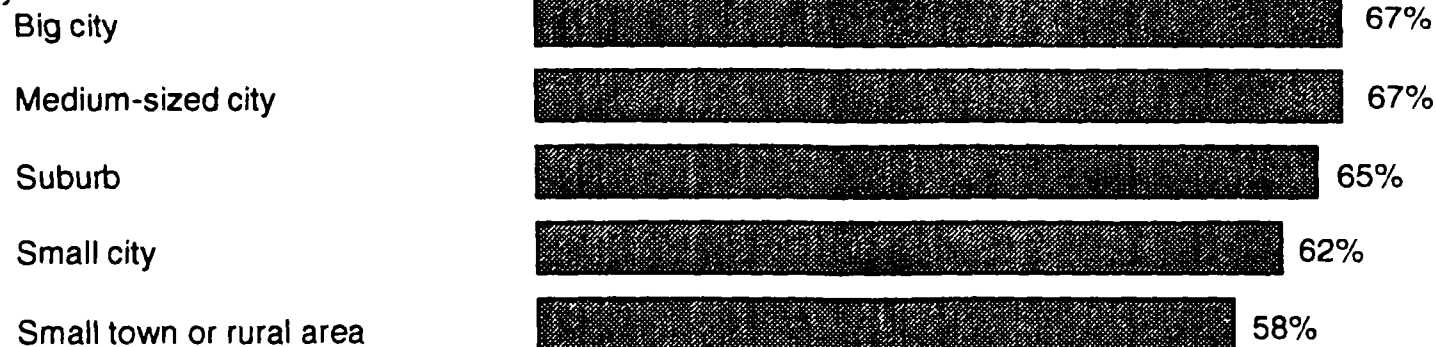
I. Young Alcoholics Spark Serious Concern

- ❖ Alcohol abuse is nearly as large a problem as drug abuse -- 62% say it is a very or fairly serious problem in their community.

Do you think alcohol abuse is a very serious problem among young adults aged 17-21 in your city or community, a fairly serious problem, only a somewhat serious problem, or not serious at all?



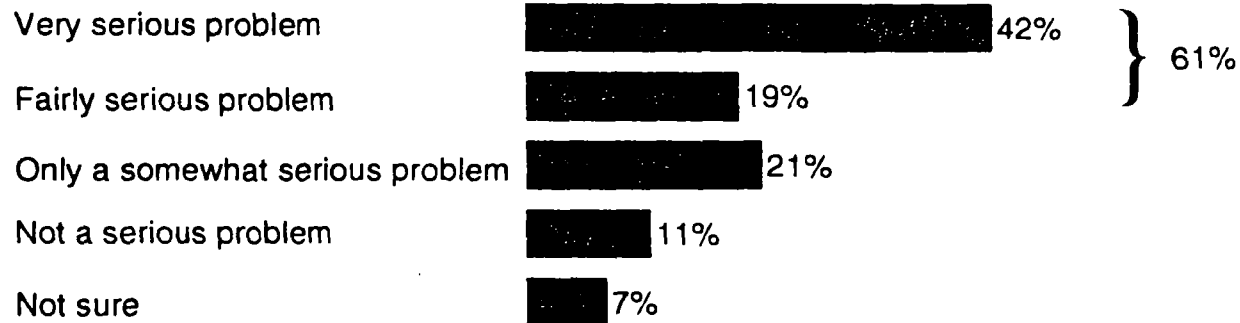
% Saying "Very Serious" or "Fairly Serious" Problem



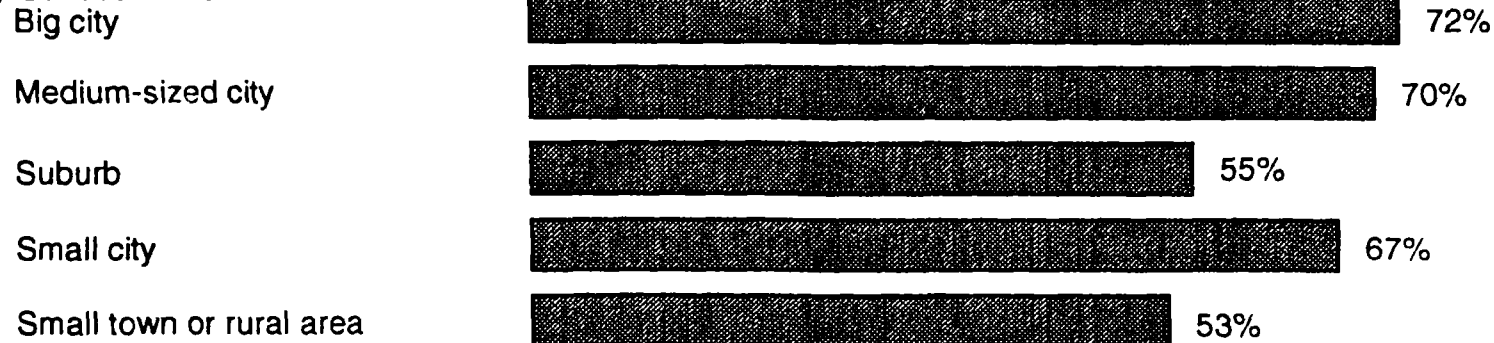
I. Teenage Mothers Pose Worries for Everyone

- ❖ A majority (61%) of Americans acknowledge that teenage pregnancy is a serious problem in their community.

Do you think teenage pregnancy is a very serious problem among young adults aged 17-21 in your city or community, a fairly serious problem, only a somewhat serious problem, or not serious at all?



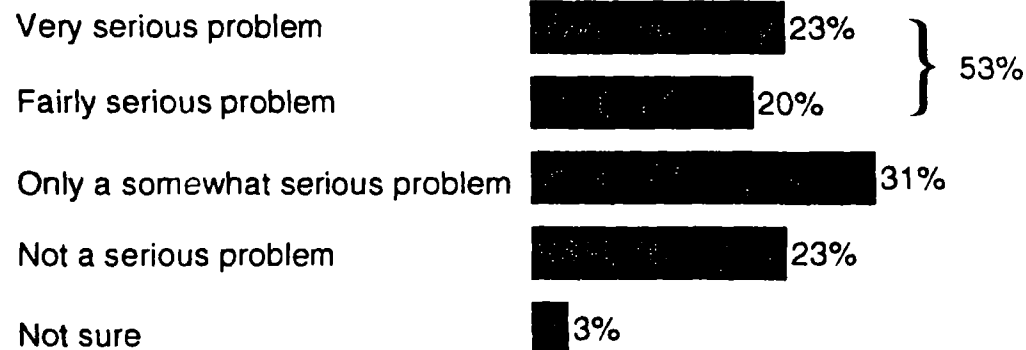
% Saying "Very Serious" or "Fairly Serious" Problem



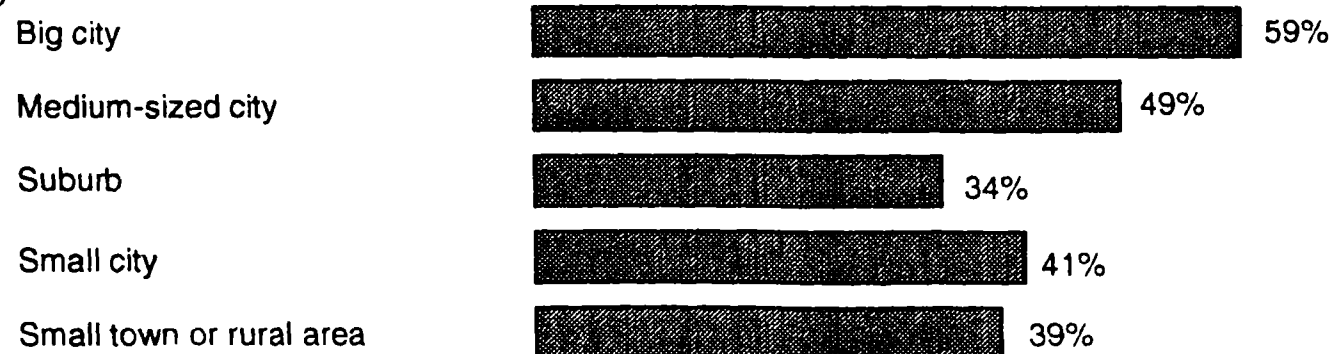
I. Youth Living in Poverty Are Likely to Be "At-Risk"

- ❖ More than half of all Americans -- 53% -- believe poverty is a very or fairly serious problem among young adults in their community.

Do you think poverty is a very serious problem among young adults aged 17-21 in your city or community, a fairly serious problem, only a somewhat serious problem, or not serious at all?



% Saying "Very Serious" or "Fairly Serious" Problem

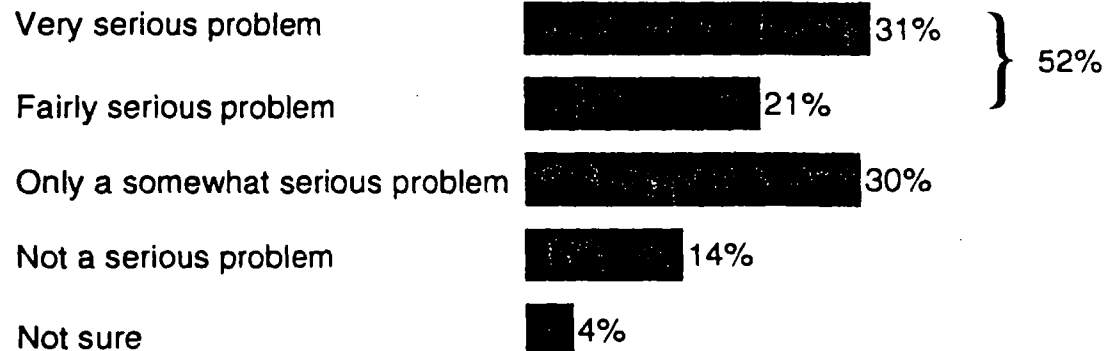


I. Young Criminals Are a Grave Concern

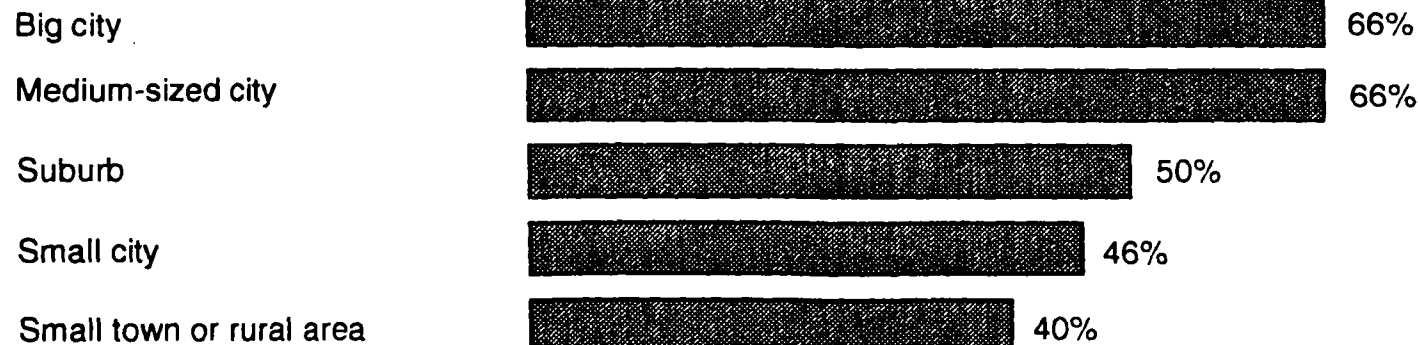
❖ Half of Americans (52%) think youth participation in crime is a big problem where they live.

♦ Two-thirds of those in big or medium-sized cities call this a serious problem.

Do you think participation in crime is a very serious problem among young adults aged 17-21 in your city or community, a fairly serious problem, only a somewhat serious problem, or not serious at all?



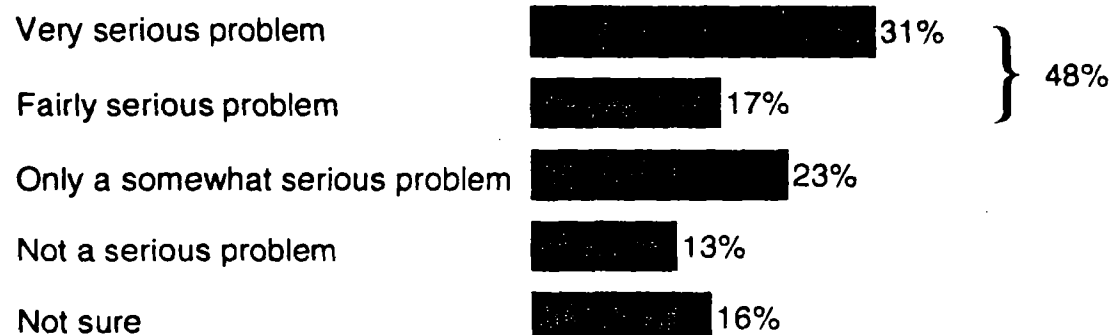
% Saying "Very Serious" or "Fairly Serious" Problem



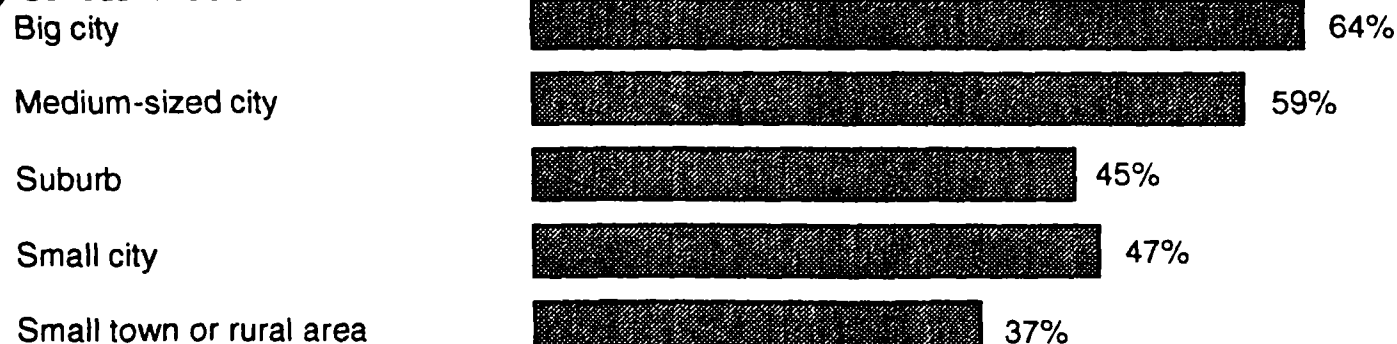
I. Sexually Transmitted Diseases Are Taken Seriously

- ❖ While not ranking as high as the related problem of teen pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases are called a very or fairly serious problem among 17-21 year-olds by close to half (48%) of Americans.

Do you think sexually transmitted diseases are a very serious problem among young adults aged 17-21 in your city or community, a fairly serious problem, only a somewhat serious problem, or not serious at all?



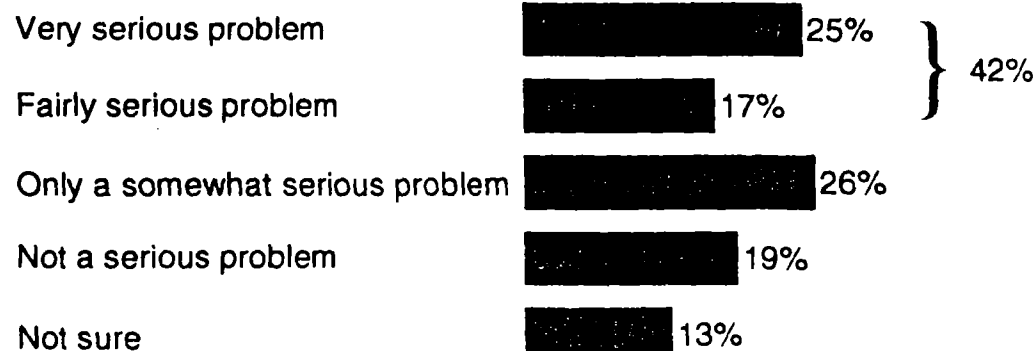
% Saying "Very Serious" or
"Fairly Serious" Problem



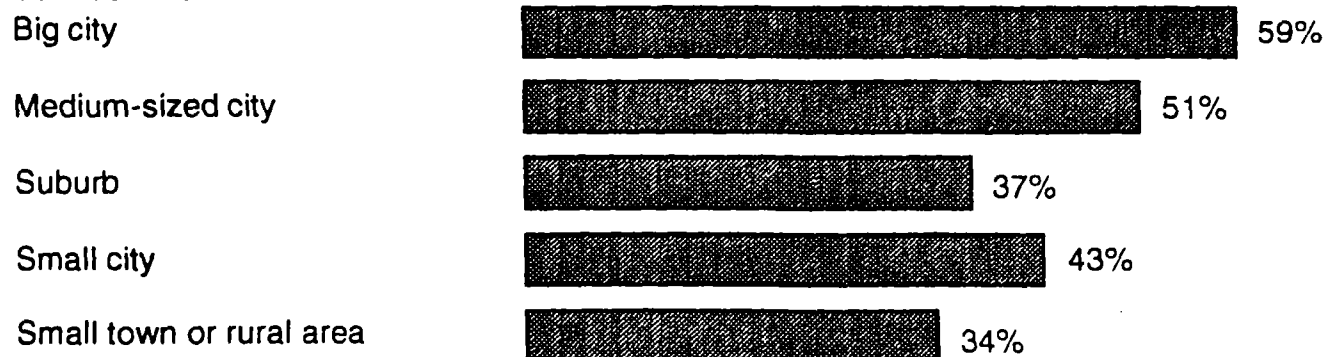
I. High School Drops Outs Are “At-Risk”

- ❖ Forty-two percent of Americans report that high school dropouts are a serious problem in their community.

Do you think the high school drop out rate is a very serious problem among young adults aged 17-21 in your city or community, a fairly serious problem, only a somewhat serious problem, or not serious at all?



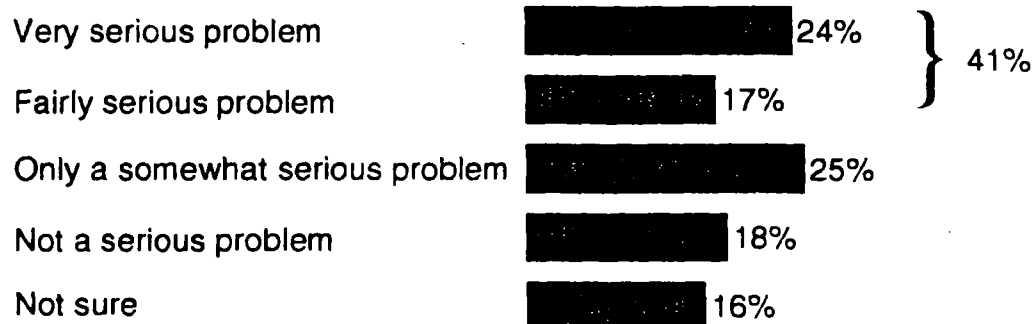
% Saying “Very Serious” or “Fairly Serious” Problem



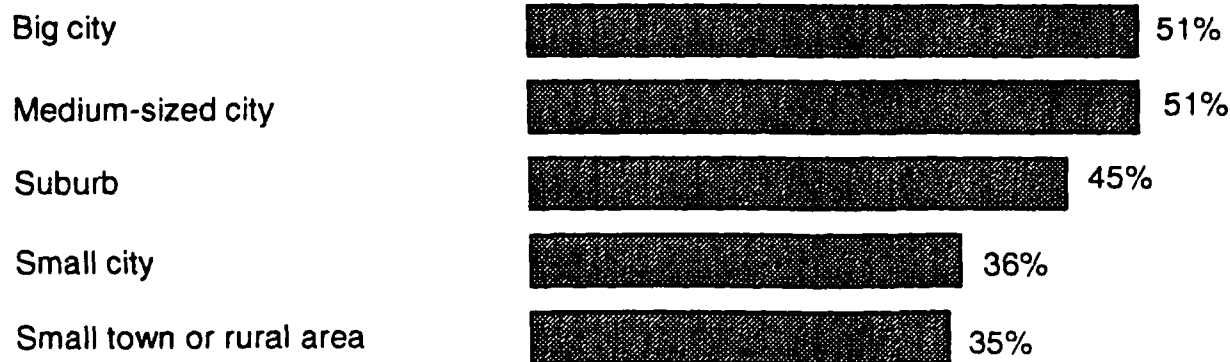
I. Sexual Abuse Sparks Great Concern

- ❖ Four in ten Americans rate sexual abuse as a “very” or “fairly” serious problem for 17-21 year olds.

Do you think sexual abuse is a very serious problem among young adults aged 17-21 in your city or community, a fairly serious problem, only a somewhat serious problem, or not serious at all?



% Saying “Very Serious” or “Fairly Serious” Problem

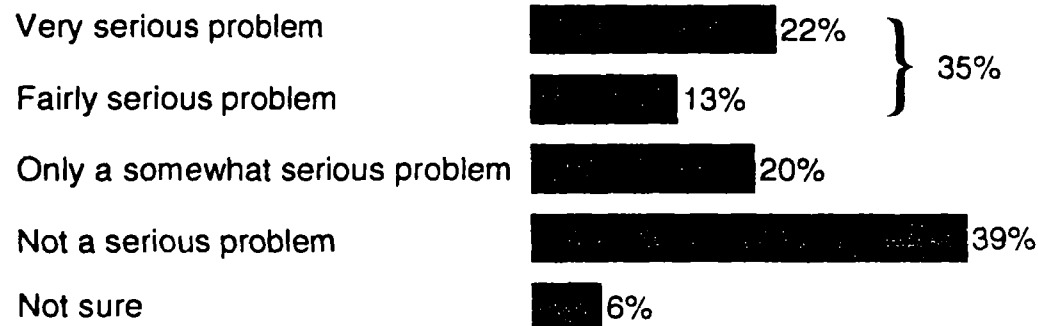


I. Don't Blame the Schools

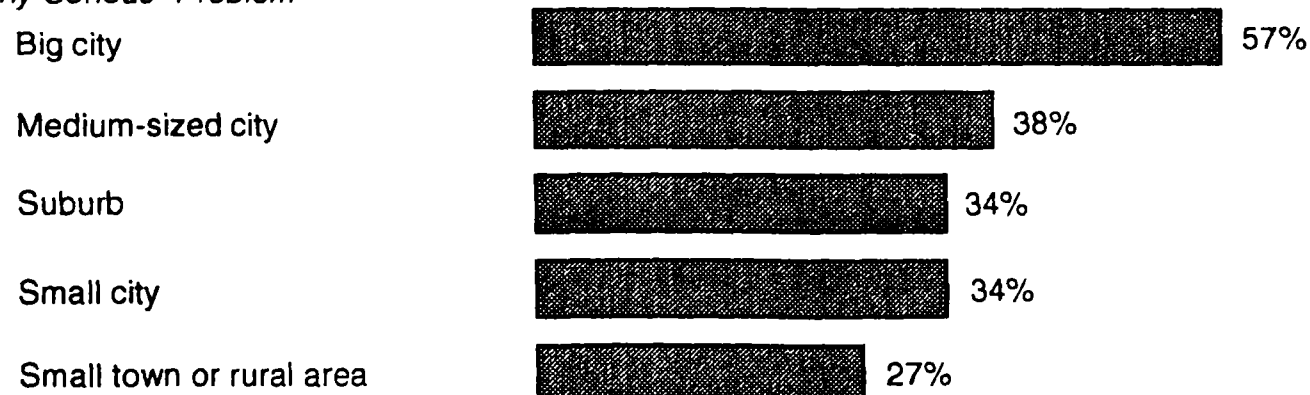
❖ While much publicized, poor quality schools are viewed as a less serious problem than many others confronting young adults. Slightly more than a third -- 35% -- say poor quality schools are a problem in their community.

- ♦ A majority (57%) of big city residents call poor quality schools a serious problem, a proportion substantially higher than that found in other communities.

Do you think poor quality schools is a very serious problem among young adults aged 17-21 in your city or community, a fairly serious problem, only a somewhat serious problem, or not serious at all?



% Saying "Very Serious" or "Fairly Serious" Problem

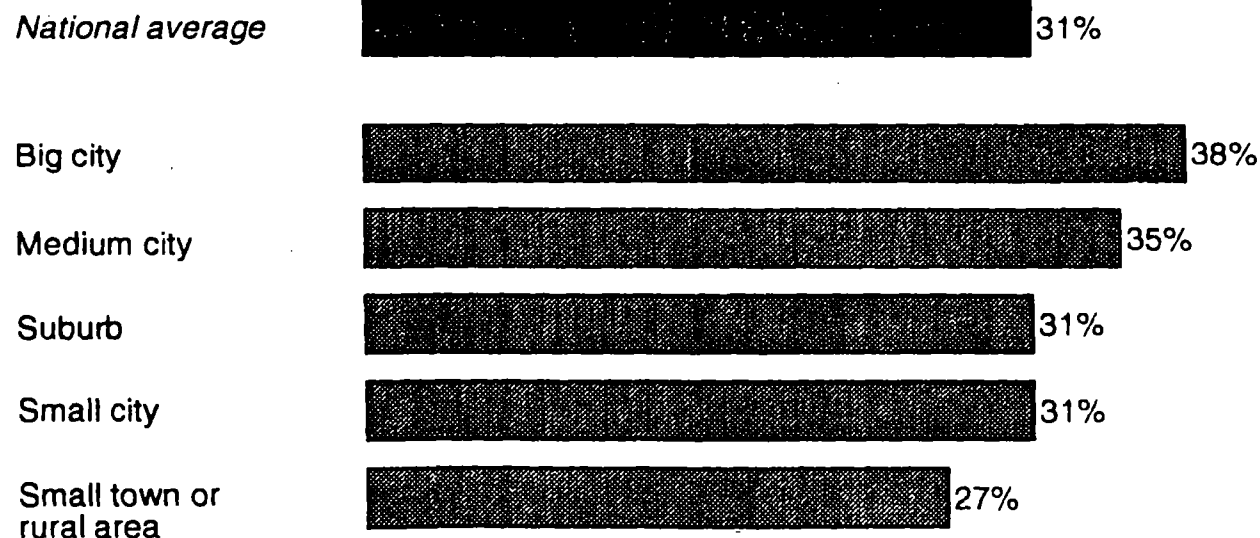


II. Young Adults At-Risk

II. Three in Ten Young Adults Are Seen as “At-Risk”

- ❖ Asked the extent of the problem, Americans estimate that a substantial number of 17-21 year olds are “at-risk” in the communities in which they live -- an average of 31%.
 - ♦ At-risk youth are reported to be prevalent in all types and sizes of communities, but are most prevalent in big cities.

If you had to estimate, about what percentage of young people 17-21 in your city or community would you say are “at-risk” -- that is, experience problems such as these to such a degree that they are unable to carry out normal lives?



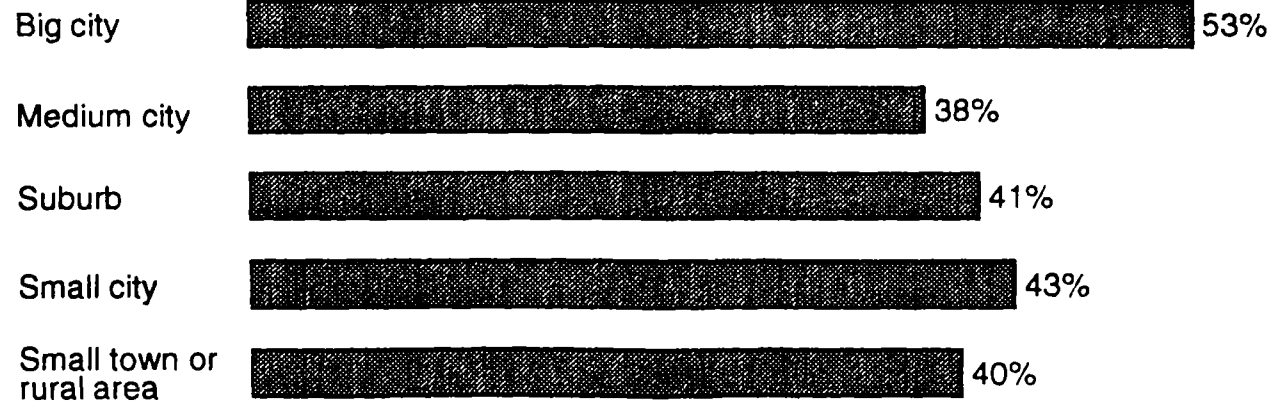
II. Four in Ten Americans Know A Youth “At-Risk”

- ❖ More than 4 in 10 Americans (42%) say they personally know a young person at-risk.

Do you personally know any young person 17-21 who you would regard to be “at-risk”?



% Saying “Yes”

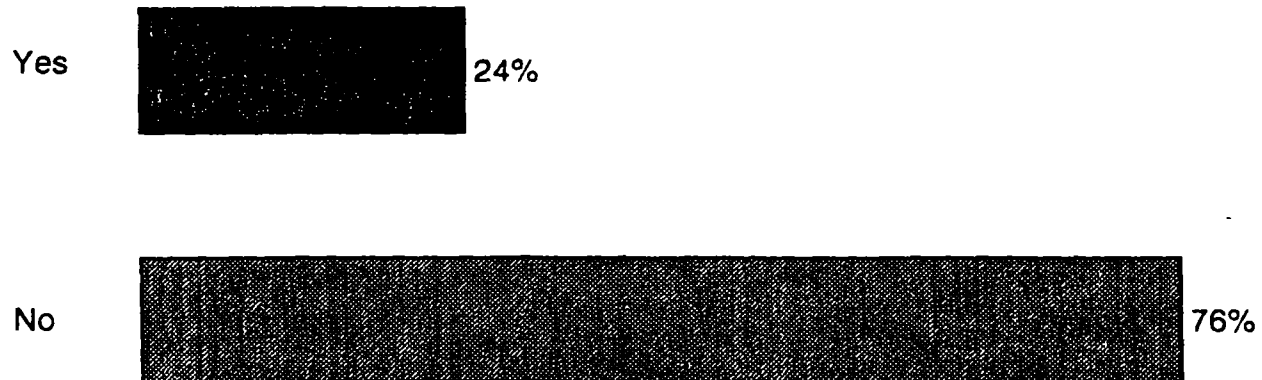


II. One in Four Parents Report Having At-Risk Kids

❖ One in four parents of a 17-21 year old say their child is at-risk.

Do you have children between the ages of 17 and 21 and consider any of them to be potentially "at-risk"

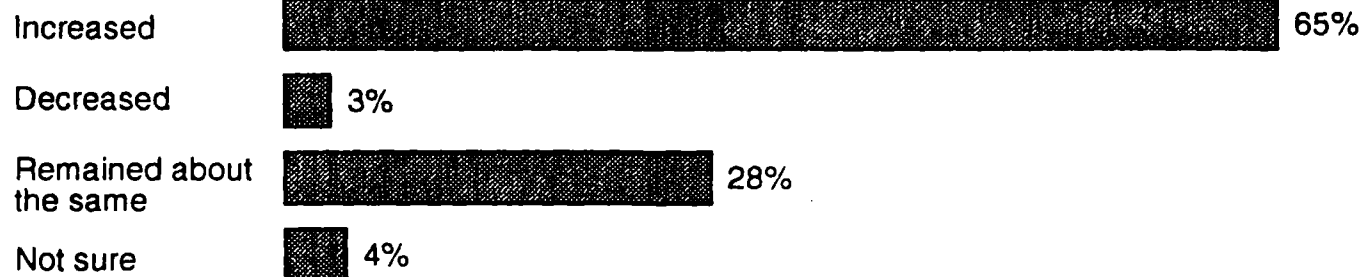
*Base: Have children between
the ages of 17-21 (n=198)*



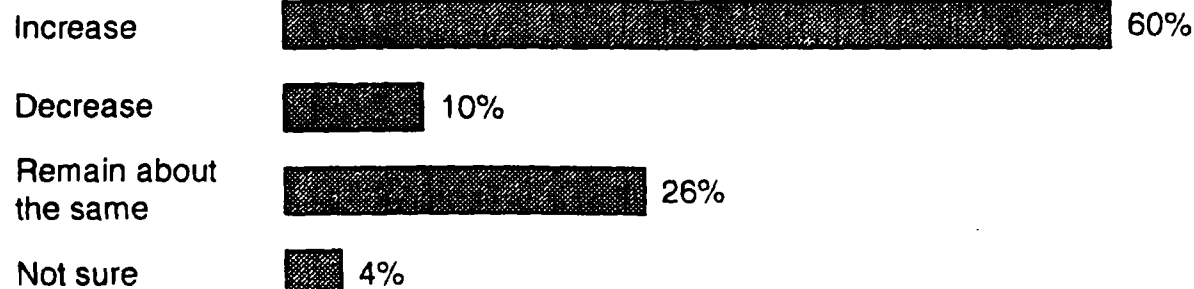
II. Youth Problems Increasing with No End in Sight

- ❖ Nearly two-thirds (65%) of Americans feel the proportion of young adults in their communities experiencing problems has increased over the past 5 years.
- ❖ This trend is predicted to hold through the next 5 years, with 60% of people nationwide believing the proportion of young adults experiencing problems in their communities will continue to increase.

Overall, do you think the proportion of young adults in your city or community experiencing such problems has increased over the past 5 years, decreased, or remained about the same?



Thinking about the future, do you think the proportion of young adults in your city or community experiencing such problems is likely to increase over the next 5 years, decrease, or remain about the same?



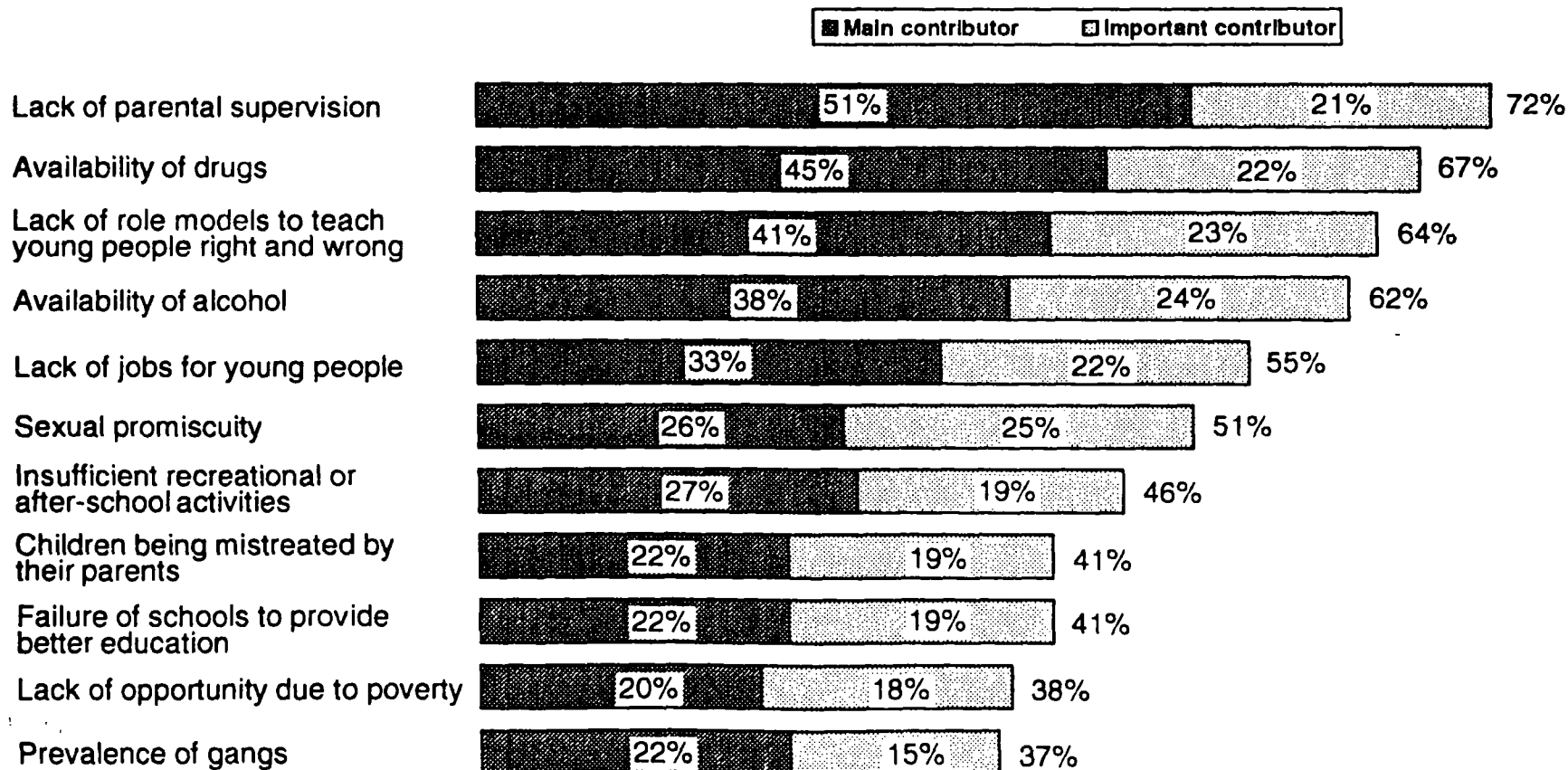
III. Main Factors Contributing to At-Risk Youth

III. Lack of Parental Supervision Is Leading Contributor

❖ Asked what causes these problems, more than 7 in 10 of Americans (72%) cite a lack of parental supervision.

- Two-thirds say the availability of drugs and alcohol are important contributors as well.

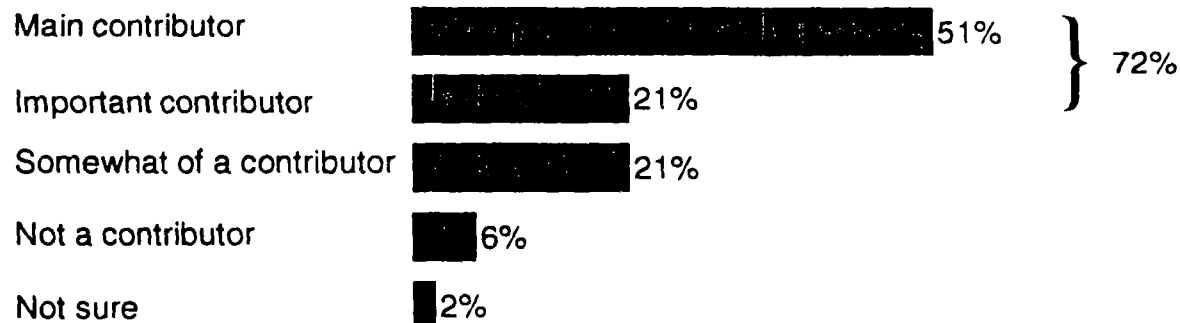
Thinking now about who or what contributes to the problem of at-risk young people... Would you say each of the following is one of the main contributors to this problem, an important but not main contributor, somewhat of a contributor, or not a contributor at all?



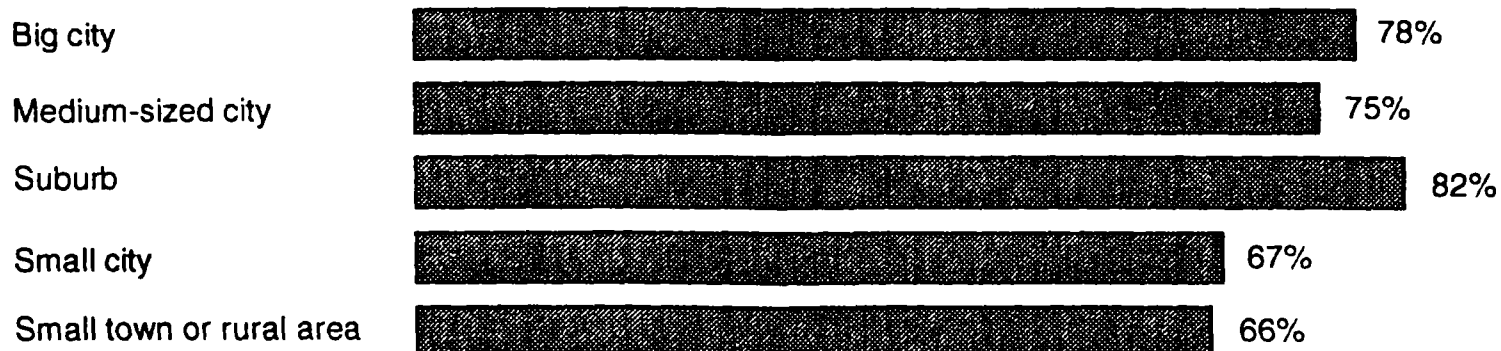
III. "At-Risk" Young Adults Lack Parental Supervision

- ❖ Proper parental supervision is a worry for more than 7 in 10 Americans (72%) who feel the lack of it furthers the problem of at-risk youth.

Thinking now about who or what contributes to the problem of at-risk young people... Would you say lack of parental supervision is one of the main contributors to this problem, an important but not main contributor, somewhat of a contributor, or not a contributor at all?



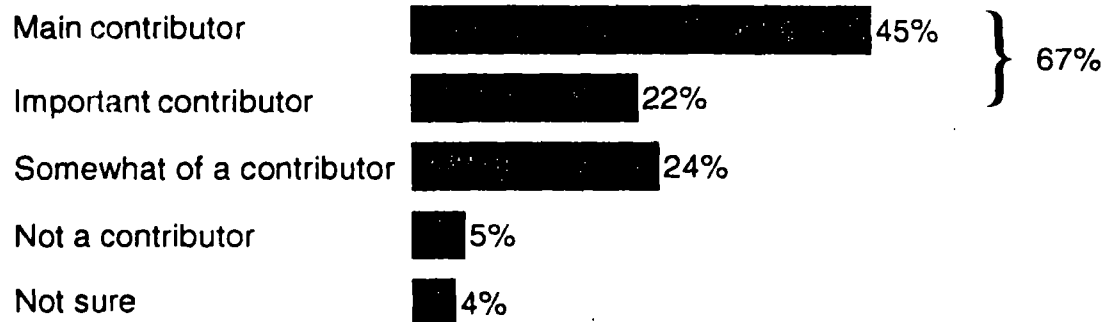
% Saying Main or Important Contributor



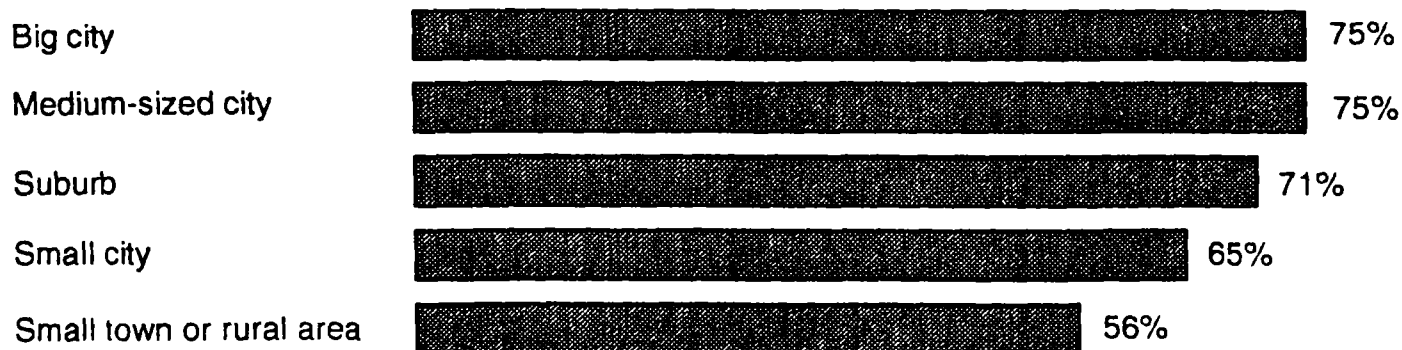
III. Presence of Drugs is a Significant Contributor

- ❖ Americans' strong feelings about the severity of drug abuse problems facing young people carry over into their concern about the accessibility of drugs. Two-thirds (67%) feel the availability of drugs is a leading contributor to youth problems.

Thinking now about who or what contributes to the problem of at-risk young people... Would you say that the availability of drugs is one of the main contributors to this problem, an important but not main contributor, somewhat of a contributor, or not a contributor at all?



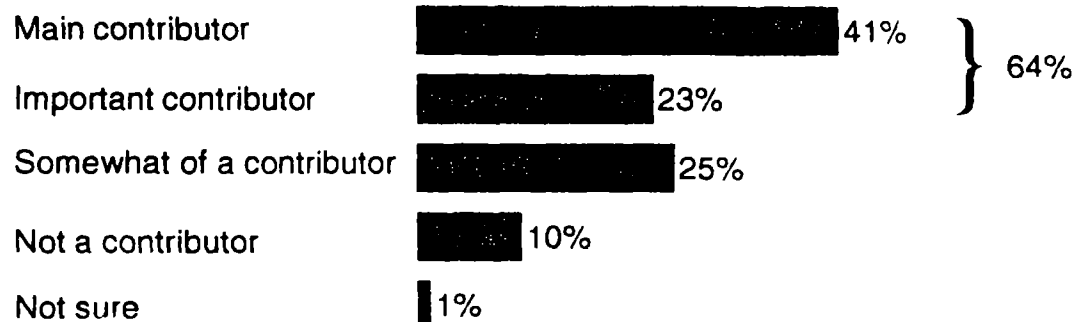
% Saying Main or Important Contributor



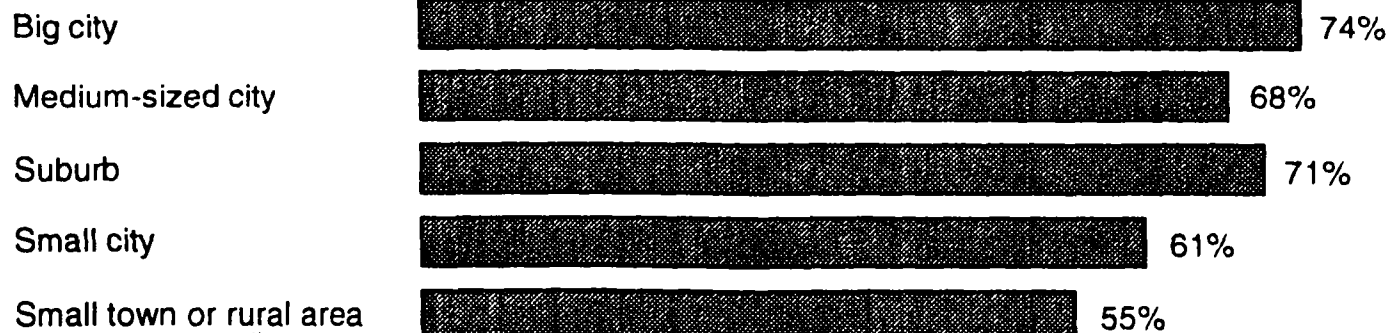
III. Absence of Role Models Contributes to Risk

- ❖ Nearly two-thirds of Americans (64%) agree that the lack of role models to teach young adults right and wrong is a main or an important contributor to the problem of at-risk youth.

Thinking now about who or what contributes to the problem of at-risk young people... Would you say that the lack of role models to teach young people right and wrong is one of the main contributors to this problem, an important but not main contributor, somewhat of a contributor, or not a contributor at all?



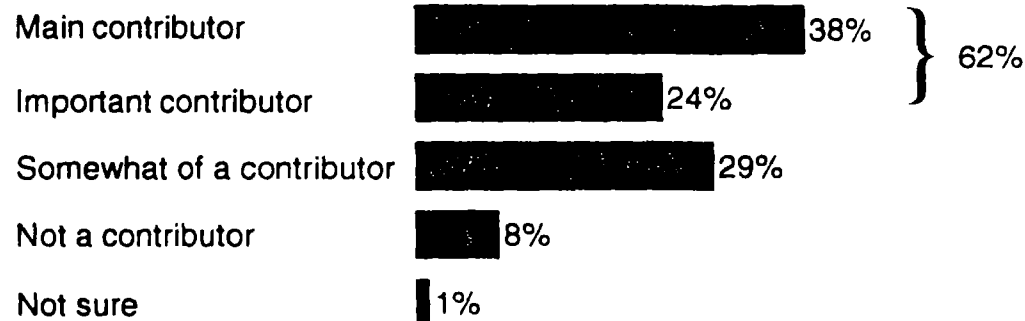
% Saying Main or Important Contributor



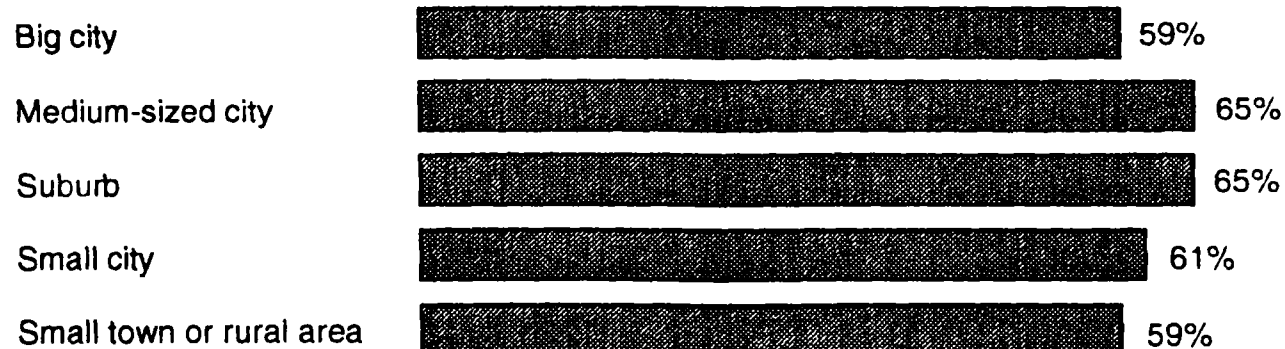
III. Easily Accessible Alcohol Adds to "Risk" Climate

- ❖ Access to alcohol by under-aged youth is also of great concern for 62% of American adults.

Thinking now about who or what contributes to the problem of at-risk young people... Would you say that the availability of alcohol is one of the main contributors to this problem, an important but not main contributor, somewhat of a contributor, or not a contributor at all?



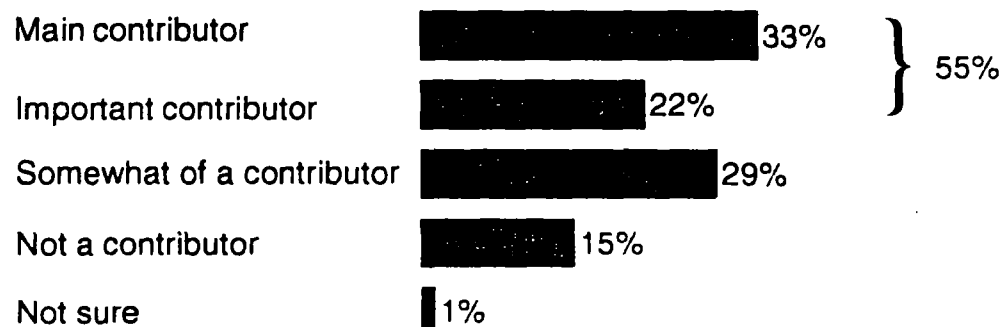
% Saying Main or Important Contributor



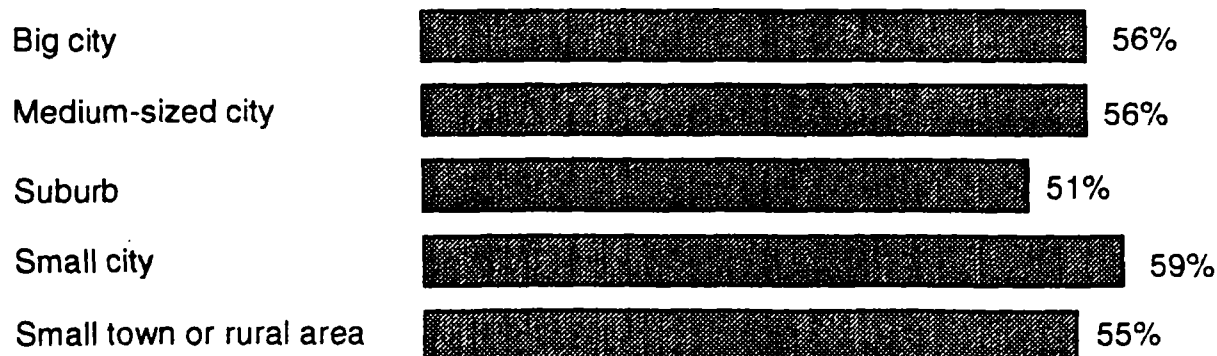
III. Lack of Job Opportunities Increases Risk

- ❖ While Americans show concern over young people's lack of job skills, more than half (55%) also recognize the lack of job opportunities available to them.

Thinking now about who or what contributes to the problem of at-risk young people... Would you say that lack of jobs for young people is one of the main contributors to this problem, an important but not main contributor, somewhat of a contributor, or not a contributor at all?



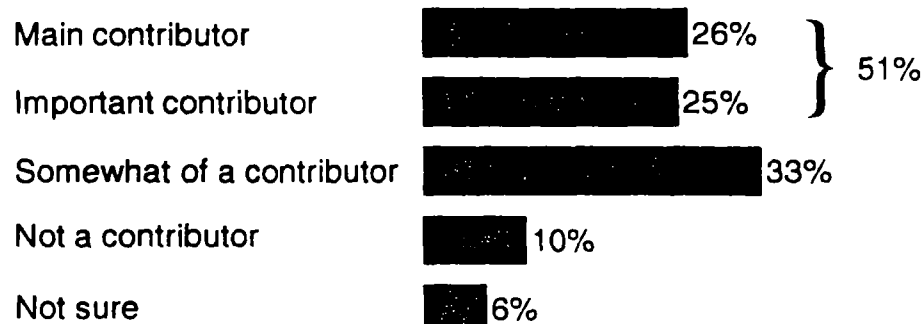
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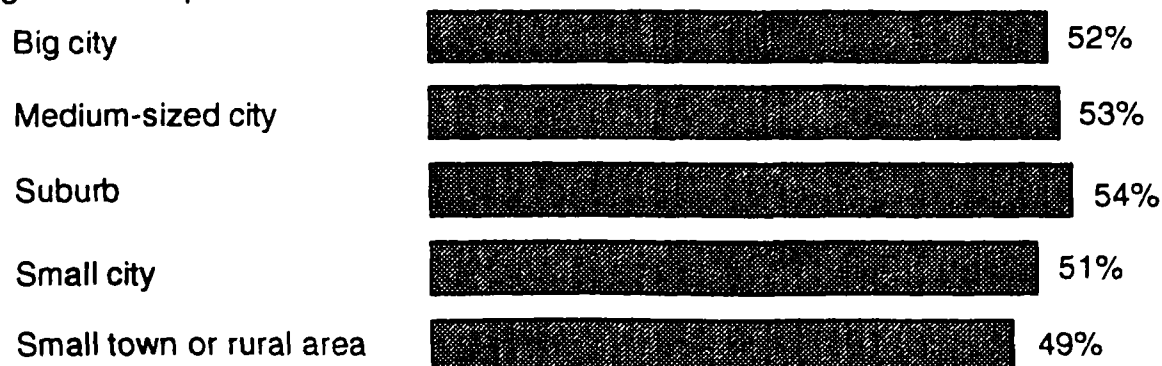
III. Sexual Promiscuity is Part of "Risk" Climate

- ❖ Sexual promiscuity among young adults is believed to contribute to the climate of risk by half (51%) of American adults.

Thinking now about who or what contributes to the problem of at-risk young people... Would you say that sexual promiscuity is one of the main contributors to this problem, an important but not main contributor, somewhat of a contributor, or not a contributor at all?



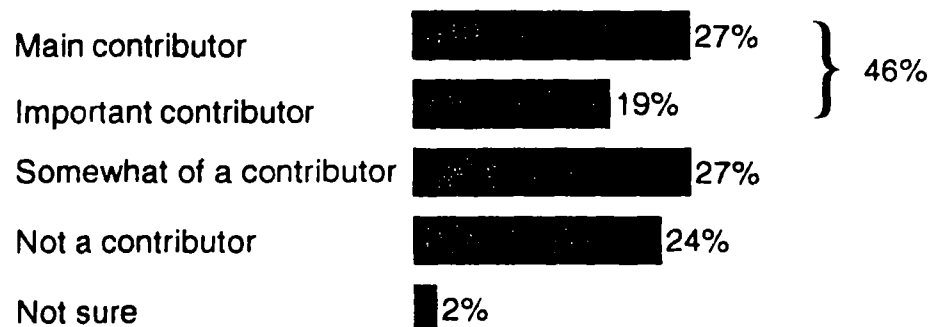
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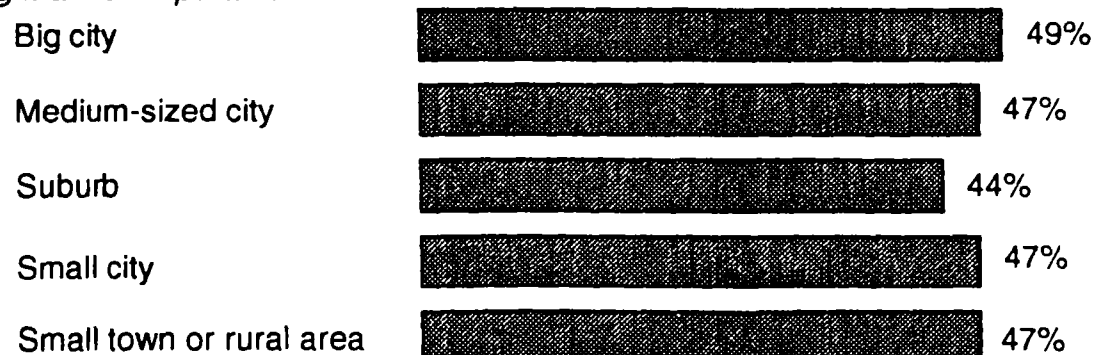
III. Recreational Activities Curb “Risk” Behavior

- ❖ Forty-six percent of Americans believe that insufficient recreational activities contribute to at-risk youths.

Thinking now about who or what contributes to the problem of at-risk young people... Would you say that insufficient recreational or after-school activities for young people is one of the main contributors to this problem, an important but not main contributor, somewhat of a contributor, or not a contributor at all?



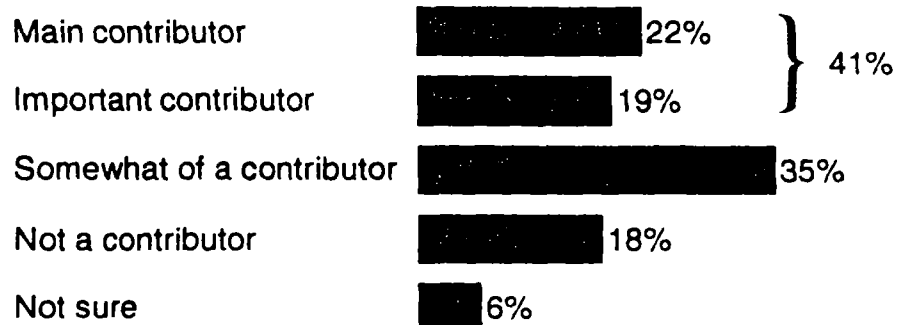
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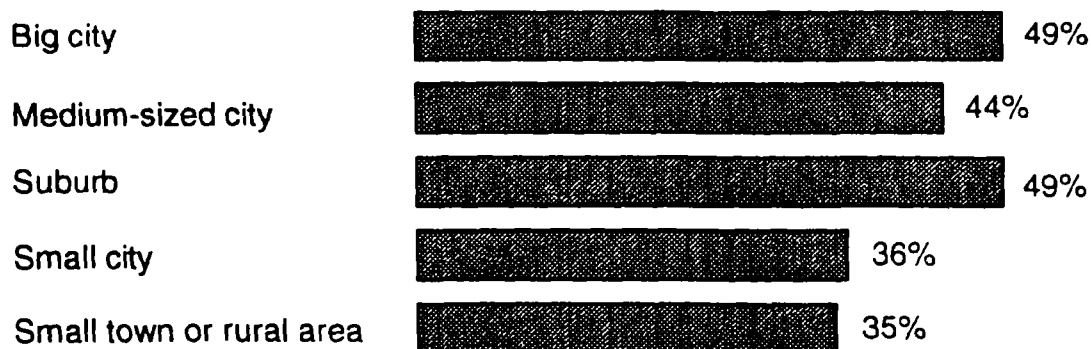
III. Mistreatment by Parents Contributes to Risk

- ❖ More than 4 in 10 people (41%) acknowledge the mistreatment of children by parents to as having a negative effect on youth.

Thinking now about who or what contributes to the problem of at-risk young people... Would you say children being mistreated by their parents is one of the main contributors to this problem, an important but not main contributor, somewhat of a contributor, or not a contributor at all?



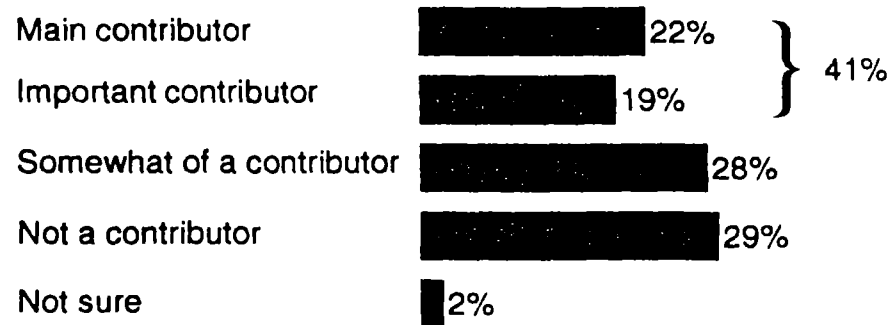
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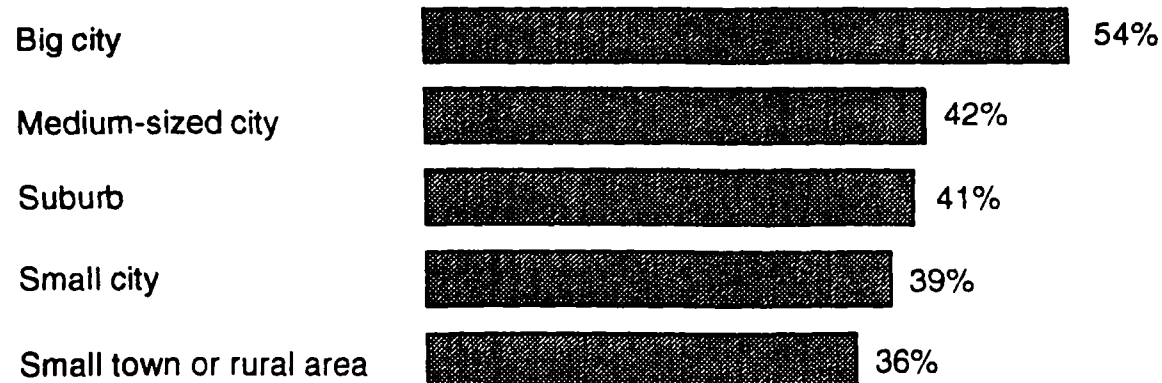
III. Educational Quality is Partially to Blame

- ❖ Educational quality is a concern for 41% of adults, who feel the failure of schools to provide better education contributes to the at-risk environment.

Thinking now about who or what contributes to the problem of at-risk young people... Would you say the failure of schools to provide better education is one of the main contributors to this problem, an important but not main contributor, somewhat of a contributor, or not a contributor at all?



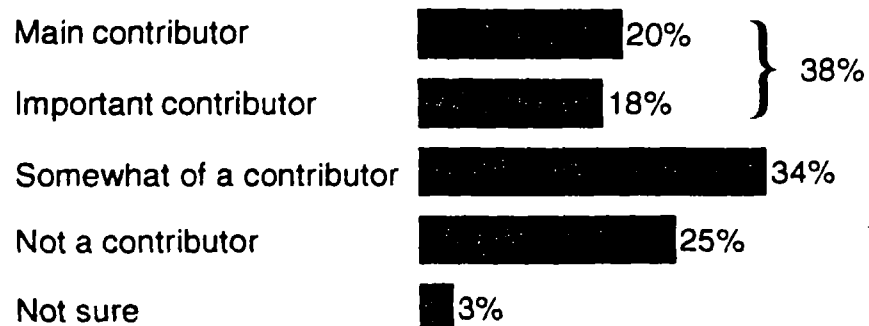
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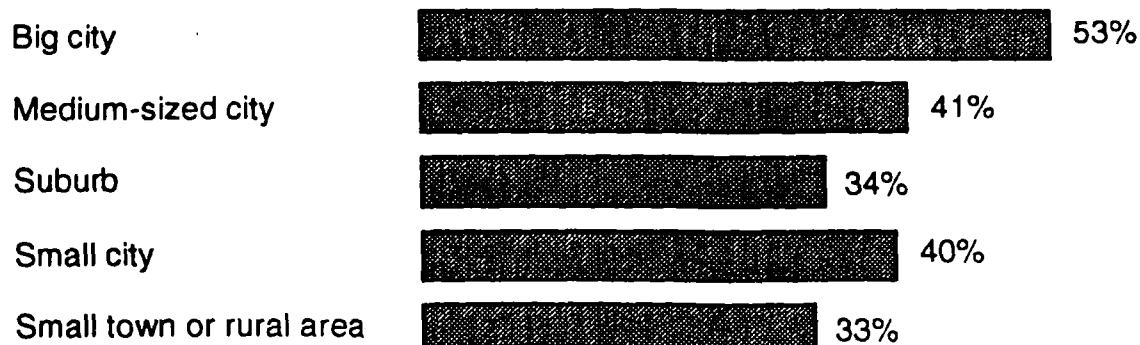
III. Lack of Opportunity Problem for “At-Risk” Youth

- ❖ Nearly 4 in 10 Americans (38%) believe that the lack of opportunity caused by poverty leads to young adults becoming at-risk.

Thinking now about who or what contributes to the problem of at-risk young people... Would you say lack of opportunity due to poverty is one of the main contributors to this problem, an important but not main contributor, somewhat of a contributor, or not a contributor at all?



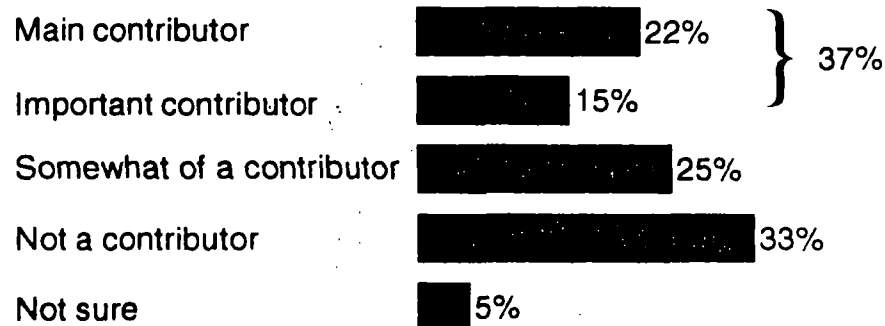
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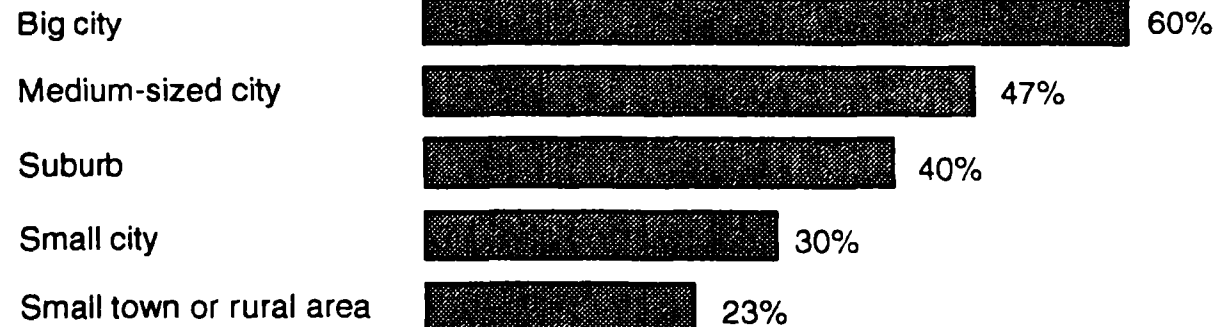
III. Gang Presence Increases Stakes for Youth

- ❖ Thirty-seven percent of Americans think the prevalence of gangs contributes to the problems of at-risk youth.

Thinking now about who or what contributes to the problem of at-risk young people... Would you say that the prevalence of gangs is one of the main contributors to this problem, an important but not main contributor, somewhat of a contributor, or not a contributor at all?



% Saying Main or Important Contributor

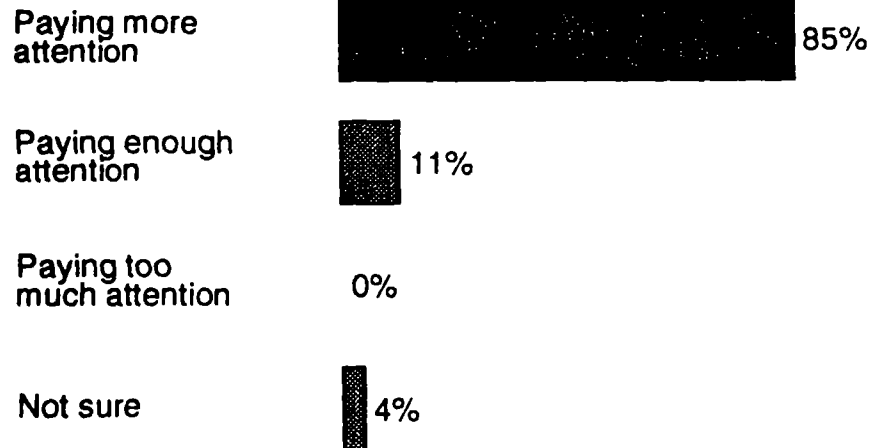


IV. The Need for Action

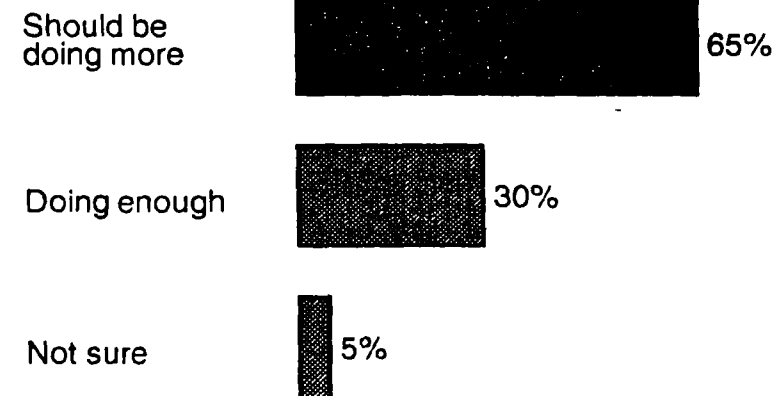
IV. Americans Call for More Government Action

- ❖ More than 8 in 10 Americans (85%) agree that as a nation, we should be paying more attention to young adults at-risk.
- ❖ Two in three (65%) feel the government should be doing more to help at-risk young people.

Given our national priorities, do you think we should be paying more attention to young adults at-risk, or are we paying enough attention now?



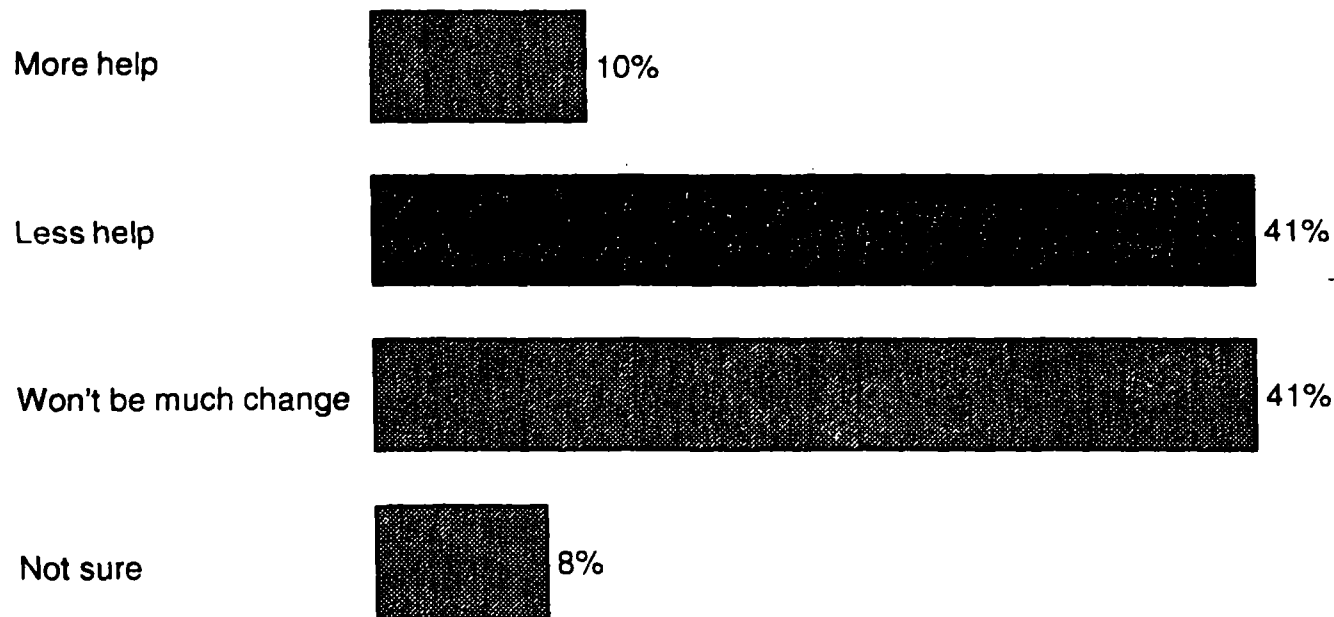
Do you think the government is doing enough to help at-risk young adults, or do you think it should be doing more?



IV. Proposed Welfare Reforms Won't Help Youth

- ❖ Although Americans support greater government involvement, four in ten Americans (41%) believe the proposed welfare reforms will offer *less* help to at-risk youth.

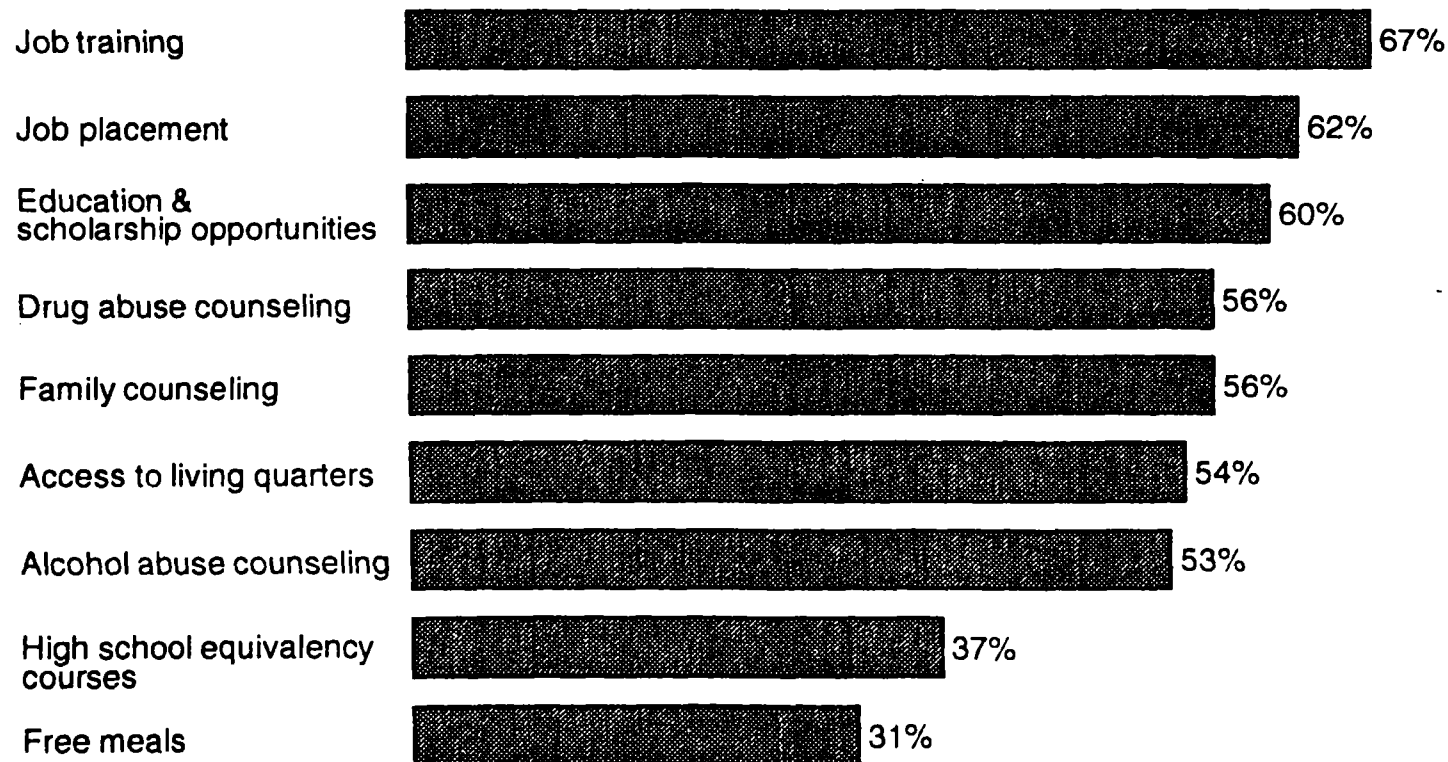
From what you know about current proposals in Washington to reform welfare, do you think these proposals will result in more government assistance being provided to young people at-risk, less government assistance, or won't there be much change?



IV. Youth Need Job Training and Placement Most

- ❖ Americans see the primary service need as jobs -- job training and placement. Close to 7 in 10 (67%) say what we need most is more job training, and 62% say there should be more job placement services provided.
- ♦ Six in ten Americans (60%) also cite the need for more education and scholarship opportunities.

For each of the following, please tell me whether you think there is a need for more of these kinds of services, whether you think there is about the right amount now, or whether too many such services are being provided now?



V. Appendix

V. Appendix

Perspective From Covenant House Staff and Clients

At-Risk Youth: The Way It Is Out There

- ❖ **"Society and parents are not taking responsibility for our children -- they are left on their own to raise and educate themselves."**
- ❖ **"Our biggest loss in this country is the loss of hope."**
- ❖ **"Youth are seriously at-risk from the government with all the programs they are cutting."**
- ❖ **"Most of our children come from dysfunctional families where there is either drug and alcohol or mental or physical abuse."**
- ❖ **"So many of these street kids are crying out for help, fear is a constant companion in their lives."**
- ❖ **"The world is getting harder to live in day by day, with drugs, crime and alcohol."**
- ❖ **"When alcoholism and drug abuse is in your childhood, it's hard to find the motivation to rise above it."**
- ❖ **"The problems are getting worse because we are not yet ready to admit where the problems really lie."**

V. Appendix

Perspectives from Covenant House Staff and Clients

At-Risk Youth: What They Need for Help

- ❖ **"The most important constant for these kids is a caring adult."**
- ❖ **"The fast-food world doesn't cut it, they need to have some benefits and decent pay."**
- ❖ **"We need to connect with these kids and turn them onto something positive, to have pride in what you do."**
- ❖ **"Now these kids are realizing that education plays the biggest part in their achieving a better life for themselves."**
- ❖ **"People have to work and they have to have a place to live."**
- ❖ **"These kids just don't need a dollar commitment, they need a time commitment."**
- ❖ **"There are not enough jobs for our at-risk individuals."**

V. Appendix

Perspectives from Covenant House Staff and Clients

At-Risk Youth: Solutions Offered by Covenant House:

- ❖ **“Covenant House gives you the motivation to build a new life and get out there in the world and take responsibility for yourself.”**
- ❖ **“We’re here. If you fail, we are going to pick you up. They will have a supportive environment and safe environment in which they can be productive.”**
- ❖ **“Runaways, homeless and throw-away kids all need basic services that we can provide.”**
- ❖ **“Covenant House is the light at the end of the tunnel for so many of our children, they come here for hope.”**
- ❖ **“If they come to us penniless and hopeless and they leave with a job and money saved, that is a great success.”**
- ❖ **There are kids who have succeeded through Covenant House who are coming back wanting to help and volunteer because they say that we helped them when they were down and out and they want to give something back.”**
- ❖ **“Covenant House tries to help each kid, one kid at a time.”**
- ❖ **“Each person has qualities both good and bad. At Covenant House, we try to feed and build the good and utilize that to help them move from point A to point B.”**

September 8, 1995

Ms. Alyssa Martina, Publisher
metroParent Magazine
24567 Northwestern Highway
Suite 150
Southfield, MI 48075

Dear Ms. Martina:

Thank-you for your kind offer to assist in the development and implementation of a White House Conference on Children.

At this time, Mrs. Clinton and her staff are reviewing a variety of activities focusing on children and families. A White House Conference on Children is certainly among the options we are considering, however, to date no firm plans for such an event have been made.

Sincerely,

Margaret Williams
Chief of Staff
to the First Lady

September 10, 1995

Stephen J. Menchini, Director
MENTORING USA
30 East 33rd Street
New York, NY 10016

Dear Stephen:

You and Mathilda Cuomo were certainly convincing. While we are unable to endorse any organization or particular activity, the following generic quote from Mrs. Clinton can be used in your materials:

"Mentoring programs across the country have proven their effectiveness in keeping children in school, broadening their horizons, and offering them a future."

If you chose to use this quote, please let us see the materials prior to publication.

Sincerely,

Deborah R. Both
Assistant to the
Chief of Staff

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 23, 1995

Patricia A. McGuire
Office of the President
Trinity College
125 Michigan Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20017-1094

Dear Pat:

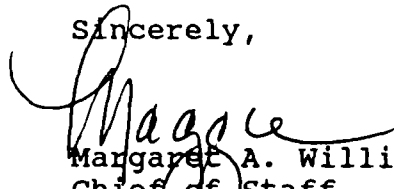
It was so good to hear from you. The major problem with this job is, as you have already presumed, time -- not enough of it. I do appreciate your thoughts and hope that before too long we can indeed get together. It's something I will look forward to.

With regard to the invitation to Mrs. Clinton to speak at Trinity's commencement, it's too early for any decisions about her 1996 schedule. Please remind me in February and I'll try to get some indication at that time. I know you need an early response, but I'm afraid that's the best I can do.

Hope all is well with you and, thanks again so much for your kind words. They mean a lot to me.

With best regards.

Sincerely,


Margaret A. Williams
Chief of Staff
to the First Lady

DRAFT -- for MAW signature

Dear Pat:

It was so good to hear from you. The major problem with this job is, as you have already presumed, time -- not enough of it. I do appreciate your thoughts and hope that before too long we can indeed get together. It's something I will look forward to.

With regard to the invitation to Mrs. Clinton to speak at Trinity's commencement, it's too early for any decisions about her 1996 schedule. Please remind me in February and I'll try to get some indication at that time. I know you need an early response, but I'm afraid that's the best I can do.

Hope all is well with you and, thanks again so much for your kind words. They mean a lot to me.

With best regards.

Sincerely,

TRINITY COLLEGE

WASHINGTON

June 14, 1995

Ms. Margaret Williams
Chief of Staff to Mrs. Clinton
Office of the First Lady
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Maggie:

I continue to be amazed at the wonderful energy you bring to the service of the President and First Lady, and the affairs of our nation. I hope that all is well with you, and that you have found some time to escape for rest in the midst of your busy and difficult days. For myself, this has been a strange year at Trinity, as you may know if you have been able to read any of Trinity mail. I would love to talk to you at some point about the issues we are facing, because I suspect that they are similar to issues that you struggle with on a much larger scale everyday. Nevertheless, we must persist and we will prevail!

Enclosed is a copy of a letter I have sent to Mrs. Clinton inviting her to Trinity's 1996 commencement. While I realize that you do not do her scheduling and that the invitations are too numerous to count, anything you can do to move our request along would be deeply appreciated. We are about to launch our centennial program, and her presence at the commencement would certainly be wonderful.

Are you ever free for dinner? Probably a silly question, but if you can ever get away, I would love to get together with you. I would also like to explore your thoughts about what you are doing into the future, because if you ever wanted to think about "a sabbatical" you know that Trinity would be delighted to have you here at any time.

Thanks again for thinking about us and for all you are doing in the service of the country. I hope that you are doing well personally as well as professionally, and I look forward to hearing from you in the future. Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. McGuire
President

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

TRINITY COLLEGE

WASHINGTON

June 14, 1995

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
Office of the First Lady
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

HRC invite
Trinity College
Commencement
Speaker 5/19/96
cc: Pettit

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

On behalf of the Class of 1996 of Trinity College, as well as for our trustees and faculty, I am delighted to invite you to speak at our 1996 Commencement on Sunday, May 19th, 1996 at 11:00 am. Knowing how many invitations you probably receive, I hope that this one comes early enough to be a viable candidate for your consideration.

As you may know, Trinity is one of nation's oldest Catholic colleges for women. Among our many distinguished graduates, I suspect that you are aware that Maggie Williams is one of our finest, as well as members of Congress Barbara Kennelly and Nancy Pelosi. Many other Trinity women have distinguished themselves in positions of national and local public leadership, as well as thousands more who have entered professions of law and medicine, teaching, the arts and other endeavors.

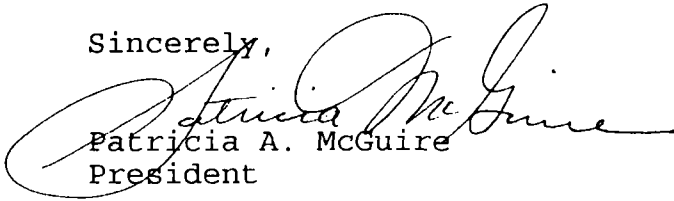
The May 1996 commencement marks the beginning of our centennial year, and so your presence would add special importance to the occasion. We feel that you could bring a message of great support and reinforcement for the education of women. You might like to know that in addition to being a devoted women's college, our student body today is also significantly diverse. More than half of our students are women of color, and two-thirds are over the age of 23. Trinity College has made a special commitment to the education of adult women, and this clearly benefits their children and families. Your presence at our commencement and endorsement of their work would send a very powerful message to women nationally.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
Page Two

We would be delighted to speak with your staff in more detail about any arrangements that would make it possible for you to consider this invitation favorably. Thank you for your careful consideration, and thanks as well for the fine leadership that you bring to our nation. Best wishes.

Sincerely,



Patricia A. McGuire
President

To look for 1996
Write again in '96
to fall
E
m.w.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 15, 1995

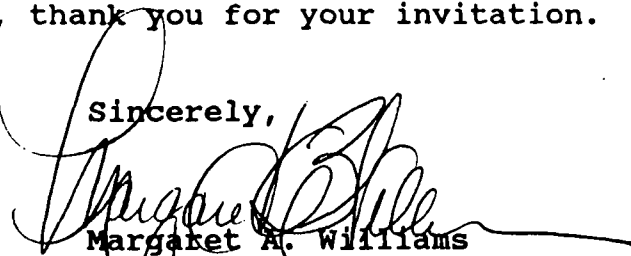
Freddi E. Moody
African American Festival Parade
4036 Barkleaf Drive
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23462

Dear Mr. Moody:

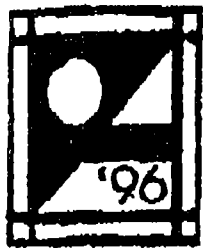
Thank you for your letter of May 11, 1995. Your kind invitation for Mrs. Clinton to attend the African-American Cultural Council of Virginia Beach is greatly appreciated. I have forwarded your correspondence to the Scheduling Office.

Again, thank you for your invitation.

Sincerely,



Margaret A. Williams
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady



AFRICAN AMERICAN

Festival of Pride

*Even
Send as Knowledge
but may and
that we're
sending
to schedule*

FAX COVER SHEET

Date: 5/11/95

TO: Maggie Williams
 COMPANY: Asst to First Lady
 FROM: Freddie E. Moody

TOTAL PAGE(S) 4 FOLLOWING COVER SHEET

HARD COPY TO FOLLOW: YES NO ✓

MESSAGE: Maggie, you may call me
ON 804/437-4800 (10-4);
467-4047 (6-10) H.
460-3093 voice mail

Thanks

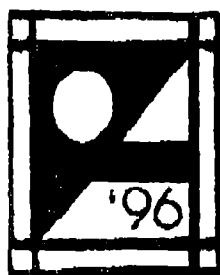
Also sending to P. Solis

OPERATOR: jen

**AFRICAN-AMERICAN
CULTURAL COUNCIL
of Virginia Beach**

4036 Barkleaf Drive
Virginia Beach, VA 23462

(804) 467-4047



AFRICAN AMERICAN

Festival of Pride

May 11, 1995

Mrs. Hillary Rodman Clinton,
First Lady
White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

The African American Cultural Council of Virginia Beach (AACC) is a non-profit organization established to promote community-based events which enhance cultural identity and pride. Organizational membership is comprised of interested professionals from all segments of the Virginia Beach community but primarily, the African American community. The council is working cooperatively with government, business, religious and tourist communities to recognize and publicize the contributions of African Americans to this city. The African American community is a significant population which is growing everyday and is positively impacting the city economically, sociologically, culturally, and professionally.

AACC, an ever growing group trying to make positive things happen, will sponsor the an African American Festival of Pride Prayer Breakfast and Gospelfest, October 14, 1995 at the Oceanfront Sheraton Hotel in Virginia Beach, Virginia. The Festival of Pride will be the first such event of its kind to be sponsored by the African American community of Virginia Beach.

**AFRICAN-AMERICAN
CULTURAL COUNCIL**
of Virginia Beach

4036 Barkleaf Drive
Virginia Beach, VA 23462

(804) 467-4047

May 11, 1995

Page Two

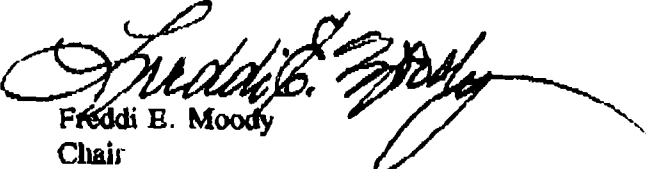
We would be more than honored to have you as our guest speaker during the "Still...I Rise" Prayer Breakfast. This year we will focus on the African American church, its history and contributions to Virginia Beach. The breakfast is scheduled to begin at 8:30am and conclude at 11:00am, with you speaking between 9:45am and 10:00am. The AACC will prepare a holding room for you and your staff at the Sheraton Hotel, in addition to assisting with all security personnel.

We are expecting between 500 and 600 persons at the prayer breakfast. These persons will be predominantly African American females ranging from 15 to 90 years of age. Present also will be a large number of Hampton Roads ministers; civic leaders and local elected and appointed officials. Our primary mission is to promote ethnic identity and pride, individually and as a community. Our goal is not to show how different African American culture is but how much we have in common with other races.

At the site of the breakfast a historical video, artifacts, and photographic exhibit, dating from the 19th century, as well as renderings by artists, past and present, will be on display. All the choirs and gospel performers have not been identified, but we will keep you updated monthly.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me immediately at (804) 437-4800 or the number listed on our letterhead. Meanwhile, we anxiously await your prompt and positive response.

I remain,


Freddi E. Moody
Chair

Attachments

AFRICAN-AMERICAN FESTIVAL OF PRIDE MISSION STATEMENT

The African-American Festival of Pride's primary mission is to promote ethnic identity and pride.

The Festival will be a two-day celebration of African-American heritage and culture through the sharing of food, entertainment, arts and crafts, and activities for the entire family.

This event will focus on the family and will provide education, recreation, and civic awareness in addition to promoting positive relationships among diverse communities.

"LET THE RIVERS RUN"
Saturday, October 14, 1995

ACTIVITIES:

8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Prayer Breakfast
"Still . . . I Rise"
Virginia Beach Center for the Arts or
Oceanfront Hotel
Historic Photographic Display

Noon - 6:00 p.m.

"Battle of Jericho" Gospelfest
17th Street Park and Stage

Gospel Choirs

Traditional
Contemporary
Southern
Jubilee
Pop
Rap

Local Talent (Suggested):

Peggy Britt & The Philharmonics
The Albritton Family
Connie Parker
Others

Vendors (10)
Ethnic Food
Arts & Crafts
VIP Tent/Reception

Educational Component:
Poster Design Competition



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 26, 1994

Ms. Shirley Morris
9910 Kay Street
Adelanto, CA 92301

Ms. Morris:

On behalf of the First lady, I would like to thank you for your thoughtful letter regarding certain media coverage of the President and the First Lady.

I appreciate you taking the time to share your views. Words of encouragement and support are always welcomed by the Clinton Administration.

Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,


Margaret A. Williams
Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady

shirley morris

March 21, 1995

First Lady
Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear First Lady,

On TV some^{one} reported that one of the secret service agents in the White House told the media that you and the president fight and use foul language.

If a married couple did not fight, they would not have a pulse. That is how marital problems are solved. It is called communication.

As for foul language, nothing makes my husband understand^{better} that I am really angry and hurt. It also makes him see my point of view. As a result a better decision concerning the problem is made.

Moreover, foul language is only language of a sort. It is the foul deeds that are shameful. Stealing food out of the mouths of children is foul.

Am still keeping good thoughts for you and our president.

Sincerely,

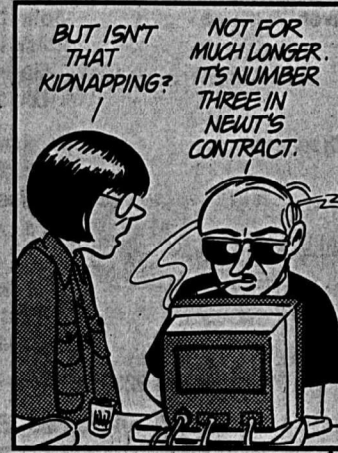
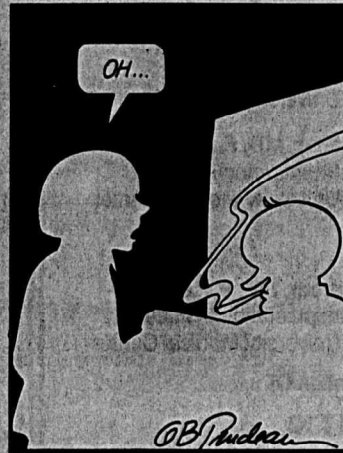
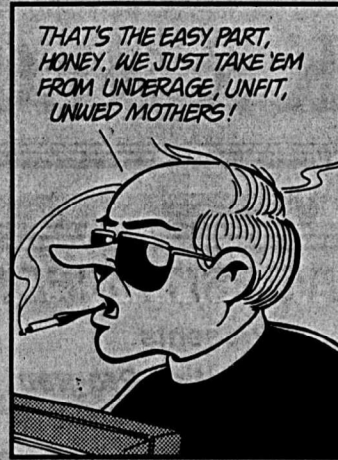
Shirley
Enclosure

Evan

note
of

acknowledgment
thanks for support

► DOONESBURY



The adoption agencies will get richer. How nice

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

Dear Maggie,

Once more I would
appreciate it if you
would hand deliver
my letter to Hillary.
Best wishes,

Shirley

Leonard and Shirley Morris

shirley morris

9910 kay street • adelanto, california 92301



Personal & Confidential

Maggie Williams
Chief of Staff to
Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

