



The Presbyterian Panel

Listening to Presbyterians



REPORT

MINISTRIES TO FAMILIES *and* SAME-SEX ISSUES IN THE PC(USA)

THE AUGUST 2000 SURVEY

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HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ A majority of panelists report that they or their families experienced at least *a moderate amount* of stress in the prior year.
- ✓ “Too much to do and not enough time” is the most significant family stressor in the opinion of panelists.
- ✓ A third of elders report a congregational committee with primary responsibilities for family ministry.
- ✓ “Pre-marital counseling,” “intentionally-intergenerational events,” and “help on spiritual formation” are the most widespread categories of family ministry in congregations.
- ✓ Programs that the most pastors would like to add (in congregations that don’t currently have such programs) include “mission opportunities families can participate in together,” “adult classes that focus on parenting or other family issues,” and “help on spiritual formation.”
- ✓ Majorities of panelists rate their congregation’s efforts in family ministry positively, but they are much more likely to use the words *good* or *very good* rather than *excellent*.
- ✓ Panelists are most positive about their congregation’s efforts in “making worship family-inclusive,” “making other activities family-inclusive,” “supporting marriages,” and “supporting parents.”
- ✓ Larger-membership congregations are more likely than smaller ones to have a committee for family ministry, a staff member with family-ministry responsibilities, and each of several specific types of family ministry.
- ✓ Ratings of how well congregations are doing in their family ministries are very similar among panelists of different family statuses.
- ✓ Three in four members and nine in ten pastors but only 56% of adults in the U.S. population are married.
- ✓ Three in four pastors and one in four lay panelists are familiar with Presbyterian Mariners.
- ✓ One in eight members and elders, and one in seven pastors, have ever belonged to Presbyterian Mariners.
- ✓ One in twelve pastors report an active Presbyterian Mariners ministry in their congregation, and a small majority of these rate that ministry as *effective* or *very effective*.
- ✓ Few panelists have visited either the Presbyterian Mariners’ Web site or the family ministry page on the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Web site.
- ✓ The most widely known PC(USA) printed resource on family ministry is *Alert* magazine.
- ✓ A majority of specialized clergy, four in ten pastors, and three in ten lay panelists believe that “homosexuality should be considered an acceptable alternative lifestyle.”
- ✓ Majorities of members and elders, half of pastors, and three in ten specialized clergy believe that Presbyterian ministers should be prohibited from performing ceremonies that bless same-sex unions.
- ✓ Relatively more panelists in the Northeast and Midwest than in the South and West support gay rights in society and in the church.

OVERVIEW

The Presbyterian Panel consists of three nationally-representative samples of groups affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.): members, elders (lay leaders), and ordained ministers. For analysis, ministers are split into two groups based on current call: *pastors*, serving in a congregation, and *specialized clergy*, serving elsewhere. New samples are drawn every three years.

These pages summarize major findings from the fourth survey completed by the 2000-2002 Panel, mailed in August 2000, with returns accepted through October 2000. The first half uses text and graphics to highlight important and useful findings. An appendix follows with comparative tables that display the percentage distribution of responses to every question for each of the four Panel groups.

Response rates for this survey are: members, 51%; elders, 58%; pastors, 66%. Results are subject to sampling and other errors. As a general rule, differences of less than 8% are not statistically meaningful.

In this report, the term *median* refers to the middle number in an ordered distribution. For example, the median age for a web group of people aged 12, 21, 28, 35, and 64 years would be 28 years. The term *mean* refers to the mathematical average of values in a distribution; in the example, the mean age would be calculated as: $(12+21+28+35+64)/5$, or 32 years.

Like the median, a *quartile* is also a number that divides an ordered distribution. The *first quartile* is the number that divides an ordered distribution so that three-fourths of the values are greater, and one-fourth are lower. The *second quartile* is the number that divides an ordered distribution exactly in half (its value is identical to the median). The *third quartile* is the value that divides an ordered distribution such that one-fourth of the values are lower, and three-fourths are greater.

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Author Note: John P. Marcum, Administrator of the Presbyterian Panel, wrote this report and was assisted in this study by the other staff members of the office of Research Services.

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Sponsor: Part 1 of this survey was requested jointly by the Family Ministry Team and the Task Force on Changing Families of the Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). For more information on ministries to families in the PC(USA), contact Carl Horton at 888-728-7228 ext. 5453. Part 2 was requested by Research Services. For more information on same-sex issues in the PC(USA), contact Mark Tammen at 888-728-7228 ext. 5434.

Additional Copies: Additional copies of this *Report* may be purchased for \$5 from PDS—call 800-524-2612 and request item number 65100-00266. Copies of a four-page *Summary* of results are available for \$1.50 each directly from Research Services. Call for information on quantity discounts (888-728-7228 ext. 2040).

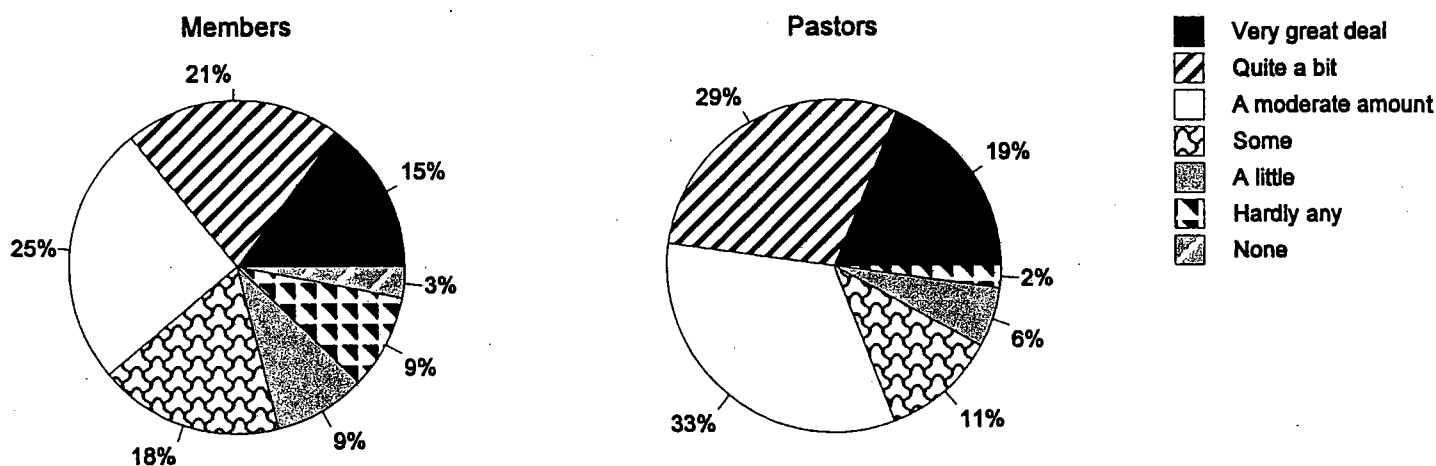
Panel on the Web: A catalogue of Panel topics and *Summaries* of recent surveys are available on-line at the Research Services Web site: <<http://www.pcusa.org/rs/rshtml.htm>>. Scroll down and click on “Presbyterian Panel.”

PART 1: MINISTRIES TO FAMILIES STRESS AND SUPPORT

Families under Stress

- ✓ A majority of panelists report they or their families experienced at least *a moderate amount* of stress in the prior year.

Figure 1
Amount of Stress Experienced by
Panelists and Their Families in Last Year



- ✓ “Too much to do and not enough time” is by far the most significant factor stressing families generally, in the opinion of panelists. Majorities ranging from 60% (members) to 72% (pastors) attribute *a lot* of family stress to this cause.
- ✓ Other stressors cited by sizeable minorities include:
 - “long work hours” (35% of members and 44% of pastors attribute *a lot* of family stress to this cause)
 - “economic hardships” (34% and 26%, respectively)
 - “family members with illness or disability” (32% and 22%)
 - “work shifts that conflict with home life” (29% and 30%)
- ✓ One factor, “sports and other extracurricular activities for children,” is viewed as a serious stressor by relatively more pastors than other panelists. While 42% of pastors see this factor as contributing *a lot* to family stress, in the other samples the percentages are only 19% (members), 23% (elders), and 25% (specialized clergy).

Support from Congregations

- ✓ More than a quarter of laity and specialized clergy report receiving *a very great deal* or *quite a bit* of support from their congregations “to help you cope with stress.”
- ✓ More pastors report receiving congregational support than laity or specialized clergy do for coping with family stress. For example, two-thirds of pastors (64%) report that they received either *a very great deal*, *quite a bit*, or *a moderate amount* of congregational support for coping with stress. Among members, the percentage reporting this level of support is 42%.

**PART 1: MINISTRIES TO FAMILIES
STRESS AND SUPPORT**

Home Missions

Not everyone experiencing family stressors is receiving an equivalent level of congregational support. Three-fourths of members who report *a very great deal* of family stress and two-thirds who report *quite a bit* of stress perceive congregational support to be at a lower level of strength. While some of these mismatches are small in magnitude (e.g., some who experience *a very great deal* of stress received *quite a bit* of congregational support), and others by choice (e.g., the individuals experiencing severe stress did not bring this to the attention of others in their congregation), there are undoubtedly members—likely many members—who wanted more help from their congregation than was forthcoming. Such a finding is troubling, and suggests that pastors, sessions, and other members are falling short in identifying and ministering to families that are hurting.

**Table 1
Stress Experienced and Congregational Support Received**

Stress Experienced by Respondent and Family

Congregational Support in Coping with Individual and Family Stress	Stress Experienced by Respondent and Family							Total
	Very Great Deal	Quite A bit	A Moderate Amount	Some	A Little	Hardly Any	None At All	
a very great deal	24%	9%	7%	3%	2%	2%	—	8%
quite a bit	24%	24%	22%	20%	14%	4%	—	20%
a moderate amount	16%	19%	19%	8%	6%	9%	—	14%
some	15%	14%	20%	28%	20%	11%	10%	18%
a little	4%	10%	11%	17%	20%	4%	—	11%
hardly any	9%	10%	11%	9%	18%	27%	—	12%
none at all	9%	15%	11%	16%	22%	41%	90%	17%
total	101%	101%	101%	101%	102%	98%	100%	100%

Percent of total cases:

- above the diagonal 21%
- in the diagonal 24%
- below the diagonal 55%

At the same time, it is encouraging to note that a number of panelists report a *greater* level of congregational support than the family stressors would seem to warrant. In fact, 21% of members and 27% of elders report receiving congregational support that is above the level of family stress experienced—as do 26% of pastors and 19% of specialized clergy. Congregations may want to determine why they are able to more than meet needs in these cases and apply the lessons learned to helping more of the majority whose support needs are not now being adequately met.

PART 1: MINISTRIES TO FAMILIES

FAMILY MINISTRIES IN CONGREGATIONS

Committees and Staff

- ✓ A third of elders (34%) report that their congregation has a committee “whose primary responsibilities are for family ministries.” Even more, 43%, report that one or more pastors or other staff persons have responsibilities that “explicitly include family ministries.”
- ✓ Committees charged with ministries to families have a variety of names. Examples reported by panelists include: Congregational Care; Adult Education and Family Life; Children and Families; Youth and Family Ministry. Others consider the Board of Deacons as the responsible group.
- ✓ 48% of pastors report “my congregation ministers to families mostly ‘unconsciously’ as a byproduct of supporting individuals,” while 49% report “my congregation ministers to families because of a conscious effort to do so.”

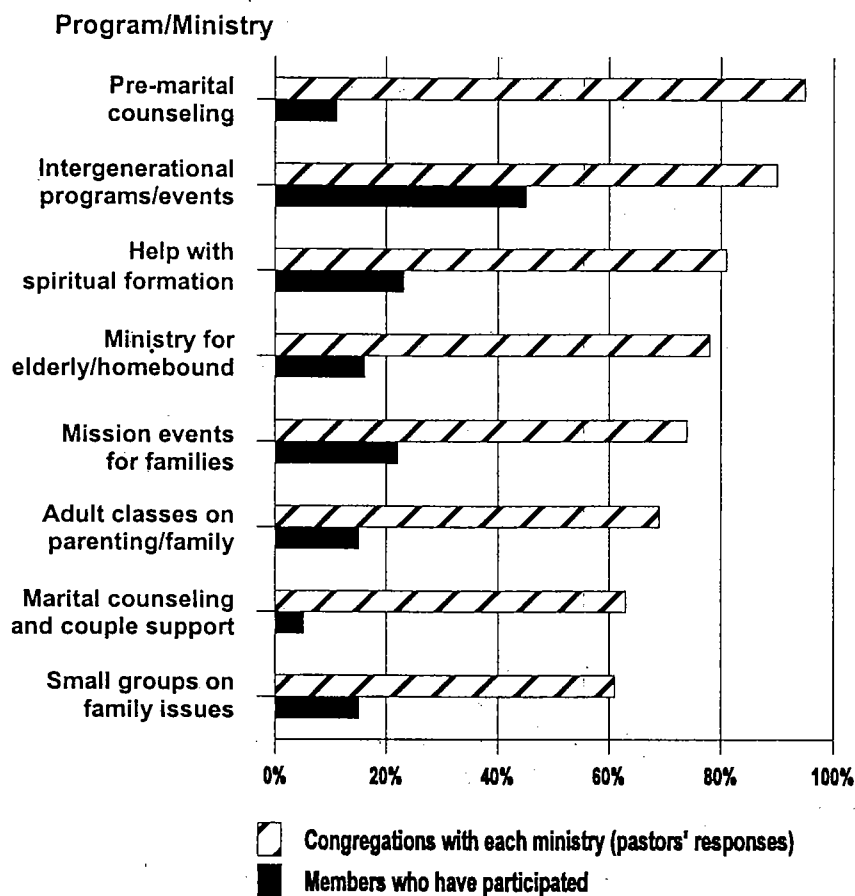
Programs

- ✓ The most widespread family-related ministries in congregations are:
 - “pre-marital counseling” (offered by 95% of congregations, according to pastors)
 - “other intentionally-intergenerational events” (offered by 83%)
 - “help on spiritual formation” (81%)
 - “ministry for elderly/homebound/nursing home” (78%)
 - “mission opportunities families can participate in together” (74%)
 - “adult classes that focus on parenting or other family issues” (69%)
 - “marital counseling or support groups for married couples” (63%)
 - “other small groups or support groups addressing other family issues” (61%)
- ✓ Relatively rare programs (reported by 20% or fewer pastors) include:
 - “ministry for perpetrators of domestic violence” (offered by 7% of congregations, according to pastors)
 - “adult daycare program” (8%)
 - “family life center” (10%)
 - “support for single-father families” (14%)
 - “support for grandparents raising grandchildren” (15%)
 - “support for interfaith couples” (15%)
 - “support for inter-racial or inter-ethnic couples” (15%)
 - “ministry for victims of domestic abuse” (16%)
 - “support for adults caring for both their children and their parents” (16%)
 - “support for foster and adoptive parents” (19%)
 - “gymnasium” (20%)
- ✓ Particular family ministries in congregations vary in their reach among members. Among the subset of members aware of an individual program,
 - the highest percentage of participants is found for:
 - ▶ “other intentionally-intergenerational events” (55%)
 - ▶ “help on spiritual formation” (43%)
 - ▶ “family life center” (40%)
 - ▶ “intergenerational Vacation Church (or Bible) School” (38%)
 - ▶ “mission opportunities that families can participate in together” (34%)
 - ▶ “other small groups or support groups addressing other family issues” (33%)
 - ▶ “gymnasium” (33%)

PART 1: MINISTRIES TO FAMILIES FAMILY MINISTRIES IN CONGREGATIONS

- while the lowest percentage of participants is found for:
 - ▶ “support for single-father families” (6%)
 - ▶ “support for families facing divorce/divorce recovery group” (7%)
 - ▶ “support for single-mother families” (7%)
 - ▶ “ministry for victims of domestic violence” (8%)
 - ▶ “support for foster and adoptive parents” (11%)
 - ▶ “support for interfaith couples” (11%)
 - ▶ “marital counseling or support groups for married couples” (11%)
 - ▶ “singles ministry” (12%)

**Figure 2
Most Frequent Family Ministry Programs**



- ✓ Of programs that congregations do not currently have,
 - pastors express the most interest in adding the following:
 - ▶ “mission opportunities families can participate in together” (among pastors who reported that their congregation did not have this program, 24% indicated they “would especially like” their “congregation to begin to offer” this program)
 - ▶ “adult classes that focus on parenting or other family issues” (24%)
 - ▶ “help on spiritual formation” (24%)
 - ▶ “support for adults caring for both their children and their parents (sandwich generation)” (23%)
 - ▶ “retreats for families (intergenerational)” (22%)
 - ▶ “ministry to caregivers” (21%)
 - ▶ “marriage enrichment events or retreats” (20%)

PART 1: MINISTRIES TO FAMILIES FAMILY MINISTRIES IN CONGREGATIONS

- while they express the least interest in adding these activities or ministries:
 - ▶ “ministry for perpetrators of domestic violence” (1%)
 - ▶ “support for interfaith couples” (1%)
 - ▶ “support for inter-racial or inter-ethnic couples” (1%)
 - ▶ “support for single-father families (3%)
 - ▶ “ministry for victims of domestic violence” (4%)
 - ▶ “outreach to refugee or immigrant families” (5%)
 - ▶ “pre-marital counseling” (5%)

Choosing What to Add: A Caution

On average, members listed 16 areas of family ministry that their congregation did not offer. Pastors listed 20. Thus, when picking the three areas (Q8) that they would like to see their congregation add, respondents who weren't selective quickly used up their three options.

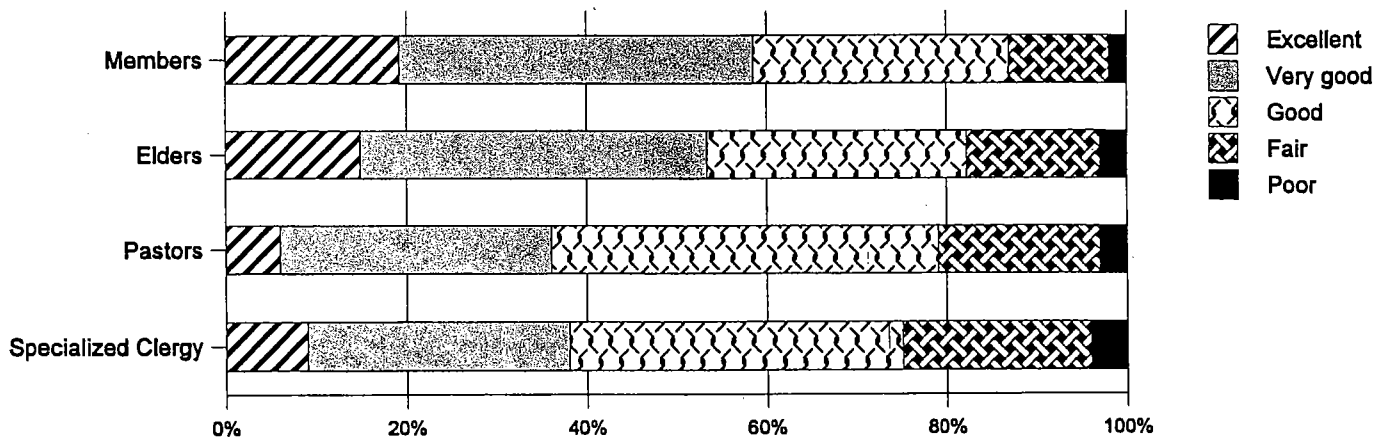
Panelists completing Q8 on the paper form had to refer back to Q7 to see their options, and most apparently started at the end of Q7 and worked backwards, as the items at the end of Q7 were much more likely to be chosen. But panelists completing the Web version seemed to work from the beginning of the list, no doubt because that version provided, as part of Q8, a re-listing of the items in Q7, starting with Q7a.

In short, responses on what ministries to families that panelists would like their congregations to add should be interpreted cautiously. In particular, results for Q8 may understate the actual desire among Presbyterians to add programs at the beginning of the list in Q7.

Rating Family Ministries

- ✓ Majorities of lay panelists choose *good* or *very good* to describe their congregation's overall efforts “in ministering to the needs and concerns of families.” The range is from 64% among members and specialized clergy to 72% among pastors. But few in any Panel group choose *excellent*—18% of members, 19% of elders, 9% of specialized clergy, and 6% of pastors do so.

Figure 3
Ratings of How Well One's
Congregation Does Family Ministry



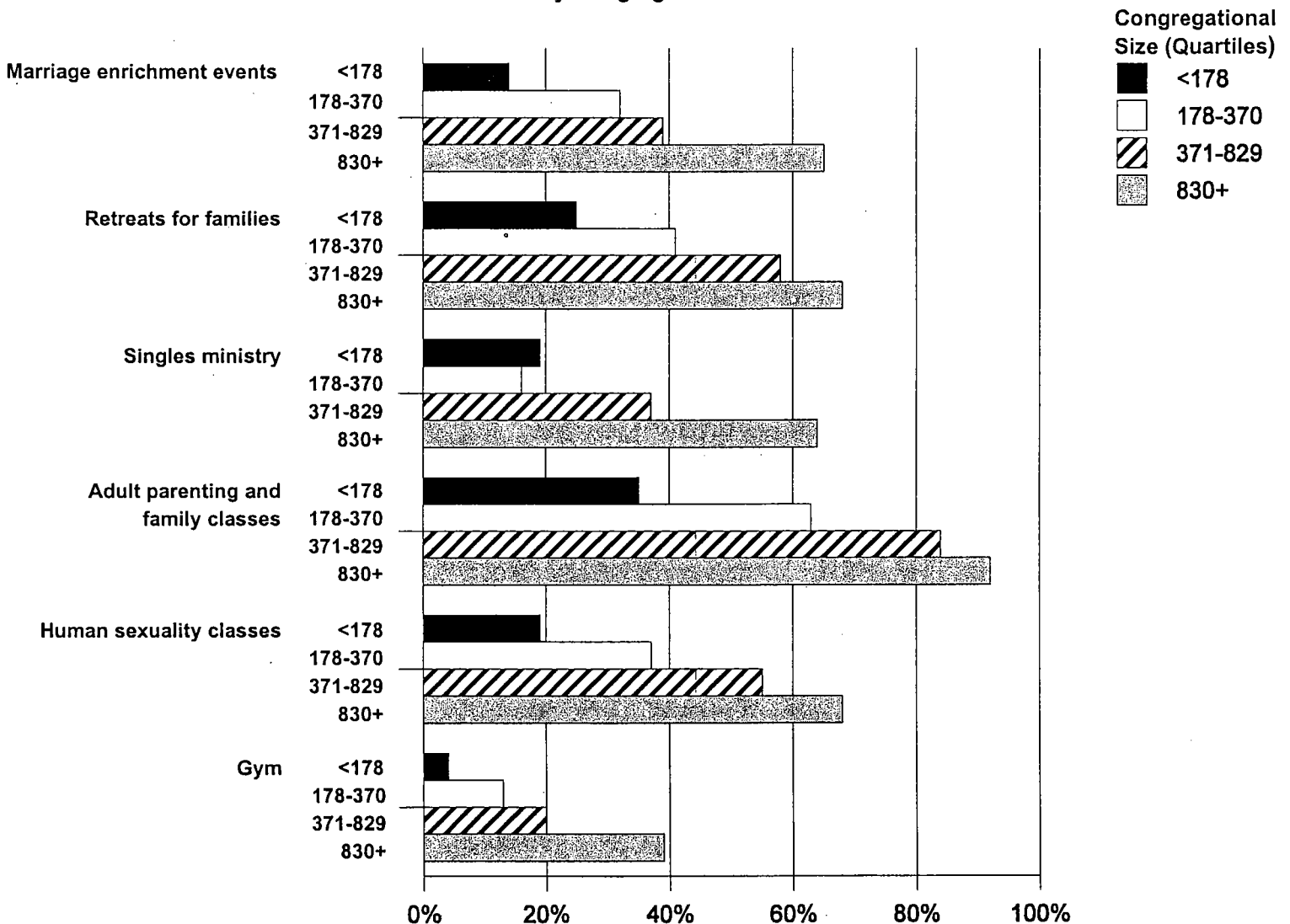
PART 1: MINISTRIES TO FAMILIES

FAMILY MINISTRIES IN CONGREGATIONS

- ✓ Majorities of panelists in all groups *agree* that their congregation “does a good job of”:
 - “making worship family-inclusive” (85% of members and 82% of pastors either *strongly agree* or *agree*)
 - “making other activities family-inclusive” (81% and 84%, respectively)
 - “supporting marriages” (74%, 81%)
 - “supporting parents” (72%, 83%)

- ✓ Panelists are less positive about the job their congregation does in family ministries that focus on non-married and re-married individuals and households:
 - “ministering to singles” (36% of members and 23% pastors *strongly agree* or *agree* that their congregation is doing “a good job” in this area; 56% of pastors *strongly disagree* or *disagree*)
 - “ministering to divorced persons” (27% of members and 40% of pastors *strongly agree* or *agree*, and 35% of pastors *strongly disagree* or *disagree*)
 - “ministering to blended/step families” (20% of members and 38% of pastors *strongly agree* or *agree*, and 33% of pastors *strongly disagree* or *disagree*)

Figure 4
Family Ministry Programs
by Congregational Size



PART 1: MINISTRIES TO FAMILIES FAMILY MINISTRIES IN CONGREGATIONS

Congregational Size and Family Ministries

- ✓ Compared to smaller membership congregations, larger congregations are more likely to:
 - have a committee for family ministries (50% of pastors in congregations above the third quartile so report, compared to 12% of pastors in congregations below the first quartile)
 - have a pastor with responsibilities for family ministry (66%, compared to 25%)
 - think their congregation is doing a good job in family ministry (45%, compared to 30%)
 - have each of the various ministries to families listed in Q7 (see text box, below)
- ✓ Compared to larger membership congregations, smaller congregations are more likely to:
 - minister to families “unconsciously” (65% of pastors in congregations below the first quartile so report, compared to 28% in congregations above the third quartile)
- ✓ One ministry to families is actually more common in middle-sized congregations than in either larger or smaller ones: intergenerational Vacation Church School, which is found in 45% of congregations below the first quartile and 41% of congregations above the third quartile, according to pastors, but in 52% and 57%, respectively, of the groups above and below the median (second quartile).
- ✓ Almost all other specific family ministries listed in Q7 are more likely to be offered in larger as compared to smaller congregations, according to pastors. The exceptions are for programs that are extremely rare in any congregation: an adult daycare center; support for interfaith, inter-ethnic, and interracial couples; ministries to victims and to perpetrators of domestic violence; and support for grandparents raising grandchildren.
- ✓ Among elders, congregational size is related to ratings of how well congregations are doing in certain ministries to families:
 - Compared to smaller membership congregations, larger congregations are more likely to be viewed as doing a good job of:
 - ▶ “ministering to singles” (44% of elders in congregations above the third quartile *agree* or *strongly agree*, compared to 29% in congregations below the first quartile)
 - ▶ “supporting marriages” (79%, compared to 65%)
 - ▶ “making worship family-inclusive” (88%, compared to 79%)
 - . . . while elders in mid-sized congregations give more *strongly agree* or *agree* responses to their congregation’s job of “making other activities family-inclusive” (87%) than do elders in either the smallest (73%) or largest (80%) size categories.
- ✓ There are no significant differences in ratings by congregational size among elders for the following programs and activities: “ministry to divorced persons,” “ministry to blended/step-families,” “supporting parents,” and “making worship family-inclusive.”

PART 1: MINISTRIES TO FAMILIES
FAMILY MINISTRIES IN CONGREGATIONS

Family Status and Views on Family Ministry

Do panelists who are married evaluate the job their congregation does in family ministry differently from unmarried panelists? Do panelists with children at home evaluate the job their congregation does in family ministry differently from those who are childless or whose children have left home? An analysis of opinions for four groups based on family status (married with children under age 18 in the household, married with no children under 18 in the household, not married with children under 18 in the household, and not married with no children under 18 in the household) finds some variations among these family status groups, but fewer than might be expected.

Among members, opinions on how well the congregation does overall and in various specific areas of family ministry are generally very similar across categories of family status. Overall, 58% of members think their congregation is doing an *excellent* or *very good* job ministering to families, a figure that changes very little in family status categories: married with children, 60%; married without children, 56%; not married with children, 56%; and not married without children, 60%. Of the various ministry areas listed in Q9, only one, Q9g, on “making other activities family-inclusive,” shows significant differences by family status, and these are small. Members who are married but have no children in the household are slightly less likely (76%) than others (84% among the not-married members and 89% among those married with children) to *agree* or *strongly agree* that congregations are doing a good job in this area. But a closer look shows that much of this small difference owes to a greater response in the *uncertain* category, rather than in the *disagree* one, among those married with no children.

So if members view the quality of family ministries in congregations similarly, regardless of their own marital status or presence of children in the household, why are Presbyterian churches relatively bereft of single parents and other non-married persons? We know from the 2000 Census that only 56% of U.S. adults are living in intact, married-couple households. Yet we also know, from an earlier survey of these same panelists, that a much larger percentage of Presbyterians are currently married: 76% of members, 84% of elders, 85% of specialized clergy, and 89% of pastors.

It is tempting to speculate that our congregations do a good job of holding on to (or attracting) the segment of non-married persons who are comfortable with our emphasis on intact married families. Others leave, or never darken church doors in the first place. (It’s hard to imagine, for example, that an unmarried, cohabiting couple would expect to receive a warm welcome in a church.). This explanation is consistent with two long-term trends: as PC(USA) membership has declined, the number of people living in non-traditional family arrangements in the U.S. has increased. But correlation does not equal causation.

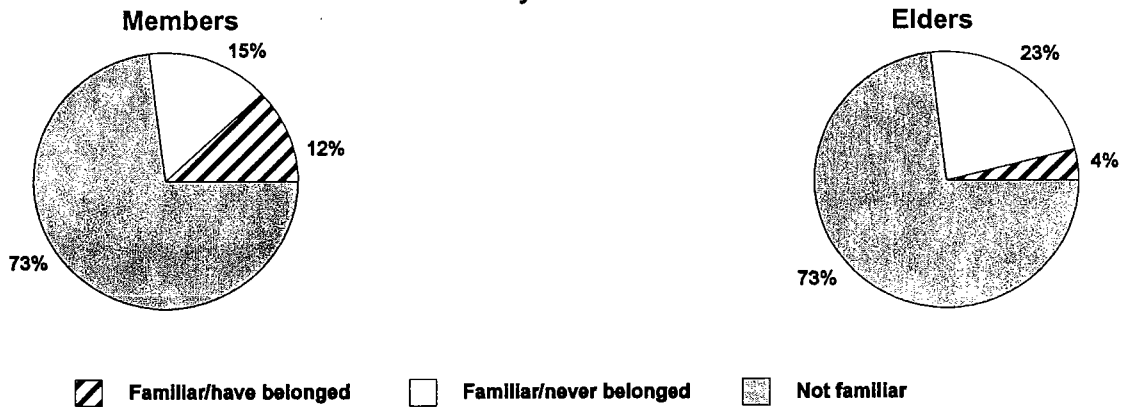
Whatever the causes, the fact remains that Presbyterians do a poor job of reaching and retaining non-married adults. Is this a problem? Pragmatically, our worshiping community is primarily married couples. While still a large group nationally, its share of the population is declining. Pastorally, we are falling short in ministry to the large and growing minority of non-married persons. We may decide to keep our current practice of “niche marketing” (however unconsciously) to married couples. But if we decide to reach out to the non-married, we should do so cautiously. It would be helpful to pursue more in-depth research, beginning with those non-married Presbyterians who actively participate in our churches. Any steps to become more welcoming to single, divorced, and other non-married adults should be implemented slowly and in a way that does not alienate the core constituency of married couples.

**PART 1: MINISTRIES TO FAMILIES
FAMILY MINISTRY IN THE NATIONAL CHURCH**

Presbyterian Mariners: Individual Perspective

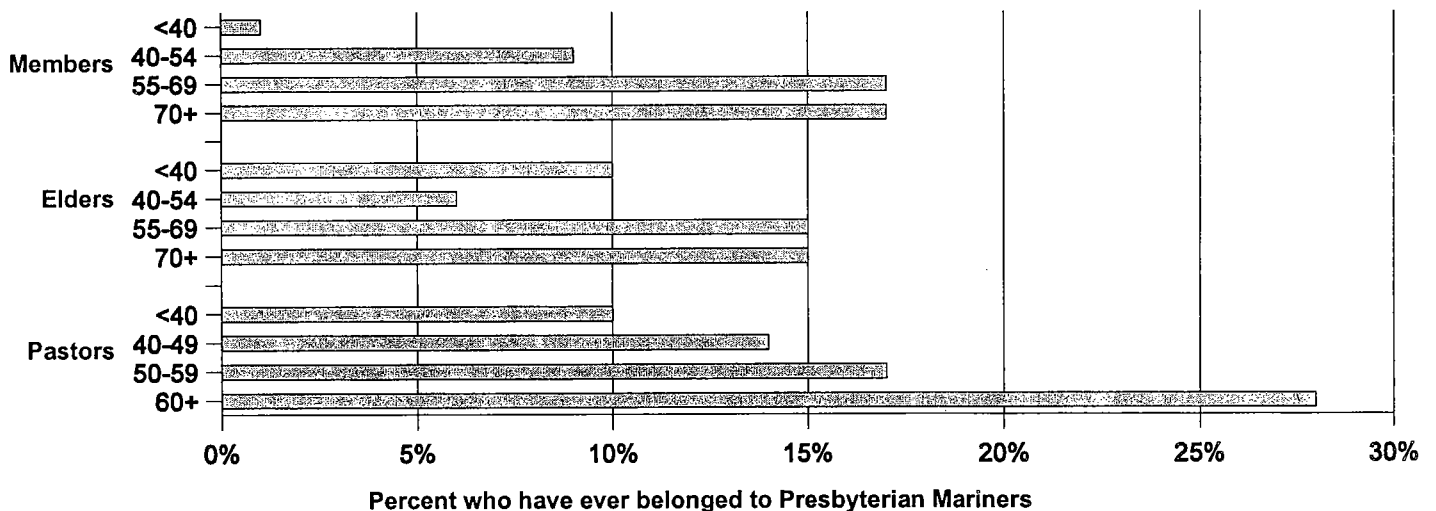
- ✓ Three in four ministers but only one in four lay panelists indicate familiarity with the PC(USA)-related family ministry known as Presbyterian Mariners.
- ✓ Around one in eight members, elders, and specialized clergy, and one in seven pastors, have ever belonged to a Presbyterian Mariners group.

**Figure 5
Familiarity of Members and Elders
with Presbyterian Mariners**



- ✓ Of Panel members at all familiar with Presbyterian Mariners, 42% are, or have been, members of Presbyterian Mariners' groups. Of Panel members who have never belonged to a Mariners' group, 17% are familiar with the organization. Results for elders are identical.
- ✓ Age is related to membership in a Mariners' group, with older panelists in every Panel group more likely to have ever belonged.

**Figure 6
Membership in a Presbyterian
Mariners' Group by Age**



PART 1: MINISTRIES TO FAMILIES

FAMILY MINISTRY IN THE NATIONAL CHURCH

- ✓ Of those who have never belonged to a Mariners' group, only a minority report having had an interest in joining. Of the small number who had an interest but never joined, the most frequent reason given (elders, 56%; pastors, 64%) is that there is no Mariners' group in their congregation.
- ✓ Among the "other (specify)" reasons for not joining a Mariners' group listed by individual panelists are:
 - lack of interest
 - only recently learned about it
 - went to one meeting and didn't like it
 - it's only for older people
 - no groups for single persons
 - materials not translated into Spanish
 - spouse wasn't interested
 - other groups in congregation met fellowship needs
 - lack of spiritual dimension in group

Presbyterian Mariners: Congregational Perspective

- ✓ One in 12 pastors (8%) report a Presbyterian Mariners' group at this time in their congregation. More than twice as many, an additional 19%, report such a group in the congregation in the past. In congregations without a Mariners' group, including those that had one in the past, only 3% of pastors report any consideration by the session of forming such a group in the last five years.
- ✓ A small majority of the pastors in congregations with Mariners' groups rate those groups as either *effective* or *very effective*. At the same time, only 14% describe their Mariners' groups as *growing*, while 49% describe them as *declining*.

Presbyterian Mariners Resources

- ✓ Few pastors (7%), specialized clergy (4%), or members and elders (2% each) report any familiarity with the Presbyterian Mariners' Web site, www.unidial.com/~mariners. Opinions concerning this Web site among these panelists are mixed; while half of the four specialized clergy who have visited the site rate it as *helpful*, a majority (67%) of the 54 pastors who did so rate the site as either *a little helpful* or *not helpful*.
- ✓ One in ten pastors expresses familiarity with workbooks produced by Presbyterian Mariners. The majority describe these resources as either *not helpful* (2%) or only *a little helpful* (4%).

PC(USA) Resources

- ✓ One in ten ministers and one in 20 lay panelists express some degree of familiarity with the "family ministry" page on the PC(USA) Web site (www.pcusa.org). Of those reporting familiarity, more rate the page as *very helpful* or *helpful* than as *a little helpful* or *not helpful*.
- ✓ Overall among pastors the most widely-known printed resources on family ministry from the PC(USA) are:
 - *Alert* magazine, familiar to 82%
 - PC(USA) resources on human sexuality, familiar to 66%
 - Parenting resources available through the church school curriculum, familiar to 41%
 - Family Ministry Packet, known to 36%
- ✓ 21% of pastors are familiar with the journal *Family Ministry* published by Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

PART 1: MINISTRIES TO FAMILIES
FAMILY MINISTRY IN THE NATIONAL CHURCH

- ✓ Of pastors familiar with individual PC(USA) resources, more rate them *very helpful* or *helpful* than *a little helpful* or *not helpful*, with one exception: The Family Ministry Packet is rated as *a little helpful* or *not helpful* by a majority, 58% (see Table 2).

Table 2
Ratings of Resources
(Pastors' Responses)

	Very Helpful	Helpful	A Little Helpful	Not Helpful
1. PC(USA) Resources				
family ministry Web site	18%	45%	18%	18%
<i>Alert</i> magazine	15%	46%	32%	9%
Family Ministry Packet	8%	33%	39%	19%
<i>Family Ministry</i> journal	14%	38%	33%	14%
parenting resources in church school curricula	17%	46%	24%	12%
2. Other Resources				
from other denominations	20%	51%	24%	4%
from Parenting for Peace and Justice	16%	37%	26%	23%
books from Religion, Culture, and Family series	13%	27%	20%	33%
from Active Parenting publishers	31%	42%	19%	8%

Other Resources

- ✓ Less than half of pastors (45%) report familiarity with family-ministry resources produced by other denominations.
- ✓ Only minorities of pastors are familiar with family-ministry resources produced by the Parenting for Peace and Justice Network (43% so report); Active Parenting publishers (36%); or the Religion, Culture, and Family Project book series (15%). Rates among laity are even lower. Among elders, they range from 8% (Active Parenting publishers) to 4% (Religion, Culture, and Family Project book series).
- ✓ Of those familiar with resources from non-PC(USA) sources, the helpfulness ratings are highest for those from Active Parenting publishers (73% of pastors' responses are either *very helpful* or *helpful*), followed by those from other denominations (71%). Ratings are lowest for the Religion, Culture, and Family book series (40%).

Needed Resources

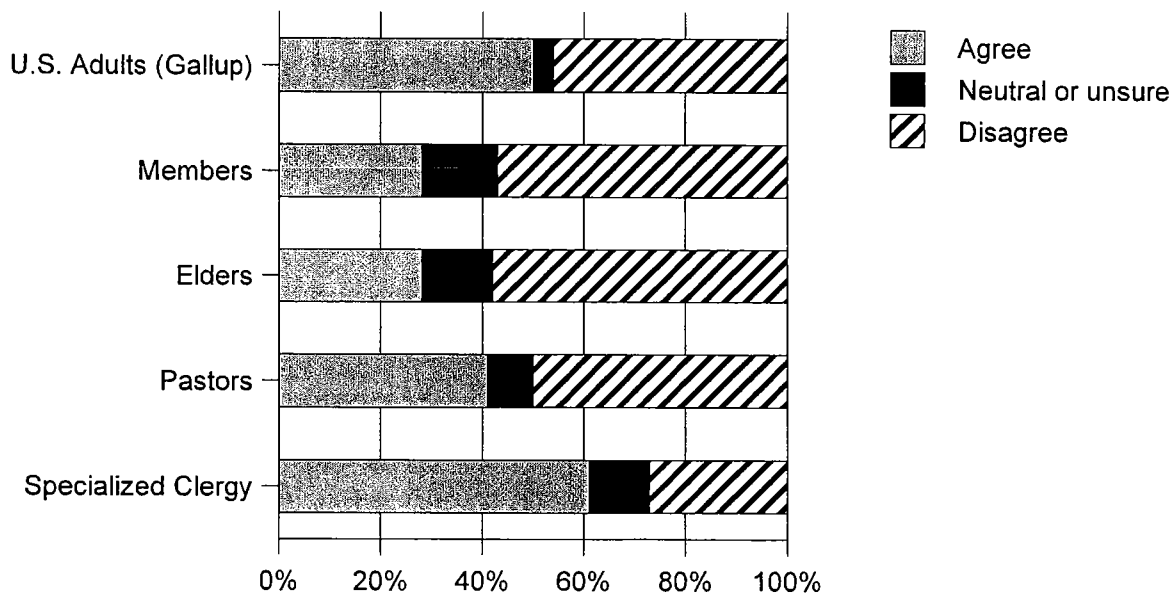
- ✓ Few members (7%), elders (6%), pastors (9%), or specialized clergy (14%) report that there are "issues affecting families for which [they] have been unable to find resources." If we combine the panelists who left this question blank (an unusually large percentage) with those who responded *no*, then only 7%, 5%, 4%, and 11%, respectively, answered in the affirmative.
- ✓ Categories of resources that individual panelists report they have been unable to find include those for:
 - families with adult children who have special needs
 - families in a medical crisis
 - gay children
 - grief counseling for adolescents
 - birth control alternatives
 - families with a variety of beliefs and heritages
 - gays and lesbians raising children
 - families making choices for simplicity
 - issues around Christian families celebrating Halloween
 - blended families
 - financial issues
 - devotions/Bible studies for use in the home

PART 2: SAME-SEX ISSUES IN THE PC(USA)

Opinions on Homosexuality

- ✓ A majority of specialized clergy (61%), four in ten pastors (41%), and around three in ten members (28%) and elders (28%) *agree* that “homosexuality should be considered an acceptable alternative lifestyle.” In a national Gallup Poll taken in early 2000, 50% of U.S. adults responded *acceptable* to a similar question.
- ✓ The patterns of response among members and elders are almost identical, but both differ noticeably from that found among pastors. However, pastors reveal overall opinions closer to those of laity than to those of specialized clergy. For example, while half of pastors believe homosexuality should *not* be “considered an acceptable alternative lifestyle,” a majority of specialized clergy, 61%, think that it should.

Figure 7
Opinions on Homosexuality
as an Acceptable Lifestyle



- ✓ Majorities of pastors (51%) and specialized clergy (67%) *agree* that “gay partners who make a legal commitment to each other should be entitled to the same rights and benefits as couples in traditional marriages.” Only a quarter of members (28%) and elders (26%) respond *strongly agree* or *agree*, however, as do 40% of U.S. adults.

Opinions on Same-Sex Ceremonies

- ✓ Majorities of members (57%) and elders (61%), half of pastors (50%), and 30% of specialized clergy *strongly agree* or *agree* that “Presbyterian ministers should be prohibited from performing a ceremony that blesses the union between two people of the same sex.”
- ✓ Similarly, majorities of members (67%), elders (66%), and pastors (53%), and a third of specialized clergy (33%), *strongly disagree* or *disagree* with the statement, “It’s OK for two people of the same sex to hold a union ceremony in a Presbyterian church.”

PART 2: SAME-SEX ISSUES IN THE PC(USA)

Intensity of Opinions

- ✓ The intensity of opinion on homosexuality is greater than for most issues the Panel studies, as evidenced by the high percentage of responses in agreement that are *strongly agree*, rather than *agree*, and of responses in disagreement that are *strongly disagree*, rather than *disagree*. Only among members and elders who are in agreement is the number of *agree* responses greater than the number of *strongly agree* ones.
- ✓ Intensity of opinion is greater among those expressing opinions opposed to than supportive of legitimizing and accepting homosexuality in society and the church.

Table 3
Intensity Ratios on Same-Sex Questions

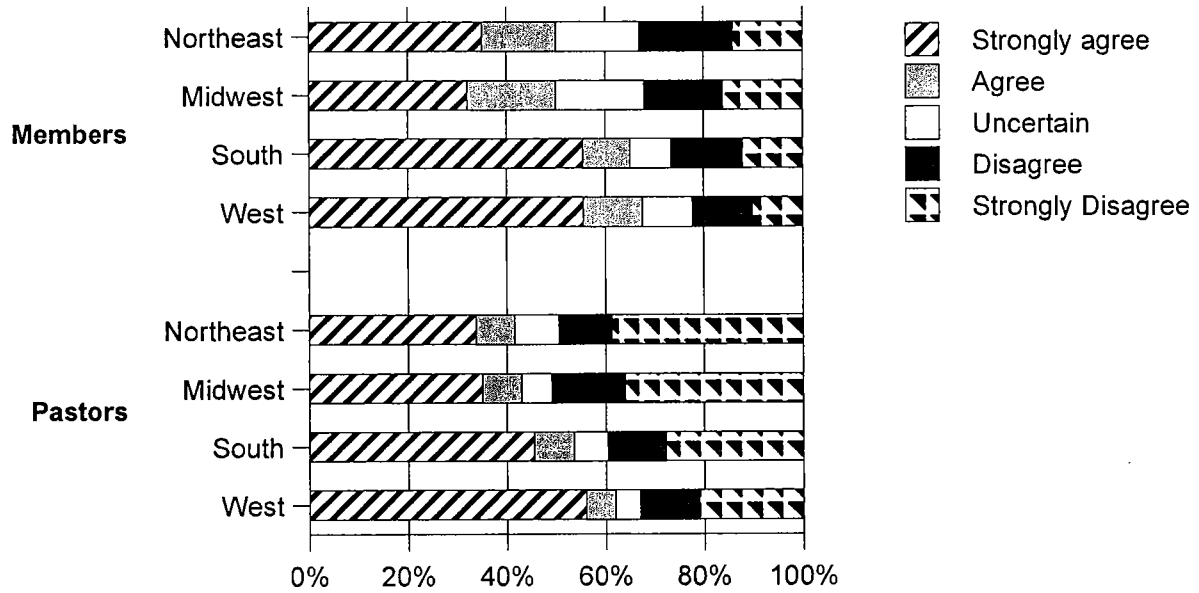
	Members	Elders	Pastors	Specialized Clergy
	Ratio of Strongly Agree to Agree or Strongly Disagree to Disagree			
QII-1. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each statement below.				
a. Homosexuality should be considered an acceptable alternative lifestyle.				
1. In agreement	0.56	0.68	1.56	1.54
2. In disagreement	2.22	3.14	3.17	4.40
b. Gay partners who make a legal commitment to each other should be entitled to the same rights and benefits as couples in traditional marriages.				
1. In agreement	0.56	0.86	1.55	1.58
2. In disagreement	2.41	2.22	2.72	1.78
c. Presbyterian ministers should be prohibited from performing a ceremony that blesses the union between two people of the same sex.				
1. In agreement	2.80	3.07	5.25	3.29
2. In disagreement	1.14	1.25	2.38	2.04
d. It's OK for two people of the same sex to hold a union ceremony in a Presbyterian church.				
1. In agreement	0.90	0.91	2.00	2.00
2. In disagreement	2.53	3.12	3.82	3.12

Regional Patterns

- ✓ Differences in opinion vary by region for some questions and some Panel groups. Of the total of 16 such comparisons (four questions by four regional groups = 16 comparisons), eight are statistically significant, based on the chi-square test statistic, including all four involving members. However, none of the comparisons involving specialized clergy are statistically significant.
- ✓ In all comparisons with significant differences, the pattern is identical: opposition to acceptance of homosexuality is greater in the West and South than in the Midwest and Northeast. Figure 8 shows this for QII-1c for member and pastors.

PART 2: SAME-SEX ISSUES IN THE PC(USA)

Figure 8
Opinions by Region on QII-1c
“Presbyterian ministers should be prohibited
from performing a ceremony that blesses the
union between two people of the same sex”



Note: Members: chi square = 24.69, $p < .05$
 Pastors: chi square = 23.82, $p < .05$

THE PRESBYTERIAN PANEL

The August 2000 Survey

PART I: MINISTRIES TO FAMILIES

Appendix

	Members	Elders	Ministers
Number of questionnaires mailed	1,192	1,110	1,486
Number of questionnaires returned	614	648	983 *
Percent returned	51%	58%	66%

*776 pastors; 207 specialized clergy

Q-1. In general, how good a job does your congregation do in ministering to the needs and concerns of families?
(✓ one □.)

	Members	Elders	Pastors	Specialized Clergy
excellent	18%	15%	6%	9%
very good	37%	38%	30%	28%
good	27%	29%	42%	36%
fair	11%	15%	18%	20%
poor	2%	3%	3%	4%
not sure	4%	1%	*	3%

Q-2. Does your congregation have ...

a. a committee whose primary responsibilities are for family ministries?

yes	28%	34%	28%	16%
no	40%	59%	71%	68%
don't know	32%	7%	1%	16%

a-1. [If "yes,"] What is its official title or name? _____

[not tabulated]

b. a pastor or other staff member whose responsibilities explicitly include family ministries?

yes	39%	43%	40%	32%
no	40%	50%	59%	58%
don't know	21%	7%	*	10%

Q-3. Which statement below comes closest to your opinion of how your congregation ministers to families?
Select only *one*:

My congregation ministers to families mostly "unconsciously" as a byproduct of supporting individuals.	44%	50%	48%	59%
My congregation ministers to families because of a conscious effort to do so.	43%	42%	49%	35%
not sure	13%	8%	3%	6%

* = less than 0.5%; rounds to zero

— = zero (0.0); no cases in this category

+ = nonresponses of 10% or more on this question (reported percentages for all questions omit nonresponses)

n = number of respondents eligible to answer this question

◆ = percentages add to more than 100 because respondents could make more than one response

	Members	Elders	Pastors	Specialized Clergy
Q-4. How much stress have you or your family experienced in the last year?				
a very great deal	15%	11%	19%	—
quite a bit	21%	19%	29%	30%
a moderate amount	25%	30%	33%	34%
some	18%	18%	11%	10%
a little	9%	10%	6%	5%
hardly any	9%	10%	2%	4%
none at all	3%	1%	—	1%
Q-5. How much support did your congregation provide to help you cope with the stress?				
a very great deal	8%	8%	10%	5%
quite a bit	20%	19%	29%	22%
a moderate amount	14%	21%	25%	20%
some	18%	20%	20%	19%
a little	11%	11%	9%	12%
hardly any	12%	11%	6%	13%
none at all	17%	10%	2%	10%
Q-6. How much of the stress families experience today do you believe is caused by the following factors?				
a. too much to do and not enough time				
a lot	60%	65%	72%	67%
some	32%	28%	24%	27%
a little	6%	5%	3%	5%
none	2%	1%	1%	1%
b. work shifts that conflict with home life				
a lot	29%	27%	30%	32%
some	48%	52%	54%	49%
a little	18%	18%	14%	16%
none	5%	4%	2%	4%
c. long work hours				
a lot	35%	35%	44%	48%
some	44%	47%	48%	42%
a little	16%	15%	8%	6%
none	5%	3%	1%	2%
d. business travel				
a lot	14%	13%	16%	17%
some	46%	49%	51%	53%
a little	28%	30%	28%	25%
none	12%	9%	5%	6%

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		Members	Elders	Pastors	Specialized Clergy
Q-6.	How much of the stress families experience today do you believe is caused by the following factors?				
(Cont.)					
e.	economic hardships				
	a lot	34%	31%	26%	34%
	some	39%	44%	41%	49%
	a little	21%	20%	28%	12%
	none	6%	5%	5%	5%
f.	child care needs				
	a lot	29%	30%	26%	40%
	some	49%	48%	55%	47%
	a little	12%	16%	15%	6%
	none	9%	7%	4%	7%
g.	sports and other extracurricular activities for children				
	a lot	19%	23%	42%	25%
	some	45%	43%	40%	49%
	a little	25%	26%	14%	19%
	none	10%	8%	4%	7%
h.	extramarital affairs				
	a lot	14%	14%	10%	10%
	some	32%	33%	36%	40%
	a little	36%	38%	43%	40%
	none	18%	15%	11%	10%
i.	family members suffering from long-term illness or disability				
	a lot	32%	32%	22%	27%
	some	42%	45%	47%	48%
	a little	19%	19%	26%	20%
	none	7%	4%	4%	4%
j.	adult children caring for their parents				
	a lot	23%	23%	21%	26%
	some	45%	49%	54%	55%
	a little	24%	21%	20%	16%
	none	9%	7%	4%	3%

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Q-7. Indicate whether or not your congregation has each ministry, program, and facility listed below. Two "yes" columns are provided so you can indicate whether or not you have personally participated in the ministries offered by your congregation.

	Members	Elders	Pastors	Specialized Clergy
a. pre-marital counseling				
yes, and I've participated	11%	10%	72%	36%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	62%	72%	23%	51%
no	11%	12%	5%	8%
don't know	16%	6%	*	6%
b. marital counseling or support groups for married couples				
yes, and I've participated	5%	5%	41%	16%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	42%	42%	22%	33%
no	31%	43%	37%	44%
don't know	22%	9%	1%	7%
c. marriage enrichment events or retreats				
yes, and I've participated	8%	9%	23%	8%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	34%	27%	16%	19%
no	42%	57%	61%	67%
don't know	16%	6%	1%	5%
d. retreats for families (intergenerational)				
yes, and I've participated	16%	22%	37%	25%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	38%	28%	12%	23%
no	32%	46%	51%	49%
don't know	14%	3%	1%	3%
e. intergenerational Vacation Church (or Bible) School				
yes, and I've participated	21%	27%	42%	27%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	34%	27%	7%	22%
no	38%	43%	50%	48%
don't know	8%	2%	*	3%
f. other intentionally-intergenerational events				
yes, and I've participated	34%	48%	75%	53%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	28%	17%	8%	21%
no	21%	24%	16%	21%
don't know	18%	11%	1%	5%
g. daycare or after-school programs for children				
yes, and I've participated	7%	11%	21%	10%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	38%	33%	21%	34%
no	49%	54%	57%	53%
don't know	6%	2%	*	3%

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n = number of respondents eligible to answer this question

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Q-7. Indicate whether or not your congregation has each ministry, program, and facility listed below. Two "yes" (Cont.) columns are provided so you can indicate whether or not you have personally participated in the ministries offered by your congregation.

h. adult daycare program				
yes, and I've participated	1%	1%	3%	2%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	6%	6%	5%	6%
no	81%	89%	91%	88%
don't know	12%	4%	1%	4%
i. ministry for elderly/homebound/nursing home				
yes, and I've participated	16%	25%	63%	38%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	53%	45%	15%	35%
no	22%	26%	21%	23%
don't know	9%	4%	*	5%
j. singles ministry (young or old)				
yes, and I've participated	5%	6%	15%	7%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	38%	34%	19%	24%
no	43%	53%	65%	63%
don't know	14%	7%	1%	7%
k. ministry for victims of domestic violence				
yes, and I've participated	1%	1%	6%	4%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	11%	12%	10%	13%
no	54%	72%	83%	72%
don't know	35%	15%	1%	11%
l. ministry for perpetrators of domestic violence				
yes, and I've participated	1%	1%	3%	3%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	3%	4%	4%	5%
no	58%	80%	92%	80%
don't know	38%	16%	1%	12%
m. outreach to refugee or immigrant families				
yes, and I've participated	10%	13%	20%	14%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	23%	19%	13%	20%
no	47%	61%	66%	58%
don't know	20%	7%	1%	9%
n. mission opportunities families can participate in together				
yes, and I've participated	22%	32%	54%	33%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	43%	34%	20%	29%
no	22%	28%	26%	34%
don't know	13%	6%	1%	5%

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Q-7. Indicate whether or not your congregation has each ministry, program, and facility listed below. Two "yes" (Cont.) columns are provided so you can indicate whether or not you have personally participated in the ministries offered by your congregation.

o. adult classes that focus on parenting or other family issues				
yes, and I've participated	15%	23%	46%	23%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	38%	35%	23%	28%
no	31%	36%	30%	43%
don't know	16%	6%	1%	7%
p. other small groups or support groups addressing other family issues				
yes, and I've participated	15%	21%	37%	15%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	31%	31%	24%	31%
no	33%	37%	38%	46%
don't know	22%	11%	1%	9%
q. support for interfaith couples				
yes, and I've participated	1%	1%	9%	8%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	8%	10%	6%	10%
no	54%	73%	85%	70%
don't know	37%	16%	1%	12%
r. support for inter-racial or inter-ethnic couples				
yes, and I've participated	2%	1%	9%	9%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	6%	6%	6%	10%
no	56%	77%	84%	71%
don't know	37%	15%	1%	10%
s. help on spiritual formation				
yes, and I've participated	23%	34%	66%	39%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	31%	27%	15%	29%
no	23%	28%	19%	25%
don't know	23%	12%	*	6%
t. help on balancing family and work				
yes, and I've participated	3%	6%	28%	12%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	14%	12%	15%	16%
no	52%	65%	56%	59%
don't know	32%	18%	1%	13%
u. help on living within a budget				
yes, and I've participated	2%	4%	15%	7%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	9%	12%	14%	8%
no	55%	69%	70%	72%
don't know	33%	16%	1%	13%

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 + = nonresponses of 10% or more on this question (reported percentages for all questions omit nonresponses)
 n = number of respondents eligible to answer this question
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Q-7. Indicate whether or not your congregation has each ministry, program, and facility listed below. Two "yes" (Cont.) columns are provided so you can indicate whether or not you have personally participated in the ministries offered by your congregation.

v. help on coping with conflict among family members				
yes, and I've participated	4%	4%	28%	16%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	23%	21%	18%	21%
no	44%	58%	53%	52%
don't know	29%	16%	1%	11%
w. support for families facing divorce/divorce recovery group				
yes, and I've participated	2%	2%	21%	10%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	27%	29%	19%	20%
no	44%	55%	59%	59%
don't know	28%	14%	1%	11%
x. support for single-father families				
yes, and I've participated	*	*	7%	3%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	7%	8%	7%	7%
no	57%	74%	84%	77%
don't know	36%	18%	1%	13%
y. support for foster and adoptive parents				
yes, and I've participated	1%	2%	8%	5%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	8%	9%	11%	7%
no	56%	74%	80%	74%
don't know	34%	16%	1%	15%
z. support for blended families				
yes, and I've participated	2%	2%	11%	6%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	8%	8%	12%	11%
no	54%	72%	74%	71%
don't know	37%	18%	2%	13%
aa. classes/education on human sexuality				
yes, and I've participated	5%	6%	25%	14%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	13%	17%	21%	14%
no	52%	65%	54%	57%
don't know	30%	12%	1%	15%
bb. family life center				
yes, and I've participated	4%	5%	7%	2%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	6%	6%	3%	3%
no	70%	82%	90%	89%
don't know	20%	7%	*	6%

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 n = number of respondents eligible to answer this question
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Q-7. Indicate whether or not your congregation has each ministry, program, and facility listed below. Two "yes" (Cont.) columns are provided so you can indicate whether or not you have personally participated in the ministries offered by your congregation.

cc. gymnasium				
yes, and I've participated	6%	10%	15%	4%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	12%	10%	5%	9%
no	75%	78%	81%	86%
don't know	6%	2%	—	1%
dd. sports programs for singles and families				
yes, and I've participated	6%	11%	18%	6%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	27%	25%	14%	16%
no	55%	59%	68%	70%
don't know	11%	4%	*	7%
ee. support for single-mother families				
yes, and I've participated	1%	1%	10%	5%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	14%	16%	14%	15%
no	53%	69%	74%	66%
don't know	31%	14%	1%	14%
ff. ministry to caregivers				
yes, and I've participated	6%	8%	23%	14%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	22%	26%	16%	19%
no	44%	55%	60%	56%
don't know	28%	11%	*	10%
gg. support for adults caring for both their children and their parents ("sandwich generation")				
yes, and I've participated	2%	2%	14%	6%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	8%	12%	12%	14%
no	54%	70%	74%	67%
don't know	35%	15%	1%	12%
hh. support for grandparents raising grandchildren				
yes, and I've participated	1%	1%	7%	6%
yes, but I've <i>not</i> participated	5%	6%	8%	7%
no	60%	78%	84%	73%
don't know	34%	14%	1%	13%
ii. other family ministries (specify): _____	7%	8%	7%	7%

[not tabulated]

* = less than 0.5%; rounds to zero
 — = zero (0.0); no cases in this category
 + = nonresponses of 10% or more on this question (reported percentages for all questions omit nonresponses)
 n = number of respondents eligible to answer this question
 ◆ = percentages add to more than 100 because respondents could make more than one response

Q-8. Of the ministries listed in Q-7 that are *NOT* offered by your congregation, list up to three that you would especially like your congregation to begin to offer. Write the letter(s) of up to *three* ministries from the list in Q-7 on the lines: 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

	% (n)	% (n)	% (n)	% (n)
a. pre-marital counseling	0% (64)	4% (73)	5% (37)	7% (15)
b. marital counseling or support groups for married couples	3% (182)	7% (270)	8% (285)	6% (85)
c. marriage enrichment events or retreats	10% (238)	12% (355)	20% (461)	9% (128)
d. retreats for families (intergenerational)	7% (186)	13% (290)	22% (386)	15% (95)
e. intergenerational Vacation Church (or Bible) School	4% (220)	3% (296)	8% (386)	5% (94)
f. other intentionally-intergenerational events	4% (119)	4% (145)	8% (119)	10% (41)
g. daycare or after-school programs for children	7% (288)	7% (342)	14% (438)	12% (104)
h. adult daycare program	3% (474)	3% (559)	6% (698)	5% (172)
i. ministry for elderly/homebound/nursing home	6% (129)	5% (160)	8% (163)	5% (44)
j. singles ministry (young or old)	7% (254)	11% (332)	17% (498)	8% (122)
k. ministry for victims of domestic violence	2% (312)	3% (451)	4% (637)	8% (141)
l. ministry for perpetrators of domestic violence	1% (340)	1% (498)	1% (708)	2% (156)
m. outreach to refugee or immigrant families	2% (272)	2% (383)	5% (506)	4% (113)
n. mission opportunities families can participate in together	10% (128)	12% (173)	24% (198)	15% (65)
o. adult classes that focus on parenting or other family issues	9% (182)	13% (227)	24% (233)	14% (84)
p. other small groups or support groups addressing other family issues	7% (190)	8% (234)	10% (288)	6% (87)
q. support for interfaith couples	1% (314)	2% (455)	1% (646)	4% (136)
r. support for inter-racial or inter-ethnic couples	2% (323)	1% (481)	1% (641)	2% (137)
s. help on spiritual formation	7% (132)	12% (174)	24% (146)	20% (49)
t. help on balancing family and work	10% (301)	10% (405)	11% (431)	6% (114)
u. help on living within a budget	2% (232)	6% (428)	6% (535)	3% (139)
v. help on coping with conflict among family members	8% (252)	6% (364)	7% (403)	15% (101)
w. support for families facing divorce/divorce recovery group	6% (253)	6% (345)	16% (450)	9% (114)
x. support for single-father families	2% (335)	3% (464)	3% (646)	3% (150)
y. support for foster and adoptive parents	7% (330)	6% (464)	8% (616)	8% (145)
z. support for blended families	9% (314)	8% (453)	16% (571)	18% (139)
aa. classes/education on human sexuality	7% (306)	8% (403)	13% (411)	11% (112)
bb. family life center	20% (404)	20% (507)	18% (684)	14% (175)
cc. gymnasium	7% (441)	8% (487)	8% (616)	2% (169)
dd. sports programs for singles and families	13% (326)	10% (372)	8% (524)	9% (138)
ee. support for single-mother families	20% (309)	16% (431)	16% (564)	17% (131)
ff. ministry to caregivers	28% (258)	28% (339)	21% (459)	26% (109)
gg. support for adults caring for both their children and their parents ("sandwich generation")	22% (318)	21% (440)	23% (561)	21% (130)
hh. support for grandparents raising grandchildren	7% (346)	7% (484)	7% (641)	6% (142)
ii. other family ministries (specify): _____	6% (143)	7% (202)	3% (256)	9% (65)

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Q-9. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

My congregation does a good job:

	Members	Elders	Pastors	Specialized Clergy
a. ministering to singles				
strongly agree	8%	7%	3%	3%
agree	28%	27%	20%	26%
uncertain	40%	30%	21%	33%
disagree	18%	31%	50%	33%
strongly disagree	6%	6%	6%	4%
b. ministering to divorced persons				
strongly agree	6%	4%	4%	3%
agree	21%	27%	36%	31%
uncertain	50%	38%	24%	35%
disagree	18%	28%	31%	29%
strongly disagree	4%	3%	4%	2%
c. ministering to blended/step-families				
strongly agree	4%	3%	4%	4%
agree	16%	18%	34%	21%
uncertain	58%	49%	30%	42%
disagree	18%	26%	30%	31%
strongly disagree	4%	4%	3%	2%
d. supporting marriages				
strongly agree	24%	23%	20%	14%
agree	50%	51%	61%	59%
uncertain	19%	17%	12%	17%
disagree	5%	8%	7%	8%
strongly disagree	2%	1%	1%	1%
e. supporting parents				
strongly agree	22%	25%	23%	17%
agree	50%	49%	60%	55%
uncertain	21%	18%	10%	16%
disagree	5%	7%	6%	11%
strongly disagree	1%	1%	1%	1%
f. making worship family-inclusive				
strongly agree	37%	42%	36%	36%
agree	48%	46%	46%	48%
uncertain	9%	7%	9%	6%
disagree	6%	5%	8%	9%
strongly disagree	1%	1%	1%	1%
g. making other activities family-inclusive				
strongly agree	31%	34%	32%	29%
agree	50%	49%	52%	50%
uncertain	14%	13%	9%	13%
disagree	5%	4%	6%	7%
strongly disagree	1%	1%	1%	1%

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	Members	Elders	Pastors	Specialized Clergy
Q-10. Are you familiar with the organization Presbyterian Mariners?				
yes	26%	27%	77%	71%
no	74%	73%	23%	29%
Q-11. Have you ever been a member of a Presbyterian Mariners' group?				
yes	12%	12%	16%	11%
no	88%	88%	84%	89%
Q-11a. If "no," have you ever been interested in joining or invited to join a Mariners' group?				
	n=522	n=547	n=639	n=179
	+	+	+	+
yes	7%	8%	17%	12%
no	93%	92%	83%	88%
Q-11b. [If "yes,"] Why didn't you join? (✓ all that apply.)				
	n=25	n=35	n=90	n=18
	◆	◆	◆	◆
couldn't afford it	—	6%	3%	—
too busy	12%	19%	25%	28%
just never got around to it	12%	6%	23%	17%
joined another type of parenting-support group	12%	6%	6%	11%
no group in my congregation	40%	56%	64%	61%
other (specify): _____	48%	28%	19%	28%
Q-12. Does your congregation have a Presbyterian Mariners' group now or did it have one in the past? (Check only <i>one</i> <input type="checkbox"/> .)				
yes, now → Continue with Q-13	8%	8%	8%	9%
no, but we had one in the past → Skip to Q-15 and Q-15a	8%	12%	19%	8%
no, and we've never had one to my knowledge → Skip to Q-15 and Q-15a	54%	64%	67%	62%
don't know → Skip to Q-15 and Q-15a	30%	16%	7%	21%
Q-13. How would you rate the effectiveness of the Presbyterian Mariners' group in your congregation?				
	n=48	n=52	n=57	n=17
very effective	12%	8%	21%	—
effective	52%	47%	35%	59%
not very effective	17%	18%	37%	12%
not at all effective	—	6%	2%	6%
don't know	19%	22%	5%	24%

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Q-14. How would you describe the trend in the number of participants in the Mariners' group over the last five years?

	n=48	n=52	n=57	n=17
growing	8%	8%	14%	—
staying about the same	33%	43%	32%	35%
declining	29%	29%	49%	41%
don't know	29%	20%	5%	24%

Q-15. Has the session or another part of the congregation considered forming a Presbyterian Mariners' group in the last five years? (If your congregation currently has a Mariners' group, skip to Q-16.)

	n=566	n=596	n=719	n=190
yes	1%	3%	3%	2%
no	28%	60%	88%	54%
don't know	72%	37%	9%	44%

Q-15a. Why was a Mariners' group *not* formed? (please explain):

[not tabulated]

Q-16. Indicate whether or not you are familiar with the following resources for ministry to families and, for those familiar to you, how helpful you have found them to be.

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Web sites:

a. family ministry Web site (under "Family Ministry" at www.pcusa.org)

not familiar	95%	94%	89%	91%
very helpful	1%	1%	2%	1%
helpful	2%	3%	5%	5%
a little helpful	1%	1%	2%	3%
not helpful	1%	1%	2%	1%

b. Presbyterian Mariners' Web site (www.unidial.com/~mariners)

not familiar	98%	98%	93%	96%
very helpful	*	—	*	—
helpful	1%	*	2%	2%
a little helpful	*	1%	2%	—
not helpful	1%	1%	2%	2%

Other Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) resources

c. Presbyterian Mariners' workbooks on various family issues

not familiar	97%	97%	90%	91%
very helpful	1%	*	1%	2%
helpful	1%	1%	3%	5%
a little helpful	*	*	4%	1%
not helpful	1%	1%	2%	2%

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Q-16. Indicate whether or not you are familiar with the following resources for ministry to families and, for those familiar to you, how helpful you have found them to be.

Other Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) resources (Cont.)

d. <i>Alert</i> magazine for leaders and planners of the church's education program				
not familiar	90%	85%	18%	33%
very helpful	2%	3%	12%	16%
helpful	5%	8%	38%	32%
a little helpful	1%	3%	26%	18%
not helpful	1%	1%	7%	2%
e. Family Ministry Packet including the Family Week Poster				
not familiar	96%	96%	64%	75%
very helpful	*	*	3%	2%
helpful	2%	3%	12%	12%
a little helpful	*	1%	14%	9%
not helpful	1%	1%	7%	2%
f. <i>Family Ministry Journal</i> published by Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary				
not familiar	96%	95%	79%	86%
very helpful	—	1%	3%	2%
helpful	2%	3%	8%	7%
a little helpful	1%	*	7%	4%
not helpful	1%	1%	3%	1%
g. Parenting resources included as part of the PC(U.S.A.) church school curriculum				
not familiar	91%	88%	59%	65%
very helpful	2%	2%	7%	7%
helpful	5%	8%	19%	21%
a little helpful	*	2%	10%	7%
not helpful	1%	1%	5%	1%
h. PC(U.S.A.) resources on human sexuality				
not familiar	91%	88%	34%	41%
very helpful	2%	1%	14%	16%
helpful	4%	8%	23%	29%
a little helpful	1%	2%	13%	9%
not helpful	3%	2%	15%	6%
Other resources				
i. family ministry resources produced by other denominations				
	+			
not familiar	83%	85%	55%	69%
very helpful	5%	3%	9%	5%
helpful	9%	9%	23%	16%
a little helpful	2%	4%	11%	9%
not helpful	1%	1%	2%	1%

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Q-16. Indicate whether or not you are familiar with the following resources for ministry to families and, for those familiar to you, how helpful you have found them to be.

Other resources (Cont.)

j. Parenting for Peace and Justice Network resources	+			
not familiar	94%	92%	57%	60%
very helpful	2%	1%	7%	11%
helpful	2%	4%	16%	20%
a little helpful	1%	2%	11%	8%
not helpful	2%	1%	10%	1%
k. Religion, Culture, and Family Project book series	+			
not familiar	97%	96%	85%	91%
very helpful	1%	1%	2%	1%
helpful	1%	2%	4%	5%
a little helpful	*	1%	3%	3%
not helpful	1%	1%	5%	1%
l. Active Parenting publishers	+			
not familiar	93%	91%	64%	79%
very helpful	2%	2%	11%	7%
helpful	4%	5%	15%	11%
a little helpful	1%	2%	7%	2%
not helpful	1%	1%	3%	2%
m. intergenerational ministry resources	+			
not familiar	94%	94%	62%	68%
very helpful	1%	1%	6%	5%
helpful	3%	4%	19%	21%
a little helpful	1%	1%	9%	5%
not helpful	1%	1%	4%	1%

Q-17. Are there issues affecting families for which you have been unable to find resources?

	+	+	+	+
yes	7%	6%	9%	14%
no	93%	94%	91%	86%

Q-17a. [If "yes,"] Briefly describe:

[not tabulated]

Q-18. Please use this space to make other comments on family ministries.

[not tabulated]

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PART II: SAME-SEX ISSUES IN THE PC(U.S.A.)

Q-II-1. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each statement below:

	Members	Elders	Pastors	Specialized Clergy
a. Homosexuality should be considered an acceptable alternative lifestyle				
strongly agree	10%	11%	25%	37%
agree	18%	17%	16%	24%
uncertain	15%	14%	9%	12%
disagree	18%	14%	12%	5%
strongly disagree	40%	44%	38%	22%
b. Gay partners who make a legal commitment to each other should be entitled to the same rights and benefits as couples in traditional marriages				
strongly agree	10%	12%	31%	41%
agree	18%	14%	20%	26%
uncertain	14%	16%	8%	8%
disagree	17%	18%	11%	9%
strongly disagree	41%	40%	30%	16%
c. Presbyterian ministers should be prohibited from performing a ceremony that blesses the union between two people of the same sex				
strongly agree	42%	46%	42%	23%
agree	15%	15%	8%	7%
uncertain	14%	12%	7%	6%
disagree	14%	12%	13%	21%
strongly disagree	16%	15%	31%	43%
d. It's OK for two people of the same sex to hold a union ceremony in a Presbyterian church				
strongly agree	9%	10%	26%	36%
agree	10%	11%	13%	18%
uncertain	14%	13%	9%	13%
disagree	19%	16%	11%	8%
strongly disagree	48%	50%	42%	25%

Q-II-2. Please use this space to make other comments on same-sex issues.

[not tabulated]

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