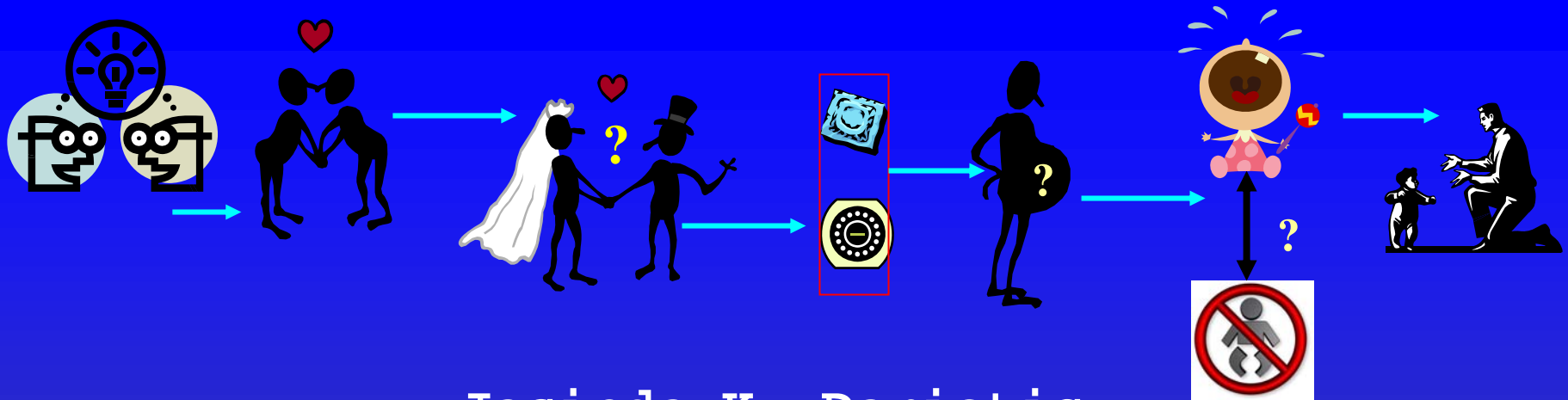


To Sow or Not to Sow One's Oats:

To What Extent are Voluntary Childless & Small Family Size Intentions Protective for Men?



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Why should we care about men's family formation intentions?

- Intentionality → investment & behavioral responsibility
- Implications for men's health
 - Marriage
 - Social networks
 - Physical & mental health; reproductive health
- Understanding men's roles
 - Half of the decision-making 'team'
 - Dearth from men's perspective RE: family formation intentions, desires, and behaviors
- If we want to change an outcome (Y), we need to know *when* the process begins (EMERGENCE) and *what* predicts/influences (ANTECEDENTS: X) the "undesired" outcome (e.g., STIs, unwanted fertility)
 - Must understand the developmental mechanisms and processes (timing and antecedents) underlying family formation intentions.

Moving from the Conceptual to the Empirical...



What patterns emerge from the data?

Study Design, Methods, & Measures

	<u>NSAM</u>
<i>Sample</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Nationally representative sample, unmarried males, ages 15-19, (N=1880)•Oversampled African American youth - 42% W, 34% AA, 21% H, 3% other•Analyses limited to never-married, zero-parity youth with complete participation across waves (1237 complete data on fertility intentions across time; 5 had children in 1988)
<i>Procedures</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Interviews (mean ages): 1988 (16.8), 1990 (19.3), & 1995 (23.6)
<i>Measures</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•<u>Dating</u>: "How old were you when you first went out with a girl?"•<u>Sexual Activity</u>: "Have you ever has sexual intercourse with a female?"; "How old were you when you had sexual intercourse for the first time?"; Number of sexual partners★<u>Contraceptive use</u>:<ul style="list-style-type: none">★1988: Condom use or pill versus no effective method; first & last sex★1995: % used condom, pill, any affective contraceptive in last year★<u>Contraceptive Responsibility</u>: (1995) 8 item scale; "Who is responsible for contraception" (1988: male, female, both, neither)•<u>Pregnancies</u>: "Have you ever <u>actually</u> made someone pregnant?"•<u>Attitudes toward children</u> (1995): 4 items, higher is more pos
<i>Analytic Plan</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•<u>Nonparametric Statistics</u> - due to unbalanced design & normality assumption violation. Kruskal-Wallis (~ ANOVA); Mann-Whitney Wilcoxon (~T-test); Odds Ratios; Chi-Square

Expected Family Size

"In all, how many children do you want to have?" (1988 & 1995)

- Expected Family Size:

- ✦ 0= intending no children (permanent childlessness),
- ✦ 1=intending only one child (small),
- ✦ 2 or 3= intending two children (average),
- ✦ 4=intending three or more children (large).

- Persistent EFS:

- ✦ Persistent None (0 → 0)
- ✦ Persistent Some (1+ → 1+)
- ✦ Move Up (0 → Some)
- ✦ Move Down (Some → None)

Research Question and Hypotheses

Research Question:

•How do men who intend to never have children differ from men who intend to have some children in terms of contraceptive use, risk-taking behaviors, marital intentions, & so on?

<u>Construct</u>	<u>Hypothesis</u>
<i>Prevalence Rates</i>	Prevalence rates of EFS=0 among men will be non-trivial (although not the predominant pattern)
<i>Reproductive Health</i>	Contraceptive Use & Responsibility: •Men intending EFS=0 will report greater contraceptive use frequency, more reliable method use, and greater male contraceptive responsibility.
<i>Attitudes toward children</i>	Relative to men with EFS> 0, men intending no children will report more negative attitudes about children. •Positive ATC: none < small < average < large

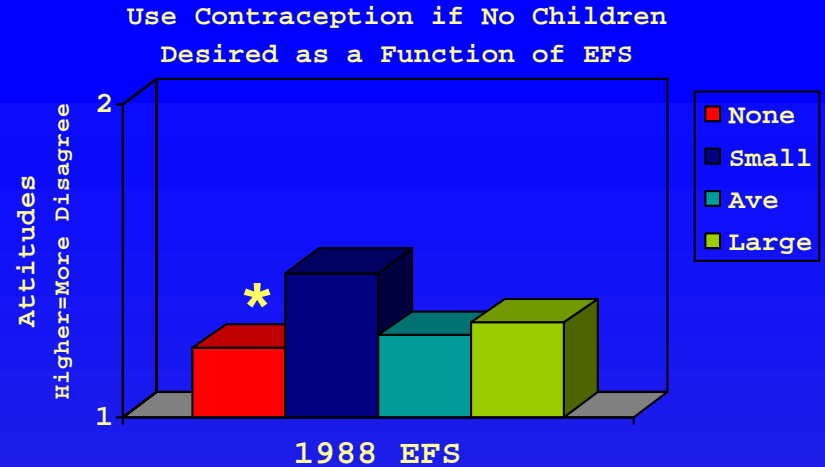
NSAM EFS Patterns

	<u>1988</u>	<u>1995</u>
<u>EFS Prevalence</u>	n (%)	n (%)
None (EFS = 0) (permanent childlessness)	96 (7.7%)	54 (4.3%)
Small (EFS = 1)	102 (8.2%)	97 (7.8%)
Average (EFS=2 or 3)	650 (52.2%)	600 (48.0%)
Large (EFS = 4+)	398 (31.9%)	498 (39.9%)
Total	1246	1249

<u>EFS Persistence</u>	NSAM (1988 to 1995) n (%)
Persist None (EFS= 0 → 0)	16 (1.3%)
Move Down (EFS= some → none)	36 (2.9%)
Move Up (EFS= none → some)	80 (6.5%)
Persist Some (EFS=some → some)	1105 (89.3%)
Total	1237

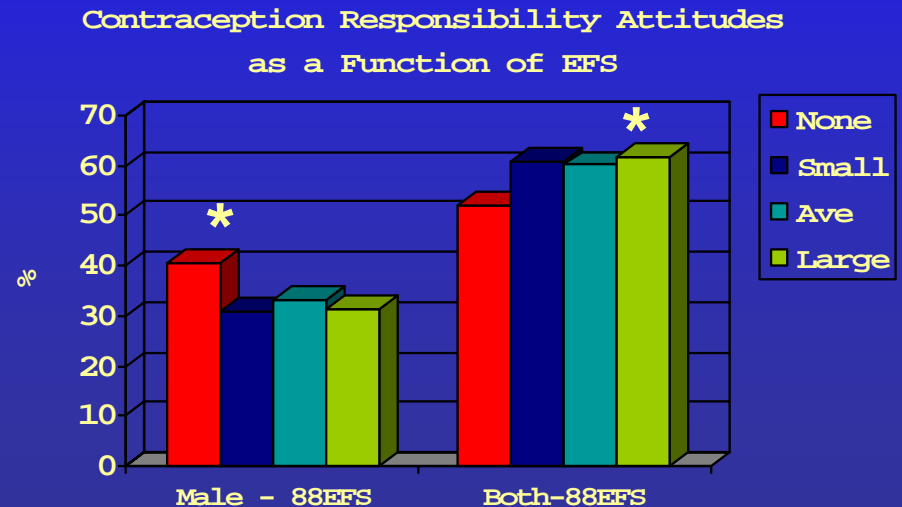
EFS & Contraceptive Attitudes

- "If a young man does not want to have a child, he should not have intercourse without contraception" (1=agree a lot, 4=disagree a lot)



1988 EFS; $F=3.01 (3,1226)$, $p=0.03$; $KWchisq (3)=7.20$; $p < 0.07$

- 1988: "Who is responsible for contraception" (male, female, both, neither)



Persistent EFS & Ever Have Sex

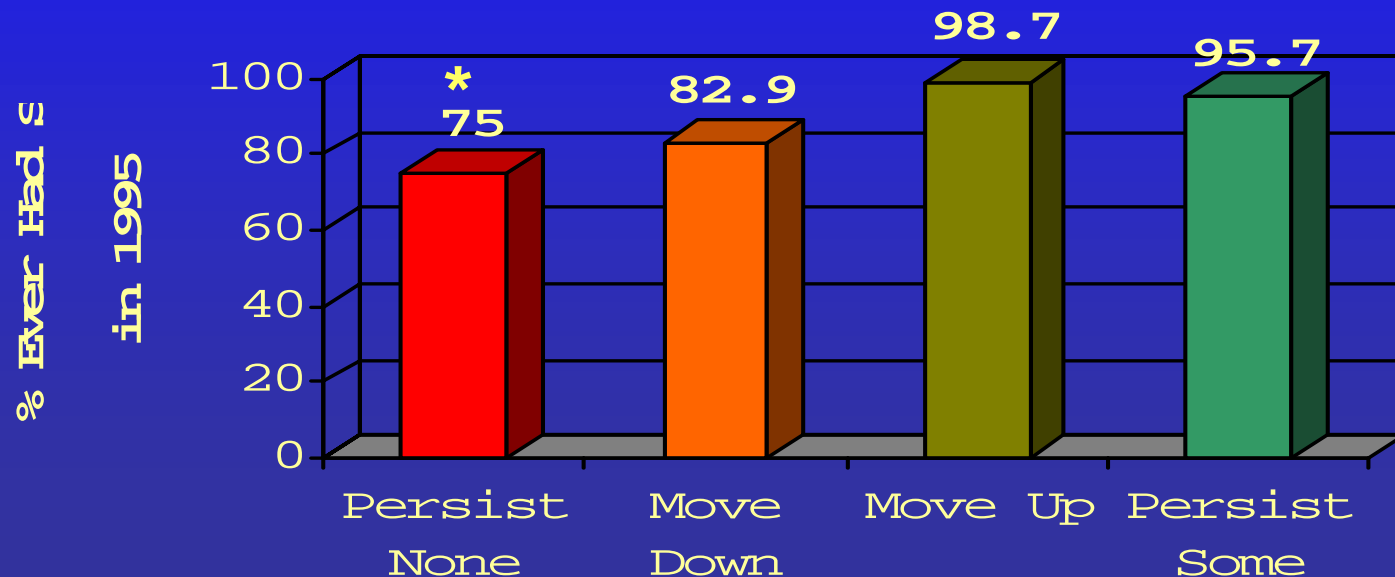
★ "Have you ever has sexual intercourse with a female?"

★ Persistent EFS=0 men and those who decrease EFS over time are least likely to have experienced sex by 1995.

✦ Odds Ratio: 0.18 for combined None and down

✦ Odds Ratio: 0.14 for None only

Ever Have Sex by 1995 as a Function of Persistent EFS

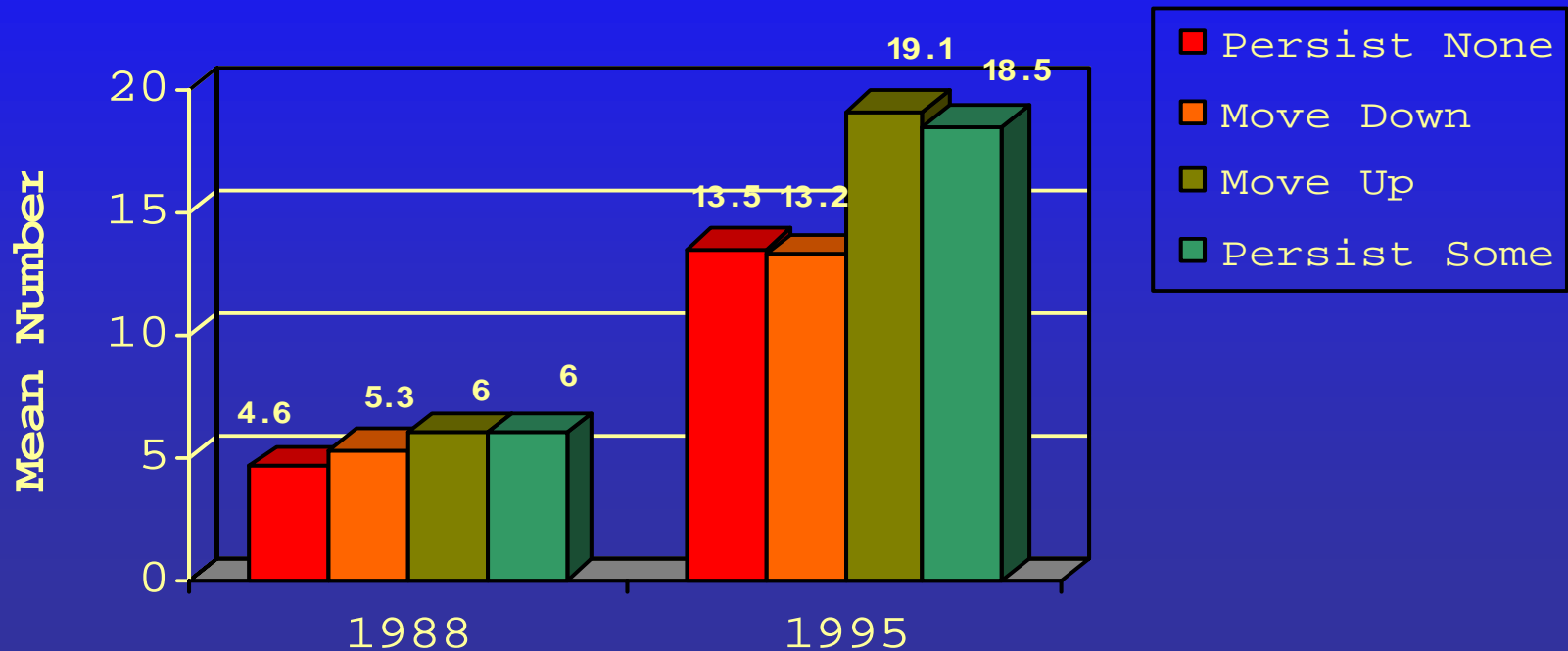


Chisq=29.0 (1,3); p< 0.0001

Persistent EFS & Number Sexual Partners

- Men reporting persistent EFS=0 or who downwardly adjust their intentions report the fewest sexual partners in 1988 and 1995.

Mean Number of Sexual Partners Ever as a Function of Persistent EFS



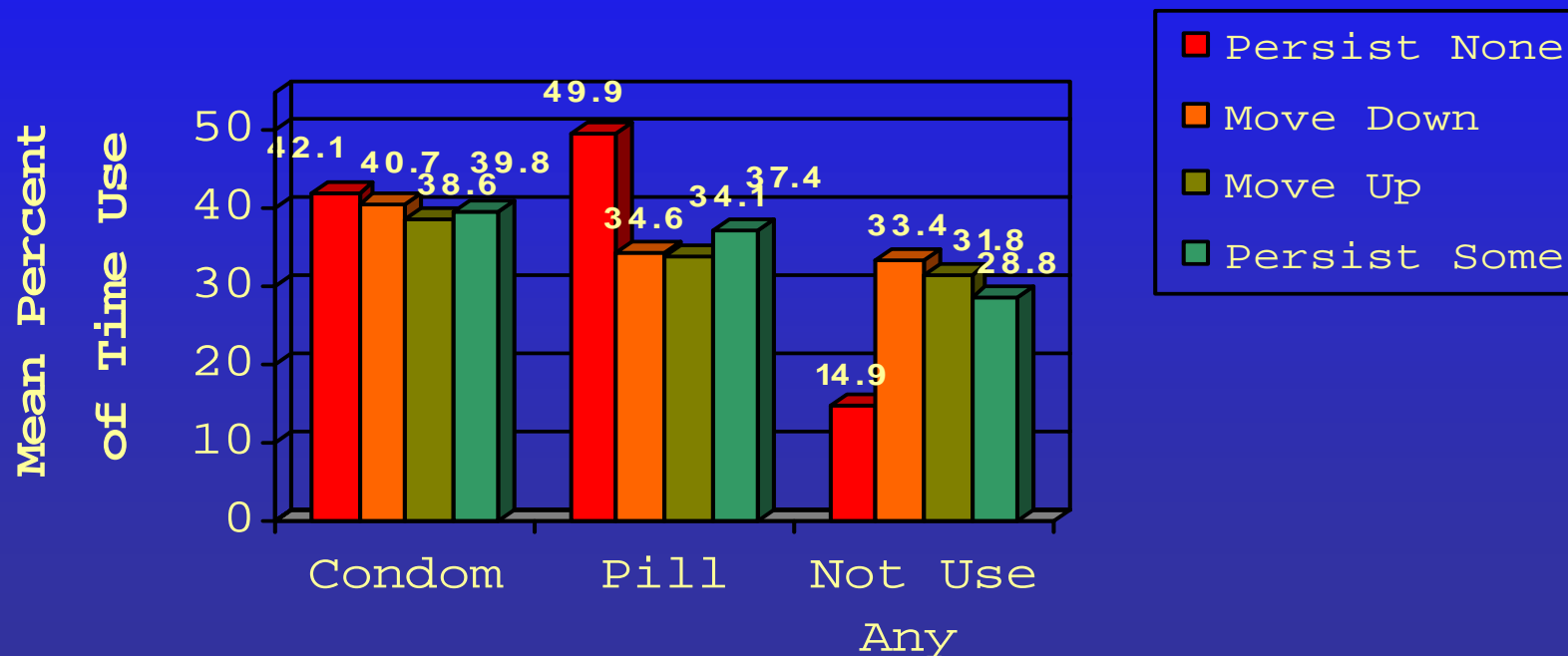
Group differences did not reach significance

Persistent EFS & Contraceptive Use

★ Findings

- ★ Men who report persistent intentions never to have children report the lowest average percent of time not using any form of contraception in past year.

Use of Contraception in Past Year as a Function of Persistent EFS



Persistent EFS & Pregnancies

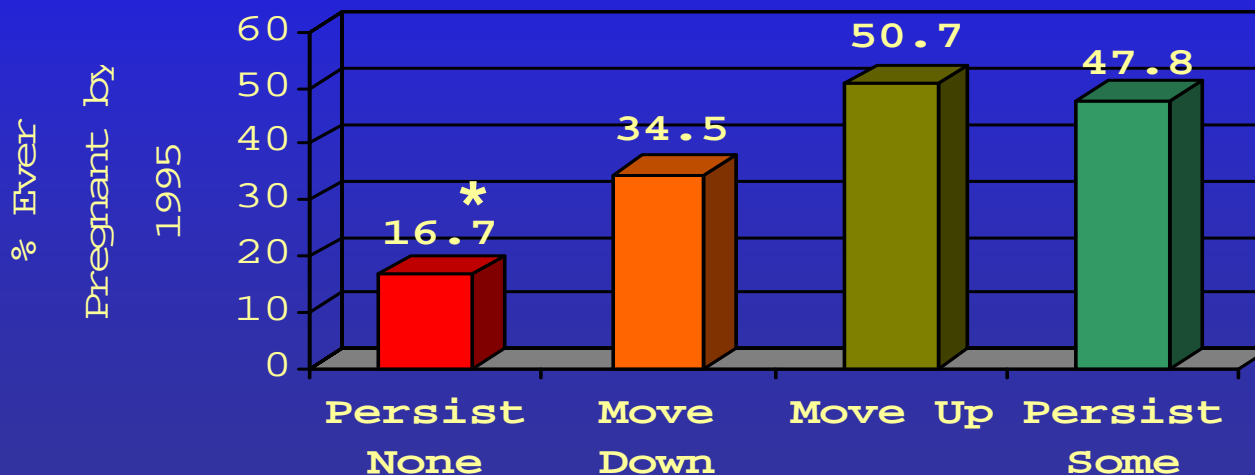
★ "Have you ever actually made someone pregnant?"

★ Only sexually experienced by given survey year
Persistent EFS=0 men and those who decrease EFS over time are least likely to have experienced a pregnancy by 1995.

✦ Odds Ratio: 0.45 for combined None and down

✦ Odds Ratio: 0.22 for None only

Ever Made Someone Pregnant by 1995 as a Function of Persistent EFS



Chisq=6.9 (1,3); p< 0.08

EFS Group Sexual Activity, Pregnancy & Contraceptive Differences

<u>VAR</u>	<u>Persistence EFS Group</u>			
	<u>None</u>	<u>Down</u>	<u>Up</u>	<u>Some</u>
<i>EverSex</i>	Low		High	High
<i>#Sex Par</i>	Low	Low	High	High
<i>%timeuse</i>	highest			
<i>Ever Preg</i>	lowest	low	high	Mod

RED denotes proceptive behaviors; BLUE denotes contraceptive behaviors

Persistence Pattern:

- Men persisting in childless intentions: less likely to have had sex, more likely to use some form of contraception in last year, fewer sexual partners, and least likely to experience a pregnancy.
- Men persisting in their intentions to have some children and men who shift intentions to wanting some children engage in more proceptive behaviors compared to men who downwardly adjust or persist in intending no children over time.

Results – EFS Group Sexual Activity, Pregnancy, & Contraceptive Differences

VAR	<u>1988 EFS Group</u>				<u>1995 EFS Group</u>				<u>Persistence EFS Group</u>			
	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>Down</u>	<u>Up</u>	<u>Some</u>
EverSex					Low				Low		High	High
Age1Sex						Young				Older		
#Sexual Partners		High (95)			Low	High (88,95)	Mod	High (88,95)	Low	Low	High	High
Use1st			High									
UseLast			High		High	low			High	Low		
Ever Preg	Low (95)	High (95)			Lowest	High	Mod	High	lowest	Low	High	Mod

RED denotes risk factor; BLUE denotes protective factors

Conclusion

- Major Finding:

- Men persisting in EFS=0 & men who downwardly adjusted EFS reported
 - 1.lower likelihood of ever having sex;
 - 2.later age at first sex;
 - 3.Greater contraceptive use;
 - 4.fewer sexual partners;
 - 5.fewest pregnancies; &
 - 6.least positive attitudes toward children.
 - Speaks to fertility intention consistency.

- Contributions:

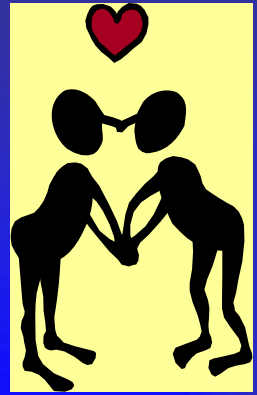
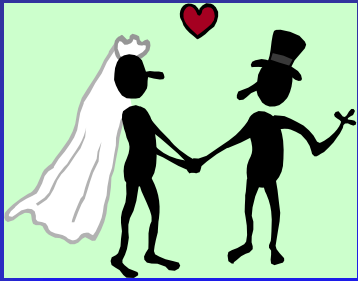
- Empirical evidence that men intending permanent childlessness are distinct all other EFS groups. Men reporting persistent EFS=0 or who downwardly adjust EFS exhibit PROTECTIVE rather than risky sexual behaviors.

- Implications:

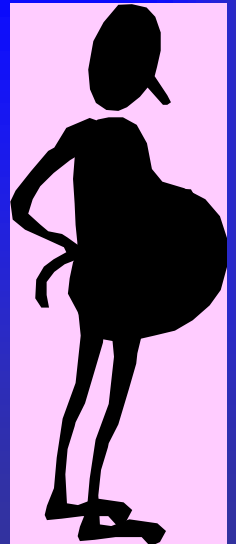
- Protective perspective calls attention toward the protective nature of intentions to remain childless
- Potential for intervention inroads into planfulness

- Future Directions:

- Groups warranting further inquiry: upward and downward adjusters
- Moving beyond the descriptive to testing mediation models; Need larger sample size
- Comparison to females



Questions?



Results – EFS Group Marriage & Relationship

VAR	<u>1988 EFS Group</u>				<u>1995 EFS Group</u>				<u>Persistence EFS Group</u>			
	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>Down</u>	<u>Up</u>	<u>Some</u>
Never Married					High	Low			High	Mod	Low	Low
Marital Intent	Low	Low	High	High	Lowest	Mod	High	High	Low	Low	High	High
AgeDate	Young									Older		
AgeRelat	Young				Older	Young				Older		

GREEN denotes consistent with hypothesis; RED denotes risk factor; BLUE denotes protective factors

Comprehensive Conceptual Model

ATTITUDINAL/ INDIVIDUAL



COGNITIVE/ INTENTION



BEHAVIORAL

