proportion of respondents (43%) were students and said they were attending college, technical school or university (not shown). The majority reported incomes in the middle two ranges (72%), whereas 5% identified as poor and 22% as upper income. However, women were more likely than men to be in the lowest income category (6% vs. 4%), and men were more likely than women to report upper income status (28% vs. 18%).

Some 68% of respondents were in monogamous relationships, 17% were in nonmonogamous relationships and 16% were not in a relationship at the time of the study. Relationship length ranged from zero to 54 years and averaged six years (not shown). A greater proportion of women than of men were in relationships of less than six months' duration (13% vs. 8%), and a lower proportion had been in relationships for three years or longer (38% vs. 56%).

Overall, 22% of respondents had had at least one STD: the proportion was significantly higher among women than among men (25% vs. 18%). Thirty-one percent (including 33% of women and 29% of men) had been involved in at least one unintended pregnancy.

Slightly more than a third of respondents were currently using (or had partners who were currently using) hormonal contraceptives. Not surprisingly, since women are the ones who take these methods, women were significantly more likely than men to report use (42% vs. 34%).

A large proportion of respondents (69%) reported having engaged in unprotected sex during the last 12 months, men were significantly more likely than women to report this behavior (74% vs. 65%).

Overall, 34% of respondents reported that using safer-sex products can cause them to lose their arousal; 46% reported that the risk of unintended pregnancy had this effect. As expected, significant gender differences marked these variables. Whereas 40% of men agreed or strongly agreed that using condoms can cause them to lose their arousal, 29% of women agreed or strongly agreed that using safer-sex products can cause them to lose their arousal. Substantial proportions of both men and women reported that pregnancy risk lessened their arousal. Nevertheless, the proportions agreeing or strongly agreeing with this statement differed by gender—37% of men and 53% of women.

Safer Sex–Related Arousal Loss and Unprotected Sex

**Men.** Almost three in four men (73%) said they had had unprotected sex in the last 12 months; however, this proportion differed by reports of condom-related arousal loss. Some 71% of men who strongly disagreed that condoms can diminish their arousal had had unprotected sex in the last 12 months, compared with 82% of those who strongly agreed (p=.007).

In analyses controlling for covariates (Table 2), men who strongly agreed that condoms diminish their arousal were significantly more likely than men who strongly disagreed to have had unprotected sex in the last 12 months (odds ratio, 1.8). Reports of agreement and disagreement were not associated with the likelihood of unprotected sex.

Women. Arousal loss related to safer sex was more strongly linked to unprotected sex among women than it was among men. Among women who strongly disagreed that safer-sex products can diminish their arousal, 53% had had unprotected sex in the last 12 months (not shown). Among those who strongly agreed, the proportion was 78% (p=.000). This difference of 25 percentage points is more than twice the difference between these two categories among men.

Arousal loss related to safer sex remained strongly associated with unprotected sex for women even when covariates were controlled for (Table 2). Compared with women who strongly disagreed that safer-sex products undermine their arousal, women who strongly agreed and those who agreed were significantly more likely to have had unprotected sex in the last 12 months (odds ratios, 3.7 and 2.6, respectively).

Pregnancy-Related Arousal Loss and Unintended Pregnancy

**Men.** Overall, 29% of men reported that they had been involved in at least one unintended pregnancy. The proportion was significantly lower among men who