

# The Changing 20s

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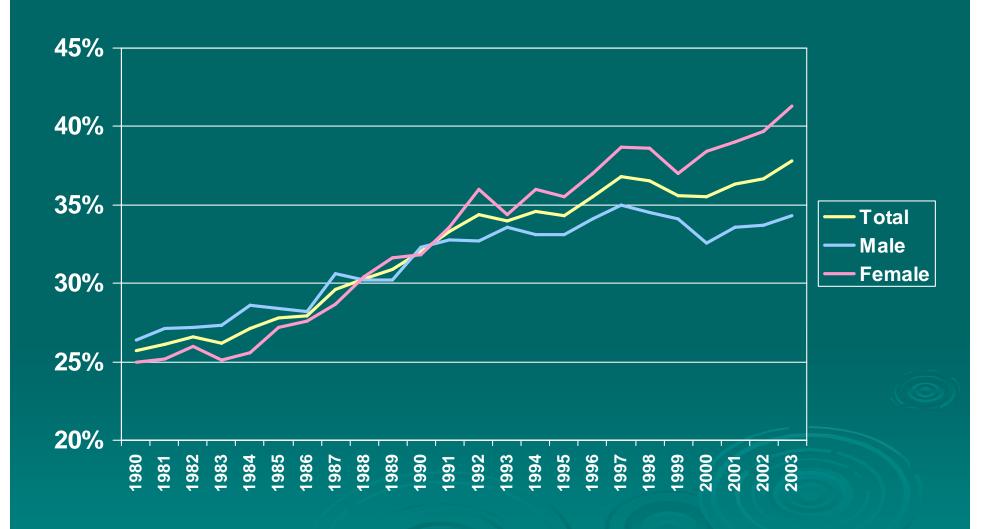
Prepared for delivery at the National Campaign's Forum on Being 20-Something in the 21st Century

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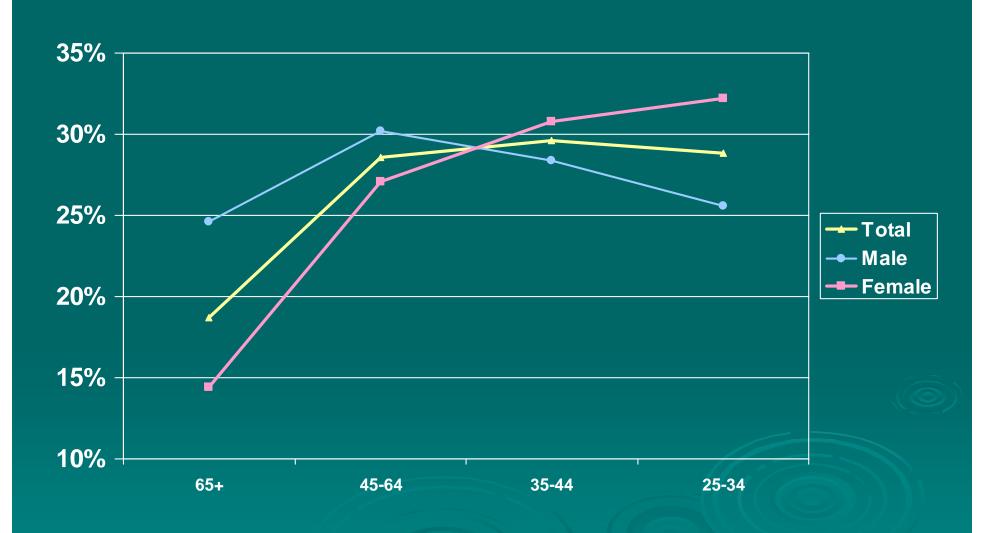
### College Enrolled, 1980-2003, by Gender



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau, Current Population Surveys (CPS), October, various years, unpub tabulations.



## **BA** or Higher, by Gender and Age Cohort



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey.



# Percent of U.S. Workers in Their 20s with a College Degree



Source: Andrew Beveridge, Analysis of Integrated Public Micro-Data Census Samples, 1970-2005.



# **College Attendance/Completion**

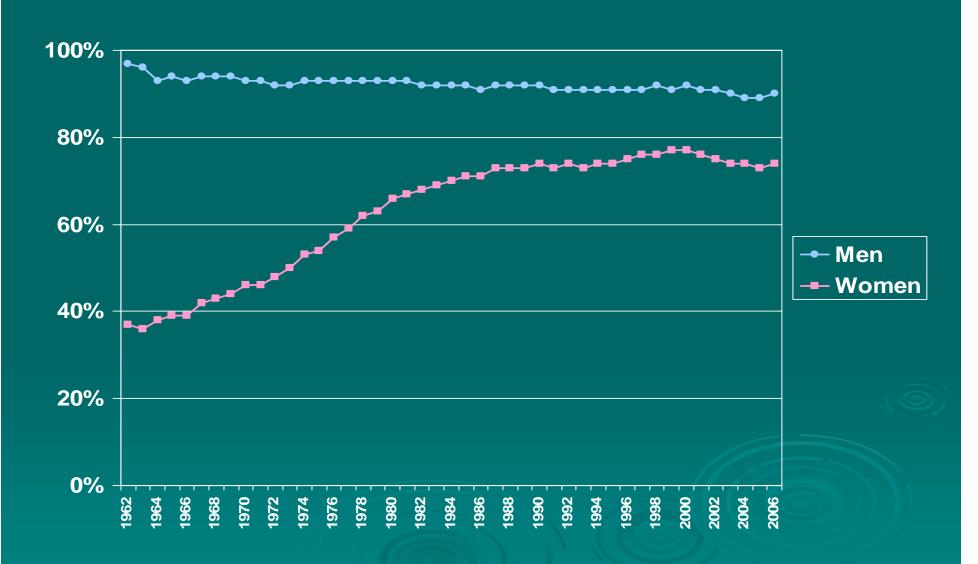
	1970	2000
Median years to completion	4	5
6+ yrs to completion (%)	15%	23%
Students 21 and older (%)	25%	45%
Pell grant recipients 24 and older (%)	30%*	58%**

<sup>\*1975 \*\*2003</sup> 

Source: Network on Transitions to Adulthood, Policy Brief #34



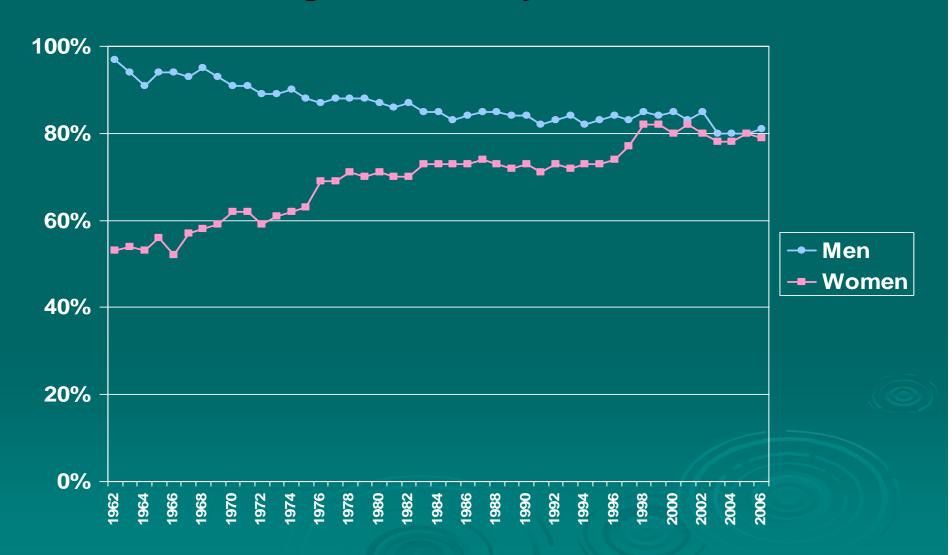
# Labor Force Participation Rate, Ages 25 to 35, by Gender



Source: Emily Roussel, The Brookings Institution, analysis of CPS data



# African-American Labor Force Participation Rate, Ages 25 to 35, by Gender



Source: Emily Roussel, The Brookings Institution, analysis of CPS data

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# Men's (aged 25-34) Earnings by Education, 1975 & 2002 (Data exclude nonearners; 2002 dollars)



Source: Network on Transitions to Adulthood, Data Brief #17

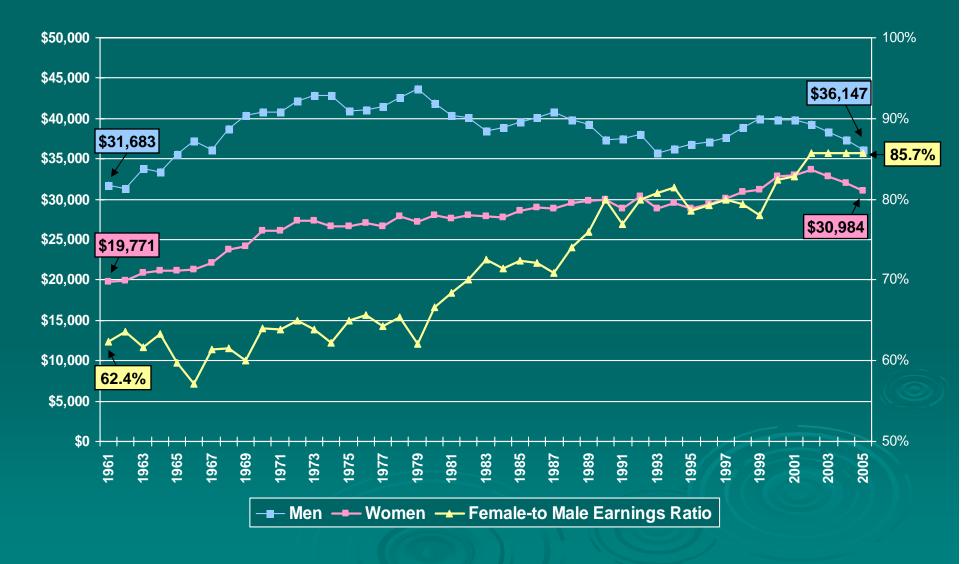


# Women's (aged 25-34) Earnings by Education, 1975 & 2002 (Data exclude nonearners; 2002 dollars)



# Female-to-Male Earnings Ratio and Median Earnings of Full-Time, Year Round Workers Ages 25-25 by Gender





Source: Emily Roussel, The Brookings Institution, analysis of CPS data

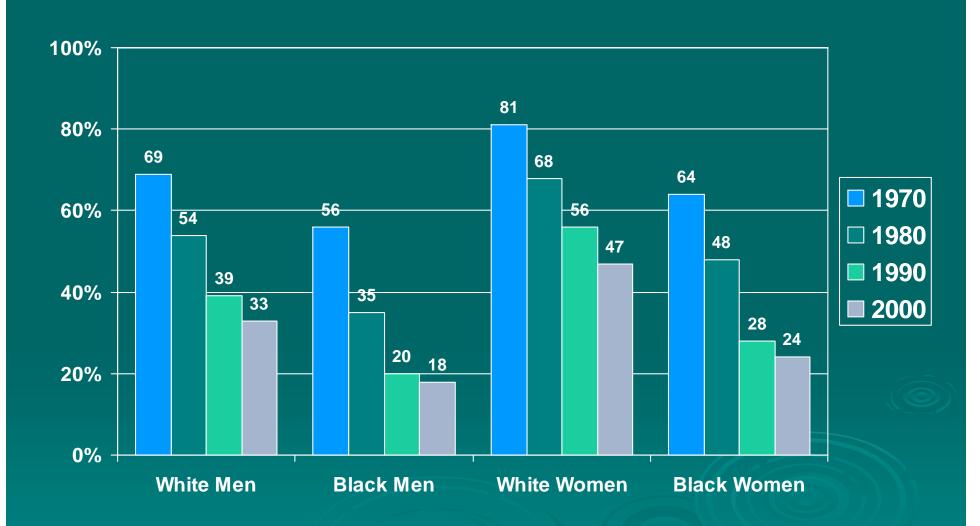


# Female Contribution to Married Couples' Work and Earnings

	40% or more weeks	40% or more earnings
1970	27%	13%
1980	48%	23%
1990	62%	33%
2000	64%	37%



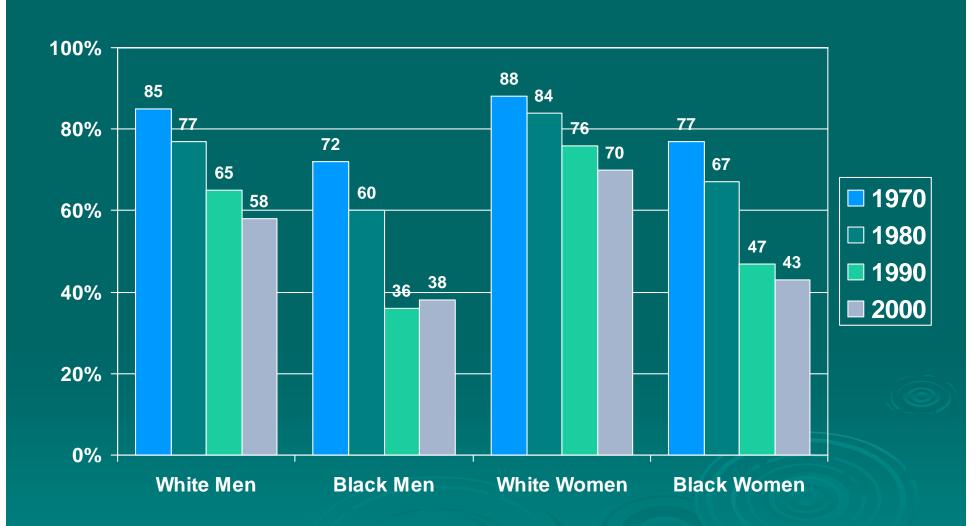
## Married at Age 25 (%)



Source: Calculations based on tables in On the Frontier of Adulthood, pp. 60-71



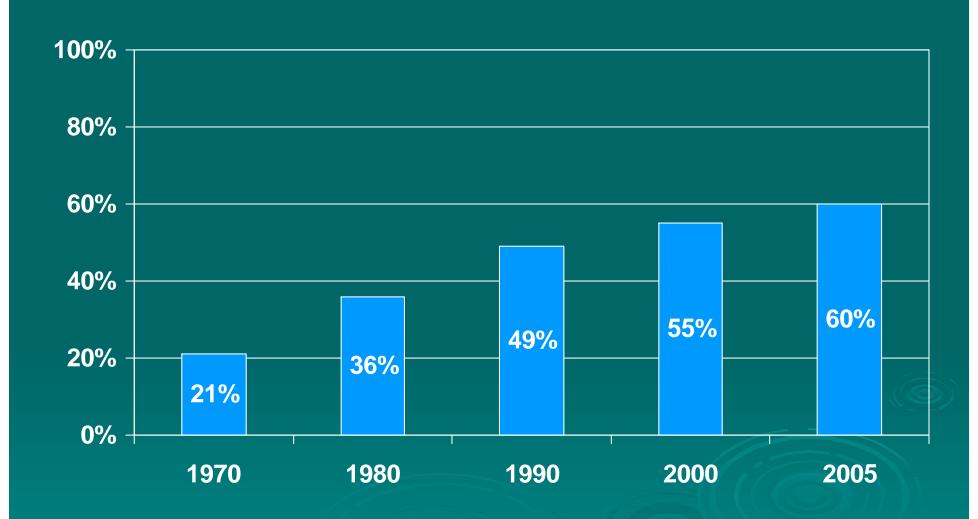
### Married at Age 30 (%)



Source: Calculations based on tables in On the Frontier of Adulthood, pp. 60-71



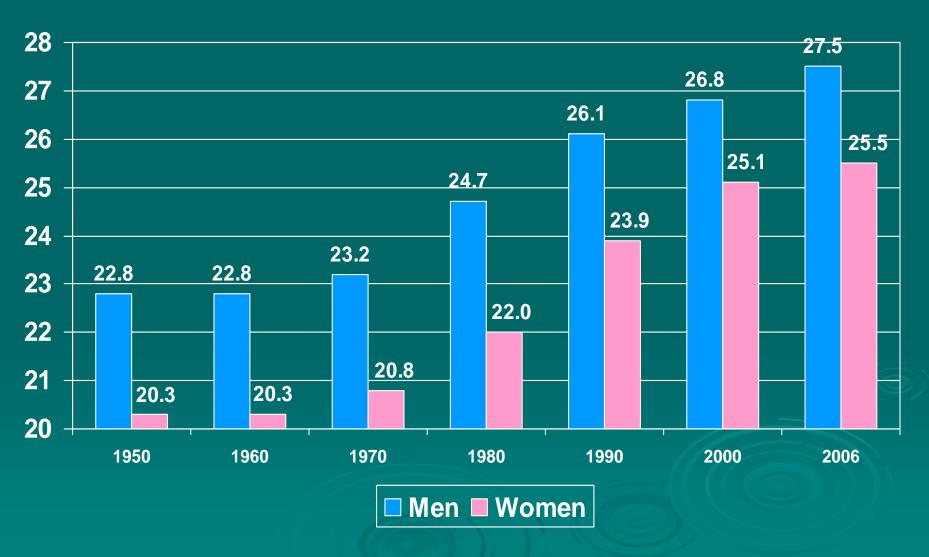
### **Never Married at Age 25 (%)**



Source: Bill Frey, The Brookings Institution, analysis of US censuses and 2005 American Community Survey



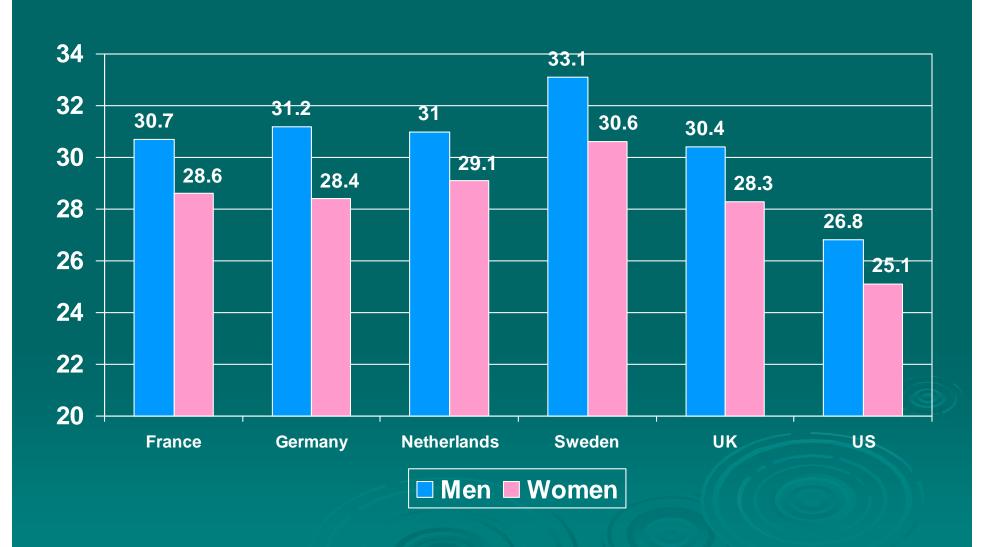
### Median Age at First Marriage, 1950-2006



Source: Current Population Survey, Table MS-2



## Median Age at First Marriage, 2000, by Country



Source: Jeffrey Arnett, "Emerging Adulthood in Europe"

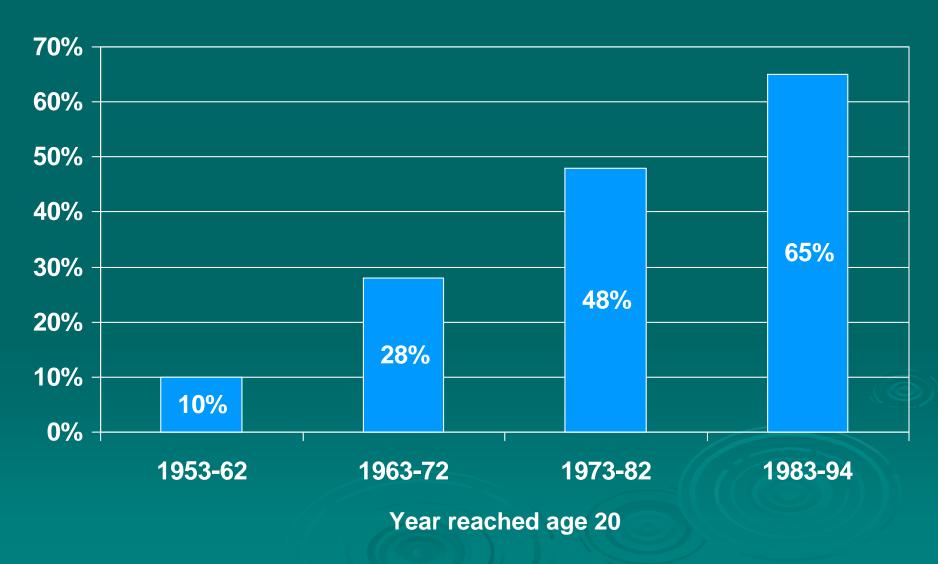


## Increase in Median Age at First Marriage, 1980-2000 (years)

	Men	Women
France	5.5	5.6
Germany	5.1	5.0
Netherlands	5.6	6.0
Sweden	4.1	4.2
UK	5.1	5.3
US	2.1	3.1



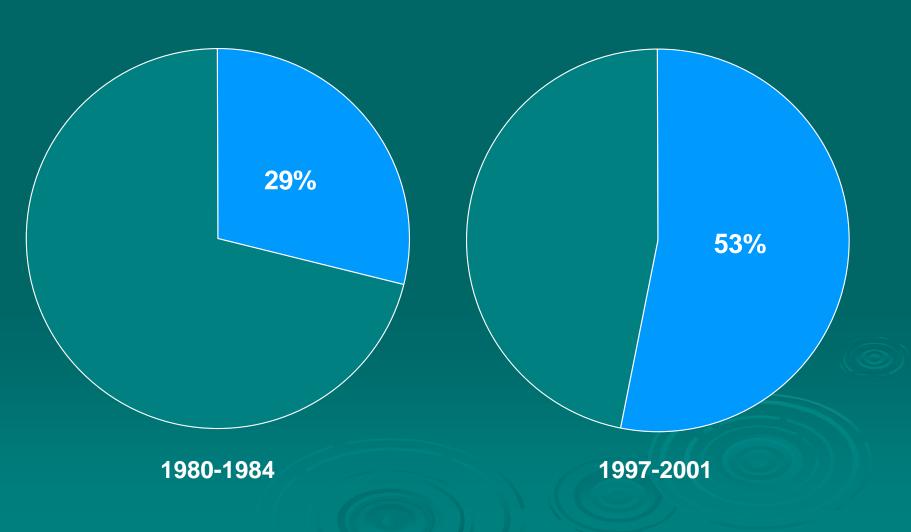
### **Cohabit at Least Once Prior to Marriage**



Source: Jeffrey Arnett, Emerging Adulthood, p. 107



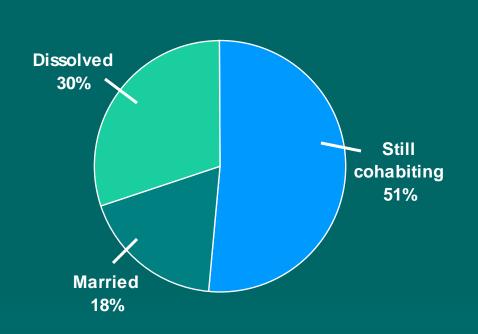
# Births to Cohabiting Couples as % of Births to Unmarried Women



Source: Center for Demography and Ecology, University of Wisconsin; Boston Globe



# Status of Couples When Baby is Age 2, by Status at Birth





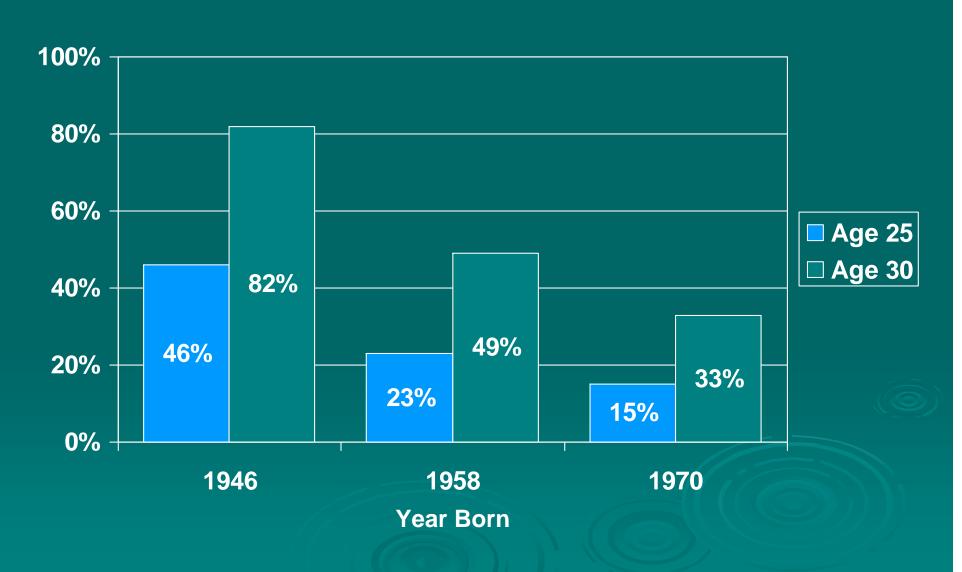
**Cohabiting Parents** 

**Married Parents** 

Source: Child Trends; Boston Globe



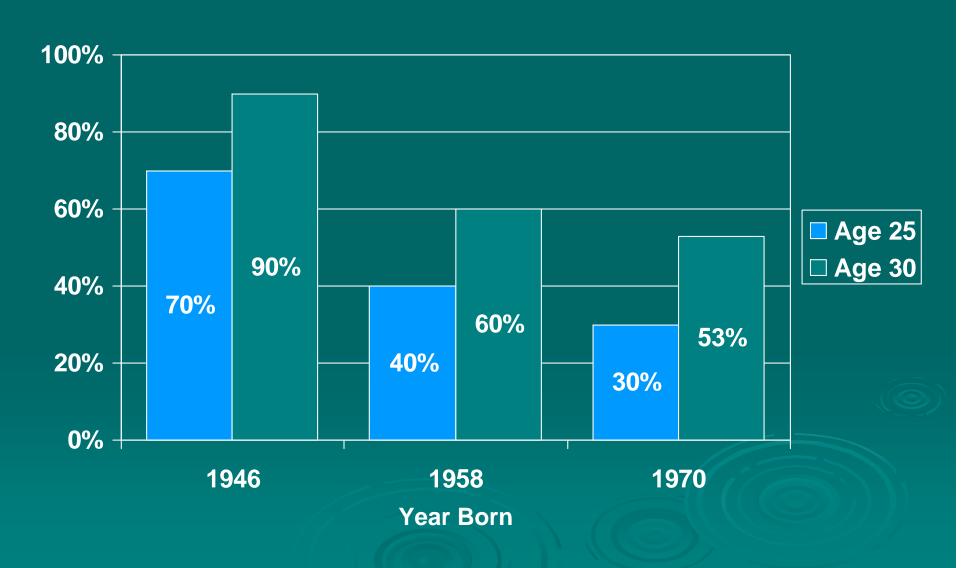
# Men with First Child, by Age and Cohort, UK (%)



Source: John Bynner, "Rethinking the Youth Phase of the Life-Course," p. 374



# Women with First Child, by Age and Cohort, UK (%)

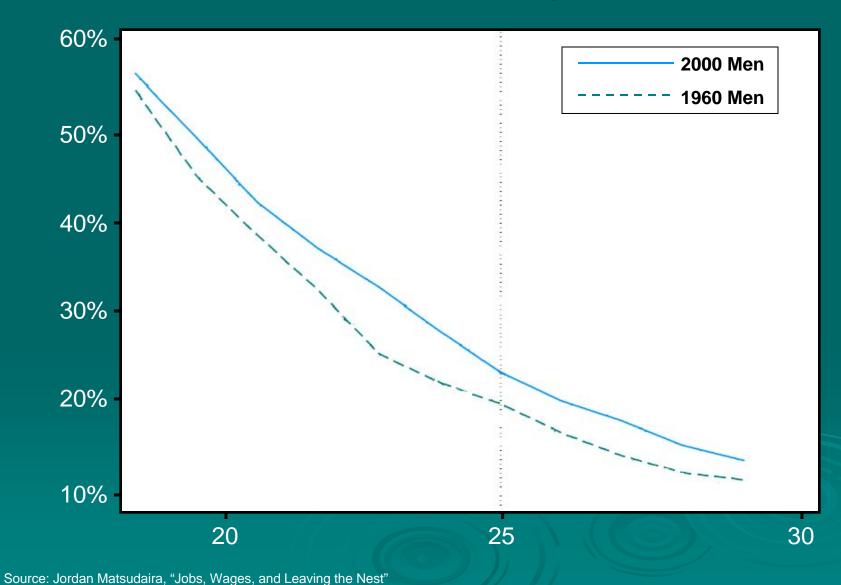


Source: John Bynner, "Rethinking the Youth Phase of the Life-Course," p. 374

#### THE NEST



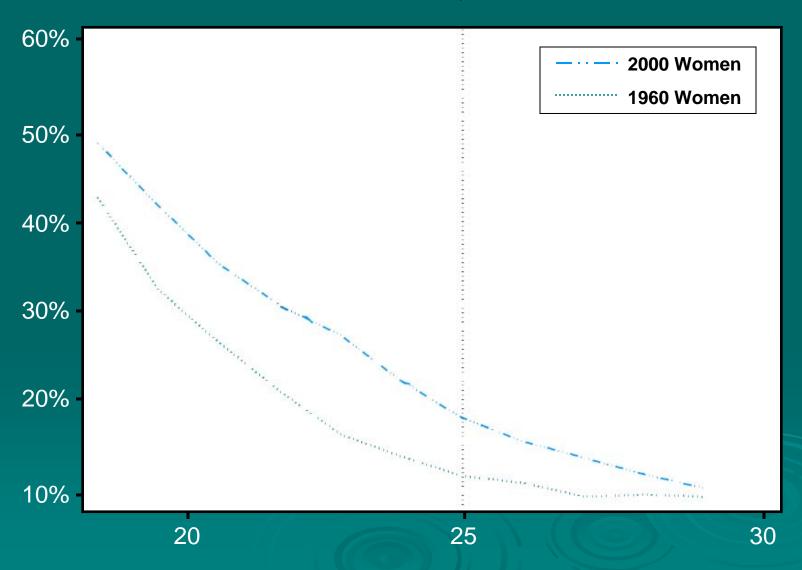
# Percent of Young Men Age 19 to 29 Living with at Least One Parent, 1960 vs. 2000



#### THE NEST



# Fraction of Young Women Age 19 to 29 Living with at Least One Parent, 1960 vs. 2000



Source: Jordan Matsudaira, "Jobs, Wages, and Leaving the Nest"



### Living with Parents, by Gender and Age (%)

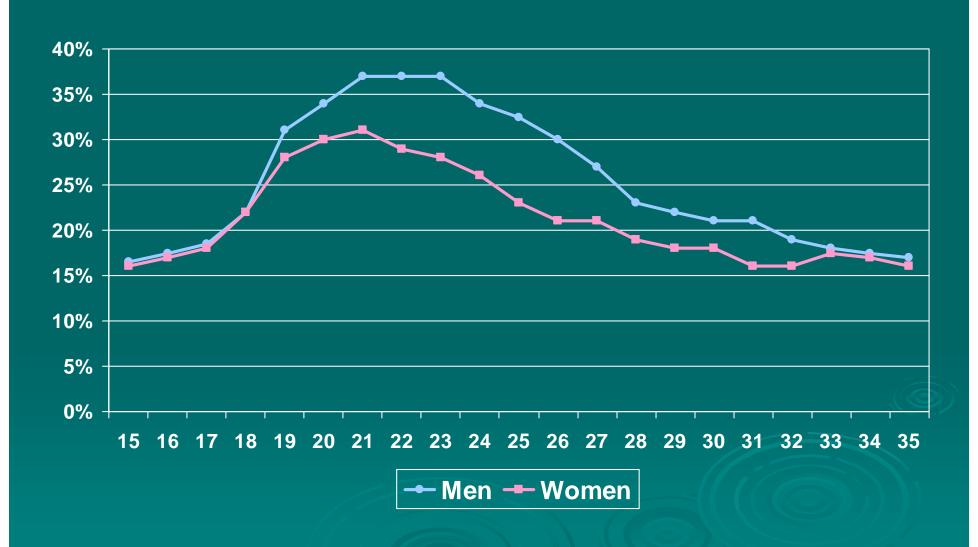


Source: Jordan Matsudaira, "Jobs, Wages, and Leaving the Nest"

#### THE NEST



## Probability of No Health Insurance, by Age and Sex

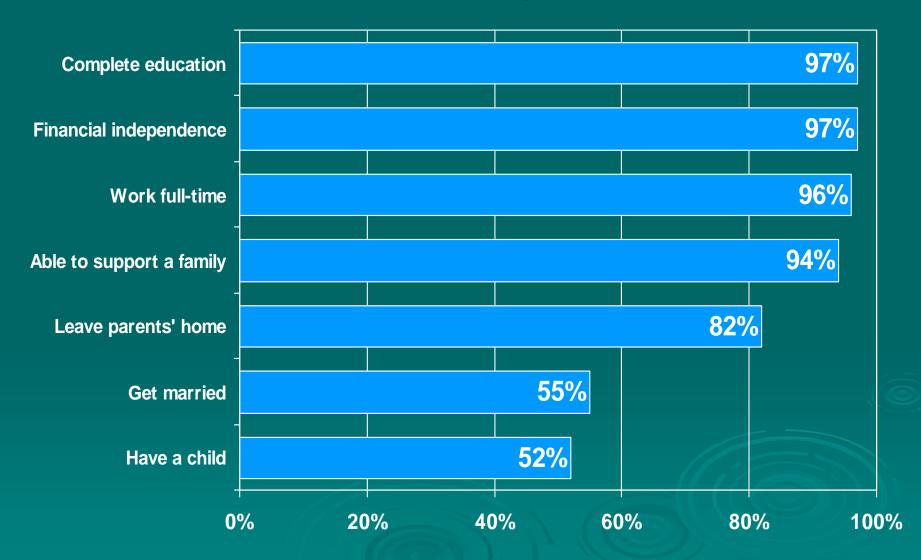


Source: Network on Transitions to Adulthood, Policy Brief #39

#### **BECOMING AN ADULT**



# Percent of Americans who say that an event is at least somewhat important to being considered an adult



Source: Furstenberg et al., "Growing Up is Harder to Do"



## **Necessary for Adulthood?**

TOP FOUR ITEMS	% Indicating "Yes"
Accept responsibility for the consequences of your actions	93%
Decide on personal beliefs and values independently of parents or other influences	81%
Become less self-oriented, develop greater consideration for others	81%
Financially independent from parents	74%
BOTTOM FOUR ITEMS	% Indicating "Yes"
Become employed full-time	26%
Married	15%
Finished with education	15%
Have at least one child	14%

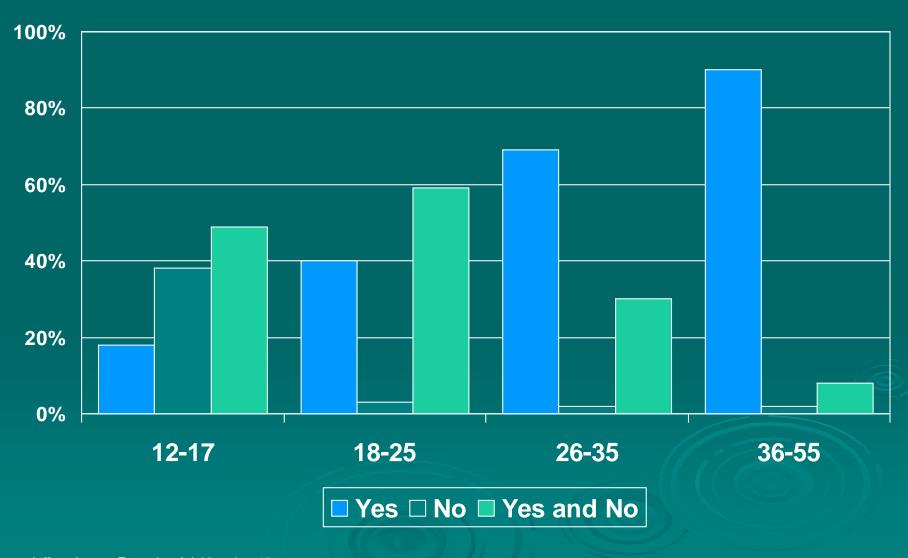
Note: The questionairre asked participants to "Indicate whether you think each of the following must be achieved before a person can be considered an adult."

Source: Jeffrey Arnett, Emerging Adulthood

#### **BECOMING AN ADULT**



### Do you feel that you have reached adulthood?



Source: Jeffrey Arnett, Emerging Adulthood, p. 15

#### **INTERGENERATIONAL RELATIONS**



# **Average Generation Gap (Percentage Points)**

Year	Percentage	
1973	19.4%	
1985	16.7%	
1997	15.2%	

Source: On the Frontier of Adulthood, ch. 6

#### **INTERGENERATIONAL RELATIONS**



# **Significant Declines**

	1973	1985	1997
Abortion	11.7	6.2	4.9
Civil liberties	43.1	30.0	23.9
Confidence in institutions	8.7	9.0	4.9
Crime	12.1	6.5	5.7
Gender roles	28.2	25.2	14.2
Sexuality	32.0	23.7	21.7

Source: On the Frontier of Adulthood, ch. 6