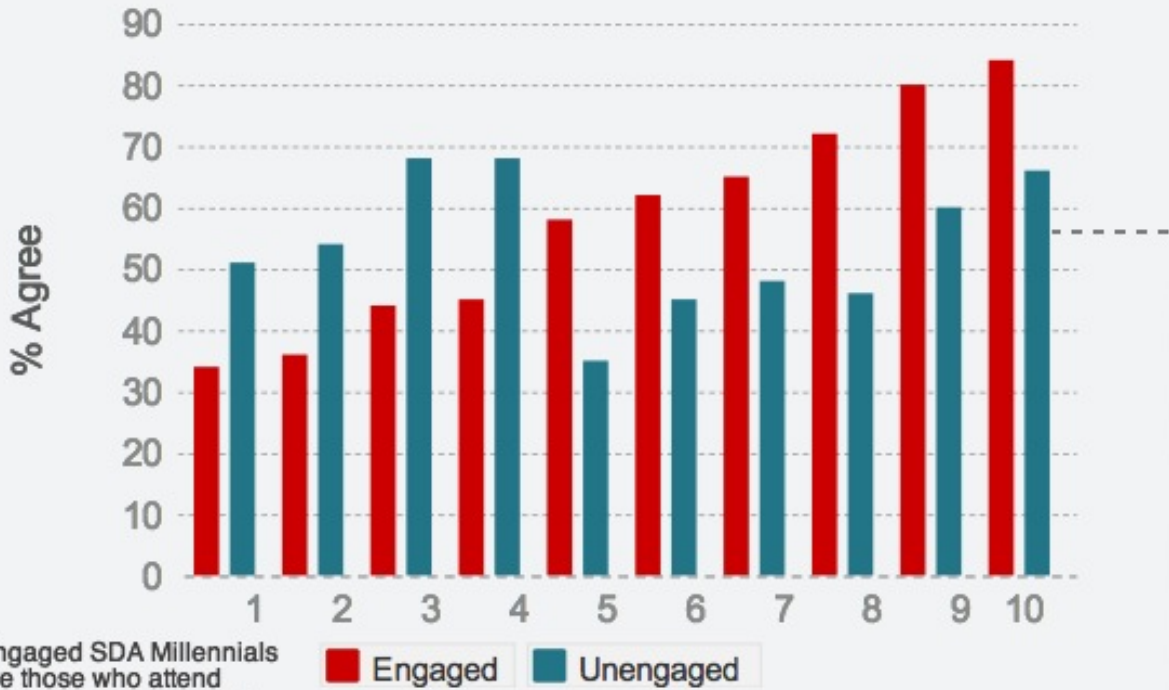


Engaged vs. Unengaged

Engaged and unengaged SDA Millennials show stark differences in how they perceive their childhood experiences with local Seventh-day Adventist congregations. They also exhibit strong differences in the extent to which they currently subscribe to the distinctive doctrines of the SDA Church. However, even among engaged Millennials, some key doctrines enjoy more widespread support than do others.

Attitudes

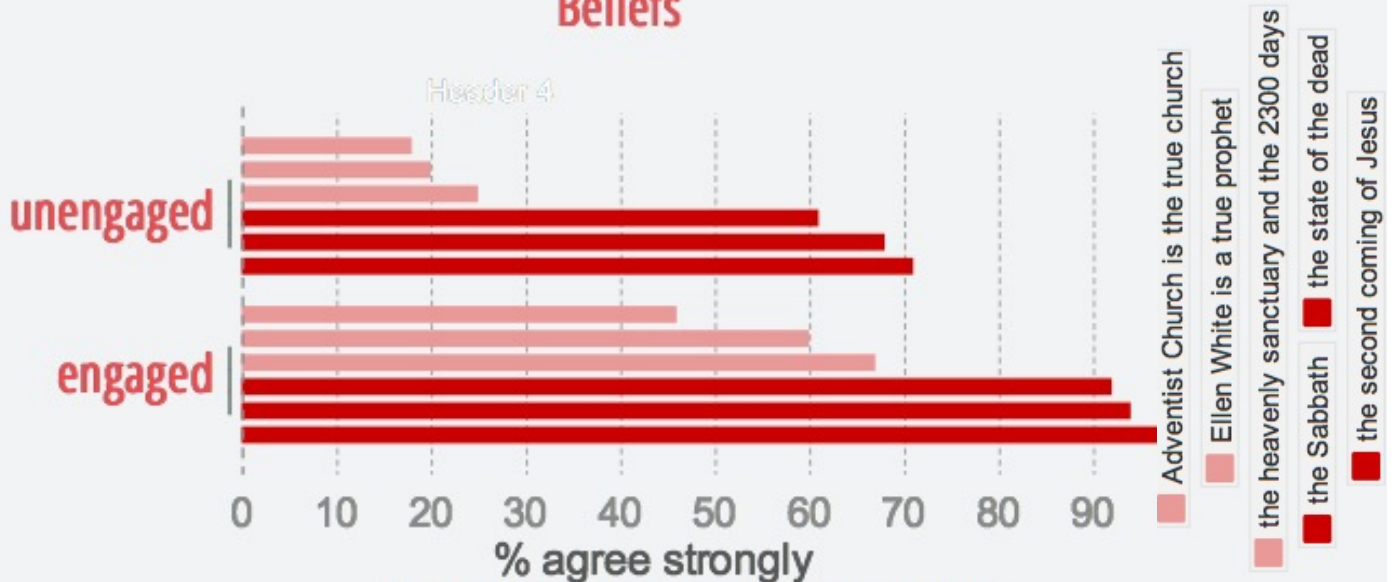


Engaged SDA Millennials are those who attend services at least monthly, AND who say that church is still relevant for them.



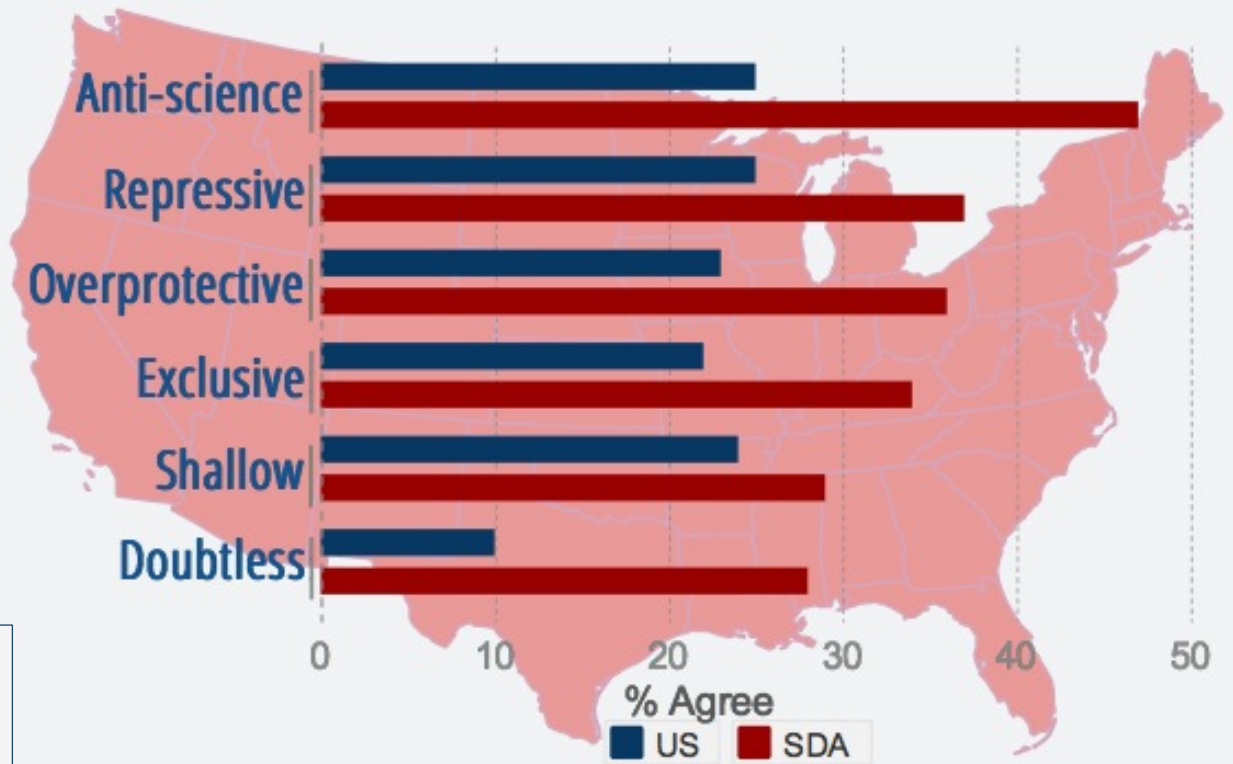
- 1 | teaching seems SHALLOW
- 2 | like an EXCLUSIVE club
- 3 | OVERPROTECTIVE of young people
- 4 | REPRESSIVE of ideas
- 5 | DOUBTS are tolerated
- 6 | the people are AUTHENTIC
- 7 | helped me UNDERSTAND my faith
- 8 | can be MYSELF
- 9 | teachings are RELEVANT
- 10 | COMPASSION for others

Beliefs



You Lost Me

Barna's research into the spiritual journeys of Millennial adults (18-29 years old) shows that many of them carry six grievances against Christianity in America. This study shows that Seventh-day Adventist Millennials share these perceptions at even higher levels than the national norms.



WHAT TO DO NEXT:

Implications

How can the local church respond?

The key steps are to facilitate positive intergenerational relationships, emphasize stories of renewal and transformation, and practice acceptance. Finding a willingness to show God's heart and not just His judgment.



Relationships

Foster mentoring relationships
Develop apprenticeship opportunities



Renewal and Transformation

Platform to hear and share stories of transformation
Opportunities to experience transformation



Forgive and Accept

Accentuate the contrasts between the Church and the World
Value life lessons instead of stigmatizing them



Show God's Heart

What's more important: our traditions or our children?