

## Monitoring the Future

### Selected Family Questions

12th graders

Question	Response	Variable Name in Data Set <sup>1</sup>	Year Form Number <sup>2</sup>	
			1976-1988	1989-2008
HOW IMPORTANT IS EACH OF THE FOLLOWING TO YOU IN YOUR LIFE? Having a good marriage and family life.	1 Not important 2 Somewhat important 3 Quite important 4 Extremely important	V1656	1	2
Which do you think you are most likely to choose in the long run?	1 Not getting married 2 I have no idea 3 Getting married 8 Am already married	V2239	2	3
If you did get married (or are married), how likely do you think it is that you would stay married to the same person for life?	1 Very unlikely 2 Fairly unlikely 3 Uncertain 4 Fairly likely 5 Very likely	V2240	2	3
How likely is it that you would want to have children?	1 Very unlikely 2 Fairly unlikely 3 Uncertain 4 Fairly likely 5 Very likely 8 Already have child(ren)	V2241	2	3
How good do you think you would be as a husband or wife?	1 Poor 2 Not so good 3 Fairly good 4 Good 5 Very good 8 Don't know	V2312	2	3
THE NEXT QUESTIONS ASK YOUR OPINIONS ABOUT A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT TOPICS. HOW MUCH DO YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH EACH STATEMENT BELOW? It is usually better for everyone involved if the man is the achiever outside the home and the woman takes care of the home and family.	1 Disagree 2 Mostly disagree 3 Neither 4 Mostly agree 5 Agree	V3214	3	4

<p>If it were just up to you, what would be the ideal time for you to get married?</p>	<p>1 Within the next year or so 2 Two or three years from now 3 Four or five years from now 4 Over five years from now 5 I don't want to marry</p>	V3250	3	4
<p>HOW MUCH DO YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH EACH STATEMENT BELOW?</p> <p>One sees so few good or happy marriages that one questions it as a way of life.</p> <p>It is usually a good idea for a couple to live together before getting married in order to find out whether they really get along.</p> <p>Being a father and raising children is one of the most fulfilling experiences a man can have.</p>	<p>1 Disagree 2 Mostly disagree 3 Neither 4 Mostly agree 5 Agree</p>	V4264	4	5
		V4265	4	5
		V4269	4	5
<p>How well do you think your experiences and training (at home, school, work, etc.) have prepared you to be a good husband or wife?</p>	<p>1 Poorly 2 Not so well 3 Fairly well 4 Well 5 Very well</p>	V5221	5	6
<p>THESE NEXT QUESTIONS ASK YOUR OPINIONS ABOUT A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT TOPICS. HOW MUCH DO YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH EACH STATEMENT BELOW?</p> <p>Most people will have fuller and happier lives if they choose legal marriage rather than staying single, or just living with someone.</p> <p>Being a mother and raising children is one of the most fulfilling experiences a woman can have<sup>3</sup>.</p>	<p>1 Disagree 2 Mostly disagree 3 Neither 4 Mostly agree 5 Agree</p>	V5261	5	6
		V5263	5	6
		V4448		<p><b>2001-2008</b> 5</p>

Note 1: Variable names in the data set and codebook are the same between 1976-1988. Since 1989, variable names in the codebook have a prefix VAR instead of V.

Note 2: The first number in the variable name indicates the form number where the question is located. For instance, the variable name is V1656 for the first question shown in this document, which indicates that the question is in Form 1 between 1976-1988. For 1989-2008, researchers need to add 1 to this number. That is, it is in Form 2 in these years.

Note 3: The same question is asked in Form 5 and Form 6 since 2001, but variable names are different.

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