

True Family Values

TRUE FAMILY VALUES

Building a Genesis 1:28 Family

**PRACTICAL LESSONS FOR STUDY AND
DISCUSSION AT HOME AND IN THE CHURCH**

BOOKLET TWO

Dr. Tyler Hendricks

True Family Values

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Building a
Genesis 1:28 Family

Booklet Two: Growing as Brothers and Sisters

- 1. Jesus' Words to Brothers and Sisters**
- 2. The Unripe Fruit of Immaturity**

**Dr. Tyler Hendricks
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True Family Values

The mission of the True Family Values Ministry is to help build vibrant communities of fulfilled blessed couples and successful lay ministers. *Building a Genesis 1:28 Family* is designed for home and church workshops and study groups. Its goal is to support and educate people of all churches about blessed marriage and family life.

True Family Values Ministry began in New York with the blessing of True Father Sun Myung Moon and True Mother Hak Ja Han Moon and under the direction of Reverend Joong Hyun Pak in 1996.

“The starting point of Kingdom of Heaven is not an individual or nation, but a family. Jesus came to seek the relationship of bride and groom on earth. Is the starting point of the Kingdom of Heaven an individual? No; it is a family.” Reverend Father Sun Myung Moon

Biblical passages are from the New International Version unless noted otherwise. Many passages from the Reverend Sun Myung Moon are from the English translation of *Blessing and Ideal Family* which is published in several editions. The first was entitled *Blessing and ideal Family* (New York: HSA-UWC, 1992); it is also found in the compilation entitled *Blessed Family and the Ideal Kingdom*, Vol. 1, and in the Hoon Dok Hae series, volumes 1.1 and 1.2.

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Be Fruitful // Growing as Brother and Sister

1. "Jesus' Words to Brothers and Sisters"

Teachers Introduction

Genesis 1:28

"Humankind has been longing for maturity. We have to know why man and woman have had to wait for maturity to arrive. It is necessary because our ability to love requires a period of growth."¹

1. God's first blessing to Adam and Eve when they were brother and sister was to "_____."

What does it mean to "be fruitful"?

2. The faithful and wise servant inherits his Lord's _____.

Luke 12:42-44

3. To be fruitful means to inherit from the _____ of Jesus.

Jeremiah 31:33

John 17:23

John 15:1-5

John 15:8

4. You are capable of relating to all _____.

Mt 5:46-47

5. You are capable of _____ for the sake of _____.

Mt 5:40-42

"You can build peace, happiness and harmony in an ideal family. That family is the model to build the ideal kingdom in this world. So how can we create the family of harmony and peace? We do it when we live for others, when we live for the greater purpose, investing of ourselves and forgetting what we have given, and giving even more."²

¹ Father Moon, *Blessing and Ideal Family*, I 1 iv

² Father Moon, Dec. 7, 2000, unofficial notes by author

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6. You have your mind in _____ of your body.

Matt 5:27-28

James 3:2

- a.
- b.
- c.

7. Be _____ as your _____ is perfect.

Matt 5:48

What does Jesus mean by "perfect"?

In this state of fruitfulness, we are ready for:

8. In this way, God prepares us to _____ and to _____ children.

Luke 2:52

Proverbs 1:8

What is more important: physical maturity or spiritual maturity?

LESSON:

NEXT STEP:

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2. "The Unripe Fruit of Immaturity"

"God created Adam and Eve for His love and His happiness. God did not create Adam and Eve for the sake of knowledge, power or money. The almighty God did not need knowledge, power or money; it was love that He needed.

"Adam and Eve, when they become sixteen, seventeen, or eighteen, would naturally start caring about the eyes of the opposite sex. Just as when flowers bloom and man and woman are intoxicated by their fragrance, when they reached adolescence, Adam and Eve began to think about the opposite sex. God also gets involved in this fragrance. When the three—God's love, and Adam and Eve's minds and bodies—unite together, that point becomes the core of the universe and enters the original orbit where love controls everything.

"Adam and Eve were growing to perfection according to the law of God. During the period for them to become perfect as a man and woman, the relationship of Adam and Eve was to be as brother and sister. They were to form a pure tradition while they were brother and sister. ... The love between man and woman was to begin after love matured during adolescence. Until that time God was watching and waiting for their love to mature and become perfect."³

1. As we grow up, we are to become the _____ of God's Spirit.

1 Corinthians 3:16

1 John 3:9

2. The teenage years are the time to _____ the heights of one's _____.

Proverbs 4:8-9

What is your ideal in the realm of love?

3. What _____ us from our dreams?

Why is it that young people's idealism turns to skepticism, cynicism and even suicide?

Proverbs 2:16-19

4. The greatest damage is from _____.

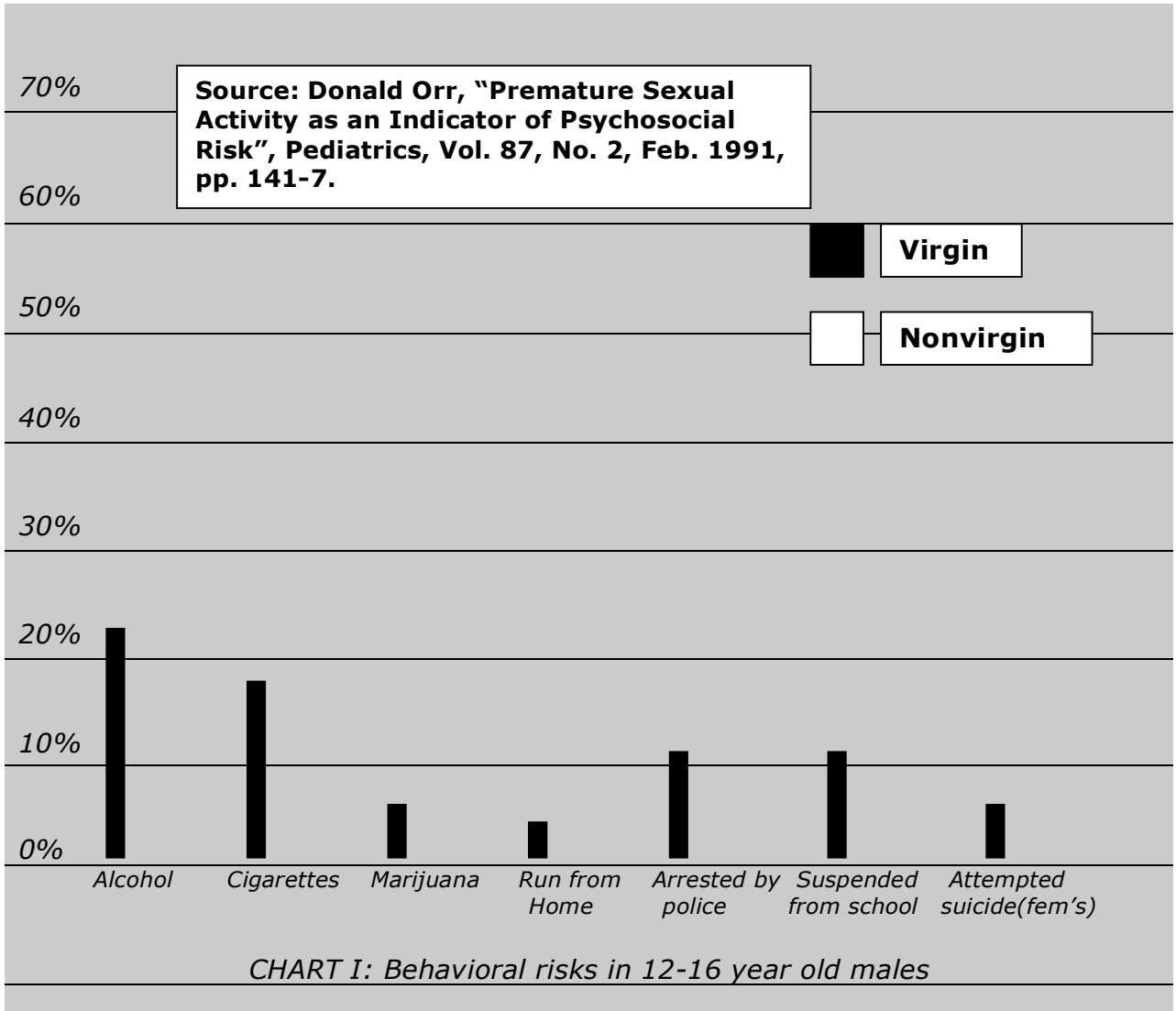
³ Father Moon, *Blessing and Ideal Family*, I 1 iv

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5. Peter wrote about peer _____ to be materialistic and immoral.

1 Peter 4:3-4

Do you think that what Peter wrote is true today?



Shalit argues that the free sex culture is:

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6. Dr. Thomas Lickona writes of _____ and _____ resulting from premature sex.

Effects as summarized by Dr. Thomas Lickona:⁴

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

7. Premature sex is promoted by the _____.

LESSON:

NEXT STEP:

⁴ Thomas Lickona, "The Neglected Heart," *American Educator*, Summer, 1994, p. 34ff.

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Be Fruitful // Growing as Brother and Sister

1: Jesus' Words to Brothers and Sisters

Teachers Introduction

As parents, our love and guidance helps our children be proud of their purity and have self-respect. This lifts them up above peer pressure. To be a virgin and to live an abstinent lifestyle is not to miss anything. Rather, it is to prepare oneself to receive the greatest gift: God's love in blessed marriage.

The model for our children is that which is revealed in God's word as His ideal for His original children, Adam and Eve.⁵ When He created them, He wanted good things for them and so He blessed them.

"And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moves upon the earth."
Genesis 1:28

"Humankind has been longing for maturity. We have to know why man and woman have had to wait for maturity to arrive. It is necessary because our ability to love requires a period of growth."⁶

1. God's first blessing to Adam and Eve when they were brother and sister was to "be fruitful."

What does it mean to "be fruitful"? It means to become mature, like a fruitful tree is a tree full of mature fruit.

In simple terms, it means to grow up and become a responsible, God-centered man or woman.

When God told Adam and Eve to "be fruitful," he wanted them to internalize His true love through obedience to His word in the form of the Commandment. By bringing His word inside of them, as Jesus teaches, they would inherit His responsibility and His Kingdom.

2. The faithful and wise servant inherits his Lord's responsibility.

Luke 12:42-44 "And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of

⁵ Genesis calls Adam and Eve "husband and wife," but this indicates only that they were betrothed to each other. Dt 22:24 calls a betrothed woman a "wife," and Mt 1:19 and 24 refers to Joseph and Mary as husband and wife before they were married. The fact that God had to give the commandment to Adam and Eve reveals that although they were sinless, they were not mature in the biblical sense of fearing God and having His word inscribed in their hearts. They still were growing up. They were betrothed, but not wedded and not literal husband and wife.

⁶ Father Moon, *Blessing and Ideal Family*, I 1 iv

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meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he comes shall find so doing. Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he has.”

What do we learn from Luke 12:42-44 about growing up to maturity? Here, Jesus tells us that servants (brothers and sisters) must be righteous in the absence of the master (parents).

As children mature, the parents can leave the brother or sister for a time, because they are internalizing the parents’ viewpoint. A mother cannot leave an infant for even a few minutes. But by the time we are in our teens we can be left alone because we inherit our parents’ sense of responsibility.

3. To be fruitful means to inherit from the root of Jesus.

To “internalize” means to make it part of one’s character. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts.” Jeremiah 31:33

Jesus said we should inherit his words and love, making them a part of our character and our very being. “Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him.” John 6:56 “I in them and you in me.” John 17:23

To inherit is to internalize, to make it part of one’s heart, mind and body. To internalize Jesus’ words is to be like a branch connected to his vine. To do so is to “bring forth fruit,” which means to be fruitful, as Jesus taught in John 15:1-5.

John 15:1-5 “I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. ... Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can you, except you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches: He that abides in me, and I in him, the same brings forth much fruit; for without me you can do nothing.”

To internalize parental love means that children, especially during their teenage years, need to **inherit parental responsibility**.

The true root is Jesus. We should inherit from him. This means to be his disciple (John 15:8). By studying Jesus’ words in the Sermon on the Mount, we can understand what this means.

4. You are capable of relating to all people.

Mt 5:46-47 “For if you love them who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors the same? And if you salute your brethren only, what do you more than others? Do not even the pagans so?”

Can you think of an example of loving as Jesus tells us to love?

Mt 5:46-47 tells us first to love those who are furthest away from us. That means, for example, to love the unpopular boys and girls at school. What effect would this have on gangs and cliques at school?

Jesus even tells us to love our enemy. How did Jesus practice this virtue? How can we follow his example?

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5. You are capable of sacrifice for the sake of others.

Mt 5:40-42 "And if any man will sue you at the law, and take away your coat, let him have your cloak also. And whosoever shall compel you to go a mile, go with him two. Give to him that asks you, and from him that would borrow of you, do not turn away."

"You can build peace, happiness and harmony in an ideal family. That family is the model to build the ideal kingdom in this world. So how can we create the family of harmony and peace? We do it when we live for others, when we live for the greater purpose, investing of ourselves and forgetting what we have given, and giving even more."⁷

Why did Jesus teach us to live this way? It would bring a world of peace, beginning with making peace in my own family. A family in which everyone is living for others, as Jesus taught us to do, would be an ideal family.

What are some ways we can live for others in our family, starting today?

6. You have your mind in command of your body.

Matt 5:27-28 "You have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shall not commit adultery: But I say unto you, That whosoever looks on a woman to lust after her has committed adultery with her already in his heart."

This means that the mind should control the body, and the body should not do things that go against the conscience. This may be the most difficult thing to learn. "If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to keep his whole body in check." James 3:2

What can we do to get our mind in command of our body? Some ways would be to practice martial arts or other sports, to undertake hard physical training, to spend time in prayer, to undertake a period of fasting. Maybe the best ways are:

- a. To turn the other cheek (Matthew 5:39)
- b. To return kind words for unkind ones
- c. To do good deeds without getting any credit (Matthew 6:1-8, 16-21)

7. Be perfect as your Heavenly Father is perfect.

Matt 5:48 "Be you therefore perfect, even as your Father who is in heaven is perfect."

What does Jesus mean by "perfect"? In the New Testament Greek, the word for perfect is *telos*. It means "completion, maturity." This is applied when fruit is fully ripe. We say it is "ripened to perfection."

A person who is mature is fully ripe, is in a state of perfection. It doesn't mean never to make a mistake in math. It means to have a mature heart of love and to live for the sake of others. Perfection is a result of natural growth free from sin. This is the meaning of the blessing to "be fruitful."

⁷ Father Moon, Dec. 7, 2000, unofficial notes by author

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In this state of fruitfulness, **we are ready for a true marriage.**

8. In this way, God prepares us to marry and to create children.

Luke 2:52 "And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man."

Proverbs 1:8 "My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother."

When the fruit is ripe, it multiplies through its seeds.

By when is a person mature and ready to multiply?

Luke 2:52: Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, to become a spiritual father who would give new life to us.

When a fruit is mature, it is ready to multiply the tree.

A person is physically mature between 18 and 21, physically ready to procreate children.

But what is more important: physical maturity or spiritual maturity?

LESSON: We can evaluate if someone is spiritually ready for marriage and family life by their ability to live for the sake of others. We learn that from our parents.

NEXT STEP: What is the meaning of perfection, and how can we avoid the pitfalls in growing up? Many people never reach true maturity. Physically they look mature, but inside is the mind of a 12 year old. What blocked their spiritual growth? What do we have to look out for?

We will discuss this and more in Session Two, "The Unripe Fruit of Immaturity."

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2: The Unripe Fruit of Immaturity

"God created Adam and Eve for His love and His happiness. God did not create Adam and Eve for the sake of knowledge, power or money. The almighty God did not need knowledge, power or money; it was love that He needed.

"Adam and Eve, when they become sixteen, seventeen, or eighteen, would naturally start caring about the eyes of the opposite sex. Just as when flowers bloom and man and woman are intoxicated by their fragrance, when they reached adolescence, Adam and Eve began to think about the opposite sex. God also gets involved in this fragrance. When the three—God's love, and Adam and Eve's minds and bodies—unite together, that point becomes the core of the universe and enters the original orbit where love controls everything.

"Adam and Eve were growing to perfection according to the law of God. During the period for them to become perfect as a man and woman, the relationship of Adam and Eve was to be as brother and sister. They were to form a pure tradition while they were brother and sister. ... The love between man and woman was to begin after love matured during adolescence. Until that time God was watching and waiting for their love to mature and become perfect."⁸

1. As we grow up, we are to become the temple of God's Spirit.

1 Corinthians 3:16 "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?" What is a temple? It is a house in which God dwells. If your body is a temple of God's spirit, then God dwells in your body. It means that you have internalized His word and love.

It means that you have received **the new seed** from God. This is complete inheritance, to be "born of God." John shared this when he wrote, "No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in him." 1 John 3:9

If we are born of God, we become his sons and daughters. We inherit His nature and His love. And we naturally inherit His lineage, His seed. This fruitfulness is the goal of adolescence.

2. The teenage years are the time to scale the heights of one's dreams.

Proverbs 4:8-9 "Exalt [wisdom] and she shall promote you: she shall bring thee to honor, when you embrace her. She shall place upon your head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall she deliver to you."

Young people are idealists. They think the world should be a peaceful place with man and nature in perfect harmony. Young people also believe in true love, that "somewhere, out there" is their perfect love partner with whom they will live eternally.

What is your ideal in the realm of love?

3. What derails us from our dreams?

⁸ Father Moon, *Blessing and Ideal Family*, I 1 iv

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Why is it that young people's idealism turns to skepticism, cynicism and even suicide? Bad grades? Disillusionment with elders? These are factors. But they are not the cause most of the time. Nor do they bring on the deepest damage. The deepest damage begins with the breakdown of family ties, between parents and children and brothers and sisters. This destroys self-esteem and drives young people to look for love in the wrong places.

"One residence hall director spoke of how some girls in her dormitory had had multiple pregnancies and multiple abortions. She said, 'They tend to be filled with self-loathing. But because they have **so little self-esteem**, they will settle for any kind of attention from guys.'"⁹

Parental involvement issues in love and in clear rules, as given by a father to his son in the Bible:

"It will save you also from the adulteress, from the wayward wife with her seductive words, who has left the partner of her youth and ignored the covenant she made before God. For her house leads down to death and her paths to the spirits of the dead. None who go to her return or attain the paths of life." Proverbs 2:16-19

4. The greatest damage is from premature sex.

If we have had a bad experience in this area, we can find the way to renew our minds and hearts through the forgiveness given by Christ's love. That empowers us to get back and stay on the right track, and help others to do the same.

In the meantime, let's take a realistic look at what we believe, and what the Bible teaches.

First, we can see that premature sex has a bad effect on people's lives. The lesson is clear: if you are a virgin, stay one. If you are not, and are not in a marriage covenant, be one from now.

5. Peter wrote about peer pressure to be materialistic and immoral.

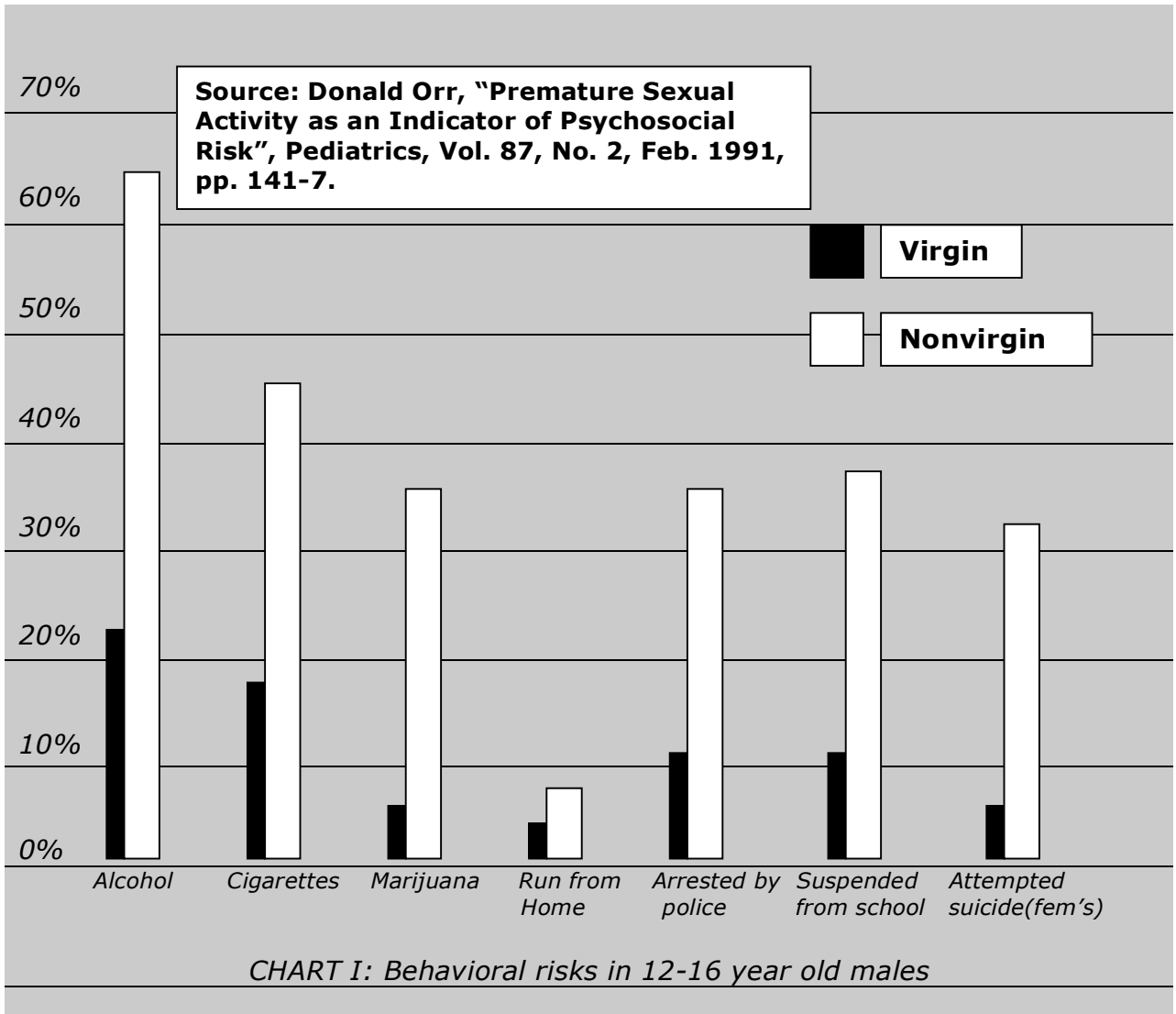
As we can see from the results of the study below, premature sex is an indicator of psychosocial risk. Premarital sex accompanies a host of self destructive behaviors.

1 Peter 4:3-4 "... what the pagans choose to do—living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry. They think it strange that you do not plunge with them into the same flood of dissipation, and they heap abuse on you."

Do you think that what Peter wrote is true today? Read what Wendy Shalit wrote as a college student in 1999:

⁹ Thomas Lickona, "The Neglected Heart," *American Educator*, Summer, 1994, p. 34.

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"A lot of young women are trying to tell us that they are very unhappy: unhappy with their bodies, with their sexual encounters, with the way men treat them on the street—unhappy with their lives. [We are in] a society that has lost its respect for female modesty.

"What we have now, mostly, are *hook-ups*. Here is *Sex on Campus: The Naked Truth About the REAL SEX Lives of College Students*, 1997: [This describes the functioning student code of sexual relations.]

"In recent decades, the students at small colleges seem to have moved away from the whole concept of dating. ... The favored approach is just to play it cool ... if you realize almost immediately after you finish having sex that this will definitely be a one-time-only event ... try not to sleep through the night with the person. It may seem awfully awkward and it may be late at night, but get up, get dressed, say, 'Thank you for a wonderful evening,' and go home ... and if the person asks the dreaded question, 'Will I ever see you again?,' respond with a platitude of some sort, like 'I really enjoyed spending time with you tonight, but I'm not into having a

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relationship.' ... Translation: it's okay to treat women like prostitutes, because nobody cares anymore."¹⁰

Shalit argues that the free sex culture is destroying true womanhood. Few men will make the sacrifices involved with marriage if they can obtain a sexual partner without the sacrifice. As put by Ben Young, youth pastor of Houston's Second Baptist Church, "why buy a cow when you can get the milk for free?"

How does peer pressure work? What are means by which you fight against it?

6. Dr. Thomas Lickona writes of anxiety and rage resulting from premature sex.

Effects as summarized by Dr. Thomas Lickona:¹¹

- a. Anxiety about AIDS and unwanted pregnancy;
- b. Regret and self-recrimination (A Roper Starch Worldwide poll released in 1994 reported that 54% of teens who had had sex said they regretted it and wished they'd waited.);
- c. Guilt;
- d. Loss of self-respect and self-esteem;
- e. Corruption of character and debasement of sex involved in using others for one's own gratification;
- f. Shaken trust and fear of commitment;
- g. Rage over betrayal;
- h. Depression and suicide;
- i. Ruined relationships: good friendships turning sour;
- j. The stunting of one's own personal development.

How would these emotions affect one's idealism and aspirations? They don't really help, do they? Knowing this, one would think that society would do all it could to keep young people pure, but the reality is far from it. Premarital sex is actually promoted.

7. Premature sex is promoted by the sexual revolution.

"There is one causal factor that sheds light on a lot of the rest of the crisis [of the American society], ...: the causal factor is the sexual revolution...."¹² Why does sex

¹⁰ Wendy Shalit, *A Return to Modesty* (New York: The Free Press, 1999), pp. 9-10, 27-30.

¹¹ Thomas Lickona, "The Neglected Heart," *American Educator*, Summer, 1994, p. 34ff.

¹² Charles Colson and Richard John Neuhaus, *Evangelicals and Catholics Together* (Dallas: Word Publishing, 1995), p. 63.

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trigger such controversy in today's society, even though Christianity has been here for so many generations?

LESSON: Premarital sex introduces negatives that remain as emotional blocks for one's entire life. Avoid it!

NEXT STEP: Let's discuss some aspects of the sexual revolution and how it affects our lives. In Session Three, we will discuss the nature of the sexual revolution and what it means for our lives, in "The Sexual Revolution: The New Name for An Old Problem."