

A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

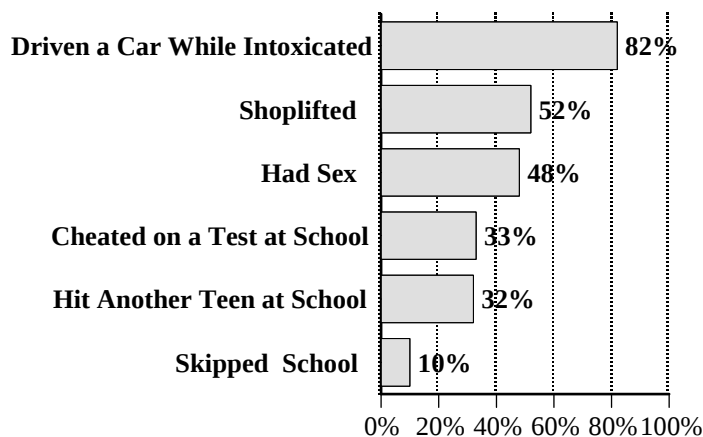
University of Maryland, College Park

***Parents More Worried About Their Teen
Driving Drunk, Shoplifting, or Having Sex Than Using Marijuana***

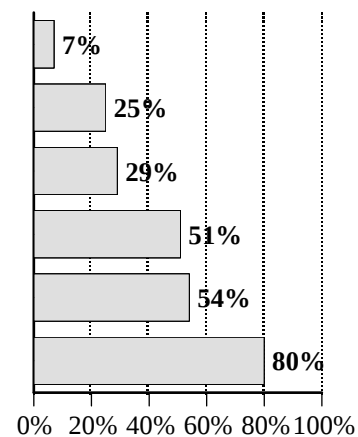
Many parents report that they are more worried about their teenage son or daughter driving a car while intoxicated, shoplifting, or having sex than about their using marijuana, according to a recent national telephone survey of parents of youths ages 12 to 17. More than 80% of the parents reported that it would bother them more if they found out their teen had driven a car while intoxicated than if their teen used marijuana. Around one-half of the parents reported that their teen having sex or shoplifting would bother them more than their marijuana use. Behaviors that parents found less worrisome than smoking marijuana were skipping school, cheating on a test, or hitting another teen.

Percentage of Parents of Teens Ages 12 to 17 Reporting Which Would Bother Them the Most:

Finding Out Their Teen Had . . .



**. . . Or That Their Teen
Had Smoked Marijuana**



NOTE: Telephone interviews with 550 parents of youths were conducted between April 27 and May 13, 2007, with a random sample of U.S. households who had a youth 12- to 17-years old living in the household.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, *National Survey of American Attitudes on Substance Abuse XII: Teens and Parents*, August 2007. Available online at <http://www.casacolumbia.org/supportcasa/item.asp?CID=12&PID=160>.

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