With your help, we have gathered interesting information from the Family Choices Study. The results presented below represent summaries of some of the responses we received from the first 2,576 women interviewed and 540 of their spouses/partners.

Overall, the results we first reported in July 2005 have changed very little. In this report we include information from the spouses and partners that participated as well.

As you know, we are interested in people’s experiences with children. We found that only a small percentage of these households had stepchildren (2.3%), a smaller percentage had adopted children (1.6%), and about one-third (32%) had no children at all.

About one-tenth (10.3%) of the women we talked to were prevented from having children that they wanted because they or their partners had been sterilized (for example, tubes tied or vasectomy).

Other results that might be of interest include:

- 52% of participants said that they intend to have a baby but haven’t yet
- 51% had family or friends who sought help to have a baby
- 55% considered adopting a child
- 26% indicated that they have had or might have trouble getting pregnant

Most (90%) of the partners we interviewed were married to the women in the study. Similar to the women, partners said that raising children and having a family was very important (71%) and fewer said that success at work (49%) or leisure time (44%) was very important.

Overall, the women and their partners had similar attitudes towards getting pregnant. Slightly more partners (26.8%) than women (21%) strongly agreed that “I think I will be able to get pregnant when the time is right.” Fewer partners (3.7%) than women (8%) were worried that they might not be able to get pregnant without medical treatment. More partners (28%) than women (24.5%) felt a sense of urgency about having children.

Thank you again for your help with this important study! Watch your mail for future study updates.