



Friendship in the Adolescent years

By Audrey Williams



Friendship Introduction

FOLDER 01

- This is the time where we see a clear shift of adolescents preferring to hang out with friends over family
- Friendship during this time can be considered a new experience as hormones start to take an effect
- Choosing friends is similar to when they were younger, the more similarities they have the more likely they will be friends
- Due to wanting to feel accepted within their friend group, many adolescents are more likely to be influenced by their friends, which could be good or bad depending on who they choose to hang out with

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Friendship in the U.S

FOLDER 02

Whether in the U.S or a non-developed country, friendship is important for healthy growth

- Begin to see the increase of opposite-sex friendship during this time
- Girls are more likely to have friendships with others who have had the same experiences and/or are more empathetic and understanding
- Boys are more likely to have friendships with others who enjoy the same activities as them

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Research of U.S. Teens

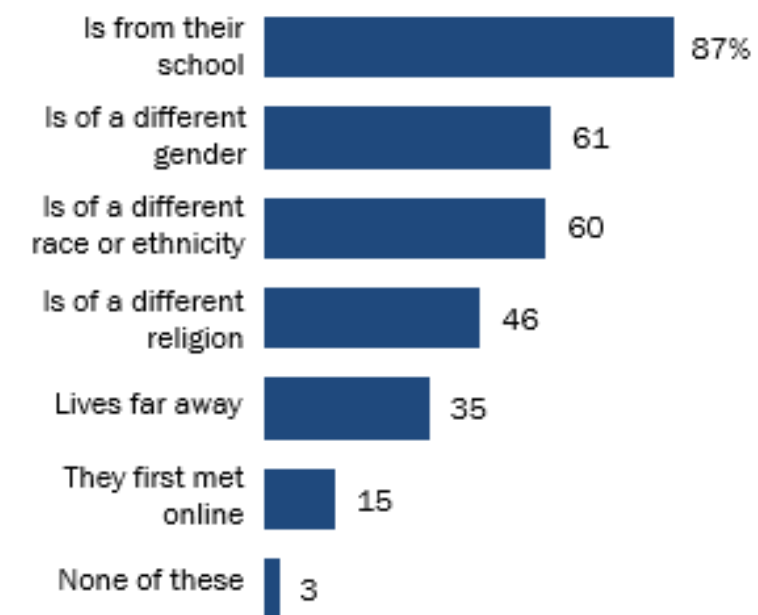
FOLDER 03

In a study with 748 teens conducted by the Pew Research Center:

- More than half (51%) believed they fit in with their peers while the other half (48%) believed they did not
- 98% said they have one or more close friends

Roughly six-in-ten teens say they have a close friend of a different gender or a different race or ethnicity

% of U.S. teens who say they have a close friend who ...



Note: Respondents were allowed to select multiple options. Those who did not give an answer are not shown.

Source: Survey conducted March 7-April 10, 2018.

"Teens' Social Media Habits and Experiences"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

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Friendship in Non-Developed Countries

FOLDER 04

Although friendship still helps teens in non-developed countries, it has its differences compared to developed countries

- Family is still more important than peers in non-developed countries than developed countries
- For boys, they have a greater involvement with peers their age
- For girls, they have a greater involvement with adults of the same sex (usually their mothers) than their peers

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Effects of Social Media

FOLDER 05

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Social media has both positive and negative effects on friendships

Pros

- Teens are more likely to spend time with their friends online than in person
- Many teens believe it is easier to keep in touch via social media as it is easy access to most
- They are able to share more online than in person (Videos, pictures, etc.)
- Teens also find more friends outside of their friend group due to online groups/forums that share the same hobbies or interests as them
- Also helps teens with different identities find people who are like them or gone through the same struggles, making them feel less alone

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Effects of Social Media

FOLDER 05

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Social media has both positive and negative effects on friendships

Cons

- Due to social media being on the rise for the last few years, many teens feel isolated and often lonely due to lack of face to face interactions
- Girls are more likely to feel left out due to social media posts
- Knowing if a person has read your message but not answered, or ignoring your message while being online has teens feeling lonely as well

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Future Insights of Friendships

FOLDER 06

The future of friendships is looking more positive than negative

- As we continue to get back to face to face after the Covid-19 pandemic, many teens are starting to feel more better about themselves and their relationships among their peers
- Being able to be face-to-face and able to do activities with peers outside of social media or online is allowing teens to feel less isolated and make more friends, while still being able to keep in touch with friends via social media

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Future Research Suggestions

FOLDER 06

Although we know much about the affects of friendships in adolescence, more can be known

- More research on the long-term effects of isolation during the Covid-19 pandemic on adolescence as they get ready for their adult years
- More research on teens who are LGBTIA+ and/or not of cis gender and how they feel among their peers

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Friendship Conclusion

FOLDER 07

- Friendship is vital among teens for their mental health along with finding their identity
- Teens are more likely to become friends with other peers if they share the same hobbies and interests
- It is important for teens to choose the right friends so they do not get into any trouble, whether due to peer pressure or wanting to fit in
- Friendship is mostly the same around the world, with non-developed countries still having a strong sense of family then developed countries
- Social media has both positive and negatives on teens mental health and friendships
- It is important to have an equal amount of face-to-face interactions with friends and peers along with online interactions so teens do not feel isolated or lonely

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THANK YOU

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