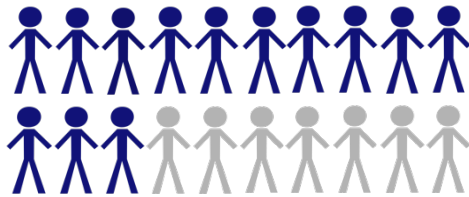


EMERGING ADULT SEXUALITY IN THE CONTEXT OF STAYOVER RELATIONSHIPS

TYLER B. JAMISON, PHD, UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
 JONATHON J. BECKMEYER, PHD, INDIANA UNIVERSITY

65% OF EMERGING ADULTS HAVE STAYED OVER WITH A ROMANTIC PARTNER



Staying the night together 3 or more nights per week while maintaining separate residences

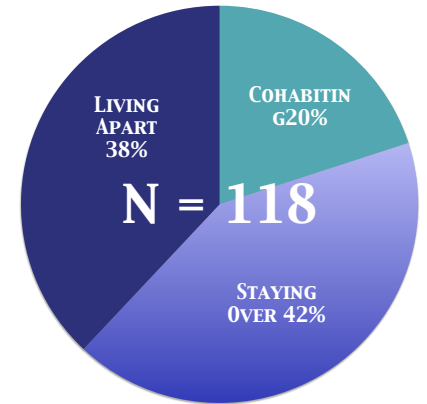
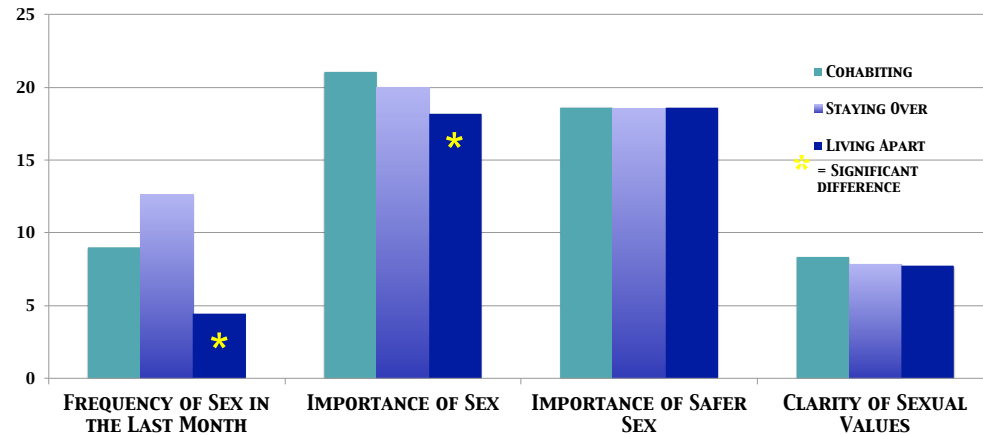
QUALITATIVE RESEARCH ABOUT STAYOVERS REVEALED 3 PRIMARY MOTIVATIONS

COMFORT CONVENIENCE CONTROL

Previous research indicates that cohabiting couples have more sex than couples who live apart, but the sexual behavior of couples participating in stayovers has not been explored.

WHAT ABOUT SEX?

SAMPLE
 65% FEMALE
 MEAN AGE = 21.75
 UNMARRIED
 CURRENTLY PARTNERED
 COLLEGE STUDENTS



CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

In terms of sexual beliefs and behaviors, couples that participate in stayovers more closely resemble cohabitators than couples that live apart.

This study suggests that many college students engage in sex within the context of ongoing romantic relationships; thus interventions for EAs should address more than casual sex.

Our data indicated that 5% of respondents were staying over but not having sex. How do these couples negotiate sharing a residence with the desire to remain celibate?

What is the relationship between commitment and staying over? Do stayovers promote commitment through greater sexual and emotional intimacy?

What role does sexuality play in the initiation of stayovers? Does sexual involvement lead to stayovers or vice versa?