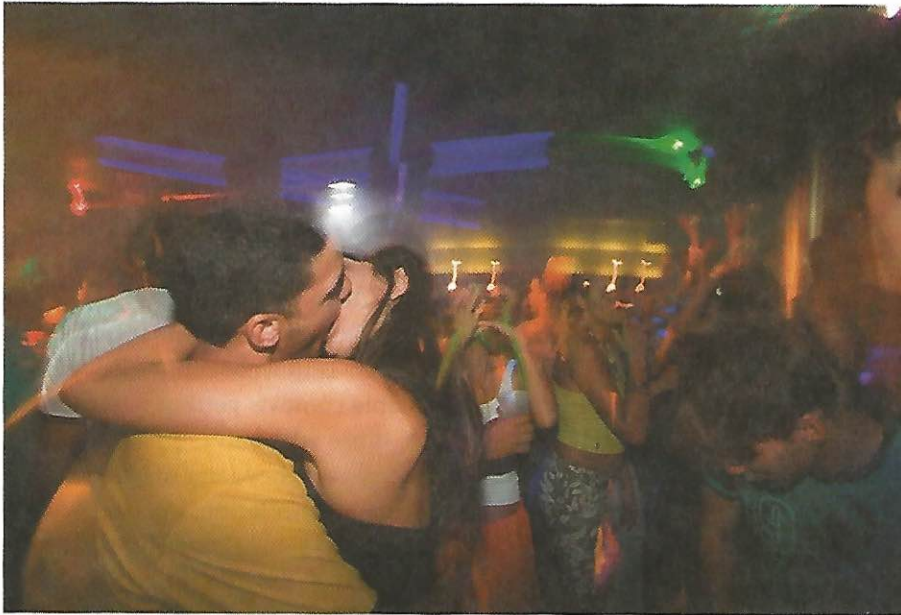




In your experience, do you think that hookups often lead to relationships?

category, where hookups were classified by how far students went sexually (so, for example, if you made out and had intercourse, you were classified as having intercourse).

Figure 12.11 shows that 40 percent of hookups involve intercourse. These are often cases where the couple had hooked up together before. Thirty-five percent of hookups involved no more than kissing and nongenital touching. Most hookups were with someone the student already knew at least moderately well. Qualitative interviews I did with students showed that while many hookups led nowhere, some relationships started with hookups, sometimes with one or more dates between hooking up and defining the relationship as exclusive (England, Schafer, and Fogarty 2008).

Births Outside of Marriage

12.4.2: Discuss changing rates of births outside of marriage.

Since the 1960s, as the average age at marriage has increased and premarital sex has become more common (Ellwood and Jencks 2004), births outside of marriage have also become more common, as Figure 12.12 shows. This increase has been seen in all education, income, and racial groups. But young women and men from lower-income families, who often don't have the academic record or money to complete college, are much more likely to have children before marriage. As Figure 12.13 shows, the highest rates occur among African Americans and Native Americans. They are also the most disadvantaged groups. The premarital sexual behavior of those who are more disadvantaged isn't so different from that of those who are more advantaged and go to college. The key difference is that those at lower education and income levels are less consistent in using birth control; researchers are not yet sure

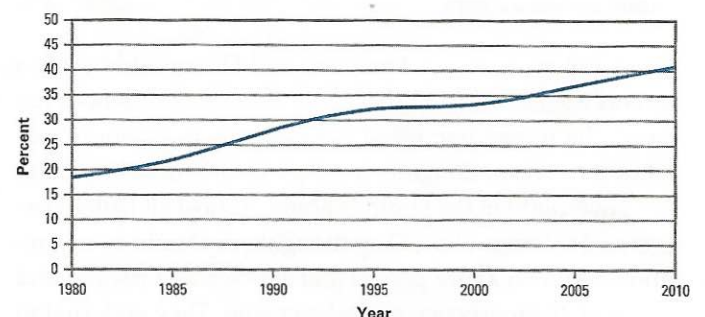
why this is (England, McClintock, and Shafer 2011). One factor in the increase in nonmarital births is that as premarital sex has become more common, the stigma of your pregnancy publicly revealing that you've had sex before marriage is much less than previously. Researchers suggest that because of this, couples do not as often marry in response to a pregnancy as previously (Akerlof, Yellen, and Katz 1996).

Gender Inequality in Sex and Relationships

12.4.2: Discuss the role that gendered expectations play in sexual and romantic behavior.

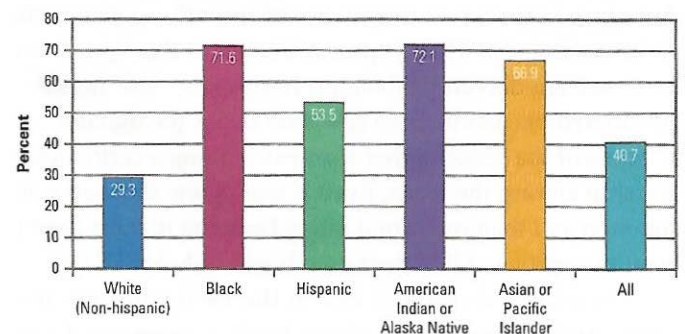
The availability of the birth control pill in the 1960s made it more possible to have sex as a young adult, go to college, and delay marriage until after college without fear of pregnancy before marriage. This helped women to prepare for careers by going to college. Thus, the availability of the pill and the advent of more premarital sex went along with increased gender equality in education and the labor market (Bailey 2006).

Figure 12.12 Percentage of Births That Were Outside of Marriage in 1980–2010



SOURCE: Data from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics Report (2012).

Figure 12.13 Percentage of Births to Women of Each Racial/Ethnic Group That Were Outside of Marriage in 2012



SOURCE: Data from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics Report (2012).