

Table 2.39

Teenagers' attitudes toward the worst influence facing today's American youth

By sex, United States, 1996

Question: "Please indicate below the single worst influence facing today's American youth."

(Percent indicating the item as the worst influence)

	Total	Male	Female
Drugs	21.1%	22.8%	19.5%
Peer pressure	20.0	19.3	20.8
Sex/poor morals	11.9	8.8	15.1
Violence	11.9	11.4	12.4
Gangs	11.7	13.8	9.7
Crime	4.2	3.7	4.6
Television	2.9	3.3	2.5
Alcohol	2.5	2.0	2.9
Parents/elders	2.1	1.3	2.9
Political leaders	1.9	2.4	1.5
Cigarettes	1.8	2.2	1.5
Unemployment	1.4	1.3	1.3
Poverty	0.6	0.0	1.3
Pornography	0.4	0.9	0.0
Music	0.4	0.2	0.6
Movies	0.3	0.4	0.2

Note: See Note, table 2.2.

Source: Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans, Inc., *The Mood of American Youth 1996* (Alexandria, VA: Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans, Inc. and National Association of Secondary School Principals, 1996), p. 50. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.