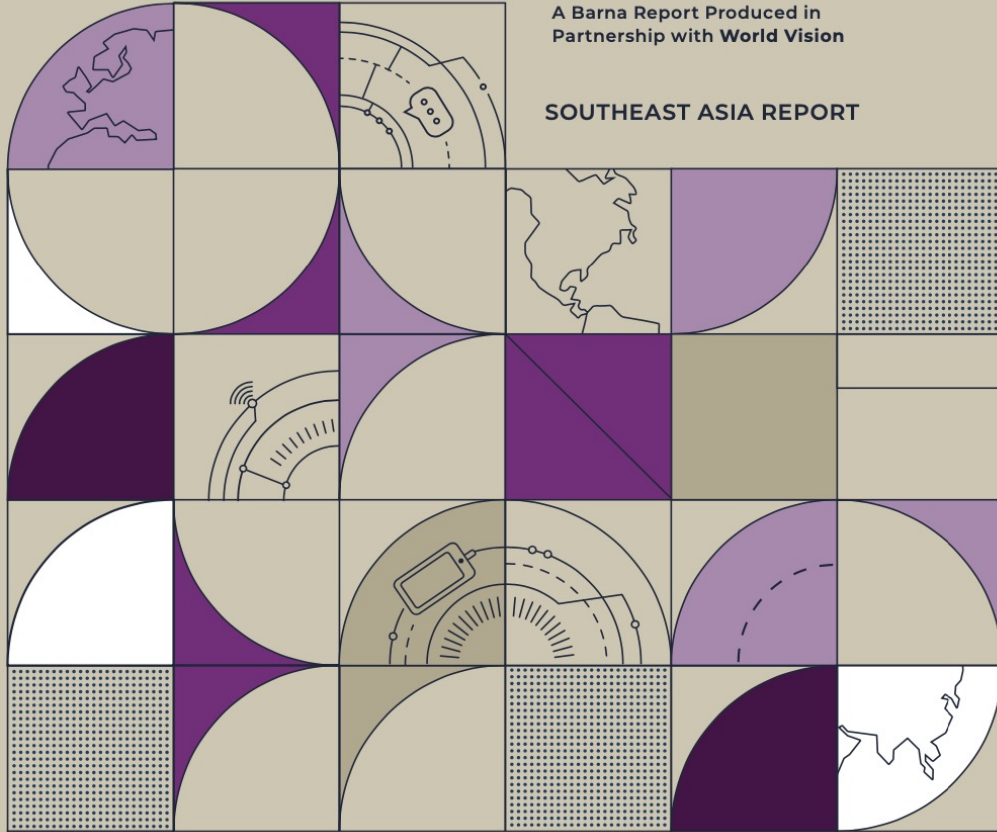


A Barna Report Produced in  
Partnership with World Vision

## SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT



# The CONNECTED Generation

How Christian Leaders Around the World Can  
Strengthen Faith & Well-Being Among 18–35-Year-Olds

## ESSENTIAL INSIGHTS ON EMOTIONAL, SOCIAL AND SPIRITUAL TRENDS AMONG YOUNG ADULTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

What values are Millennials, and now Gen Z, bringing with them into adulthood? What kind of world are they already building? What is their relationship to faith? The reality is that members of this age cohort are hardly 'the next generation' anymore. Newcomers no longer, they are a formidable force, actively shaping the future of our workplaces, media, politics, arts, neighborhoods and, yes, churches.

For a groundbreaking global study, Barna Group combined its research expertise with the reach of World Vision, the largest child-focused Christian humanitarian organisation in the world, to interview more than 15,000 adults ages 18 to 35 in 25 countries and nine languages. This report represents a summary of the findings specifically within Southeast Asia, providing a regional snapshot of a group we're calling *The Connected Generation*.

Through quantitative research, data visualisations and field guides, these pages reveal both sobering and surprisingly hopeful trends among a globally minded generation, including:

- An overview of young adults' goals, fears and emotional well-being in an anxious age
- New data about attitudes toward spirituality, religion and the Christian Church in a secular climate
- Contextualised insights about how to support and partner with 18–35-year-olds in your area as they fulfill ambitions toward vocation, justice and leadership

In addition to original writing from Barna president David Kinnaman, this country report from *The Connected Generation* project features commentary from local leaders in Southeast Asia, including Juliette Arulrajah, Daniel Boey, Abel Cheah, Lilian Chung, Sidney Mohede, Doseba T. Sinay and Tracy Trinita.

Join us in learning more about – and from – this connected generation.

Get more information about The Connected Generation project and related resources at [theconnectedgeneration.com](http://theconnectedgeneration.com).

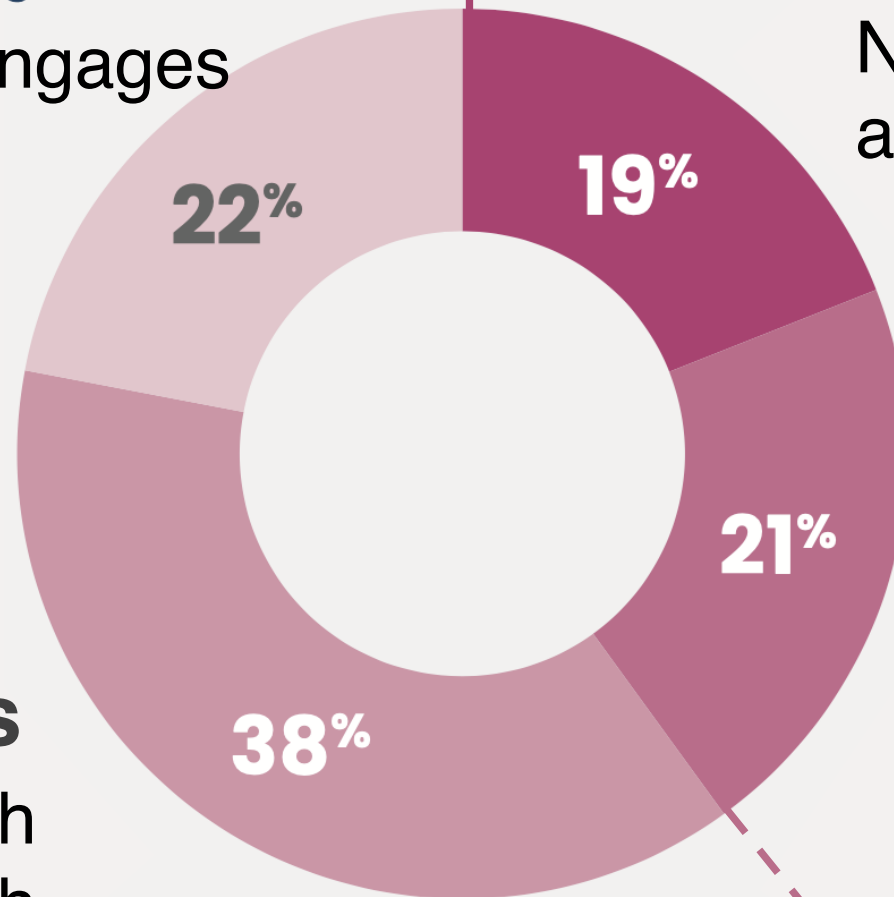
# PROFILE OF 18–35 yo SINGAPOREANS WITH CHRISTIAN BACKGROUND

## Resilient disciples

- Attends church regularly, engages with the faith community
- Believes the Bible, Jesus' death and resurrection
- Personally committed to Jesus and living for Him

## Habitual churchgoers

Attends church  
once a month



## Prodigals

No longer identify  
as Christian

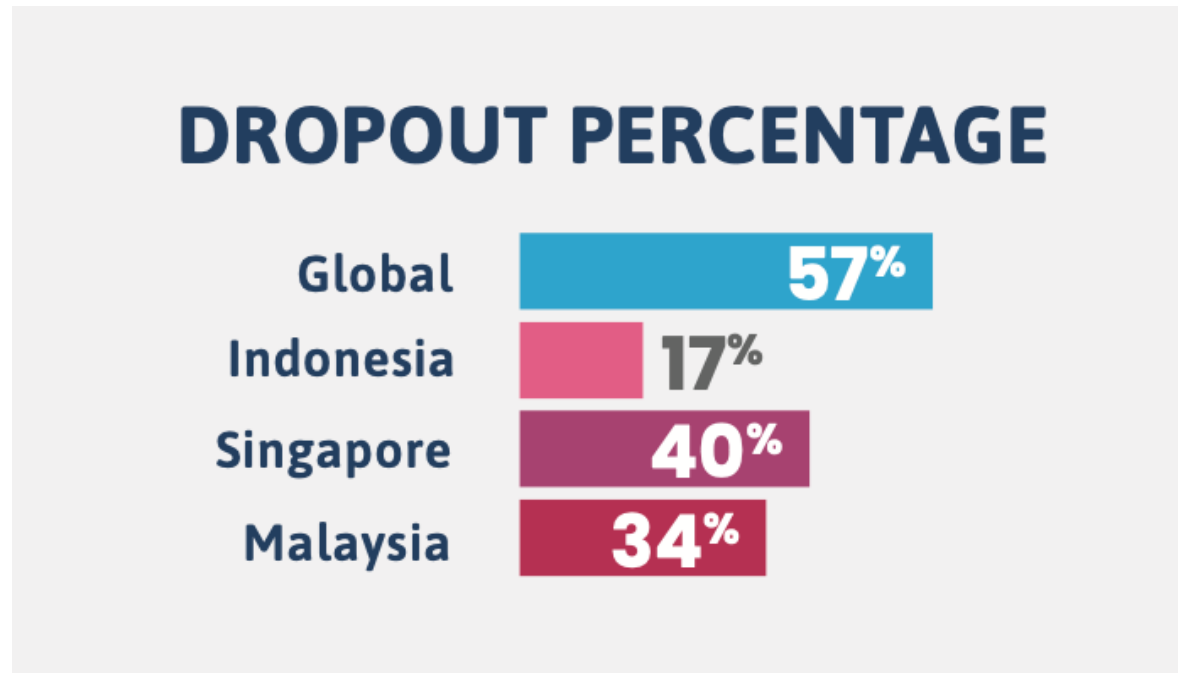
## Nomads

Identify as Christian  
but do not attend  
church regularly

# Church dropouts among those aged 18–35 years

Dropouts are defined as those who:

- Grew up Christian and no longer affiliate with the Church or
- Still identify as Christian but attend a place of worship infrequently (less than once every few months).





For Singaporeans aged 18–35 years old,

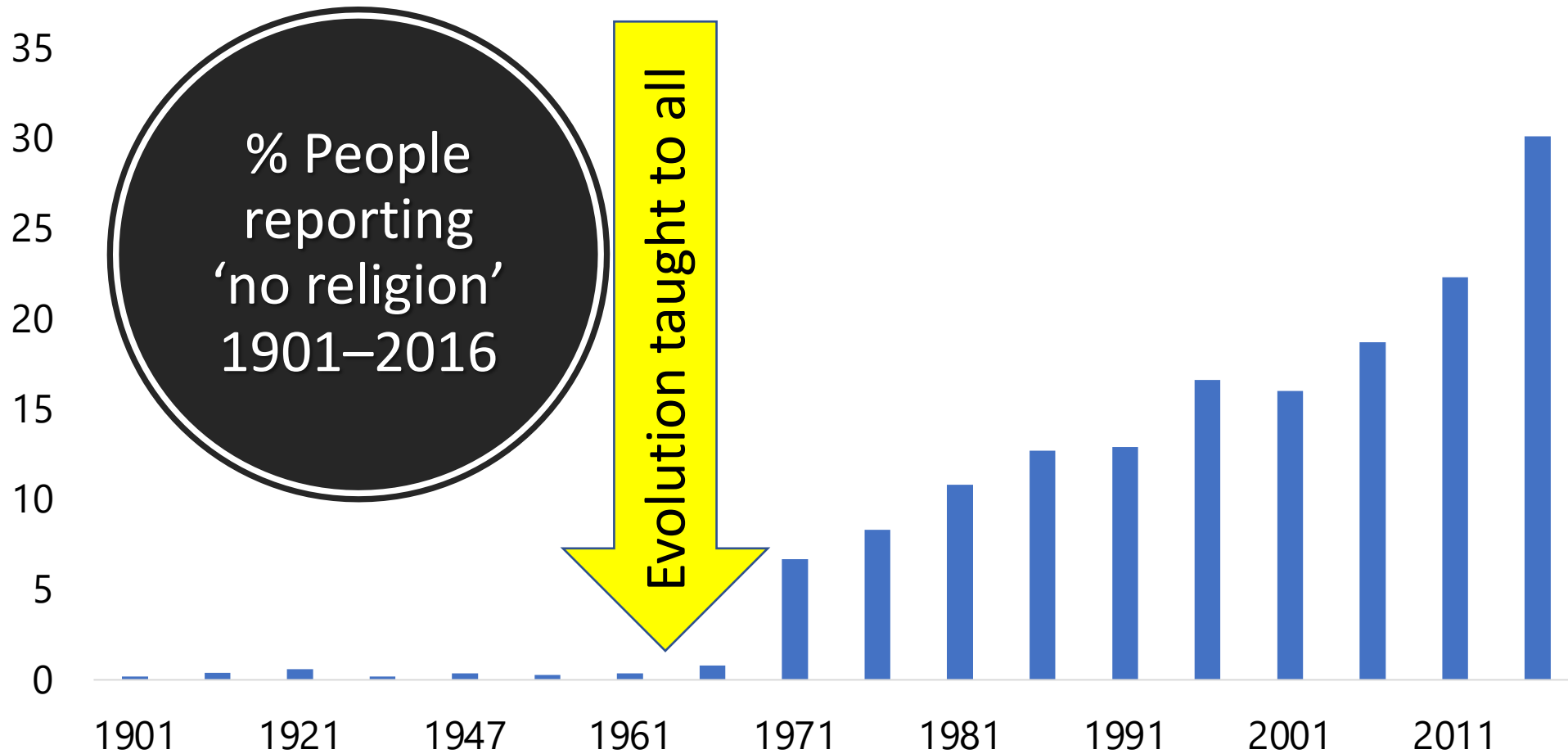
**“science”**

was named the

**#1 Obstacle to faith\***

\*Barna Group, *The Connected Generation*  
- Southeast Asia Report, p. 21, 2020

# Australia: growth of atheism



**Source:** ABS Censuses of Population and Housing

# Interlocked Lesson 4, Page 2

## There are three ways that churchgoers have generally responded

### 1. Surrender the Truth



### 2. Accommodate and Reinterpret the Truth



### 3. Counterattack the Falsehoods



# Interlocked Lesson 4, Page 16

## BELIEVERS TRAINED IN

- Philosophy
- Sciences



Experienced in critically analysing hypothesis and data

## QUESTIONED THE ENTIRE APPROACH OF SCIENTIFIC INTERPRETATION



- Examined the thinking and philosophy behind scientific theories
- Identified underlying faulty assumptions that led to poor “scientific” conclusions
- Using the Bible → produced comprehensive counterproposals to existing theories

## Interlocked Lesson 4, Page 16

Here are several organisations and their websites that are worth exploring:

- Answers in Genesis- [www.answersingenesis.org](http://www.answersingenesis.org)
- Creation Ministries International - [www.creation.com](http://www.creation.com)
- Institute for Creation Research - [www.icr.org](http://www.icr.org)
- Creation Research Society - [www.creationresearch.org](http://www.creationresearch.org)