

TABLE 5. Predicted probability that dating couples engaged in specific STD protective behaviors in the past four weeks, as estimated from multinomial logit regression analyses including beliefs about which partner controls the couple's sexual and contraceptive behaviors, by selected characteristics

Characteristic	STD protective behavior		
	Did nothing	Used condoms	Less risky sex practices
ALL COUPLES	0.622	0.292	0.085
Relationship duration*			
1 month (low)	0.563	0.341	0.096
48 months (high)	0.648	0.271	0.080
FEMALES			
Age			
20 (low)	0.622	0.286	0.092
35 (high)	0.622	0.300	0.078
Lifetime no. of sex partners†			
1 (low)	0.668	0.266	0.065
10 (high)	0.641	0.284	0.075
Belief about who makes decisions about sex/contraception x race/ethnicity*			
Female more likely to decide x black	0.435	0.481	0.085
Female more likely to decide x Hispanic	0.726	0.130	0.143
Female more likely to decide x other	0.830	0.098	0.072
Male more likely to decide x black	0.547	0.311	0.142
Male more likely to decide x Hispanic	0.587	0.381	0.032
Male more likely to decide x other	0.691	0.294	0.016
Perceived control over sex x perceived severity of AIDS*			
Low control x low perceived severity	0.639	0.277	0.084
Low control x high perceived severity	0.644	0.312	0.044
High control x low perceived severity	0.648	0.316	0.036
High control x high perceived severity	0.561	0.266	0.174
MALES			
Education*			
12 years (low)	0.595	0.314	0.092
16 years (high)	0.715	0.231	0.054
Belief about who makes decisions about sex/contraception x prior STD infection†			
Female more likely to decide x no prior STD	0.636	0.282	0.082
Female more likely to decide x prior STD	0.603	0.321	0.076
Male more likely to decide x no prior STD	0.638	0.297	0.065
Male more likely to decide x prior STD	0.545	0.301	0.154

*p<.05. †p<.10. Notes: Probabilities are predicted using the estimated multinomial logit regression model for the specific evaluation points shown in the table to illustrate the net effects of the variables in the model. Significance indicates improvement in overall model fit when a given characteristic or interaction is included. For continuous measures, low and high values represent roughly one standard deviation below and above the mean value of the measure.