

ABY

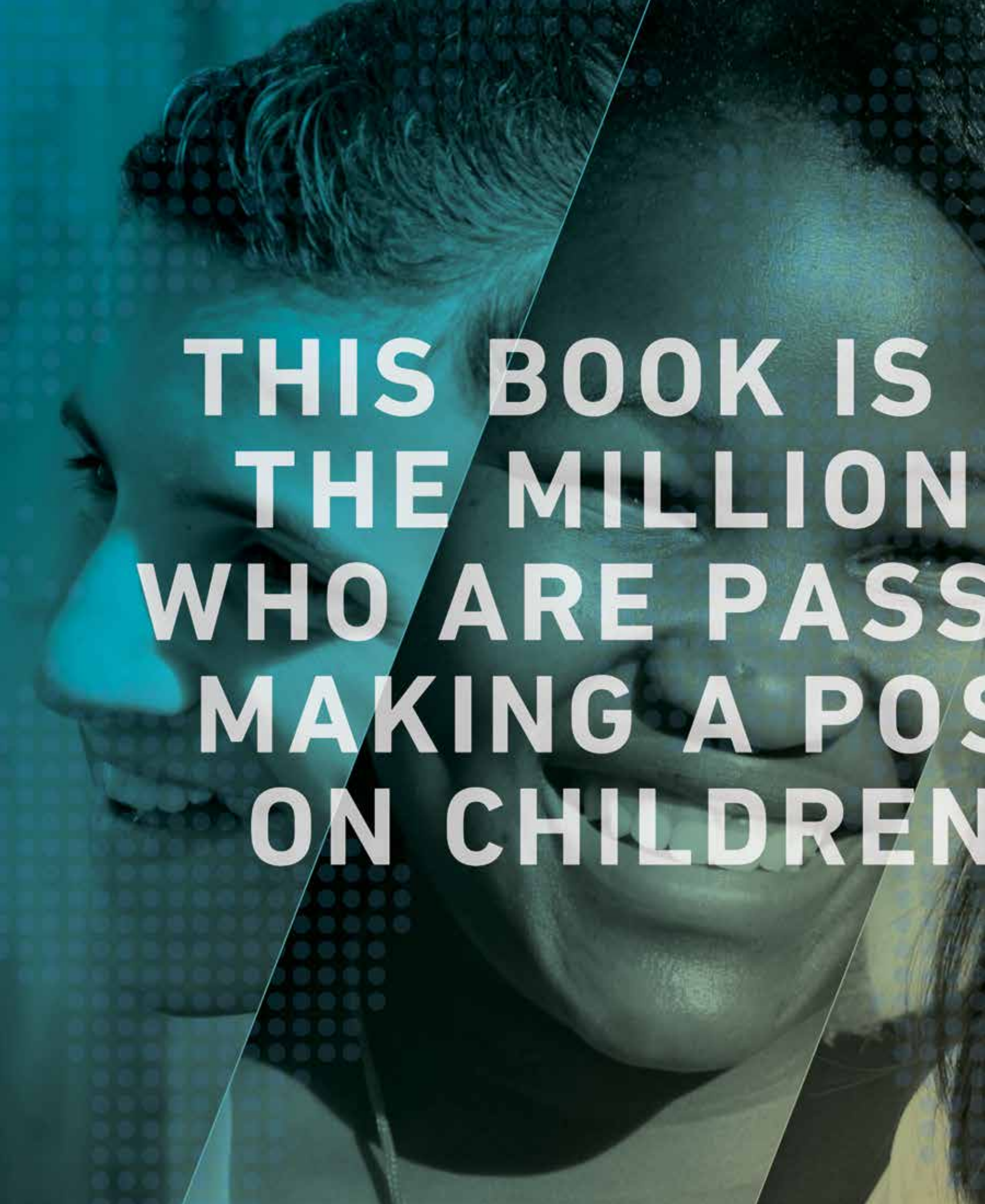
ATTITUDES & BEHAVIORS OF YOUTH

A Global Study




BELIEFS
RELATIONSHIPS
BACKGROUND
FAMILY
RELIGION
CHOICES





**THIS BOOK IS
THE MILLION
WHO ARE PASS
MAKING A POS
ON CHILDREN**



**DEDICATED TO
S OF PEOPLE
SIONATE ABOUT
SITIVE IMPACT
AND YOUTH.**

ABY

ATTITUDES & BEHAVIORS OF YOUTH

A Global Study

Spiritual State of the World's Children

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whose stories are told. In some cases, names and location details
have been changed to protect those involved.

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WHAT

The Attitudes and Behaviors of Youth (ABY) project, OneHope's quantitative research study, examines the true daily life of teens and trends around the world. In 2007, OneHope launched a four-year, quantitative research study to identify the true daily life of teens around the world. From 2007–2011, more than 152,000 13–19-year-olds in 44 countries on 5 continents answered questions about their lives—family relationships, life choices, and faith. The Attitudes and Behaviors of Youth (ABY) study revealed the teenage “norm” has gone global—crossing cultural and religious boundaries.

To our knowledge, this is the largest research study on global youth attitudes and behaviors ever conducted.





HOW

In each of the 44 countries, appropriate governmental approvals were acquired and local researchers were contracted and trained for data collection. A comprehensive list of national secondary schools was provided by government officials or local sponsoring agents; from that list, 20 schools were randomly selected. To ensure the Attitudes and Behaviors of Youth sample reflected the national demographics, schools were randomly selected according to population density and participants were randomly selected by gender.

Before surveys were administered in schools, a local validation was conducted with teenagers to ensure they understood the questions, both translation and content. During the actual survey administration, the questions were read aloud to students to ensure each question was clearly understood. The research team surveyed 200 students in each of the 20 schools in *the students'* local language of instruction. A total of 4,000 secondary school-age students took the 90 minute survey in each country.

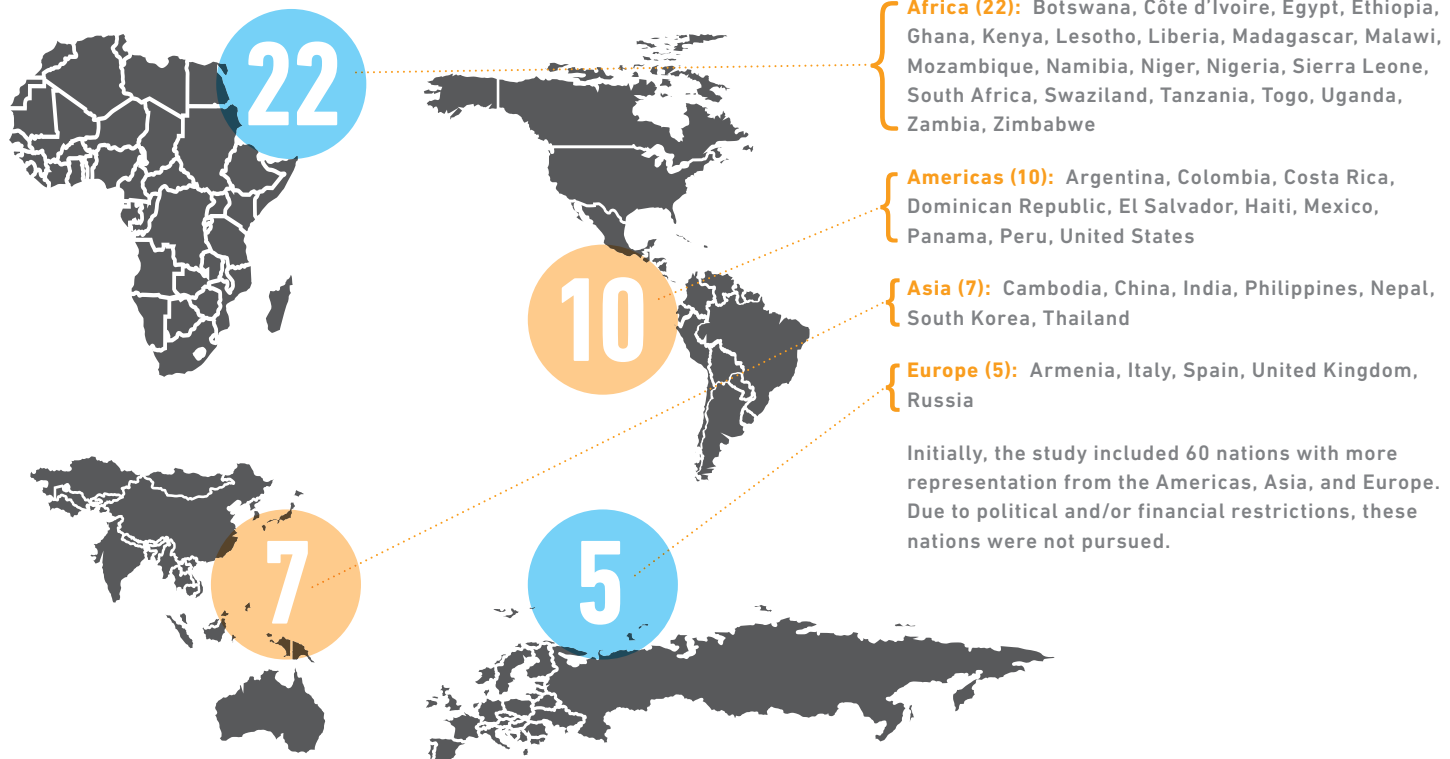
Once surveys were collected from an individual school, they were immediately uploaded to a project website. The data was sorted and cleaned to be sure only viable and credible surveys would be used. Once analyzed by our in-house research team, it was reviewed by a third-party statistical firm.

THE SURVEY

The core survey was constructed using the Survey of Juveniles designed by Chris Sleath of Josh McDowell Ministry. Officially, there are 42 questions listed on OneHope's full survey. In actuality, however, there are 217 questions asked; several of the questions contain sub-questions. Due to sensitivity issues in some nations, an abbreviated survey of 193 questions was used. Questions were categorized into 6 domains: background information, family relationships, relationships with people of the opposite sex, daily challenges, beliefs and perspectives in life, and religious background.

THE COUNTRIES

Regions and countries included in this study:



RESULTS


Analysis was conducted on each of the 44 countries, which resulted in unique 'snap-shot' reports of youth in each of these nations. Comprehensive and executive summary reports are available that highlight key findings, as well as profiles describing the domains of demographics, family relationships, relationships with people of the opposite sex, daily challenges, beliefs and perspectives in life, and religious background.

Upon completion of the 44th country, an analysis of the global sample was conducted. This book highlights key findings from each country, as well as of the global analysis.

We invite you to view and download any of these reports at www.onehope.net/research.



GLOBAL ANALYSIS



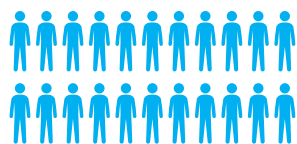
In order to examine the patterns and trends among youth between countries allowing OneHope to also compare across geographic region as well as demographics, an analysis of the data as a whole was conducted in early 2012. To identify patterns and trends among youth across geographic regions and demographics, OneHope conducted a complete analysis in early 2012. This required various forms of analyses, including factor analysis, cluster analysis, regression analysis, and modeling. Specific topics addressed in the global analysis included Scripture Engagement, family, religious behaviors, and life choices.

Using an index of influences and behaviors to measure spirituality, a common theme emerged from this research—more positive family experiences, involvement in a faith community, and engagement with religious texts all contribute to more positive outcomes for teens.

By understanding the emerging trends, commonalities, and distinctions among youth around the world, OneHope can become more relevant—in product and program.

Spiritual State of the World's Children: Vibrancy

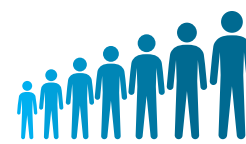
12



152,000
TEENS



Continents



13-19
year olds

Over the course of 4 years, more than 152,000 13-19-year-olds in 44 countries on 5 continents answered questions about their life. This global snapshot uses a random sample of nearly 3,000 participants from each region. The research was commissioned by OneHope, Inc. and collected by the Metadigm Group; the analysis was completed by Elite Research in 2011.



Key Finding:

Positive family experience, involvement in a faith community, and engagement in religious texts all contribute to positive outcomes and increased vibrancy in teens. Although they are all important and differ by country, family is key. In fact, positive family experience increases the likelihood of standing strong by 128%. Both engagement with religious texts and involvement in a faith community increases the likelihood of standing strong 71%.

Is God's Word Enough?

Our tagline is *God's Word. Every Child.* That's a tall order but one we are passionate about fulfilling. We have always believed that if we could share God's Word with every child the world would be drastically different. But is God's Word enough? Is God's Word all it takes to radically transform lives?



Some organizations lean heavily on social justice and compassion as the answer to changing lives: to get kids off the street, they open youth centers; to get kids off drugs, they offer detox programs. Are these things important? Absolutely. But until you address the heart of the problem, lives will not be transformed.

Our Attitudes and Behaviors of Youth (ABY) survey revealed that the influence of religious texts, positive family experiences, and involvement with a faith community make up a "trifecta" that produces spiritually vibrant teens who are able to stand strong in the face of negative influences. The most spiritually vibrant teens were Christian. And there's even more good news. The research also revealed that with God's Word and a faith community, children could overcome negative family experiences and still be spiritually vibrant!

That's the power of God's Word. That's what we learned when *We Asked.* and *They Answered.*



59% of the most vibrant teens were Christian.



More females (59%) than males (41%) were vibrant.



Fewer teens from urban areas (28%) were vibrant compared to rural (35%) and semi-urban (37%).



90% of the most vibrant teens have a close relationship with their mother and 76% a close relationship with their father.



97% of most vibrant teens have not had suicidal thoughts within the last 3 months vs. 58% of least vibrant teens.



88% of most vibrant teens desire a life of integrity vs. 27% of least vibrant teens.

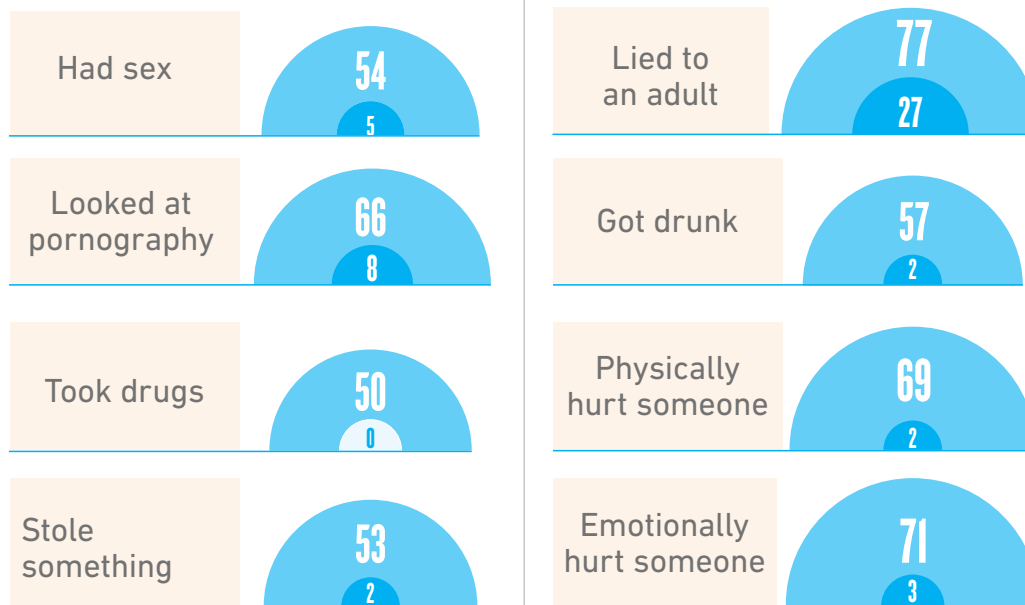


84% of most vibrant teens desire a close relationship with God vs. 18% of least vibrant teens.



90% of most vibrant teens desire good physical health vs. 40% of least vibrant teens.

What difference does standing strong make in teens around the world?



● Weak

● Strong

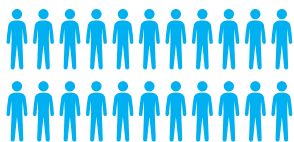
Who. Teens who stand strong live a life of integrity, make healthy choices, and pursue a spiritual walk.

Where. Teen vibrancy differs by region. The USA and Africa has the strongest teens.

How. A religious-neutral Spirituality Index was created to measure behaviors, beliefs, goals, and spirituality using the Attitudes & Behaviors of Youth data. The index includes two tiers assessing both wholeness and faith.

Spiritual State of the World's Children: Global Summary

14



152,000
TEENS



44
Countries



5
Continents

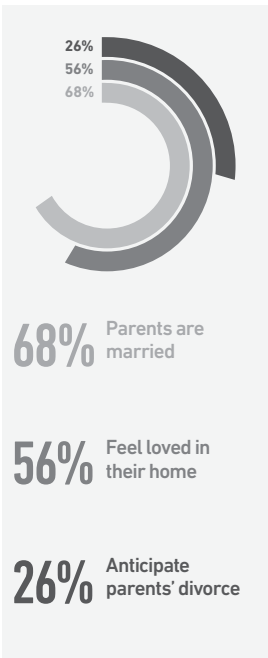


13-19
year olds

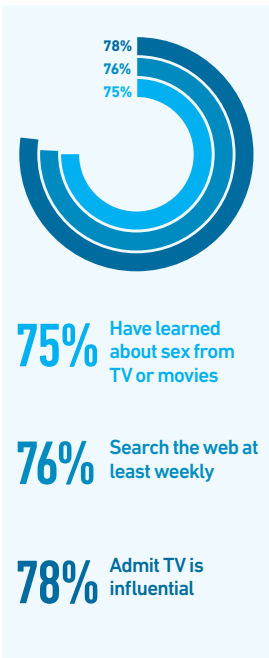
The teenage “norm” has gone global—crossing cultural and religious boundaries. This research examines the true daily life of teens and trends around the world.



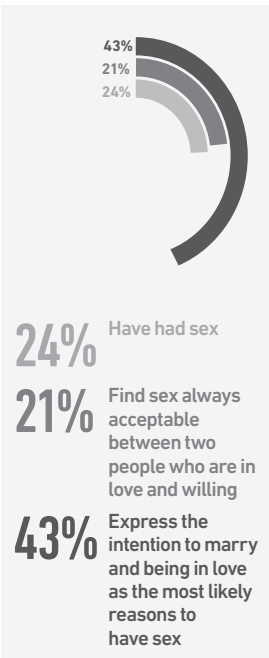
Family



Media



Sex



Substance use



Faith





Influences



FAMILY

Teens with married parents are less likely to engage in:

- *Substance abuse*
- *Sex*
- *Violent behavior*

Happy homes—even in the case of divorced parents—show similar outcomes (though teens may demonstrate more permissive views of sex).



Substance use is highest among teens whose parents live together (not married) and have negative family experiences.



Teens with negative family experiences report:

- *Highest suicidal tendencies.*
- *More permissive sexual attitudes.*



SUMMARY

Family-life is one of the biggest influences of teen behavior. The research suggests that regardless of the family makeup, it is the degree of *positive family experience* that determines *positive outcomes*.



FAITH

Teens who read the Bible at least monthly reported even:

- *Better relationships with parents, purpose for living, and religious beliefs;*
- and

- *Less sexual experiences, substance use, crime, lying and physical aggression*

than those who read other religious texts.



Teens who frequently read the Bible rather than other religious texts:

- *Are 9x more likely to believe the Bible provides a clear and indisputable description of moral truth.*
- *Are 10x more likely to find their faith is important to them and believe that God created the universe.*



Teens who have a high level of Bible engagement are:

- *Nearly 4x more likely to believe that prayer can change what happens in life.*
- *5.5x more likely to recall a time when their religious beliefs changed the way they behaved.*



SUMMARY

Bible engagement—more so than any other religious text—provides the strongest influence of positive teen behavior.



MEDIA

Regardless of faith or family experience, teens with high media exposure report the highest levels of:

- *Substance use*
- *Sex-related behaviors (pornography and engaging in sex)*



Searching or chatting online and texting are some of the most popular and influential forms of media worldwide (compared to TV or music).



SUMMARY

Media influence is linked to some of the most destructive teen behaviors—sex, crime and substance use.

Positive family experiences, involvement in a faith community, and engagement in religious texts all contribute to more positive outcomes for teens. For more information about the Spirituality Index, visit www.onehope.net/research

Topical Overview: Family

16

Over the course of 4 years, more than **152,000 13–19-year-olds** in **44 countries** on **5 continents** answered questions about their life. This global snapshot uses a random sample of nearly 3,000 participants from each region. The research was commissioned by OneHope, Inc. and collected by the Metadigm Group; the analysis was completed by Elite Research in 2011.

The teenage “norm” has gone global—crossing cultural and religious boundaries. This research examines the true daily life of teens and trends around the world as it pertains to Family.



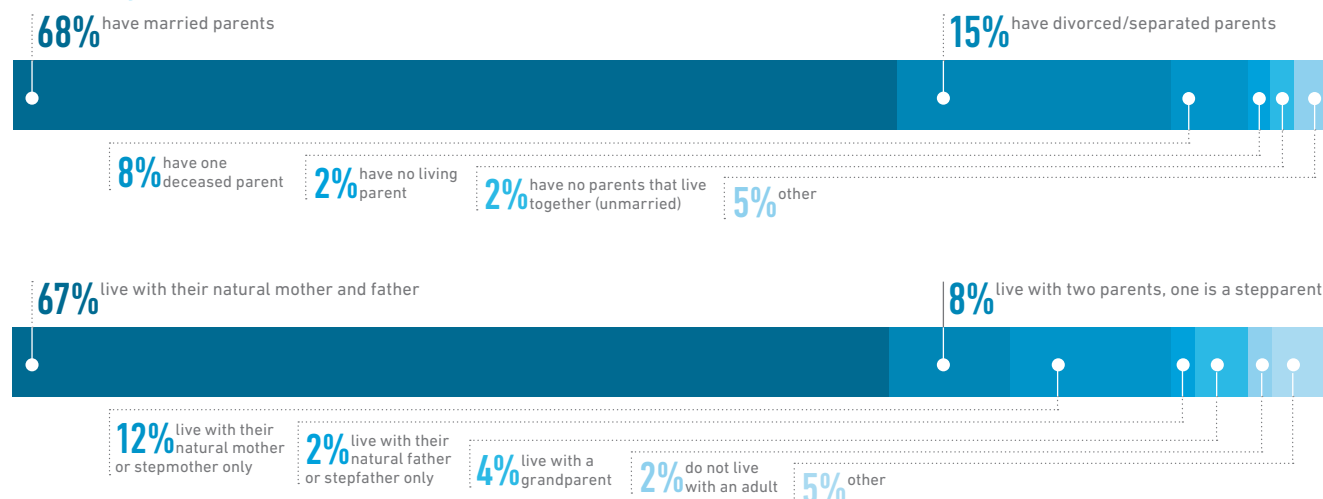
Key Finding:

Family-life is one of the biggest influences of teen behavior. The research suggests that regardless of the family makeup, it is the degree of positive family experience that determines positive outcomes — less substance use, sexual behavior and suicidal thoughts and more academic drive.

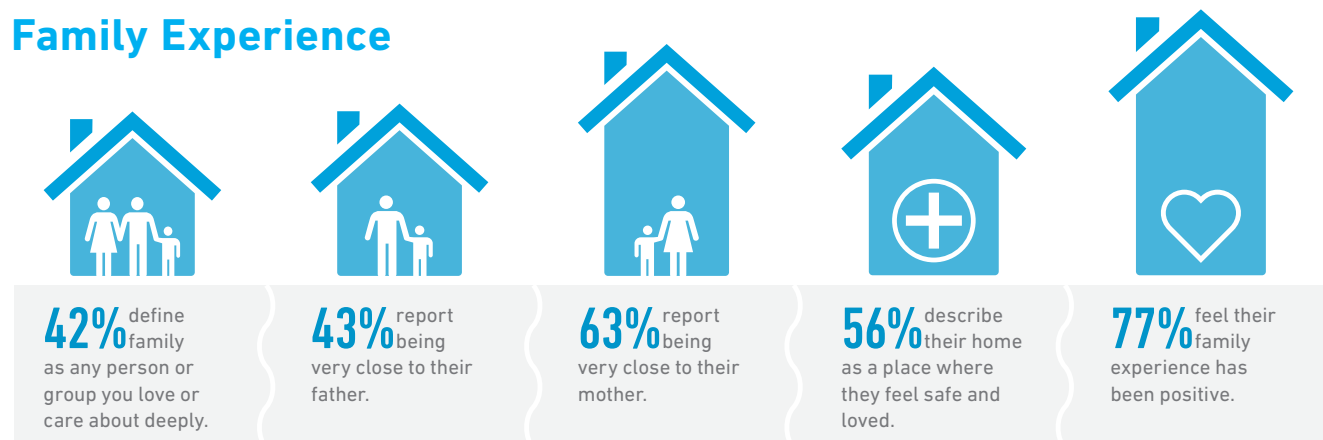


Stats:

Family Life



Family Experience





Influences



MARRIED VS. DIVORCED PARENTS

Teens with married parents report the least substance use and sexual behavior and most academic drive.

Teens with divorced parents report the most lying; while those with married parents lie the least.

Teens who report the most sexual experience are those whose parents are divorced, living together (unmarried) or deceased.

Teens who report negative family experience and divorced parents have the most pornographic experience.



FAITH

Teens whose families are uninvolved report reading less religious texts than those whose family experience is involved or dysfunctional.

Overall, teens from Christian families report the highest desire for family of their own.

Teens who engage with the Bible reported better relationships with their mothers than those who engaged with other religious texts.

Teens whose families attend religious services report reading more religious texts.



BEHAVIORS

Academics

Teens with positive family experiences report the strongest academic drive and better academic performance than those with negative family experiences. The more positive a teens' family experience, the more academic drive they demonstrate.

Substance Use

Teens with positive family experiences report significantly less substance use than those with negative family experiences.

Teens with negative family experiences whose parents live together report the highest level of substance use.

Suicide

Teens with negative family experiences and/or those who have lost both parents report the most suicidal thoughts.

Topical Overview: Media

18

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The teenage “norm” has gone global—crossing cultural and religious boundaries. This research examines the true daily life of teens and trends around the world as it pertains to Media Engagement.



Key Finding:

Media savvy teens demonstrate more sexual behavior, more tobacco, alcohol or illegal narcotics usage and believe that bending the rules is okay. On the positive side, these teens also typically average more years in school and perform better academically.



Stats: How are teens engaging with media?



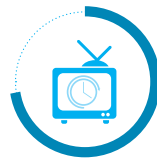
65% have watched MTV or music videos at least once a week in the past 3 months prior to survey.



76% have surfed the web.



73% have chatted online or texted.



72% have watched at least one hour of TV once a week.



78% admit that TV has at least a little influence on their life.



63% admit that the internet has at least a little influence on their life.

Behaviors:

Sex

Teens who report more social and traditional media influences also report more sexual behaviors and acceptance of premarital sex.

Substance Abuse

Teens who report more social and traditional media influences report more substance use.

Academics

Teens with a lot of media influence averaged more years in school and higher academic performance than teens who reported little influence.

Faith

- Teens with more social media influences had less Biblically accurate beliefs.
- Teens who reported more traditional media influences were associated with believing that truth is relative and that bending the rules is okay.
- Teens who read religious texts and have families that attend church or religious services seem less influenced by media and stronger in their faith.



Influences

- Searching and chatting on the web is one of the most popular and influential forms of media worldwide (compared to TV or music), especially outside the USA.
- Teens in urban regions are more influenced by TV, music and movies.
- Teens in rural areas are more influenced by social media such as blogging or Facebook.

Topical Overview: Substance Abuse

19

Over the course of 4 years, more than **152,000 13–19-year-olds** in **44 countries** on **5 continents** answered questions about their life. This global snapshot uses a random sample of nearly 3,000 participants from each region. The research was commissioned by OneHope, Inc. and collected by the Metadigm Group; the analysis was completed by Elite Research in 2011.

The teenage “norm” has gone global—crossing cultural and religious boundaries. This research examines the true daily life of teens and trends around the world as it pertains to Substance Abuse.



Key Finding:

Teens with positive family experiences who engage with religious texts, especially the Bible, and those with an academic drive are the least to report abusing substances. Alternately, teens with negative family experiences, with no particular faith and a lot of media exposure are the most to report abusing substances.



Stats: Who is using tobacco, alcohol or illicit drugs?

In the three months prior to survey:



18%

of teens smoked a cigarette or other tobacco product.



21%

of teens drank enough alcohol to be legally drunk.



11%

of teens used some type of illegal, non-prescription drug.



Influences

Family



- Teens whose parents are married, but have negative family experiences, have higher levels of substance abuse than teens whose parents are divorced, remarried or living together.
- Teens with positive family experiences, regardless of their parents' marital status, report the least substance use.
- Teens who have a healthy relationship with their mother report less substance use.

Faith



- Teens with no particular faith report more substance use than teens who are religious.
- Teens who engage with religious texts report less substance use.
 - » Reading the Bible has almost twice the effect on reducing substance use than reading other religious texts.
 - » Those that read the Bible more often were twice as likely not to use substances than those who read the Bible rarely.

Academic Drive



- Teens with academic drive were some of the least to report smoking cigarettes or abusing substances.
- Younger teens, especially those with academic drive, were less likely to report drinking to become drunk.

Media



- Media savvy teens reported the highest level of substance abuse.

Topical Overview: Sexual Influences & Behavior

20

Over the course of 4 years, more than **152,000 13–19-year-olds** in **44 countries** on **5 continents** answered questions about their life. This global snapshot uses a random sample of nearly 3,000 participants from each region. The research was commissioned by OneHope, Inc. and collected by the Metadigm Group; the analysis was completed by Elite Research in 2011.

The teenage “norm” has gone global—crossing cultural and religious boundaries. This research examines the true daily life of teens and trends around the world as it pertains to Sex.



Key Finding:

Teens that come from married homes with positive family experiences, engage with the Bible and have an academic drive report having the least sex. Inversely, teens with negative family experiences, report no particular faith and have a lot of media exposure report the most sexual experience.



Stats: Who is having sex?



24% have had sexual intercourse with the opposite sex.



25% have watched an X-rated or pornographic movie in the 3 months prior to survey.



21% believe sexual intercourse is always okay if people are in love but not married.



14% report they would be very likely to have sex if their parents would not mind.



Influences

Family

- Teens who have positive family experiences are less engaged in sexual behavior.
- Teens whose parents live together that have negative family experiences report some of the most sexual behavior.
- Teens with married parents report the least sexual experience.
- For younger teens, dysfunctional parent-child relationships are predictive of being more open to sexual experiences.

Faith

- Teens who are more accepting of sex typically have inaccurate views of sin.
- Teens with no particular faith are more accepting of sexual experiences and influences.
- Teens who read religious texts tend to believe sex outside of marriage is wrong.
 - » Decreases sexual behavior, especially for girls.
 - » Decreases porn usage, especially for boys.

Media

- Media savvy teens are the most likely to engage in sexual behavior—including pornography—regardless of family or faith.

Academic Drive

- Teens who have a strong academic drive report less sexual behavior.
- Academic drive has a stronger impact on reducing sexual behavior in younger teens.

Topical Overview: Violence

21

Over the course of 4 years, more than **152,000 13–19-year-olds** in **44 countries** on **5 continents** answered questions about their life. This global snapshot uses a random sample of nearly 3,000 participants from each region. The research was commissioned by OneHope, Inc. and collected by the Metadigm Group; the analysis was completed by Elite Research in 2011.

The teenage “norm” has gone global—crossing cultural and religious boundaries. This research examines the true daily life of teens and trends around the world as it pertains to Violence.



Key Finding:

Regardless of influence or worldview, media savvy teens demonstrate the most risk for hurting others. Teens least at risk for hurting others are those with few external influences, positive and involved families and those who report being Muslim.



Stats:



10%
have attempted
suicide in the
3 months prior
to survey.



20%
intentionally tried
to physically hurt
someone in the
3 months prior
to survey.



26%
intentionally tried
to emotionally hurt
someone in the
3 months prior
to survey.



62%
report that to get
by these days,
sometimes you have
to break the rules.



Influences

Family

- Teens with divorced, remarried or deceased parents and those with negative family experiences report hurting others the most.
- Teens with good family experiences, especially those with positive relationships with their mom, report hurting others the least.
- Teens with positive family experiences and healthy relationships with their parents report thinking of suicide less often.

Faith

- Teens with no particular faith who have positive family experiences report the least aggression.
- Teens from dysfunctional homes express more aggression, regardless of how often they read the Bible.
- Teens who believe that rule-bending is sometimes okay, including those who read the Bible, are also more tolerant of hurting others.

Media

- Regardless of family experience or religious worldview, teens with high media exposure demonstrate the most aggression.

Substance Use

- Teens who report hurting others also report using alcohol, tobacco or illegal substances.

Self-harm

- Teens who report hurting others are more at risk for hurting themselves.

Sex

- Teens who report hurting others also report being okay with premarital sex.
- Teens who report having sexual experiences are more at risk for violence.

Topical Overview: Bible Engagement

22

Over the course of 4 years, more than **152,000 13–19-year-olds** in **44 countries** on **5 continents** answered questions about their life. This global snapshot uses a random sample of nearly 3,000 participants from each region. The research was commissioned by OneHope, Inc. and collected by the Metadigm Group; the analysis was completed by Elite Research in 2011.

The teenage "norm" has gone global—crossing cultural and religious boundaries. This research examines the true daily life of teens and trends around the world as it pertains to Bible Engagement.

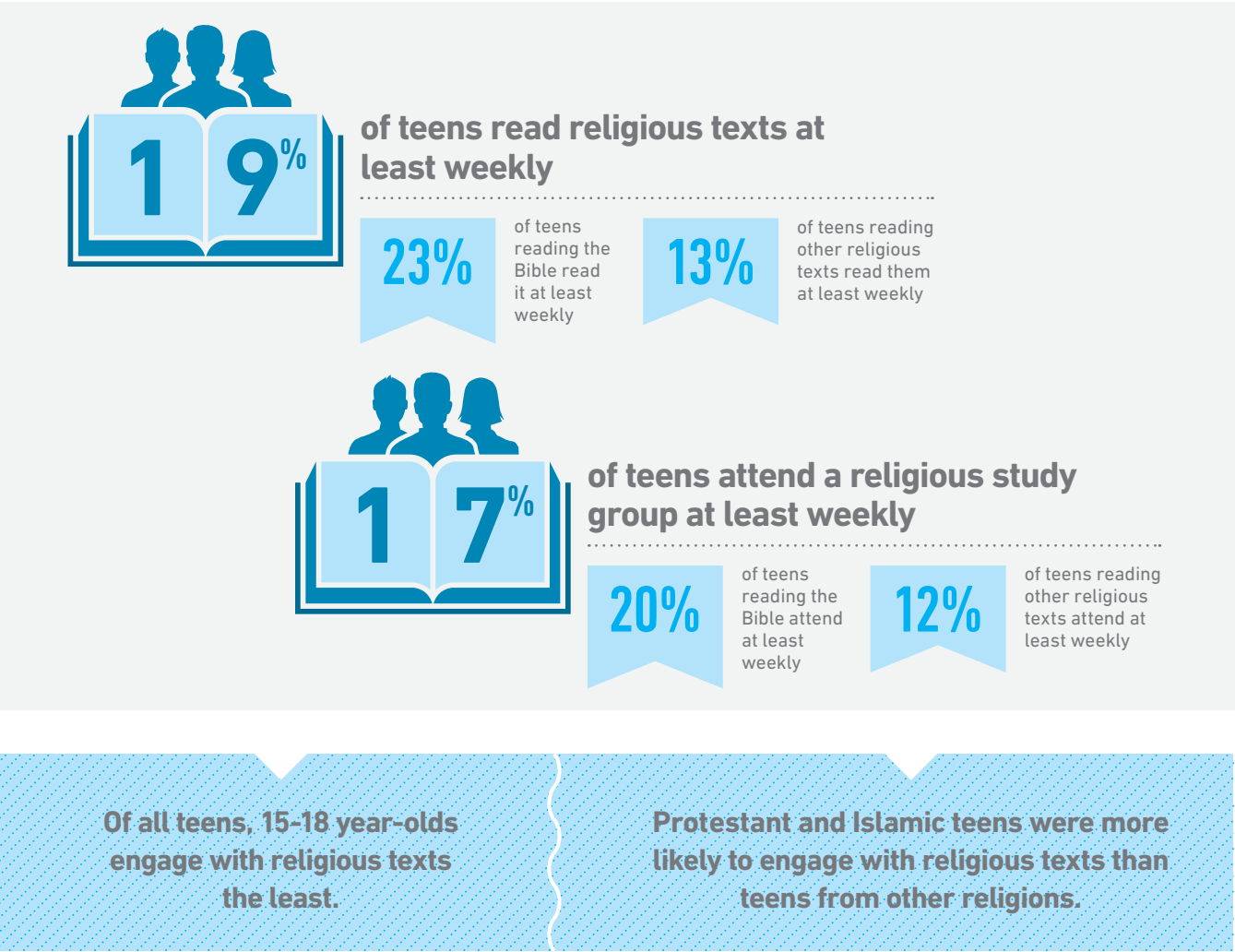


Key Finding:

Teens who engage with the Bible — more so than any other religious text — reported a stronger connection to their faith and beliefs and more positive behaviors than those who read other religious texts.



Stats: Who is engaging with Scripture?





Influences



FAITH

Compared to teens who read other religious texts, teens who engage with the Bible:

Feel their faith is very important.

Desire to have a closer relationship with God.

Want to be active in a religious service.

Are more likely to attend a religious service.



BELIEFS

Teens who frequently engage with the Bible, rather than those who have little engagement with other religious texts are:

10x more likely to believe the universe was originally created by God.

8x more likely to believe the Bible provides absolute moral truths that are the same for all people in all situations, without exception.

Teens that report more Bible engagement are more likely to believe:

All people will be judged by God after they die, regardless of their religious beliefs.

Prayer can change what happens in life.



BEHAVIOR

Teens who read the Bible are more likely to recall a specific time when their faith changed the way they behaved than teens who engage with other religious texts.

Teens who read the Bible report more:

Academic influence and drive.

Involvement with religious activities.

Purpose for living.

Positive relationships with parents.

Teens who read the Bible report less:

Substance use.

Media consumption.

Positive family experiences, involvement in a faith community, and engagement in religious texts all contribute to more positive outcomes for teens. For more information about the Spirituality Index, visit www.onehope.net/research

Argentina

24

YEAR: 2010

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 3,843

Gender: Male: 47% / Female: 53%

Age: 

18% 13 years old or younger

17% 14 years old

16% 15 years old

19% 16 years old

16% 17 years old

14% 18 years old or older





65% believe the Bible describes moral truth.



73% said the Bible does not provide a current and practical standard of living.



67% do not wish to be a virgin when they marry.



50% report that they have had sexual intercourse.



75% cheated on an exam or evaluation in the 3 months prior to the survey.



41% had been legally drunk in the 3 months prior to the survey.



38% tried to hurt someone physically in the 3 months prior to the survey.



74% indicate that family is any person or group that you love or care about deeply.



Armenia

26

YEAR: 2008

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 2,158

Gender: Male: 59% / Female: 41%

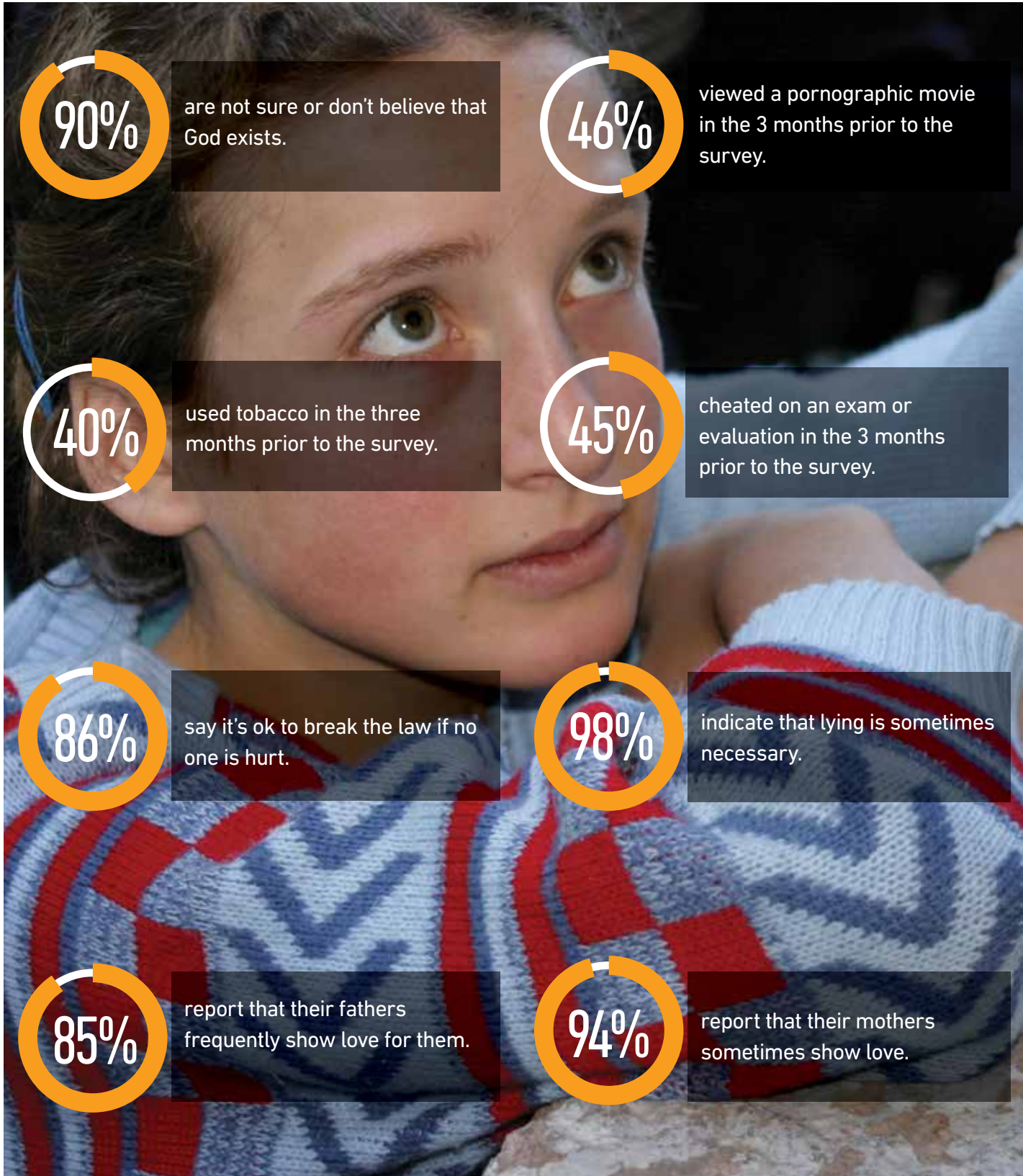
Age: 

28% 15 years old

50% 16 years old

22% 17 years old





Botswana

28

YEAR: 2010

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 4,290

Gender: Male: 44% / Female: 56%

Age: 

8% 13 years old or younger

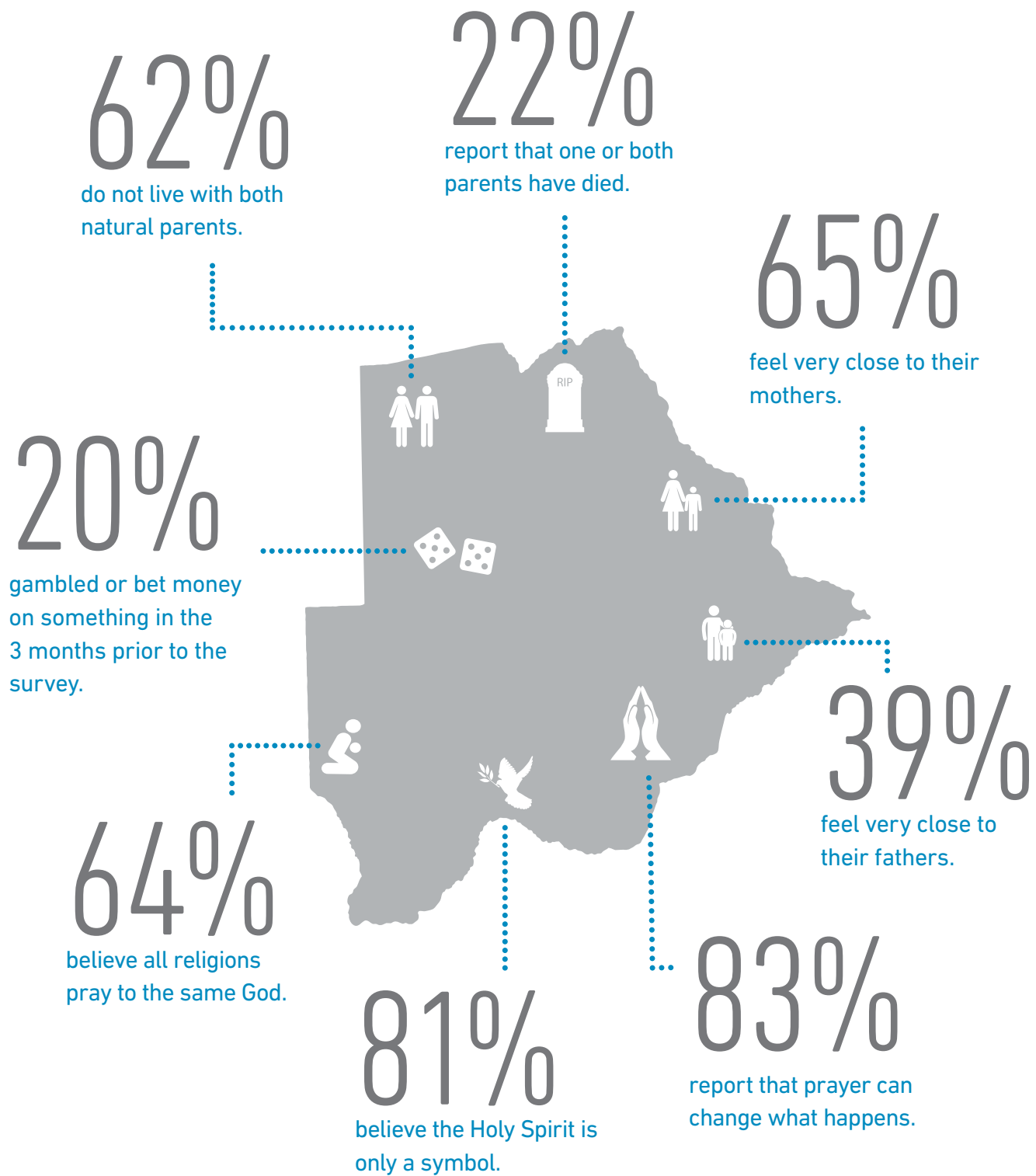
19% 14 years old

24% 15 years old

32% 16-17 years old

17% 18 years old or older





Cambodia

30

YEAR: 2010

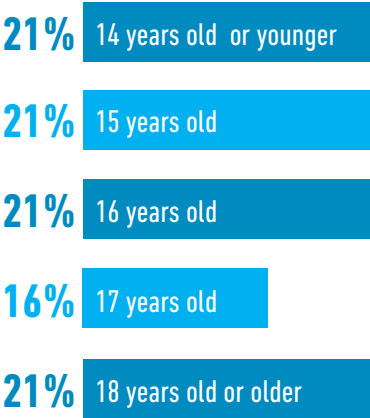
METHOD: School Survey

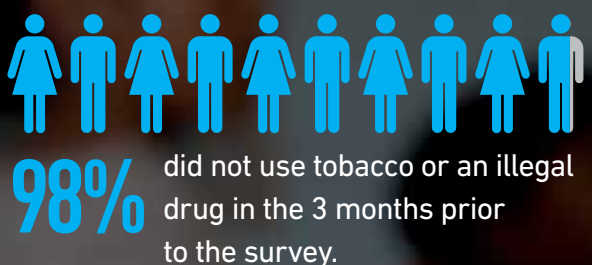
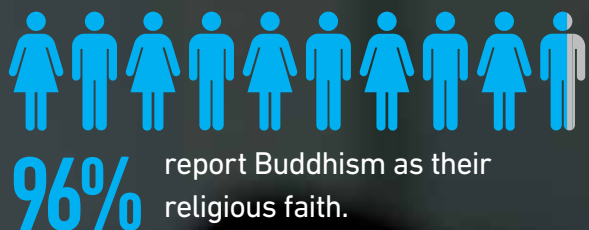
SAMPLE:

Size: 3,969

Gender: Male: 49% / Female: 51%

Age: 





China

32

YEAR: 2011

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 1,758

Gender: Male: 52% / Female: 48%

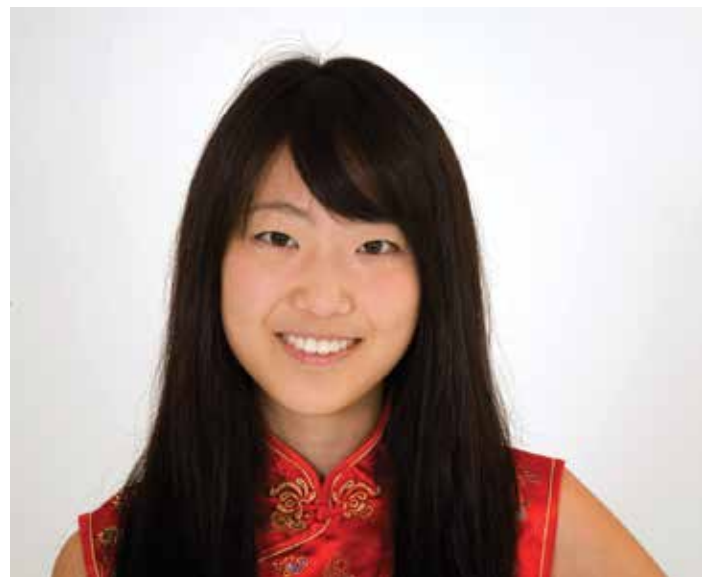
Age: 

8% 15 years old or younger

33% 16 years old

36% 17 years old

23% 18 years old or older





42% spend more than 60 minutes a week talking with their father about things that really matter to them.



45% spend more than 60 minutes a week talking with their mother about things that really matter to them.



47% have had suicidal thoughts in the 3 months prior to the survey.



47% are part of a two-parent family.



42% believe spiritual development is necessary for leading a satisfying life.



42% have no religious affiliation.



40% report they have had sexual intercourse.



43% engaged with pornographic magazines in the 3 months prior to the survey.



Colombia

34

Year: 2007

Method: School Survey

Sample:

Size: 3,668

Gender: Male: 46% / Female: 54%

Age: 

26% 13 years old or younger

25% 14 years old

36% 15 -16 years old

3% 17 -18 years old



26%

or more watch TV and listen to music, and over 8% use the Internet and chat (SMS) more than 8 hours a week. Only 3% invest the same time in reading the Bible.

27%

are active members in a church.

90%

believe God intended marriage to last a lifetime.

89%

spend less than 1 hour a week talking with their fathers about things that matter.

57%

cheated on an exam or other evaluation and 75% lied to a parent, teacher or an adult.

34%

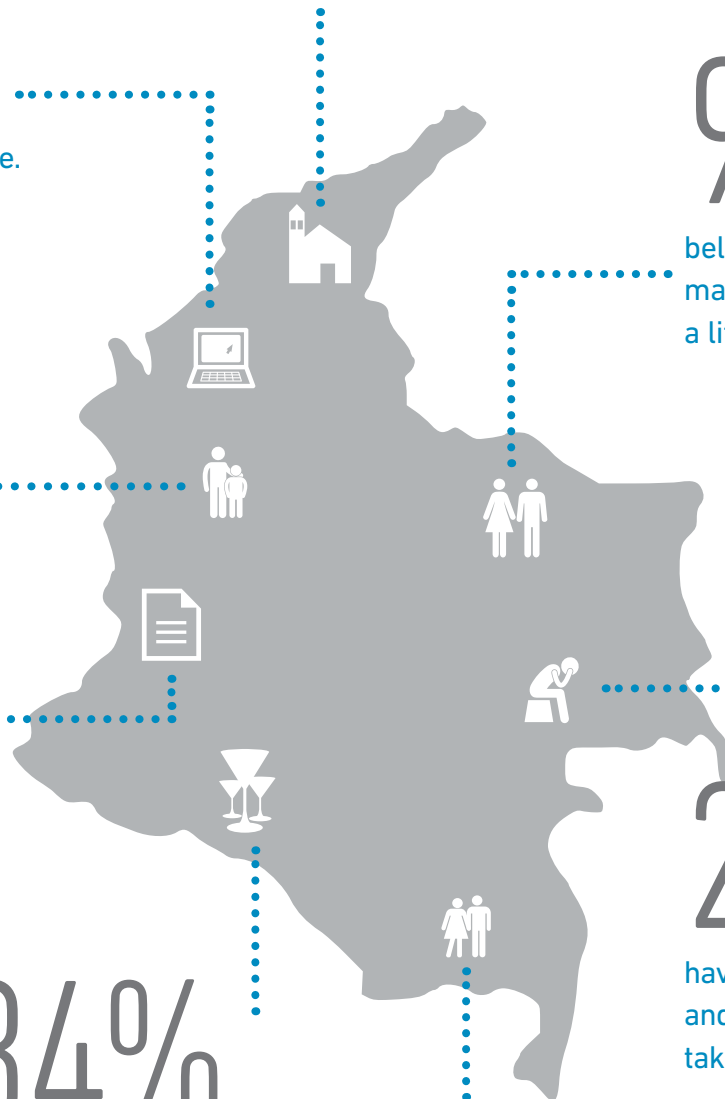
drank enough alcohol to be legally drunk in the 3 months prior to the survey.

28%

on average have had sexual intercourse.

24%

have had suicidal thoughts and 16% have attempted taking their lives.



Costa Rica

36

YEAR: 2008

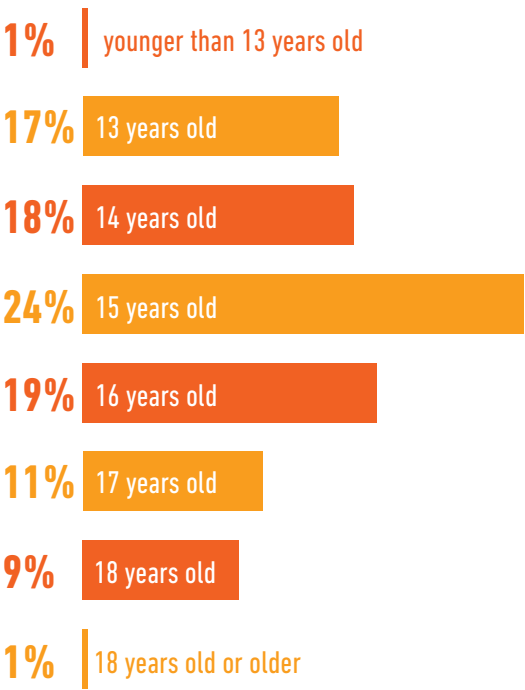
METHOD: School Survey

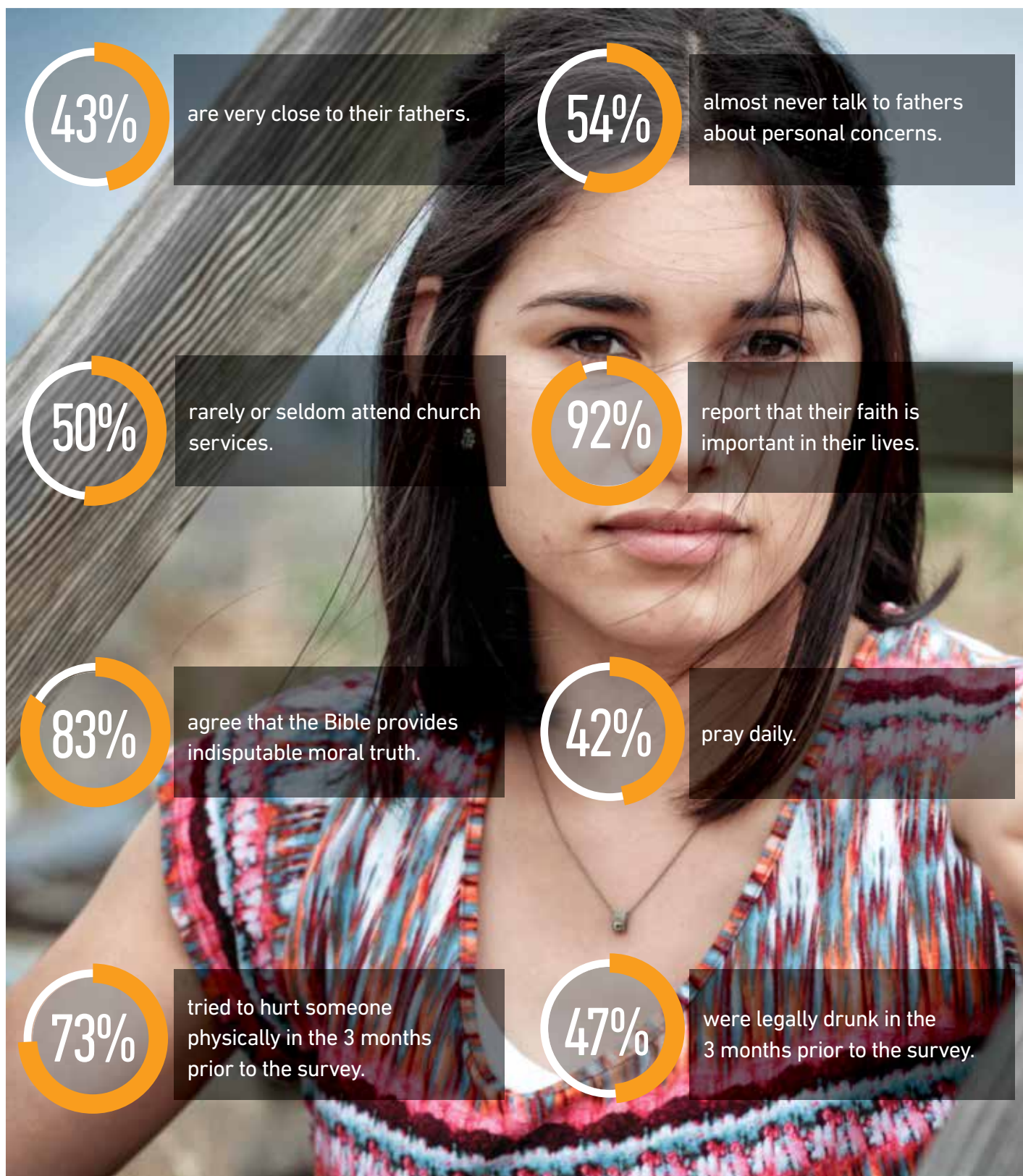
SAMPLE:

Size: 3,475

Gender: Male: 50% / Female: 50%

Age: 





Côte d'Ivoire

38

YEAR: 2010

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 4,510

Gender: Male: 51% / Female: 49%

Age: 

35% 14 years old or younger

15% 15 years old

13% 16 years old

17% 17 years old

26% 18 years old or older





56% report that the adults in their family frequently set good examples for them.



18% think that where children are involved, divorce is not acceptable.



83% almost never feel proud of their fathers.



69% almost never feel proud of their mothers.



80% indicated that premarital sex for a couple in love is never acceptable.



89% believe spiritual development is necessary for leading a satisfying life.



97% are certain that God exists.



94% believe that ghosts exist and influence life.

Dominican Republic

40

YEAR: 2010

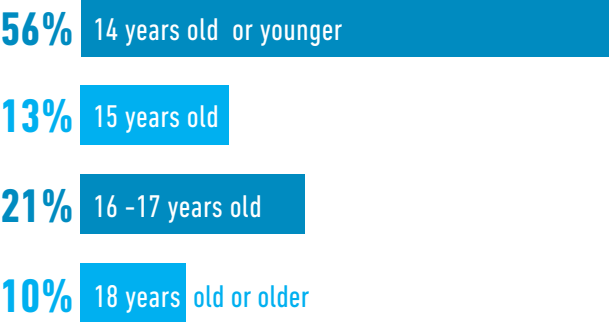
METHOD: School Survey

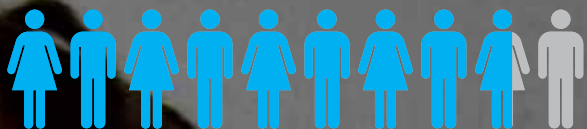
SAMPLE:

Size: 3,863

Gender: Male: 46% / Female: 54%

Age: 





88% agree the Bible provides a clear and indisputable description of moral truth.



91% believe that neither the Bible nor the Koran provide today's people with practical standards of living.



69% believe that moral behavior is justified by whether or not it "works."



32% report that their parents are divorced/separated.



72% feel that their mothers frequently show love for them.



57% feel that their fathers frequently show love for them.



60% would rather live with someone than marry.



31% report that they have had sexual intercourse.

Egypt

42

YEAR: 2009-2010

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 1,274

Gender: Male: 51% / Female: 49%

Age: 

4% | younger than 13 years old

23% | 13 years old

37% | 14 years old

25% | 15 years old

10% | 16 years old or older

1% | 17 years old



Statistics

43



27% of females spend no time in a normal week talking to their fathers about things that really matter to them.



14% of males spend no time in a normal week talking to their fathers about things that really matter to them.



89% report that living with a high degree of integrity is very important for their future.



71% report that they cheated on an exam or evaluation in the 3 months prior to the survey.



62% lied to an adult in the 3 months prior to the survey.



44% tried to hurt someone physically in the 3 months prior to the survey.



95% report that an intimate relationship with God is very important to their future.



44% read the Bible or Koran at least weekly.



El Salvador

44

YEAR: 2007

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 3,868

Gender: Male: 52% / Female: 48%

Age: 

28% 13 years old or younger

23% 14 years old

19% 15 years old

25% 16 -17 years old

6% 18 years old or older





Ethiopia

46

YEAR: 2010

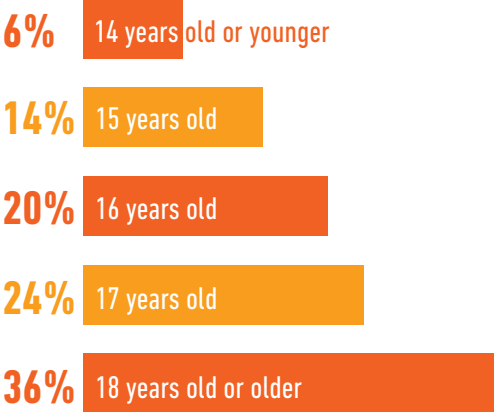
METHOD: School Survey

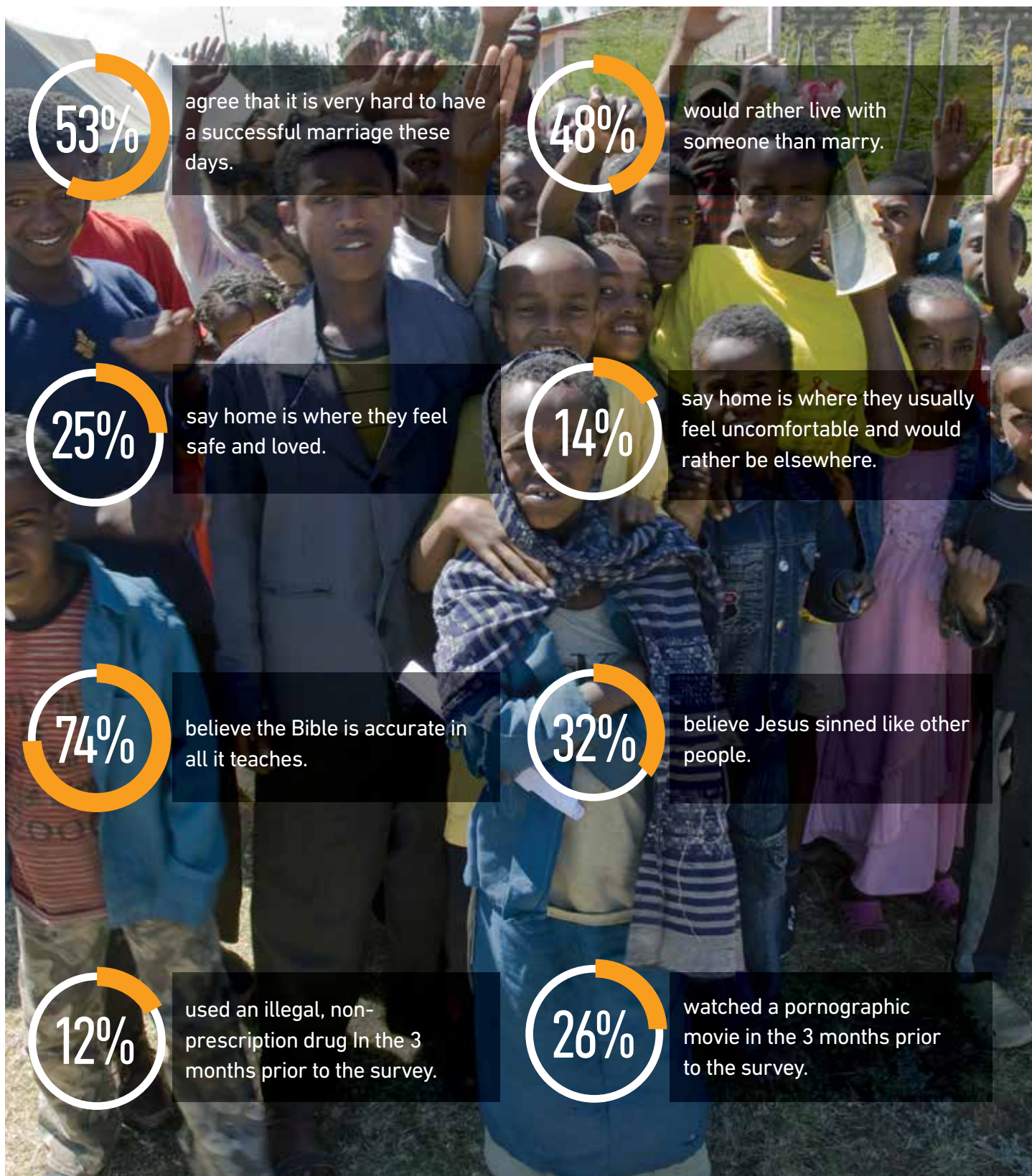
SAMPLE:

Size: 3,578

Gender: Male: 58% / Female: 42%

Age: 





Ghana

48

YEAR: 2007-2008

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 4,184

Gender: Male: 52% / Female: 48%

Age: 

9% 15 years old or younger

17% 16 years old

28% 17 years old

46% 18 years old or older





58% frequently seek advice from their mothers.



35% frequently seek advice from their fathers.



18% report that their father is not alive or that they do not know him.



62% believe they will go to Heaven because they confessed their sins and accepted Jesus as Savior.



37% believe that the whole idea of sin is outdated.



42% believe Jesus did not physically return to life.



47% believe in reincarnation.



47% do not want a marriage like their parents.

Haiti

50

YEAR: 2011

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 3,570

Gender: Male: 45% / Female: 55%

Age: 

9% 13 years old or younger

20% 14-15 years old

26% 16-17 years old

45% 18 years old or older



Statistics

51



84% can recall a time when their religious beliefs changed their behavior.



71% report weekly or daily prayer.



45% feel that breaking the law is okay if it does not hurt anyone.



44% report that they have had sexual intercourse.



62% report the Bible as a very important influence in their lives.



73% say they would regain their virginity if it were possible.



20% live with one parent.



21% feel as if they are only sometimes loved in their homes.



India, Andhra Pradesh

52

YEAR: 2008

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 3,564

Gender: Male: 48% / Female: 52%

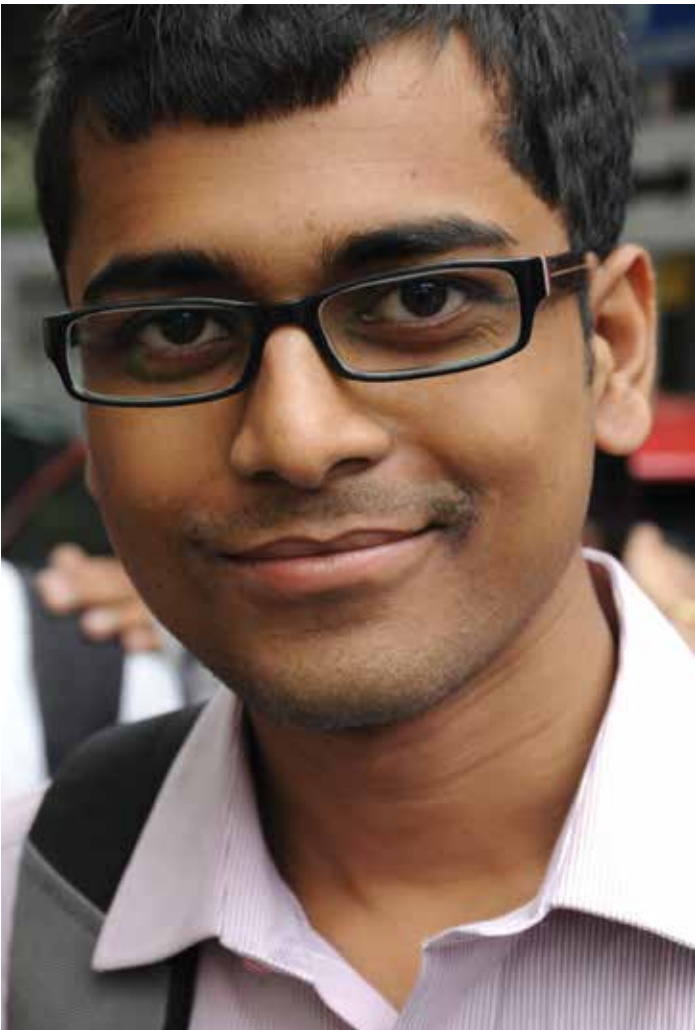
Age: 

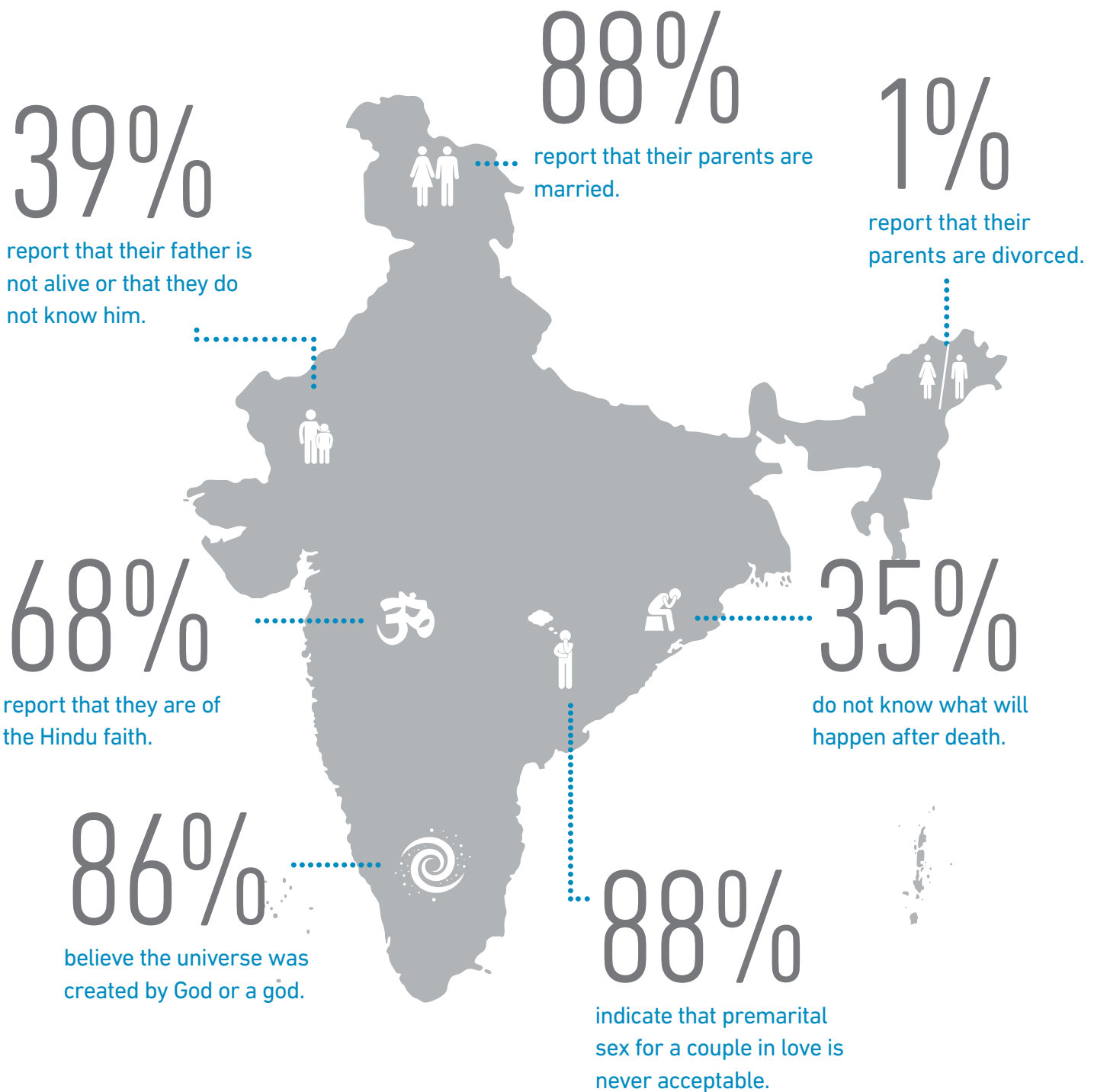
31% 13 years old or younger

34% 14 years old

28% 15 years old

7% 16 years old





India, Northeast

54

YEAR: 2009

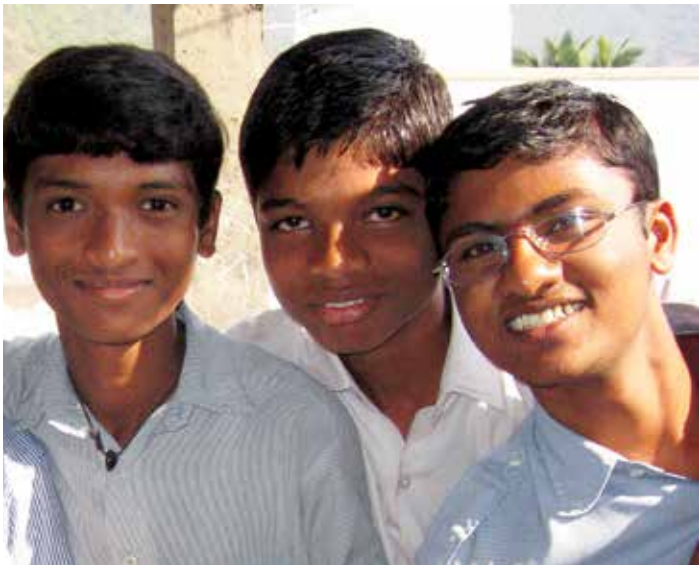
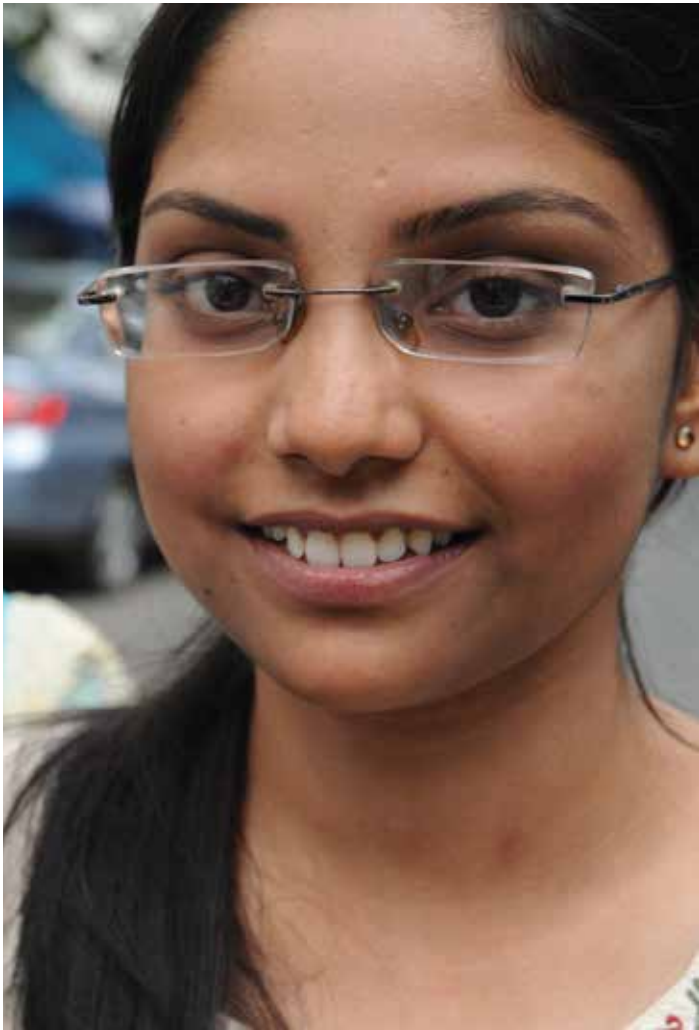
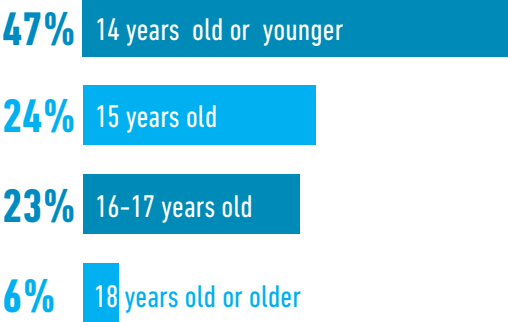
METHOD: School Survey

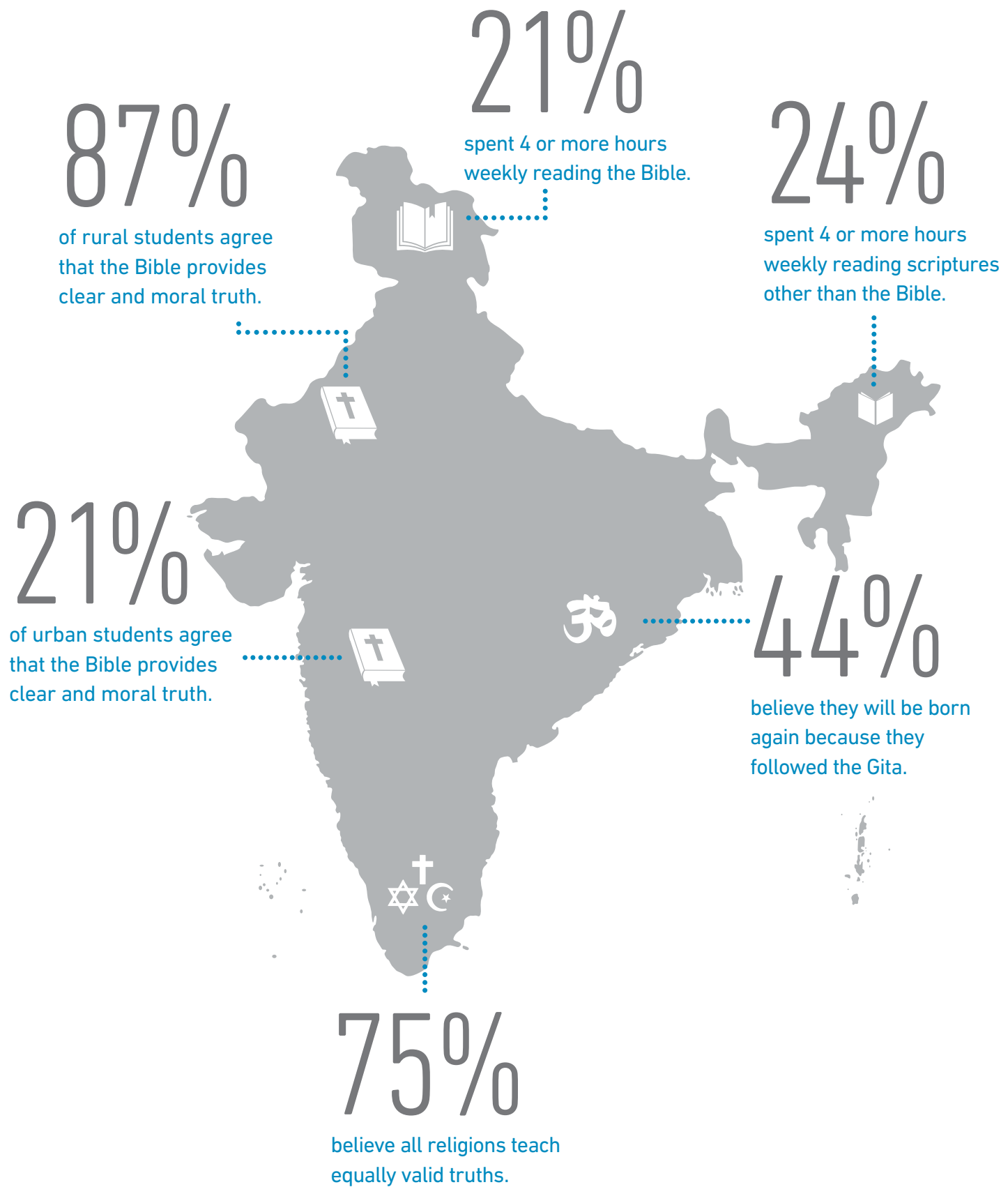
SAMPLE:

Size: 4,017

Gender: Male: 49% / Female: 51%

Age: 





Italy

56

YEAR: 2011

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 3,769

Gender: Male: 57% / Female: 43%

Age: 

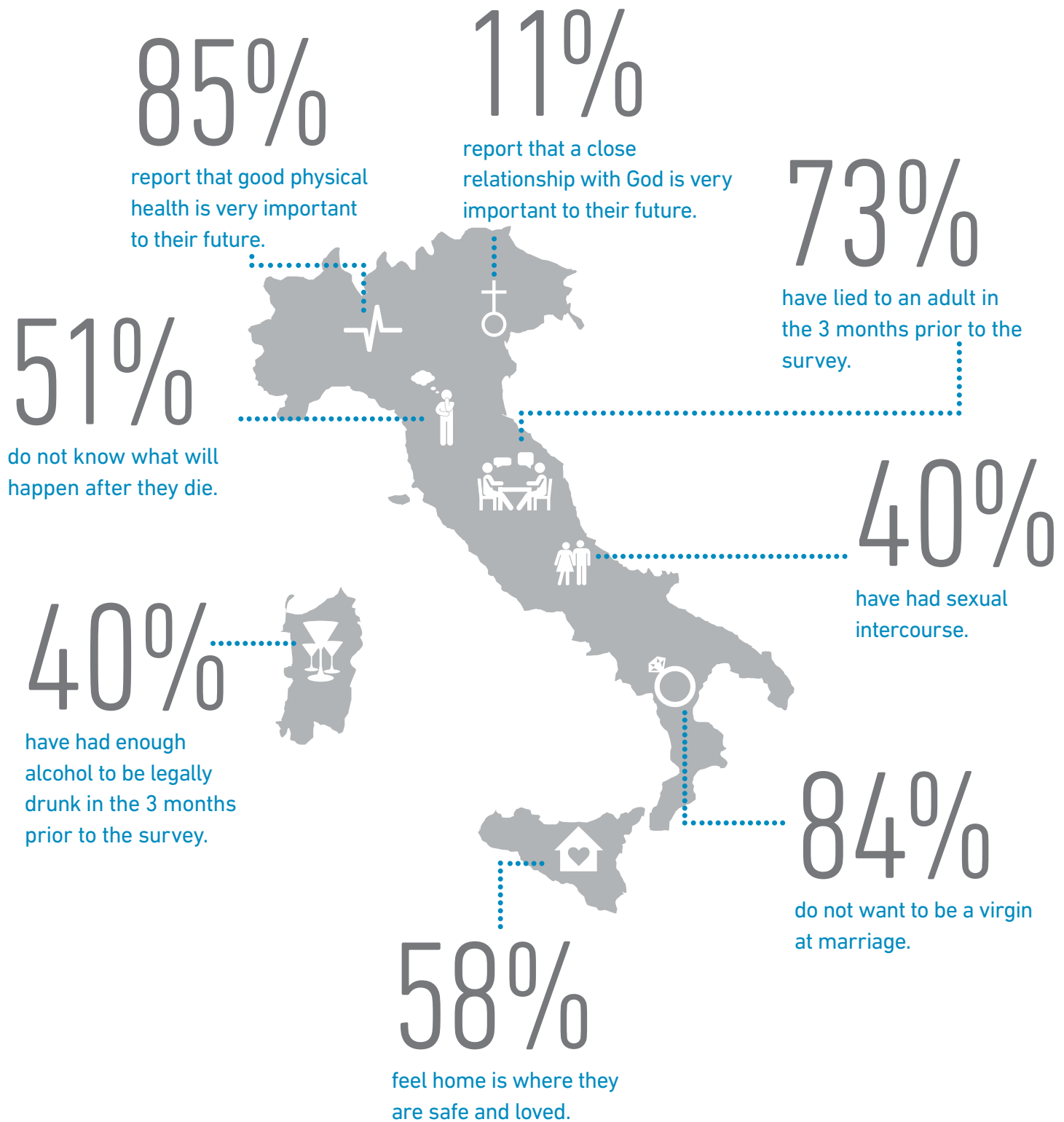
16% 14 years old or younger

20% 15 years old

43% 16-17 years old

21% 18 years old or older





Kenya

58

YEAR: 2008

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 3,481

Gender: Male: 56% / Female: 44%

Age: 

7% 14 years old or younger

17% 15 years old

47% 16-17 years old

29% 18 years old or older



Statistics

59



70% believe premarital sex for a couple in love is never acceptable.



44% would rather live with someone than marry.



94% believe the universe was created by God.



80% believe living with a high degree of integrity is very important for their future.



60% believe that lying and rule-bending are sometimes necessary to get by.



17% have stolen money or a material possession in the 3 months prior to survey.



28% have gambled or bet money on something in the 3 months prior to survey.



59% have lied to a friend or peer in the 3 months prior to survey.



Lesotho

60

YEAR: 2008-2009

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 1,626

Gender: Male: 44% / Female: 56%

Age: 

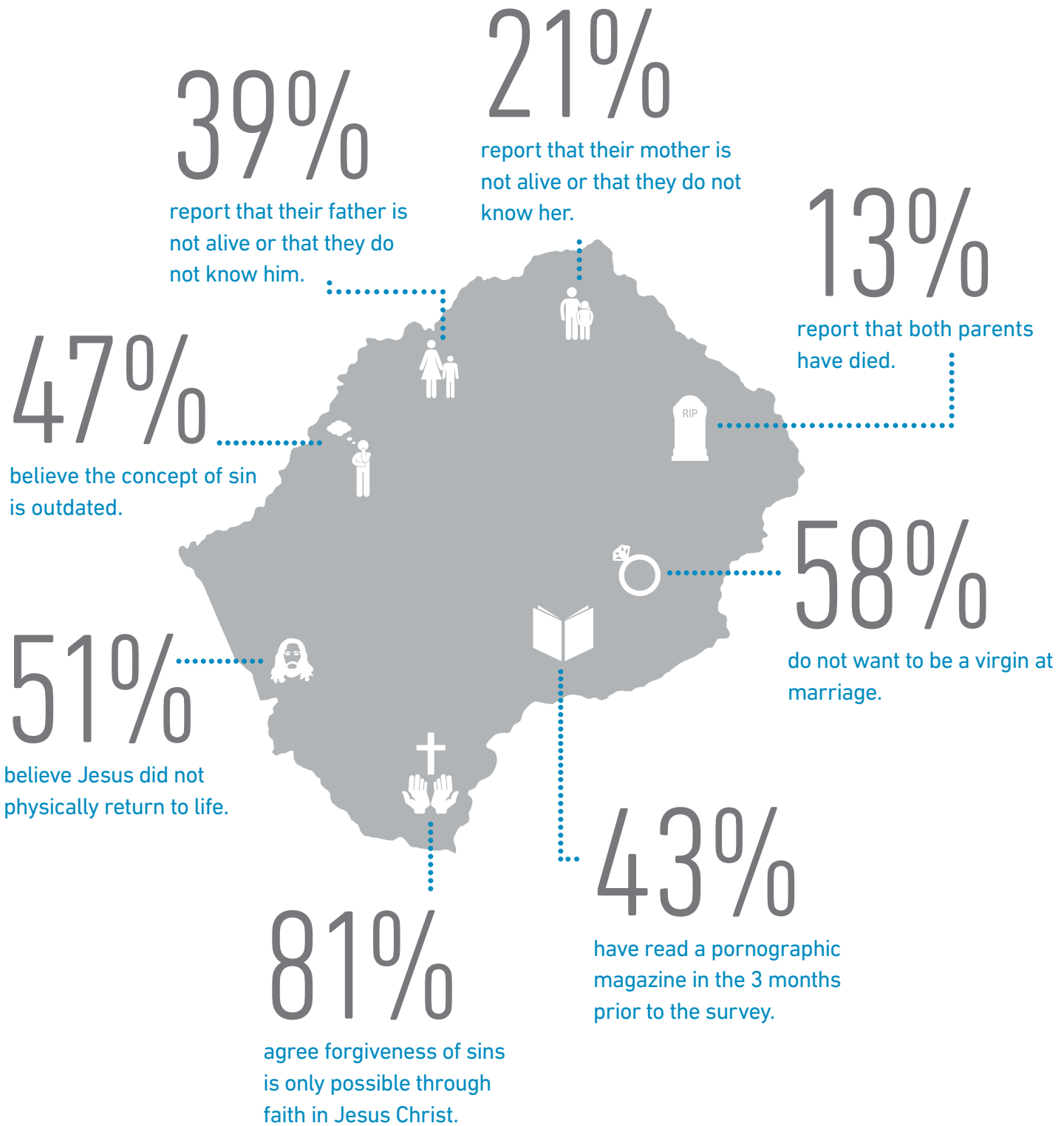
15% 14 years old or younger

15% 15 years old

40% 16-17 years old

30% 18 years old or older





Liberia

62

YEAR: 2010

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 3,918

Gender: Male: 56% / Female: 44%

Age: 

10% 14 years old or younger

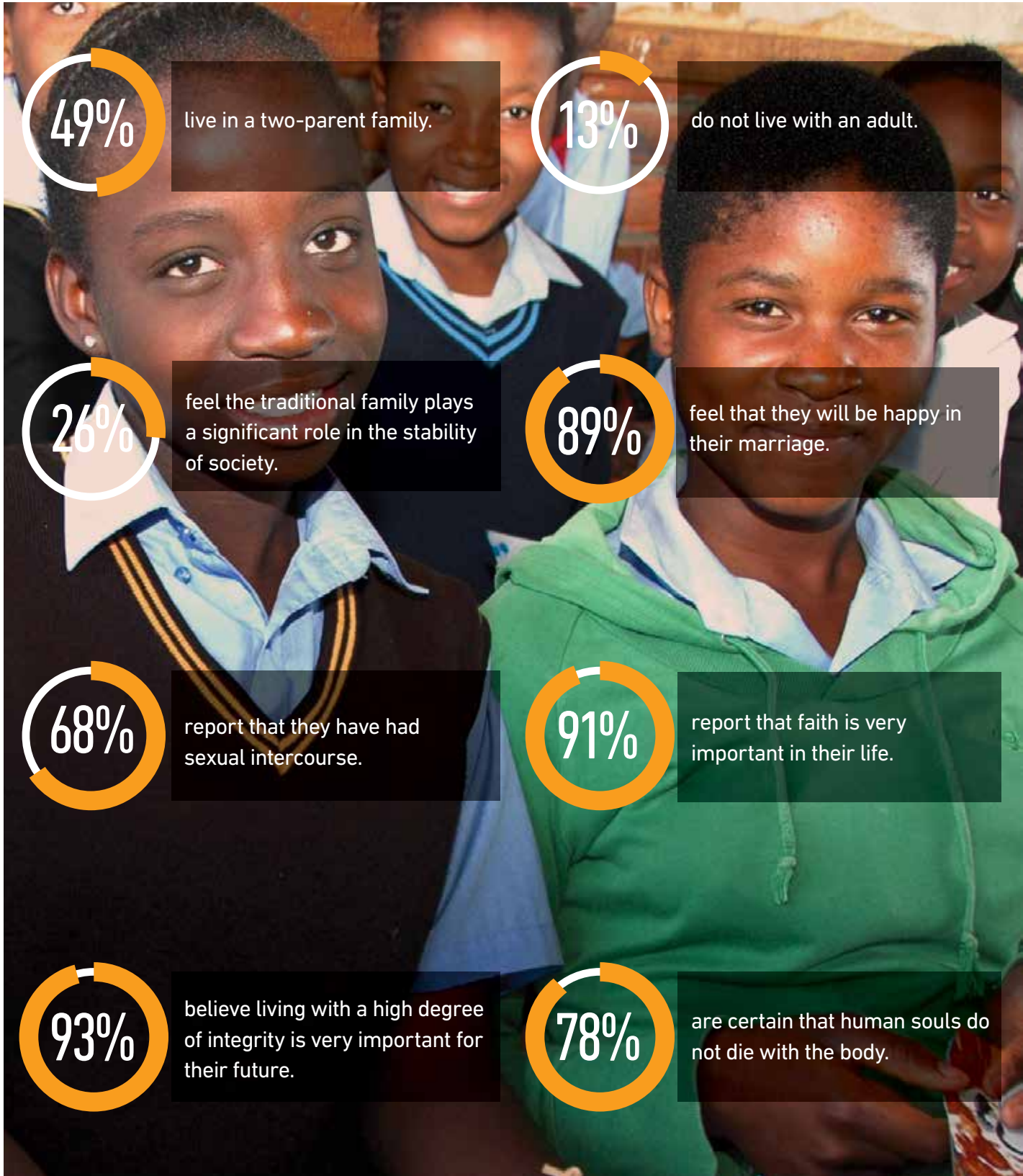
8% 16 years old

11% 17 years old

17% 18 years old

54% older than 18 years old





Madagascar

64

YEAR: 2009

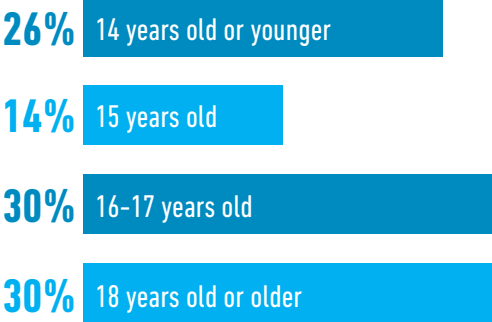
METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 4,091

Gender: Male: 50% / Female: 50%

Age: 





70% report that the adults in their family frequently set good examples for them.



77% think that where children are involved, divorce is not acceptable.



48% almost never feel proud of their fathers.



38% almost never feel proud of their mothers.



71% believe that premarital sex for a couple in love is never acceptable.



74% believe spiritual development is necessary for leading a satisfying life.



92% are certain that God exists.



64% believe that ghosts exist and influence life.

Malawi

66

YEAR: 2007

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 3,351

Gender: Male: 52% / Female: 48%

Age: 

17% 14 years old or younger

18% 15 years old

38% 16-17 years old

27% 18 years old or older



Statistics

67



28% spend more than 60 minutes a week talking with their fathers about things that really matter.



48% spend more than 60 minutes a week talking with their mothers about things that really matter.



30% report that their father is not alive or they do not know him.



16% report that their mother is not alive or they do not know her.



50% participate in weekly or daily youth group.



87% are unsure as to the existence of God.



56% have stolen in the 3 months prior to survey.



51% have read a pornographic magazine in the 3 months prior to survey.



Mexico

68

YEAR: 2008-2009

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 4,359

Gender: Male: 45% / Female: 55%

Age: 

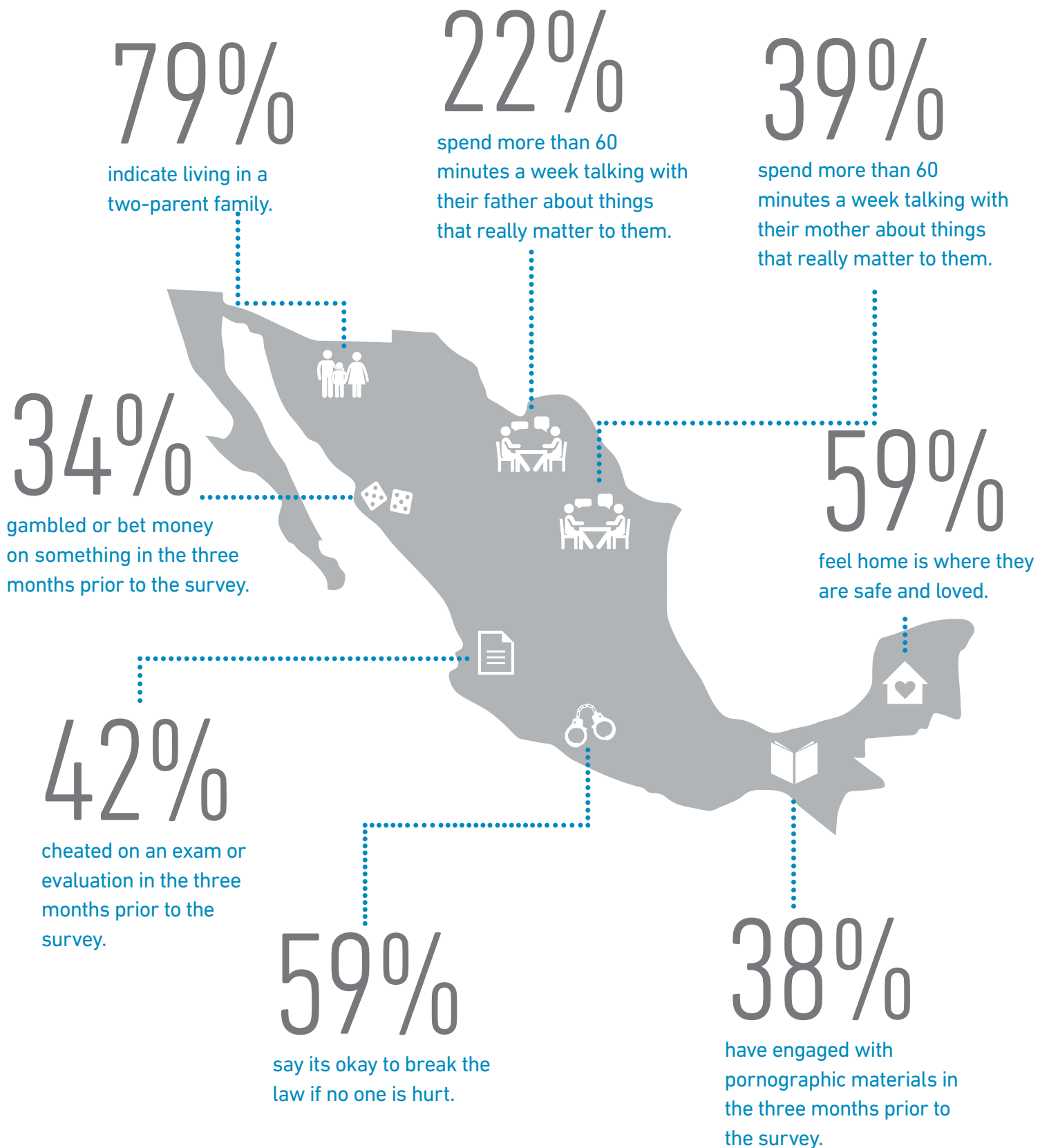
31% 14 years old or younger

20% 15 years old

33% 16 -17 years old

16% 18 years old or older





Mozambique

70

YEAR: 2010

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 3,895

Gender: Male: 52% / Female: 48%

Age: 

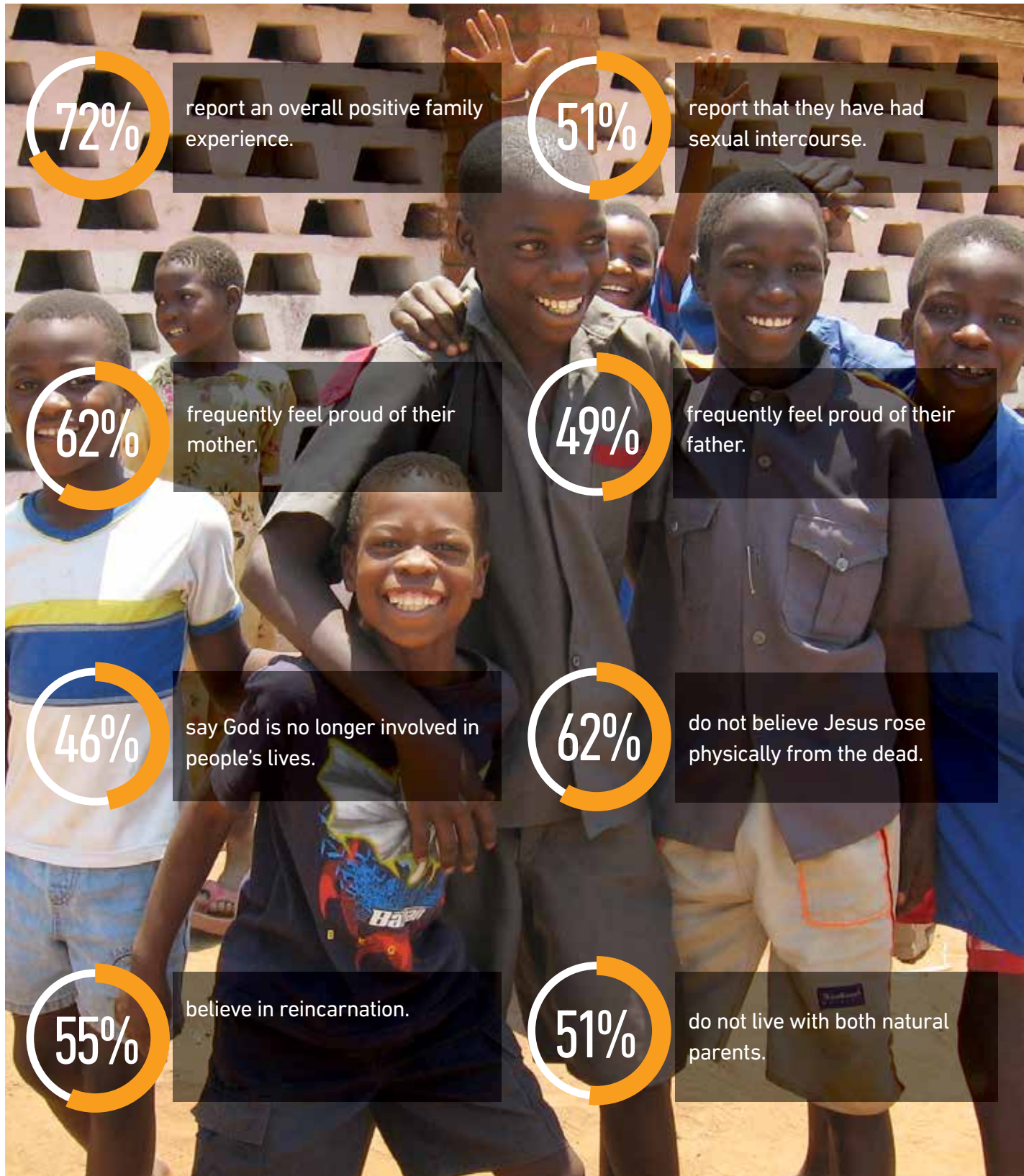
13% 14 years old or younger

18% 15 years old

42% 16-17 years old

27% 18 years old or older





Namibia

72

YEAR: 2008

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 3,256

Gender: Male: 43% / Female: 57%

Age: 

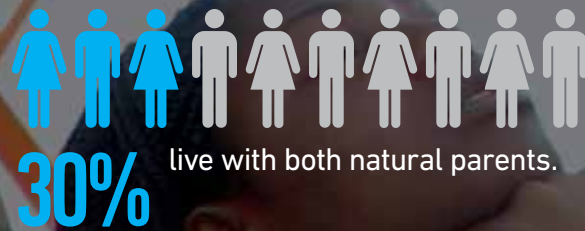
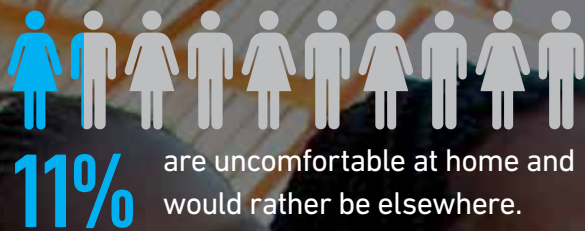
16% 14 years old or younger

15% 15 years old

38% 16-17 years old

23% 18 years old or older





Nepal

74

YEAR: 2011

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 3,771

Gender: Male: 46% / Female: 54%

Age: 

17% 13 years old or younger

25% 14 years old

29% 15 years old

26% 16-17 years old

3% 18 years old or older





72% believe that all religions teach equally valid truths.



29% believe that everyone is God.



52% can recall a time when their religious beliefs changed their behavior.



35% report weekly or daily prayer.



48% self-identify as Hindu.



40% believe that anyone who relies on the Bible for moral guidance is foolish.



57% do not know what will happen after they die.



68% believe moral behavior is relative and justified by whether or not it “works.”



Niger

76

YEAR: 2010

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 4,125

Gender: Male: 52% / Female: 48%

Age: 

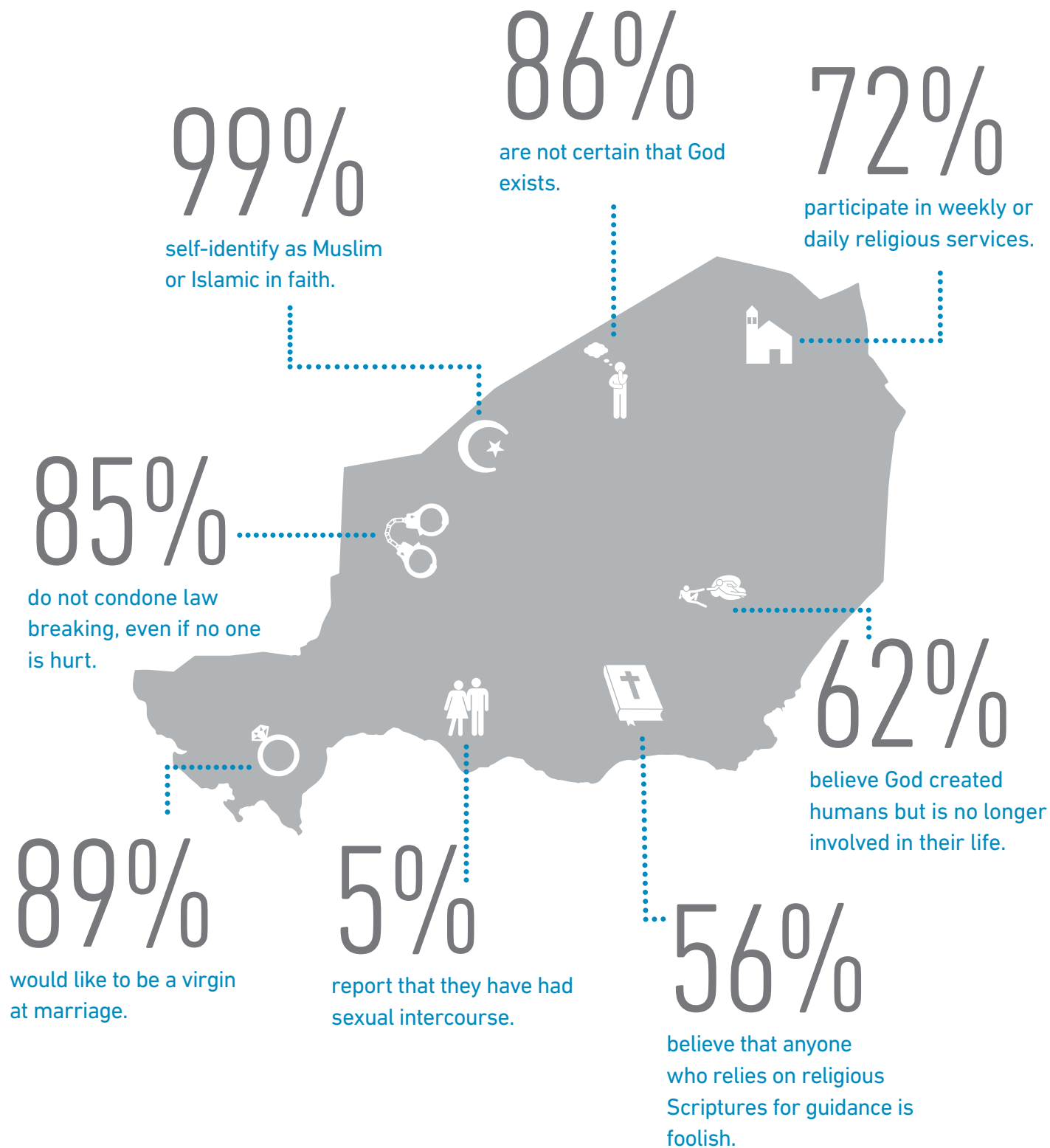
25% 14 years old or younger

21% 15 years old

31% 16-17 years old

23% 18 years old or older





Nigeria

78

YEAR: 2007-2008

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 3,412

Gender: Male: 51% / Female: 49%

Age: 

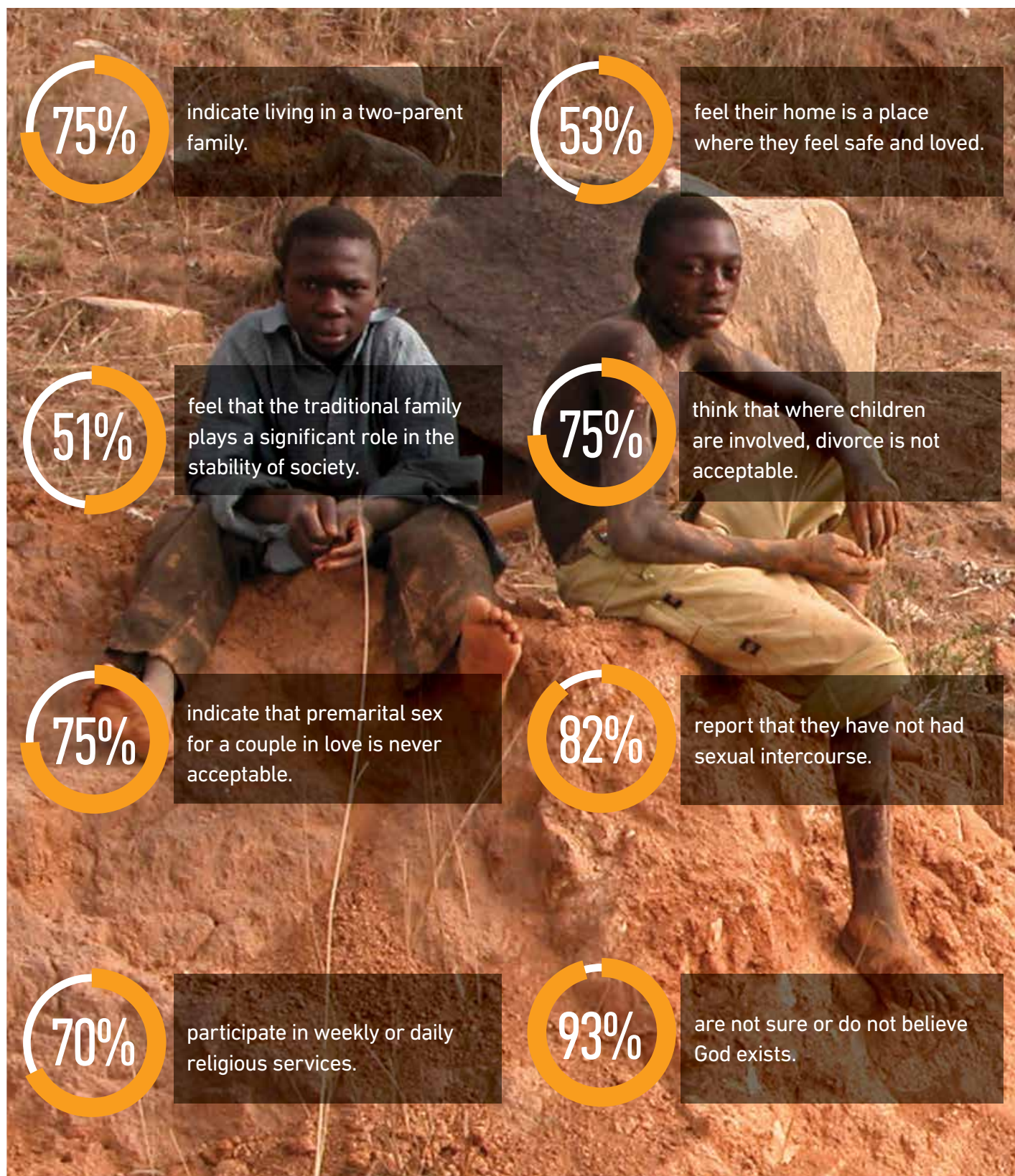
30% 14 years old or younger

17% 15 years old

29% 16-17 years old

24% 18 years old





Panama

80

YEAR: 2007-2009

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 2,222

Gender: Male: 44% / Female: 56%

Age: 

47% 14 years old or younger

15% 15 years old

31% 16 -17 years old

7% 18 years old or older





81% report that the adults in their family set good examples for them.



45% do not want a marriage like their parents'.



44% participate in weekly or daily religious services.



53% deny Jesus' physical resurrection.



4% are sure that God exists.



40% are sure that ghosts exist and influence life.



38% believe in reincarnation.



91% believe that neither the Bible nor the Koran provide practical standards for living.

Peru

82

YEAR: 2007

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 3,546

Gender: Male: 50% / Female: 50%

Age: 

55% 14 years old or younger

20% 15 years old

21% 16 -17 years old

4% 18 years old or older





72% live with both natural parents.



81% believe that they will be happy in their own marriages.



28% frequently wonder if their father loves them.



35% frequently wonder if their mother loves them.



68% would like to be a virgin when they are married.



60% said that breaking the law is okay if you don't hurt anyone.



94% did not use illegal drugs in the 3 months prior to the survey.



92% did not drink enough alcohol to be legally drunk in the 3 months prior to the survey.



Philippines

84

YEAR: 2008-2009

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 4,098

Gender: Male: 49% / Female: 51%

Age: 

28% 13 years old or younger

23% 14 years old

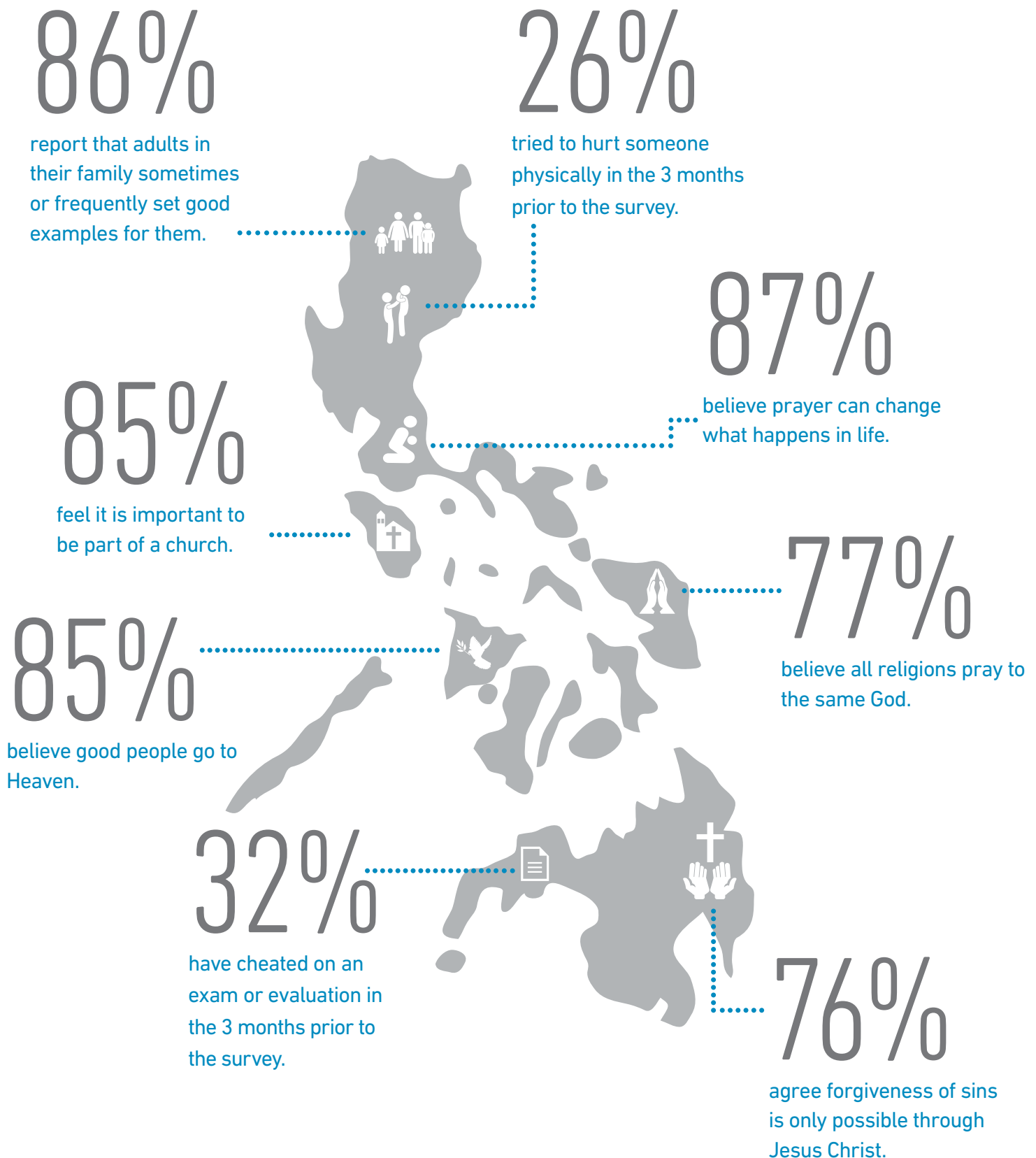
22% 15 years old

16% 16 years old

6% 17 years old

5% 18 years old or older





Russia

86

YEAR: 2007

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 3,300

Gender: Male: 46% / Female: 54%

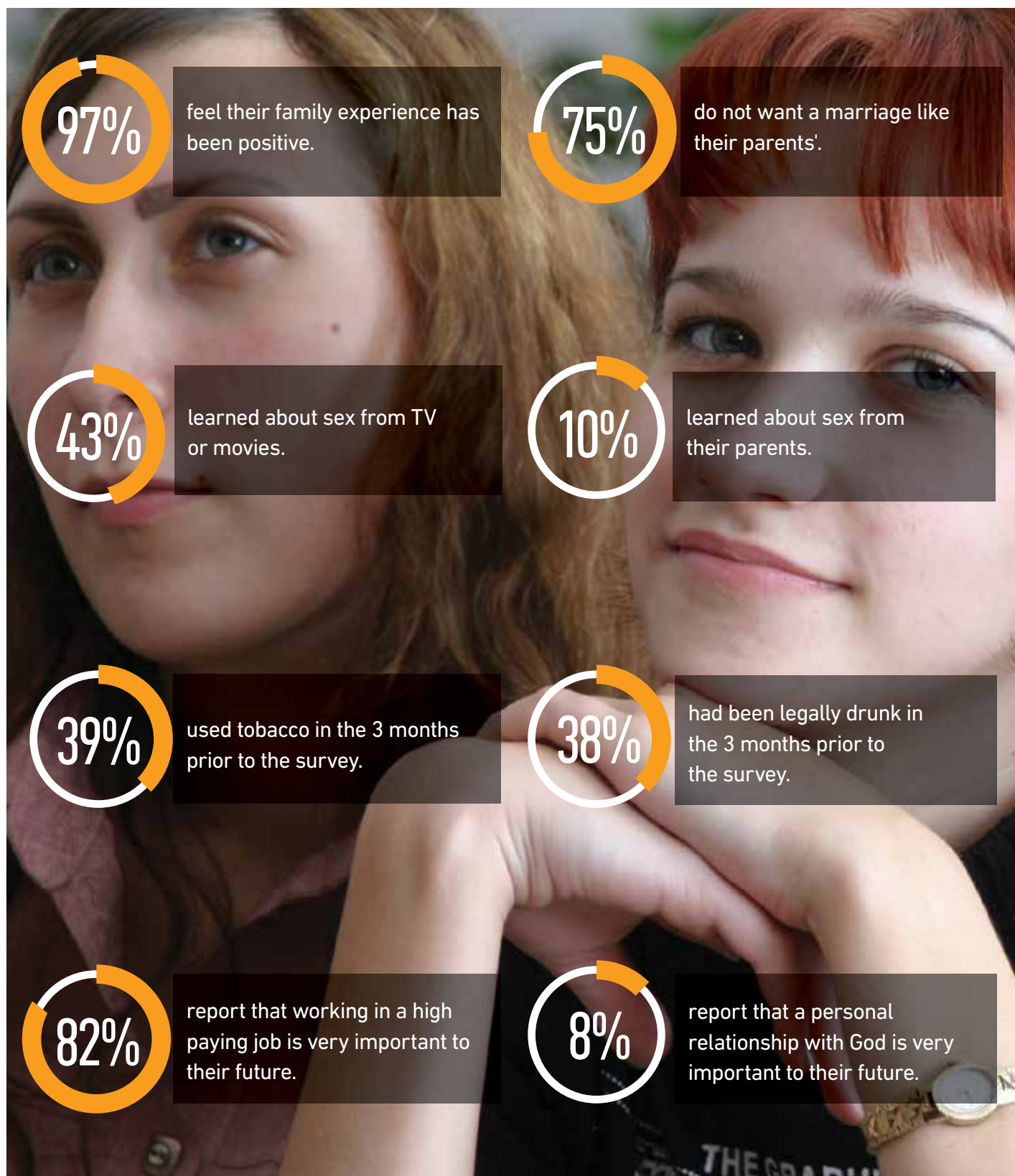
Age: 

61% 15-16 years old

32% 17-18 years old

7% older than 18 years old





Sierra Leone

88

YEAR: 2009

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 3,982

Gender: Male: 48% / Female: 52%

Age: 

27% 14 years old or younger

20% 15 years old

29% 16-17 years old

24% 18 years old





66% report that the Islamic faith has a lot of influence in their lives.



85% believe that Heaven and Hell are real places.



54% believe that Heaven can be earned by behavior and following religious rites.



44% have had sexual intercourse.



71% sometimes or frequently wonder if their mothers love them.



61% sometimes or frequently wonder if their fathers love them.



68% report that they are very satisfied with their lives.



71% do not live with both natural parents.

South Africa

90

YEAR: 2007-2008

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 4,288

Gender: Male: 47% / Female: 53%

Age: 

27% 14 years old or younger

21% 15 years old

36% 16-17 years old

16% 18 years old or older



Statistics

91



84% have made a personal commitment to Jesus that is still relevant in their lives.



53% believe Jesus did not physically return to life.



75% report that their family experience has been positive.



59% never or almost never talk to their fathers about personal concerns.



26% report that their father has died or they do not know him.



28% have had suicidal thoughts.



62% want to be a virgin at marriage.



30% have had sexual intercourse.



South Korea

92

YEAR: 2010-2011

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 4,239

Gender: Male: 50% / Female: 50%

Age: 

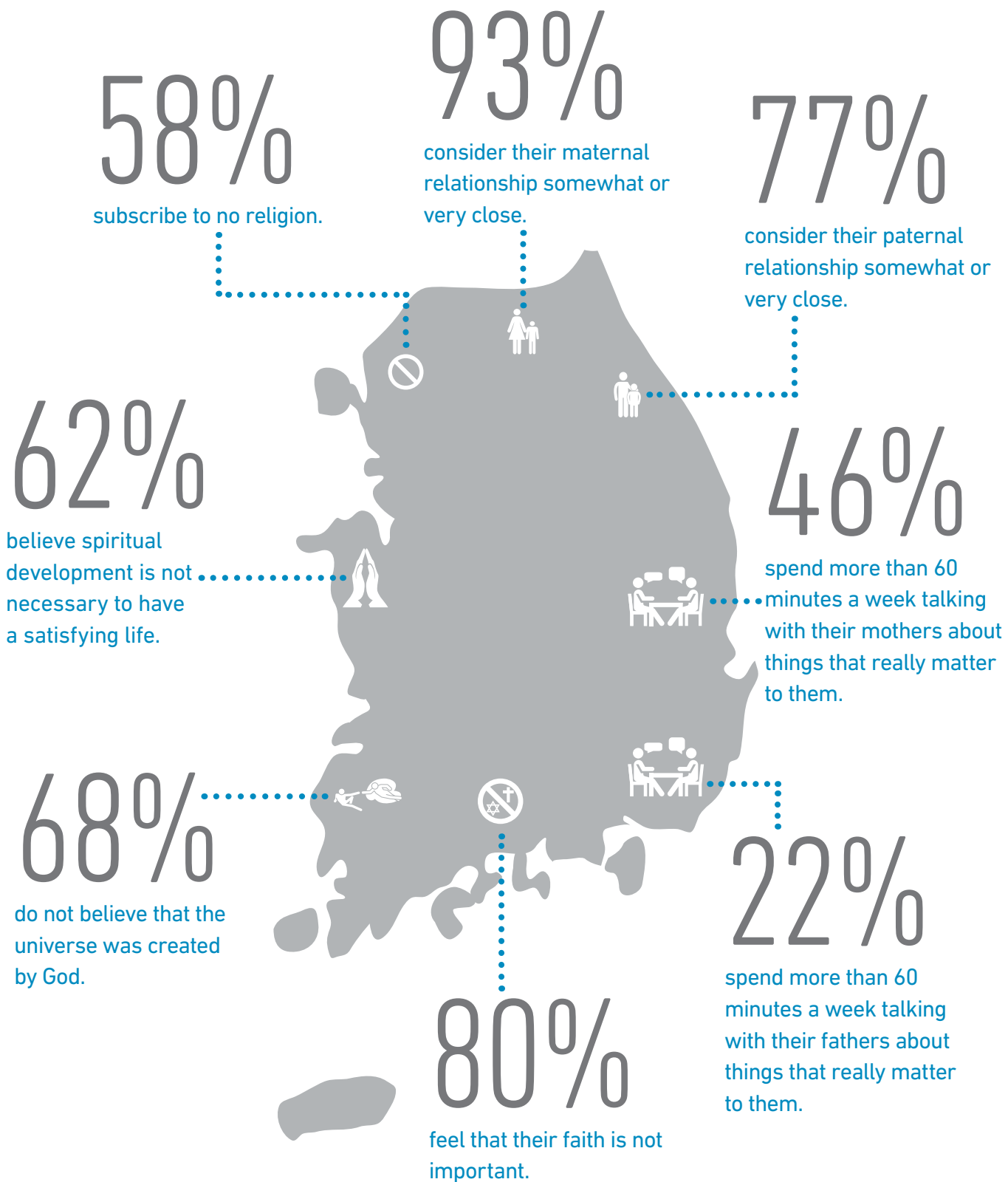
5% 15 years old or younger

35% 16 years old

43% 17 years old

17% 18 years old or older





Spain

94

YEAR: 2008

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 1,178

Gender: Male: 53% / Female: 47%

Age: 

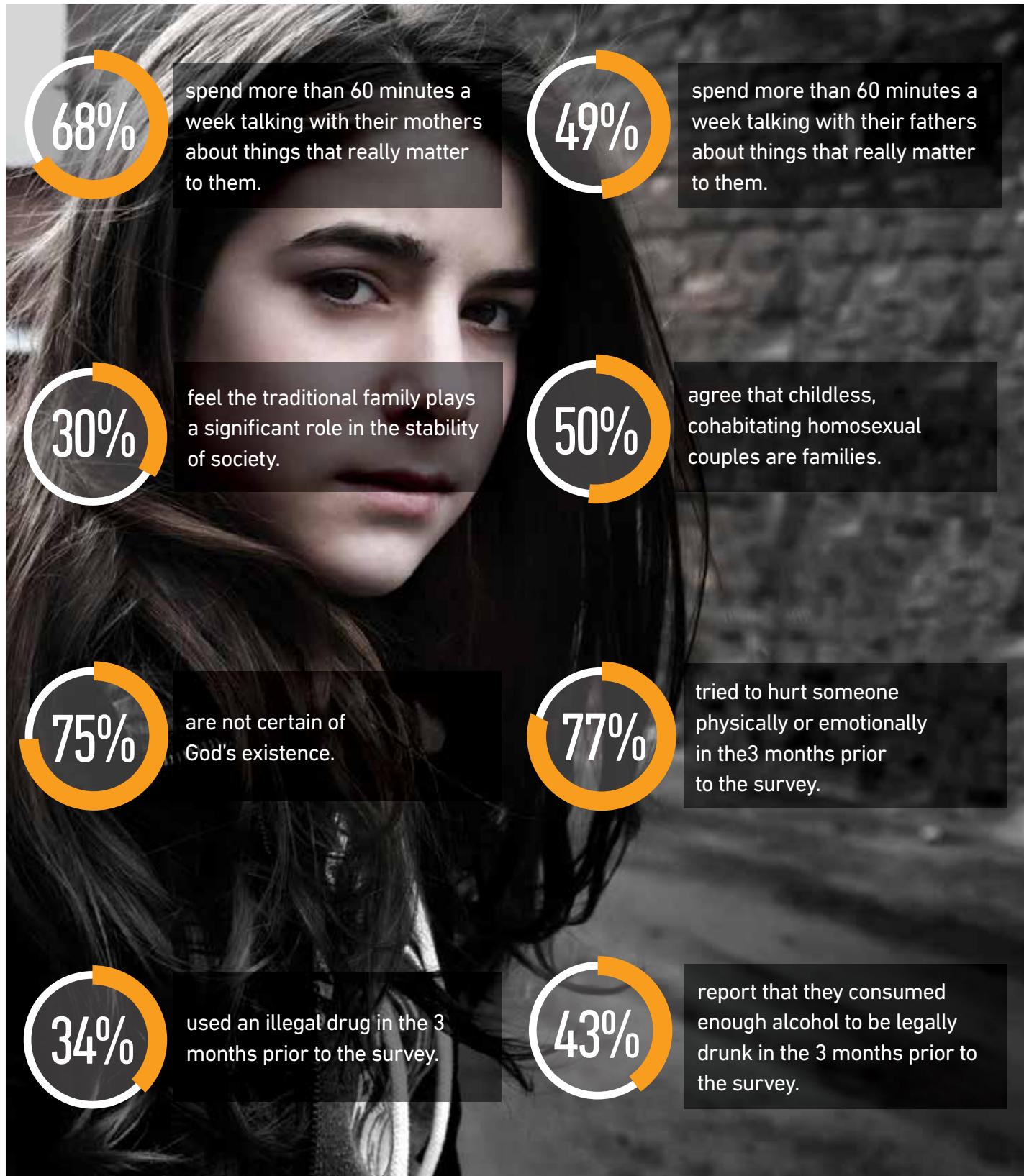
11% 13 years old or younger

28% 14 -15 years old

26% 16 -17 years old

35% 18 years old or older





Swaziland

96

YEAR: 2007

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 3,891

Gender: Male: 46% / Female: 54%

Age: 

21% 14 years old or younger

18% 15 years old

35% 16-17 years old

26% 18 years old or older





63% feel very close to their mother.



37% feel very close to their father.



64% do not live with both natural parents.



79% said forgiveness for sin comes only through faith in Jesus.



34% report that their father has died or they do not know him.



16% report that their mother has died or they do not know her.



39% agree that the idea of sin is outdated.



70% believe that ghosts may or do exist.

Tanzania

98

YEAR: 2008

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 3,287

Gender: Male: 52% / Female: 48%

Age: 

10% 14 years old or younger

14% 15 years old

45% 16-17 years old

31% 18 years old or older



Statistics

99



64% report that the adults in their family frequently demonstrate love for each other.



77% would like to be a virgin at marriage.



44% feel that the traditional family plays a significant role in the stability of society.



39% cannot recall a time when their religious beliefs changed their behavior.



20% report that one or both parents have died.



68% are certain that ghosts exist and influence life.



75% believe that the Bible provides absolute moral truth that is the same for all people.



72% believe that moral behavior is relative and justified by whether or not it "works."



Thailand

100

YEAR: 2010

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 4,238

Gender: Male: 50% / Female: 50%

Age: 

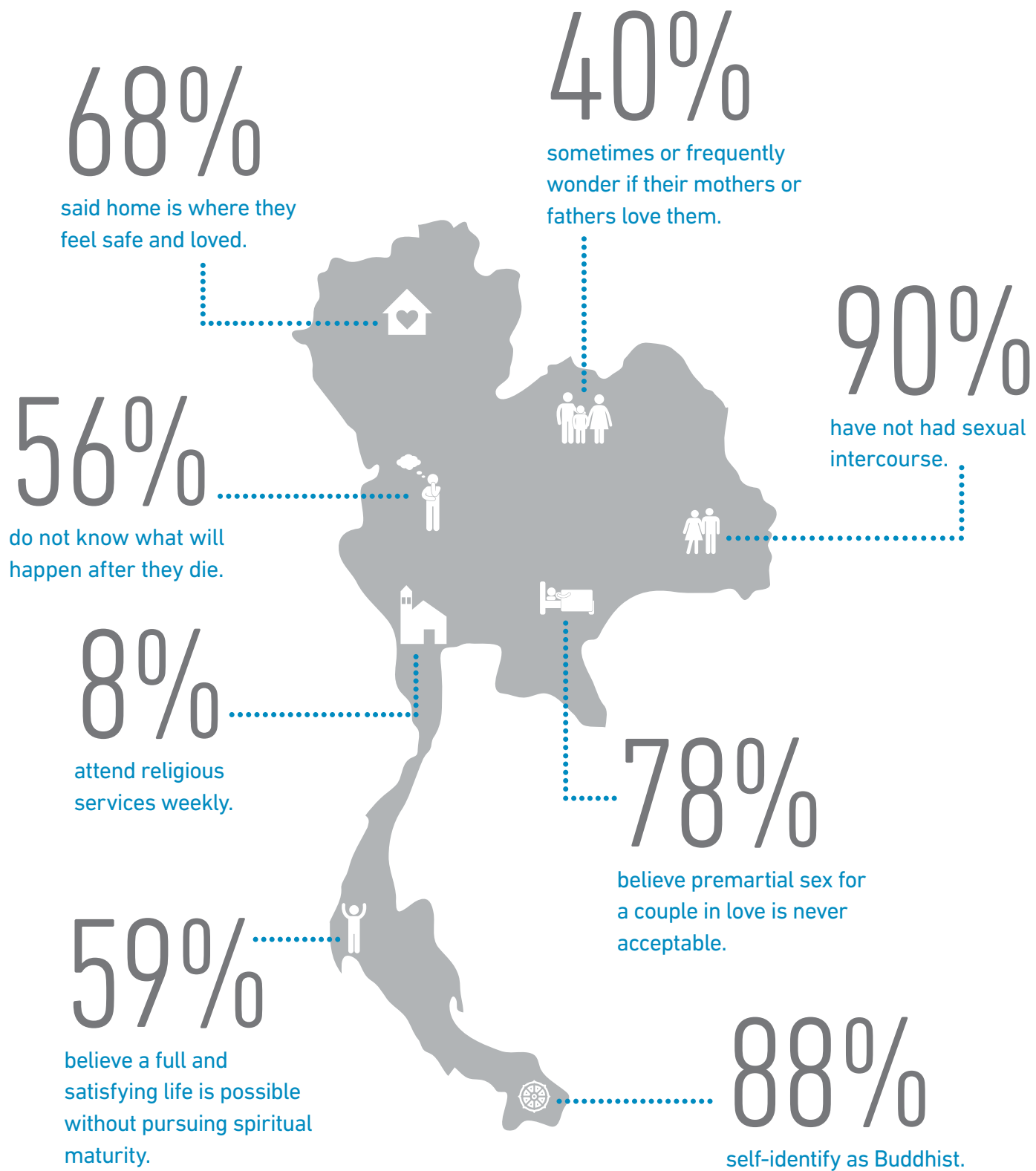
32% 13 years old or younger

30% 14 years old

16% 15 years old

22% 16-18 years old





Togo

102

YEAR: 2007-2008

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 4,164

Gender: Male: 50% / Female: 50%

Age: 

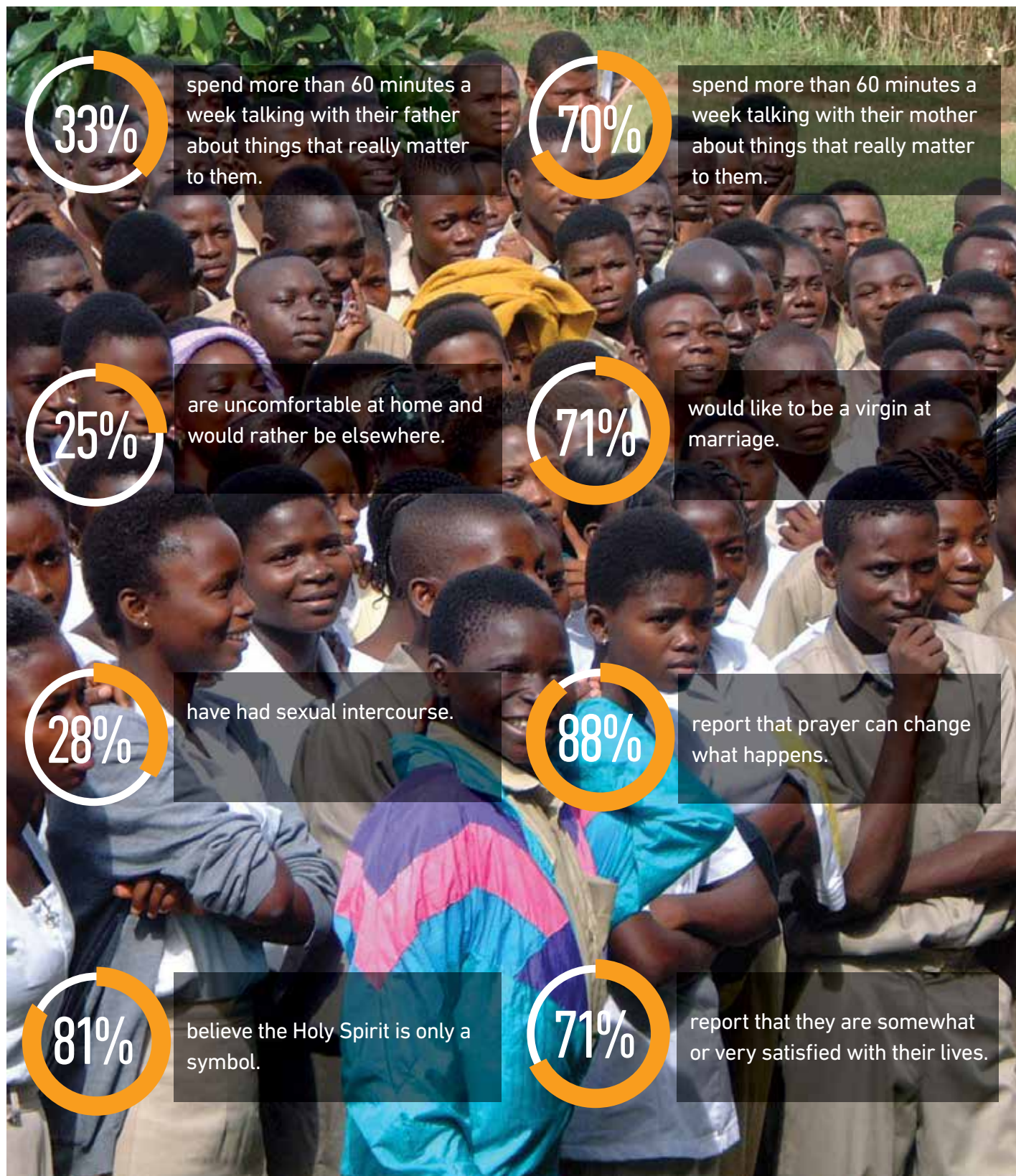
41% 14 years old or younger

15% 15 years old

22% 16-17 years old

22% 18 years old or older





Uganda

104

YEAR: 2008

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 4,476

Gender: Male: 51% / Female: 49%

Age: 

23% 14 years old or younger

20% 15 years old

36% 16-17 years old

21% 18 years old or older





64% feel very close to their mother.



40% report there is too much pressure to get married, and would rather live together.



45% feel very close to their father.



89% said they have a responsibility to share their faith.



25% report that their father is not alive or that they do not know him.



84% believe all religions pray to the same God.



56% would like to have a marriage like their parents'.



81% report that living with a high degree of integrity is very important for their future.

United Kingdom

106

YEAR: 2011

METHOD: Online Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 3,951

Gender: Male: 53% / Female: 47%

Age: 

30% 14 years old or younger

18% 15 years old

34% 16-17 years old

18% 18 years old or older



Statistics

107



91% are somewhat or very satisfied with their lives.



76% cannot recall a time when their religious beliefs changed their behavior.



40% do not know what they believe about God.



28% believe there is no God.



48% do not believe Heaven and Hell are real places.



34% identify with no religion.



28% have had sexual intercourse.



44% believe premarital sex is always acceptable.



United States of America

108

YEAR: 2010

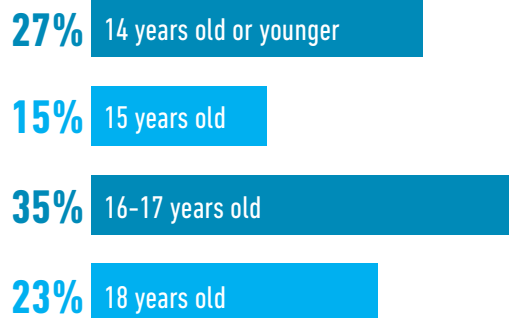
METHOD: Online Survey

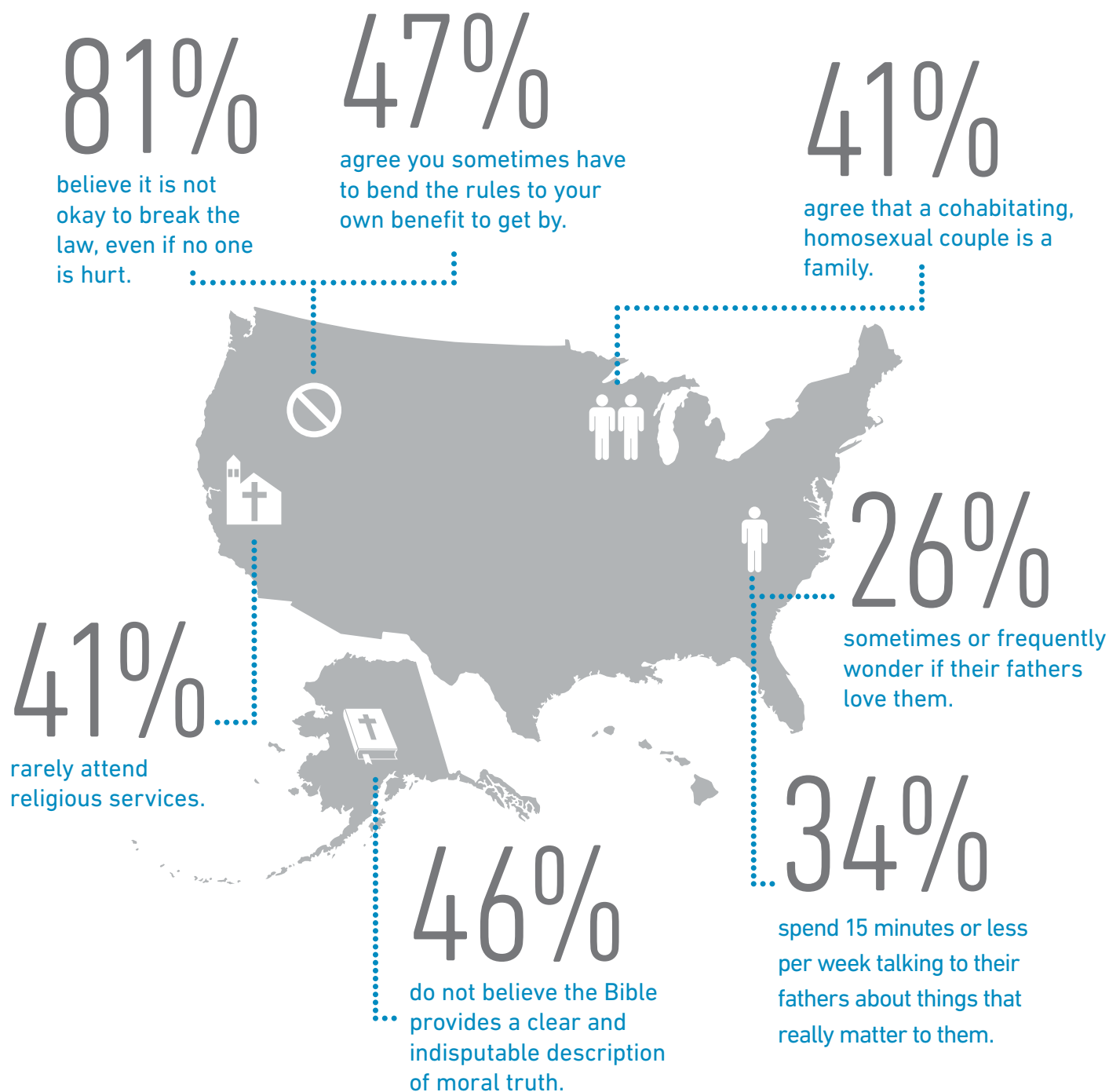
SAMPLE:

Size: 5,108

Gender: Male: 43% / Female: 57%

Age: 





Zambia

110

YEAR: 2010

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 4,034

Gender: Male: 53% / Female: 47%

Age: 

16% 14 years old or younger

13% 15 years old

42% 16-17 years old

29% 18 years old or older





Zimbabwe

112

YEAR: 2010

METHOD: School Survey

SAMPLE:

Size: 3,876

Gender: Male: 49% / Female: 51%

Age: 

16% 14 years old or younger

23% 15 years old

46% 16-17 years old

15% 18 years old





49% do not live with both natural parents.



49% approve of divorce even when children are involved.



72% do not feel the traditional family is essential for the stability of society.



57% read the Bible for an hour or more weekly.



77% report that a close relationship with God is very important to their future.



60% believe all religions pray to the same God.



85% believe forgiveness of sins is only possible through faith in Jesus Christ.



55% know that something is morally or ethically right if it works in their lives.

CHECK IT OUT

A considerable amount of work and time has gone into this study. It is OneHope's desire to make this information available to any individual or organization working with youth in order to best serve the needs of youth in specific contexts. The data provides a baseline of the current state of youth in particular nations, as well as commonalities and comparisons amongst demographics. The full analysis provides information on what is relevant to youth in various cultures, which can be used for vision casting, building collaborations, product design, and program development.

We invite you use it and to spread the word.

www.onehope.net/research

ABOUT ONEHOPE

OneHope is an international ministry that is changing lives by sharing Scripture with young people around the world.

After becoming president, Rob Hoskins transformed how OneHope conducts ministry. Instead of focusing on outputs—counting how many children and youth have received God's Word—OneHope now focuses on outcomes—measuring how effective its programs have been and whether lives have been transformed by God's Word.

Each Scripture program is age-specific and customized based on research OneHope conducts among children and youth, leaders and educators in the countries it works. What started as a single book in 1987 has evolved into more than a dozen innovative mediums—online games, films, mobile apps, trading cards, storytelling, sports camps—that effectively communicate a relevant message of hope to children and youth.

Through partnerships with churches and ministries—and working with local governments, schools and non-governmental organizations—OneHope has reached nearly a billion young people in more than 125 countries with a relevant Gospel message. www.OneHope.net.

THANK YOU

On a trip to Swaziland in 2006 I was struck with the reality that Christian ministries had been working in the country for literally hundreds of years. In fact, 87% of all Swazis report being Christian (*The Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life*). But on this particular visit I watched Swazi Christians attend church on Sunday and visit a Shaman later in the week. At that moment, I realized we needed to learn more about each country, its customs and challenges to ensure true life transformation is taking place; not just increased activity or religious affiliation. That trip was the catalyst for the *Spiritual State of the World's Children* research initiative.

I am so thankful for the insights this research has produced. This research has opened doors in countries and led us to new partnerships. But most importantly, this research has caused our ministry to be more effective at transforming lives.

I am grateful for the help of the Josh McDowell Ministry, who gave us the Attitudes and Behaviors of Youth (ABY) instrument administered in the SSWC studies, and to the Maclellan Foundation, for their generous funding and support.

I am also grateful for our partners at Metadigm. Because of their diligent research, we are better equipped with a greater understanding of the children and communities of the world we are seeking to engage with the Gospel.

Lastly, I am grateful to the OneHope staff and partners, and countless numbers of volunteers, who, through their tireless efforts and prayers, are helping us reach every child with God's Word! Through your time and effort we are able to do more than we ever hoped for the Kingdom.

I hope you are as inspired by these findings as I am.

-Rob



www.onehope.net/research



Beliefs



Relationships



Background



Family



Religion



Choices