

The Ad hoc Committee on Family Affordability talked with meetings to gain an understanding of why people come and do not come to Annual Session. We learned the following:

- Friends do not consider money to be the primary reason for not attending.
- Several meetings fully sponsor all of their children to attend Annual Session.
- There is competition for time. Both for taking time off work and visiting relatives.
- Friends wish for more fellowship and less business.
- People appreciate the time to renew the spirit and friendships at AS. Many judge this opportunity more important than participating in the business of NPYM.
- Some meetings that currently have no children expressed a willingness to support children from those meetings that do have children.

As result of what we learned we recommend the following:

1. That there be one less plenary at Annual Session, allowing more time for fellowship and family time.
2. That individual meetings consider sponsoring all children as a matter of policy, as several meetings currently do.
3. That meetings who have no children and would like to support children in the yearly meeting consider finding a way to do that.

This completes our work. We request that the committee be laid down.

Respectfully submitted,

Committee members

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