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Marital Status and Religious Commitment Predict Prenatal Tobacco, Alcohol, and Illicit Substance Use in Southern Appalachia

Andrea D. Clements

East Tennessee State University, clements@etsu.edu

Tifani R. Fletcher

East Tennessee State University

Lana McGrady

East Tennessee State University

Beth A. Bailey

East Tennessee State University

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Andrea D. Clements

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East Tennessee State University

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The Longitudinal Study

- 336 rural, pregnant women in Southern Appalachia
 - Primarily low SES
 - Some high-risk middle/upper SES
- Pregnancy smoking cessation study
 - Smokers who participated in cessation
 - Smokers who did not participate in cessation
 - Non-smokers

The Predictors - Relationships

- Marital Status
 - Married
 - Unmarried
- Cohabitation Status
 - Living with significant other
 - Not living with significant other

The Predictors - Religiosity

- Church Attendance
 - Attends church once/week or more
 - Attends church less than once/week
- Surrender to God
 - High on *Surrender to God Scale*
 - Not high on *Surrender to God Scale*

What is Surrender to God?

- Surrender describes coping through self-relinquishment and submission to God when one's will is in conflict with God's will
- My larger line of research relates to the investigation of surrender as it relates to many health correlates such as stress, social relationships, exhibiting healthy behaviors, and avoidance of risk

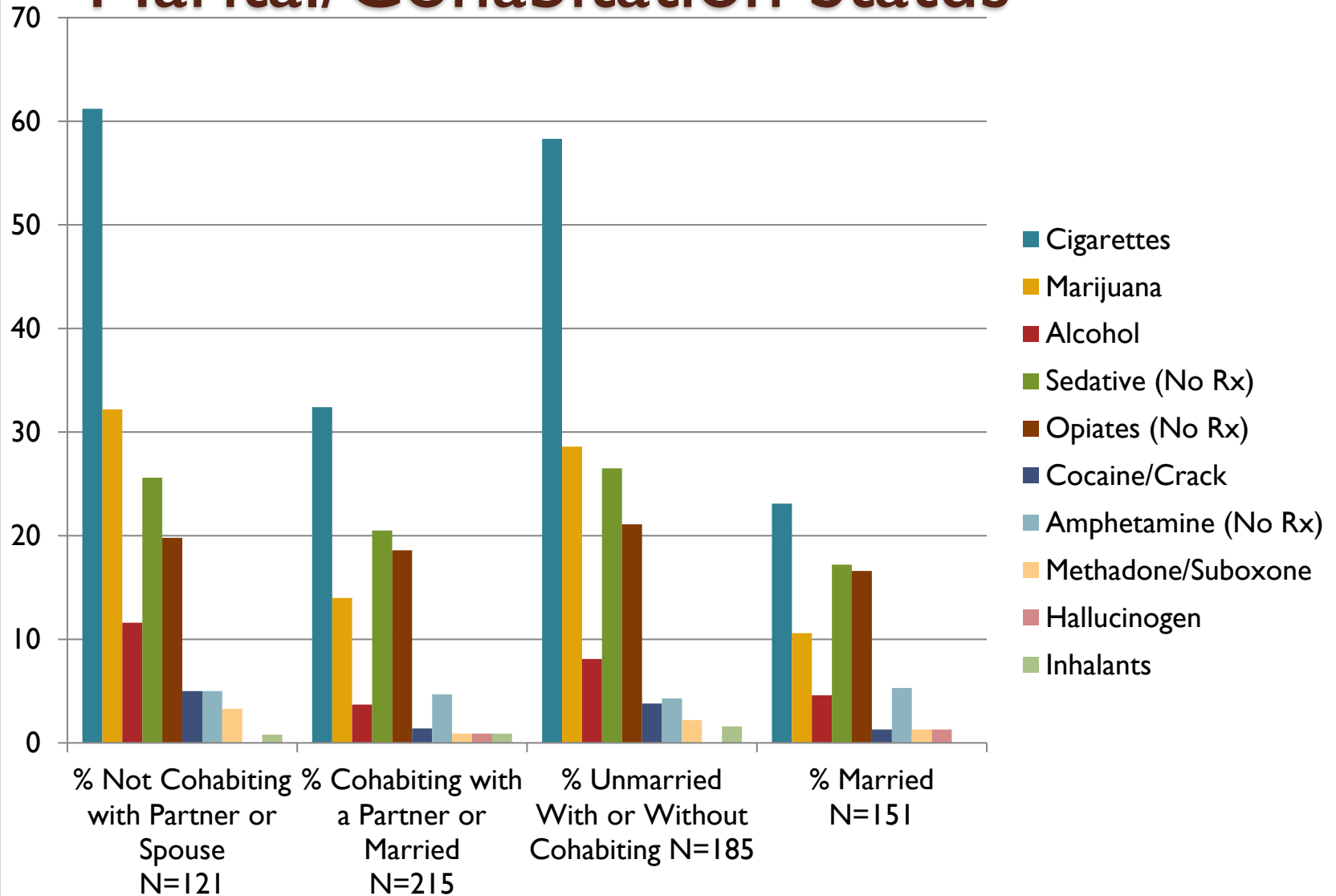
Substance Use Variables

- Cigarettes
- Marijuana
- Alcohol
- Sedative (No Prescription)
- Opiates (No Prescription)
- Cocaine/Crack
- Amphetamine (No Prescription)
- Methadone/Suboxone
- Hallucinogen
- Inhalants

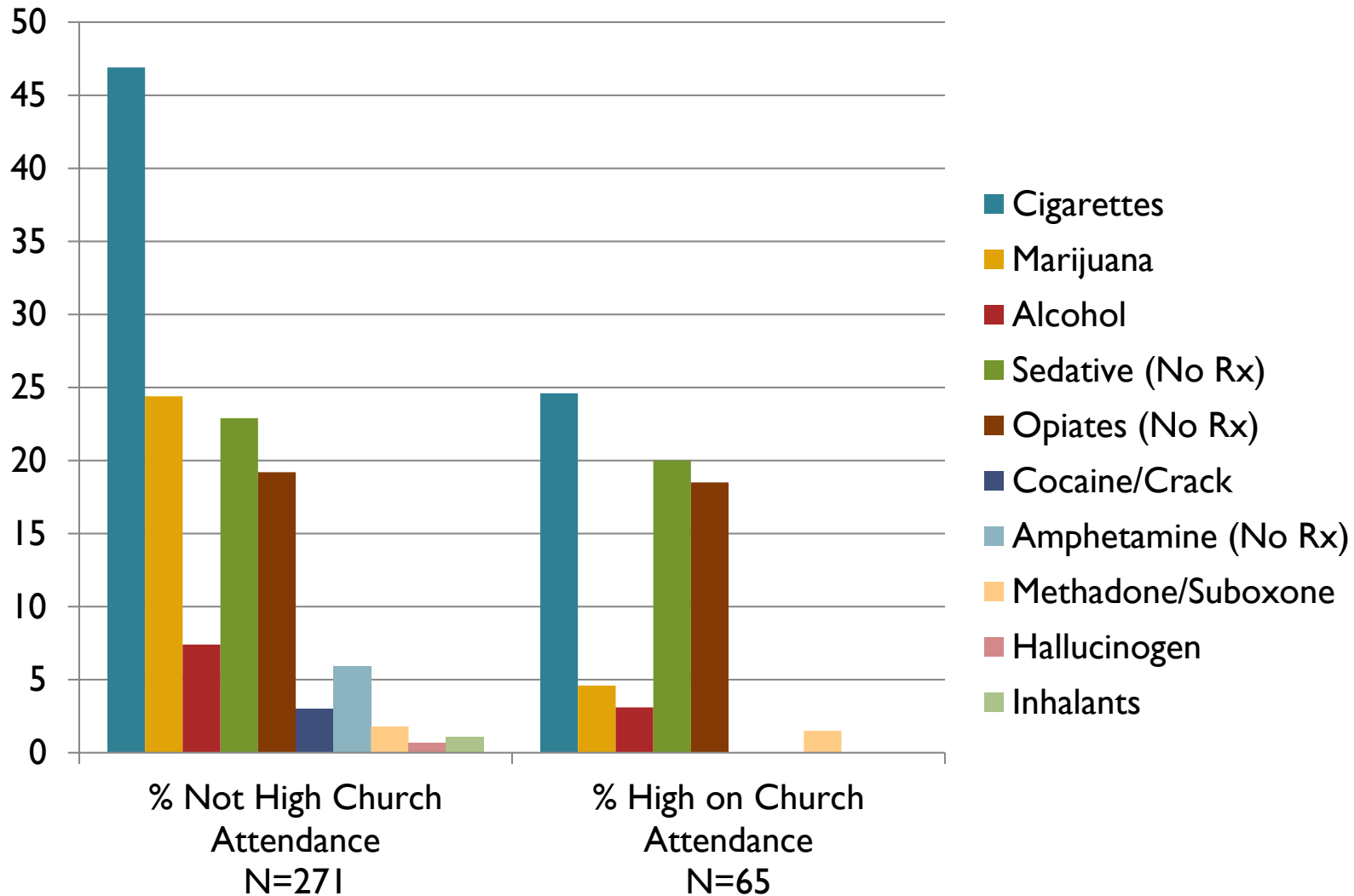
Hypotheses

- Married pregnant women use fewer substances than unmarried pregnant women
- Cohabiting pregnant women use fewer substances than pregnant women living alone
- Frequent church attending pregnant women use fewer substances than pregnant women who infrequently or never attend church
- Pregnant women high on surrender to God use fewer substances than pregnant women who are not high on surrender to God

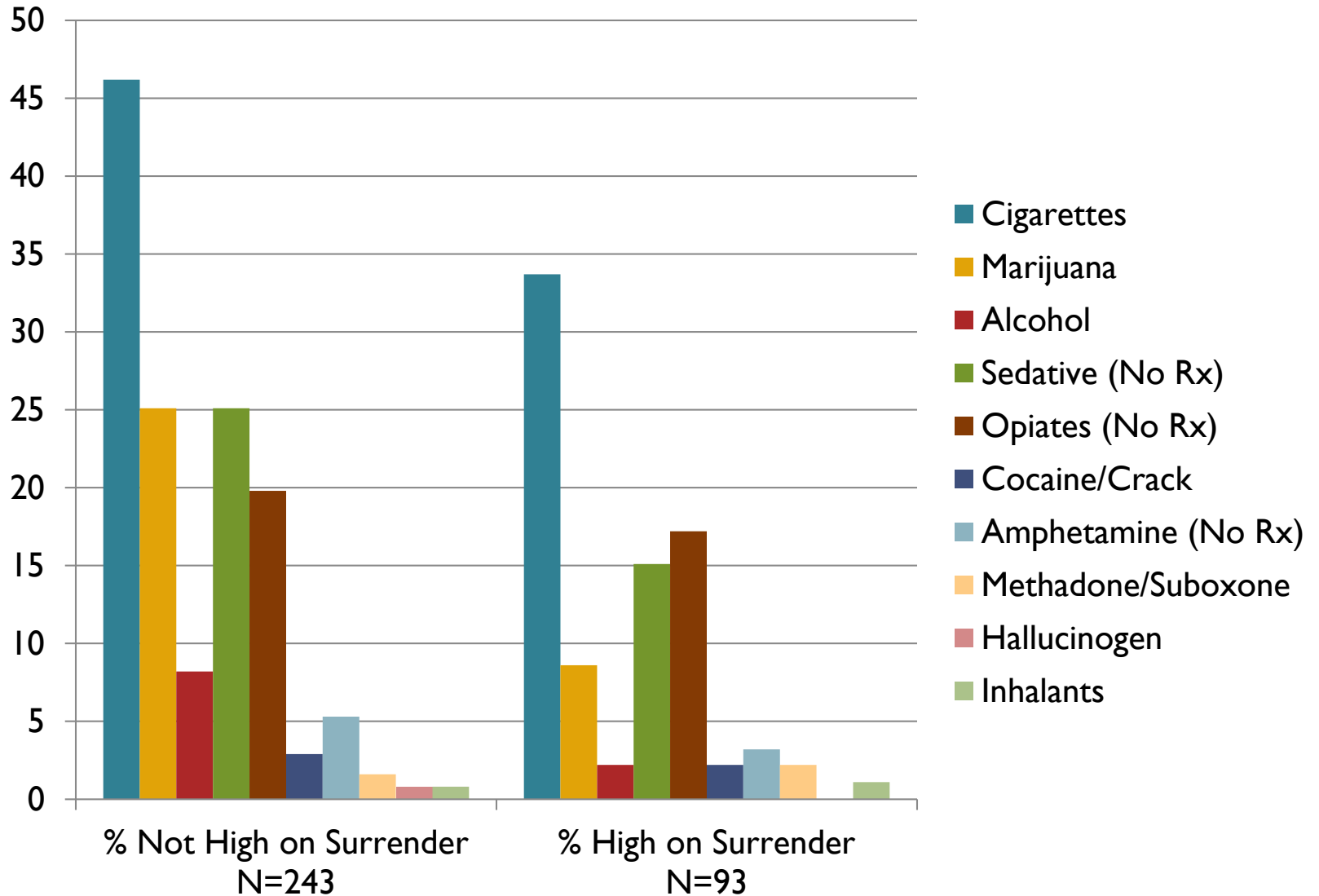
Substance Use by Marital/Cohabitation Status



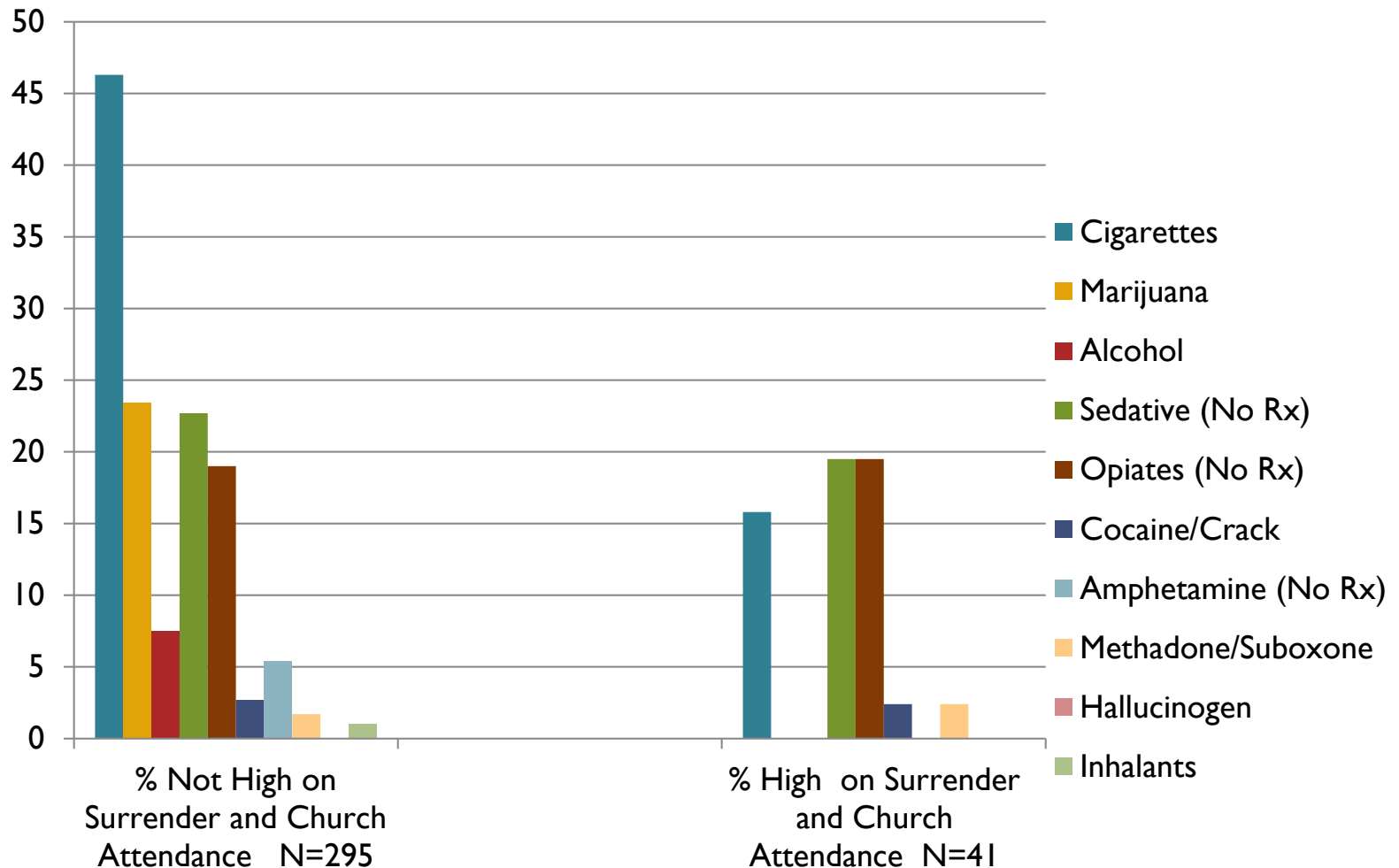
Substance Use by Church Attendance



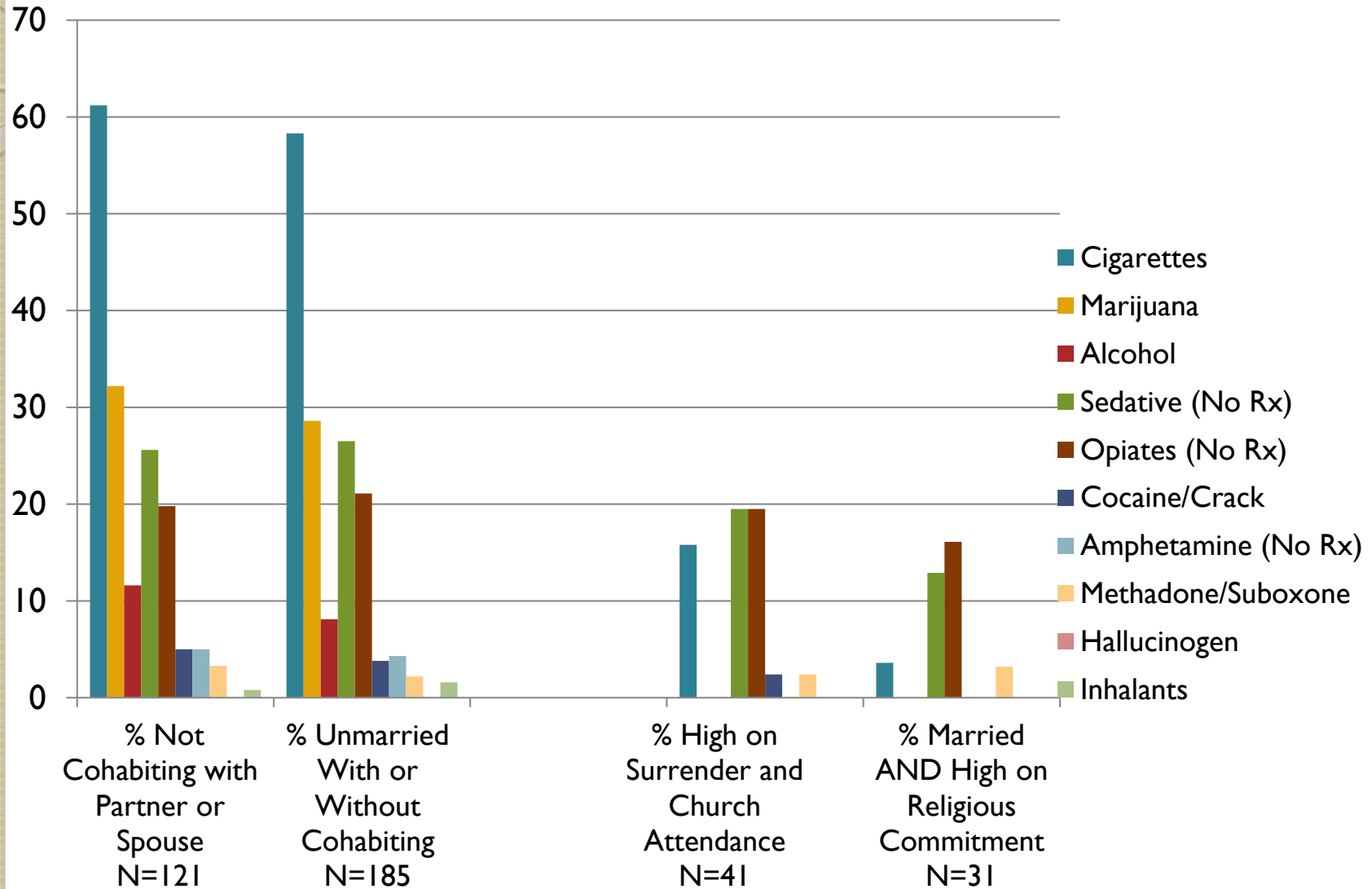
Substance Use by Surrender to God



Substance Use by Combined Attendance and Surrender



Most Extreme Groups



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