

# Changes in Family Structure, Family Values, and Politics: 1972 - 2006

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Table 1. Changes in Marital Status: 1972 - 2006

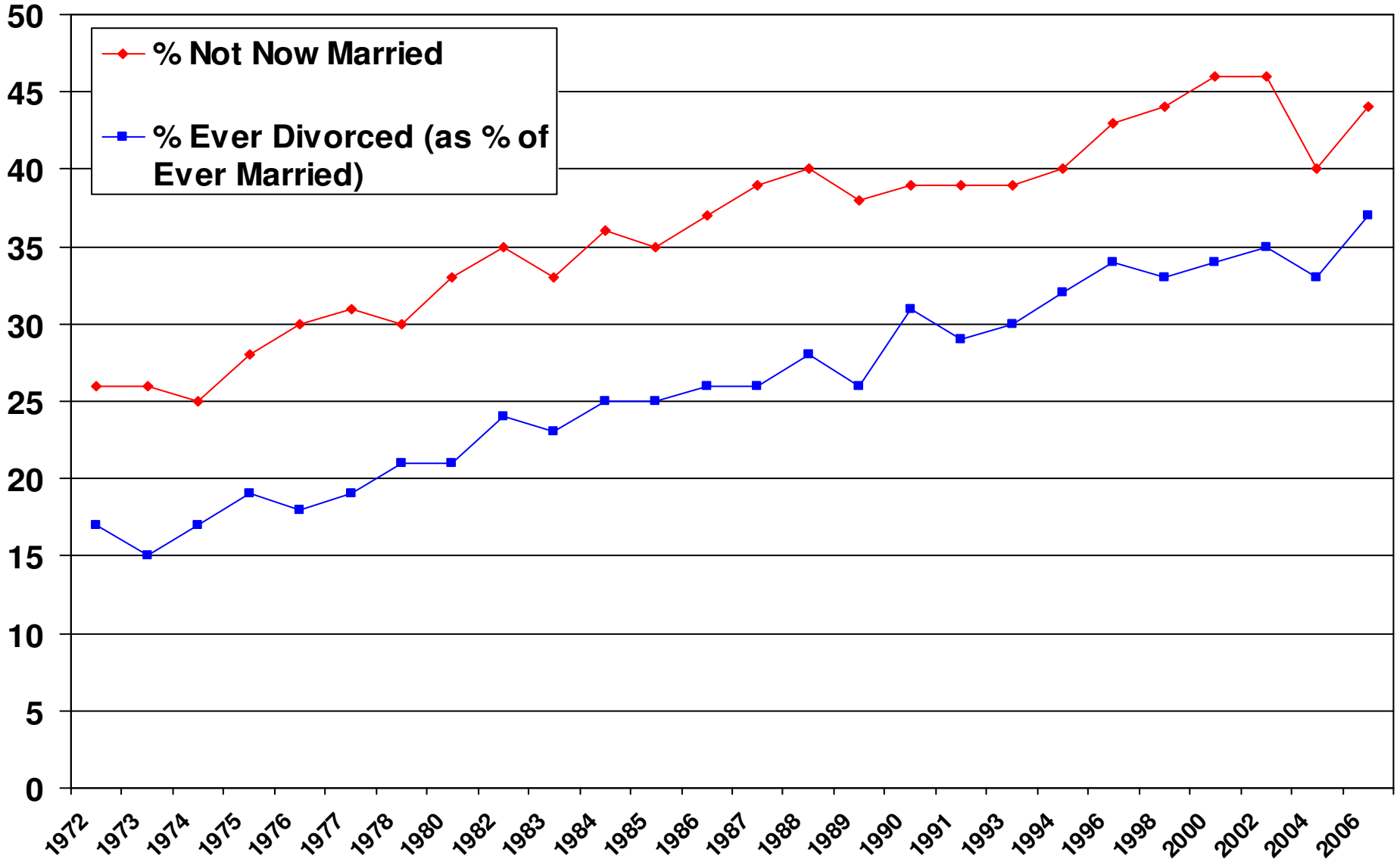
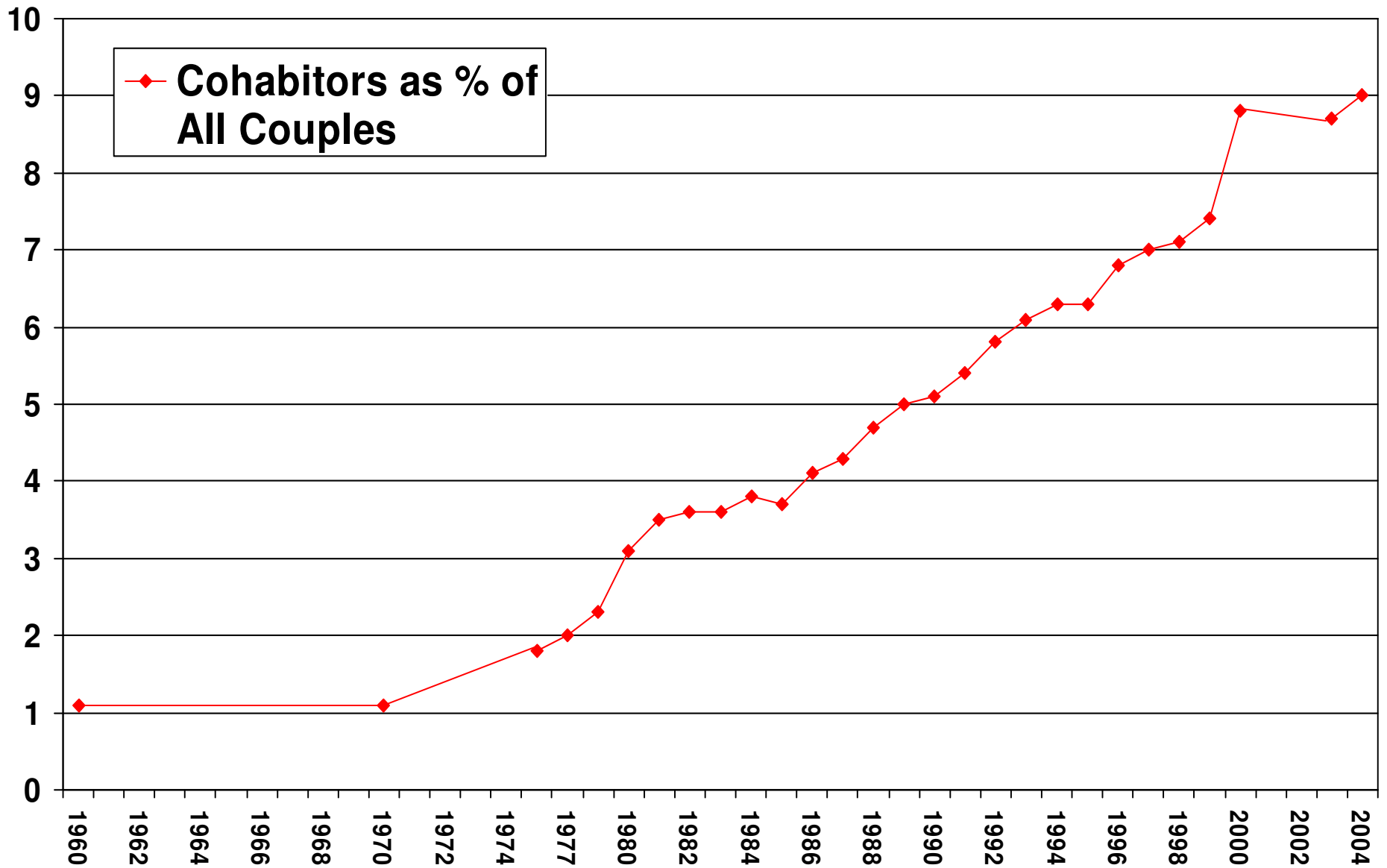


Table 2. Trends in Cohabitation: 1960 - 2004



Source: Glick and Spanier, 1980; Spanier, 1983; Thornton, 1988; Current Population Surveys, 1987-1997; GSS

Table 3. Trends in Children: 1972 - 2006

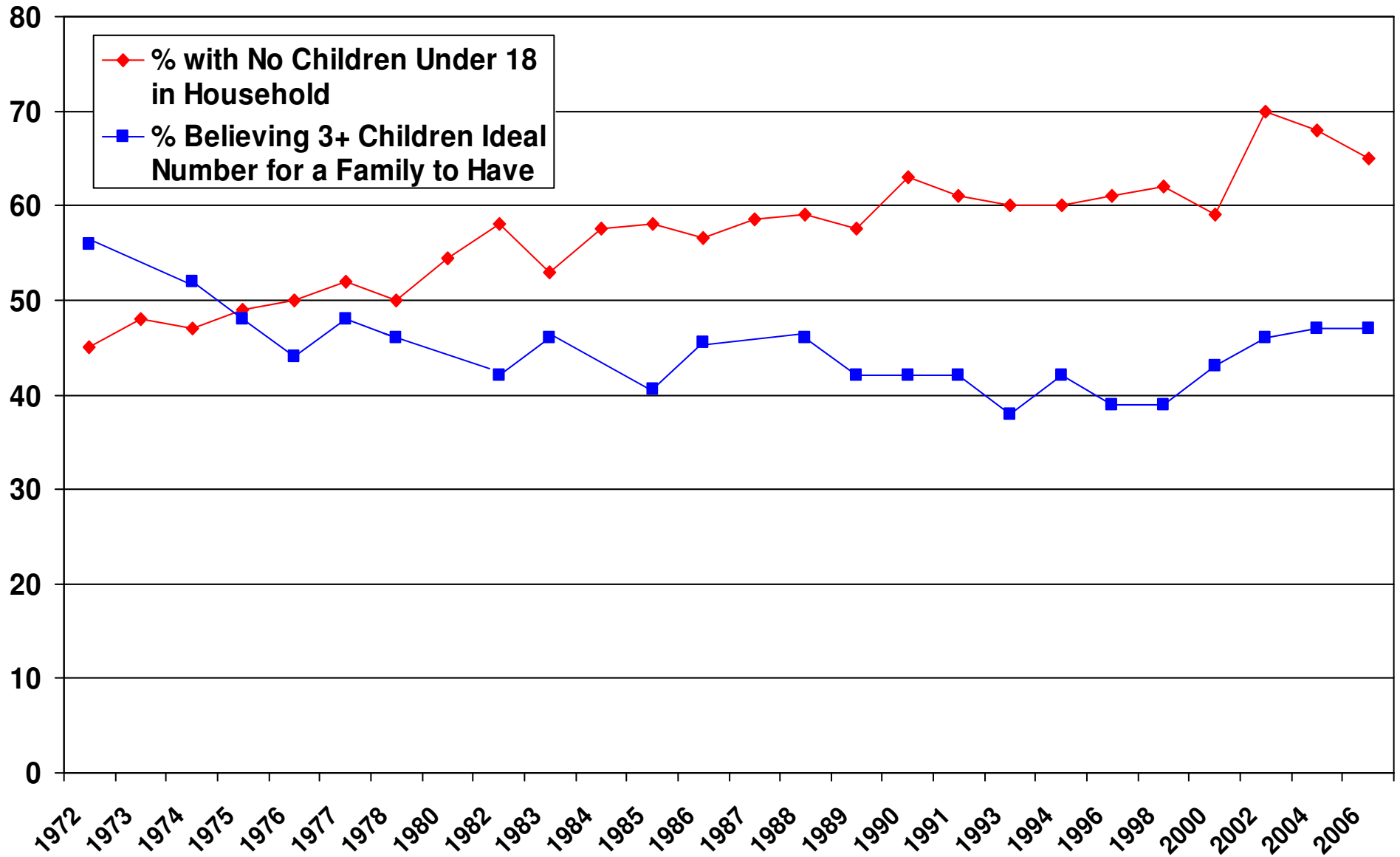
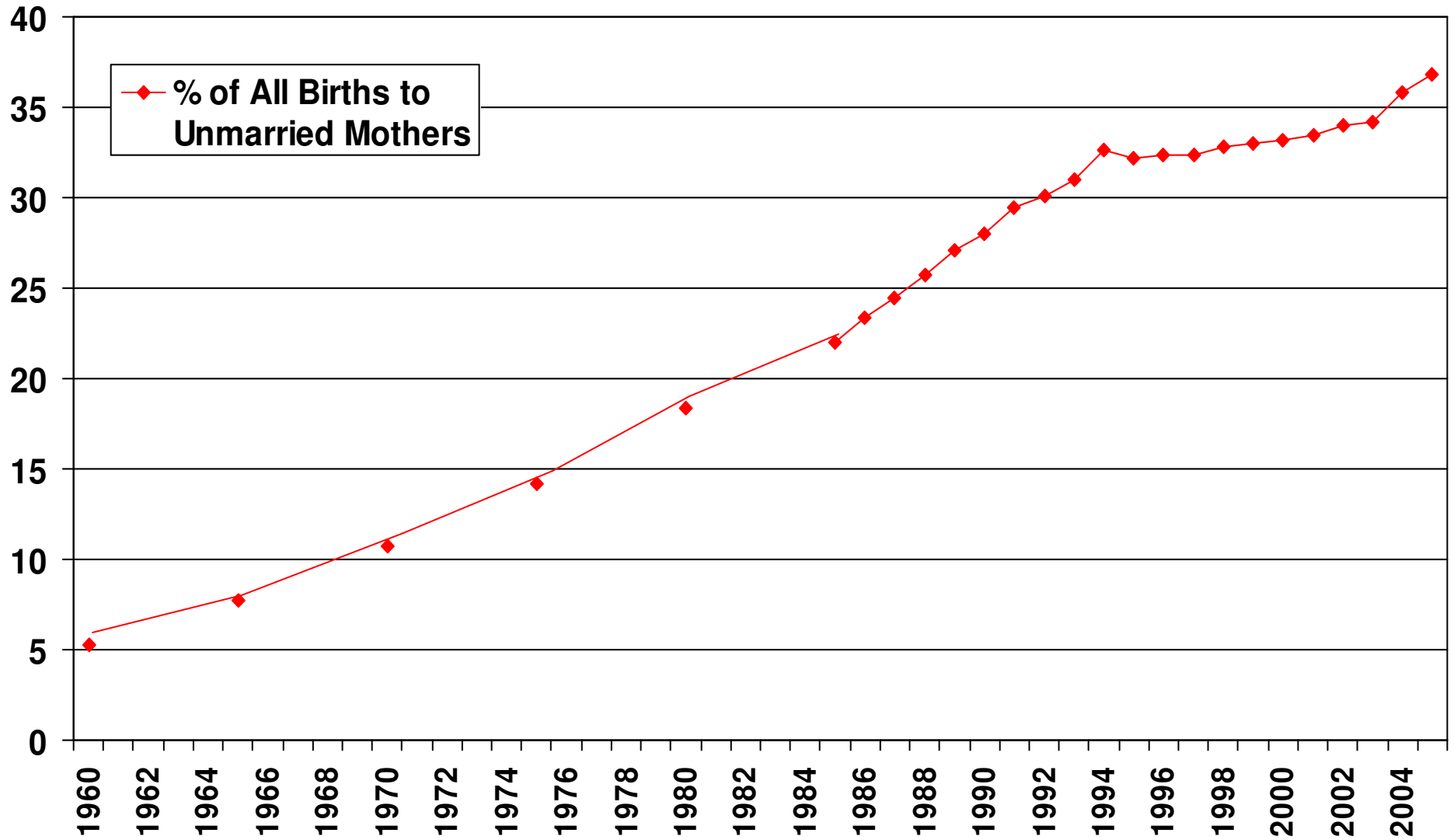


Table 4. Trends in Out-of-Marriage Births: 1960 - 2005



Source: Statistical Abstracts

**Table 5. Trends in the Living Arrangements of Households**

	<b>Married, No Children</b>	<b>Married, Children</b>	<b>Not Married, No Children</b>	<b>Not Married, Children</b>
<b>1972</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>1973</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>1974</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>1975</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>1976</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>1977</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>19.5</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>1978</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>39.5</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>1980</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>10.5</b>
<b>1982</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>25.5</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>1983</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>35.5</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>11.5</b>
<b>1984</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>1985</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>1986</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>1987</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>10.5</b>
<b>1988</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>1989</b>	<b>30.5</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>1990</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>1991</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>1993</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>1994</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>1996</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>1998</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>2000</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27.5</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>2002</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>2004</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>2006</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>12</b>

Table 6. Trends in Child Bearing and Rearing

	Empty Nest	Childless	Parent	Step-parent
1972	27%	18%	49%	6%
1973	28	20	46	6
1974	29	18	48	5
1975	29	20	45	6
1976	31	19	43	7
1977	32	20	42	6
1978	29	21	44	6
1980	33	22	41	5
1982	35	23.5	37	5
1983	32.5	21	41	6
1984	32	25	38	5
1985	36	22	36	5
1986	34	23	39	5
1987	34	24	38	4
1988	35	24	37	4
1989	35	23	37	6
1990	38	25	33	4
1991	36	25	36	3
1993	36	24	35.5	4
1994	36	24	36	4
1996	36.5	24	35	4
1998	38	24	35	3
2000	34	25	37	4
2002	44	26	27.5	3
2004	43	25	29	3
2006	41	24	31	4

## Table 7. % of Children in Various Types of Families

	Single Parent	Two Parent, Continuing	Two Parent, Remarried	Two Adults, Ex-married	Two Adults, Never Married
1972	4.9	73.0	9.9	3.8	8.6
1973	6.4	71.8	9.2	6.4	6.2
1974	6.0	71.4	12.0	4.1	6.6
1975	8.3	65.1	14.8	4.8	7.0
1976	10.8	63.8	11.0	3.8	10.6
1977	12.5	63.4	13.1	3.2	7.9
1978	10.3	65.3	13.6	4.0	6.9
1980	13.2	61.7	12.7	5.8	6.8
1982	14.3	59.3	13.7	5.2	7.3
1983	13.6	61.8	12.2	4.6	7.8
1984	15.0	58.4	14.2	6.5	5.9
1985	14.1	61.4	12.2	4.6	7.7
1986	11.4	61.0	13.6	6.6	7.4
1987	10.3	60.4	14.9	8.3	6.1
1988	18.6	54.7	13.0	5.0	8.7
1989	15.9	56.5	12.2	7.3	8.1
1990	15.0	56.1	17.9	5.1	6.0
1991	18.7	53.6	15.5	5.2	7.0
1993	15.9	57.7	13.2	6.6	6.7
1994	18.5	52.8	14.7	7.1	7.0
1996	19.7	48.8	14.4	8.5	8.7
1998	18.2	51.7	12.3	8.6	9.2
2000	20.7	48.9	13.6	7.8	9.0
2002	22.5	48.1	11.2	8.5	9.8
2004	17.4	51.0	14.7	8.2	8.6
2006	16.2	50.0	14.4	7.5	12.0



Table 8. Gender of Single Parents in Households with Children Under 18

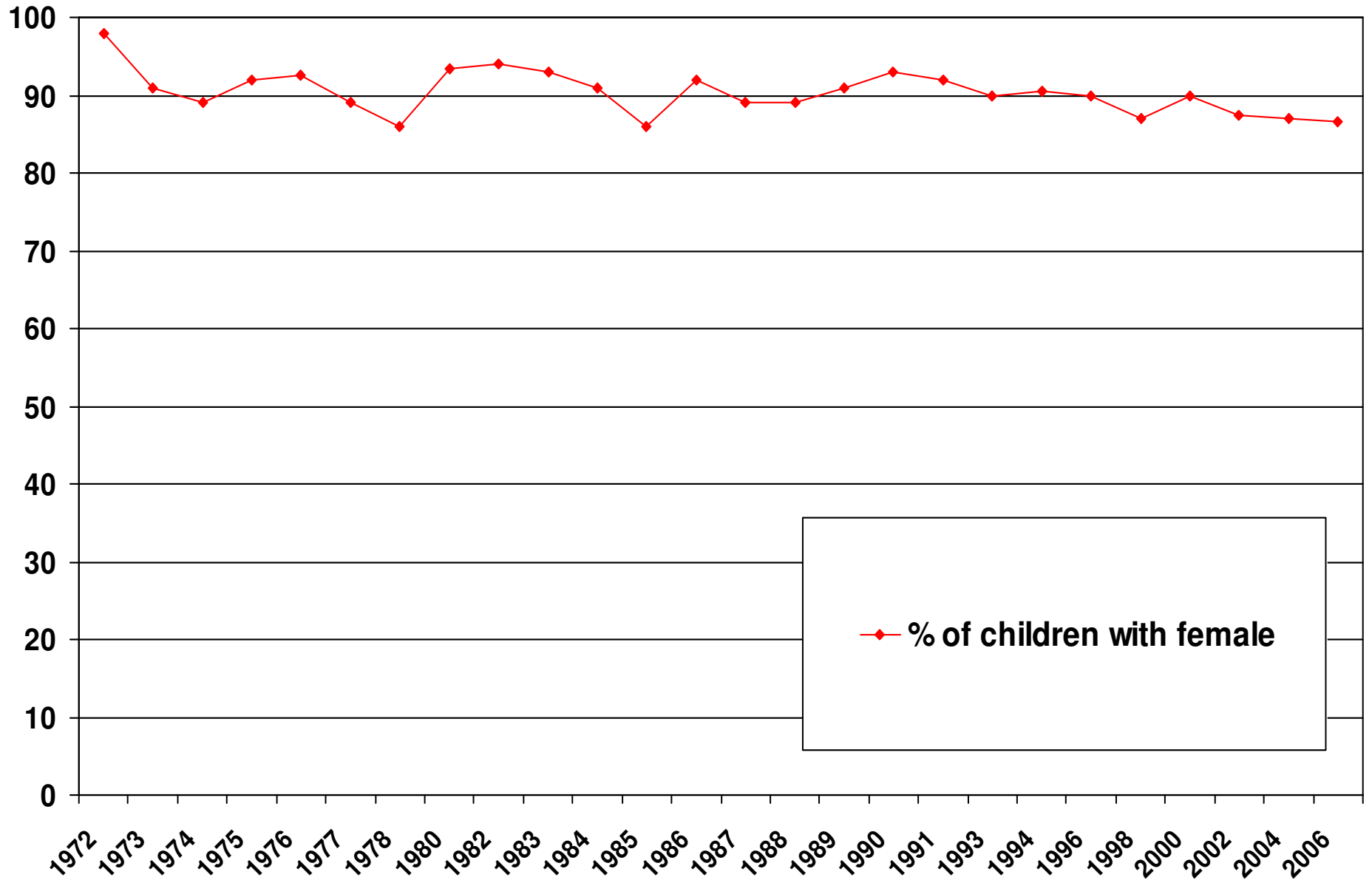


Table 9. Trends in Labor Force Participation of Married Couples with Children Under 18 in Household

	Traditional: Husband Works, Wife at Home	Modern: Both Work, Outside Home	Non-Trad.: Wife Works, Husband Home	"Retired": Neither Works
1972	60%	33%	2%	4%
1973	58	34.5	2	5
1974	57	39	0.5	4
1975	54	40	2	3.5
1976	54.5	48	3	5
1977	52	41.5	2	4
1978	54.5	42	1	2.5
1980	46	49	2.5	2
1982	43	50	3	4.5
1983	45	52	1	2
1984	40	54	3	3
1985	37	58	4	1.5
1986	34	60	2	5
1987	31	63	2.5	4
1988	33	64	2	1.5
1989	32	63	3	2
1990	33	62	2	3
1991	33	61	2	4
1993	27	67	3	2
1994	28	66	4	2
1996	29	66	3	2
1998	27	67	4	2
2000	28	65	5	2
2002	29	66	3	2
2004	26	67.5	4.5	2
2006	32	62	4	2

**Table 10. Trends in Keeping House for Married Couples by Gender for Households with Children Under 18**

	Wife Keeps House, Husband Other	Neither Keeps House	Husband Keeps House, Wife Other	Both Keep House
1972	63%	37%	0%	0%
1973	61	38.5	0	0
1974	59	41	0	0
1975	56	44	0	0
1976	58	42	0	0
1977	56	44	0	0
1978	55	45	0	0
1980	46	53	1	0
1982	45	54	1	0
1983	44	55	0.5	0
1984	40.5	57	2	0
1985	36	63	1	0
1986	37	63	0	0
1987	33	66	1	0
1988	32	67	1	0
1989	32	67	1	0
1990	34	65	1	0
1991	34	65	0.5	0.5
1993	26	72.5	1.5	0
1994	28	71	1	0
1996	28	71	1	0
1998	26	72	1	1
2000	26	71	2	1
2002	27	71	1	0
2004	22	76	1	0
2006	30	68	2	0

Table 11. Trends Regarding Divorce and Remarriage: 1974 - 2006

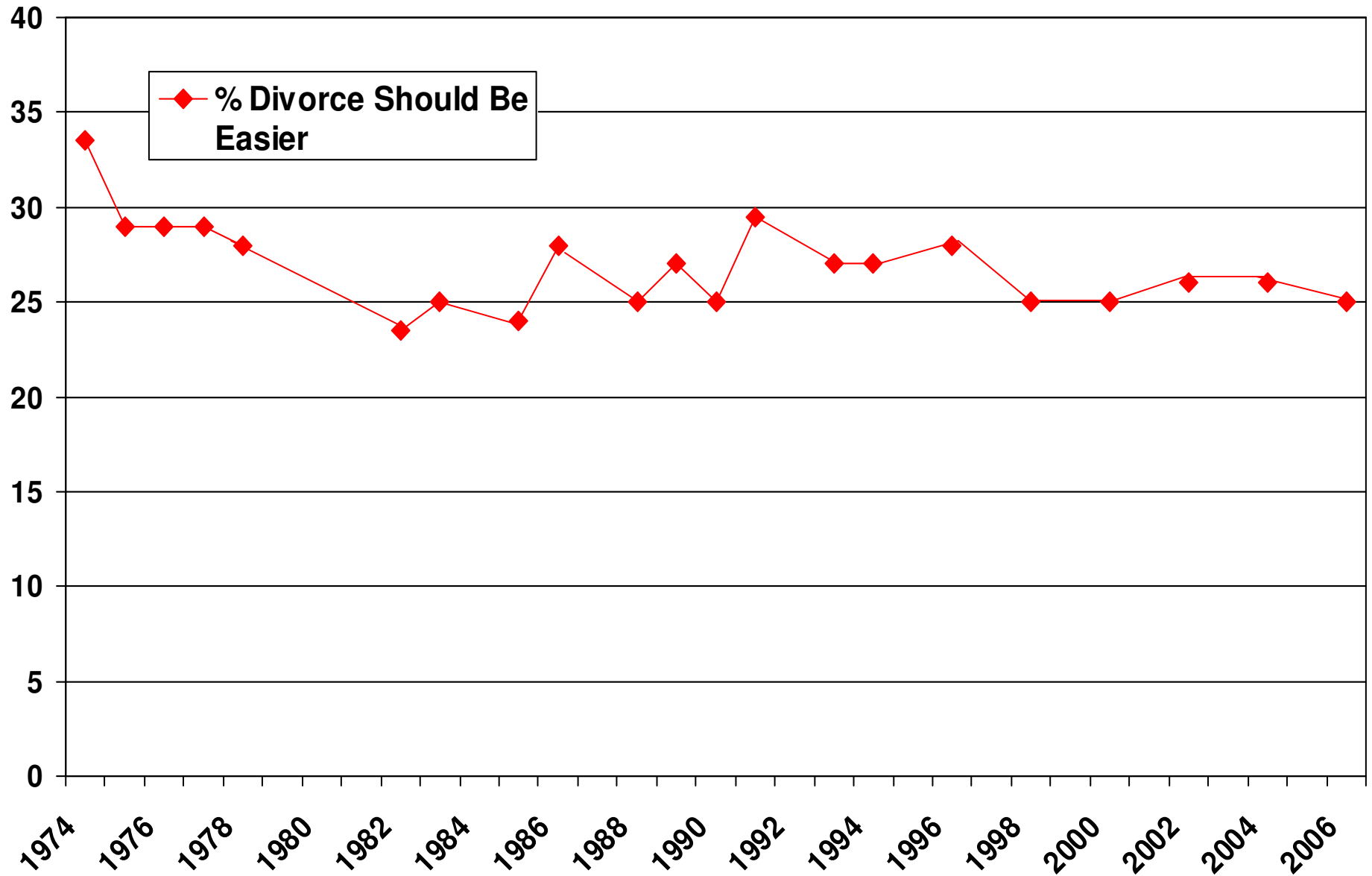


Table 12. Importance of Traits in Children: % Selecting Trait as “Most Important”

	<b>To think for one's self</b>	<b>To Obey</b>	<b>To Work Hard</b>	<b>To Help Others</b>	<b>To be well liked and popular</b>
<b>1986</b>	51	23	11	14	0
<b>1987</b>	54	20	12	13	1
<b>1988</b>	50	23	14.5	12	1
<b>1989</b>	53	19	14	12	1
<b>1990</b>	51	18	16	14	1
<b>1991</b>	51	20	15	14	0
<b>1993</b>	53	19	14	13	1
<b>1994</b>	53	18	16	13	0
<b>1996</b>	51	18.5	18	13	1
<b>1998</b>	49	18.5	18	13	1
<b>2000</b>	47	21	18	13.5	1
<b>2002</b>	48	14	22.5	15	0
<b>2004</b>	47	12	22	17	1
<b>2006</b>	46.5	17	20	16	1

Table 13. Trends in Approval of Spanking Children: 1986 - 2006

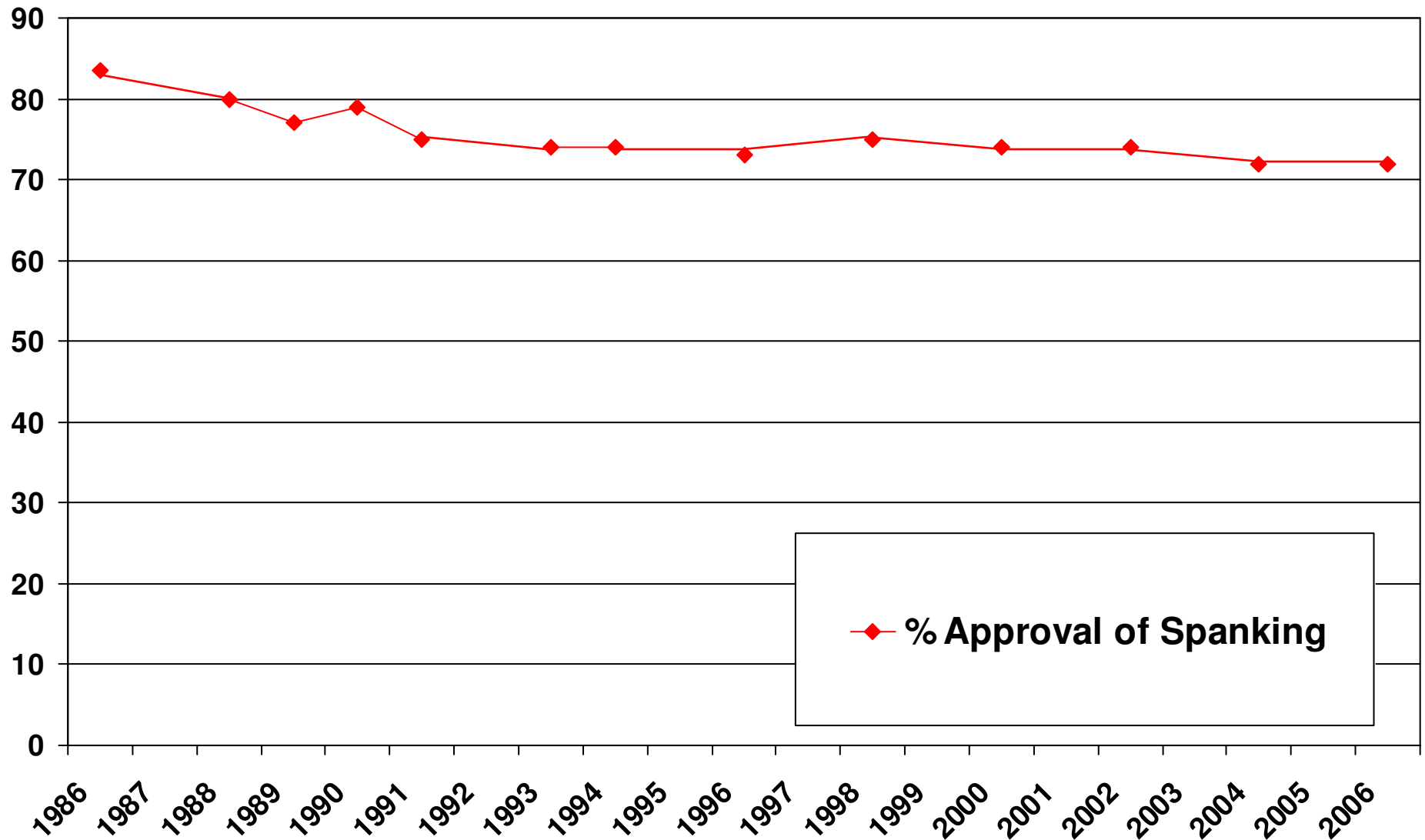


Table 14. Trends in Attitudes toward Women and Politics

	<b>% Willing to Vote for Women for President</b>	<b>% Women Emotionally Suited for Politics</b>	<b>% Women Help Run Country as Well as Homes</b>
1972	74	-	-
1974	80	53	64.5
1975	80	50	64
1977	80	50	62
1978	83	57	69
1982	86.5	62	74.5
1983	86.5	64	77
1985	83	61	74
1986	86.5	63	77
1988	88	68	79
1989	86.5	69	80
1990	91	74	82
1991	91	74	81
1993	90	78	85
1994	92.5	79	87
1996	93	79	84
1998	94	77	85
2000	-	76	-
2002	-	77	-
2004	-	74.5	-
2006	-	76	-

Table 15. Trends in Attitudes toward Women, Work, and the Family

	% for Wife Working if Husband Can Support Her	% Agree Mom who Works Can be as Close to Children	% Disagree Wife Should Help Husband's Career First	% Disagree Better if Man Works, Woman at Home	% Disagree Children Suffer if Mom Works
<b>1972</b>	67	-	-	-	-
<b>1974</b>	70	-	-	-	-
<b>1975</b>	75	-	-	-	-
<b>1977</b>	67	49	43	34	32
<b>1978</b>	74	-	-	-	-
<b>1982</b>	75	-	-	-	-
<b>1983</b>	77.5	-	-	-	-
<b>1985</b>	-	61	63	52	46
<b>1986</b>	79	62.5	64	53	48
<b>1988</b>	81	62.5	69	59	52
<b>1989</b>	79	64.5	72	60	52
<b>1990</b>	83	63.5	71.5	61	51
<b>1991</b>	80	66	71	59	52
<b>1993</b>	81	68	77	65	57
<b>1994</b>	82	70	79	66	59
<b>1996</b>	83.5	66	80	62	53
<b>1998</b>	82	68	81	66	58
<b>2000</b>	-	62	-	60	53
<b>2002</b>	-	63	-	61	54
<b>2004</b>	-	65	-	63	57
<b>2006</b>	-	67	-	65	59



Table 16. Trends in Sexual Permissiveness: 1972 - 2006  
 % Saying activity 'Always Wrong'

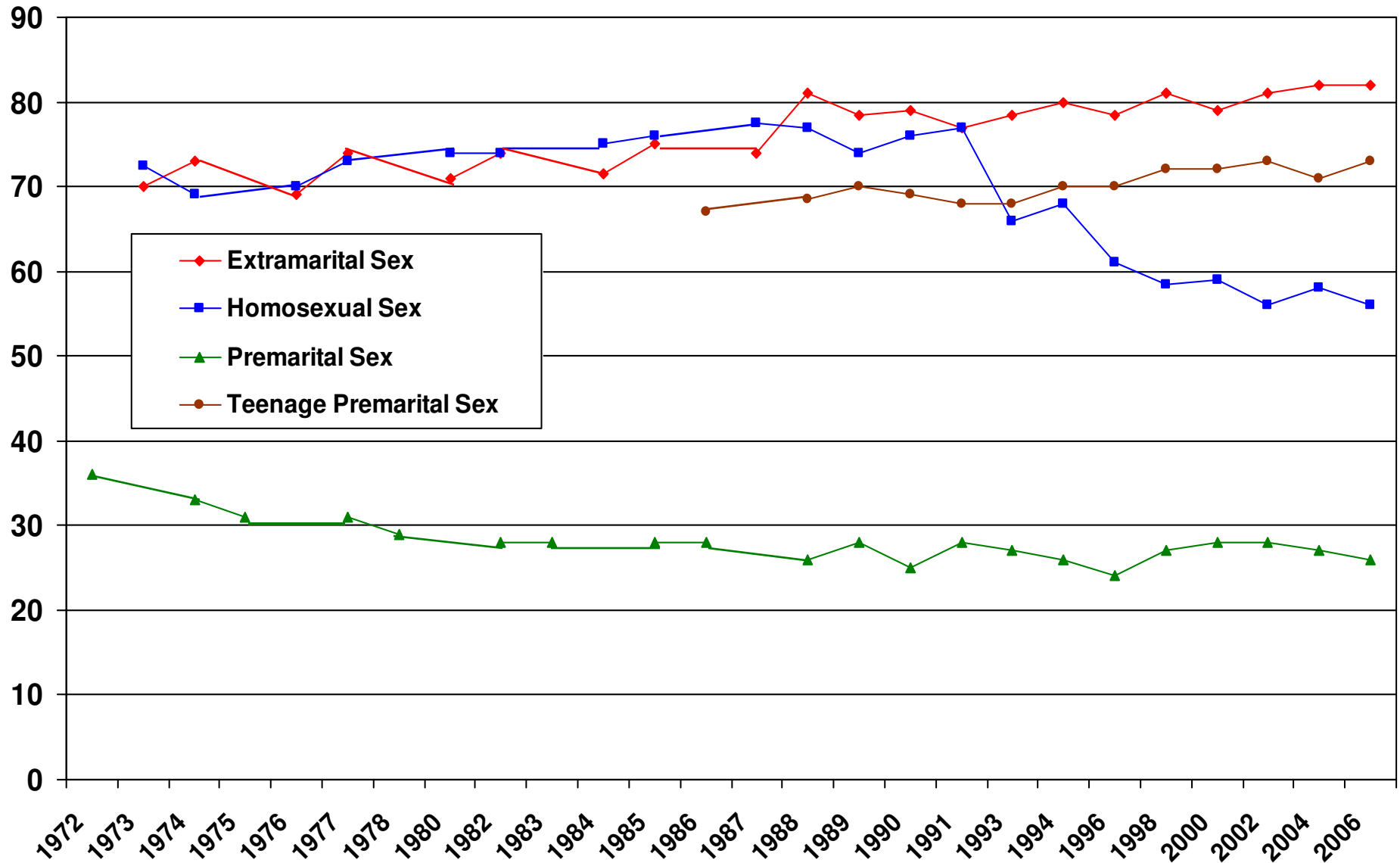


Table 17. % Disagreeing with Gay Marriage

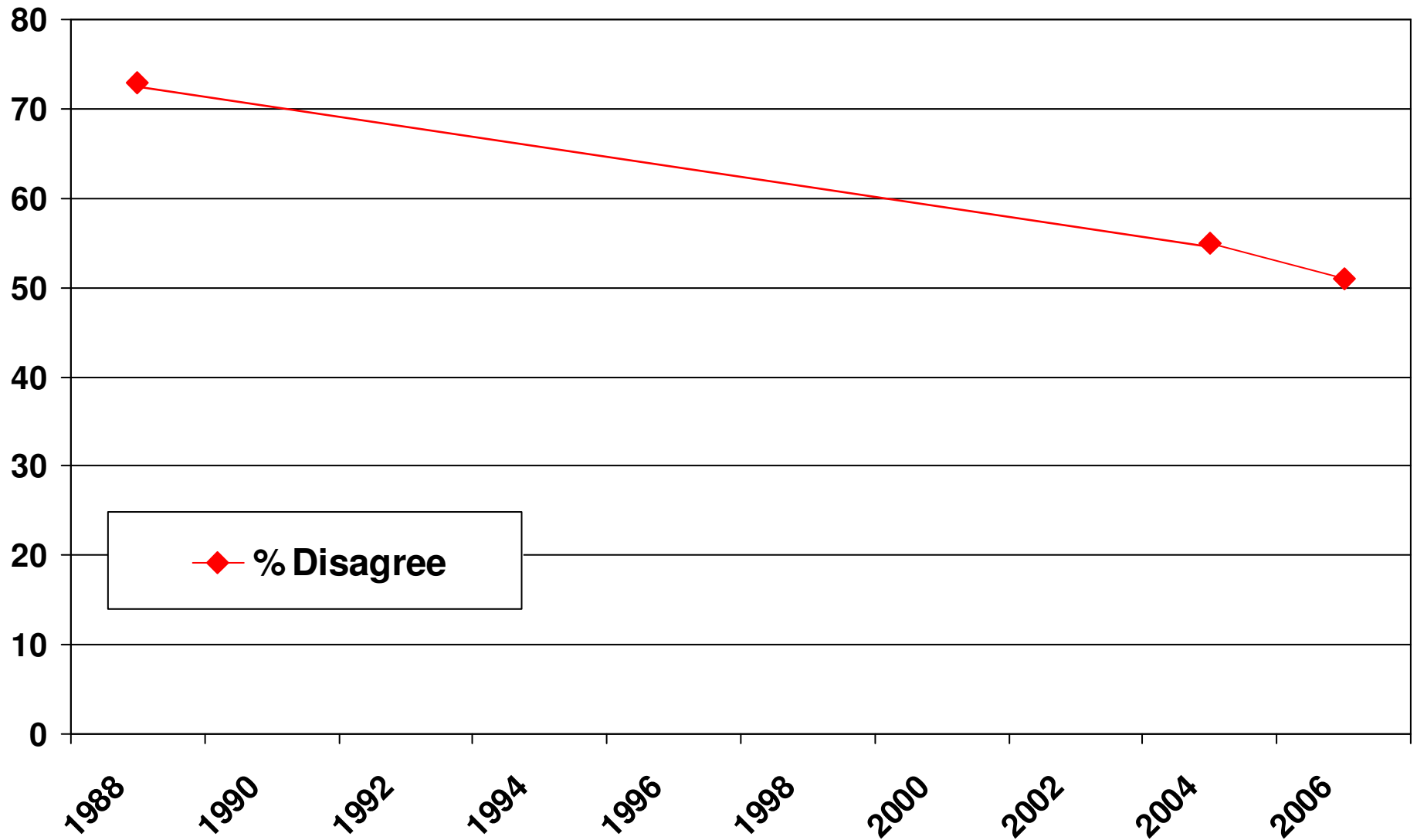


Table 18. Trends on Socializing: 1974 - 2006

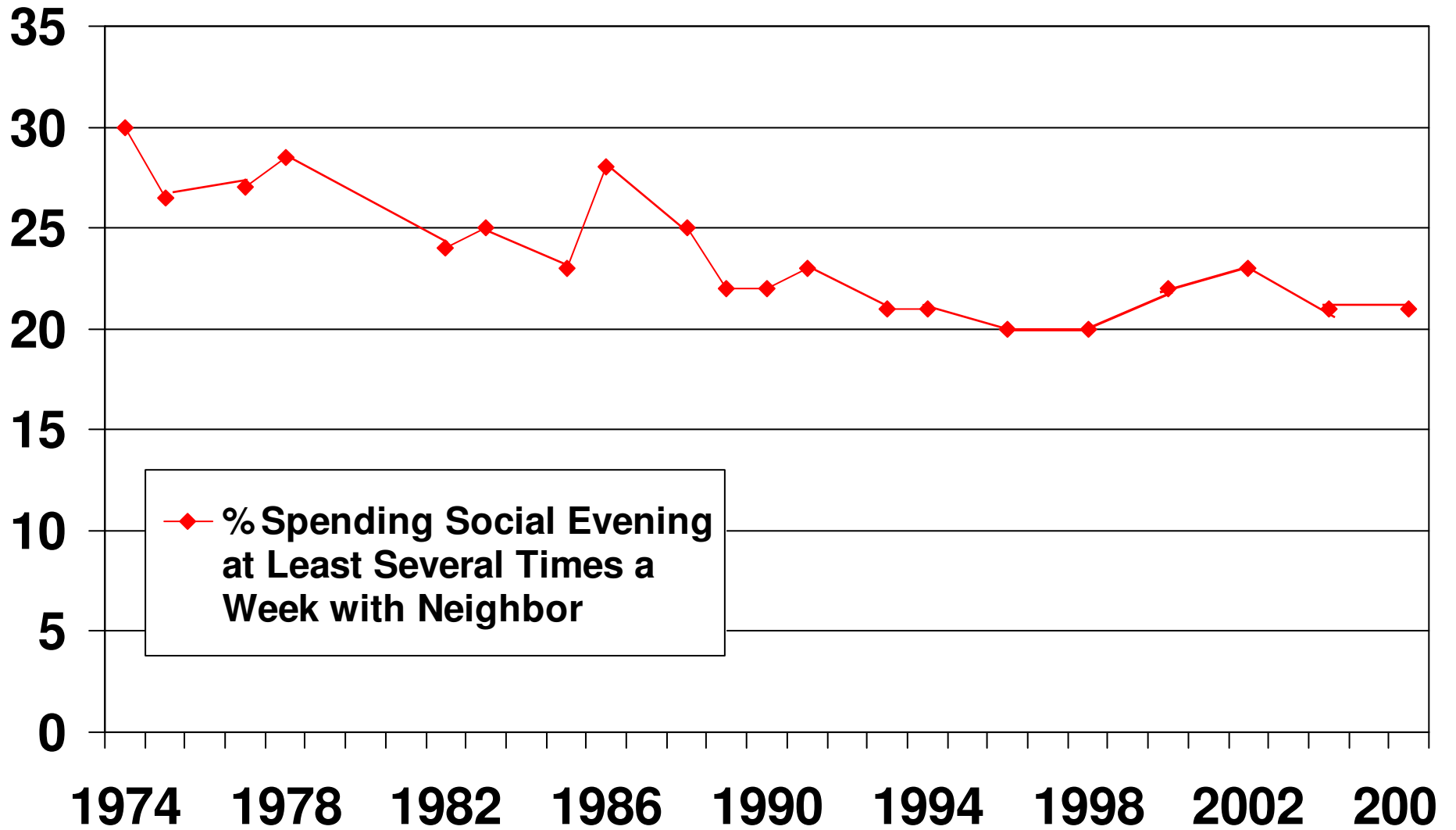


Table 19.  
Family Values by  
Marital Status

	Married	Widowed	Divorced	Separated	Never Married
<b>Easier Divorces</b>	22.1%	20.2%	35.0%	53.2%	36.9%
<b>Cohabitation Acceptable</b>	35.6	16.1	53.4	51.3	65.8
<b>Cohabit First, Agree</b>	32.3	15.4	49.1	51.1	59.0
<b>Children Joy, Disagree</b>	12.0	10.3	17.2	6.0	22.7
<b>No Child Empty, Disagree</b>	48.3	44.6	52.9	50.4	63.5
<b>Disapprove of Spanking</b>	24.2	23.4	24.5	23.9	26.9
<b>Obedience, Not Top Value</b>	81.0	70.5	82.9	79.5	86.9
<b>Teen Contraception, Agree</b>	52.8	44.6	65.5	67.1	69.6
<b>Teen Sex, Not Always Wrong</b>	24.1	15.0	33.9	33.0	46.5
<b>Premarital Sex, Not Wrong</b>	68.3	53.1	81.6	80.1	84.0
<b>Infidelity, Not Always Wrong</b>	20.3	15.6	29.6	33.4	32.2
<b>Gay Sex, Not Always Wrong</b>	27.3	17.5	38.5	39.1	45.8
<b>For Gay Marriage</b>	21.8	20.5	31.8	32.2	50.1
<b>Women Suitable Politics</b>	66.4	56.7	74.6	69.6	75.5
<b>Vote Woman President</b>	85.5	72.9	90.1	89.3	91.4
<b>Women Run Home, Not Nation</b>	63.2	56.7	82.0	73.9	85.0
<b>Housewife Fulfilling, Disagree</b>	19.4	13.6	21.7	24.5	24.9
<b>Women Work, Family OK</b>	45.1	36.3	49.2	51.6	57.4
<b>Wife Not First, Help Husband</b>	68.2	46.1	79.5	74.2	82.5
<b>Mom Work, Preschooler OK</b>	49.4	42.0	58.6	57.2	60.8
<b>Man Work, Woman Home, Disagree</b>	56.2	33.5	63.1	61.8	73.8
<b>Women Work, Children OK</b>	61.4	53.5	69.0	68.1	72.4
<b>Visit Relative Less than Weekly</b>	65.0	61.6	62.0	60.3	59.9
<b>Visit Bar, Greater than Never</b>	45.2	19.5	60.9	56.6	65.6
<b>Visit Neighbor Less than Weekly</b>	81.8	71.1	75.5	72.6	62.6

Table 20.  
 Family Values by  
 Number of Children  
 Ever Born

	<b>None</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4+</b>
Easier Divorces	31.3%	30.3%	24.4%	23.3%	23.1%
Cohabitation Acceptable	61.0	44.1	40.2	31.6	28.7
Cohabit First, Agree	52.5	46.7	35.5	29.0	26.2
Children Joy, Disagree	37.8	11.5	9.5	9.5	9.1
No Child Empty, Disagree	67.6	48.3	47.4	46.6	40.0
Disapprove of Spanking	26.4	26.4	25.5	23.0	20.5
Obedience, Not Top Value	85.4	81.4	82.9	80.0	72.1
Teen Contraception, Agree	67.5	61.4	56.2	49.1	47.0
Teen Sex, Not Always Wrong	43.7	31.4	25.0	21.0	18.5
Premarital Sex, Not Wrong	81.5	75.1	71.8	66.9	58.6
Infidelity, Not Always Wrong	29.4	25.1	21.2	20.4	17.2
Gay Sex, Not Always Wrong	44.0	37.9	30.0	25.7	18.0
For Gay Marriage	38.1	30.5	25.5	18.4	15.6
Women Suitable Politics	73.4	69.1	68.4	67.1	61.1
Vote Woman President	89.6	86.8	86.8	86.0	80.3
Women Run Home, Not Nation	82.8	77.4	78.0	74.6	65.5
Housewife Fulfilling, Disagree	22.6	22.6	20.3	17.0	19.0
Women Work, Family OK	54.7	51.6	46.3	42.1	40.7
Wife Not First, Help Husband	79.2	73.6	72.3	66.2	56.5
Mom Work, Preschooler OK	56.4	59.3	53.3	47.0	42.9
Man Work, Woman Home, Disagree	70.8	63.6	58.2	53.1	42.4
Women Work, Children OK	69.0	67.7	64.4	59.9	55.6
Visit Relative Less than Weekly	64.0	60.3	64.4	66.1	61.3
Visit Bar, Greater than Never	63.4	50.7	47.2	42.6	34.1
Visit Neighbor Less than Weekly	68.6	76.9	80.6	80.5	79.4

**Table 21.**  
**Family Values by**  
**Marital Status**  
**and Children**

	Married, No Children	Married, Children	Not Married, No Children	Not Married, Children
Easier Divorces	20.1%	24.0%	31.4%	42.6%
Cohabitation Acceptable	32.2	39.3	53.8	46.8
Cohabit First, Agree	29.9	34.8	47.0	56.8
Children Joy, Disagree	15.3	8.1	22.0	10.8
No Child Empty, Disagree	50.2	46.4	58.0	54.9
Disapprove of Spanking	22.3	25.9	26.5	22.9
Obedience, Not Top Value	78.1	84.2	82.1	80.6
Teen Contraception, Agree	61.2	54.6	63.9	66.2
Teen Sex, Not Always Wrong	22.7	25.5	38.1	35.7
Premarital Sex, Not Wrong	65.4	71.0	76.5	81.1
Infidelity, Not Always Wrong	18.6	22.0	29.0	28.3
Gay Sex, Not Always Wrong	25.8	28.7	39.8	35.4
For Gay Marriage	27.2	21.6	36.1	31.3
Women Suitable Politics	64.3	68.7	70.5	74.6
Vote Woman President	83.5	87.3	86.4	90.4
Women Run Home, Not Nation	72.2	78.4	77.0	81.6
Housewife Fulfilling, Disagree	18.3	20.9	19.8	28.0
Women Work, Family OK	42.2	48.5	50.3	55.4
Wife Not First, Help Husband	62.7	73.9	72.5	81.0
Mom Work, Preschooler OK	45.0	54.0	54.2	63.8
Man Work, Woman Home, Disagree	50.8	61.7	61.6	69.2
Women Work, Children OK	58.2	64.7	65.9	73.9
Visit Relative Less than Weekly	65.0	65.0	63.5	54.2
Visit Bar, Greater than Never	38.8	51.6	55.7	56.2
Visit Neighbor Less than Weekly	81.6	81.8	67.8	67.5

## Table 22. Presidential Voting by Marital Status

% Voted among married - % Voted among other groups

	<b>Widowed</b>	<b>Divorced</b>	<b>Separated</b>	<b>Never Married</b>
<b>1968</b>	+1.6	+11.3	+11.9	+50.3
<b>1972</b>	+2.1	+8.9	+21.2	+28
<b>1976</b>	+2.4	+10.1	+14.3	+23
<b>1980</b>	-2.8	+5.4	+11.4	+21
<b>1984</b>	+1.8	+12.3	+14.4	+28.5
<b>1988</b>	+1.6	+12.6	+18.4	+24.1
<b>1992</b>	-1.5	+6.6	+14.7	+25.3
<b>1996</b>	-5.3	+6.8	+14.1	+30
<b>2000</b>	-6.9	+9.9	+19.8	+33.8
<b>2004</b>	-2.0	+4.5	+23.9	+21.6

Table 23. Partisan Voting in Presidential Elections by Marital Status

% Voted for Democratic candidate - % Voted for Republican candidate

	<b>Married</b>	<b>Widowed</b>	<b>Divorced</b>	<b>Separated</b>	<b>Never Married</b>	<b>Remarried</b>
<b>1968</b>	-6.4	+5.8	+17.4	+23.1	+2.3	+3.1
<b>1972</b>	-27.1	-22.1	-6.5	-16.0	-9.4	-18.9
<b>1976</b>	+9.1	+24.3	+16.6	+44.4	+13.7	+15.6
<b>1980</b>	-7.9	+22.2	+19.8	+45.2	+5.8	-4.0
<b>1984</b>	-31.1	-8.7	-9.7	+0.2	-20.7	-26.4
<b>1988</b>	-28.6	-16.2	-23.9	-13.7	-8.1	-24.3
<b>1992</b>	-0.7	+17.2	+20.9	+42.1	+28.2	+5.1
<b>1996</b>	+12.3	+34.1	+32.0	+56.5	+43.5	+14.5
<b>2000</b>	-21.0	+2.9	-1.5	+29.3	+22.2	-24.7
<b>2004</b>	-12.3	+0.9	+3.1	+35.4	+25.2	-15.0



**Table 24. Political Party and Political Ideology Identification by Marital Status by Decade**

% Democratic - % Republican

	<b>Married</b>	<b>Widowed</b>	<b>Divorced</b>	<b>Separated</b>	<b>Never Married</b>
<b>1970s</b>	+19.4	+24.3	+24.8	+40.4	+20.6
<b>1980s</b>	+9.1	+22.1	+20.6	+28.8	+8.5
<b>1990s</b>	-0.2	+17.9	+13.0	+26.5	+9.6
<b>2000s</b>	-3.7	+19.9	+11.9	+23.4	+15.5

% Liberal - % Conservative

	<b>Married</b>	<b>Widowed</b>	<b>Divorced</b>	<b>Separated</b>	<b>Never Married</b>
<b>1970s</b>	-8.2	-13.4	+7.0	+11.3	+24.2
<b>1980s</b>	-15.6	-11.3	+3.7	+8.7	+6.4
<b>1990s</b>	-17.3	-15.5	+1.3	+5.5	+8.0
<b>2000s</b>	-18.4	-14.5	-3.1	+1.9	+9.3

Table 25a. Presidential Vote by Marital Status by Year

	<b>Married, Democrat</b>	<b>Married, Republican</b>	<b>Not Married, Democrat</b>	<b>Not Married, Republican</b>
<b>1968</b>	39.8%	46.2%	48.9%	40.0%
<b>1972</b>	34.5	61.6	47.5	49.0
<b>1976</b>	53.6	44.5	59.2	38.9
<b>1980</b>	42.8	50.1	54.0	37.0
<b>1984</b>	33.8	64.1	42.2	55.7
<b>1988</b>	35.0	63.6	42.0	56.3
<b>1992</b>	41.2	41.9	54.5	30.0
<b>1996</b>	49.6	36.8	62.3	23.5
<b>2000</b>	38.4	59.4	52.8	41.7
<b>2004</b>	40.4	57.7	56.5	41.4

Table 25b. Party ID by Marital Status by Decade

	<b>Married, Democrat</b>	<b>Married, Republican</b>	<b>Not Married, Democrat</b>	<b>Not Married, Republican</b>
<b>1970s</b>	42.6%	23.2%	42.6%	18.9%
<b>1980s</b>	37.5	28.4	29.6	24.4
<b>1990s</b>	32.4	32.6	36.8	24.0
<b>2000s</b>	29.2	32.9	35.8	20.1

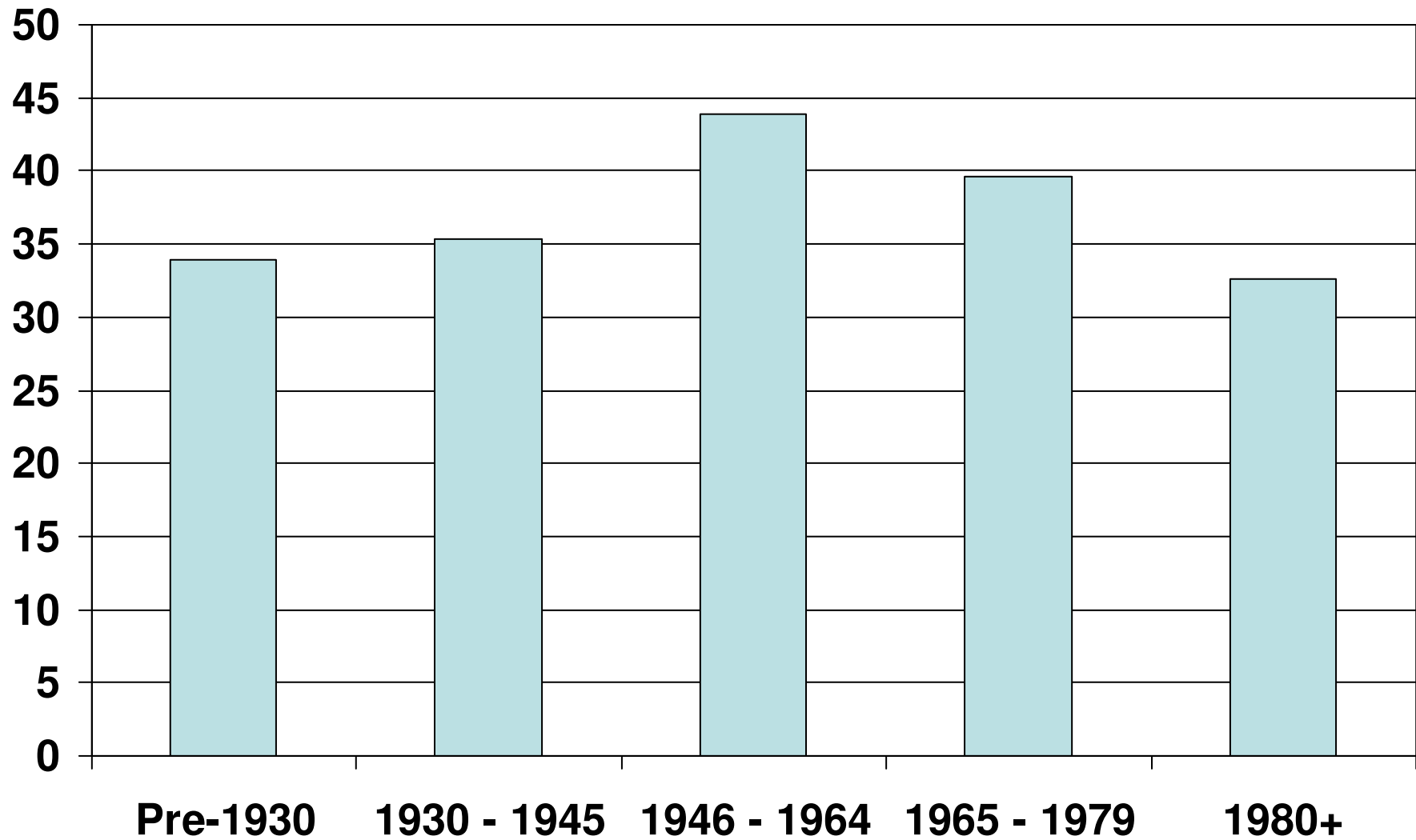
Table 25c. Political Ideology by Marital Status by Decade

	<b>Married, Liberal</b>	<b>Married, Conservative</b>	<b>Not Married, Liberal</b>	<b>Not Married, Conservative</b>
<b>1970s</b>	25.3%	33.5%	38.4%	26.1%
<b>1980s</b>	22.5	38.1	31.3	28.6
<b>1990s</b>	22.8	40.1	32.4	30.0
<b>2000s</b>	21.5	39.9	31.5	29.1

Table 26. Cohort Differences on Family Values, 2000-2006

	<b>Pre-1930</b>	<b>1930 - 1945</b>	<b>1946 - 1964</b>	<b>1965 - 1979</b>	<b>1980+</b>
For Gay Marriage	20.3%	21.8%	30.5%	38.9%	48.8%
Homosexual Sex Not Always Wrong	21.0	33.4	43.0	49.8	52.1
Against Spanking	24.1	28.3	28.1	25.1	38.1
For Teen Birth Control	39.4	44.8	54.4	64.0	68.5
For Sex Education	75.7	86.3	87.9	91.1	94.4
Teen Sex Not Always Wrong	14.2	20.7	24.4	34.1	41.6
Premarital Sex Not Always Wrong	54.2	65.0	74.5	73.9	81.7
Extra-marital Sex Not Always Wrong	14.6	20.0	19.1	19.0	16.8
Woman Suited for Politics	63.7	68.5	79.4	78.1	76.0
Family Doesn't Suffer if Mother Works	31.3	27.7	37.8	40.1	55.3
Preschoolers Don't Suffer if Mother Works	43.6	46.9	54.1	63.4	66.6
Mother Working Doesn't Hurt Children	50.5	56.5	64.8	67.2	74.5
Not Better if Man Works, Woman at Home	28.8	47.0	66.5	68.7	78.7
For Easier Divorces	13.5	17.5	24.3	30.1	32.4
Cohabitation OK	18.8	19.2	49.1	57.7	77.6
Legal Abortion for Any Reason	33.9	35.3	43.9	39.6	32.6
Legal All Reasons	24.4	27.7	34.6	29.9	22.5

Table 27. Cohort Differences: % Approving of Legal Abortion for Any Reason



Source: 2000 – 2006 GSS