



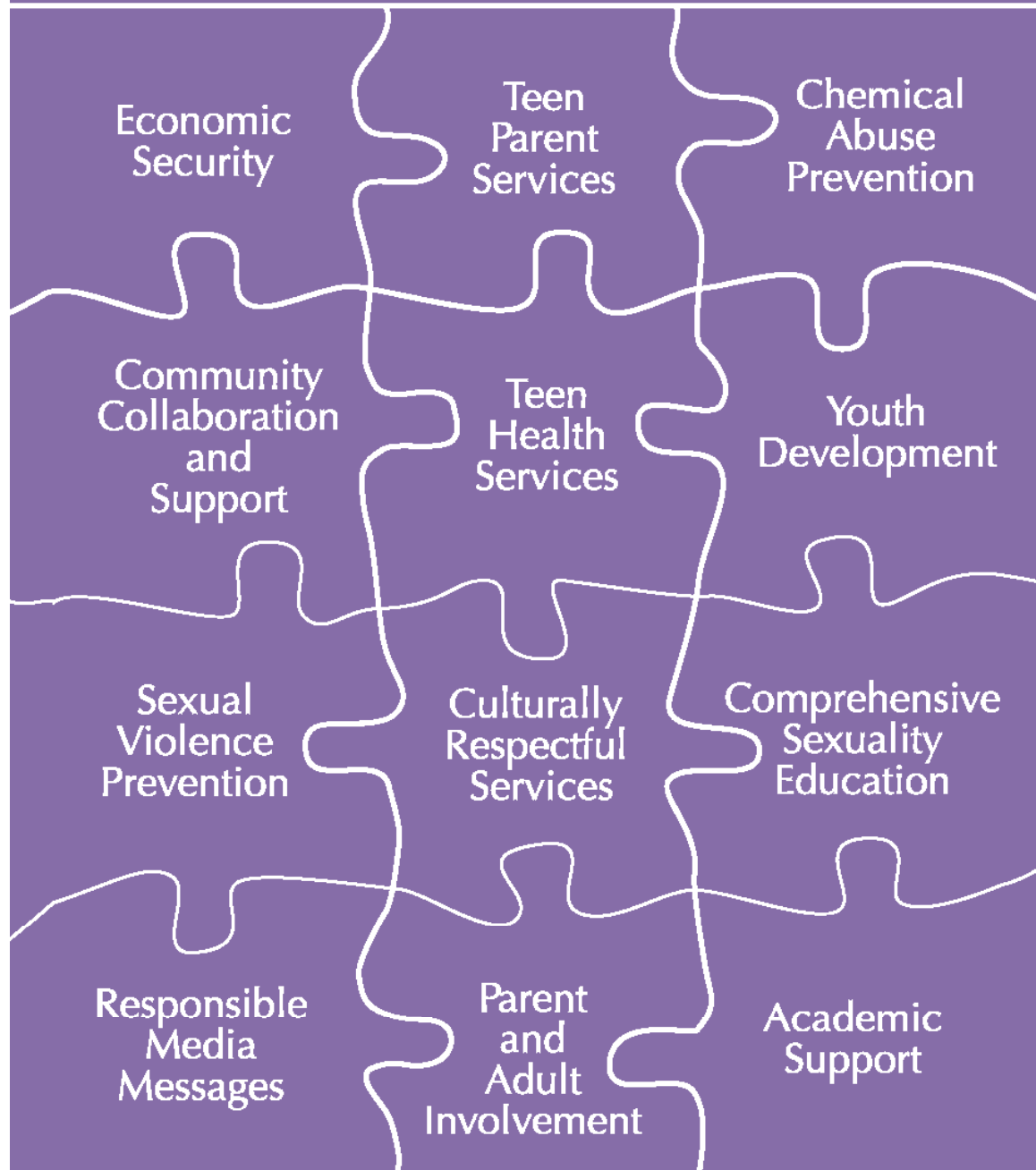
# Let's Talk...

## 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

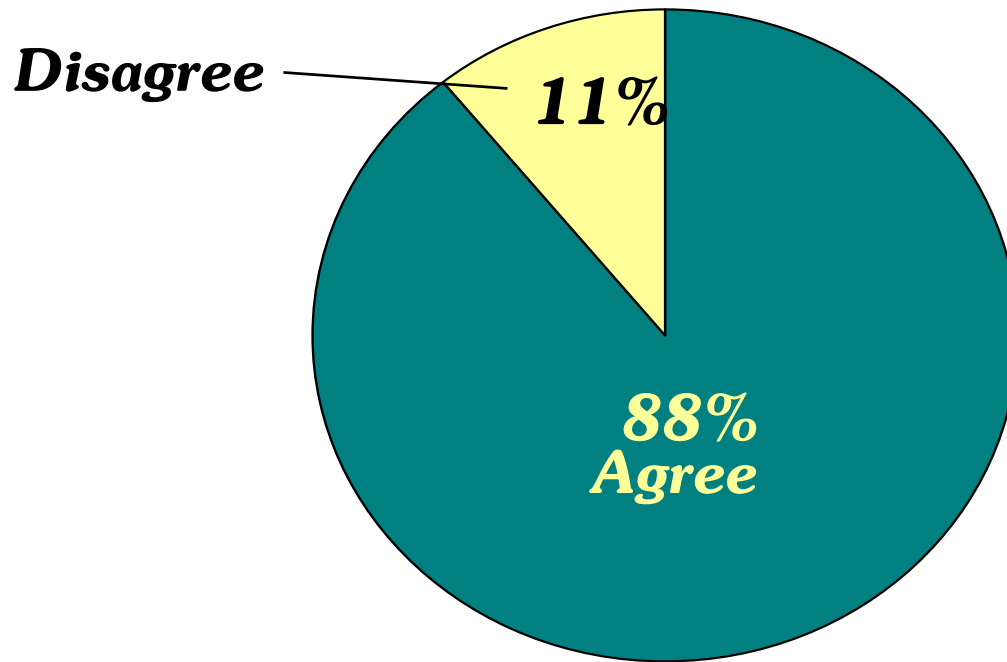
# National Survey



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**

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**Agree**

**88.4%**

**Disagree**

**10.8%**

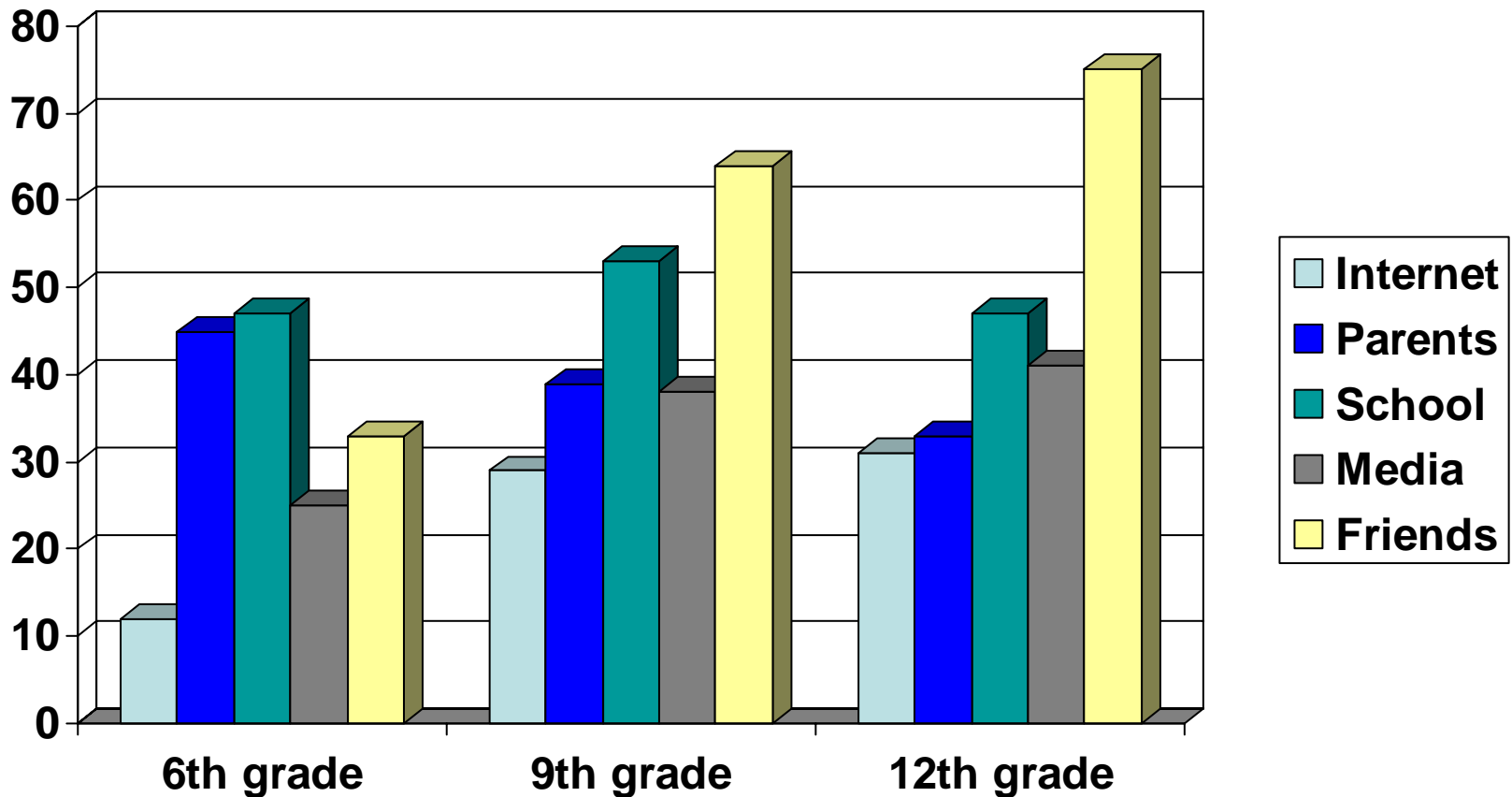
## **4 primary sources of sexuality information for adolescents**

- Peers
- Media
- Parents
- School

# 2004 Minnesota Student Survey

Where have you received most of your information about sex?

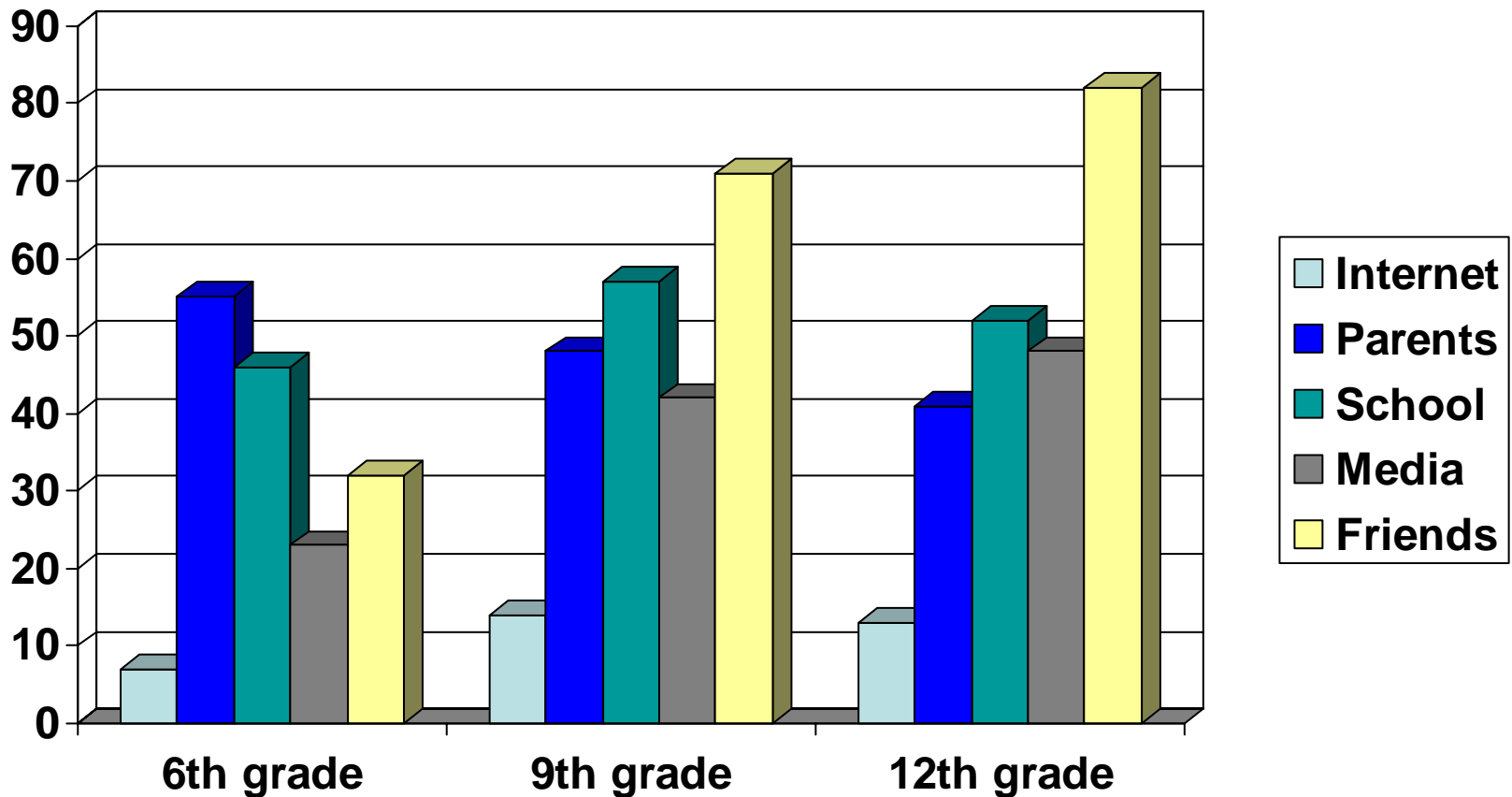
Male Students



# 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

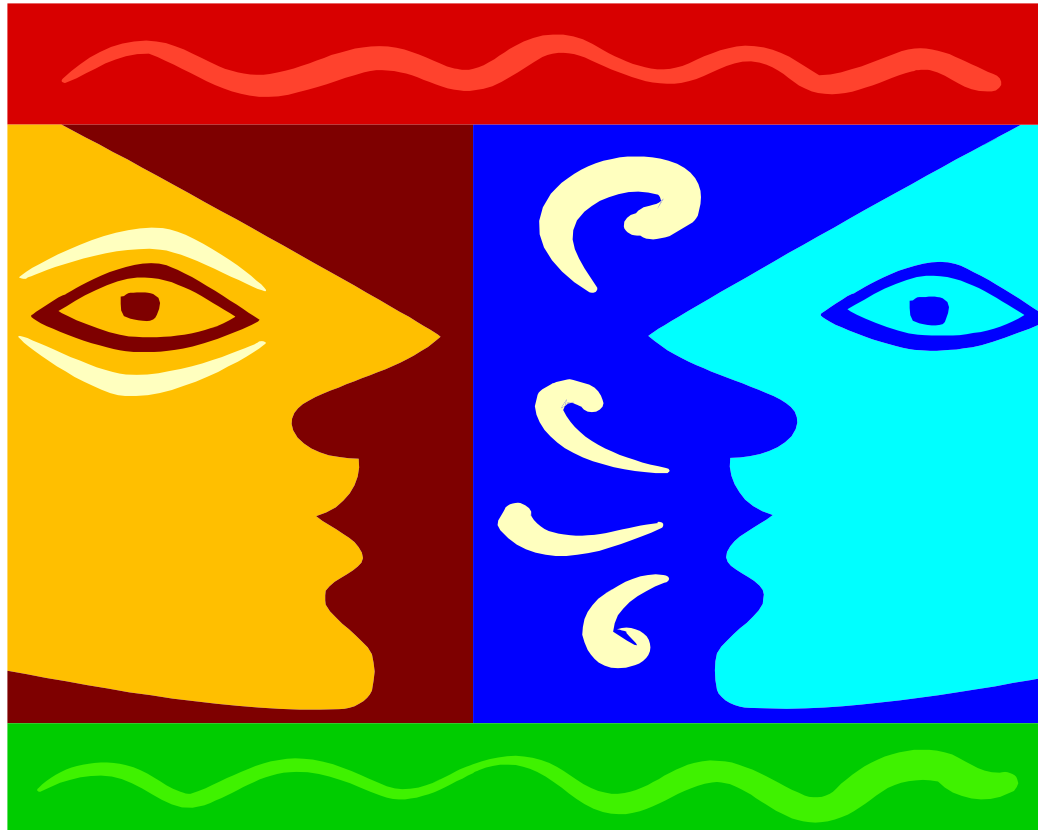
64% - don't think parents understand

# National Survey

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

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

**Parents *Are***



**Sexuality Educators**