

Infidelity & Cheating



Infidelity and Cheating

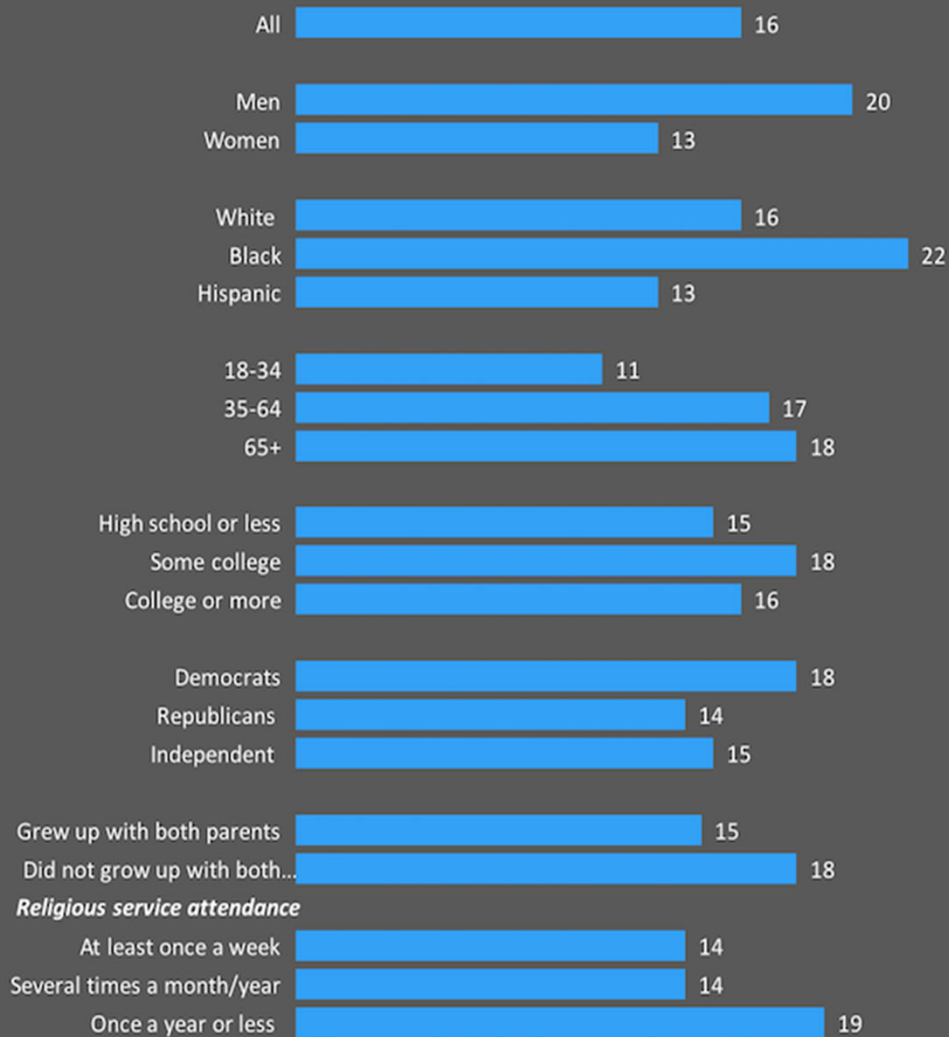
**MEN (20%) ARE
MORE LIKELY TO
CHEAT ON THEIR
SPOUSES THAN
WOMEN (13%)**

BUT

**WOMEN ARE
MORE LIKELY TO
CHEAT EARLIER
IN THE
RELATIONSHIP
(YEARS 6-10)
THAN MEN ARE
(YEARS 11-13)**

The Demographics of Cheating in America

*% who reported having sex with someone
other than spouse while married*



Note: Based on adults who are either currently married or have been married before.
Source: General Social Survey, 2010-2016.

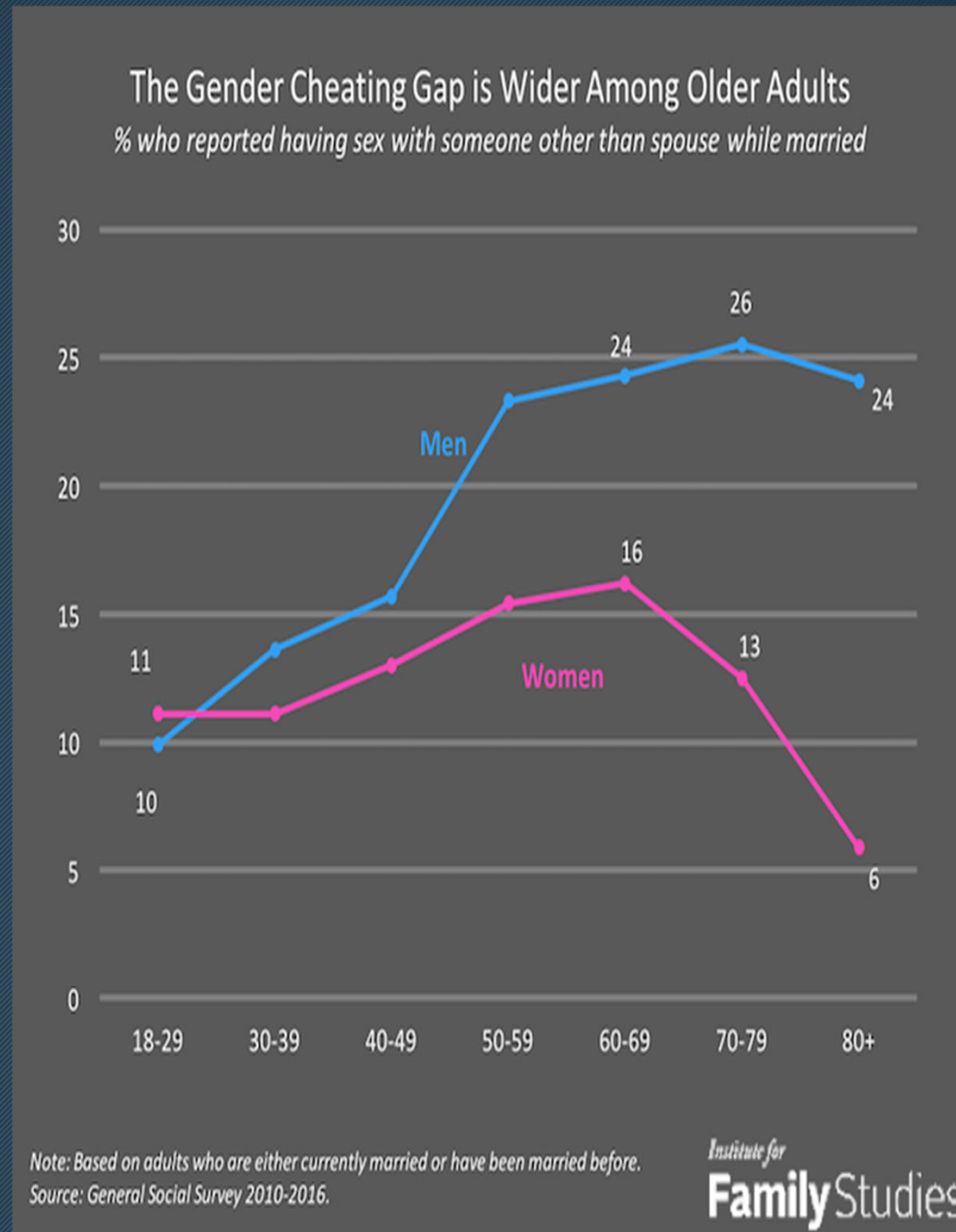
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YOUNG WOMEN ARE SLIGHTLY MORE LIKELY THAN YOUNG MEN TO CHEAT (AGAIN, BECAUSE THEY CHEAT EARLIER IN RELATIONSHIPS).

MIDDLE-AGE MEN ARE ONLY SLIGHTLY MORE LIKELY THAN MIDDLE-AGE WOMEN TO CHEAT

THE GENDER GAP WIDENS CONSIDERABLY AMONG OLDER PEOPLE



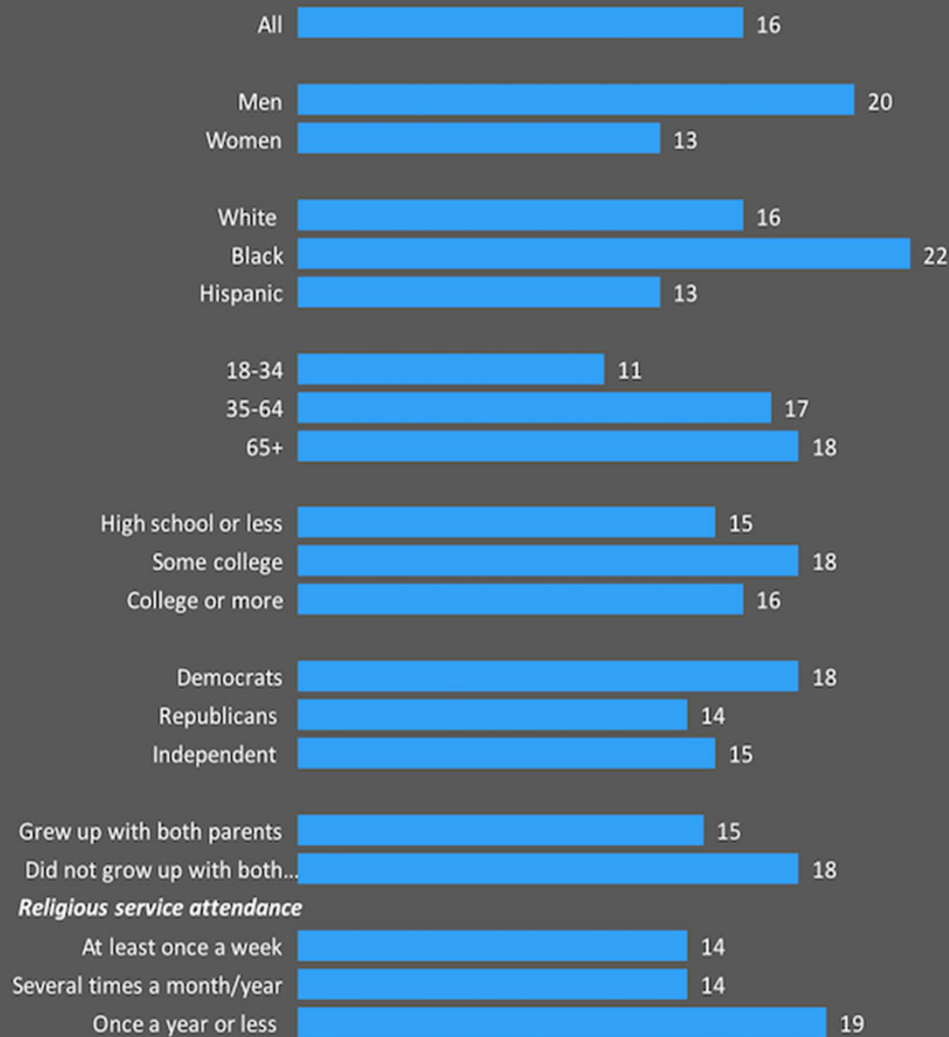
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THE MOST COMMON TRIGGER FOR CHEATING IS HAVING A CONVERSATION ABOUT YOUR MARITAL PROBLEMS WITH SOMEONE YOU CONSIDER “JUST A FRIEND”

MEN ARE MORE LIKELY TO ENGAGE IN (ONLY) PHYSICAL INFIDELITY WHILE WOMEN TEND TO INCLUDE SOME EMOTIONAL INFIDELITY WHEN THEY CHEAT

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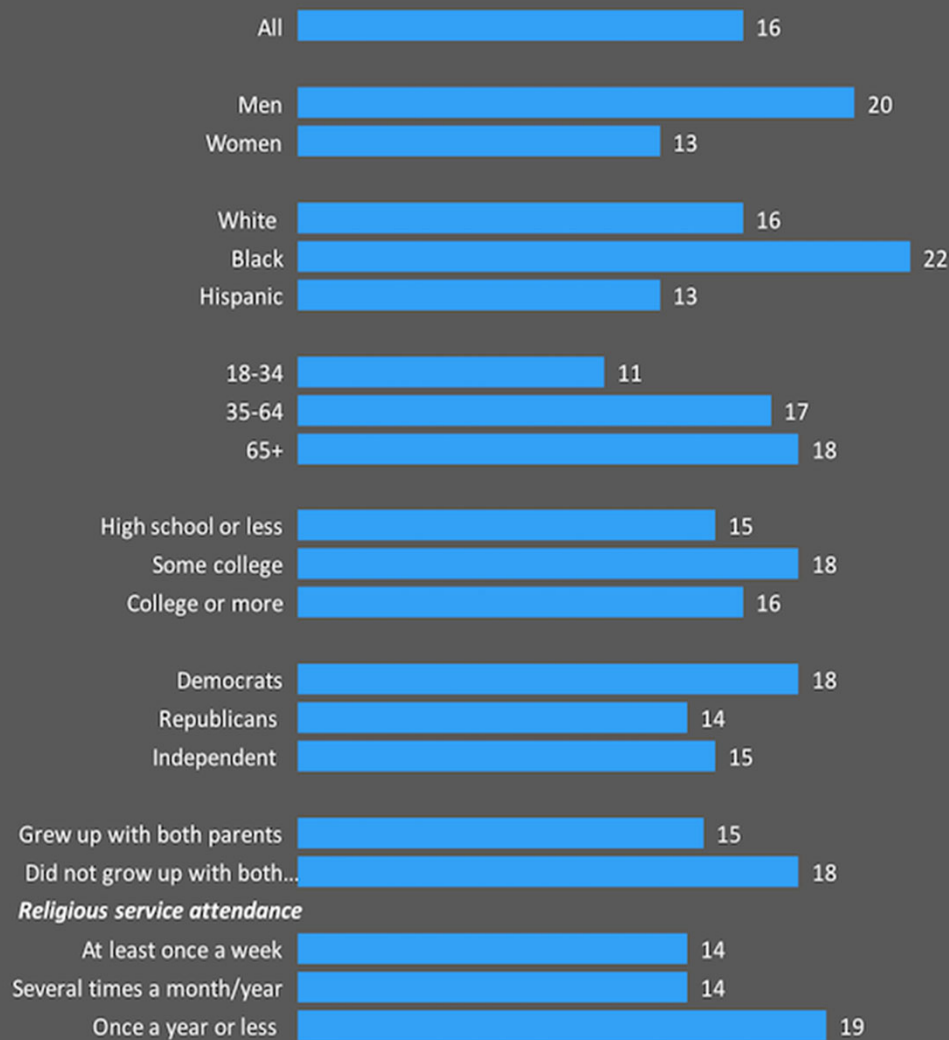
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LIKELY TO ENGAGE
IN (ONLY)
PHYSICAL
INFIDELITY WHILE
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INCLUDE SOME
EMOTIONAL
INFIDELITY WHEN
THEY CHEAT.**

**RESEARCH
SUGGESTS THAT
EMOTIONAL
INFIDELITY TENDS
TO BE MORE
CAUSTIC BECAUSE
IT OFTEN INCLUDES
SOME EMOTIONAL
DISTANCING FROM
THE SPOUSE**

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JOURNAL QUESTION

Why do you think we generally privilege physical fidelity over emotional fidelity? Which would you consider a deal-breaker in your relationship(s)? What do you make of the finding that emotional infidelity is worse than physical?

Do you think that monogamy – emotional or physical – is natural?