



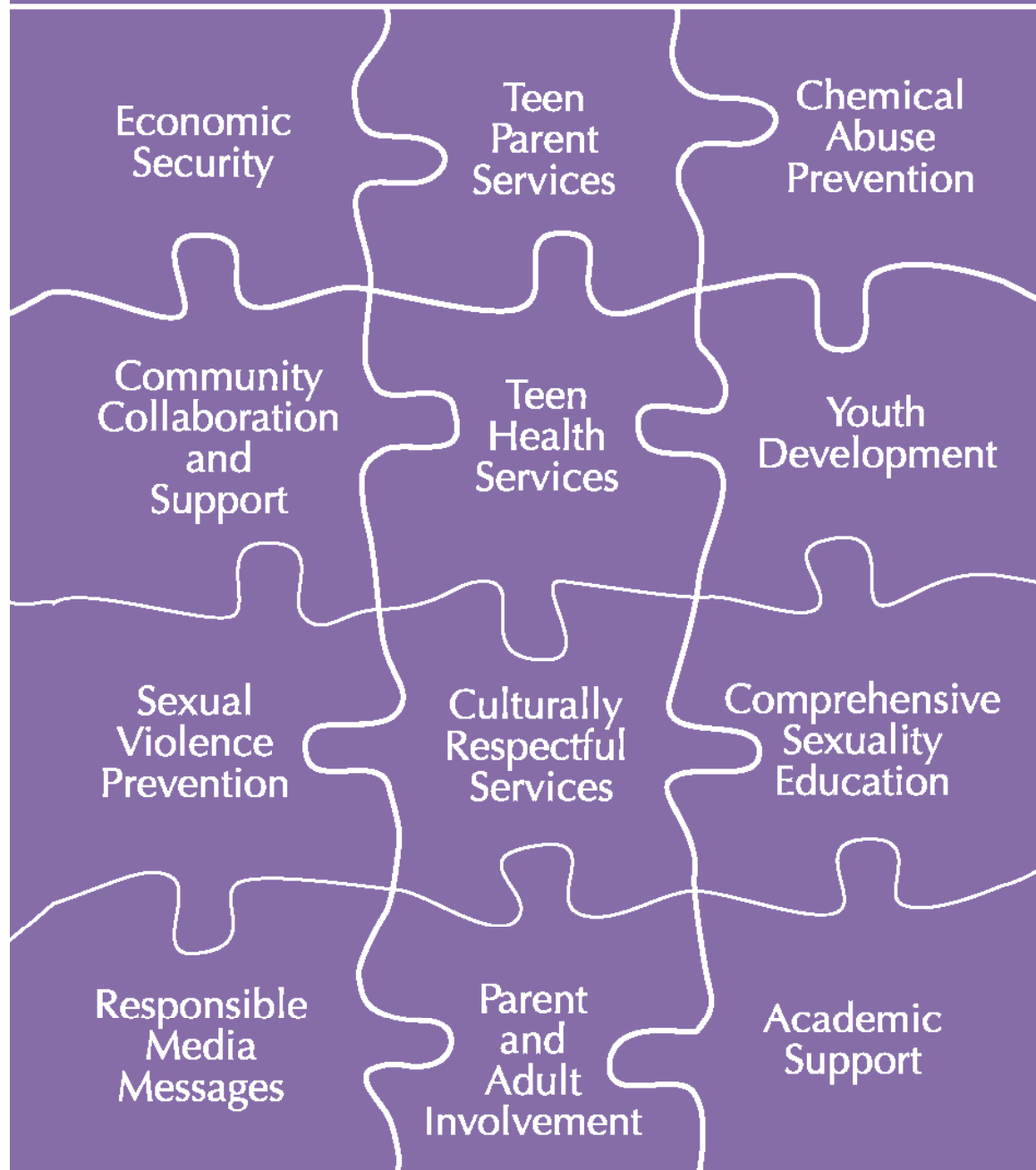
Let's Talk...

The Power of Parents!

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Grant - Division of Reproductive Health
Unintended Pregnancy Prevention/Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program
U88/CCU522128-1-0



Working Together to Solve the Puzzle of Teen Pregnancy



Let's Talk Month Campaign



Let's Talk Month

Let's Talk Month is a community campaign that supports parents in making stronger connections with their children and in talking honestly and openly about sexual health and relationships.

Parent-Child Connectedness



- Quality of the emotional bond between parent and child and by the degree to which this bond is both **mutual and sustained over time.**
- Both parents and children are acknowledged as active players.

Parent-Child Connectedness

- Attachment / Bonding
- Warmth / Caring
- Cohesion
- Support / Involvement
- Communication
- Monitoring / Control
- Autonomy Granting
- Maternal / Paternal Characteristics

Parental Support

If teen perceives parental support:

Older age of first intercourse

Lower frequency of sex during adolescence

Increased condom use and confidence in negotiating condom use

Parental Values

- If parents openly discuss their family's values about teen sexual activity
- If parents have positive attitudes about contraception
- If teen perceives parental disapproval of teen sexual activity

Older age of first intercourse

Lower risk of pregnancy

Parental Monitoring & Supervision

If appropriately supervised/monitored:

Older age of first intercourse

Lower frequency of sex during adolescence

Increased contraceptive use

Decreased pregnancy risk

“Very strict” monitoring associated with:

Increased risk of teen pregnancy

Parent-child Communication

- If parent clearly states family's values regarding teen sexual relations,
- If communication takes place early,
- And if there is close parent-child relationship then...

Parent-child communication can delay initiation of sexual intercourse

National Survey

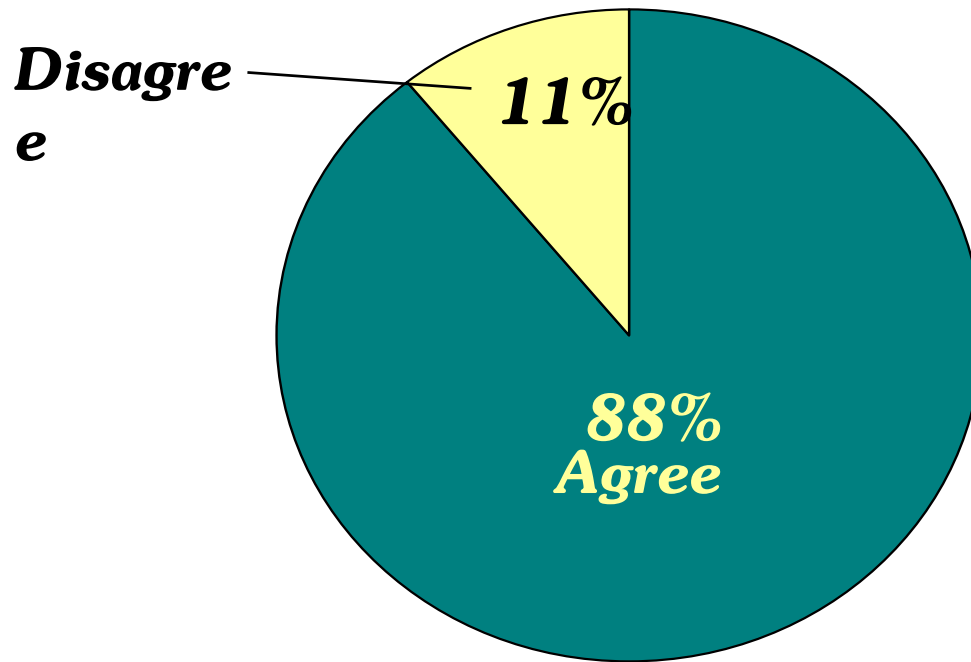


Have you had a helpful conversation with your parents about sex?

HALF of teens surveyed said they have not had a helpful conversation with their parents about sex.

Question: Parents believe they should talk to their kids about sex but often don't know what to say, how to say it, or when to start.

Do you agree or disagree?



Adults

Agree

88.4%

Disagree

10.8%

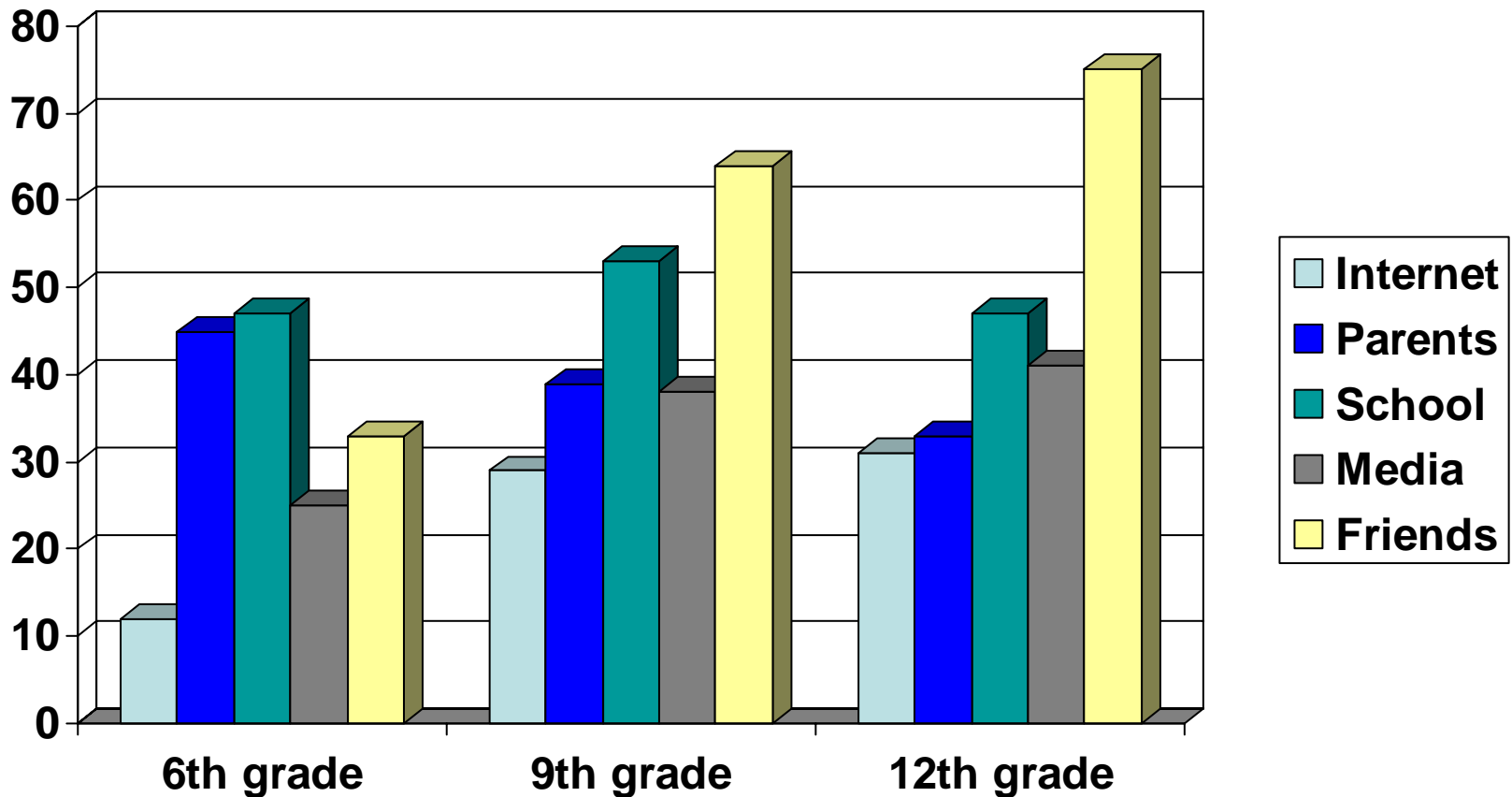
4 primary sources of sexuality information for adolescents

- Peers
- Media
- Parents
- School

2004 Minnesota Student Survey

Where have you received most of your information about sex?

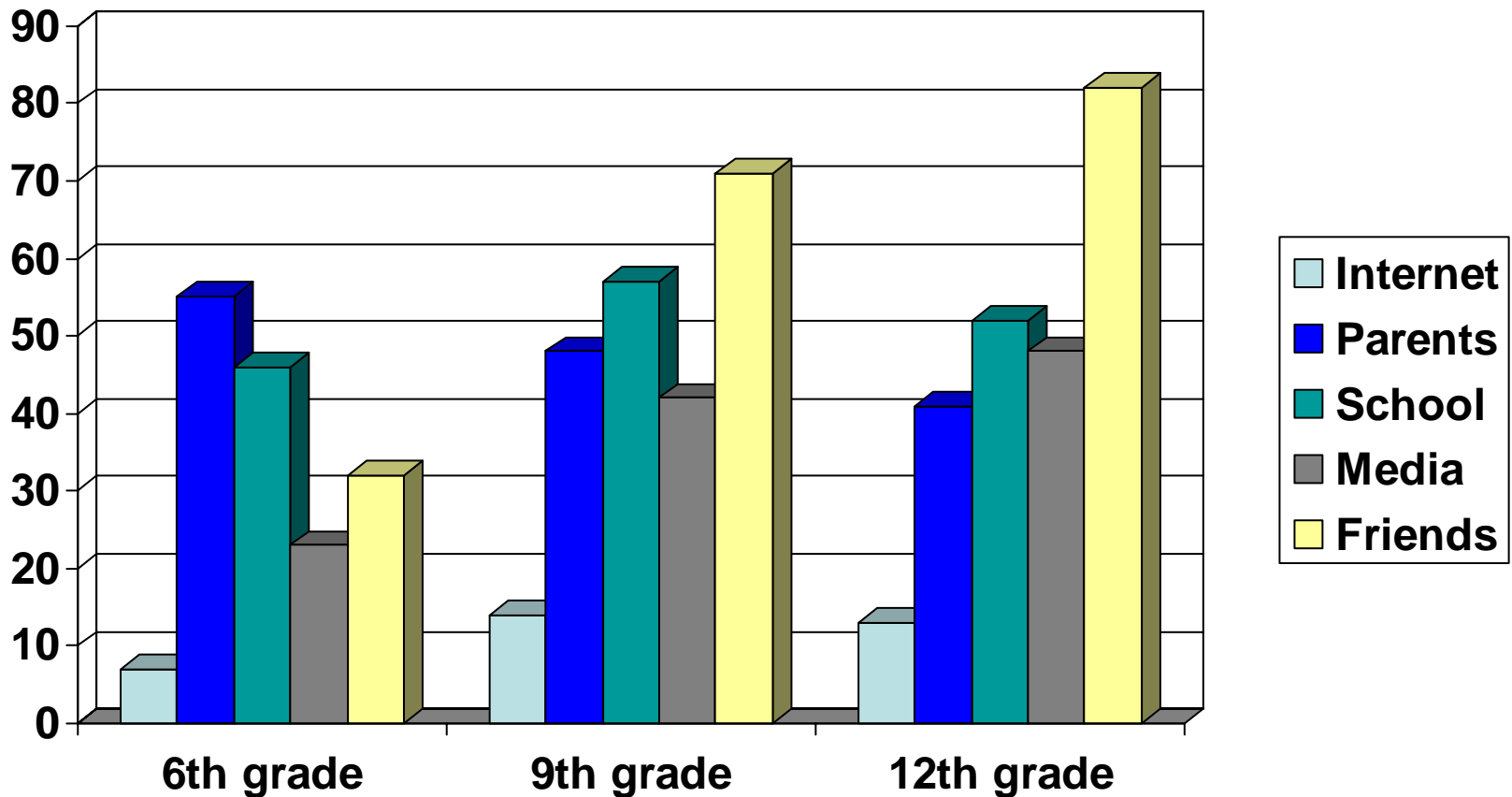
Male Students



2004 Minnesota Student Survey

Where have you received most of your information about sex?

Female Students



Conversation Concerns

Reasons teens say people their age don't talk with their parents about sexual health:

83% - worry about their parent's reaction

80% - worry their parents will think they are having sex

78% - are embarrassed

77% - don't know how to bring it up

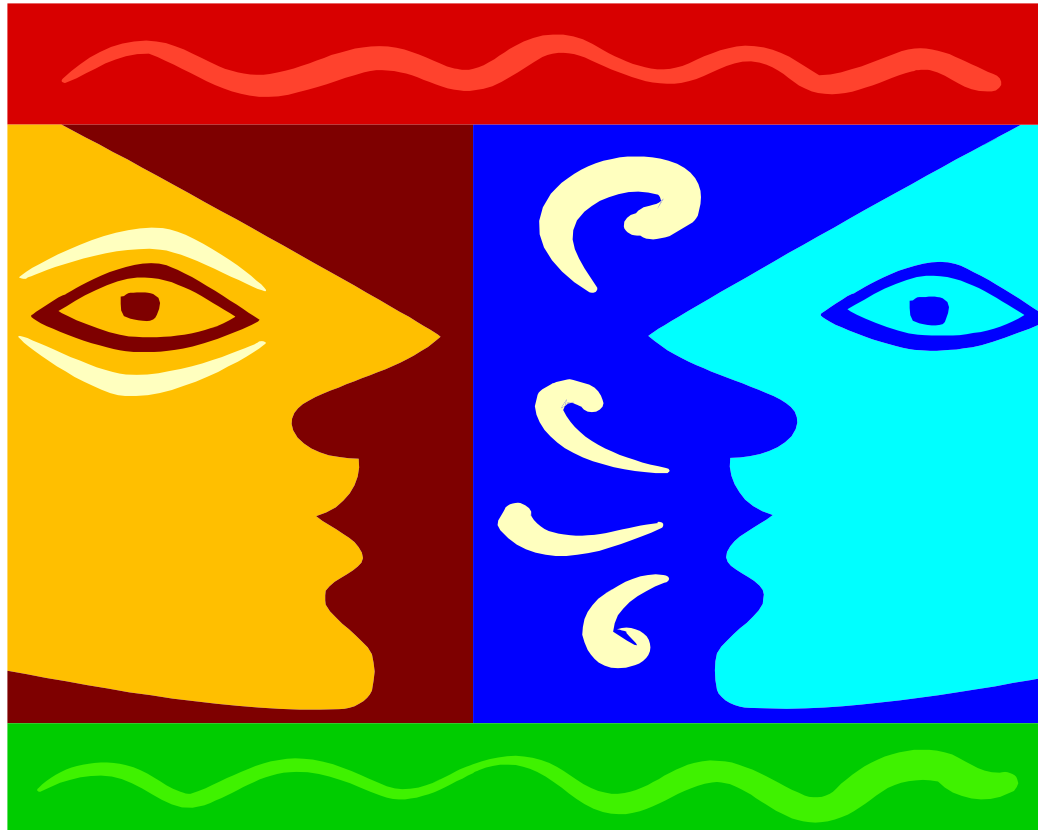
64% - don't think parents understand

National Survey

When it comes to teens'/your sexual decision-making, which of the following is most influential?

| | <i>Adults</i> | <i>Teens</i> |
|--|----------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Parents</i> | 31.7% | 38.3% |
| <i>Friends</i> | 50.0% | 31.7% |
| <i>The media</i> | 7.5% | 3.6% |
| <i>Teachers and sex educators</i> | 3.5% | 6.8% |
| <i>Brothers and sisters</i> | 3.0% | 7.4% |
| <i>Religious organizations</i> | 2.9% | 9.1% |

Parents *Are*



Sexuality Educators