

A STUDY OF THE COMPETITION FOR THE TIME OF TEEN AGERS

by

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this study was to gain information on how teen age boys and girls spend their time with particular interest in their time spent out of school. This study was directed to rural and urban boys and girls who belong to 4-H clubs. The selection of 4-H boys and girls for the study was made because the writer works for and with them as one of the assistant state 4-H club leaders. As a professional worker in the 4-H club organization, two facts were evident to the writer: (1), the membership of 4-H clubs in Kansas has remained relatively stable for the past five years despite the fact that the number of boys and girls reaching 4-H club age (eight years for associate members and ten years for regular members) has been increasing markedly according to census data; (2), there was a high mortality of membership after the young people join the organization. According to the Extension Service Annual Report, the average tenure for a 4-H member was 2.5 years.

The awareness of a problem of time usage by teen agers and the static enrollment of 4-H membership was realized by the writer three years ago, when the writer was in his first year as Director of the State 4-H Camp. This camp provides camping facilities annually for some 5000 young people, mostly 4-H club members. Since that time the writer has been fortunate to have had personal contact with 4-H boys and girls over the state. In addition to being responsible for the State 4-H Camp, the writer, as an assistant State 4-H Club leader, was also responsible for the administration of state wide 4-H Club events such as the State Fairs. The lack of time for organizations, such as 4-H Club work, was commonly heard as the reason young people drop from

organizations. It has been possible for the writer in the professional capacity named above to talk to many young people concerning the time they spent in school and in out of school events. As the writer worked with these young people the basic idea of this study developed because although lack of time was frequently mentioned as a reason for dropping out, this did not seem to be the only or even the real reason for young people to drop from the organization.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

At the beginning of the study in 1952 a cursory review of literature indicated a definite lack of published information on the time spent by teen agers in various activities. This fact was borne out in later attempts to find material on the subject of the competition for the time of teen agers.

The competition for the time of teen agers is evident to many parents of teen agers. This competition comes from the school, church, and community organizations as Lies (13) said:

In communities here and there the writer found that the problem of competition for the leisure time of high school students was one which was giving concern to school authorities as well as to other child welfare leaders in the community. For example, in Montclair, New Jersey, this was the case and after discussion and conferences of leaders, a plan was adopted under which the school authorities agreed not to bid for the young peoples time on Friday evenings, Saturdays or Sundays, thus leaving these periods to the churches.

This competition for time affected all teen agers but the writer, from personal observation and talking with parents, suspected the competition was strongest for boys and girls with more abilities. Lies said "Competition for high school students time usually affects those with known qualities of leadership or those efficient in various types of

activities as, for example, athletics, and it is but natural they are in great demand". This competition for the time of a rather limited group of teen agers may leave some teen agers with not enough facilities. Cannon (5) found in Conroe, Texas, a town of 7,500, both parents and pupils in the city's schools wanted more forms of community recreation for young people.

The increase in urban population, labor saving devices in the home and on the farm contribute to an increasing amount of leisure time. A study by Hawkins and Walters (9) of how families spend leisure time concluded:

The reasons why members of the family do not participate together more in their recreation activities were as follows: (1) lack of time; (2) different interests of individual members; (3) husbands or wives' occupations require all of time; (4) insufficient finances; (5) too many social demands on the individual members of the family; and (6) different interests of children, due to different ages of the children."

The increasing amount of leisure time for teen agers has given rise to a changing social pattern for young people. In addition to the number of organizations both in school and out of school, and the greater emphasis on family recreation, teen agers' parties and social gatherings have taken on new force and meaning. Nichols states "The teen age party is part of our social era-it goes with our casual entertaining and suits the youngsters, who shy away from formality."

The teen ager appears to be in a situation where more time will be available to him, and more organizations may be developed to help him spend his leisure time. Despite this, parents continue to say that their teen agers are too busy.

PROCEDURE

The plan of using the questionnaire method for the study was developed during 1952 and the initial questionnaire and basic study plan were completed

in September of the same year. The questionnaire method was selected because the writer was in a position to administer it personally to a relatively large group of young people throughout the state. Ideas were gathered from 4-H members during 1952 and early 1953 and a series of questions were formulated. After the initial questionnaire was completed a pilot study was made and the questions were given to approximately twenty-five young people. Two revisions of the questionnaire were then made and the final form was printed in August, 1953. During the revisions, some questions were omitted and new questions were added. The writer recognized the fact that in his desire to get a particularly complete and detailed account of time usage by 4-H club members, the questionnaire was too long and complicated for the age group and interest of those for whom it was intended. This may be responsible for the failure of some young people to complete the entire questionnaire.

The questionnaire was administered to 4-H members who were in attendance at State Wide 4-H camps, at the State Fair encampment and who were seen at county meetings. Statewide camps were selected for two reasons. One reason was that each year facilities and time are provided at the State 4-H Camp for leadership training of 4-H club members. Members in attendance at these camps come from every section of the state and are fairly representative of 4-H members in the state. A second reason was that the questionnaire could be administered personally and there would be ample time and freedom for the subject to answer the questions. The groups selected for this study were the State Junior Leaders and the State Conservation Camp.

In September, the questionnaire was given to the 4-H club members who

were attending the State Fair encampment at Hutchinson. These youths had exhibits at the State Fair and they lived during the week at the 4-H State Fair Encampment building. The encampment members again were selected because (1) they came from over the entire state and (2) the questionnaire could be administered personally. The writer was program director of the 4-H encampment.

The third and last group or type of group to which the questionnaire was given included 4-H club members contacted during county visits. The following counties in Kansas were selected: Finney, Stevens and Norton in the west; Sedgwick, Pawnee and Saline in the mid-west; and Shawnee, Lyon and Montgomery in the eastern part of the State. These counties were selected because most of them could be worked into a visiting schedule by the writer and because they also provided a fair distribution over the state. The counties Sedgwick and Shawnee were selected because they are highly urbanized counties. The chance to give the questionnaire to young people from the more urbanized areas and to those from the less urbanized areas was thought to be desirable for two reasons: (1) the statement was heard by those living in urban areas that the teen agers youngsters had their time extremely occupied; and (2), the shift in population trend was toward more urbanization. The small number in the urban group, however, did not warrant a comparison of the two groups.

The procedure for administering the questionnaire was as follows: The subjects were told the purpose of the questionnaire and they were asked to cooperate by completing the questionnaire. This first step was taken only after the subjects had a chance to know the administrator. At the state camps the questionnaire was administered on the fourth day

following the noon meal and at the State Fair immediately following the evening meal of the fifth day. The writer visited six counties to give the questionnaire. Previous to these visits county agents were told the purpose of the visit. They then informed the 4-H members concerned. When the writer arrived in the county the 4-H members knew the purpose of the visit.

After the subjects had been told the purpose of the questionnaire the directions were read. The boys and girls were informed that this was not a test and their identity would be unknown. They were also told to answer the questions with the statement or checkmark that seemed right to them. The questionnaires were to be replied to on the basis of one year, that is, going back one year from the day when they were answering the questions. The writer assured the subjects of his willingness to answer any questions or to give further explanations.

The writer was aware that the subjects completing the questionnaire were a somewhat select group. The statewide representation and availability of information were, however, compensating factors.

Of the total number, or 741, questionnaires returned, 686 questionnaires were completed enough for tabulation of data. Though the subjects were instructed not to fill out a second questionnaire, several members did so. Other questionnaires were discarded because directions had not been adequately followed. Some questionnaires were not completed probably because of the length and complexity of the questions and the ability of the person answering the questions.

DISCUSSION OF DATA

In order to analyze the data obtained from the questionnaire the information has been grouped into five major areas; subjects of the study; school activities and organizations; community activities including church, movies and work; youth organizations; and, information concerning the use of the subjects time at home. Throughout the study attention has been given to noting the reasons given by these youth for joining organizations as well as causes for withdrawing.

Subjects of the Study

Boys and girls from 96 counties answered the questionnaire. Of the total 686 questionnaires completed, 321 were answered by boys and 365 were answered by girls. (Table 1)

Table 1. Total number subjects answering the questionnaires.

Age	: Boys	: Girls	: Totals
12	30	15	45
13	49	62	111
14	39	44	83
15	45	70	115
16	54	67	121
17	43	47	90
18	28	27	55
19	17	15	32
20	11	7	18
21	5	11	16
Total	321	365	686
Not completely answered	39	16	741

After a study of Table 1 the writer was interested in selecting for

analysis the data for the age groups of 14, 15, 16 and 17 year old boys and girls. This group totaled 181 boys and 228 girls. This age range includes the largest number of the youth who would be eligible for 4-H club membership as well as those who dropped from the organization. (Table 2)

Table 2. Age and grade of subjects answering questionnaire.

Grade	Boys age				Girls age				Total
	:14	:15	:16	:17	:14	:15	:16	:17	
8	3				2				5
9	30	5			27	4			66
10	6	29	7		14	43	3		102
11		11	36		1	23	55	8	136
12			11	35			9	35	70
Out of high school				6				4	10
Total	39	45	54	43	44	70	67	47	409
		181 boys				228 girls			

Of the total number (409) of boys and girls, 71 were in Junior High School, 328 were in Senior High School and 10 were out of school. A few of these 10 were in college.

Most of the boys and girls had brothers and sisters. Tables 3 and 4 show the number of and age of the siblings. It was noted that a majority of these brothers and sisters were within a five year age range with the subjects. Only 261 children were indicated to be five years or younger.

Table 3. Number of children in families of subjects.

	Boys-age				Girls-age				:Boys	:Girls	:Total
	:14	:15	:16	:17	:14	:15	:16	:17			
Number of brothers											
1	8	18	16	15	14	27	19	15	57	75	132
2	10	7	12	3	15	18	15	4	37	52	89
3	3	1	6	6	3	6	10	5	16	24	40
4	3	3	2	--	1	5	2	1	8	9	17
Over	1	1	1	--	1	2	1	4	3	8	11
									121	168	289
Number of sisters											
1	9	21	22	12	11	23	11	13	64	58	122
2	8	7	17	8	11	9	15	9	40	44	84
3	3	5	4	3	16	8	2	6	15	32	47
4	2	--	2	2	1	4	2	5	6	12	18
Over 5	1	1	--	2	1	1	3	1	4	6	10
									129	152	281

Table 4. Age of children in families of respondents.

Age years	Boys-age				Girls-age				:Boys	:Girls	:Total
	:14	:15	:16	:17	:14	:15	:16	:17			
Under 1 year	4	6	4	1	3	4	3	--	15	10	25
1-5	22	11	12	10	15	21	32	13	55	81	136
5-10	28	20	32	16	31	57	40	11	96	143	239
10-15	23	29	34	30	28	46	17	16	116	107	223
15-20	9	32	36	21	28	36	10	30	98	104	202
									370	445	825

The questions answered by the subjects of the study indicated that a large majority of them come from homes with both parents present and with brothers and sisters in the family. The majority of the young people (95.2%) lived with both parents. (Table 5). Twenty children came from broken homes. Of those 20, six boys and six girls had only one parent living, two girls came from homes where the parents were separated and two

Table 5. Number of subjects living in parents home and number living outside of parents home.

	Boys-age				Girls-age				Total		
	:14	:15	:16	:17	:14	:15	:16	:17	:Boys	:Girls	:Total
With parents											
Yes	38	43	52	39	43	69	62	43	172	217	389
No	1	2	2	4	1	1	5	4	9	11	20
Parents divorced			1	1					2		2
Parents separated				1				2	1	2	3
One parent living											
1	1	1	1	3	1		3	2	6	6	12
Parents not living							2			2	2
Parents in Service									---	---	---
Total	1	2	2	4	1	1	5	4	9	10	19
No information										1	

boys came from homes where the parents were divorced. Two girls had neither parent living. One girl replied that she did not live with her parents but she did not indicate where she lived.

Analysis of the data of Table 6 shows that 139 boys, or 81 per cent of the boys and that 169 girls or 74 per cent of the girls lived on farms. The majority, 308, of these farms have 500 acres or less. The more frequent size was from 100 to 500 acres.

Only twenty-two per cent of the total respondents included in this study lived in town. Of the 92 boys and girls who lived in towns, 59 or 66 per cent lived in towns with a population of 5000 or less whereas 21 subjects or only 22 per cent lived in towns with a population of 5000 or more.

Table 6. Number of respondents who live in town and on farms.

Size	Boys-age				Girls-age						
	:14	:15	:16	:17	:14	:15	:16	:17	:Boys	:Girls	:Total
Town											
0-1000	2	5	4	1	9	5	16	--	12	30	42
1000-											
5000			1	3	2	5	2	4	4	13	17
5000-											
10000			4	1			3	4	5	7	12
Over											
10000	9	3				5	1	3	12	9	21
	11	8	9	5	11	15	22	11	33	59	92
Farm											
0-100 acres											
	7	5	6	5	7	11	5	12	23	35	58
100-											
500	12	19	19	22	18	32	16	13	72	79	151
500-1000											
acres	6	8	6	4	5	10	22	9	24	46	70
Over 1000											
acres	3	5	5	7	3	2	2	2	20	9	29
	28	37	36	38	33	55	45	36	139	169	308

The questions concerning how often the boys and girls went into town (Table 7) was asked to gain general information on how much time these young people might spend in the actual process of transportation.

The answers given by those respondents completing the questionnaire show that 62 per cent of the boys and 59 per cent of the girls went to town one or more times per day. This included those boys and girls who went to school in town. The question may then arise as to how many of the trips to town were purely for social reasons.

A majority of the subjects included in the study went to town at least once per week. Only four per cent of the boys and six per cent of the girls reported such trips occurring once or twice per month. Data from Table 7 show that age was not a factor in determining how frequently these particular youth

went to town.

Table 7. Number of times subjects go to town.

	Boys-age				Girls-age				Boys	Girls	Total
	:14	:15	:16	:17	:14	:15	:16	:17			
Day-2 times	6	8	7	4	7	16	17	18	25	58	83
Day-1 time	14	21	31	21	17	27	18	16	87	78	165
Week-4 times	4	6	5	8	5	14	15	2	23	36	59
Week-2 times	10	4	2	6	6	7	9	2	22	24	46
Week-1 time	4	4	5	2	7	6	5	3	15	21	36
Month-2 times	1	1	1	1	2		1	3	4	6	10
Month-1 time		1	3	1		2	3		5	5	9
	39	45	54	43	44	70	67	47	181	228	409

According to the answers to the question, "how do you go to town,"

Table 8 indicates that these young people either drive a car or truck or go with their parents most of the time. Riding with parents was a common means in getting to town for a majority of the respondents. Walking and riding a bicycle were not used to any extent by either the boys or the girls. Another common method was going with friends.

The most common method of getting to town as indicated by the 192 boys and girls or 44 per cent of the total respondents was by automobile. Again this group suggests the possibility that many of them drive to school. Information in Tables 35 and 36 in the appendix are indicative of a trend. However, they are shown to support the preceding data regarding youths frequency and manner of going to town.

Table 8. Method boys and girls usually use to go to town.

	Boys			Girls			Total				
:	:14	:15	:16	:17	:14	:15	:16	:17	:Revs	:Girls	:
Drive--most common	19	25	47	34	15	33	39	20	85	107	192
common	6	7	3	7	1	11	13	3	23	28	51
least common	2	2	1		10	9	3	12	5	34	39
Walk--most common	3	4	2	1	4	9	4	6	10	23	33
common	5	3	4	2	2	3	6		14	11	25
least common	19	14	18	17	10	25	12	16	68	63	131
Parents--most common	13	14	4	8	24	26	9	8	39	67	106
common	7	16	33	20	9	21	5	14	76	49	125
least common		3	3	3	1	3	4		9	8	17
Friends--most common	4	2	1			1	4	13	7	18	25
common	17	28	4	4	19	27	24	20	53	90	143
least common	4	16	18	13	15	18	16	16	51	65	116
Bicycle--most common											
common	4	6	4	7	1	9	7	1		2	2
least common	17	15	13	12	11	16	13	12	21	18	39
									57	52	109

The number of subjects driving to town from their farm homes suggests that a rather large proportion of time may be spent by boys and girls in transportation.

A majority of the respondents went to town at least once per day but the question is suggested as to how many of the visits to town were for social pleasure. The number of boys and girls who went to town twice or more per day suggests that the additional trips to town might have been for pleasure. This question of social visits to town will be more fully explored later.

School Activities and Organizations

School and school organizations and their demand for time of young people was often mentioned by parents and 4-H members as a problem. The frequency of the statement that schools required a large per cent of the school age persons time suggested the possibility that this demand for time might cause conflict with out of school activities, and that boys and girls did not have time for out of school organizations.

Table 9 summarizes the replies to the detailed questions of this study referring to the availability of school organizations for these young people. However, analysis of these data raise the question regarding in which organizations the boys and girls participate. This is shown in Table 10. A further question may be raised as to the relative degree of participation of school members in these various activities. These data are presented in Table 11.

Table 9. Activities available at school.

Does your school have	Boys			Girls			Total	Boys			Girls			Total						
	14	15	16	14	15	16		14	15	16	14	15	16							
	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no						
Football	34	5	38	7	45	9	39	4	156	25	34	10	64	6	56	11	40	7	194	34
Basketball	39	45	53	1	41	2	178	3	42	2	66	4	66	1	47	1	221	7		
Track	34	5	37	8	45	9	32	11	148	24	37	7	54	16	60	7	38	9	189	39
Swimming	3	36	1	44	4	50	2	41	101	71	2	42	3	67	1	66	4	43	10	218
Wrestling	9	30	6	39	13	41	7	36	351	47	1	43	4	64	7	60	6	41	18	208
Volleyball	24	15	13	27	22	32	27	10	91	84	18	26	32	38	24	43	17	30	91	137
Baseball	2	37	6	39	9	45	9	34	26	155	4	40	13	57	7	60	4	43	28	200
School band	29	10	43	2	53	1	39	4	164	17	40	4	62	7	55	12	40	7	197	31
Concert band	22	17	19	26	28	27	16	94	87	19	25	36	34	43	24	27	20	125	103	
Marching band	28	11	34	11	43	11	32	11	137	44	31	11	53	17	59	18	36	11	179	57
Pep band	25	14	31	14	35	19	27	16	118	53	26	18	45	25	41	26	28	19	140	88
Dance band	8	31	9	35	18	36	6	37	41	139	11	32	20	50	13	54	4	43	48	179
A cappella choir	22	17	21	24	31	23	18	25	92	89	14	30	31	39	28	29	25	22	98	120
Boys glee club	25	14	38	7	45	9	35	8	142	38	28	16	45	25	49	18	38	19	160	78
Girls glee club	25	14	31	14	46	8	30	13	132	49	35	9	54	16	51	16	34	13	174	54
Orchestra	16	23	6	38	24	30	14	29	60	120	16	28	25	45	21	46	26	21	88	140
Glass play	27	12	35	10	47	7	35	8	144	37	41	3	61	9	56	11	44	3	202	26
School play	20	19	30	15	37	17	25	13	112	69	28	16	49	21	46	21	37	10	160	68
Assembly play	26	13	20	24	32	22	19	24	97	83	22	26	38	32	40	27	34	13	134	98
Home room play	9	32	16	29	9	45	13	30	47	136	13	31	24	46	11	66	6	41	54	184
FFFA	18	21	22	23	35	19	28	15	103	78	22	22	43	27	42	23	24	22	131	94
FFFA	14	25	12	38	26	28	12	31	64	122	17	27	41	29	36	29	18	29	112	114
Kayettes	14	25	19	26	22	32	19	24	74	107	15	29	19	27	38	17	30	80	144	
Y-Y	16	23	11	34	23	31	23	20	73	138	11	33	22	47	26	41	19	28	78	149

Table 9. (cont.)

Does your school have	Boys					Girls					Total									
	14	15	16	17	Total	14	15	16	17	Total										
	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no									
GR	4	35	1	39	6	48	7	36	18	158	3	41	15	55	27	39	14	33	59	168
Y Teens	17	22	4	31	20	34	13	30	54	117	13	31	31	39	26	38	19	28	89	136
Drama club	9	30	4	40	12	32	9	34	34	136	10	34	15	55	6	57	10	36	41	182
Letter club	9	30	21	24	26	28	21	22	77	104	12	32	17	53	8	56	5	42	42	183
Music club	12	27	10	31	16	38	13	30	51	127	13	24	10	57	7	60	6	39	36	180
Pep club	25	14	37	3	45	9	37	6	144	32	36	8	55	12	54	11	36	10	181	41

Table 10. Number of subjects who participate in school activities.

	Boys					Girls					Total		Total							
	14	15	16	17	Total	14	15	16	17	Total										
	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no					
Class officer	9	30	25	20	21	33	15	18	70	101	16	23	21	49	17	59	10	37	64	173
Home room officer	3	36	6	39	6	48	3	40	18	163	8	36	6	44	9	68	4	43	37	181
Federation council officer	3	34	3	33	52	5	31	11	150	1	43	8	62	2	65		47		11	217
Other school officers	3	36			2			5	36	6	27	18	12	10					116	27
School band	19	20	24	21	26	28	21	22	90	91	23	16	30	40	43	14	25	32	121	102
Concert band	16	23	19	26	18	36	18	25	71	110	20	24	22	43	25	42	18	29	85	143
Marching band	18	21	20	19	23	31	20	23	81	94	20	19	30	40	28	39	21	26	99	124
Pep band	14	21	15	30	19	35	18	25	66	111	7	32	27	43	32	35	19	28	85	129

Table 10 (cont.)

	Boys				Girls															
	: 14	: 15	: 16	: 17	: Total	: 14	: 15	: 16	: Total	: 14	: 15	: 16	: Total							
	: YES	: NO	: YES	: NO	: YES	: NO	: YES	: NO	: YES	: NO	: YES	: NO	: YES							
Dance band	9	30	2	43	3	40	2	41	16	154	1	39	4	46	4	63	2	45	11	193
A Cappella																				
Choir	5	34	12	33	21	33	9	34	47	134	6	33	19	51	20	47	20	27	65	158
Boys glee club	9	30	27	17	28	26	18	25	82	98										
Girls glee club											23	16	37	33	32	35	31	16	123	100
Orchestra	14	25	5	39	14	40	6	37	39	141	5	34	25	45	13	54	12	37	55	170
Class play	7	32	15	30	30	24	22	21	74	107	11	33	18	52	30	37	29	18	88	140
School play	8	31	6	39	10	44	8	35	32	149	9	35	9	61	19	48	22	25	59	169
Assembly play	15	14	15	30	18	41	7	36	55	121	12	32	9	61	15	52	6	41	42	186
Home room play	3	32	12	33	4	50	1	41	20	156	8	36	7	63	6	61	1	46	22	206
FFA	12	27	16	29	31	22	19	24	78	102		35		56		39		43		173
FHA	3	36	35	1	37		36		4	144	9	35	22	48	21	46	13	30	65	159
Kayettes	2	36	34		36	26	2	132	13	31	17	49	14	33	9	36	53	149	53	149
Hi-Y	2	37	8	37	19	35	19	24	48	133		34		51		44		36		165
GR	2	38		35		37		36	2	146	1	39	7	57		46	1	41	9	183
Y Teens	35		34		43		31	32	143	7	37	22	48	22	31	13	32	62	148	148
Drama club	1	36	1	43	3	47	1	40	6	166	2	40	6	64	41	5	35	13	180	180
Letter club	37	2	41	21	31	16	27	39	136	3	40	1	58	43				4	183	183
Music club	2	35	4	30	2	36	4	36	12	137	3	40	5	35	1	41	3	41	12	157
Pep club	5	23	16	23	28	26	25	18	74	96	33	11	26	32	42	21	29	18	130	93

Table 11a. Extent of participation in school activities.

	:	Active	:	Not active	:	Fairly active
	:	Boys	:	Boys	:	Boys
	:	Girls	:	Girls	:	Girls
	:	14:15:16:17:14:15:16:17	:	14:15:16:17:14:15:16:17	:	14:15:16:17:14:15:16:17
School government	:	9	:	23	:	17
	:	14	:	15	:	28
	:	20	:	12	:	16
	:	11	:	9	:	4
	:	16	:	12	:	11
	:	29	:	14	:	11
	:	28	:	25	:	13
	:	30	:	36	:	10
Athletics	:	24	:	33	:	31
	:	19	:	20	:	23
	:	18	:	16	:	3
	:	9	:	8	:	9
	:	16	:	35	:	28
	:	12	:	9	:	14
	:	16	:	15	:	41
	:	14	:	3	:	
Band	:	11	:	21	:	15
	:	6	:	23	:	31
	:	37	:	23	:	10
	:	15	:	27	:	30
	:	15	:	31	:	24
	:	17	:	18	:	9
	:	12	:	4	:	6
	:	8	:	6	:	7

Table 11b.

	Member		Total		Active		Total													
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls												
	14:15:16:17:14:15:16:17	14:15:16:17:14:15:16:17	14:15:16:17:14:15:16:17	14:15:16:17:14:15:16:17	14:15:16:17:14:15:16:17	14:15:16:17:14:15:16:17	14:15:16:17:14:15:16:17	14:15:16:17:14:15:16:17												
School band	19	24	26	21	23	30	43	25	90	126	3	3	6	1	10	9	13	7	13	39
Concert band	16	19	18	18	20	22	25	18	71	85	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	7	4
Marching band	18	20	23	20	20	30	28	21	81	99	1	2	4	2	6	7	8	8	13	29
Pep band	14	15	19	18	7	27	32	19	66	85	2	2	2	2	2	3	2		8	7
Dance band	9	2	3	2	1	4	4	2	16	11			2	1					3	
A Cappella Choir	5	12	21	9	6	19	20	20	47	65	1	1	3	2	2	2	6		5	12
Boys glee club	9	27	28	18					82		3	5	7					15	8	
Girls glee club					23	37	32	31	123					6	11	9	5		31	
Orchestra	14	5	14	6	5	25	13	12	39	55	2	1	2	1	4	3	4	5	12	
Class play	7	15	30	22	11	18	30	29	74	88	2	5	11	10	3	3	14	12	29	
School play	8	6	10	8	9	9	19	22	32	59	2	2	3	4	2	1	8	13	11	
Assembly play	15	15	18	7	12	9	15	6	55	42	2	1	4	1	1	4	5	7	8	
Home room play	3	12	4	1	8	7	6	1	20	22	1	1	1			2	3		4	5

Athletic activities have the higher proportion of active participants. This participation may be due to two factors; (1) the intensive interest in active athletic competition present in nearly any local community; (2) the availability of athletic facilities which is also related to the first point. Basketball was the most popular sport indicated. Only two per cent of the schools did not have basketball. Fourteen per cent of the schools did not have football. A majority of the schools had football, basketball, track and volleyball available but a relatively smaller per cent had swimming or wrestling. The relative small proportion of schools that had baseball available suggests that possibly many of the schools did not play baseball and that some of the schools might have had softball which was not included in the questionnaire. The availability of athletic facilities indicated in this study may be responsible for the relatively high percentage of active participation. Boys were more active in athletics. Eighty-six per cent of the boys considered themselves active or fairly active, whereas 62 per cent of the total of 228 girl respondents checked themselves as active in athletics. These data are shown in Table 12.

An interesting fact concerning the subjects of the study was the number of boys and girls who indicated they were active or fairly active in school government. (Table 13) Nearly a third of the subjects indicate, as is shown in Table 11a, they were active in their school government. This high percentage of those active in school government may be because of two factors (1), the location of the sites where the questionnaires were given may have attracted more active individuals; (2), the respondents were instructed to complete the questionnaire according to their own ideas as to whether they were active or not.

Table 12. Activeness and participation of subjects in athletics.

	Boys				Girls				Total	
	:14	:15	:16	:17	:14	:15	:16	:17	:Boys	: Girls
Active	24	33	31	19	20	23	18	16	107	77
Not active	3	3	9	8	9	16	35	28	23	88
Fairly active	12	9	14	16	15	31	14	3	51	63
Total	39	45	54	43	44	70	67	47	283	223
Football										
Yes	34	38	45	39	34	64	56	40		
No	5	7	9	4	10	6	11	7		
Basketball										
Yes	39	45	53	41	42	64	61	47		
No				2	2	4	1			
Track										
Yes	34	37	45	32	37	54	60	38		
No	5	8	9	11	7	16	7	9		
Swimming										
Yes	3	1	4	2	2	3	1	4		
No	36	44	50	41	42	67	66	43		
Wrestling										
Yes	9	6	13	7	1	4	7	6		
No	30	39	41	36	43	64	60	41		
Volleyball										
Yes	24	13	22	27	18	32	24	17		
No	15	27	32	10	26	38	43	30		
Baseball										
Yes	2	6	9	9	4	13	7	4		
No	37	39	45	34	40	57	60	43		

A majority of the schools have school bands with marching, concert and pep bands in a majority of the schools. (Table 14) The band named least available and the band with fewest participants was the dance band. This fact might raise the question of whether the lack of school dance bands would have any effect on social gatherings in schools where the main activity would be dancing. The respondents indicating participation in the dance band included those who played for folk and square dancing, a popular 4-H club activity.

Table 13. Number of subjects participating in school activities.

	: Boys				: Girls				: Total	
	:14	:15	:16	:17	:14	:15	:16	:17	:Boys	: Girls
Active	9	23	17	14	15	28	20	12	63	75
Not active	16	11	9	4	16	12	11	25	40	64
Fairly active	14	11	28	25	13	30	36	10	78	89
Officer--class										
Yes	9	25	21	15	16	21	17	10		
No	30	20	33	28	28	49	50	37		
Home Room										
Yes	3	6	6	3	8	6	9	4		
No	36	39	43	40	36	64	58	43		
Federation Council										
Yes	3	6		3	1	8	2			
No	36	39	52	40	43	62	65	47		
Other										
Yes	3	1		2	6	18	12	10		
No	34				27					

Possibly related to the emphasis on athletics was the popularity of pep clubs and bands. Of the extra curricular organizations the pep club had more participants than any other of the other organizations. Seventy-nine per cent of the schools were reported to have a pep club and 63 per cent of the respondents indicated pep bands in the school. A relatively high per cent, 37 per cent, of the subjects stated they participated in a pep band and over half of the boys and girls participated in a pep club.

The boys and girls glee clubs were seemingly the more popular with those interested in vocal music as shown in Table 15. Slightly less than one-half of the schools reported having an a cappella choir. Slightly over half of the respondents indicated that their schools had an orchestra and one-third of the respondents participated in the orchestra.

Table 14. Number of bands available to subjects and their participation in bands.

Bands	Boys				Girls			
	: 14	: 15	: 16	: 17	: 14	: 15	: 16	: 17
Active	11	21	15	6	23	31	37	23
Not active	10	15	27	30	15	31	24	17
Fairly active	18	9	12	7	6	8	6	7
Does your school have:	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no
School band	29	10	53	1	39	4	7	12
Concert band	22	17	26	28	16	19	34	24
Marching band	23	11	43	11	32	11	17	59
Pep band	25	14	35	79	27	16	25	41
Dance band	8	31	18	36	6	37	50	54
Do you participate:								
School band	19	20	26	28	22	16	40	14
Concert band	16	23	18	36	25	24	48	25
March band	18	21	23	31	20	19	40	28
Pep band	14	21	19	35	13	25	43	35
Dance band	9	30	3	40	2	41	46	63
How do you participate:								
School band	19	24	26	21	23	30	43	25
Member	3	3	6	1	10	9	13	7
Active			1					
Not active								
Concert band	16	19	18	18	20	22	25	25
Member	1	2	2	2		2	2	
Active			1					
Not active								

Table 14. (cont.)

Pende	Boys			Girls		
	: 14	: 15	: 16	: 17	: 14	: 15
Marching band						
Member	18	20	23	20	20	28
Active	1	2	4	2	6	8
Not active		1				
Pop band						
Member	14	15	19	18	7	32
Active	2	2	2	2	2	2
Not active		1				
Dance band						
Member	9	2	3	2	1	4
Active			2	1		
Not active			1			

Table 15. Available music groups and the subjects participation in the music groups.

	Boys			Girls		
	: 14	: 15	: 16	: 17	: 14	: 15
Music participation	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no
Does your school have:						
A Cappella	22	17	21	24	31	23
Boys glee club	24	14	38	7	45	9
Girls glee club	25	14	31	14	46	8
Orchestra	16	23	6	38	24	30
Do you participate:						
A Cappella	5	34	12	33	21	33
Boys glee club	9	30	27	17	28	26
Girls glee club						

Although over three-fourths of the schools had participants in dramatics, such as class plays, only 74 boys and 88 girls indicated they participated in class plays and only 29 boys and 32 girls indicated active participation. Only 10 per cent of the schools offered opportunities for home room plays whereas 97 schools or slightly less than one-fourth had assembly plays.

School plays and class plays were the most popular dramatic activities of this group. This activity might be due to rather traditional features of schools, especially high schools, in the presentation of the junior and senior class play. Of the subjects answering the questions in this study two thirds of the schools attended by the subjects have school plays. This was in addition to the 80 per cent of the schools that had class plays. Less than 25 per cent of the subjects participated in school plays. Only 35 boys and girls considered themselves active in the school plays. More girls were active than boys: six per cent of the boys and nine per cent of the girls considered themselves active in school plays.

It is interesting that age appeared to be a factor in the participation in school and class plays. According to Table 10 approximately one-half of the boys and girls in the 16-17 year age group checked participation in class plays. This age group corresponds to the junior and senior years in high school where class plays seemed to be the most popular. In this age group also girls appear to be slightly more active than boys in dramatics especially in the class plays and school plays.

Table 16. Dramatics available and subjects participation in dramatics.

Dramatics	Boys				Girls			
	: 14	: 15	: 16	: 17	: 14	: 15	: 16	: 17
	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no	yes: no
Does your school have:								
Class play	27	12	35	10	47	7	35	8
School play	20	19	30	15	37	17	25	18
Assembly play	26	13	20	24	32	22	19	24
Home room play	9	30	16	29	9	45	13	30
Do you participate:								
Class play	7	32	15	30	30	24	22	21
School play	8	31	6	39	10	44	8	35
Assembly play	15	14	15	30	13	41	7	36
Home room play	3	32	12	33	4	50	1	41
How do you participate:								
Class play	7	15	30	22	11	33	18	52
Member	2	2	5	11	3	35	9	61
Active	3			10	3	32	9	61
Not active						36	7	63
Not interested						8	6	61
School play								
Member	8	6	10	8	9	19	8	22
Active	2	2	3	4	2	1		13
Not active	1							
Not interested								
Assembly play								
Member	15	15	13	17	12	9	15	9
Active	2	1	4	1	1	4	5	7
Not active								
Not interested								

Table 16 (cont.)

	Boys				Girls			
	14	15	16	17	14	15	16	17
Dramatics	: yes :no	: yes :no	: yes :no	: yes :no	: yes :no	: yes :no	: yes :no	: yes :no
Home room play								
Member	3	12	4	1	8	7	6	1
Active	1	1	2			2	3	
Not active	1							
Not interested								

The list of extra curricular (Table 17) organizations within schools was rather long. The 10 clubs or organizations that seemed to be the best known were selected for further study. The competition for the time of this age group raised the question of how school organizations fit into the pattern of school activities and the extent of active participation among this 14-17 year age group. Of the extra curricular organizations, FFA and FHA and pep clubs were the most popular. It has already been suggested that emphasis on athletics may be responsible for pep club activity. Over 50 per cent of the girls and boys indicated they engaged in pep club activity. This was the highest percentage of participation in any of the extra curricular organizations. The writer suggests that some of this popularity may be due to the informality of the pep organizations, the competitive spirit learned by teen age groups in America and the emphasis on athletics.

The FFA organization, which is closely connected with vocational agriculture taught in the schools, also had a high percentage of participation. This is not surprising since a large percentage of the boys in this study, 81 per cent, come from farms. In addition the state support of vocational agriculture provides professional sponsorship of the organization.

The same factors may be present in a lesser degree in the girls organization FHA. This vocational homemakers group was not as widespread as the FFA. About one-half the girls report (49 percent) FHA available but only 21 per cent of the girls reported participation in the FHA. Both boys and girls had an increasing proportion of participants in the organizations, FFA and FHA, with succeeding age up to the 17 year group where there was a decline, especially among the girls. Table 10, page 16 shows that 30 per cent of the

Table 17. Extracurricular activities available and participation in the activities.

School Organizations	Boys			Girls											
	14	15	16	17	14	15	16	17							
	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no							
Does your school have:															
YFA	18	21	22	23	35	19	28	15	22	43	27	42	23	24	22
FHA	14	25	12	33	26	28	12	31	17	27	41	29	36	29	18
Kayettes	14	25	19	26	22	32	19	24	15	29	19	47	29	38	17
Hi-Y	16	23	11	34	23	21	23	20	11	33	22	47	26	41	19
GR	4	35	1	39	6	48	7	36	3	41	15	55	27	39	14
Y Teens	17	22	4	31	20	34	13	30	13	31	32	39	26	38	19
Drama club	9	30	4	44	12	32	9	34	10	34	15	55	6	57	10
Letter club	9	30	21	24	26	28	21	22	12	32	17	53	8	56	5
Music club	12	27	10	31	16	38	13	30	13	24	10	57	7	60	6
Pep club	25	14	37	8	45	9	37	6	36	8	55	12	54	11	36
Do you participate:															
YFA	12	27	16	29	31	22	19	14	35	35	22	48	21	46	43
FHA	3	36		35	1	37		36	9	35	22	48	21	46	30
Kayettes	2	36		34		36		26	13	31	17	49	14	33	36
Hi-Y	2	37	8	37	19	35	19	24	34	34	51	44	44	34	34
GR	2	38		35		37		36	1	39	7	57	46	1	41
Y Teens		35	9	34	11	43	12	31	7	37	22	48	22	31	13
Drama club	1	36	1	43	3	47	1	40	2	40	6	64	41	5	32
Letter club		37	2	41	23	31	16	27	3	40	1	59	43	35	42
Music club	2	35	4	30	2	36	4	36	3	40	5	35	1	41	41
Pep club	5	23	16	28	28	26	25	18	33	11	26	32	42	21	29

Table 18. Kind of participation in school activities--how do you participate in school organizations.

		Boys				Girls			
		:14	:15	:16	:17	:14	:15	:16	:17
FFA									
	Member	12	16	31	19				
	Office		2	11	14				
FHA									
	Member					9	22	21	13
	Office						8	10	8
Kayettes									
	Member					13	17	14	9
	Office						3	4	6
Hi-Y									
	Member	2	8	19	19				
	Office		2	4	5				
GR									
	Member					1	7		1
	Office					1	1		1
Y Teens									
	Member		9	11	12	7	22	22	13
	Office						3	6	6
Drama									
	Member	1	1	3	1	2	6		5
	Office			1	1	1	1		2
Letter									
	Member		2	18	16	3	1		
	Office								
Music									
	Member	2	4	9	4	3	5	1	3
	Office				1				
Pep club									
	Member	5	16	28	25	33	26	42	29
	Office		1				5	5	4

14 year old boys, 35 per cent of the 15 year olds, 57 per cent of the 16 year olds, participate but a decrease to 44 per cent is shown for the 17 year old group. A similar situation is indicated in the participation reported by girls: 20 per cent of the 14 year old; 31 per cent of the 15 year ol; 33 per cent of the 16 year old; and, a decline to 28 per cent for the 17 year old group.

The other organizations listed indicated a lesser percentage of participation than was the case for FFA and FHA. Kayettes and Y Teens for girls had respectively 46 per cent and 30 per cent of the subjects participating.

Special interest clubs such as music clubs and drama clubs had relatively few participants. Only six boys and 13 girls belonged to a drama type or organization and 12 boys and 12 girls belonged to a music club. The letter club, usually limited to boys who earn a letter in athletics showed an increasing number of participants as age increased. The data in Tables 9 through 11 indicate that even though organizations were available in school, the number of boys and girls who belonged to the organizations was not large, usually less than one-half.

Community Activities

In addition to the activities offered by schools for the competition of the time of teen age boys and girls there are the various community gatherings. Table 19 indicates that a majority of the subjects of this study usually, or always, went to Sunday School and/or church. This suggests that church attendance may be higher because most of the boys and girls live on farms and traditionally farm youth were supposed to attend church regularly.

Table 19. Number of subjects attending church.

Church Atten- dance:	Always		: :		Usually		: :		Seldom	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.
Sunday School										
	9 14 13 19 55	22 21 22 22 87	17 19 23 18 77	18 29 35 17 99	7 9 9 4 29	1 10 7 4 22				
Church										
	10 13 16 21 60	19 26 29 19 93	14 16 19 7 56	13 33 30 27 103	9 15 9 9 42	4 6 6 16				
Young People										
	3 12 16 9 40	14 15 13 9 51	9 9 13 10 41	7 37 19 16 79	7 10 17 18 52	12 13 24 14 63				
Mass										
	3 1 3 2 9	2 10 8 1 21	4 3 7 2 16	1 7 6 9 23	2 1 2 2 7	7 6 7 8 28				

Boys and girls in this study apparently did not attend community gatherings alone but went with their parents or friends. Table 20 shows that a very high percentage of the subjects, 89 per cent of boys and 88 per cent of girls, attended community gatherings. Boys went by themselves more often than did girls but neither boys nor girls went alone very often.

Table 20. Number and attendance at community gatherings.

Do you attend com- munity gatherings?	Boys					Girls				
	:14	:15	:16	:17	:Total	:14	:15	:16	:17	:Total
Yes	31	39	51	41	162	41	57	58	45	201
No	8	6	3	2	19	3	13	9	2	27

One of the community activities that utilized much of the youths time were the movies. A majority of the boys and girls answering the questionnaire went to the movies at least one time per week. Only a small percentage of the subjects, five per cent, went to the movies four or more times per week. Although over three-fourths of the boys and girls went at least one or more times per week, nearly 20 per cent of the boys and girls attended movies less than one time per week.

Saturday and Sunday were the most popular days for movie attendance. Saturday was the most popular. A few of the boys and girls went to movies on school nights. Of the school nights, on Tuesday evening, a larger number of girls attended the movies than boys. This suggests that possibly girls went to the movies while boys played basketball, since Tuesday was traditionally a basketball and sports night. The same indication was noted on Friday night, also traditionally a sports night, when more girls than boys went to the movies. This also suggests the point that even as much as athletics

are stressed there may be a certain number of boys and girls who would rather do something else or for whom an athletic program is not geared. Only a few of the subjects went to the movies in the afternoon.

Table 21. Subjects attendance at movies; frequency and day of week.

		Boys				Girls				Total		
Movies		: 14	: 15	: 16	: 17	: 14	: 15	: 16	: 17	: Boys	: Girls	: Total
Per week	0	5	4	10	8	11	17	12	8	27	48	75
	1	25	32	34	31	25	25	39	19	149	146	225
	2	6	5	6	2	3	18	18	11	19	50	69
	3	1	2	2	1	2	7	5	5	6	19	25
	4	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	5	7	12
Over	5	1	1			1	1	2	2	2	6	8
When do you go:												
Monday												
	Afternoon											
	Evening	1	1	2	3	1		4		7	6	13
Tuesday												
	Afternoon			1				1		1	1	2
	Evening	1		4	3	1	9	8	4	8	22	30
Wednesday												
	Afternoon											
	Evening	4	1	5	3	7		3		13	10	23
Thursday												
	Afternoon											
	Evening	1	2	5	3	1	10			11	11	22
Friday												
	Afternoon		2	1						3		3
	Evening	3	8	5	7	7	13	5	12	23	37	60
Saturday												
	Afternoon	3	4	2		6	2	3	11	9	22	121
	Evening	21	25	29	20	24	31	35	18	95	108	203
Sunday												
	Afternoon	3	7	8	2	10	6	8	3	20	37	57
	Evening	13	12	15	10	10	16	21	18	50	65	115

The writer was interested in the reasons attracting boys and girls to the movies. Most of them went to the movies because they wanted to see the picture but the fact that their friends went was also important. Table 22 shows that few of the respondents went to the movies because they had nothing

Table 22. Reasons for subjects attendance at movies.

Why do:	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
you go:	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.
to the:	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.
movie	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.
Want to see the picture	17 21 24 26 88	28 28 27 32 115	15 13 16 9 53	8 24 18 11 61	1 2 3 1 7	4		
Friends go	5 6 12 5 28	5 3 6 18 32	11 15 19 15 60	12 13 8 16 49	2 7 7 6 22	9 9 7 7 34		
Nothing else to do	2 3 5 1 11	5 1 6	1 4 5 10 5	1 2 8	8 8 15 9 40	8 5 12 14 39		
Parents go	3 2 5 3 13	5 6 1 10 22	10 14 7 6 37	6 6 9 21	1 5 13 6 25	8 2 9 7 26		
A good place to relax	7 7 12 8 34	7 6 7 6 26	6 10 11 14 41	9 8 4 10 31	5 8 9 5 27	10 17 4 9 40		

else to do but some of the subjects said they went to the movies to relax. Only about ten per cent of the subjects thought the most important reason for going to the movie was that "their folks" went. For 15 per cent of the subjects, friends going to the movies was the most important factor and one-fourth of them considered it an important factor. The fact that almost 80 per cent of both boys and girls went to the movies because they wanted to see the picture raises the question as to whether organizations might not better compete with movies if their programs were equally attractive to youth's interest.

This study shows that young people are willing to work. Table 23 shows that of the total 409 subjects of the study, 335 or 81 per cent of them work. An even greater number indicated that they liked to work. Less than 15 per cent of the subjects indicated they did not like to work. Most of the boys and girls, approximately 75 per cent, work for pay. However, more boys than girls worked for pay. Nearly three-fourths of the boys worked for pay whereas only 43 per cent of the girls worked for pay. The most important reason for working seemed to be for spending money. However, 40 boys and 17 girls indicated the most important reason for their working was "to make money to live". Most respondents considered their friends working an unimportant factor in their reason for working. Nor was the fact that their friends were working or that there "was nothing else to do" of much influence in this respect.

Boys considered making spending money more important than did the girls. Thirty-eight per cent of the boys but only 27 per cent of the girls considered this the most important factor. Twenty-two per cent of the boys indicated they thought making money to live was the most important, whereas this was the case for only 7 per cent of the girls.

Table 23. Number of subjects working and reason for working.

	Boys				Girls				Total		
	:14	:15	:16	:17	:14	:15	:16	:17	:Boys	:Girls	:Total
Do you work											
Yes	33	42	47	41	34	56	51	31	163	173	335
No	6	3	7	2	10	14	16	16	18	56	74
Do you like to work											
Yes	30	43	48	40	35	57	58	42	161	192	353
No	9	1	5	3	9	13	9	5	18	36	54
Do you work for pay											
Yes	23	25	34	33	8	20	39	32	207	99	306
No	16	20	20	10	36	50	26	15	66	127	193
Why do you work											
To make spending money											
Most important	17	5	31	17	10	20	21	13	70	64	134
Important	9	15	15	13	15	39	29	16	52	99	151
Not important	2	8	7	4	9	11	8		21	28	49
To make money to live											
Most important	7	7	15	11	3	5	5	4	40	17	57
Important	6	13	12	10	3	3	7	10	41	23	64
Not important	9	11	14	7	15	11	16	5	31	47	78
Friends work											
Most important	2	4	3	2	2	2			11	4	15
Important	2	3	7	5	5	1	1	9	17	16	33
Not important	12	24	28	19	19	19	19	4	82	61	144
Nothing else to do											
Most important	1	3	5	1	7	10	12	12	10	42	52
Important	6	5	5	7	8	10	1		23	19	42
Not important	10	25	27	17	10	7	5	4	79	26	105

Youth Organizations

Although school organizations were available to a majority of the subjects of the study, out of school organizations were not equally available. Table 24 shows the membership and participation of youth in five such groups: Girl Scouts; Boys clubs; Campfire girls; Teen town; 4-H; and Hobby clubs.

The 4-H Club organization was the only out of school organization in which over one-fourth of the subjects in this study participated. Since the questionnaire was given only to 4-H Club members participation of subjects

in 4-H Club work was to be expected. One-fourth of the boys and girls had the scout organization available but only ten boys and five girls were members. Only five boys reported belonging to other boys clubs. There were no girls who indicated they belonged to the Campfire girls. Hobby clubs attracted only four boys and one girl. Teen town was available to nearly one-fourth of the group but only 10 per cent of the group used the facilities. The consistent lack of participation in out of school organizations raises the question of whether the participation in 4-H clubs would be any greater if the questionnaire had been given to some other special interest group. It is interesting to note that of the 409 subjects answering the questionnaire, 171 or 42 per cent, answered that they were active in the 4-H club organization.

The question arises as to why young people join or drop organizations. The youths responses and seven reasons for joining various organizations are shown in Table 25. One of the primary reasons given by 305 boys and girls was "want to learn new things." To learn new things, make new friends, help others and develop leadership were the four most important reasons indicated by the respondents for joining an organization. The three least important reasons for joining were to "have more to do", because "parents want me to" or to "get away from home". Joining organizations to help develop leadership ability was considered most important by 35 per cent of the respondents. An interesting comparison exists in that 31 per cent of this group of young people indicated they were active in school government.

Table 26 shows reasons why young people dropped from organizations. It may be questioned as to whether there exists a possible relationship, between the reason that young people join organizations, to "learn new things,"

and the reasons they drop from organizations, they are uninteresting. Nearly three-fourths of the subjects checked "group not interesting" as the most important reason for dropping from organizations. "Not enough time" was considered important by one-fourth of the group. Parents desire for the subject to drop organizations accounted for slightly over 15 per cent whereas friends discontinuing their membership was important to nearly 35 per cent. The two most important reasons given for dropping from organizations were (1) the groups were uninteresting and (2) friends dropped.

A possible significant fact can be seen in Table 27 concerning the number of subjects who answered the question, would you join other organizations if they were available?"

Table 27. Number who would join other organizations.

	<u>Boys</u>				<u>Girls</u>				<u>Total</u>		
	:14	:15	:16	:17	:14	:15	:16	:17	Boys	Girls	Total
Yes	22	34	37	30	31	59	48	37	123	175	298
No	17	11	17	13	13	11	19	10	58	53	11

All of the respondents answered the question and 298, or 72 per cent, of the subjects indicated they would join other organizations if such were available. Two facts are possibly suggested by these data: (1) the time demanded by school activities is so great that youth cannot also participate equally in out of school organizations; and, (2) out of school organizations are not interesting enough to hold the young people.

The answers most frequently indicated for joining organizations, to learn new things, make new friends and develop leadership indicated the

willingness of youth to participate in worth while organizations. This age group, 14-17 years, has as one of its developmental tasks, the dynamic process of the change from childhood to adulthood. These responses may indicate opportunities which organizations have to channel some of the energy of the teen ager. Since a majority of the boys and girls would join other organizations if they were available, the question may be asked, how many boys and girls would drop organizations to which they now belong if new ones were available? Also, since 72 per cent of the respondents would join other organizations if they were available it may be questioned if the young people who now belong to youth organizations are content with the organizations or do they belong because there are too few available?

Time at Home

Boys and girls in their teens spent several evenings per week with their friends. (Table 28) The largest group of the subjects, 125, spent two nights per week with their friends as contrasted with the smallest group, 6, who spent six nights per week with friends. About 60 per cent of boys and girls spent two nights or less with their friends as compared to the rest of the subjects who spent three nights or more with their friends. Two-hundred and one subjects spent one or two nights per week with their friends, whereas 135 subjects spent three nights or more with their friends. There was no obvious reason why 73 subjects did not answer this question. A majority of the subjects indicated they would like to spend more time with their friends but gave school work as the most important reason for not doing so. (Table 29)

Table 28. Number of subjects and time the subjects spent with friends.

How many evenings do you spend with friends	:	Boys				:	Girls				:	Total		
	:	14	15	16	17	:	14	15	16	17	:	Boys	Girls	Total
1		7	9	10	9	20	9	8	8	35		45		80
2		11	13	22	12	8	28	18	19	58		62		125
3		6	11	13	15	6	12	19	17	45		54		59
4		5	2	4	2	4	9	7	4	13		24		37
5		2	2	4		1	3	5	5	6		14		20
6							2	2	2			6		6
7		1	3	1	1	1	1	1	3	6		6		12

Would you like to spend more time with friends:

Yes	33	40	38	34	36	54	51	34	145	175	320
No	6	5	6	9	8	16	16	13	26	53	79

Friends living too far from the subject was an important factor and nearly equally as important as home work in keeping these young people from visiting their friends. There were several important factors keeping subjects from visiting friends: Sixty-eight per cent of the respondents considered home work important; 64 per cent considered their friends lived too far; and, slightly over 20 per cent indicated their parents wouldn't let them. The data shown in Table 29 suggests that the inability to visit friends was a problem for more girls than for boys.

The school nights were the nights the subjects usually or always spent at home. (Table 30) Friday and Saturday nights were the nights that respondents were home least. Little difference was noted between Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday.

Table 31 shows that more of the subjects stayed home four nights a week than any other number. About one-half of the respondents spent four nights per week at home with nearly as many subjects spending three nights

Table 29. Reasons for not spending more time with friends.

Why don't you spend more time with friends	Most important					Important					Total											
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Total							
	14:15:16:17	14:15:16:17	14:15:16:17	14:15:16:17	Boys:Girls:Tot.	14:15:16:17	14:15:16:17	14:15:16:17	14:15:16:17	Boys:Girls:Tot.	14:15:16:17	14:15:16:17	14:15:16:17	14:15:16:17	Boys:Girls:Tot.							
Parents won't let me	3	9	7	2	2	4	21	13	34	7	6	9	5	10	7	25	30	55				
Too much school work	9	13	10	11	16	11	28	17	43	62	105	8	22	24	19	14	36	32	21	73	101	174
Too many organi- zations	4	1	7	4	4	8	2	2	16	16	32	3	15	20	8	16	16	15	15	46	62	108
Friends live too far	7	9	11	9	12	23	20	18	36	73	109	6	17	22	14	15	33	28	18	59	94	153

Table 30. Summary of number of evenings subjects spent at home.

Which evening do you spend at home	<u>Always</u>			<u>Usually</u>			<u>Sometimes</u>		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
Sunday	28	27	55	46	57	103	37	61	98
Monday	43	23	66	82	73	155	28	67	95
Tuesday	35	38	73	68	69	137	38	56	94
Wednesday	34	32	66	67	64	131	42	26	68
Thursday	35	37	72	73	45	118	43	62	105
Friday	15	11	26	34	39	73	53	48	101
Saturday	14	14	28	22	40	62	53	55	108

Table 31. Number of evenings spent at home.

Times per week	Boys	Girls	Total
1	12	13	25
2	11	42	53
3	45	63	108
4	62	53	115
5	31	33	64
6	13	15	28
7	6	5	11

per week at home. Very few in this study spent as many as six or seven nights per week at home. Twenty-five boys and girls spent only one night per week at home. Boys and girls were relatively evenly divided in the number of evenings they usually spent at home. Table 32 shows some of the reasons these young people stayed at home. Home work was again listed as the most important factor keeping the boys and girls at home. More subjects stayed at home because their parents wanted them to stay at home than because their parents insisted. A total of 230 subjects stayed home because they wanted to stay at home.

Table 32. Reasons given by subjects for staying at home.

Why do you stay at home	: <u>Always</u>			: <u>Sometimes</u>		
	: Boys	: Girls	: Total	: Boys	: Girls	: Total
Parents insist	30	36	66	40	67	107
Parents want me to	29	36	65	90	79	169
Home work	58	103	161	89	104	193
Hobbies	12	22	34	30	36	66
Music practice	14	33	47	19	53	72
Nothing else to do	21	42	63	24	48	72
Want to	37	66	103	54	73	127
No way to leave	12	7	19	24	20	44
What do you do at home						
Listen to own radio	29	17	46	76	88	164
Listen to family radio	21	72	93	100	77	177
Watch TV	14	13	27	19	2	21

Slightly over 15 per cent of the respondents stayed home to work on their hobbies and less than 20 per cent of the respondents stayed home because there was nothing else to do. Listening to the radio and working on hobbies was important as a pasttime, however, only a few, about five per cent, of the subjects watched television.

The writer was interested in exploring how these youth feel about their time and about what they did with their time at home. Table 32 indicates that the young people of this study did not consider themselves too busy and most of them felt that they had enough time to do what they wanted to do. They did not consider themselves as busy as their parents thought the youth busy. Approximately one-fourth of these youth thought their parents considered the respondents too busy. Parents were nearly equally divided, 57 mothers and 43 fathers, in considering their children too busy.

If the boys and girls could have as many evenings to themselves as they

Table 33. Subjects answers to questions pertaining to their feeling of the way they spend their time.

	Boys				Girls				Total		
	:14	:15	:16	:17	:14	:15	:16	:17	Boys	Girls	Total
Do you feel you have enough time											
Yes	28	27	36	26	34	57	39	26	117	156	373
No	11	18	18	17	10	13	28	21	64	72	136
Do you feel you are too busy											
Yes	4	9	11	2	7	10	10	8	26	35	61
No	35	36	43	41	37	60	57	39	155	193	348
Do your parents feel you are too busy											
Yes	6	9	16	7	8	17	26	11	38	62	100
No	33	36	38	36	36	53	41	35	143	165	308
Which parent feels you are too busy											
Mother	3	6	10	3	5	10	15	5	22	35	57
Father	3	3	6	4	3	7	11	6	16	27	43
How many evenings would you like to do what you want											
1	5	7	7	7	7	7	8	6	26	28	54
2	5	7	11	9	9	21	13	11	32	54	86
3	10	13	13	9	12	8	15	7	45	42	87
4	2	8	11	5	5	15	20	15	26	55	81
5	2		5	5	2	10	6	4	12	22	34
6	3		2	2	2	4	4	2	7	12	19
7	12	9	5	6	6	5	1	2	32	14	46
What evenings would you like to have for yourself											
Monday	2	2	7	3	3	10	9	4	14	26	40
Tuesday	3	3	2	4	4	3	8	3	12	18	30
Wednesday	1	2	4	2	4	7	11	4	9	26	35
Thursday	1	2	2	3	4	11	5	2	8	22	30
Friday	10	16	8	5	9	8	8	7	39	32	71
Saturday	14	13	21	11	11	18	10	12	59	51	110
Sunday	8	7	10	15	9	13	16	15	110	53	93

wanted, more of this group would take three evenings per week than any other number. However, two and four evenings per month were nearly as desirable. Approximately three-fourths of the group would be satisfied with two, three or four nights per week. Only 24 boys and 28 girls thought it desirable to have only one night per week for themselves. The most popular nights to do what they would like to do was Saturday night with Friday and Sunday nights also popular. More boys than girls would rather have Saturday

night to themselves. The girls, more than the boys, indicated they would rather have the school nights for themselves.

The fact that boys and girls would like to have several evenings per week to do just what they want to do indicated that the subjects were doing things which did not interest them or which they felt forced to do. Although a majority of boys and girls indicated they felt they had enough time, as age increased from 14 to 17 years, the number who felt they were too busy also increased. The percentage figures indicate that of the 14 year age group, 72 per cent of the boys and 77 per cent of the girls felt they had enough time. More girls in the 15 year age group than in any other age group, felt they had enough time. Eighty-one per cent of the 15 year old girls indicated that they had enough time whereas only 60 per cent of the 15 year age group for boys indicated that they had enough time. Most of the 15 year old girls in this study considered that they had enough time but there was a rapid drop in the next age group. Only 59 per cent of the 16 year old girls indicated they had enough time. It might be questioned if this reflected the interest and pattern of the girls of this age group. It may be that 16 is the age when girls in this group increased the number and frequency of dates. This may be borne out by the fact that a very small number of 17 year girls indicated that they felt they had enough free time.

The figures for the boys group do not show as marked fluctuation from year to year. The percentage figures show that in addition to the 72 per cent of 14 year olds who felt they had enough time, there were 60 per cent of the 15 year olds, 61 per cent of the 16 year olds, and 60 per cent of the 17 year olds, who felt they had enough time. For both the boys and the girls more of the 14 year olds felt they had enough time than the 17 year olds.

Those subjects answering the question of whether or not they felt they were too busy indicated a higher percentage of them felt they were not too busy. Even though the majority of the subjects did not feel they were too busy, there were a considerable number of the boys and girls who felt they did not have enough time. The percentage figures show 85 per cent of the boys and 86 per cent of the girls in the 14 year group, 80 per cent of the boys and 85 per cent of the girls in the 15 year age group, 79 per cent of the boys and 86 per cent of the girls in the 16 year age group and 95 per cent of the boys and 73 per cent of the girls in the 17 year age group who did not feel they were too busy.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The competition for the time of teen agers is an important factor in the amount and kind of participation in organizations by those boys and girls in the teen age group. Answers to a questionnaire given to 409 4-H club members in Kansas were selected for study. Boys and girls, most of them from farms, answered the questions asked concerning how they spent their time in school, out of school, and at home. One of the most popular rather informal groups was the school pep club. This organization had a higher per cent of participation than any other group. Schools provided an active athletic program especially in football and basketball. Participation either on teams or as rooters was active in this age group. A majority of schools had bands and the pep band proved to be an active part of school participation. A majority of the schools provided opportunity for participation in bands. A majority of the schools provided opportunity for participation in vocal music and class plays.

Less than one-half of the young people indicated that they participated in the extra-curricular activities. FFA and FHA were the most popular or at least they had more members than the other extra curricular activities. This may be due to the professionally trained help available to help organize and supervise the organization. Kayettes had the largest membership of the girls organizations and the G.R., the smallest. Boys and girls in this study were active in school government but not as many were active in school government as were active in athletics.

Community activities were well attended by subjects of the study. Most of the subjects went to church regularly. When they went to community gatherings they either went with their parents or with friends. Sometimes the subjects went to community gatherings by themselves. Both boys and girls attended community events in nearly equal numbers. Most of the subjects went to the movies once a week, however, the range was from no shows per week to seven shows per week. The most popular night to go to the show was on Saturday night, however, both Friday and Sunday nights were also popular nights. A relatively small number of the subjects went to the show during the week on school nights. They went to the show to see the picture and also they went because friends went.

In addition to organizations within the schools there were also organizations outside of the school for teen age boys and girls. According to the answers of the boys and girls in this study these organizations were neither readily available nor actively participated in by most of the boys and girls. Only a few of the subjects belonged to groups outside of schools, with the exception of the 4-H club organization. The participation of teen agers in the organizations of the study lead the writer to believe the same type of

participation in 4-H clubs would be noted if other organizations were conducting the study rather than someone from the 4-H club organization. Boys and girls join organizations to learn new things such as leadership development and they drop organizations when the organizations are uninteresting. Many teen agers join organizations to make new friends and they drop organizations when their friends drop. However, according to this study this is not as important^a factor as the writer had previously believed. Few boys and girls drop from organizations because they do not have enough time. This reason often given must be a scape goat used when something in the organization fails to meet a need.

Even though boys and girls spend several evenings per week with their friends they would like to spend more evenings per week with their friends. The subjects named school work as an important reason for them not being able to spend more time with friends, however, distance from friends was also a factor.

Although these boys and girls had school and community organizations to attend as well as to visit friends they still had time to spend several nights per week at home. Only a small number indicated they spent only one night per week at home. More boys and girls stayed home for the reason of school work at home than any other reason, however, many subjects stayed home because their parents wanted them to stay home. In quite a number of cases, members stayed home because they wanted to. When the respondents stayed home they usually listened to the radio but seldom watched television probably because of the lack of television nearby.

With all of the school activities, school and community organizations, movies, and friends, the teen ager of this study still did not feel that he

was too busy. Most of them felt that they had enough time and only one-third of them felt that their parents thought that their teen agers were too busy. If the respondents could have as many evenings as they want to themselves, most of them would want from two to four evenings per week. This is consistent with their previously indicated desire to do what they want to do.

Several conclusions may be drawn from the facts indicated by those answering the questionnaire. Boys and girls did not consider themselves too busy but they expected organizations to be interesting in order to hold the teen agers as members. The implication that boys and girls do make many of their own decisions especially in regard to the organizations to which they belong, also supports the fact that organization may get and keep teen age members. This gives rise to thought that possibly further study needs to be made in the field of developmental tasks of teen agers in an attempt to find what their interests at this age are and thus have a better understanding of what kind of a program that will best satisfy their interest and fill their needs.

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APPENDIX

Here are some questions about your group activities both in school and outside of school. Answer them by checking () the correct blank; for example, if you are a boy check ; circling the right number, for example,

^{boy}
if you have four children in your family, circle the number 4; or writing in the answer, write briefly your thoughts on the questions asked. Please answer the questions and return it to someone in charge. When you are answering the questions, use information concerning last year's activities.

I. Age Boy Girl County Address

II. Have you answered these questions before
Grade in School Yes No

III. Number of children in your family Brothers Sisters
How old are they? 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19
over 20

(Circle the ages of your brothers and sisters)

IV. Are both your parents living with you
Yes No

If both of your parents are not living with you are they

 divorced
 separated
 one living
 not living
 father in service

V. Where do you live?

 in town? Size of town
 on a farm? Size of farm
 Acres

How far do you live from town
Miles

How do you get to town-use numbers: 1. for the way you go to town
most of the time.
2. for the way you go second
most common.
3. for the way you go to town
least.

 drive
 walk
 with parents
 with friends
 bicycle

How often do you go to town?

_____ 2 times or more per day
 _____ 1 time per day
 _____ 4 times per week
 _____ 2 times per week
 _____ 1 time per week
 _____ 2 times per month
 _____ 1 time per month

VI. How do you get to town?

	: Always	: Nearly Always	: Seldom	: Never
Drive car alone	:	:	:	:
Drive car with parents	:	:	:	:
Drive with friends	:	:	:	:
Walk alone	:	:	:	:
Walk with someone	:	:	:	:
Ride bicycle alone	:	:	:	:
Ride bicycle with others	:	:	:	:

How often do you go to town?

	: Always	: Nearly Always	: Seldom	: Never
1 time per week	:	:	:	:
2 times per week	:	:	:	:
4 times per week	:	:	:	:
6 times per week	:	:	:	:
10 times per week	:	:	:	:
12 times per week	:	:	:	:
More than 12 times per week	:	:	:	:

VII. In which of these school activities do you participate?

A. School Government

	Active	Not active	Fairly Active
Were you an officer in your:			
Class	: No	: Yes	: Which Office
Home Room	:	:	:
Federation Council	:	:	:
List others	:	:	:
List Other	:	:	:
List Other	:	:	:

B. Athletics

Active	Not Active	Fairly Active
--------	------------	---------------

Does your school have:

	: Do you : How do you participate:				: participate: 1st : 2nd : : Intra- : :				
	:No	:Yes	:Yes	: No	:Team	:Team	:Class	:murals	:Other
Football	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Basketball	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Track	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Swimming	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Wrestling	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Volley Ball	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
List Others:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
List Others:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

C. Band

Active

Not Active

Fairly Active

Does your school have:

	Do you participate				How do you participate			
	:Yes	:No	:Yes	:No	:Member	:Active	:Not Active	: Why
School Band	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Concert Band	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Marching Band	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Pop Band	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Dance Band	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
List Other	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
List Other	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

D. Choruses

Does your school have:

	How do you participate				How do you participate			
	:Yes	:No	:Yes	: No	:Members	:Not Active	:Active	:Not Interested
A Cappella	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Boys Glee Club	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Girls Glee Club	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Orchestra	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
List Other	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

E. Dramatics

Does your school have:

	: Do you		: participate:		How do you participate:		
	: Yes : No		: Yes : No		: Member	: Active	: Not : Not
	: Yes	: No	: Yes	: No	: Member	: Active	: Active : Interested
Class play	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
School play	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Assembly play	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Home-room play	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
List Others	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
List Others	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

F. School Organizations

Does your school have:

	: Do you		: participate:		How do you participate:		
	: Yes : No		: Yes : No		: Member	: Office	: Which Office
	: Yes	: No	: Yes	: No	: Member	: Office	: Which Office
FFA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FHA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Kavettes	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
HY	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
GR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Y-Teens	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Drama Club	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Letter Club	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Music Club	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Pep Club	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
List Others	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
List Others	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

VIII. In which of these church activities do you participate?

	Attendance			Activities			Mem-ber	Other
	:Always	:Usu-ally	:Sel-dom	:Never	:Teacher	:Office		
Sunday School	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Church	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Young People's	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Group	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Mass	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Guilds	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Other	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Other	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

XI. What youth groups do you belong to outside of church and school?

Are these youth groups available to you? How do you participate:

	:Yes :No		:Mem-ber		:Not :Active		:Not :Interested
	:	:	:	:	:	:	
Boys Scouts	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Girl Scouts	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Boys Clubs	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Camp Fire Girls	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Teen Town	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
A-H	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Hobby Clubs	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Other	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Other	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Would you join other youth organizations than you now belong to if they were available? Yes No What type would you join? _____

Why do you Join Clubs?

	: Always	: Usually	: Seldom	: Never
Want to belong	:	:	:	:
Friends belong	:	:	:	:
Learn new things	:	:	:	:
Have new friends	:	:	:	:
Parents want me to join	:	:	:	:
Recognition the organization:	:	:	:	:
brings	:	:	:	:
Nothing else to do	:	:	:	:
Other	:	:	:	:
Other	:	:	:	:
	:	:	:	:

Why would you join other organizations?

	: Most important	: Important	: Not Important
Learn new things	:	:	:
Make new friends	:	:	:
Have more to do	:	:	:
Get away from home	:	:	:
Parents want me to	:	:	:
Opportunity to help others:	:	:	:
Leadership development	:	:	:
Other	:	:	:
Other	:	:	:
	:	:	:

X. What youth groups have you dropped in the past year? _____

Why did you drop?

	: Most important	: Important	: Not Important
Not enough time	:	:	:
Group n t interesting	:	:	:
Parents want me to	:	:	:
Friends drop	:	:	:
The organization failed:	:	:	:
Other	:	:	:
Others	:	:	:

Do both your parents feel you are too busy? Yes No

If both your parents do not feel you are too busy, which one feels you are too busy?

Mother Yes No

Father Yes No

B. How many evenings each week would you like to have to do just what you want to do?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Which evening would you like to have to yourself?

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday

C. Do you have enough time to do what you want to do? Yes No

XIII. How many evenings per week do you spend with your friends outside of organizations?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Would you like to spend more evenings with your close friends?

Yes No

Why don't you spend more time with your friends?

	: Most Important	: Important	: Not Important
Parents won't let me	:	:	:
Too much school work	:	:	:
Too many organizations	:	:	:
Friends live too far away	:	:	:

XIV. A. Do you attend community gatherings? Yes No

	: Always	: Usually	: Seldom	: Never
With parents	:	:	:	:
With other adults	:	:	:	:
By myself	:	:	:	:
With friends my age	:	:	:	:

B. How many movies do you attend during an average week? ____ Month ____

When do you usually go?

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Afternoon	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Evening	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

C. Why do you go to the movies?

	: Most	:	: Little	: Not
	: Important	:	: Important	: Important
Want to see the picture	:	:	:	:
Friends go	:	:	:	:
Nothing else to do	:	:	:	:
Parents go	:	:	:	:
A good place to relax	:	:	:	:

XV. A. Do you work? Yes No For Pay Yes No Do you like to
work Yes No

Why do you work?

	: Most Important	:	: Important	: Little Importance
To make spending money	:	:	:	:
To make money to live	:	:	:	:
Friends work	:	:	:	:
Nothing else to do	:	:	:	:
Other	:	:	:	:
Other	:	:	:	:
	:	:	:	:

Table 35. Number and attendance of subjects at community gatherings.

With whom :	Always :		Usually :		Seldom :																								
do you go to :	Boys :	Girls :	Boys :	Girls :	Boys :	Girls :																							
community :	Boys :	Girls :	Boys :	Girls :	Boys :	Girls :																							
gatherings :	14:15:16:17:Tot.:14:15:16:17:Tot.:14:15:16:17:Tot.:14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.:14:15:16:17:Tot.:14:15:16:17:Tot.:14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.:14:15:16:17:Tot.:14:15:16:17:Tot.:14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.:14:15:16:17:Tot.:14:15:16:17:Tot.:14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.:14:15:16:17:Tot.:14:15:16:17:Tot.:14:15:16:17:Tot.	14:15:16:17:Tot.:14:15:16:17:Tot.:14:15:16:17:Tot.:14:15:16:17:Tot.																							
With parents	2	7	5	21	6	7	9	7	29	21	23	31	26	101	27	47	39	21	134	1	6	5	6	18	5	9	2	16	
With other adults					2		1	3	10	6	11	4	31	7	10	1	2	20	13	20	23	18	76	17	23	22	8	70	
By self	3	3	6	2			2	3	10	17	8	38	5	2	1	1	9	8	16	16	21	61	13	43	11	8	75		
With friends own age	1	7	6	2	16	8	11	10	7	36	22	28	25	23	98	22	41	37	25	125	2	10	11	5	28	9	19	1	29

Table 38. Subjects participation in church activities.

Church Activities	Boys				Girls					
	: 14	:15	:16	:17	:14	:15	:16	:17	:Boys	:Girls
Sunday School										
Teacher		1		1		1	3	2		4
Office	1	2	1	3		2	10	7		12
Member	7	10	3	7	4	7	6	12	24	29
Church										
Teacher		1						1		
Office		1	2	2		1	4	5		5
Member	5	13	4	9	7	3	6	10	31	26
Young Peoples										
Teacher										
Office		4	1	2	1	1	8	7		9
Member	4	11	1	7	4	3	7	8	23	22

Table 40. Reasons given by subjects for staying at home.

Why do you stay at home	Most important				Important											
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls								
	:14	:15	:16	:17	:14	:15	:16	:17	:14	:15	:16	:17				
Parents insist	8	5	11	6	4	11	16	5	7	12	17	6	11	25	15	6
Parents want me to	5	6	11	7	2	17	14	3	11	13	21	12	16	21	23	19
Home work	9	11	26	12	19	30	35	19	11	26	29	23	27	36	22	19
Hobbies	3	3	3	3	2	4	7	9	8	9	7	6	8	11	10	7
Music practice	3	1	5	5	4	12	9	8	4	7	6	2	9	16	16	12
Nothing else to do	2	6	11	2	8	11	16	7	5	7	8	4	9	11	13	15
Went to	3	14	11	9	17	16	15	18	8	8	23	15	9	25	20	19
No way to leave	4	4	4		6		1		4	8	9	3	2	5	9	4
What do you do at home	Always				Sometimes											
Listen to own radio	6	7	11	5	3		7	7	12	17	19	14	14	24	25	25
Listen to family radio	3	6	7	5	9	22	23	18	17	21	36	26	22	20	13	22
Watch TV	4	5	4	1	6		2	5	1	6	11	1			2	
Work on hobbies	3	3	4	2	4	1		6	10	20	21	20	13	25	31	26

Table 41. Reasons for subjects joining organizations.

Why do you join organizations	ALWAYS		USUALLY		SELDOM	
	Boys : 14:15:16:17	Girls : 14:15:16:17	Boys : 14:15:16:17	Girls : 14:15:16:17	Boys : 14:15:16:17	Girls : 14:15:16:17
Want to belong	14 24 32 22 23 29 25 24	4 10 19 11 11 20 16 6	1 4	11	1	
Friends belong	10 5 9 3 5 5 7 17	3 14 21 17 12 28 22 19	4 9 8 3	11 6 3		
Learn new things	17 23 28 19 20 27 24 22	4 17 16 11 18 15 10 12	1 1			
Have new friends	14 19 27 13 20 13 25 20	8 12 17 13 16 17 17 9	1 2 2 2 9			
Parents want to	6 6 7 3 5 4 13 4	4 10 13 13 6 14 3 3	6 8 12 8 9 6 7 1			
Recognitions	6 6 12 3 2 5 8 4	4 4 6 6 5 9 14 1	4 13 11 9 5 7 9 12			
Nothing else to do	4 4 2 1 5 5	2 3 2 2	3 7 7 3 15 7			

A STUDY OF THE COMPETITION FOR THE TIME OF TEEN AGERS

by

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B. S. Kansas State College, 1950

AN ABSTRACT

submitted in partial fulfillment of the

requirements for the degree

MASTER OF SCIENCE

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This study was made to gain information on the way teen agers spend their time. 4-H club members were selected because the writer works professionally in the 4-H Club organization and was interested in gaining information as to why membership in 4-H clubs has remained static, although census figures indicate an increasing number of boys and girls in the 4-H organization age range of 10-21 years. A total of 714 questionnaires were given to boys and girls, 12 to 20 years of age inclusive. The age group of 14 to 17 years was selected for this study. There were in this group 181 boys and 228 girls.

The questionnaire was given to 4-H club members in the following three situations: (1) at State-wide 4-H camps; (2) at state fairs and (3) in county meetings. The writer administered the questionnaires. The questionnaire had three points of investigation: (1) the activities available for the teen ager at home, in the community and in the school; (2) the participation in the same events by the teen agers; (3) the subjects own feeling about how they spent their time out of school. The data indicated that there were a large number of organizations sponsored by the school for this age group. The largest number of the subjects participated in athletics. Nearly one-third of the subjects reported that they considered themselves active in school government.

The community activities reported by most of the subjects answering the questionnaire were church, Sunday School, and movies. Most of the subjects attended at least one movie per week and gave as their reason for going that they wanted "to see the picture". Only a small number attended the movies because they had "nothing else to do."

Youth organizations outside of the school, such as scouts and hobby clubs claimed the time of only a small percentage of the total number of

respondents. The reason given by the largest number of boys and girls for joining organizations was that they want "to learn new things". Leadership development, making new friends, and helping others were also important factors.

Although the more than half of the 409 respondents spend several nights per week with friends, the majority of this group stated they would like to spend more time with friends. School or home work was the reason given by the subject for staying at home evenings or for not spending more time with friends. When asked "Do you feel you have enough time" and "Do you feel you are too busy", more than 90 per cent indicated that they felt they had enough time and that they were not too busy. However, approximately one-fourth of the subjects felt that their parents considered that the subject was too busy. Two-hundred ninety-eight respondents or approximately three-fourths of the group said they would join other organizations if other ones were available.

Conclusions drawn from the facts indicated by those answering the questionnaire are that teen boys and girls did not consider themselves too busy but they expected organizations to be interesting in order to hold them. The implication that boys and girls make many of their own decisions especially, in regard to the organizations to which they belong, suggests that organizations may get and keep their age members if an adequate program is developed. Further study needs to be made in the developmental tasks of teen agers in an attempt to find what their interests are at this age. The result of further study would be a better understanding of the kind of a program that will best satisfy teen age interests and fill their needs.