Figure B. Reasons for Abstaining

![Figure B. Reasons for Abstaining](image)

For each drug studied, our statistical analyses revealed family worship as the experience most highly predictive for low drug use. When we combined all past drug use, the four religious experiences that appeared to be most protective were family worship, participation in temperance contexts, witnessing, and attendance at Sabbath school. The findings on present drug usage differed among various drugs. Again, however, for all drugs combined, family worship was the most important variable related to low using or for abstaining from drugs. Such information can assist us in developing programs that more effectively promote a drug-free lifestyle.

Figures A and B show the reasons Adventist youth gave as having "a great deal of influence" on their choices to use or not to use drugs. They reported most frequently that they used drugs "to enjoy a good time with my friends" and because of curiosity. The reason ranked third was related to peer influence: "to go along with what my friends are doing." These findings suggest that for many youth, social factors are persuasive.

In response to a question as to who introduced them to drugs, 65 percent of drug users identified another teenager as responsible. However, family members are not unimportant; 27 percent said a sibling other family members led the way. The list of "some reasons led the way" included "good deal of influence for abstaining from drug use," "I want to see if it felt good," "my drug use," "I wanted to see if I could do it," "I was pressured," "I knew my mom wouldn't approve for my health," and "my community led the way."