

217. There's been a lot of discussion about the way morals and attitudes about sex are changing in this country. If a man and woman have sex relations before marriage, do you think it is always wrong, almost always wrong, wrong only sometimes, or not wrong at all?

[VAR: PREMARSX]

RESPONSE	PUNCH	YEAR										COL. 816
		1972-82	1982B	1983-87	1987B	1988-91	1993	1994	1996	1998	ALL	
Always wrong	1	2788	104	1245	0	1,026	283	496	452	476	6,870	
Almost always wrong	2	988	19	405	0	387	106	192	183	166	2,446	
Wrong only sometimes	3	2005	50	1000	0	826	218	389	429	378	5,295	
Not wrong at all	4	3042	166	1818	0	1,573	443	830	832	784	9,488	
Don't know	8	290	9	118	0	118	27	60	58	65	745	
No answer	9	42	6	17	0	16	3	10	6	2	102	
Not applicable	BK	4471	0	2939	353	1,961	526	1015	944	961	13,170	

REMARKS: See Appendix N for across survey changes. See GSS Social Change Report No. 35.

217A. What if they are in their early teens, say 14 to 16 years old? In that case, do you think sex relations before marriage are always wrong, almost always wrong, wrong only sometimes, or not wrong at all?

[VAR: TEENSEX]

RESPONSE	PUNCH	YEAR										COL. 817
		1972-82	1982B	1983-87	1987B	1988-91	1993	1994	1996	1998	ALL	
Always wrong	1	0	0	965	0	2,670	733	1363	1339	1318	8,388	
Almost always wrong	2	0	0	274	0	653	186	336	321	299	2,069	
Wrong only sometimes	3	0	0	159	0	385	102	176	191	157	1,170	
Not wrong at all	4	0	0	47	0	148	39	77	83	64	458	
Don't know	8	0	0	21	0	73	16	17	23	30	180	
No answer	9	0	0	4	0	17	4	8	3	3	39	
Not applicable	BK	13626	354	6072	353	1,961	526	1015	944	961	25,812	