

Best Practices in Parish Stewardship

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TABLE 1

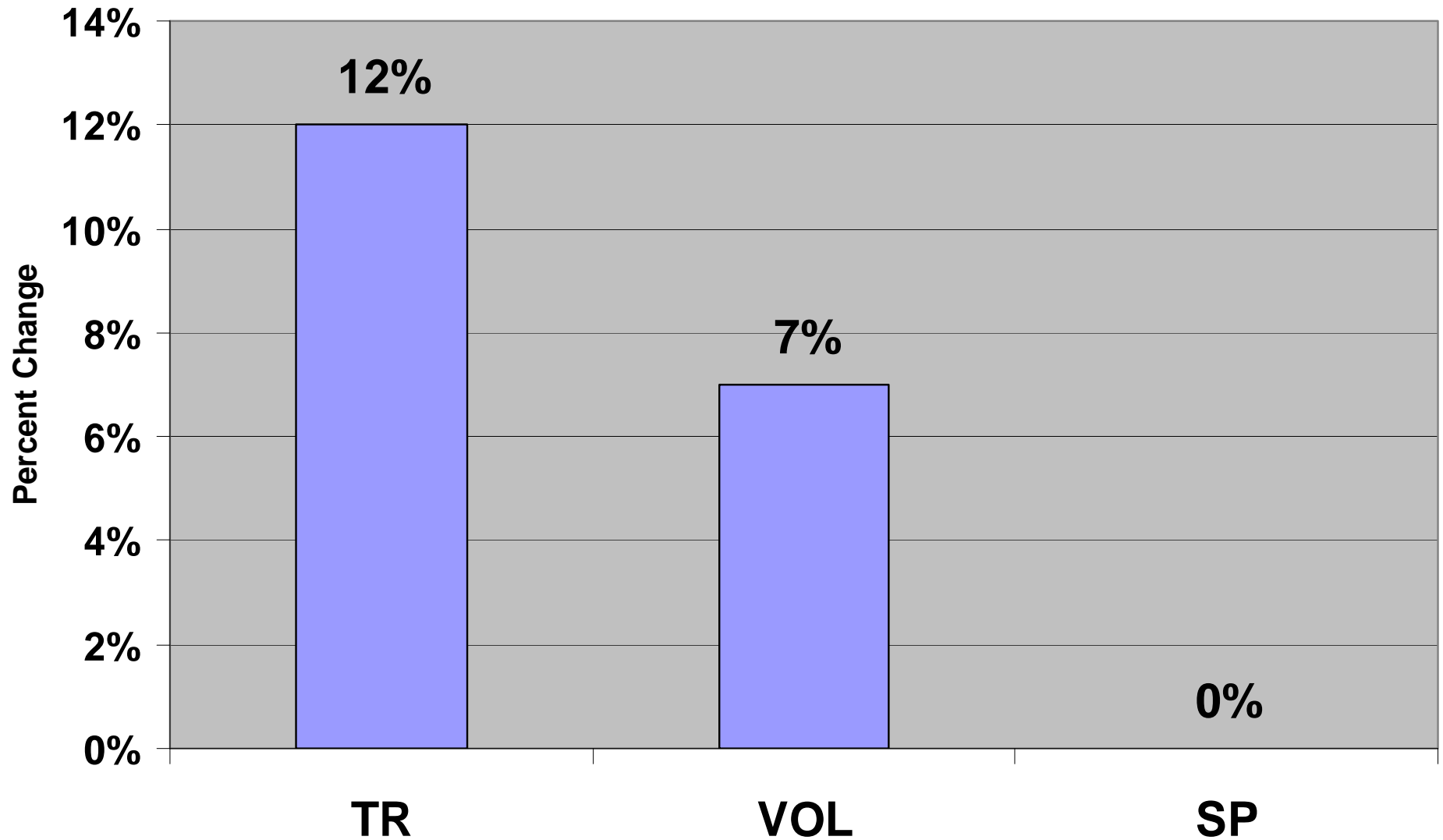
PARISH STEWARDSHIP OUTCOMES

<u>Outcome</u>	<u>Mean Value</u>
I. Treasure – per household regular contributions	\$517
II. Percent of Parishioners Volunteering Time	27.4
III. Parish Spirituality Index – Sum of the Percent of parishioners engaged in the following activities	46.3
– Regularly attend weekday Mass	
– Regularly attend other liturgical celebrations (e.g., adoration, rosary)	
– Regularly attend bible study groups	
– Regularly attend small group retreats	
– Member of small faith group	

1. True or false.

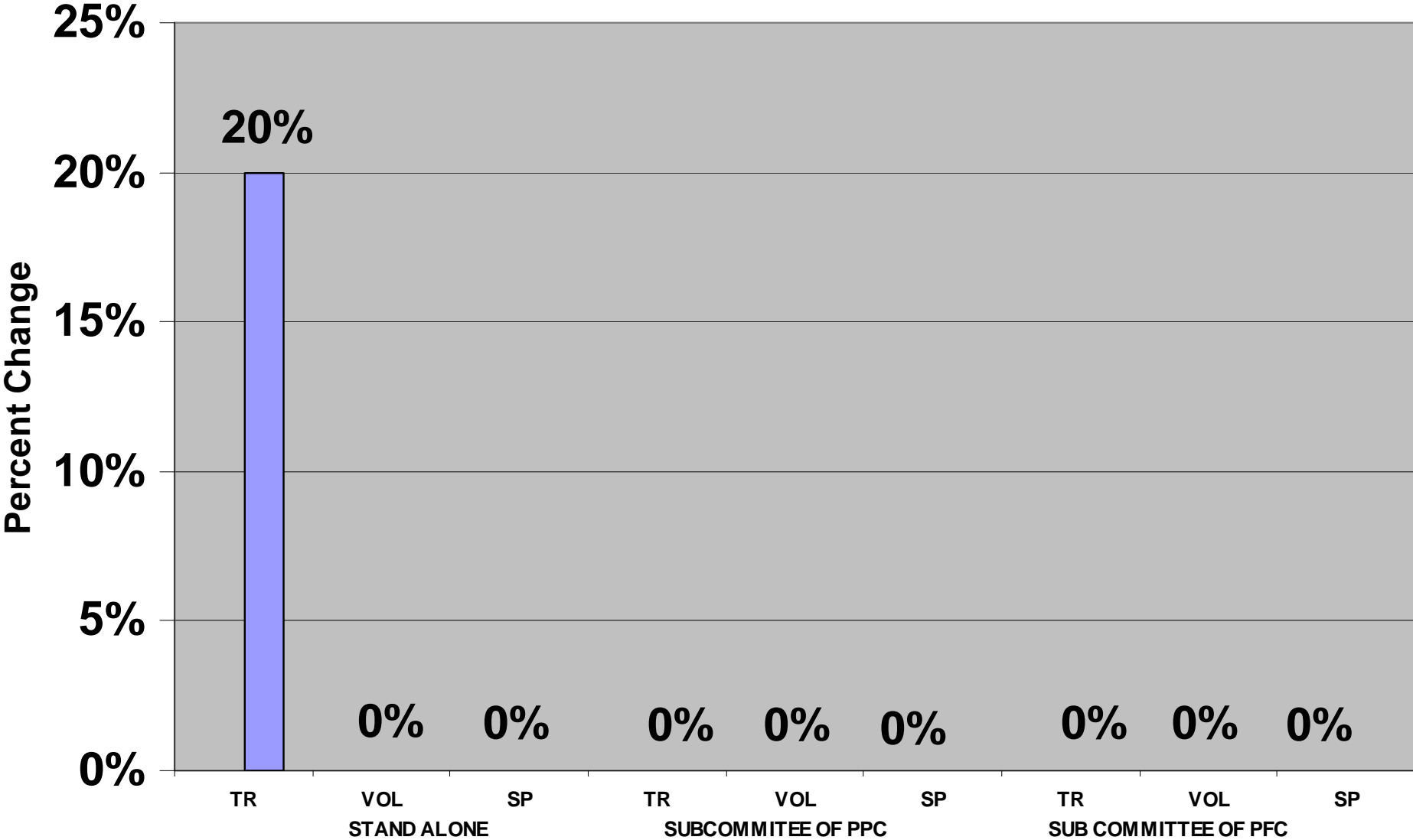
Parishes with stewardship councils achieve better stewardship results than parishes without stewardship councils?

Figure 1: Parish Has Stewardship Council



2. Which of the following stewardship council organizational structures produces the best stewardship results?
- a. A stand-alone council
 - b. A council serving as a subcommittee of a parish pastoral council
 - c. A council serving as a subcommittee of a parish finance council

Figure 2: Council Organization



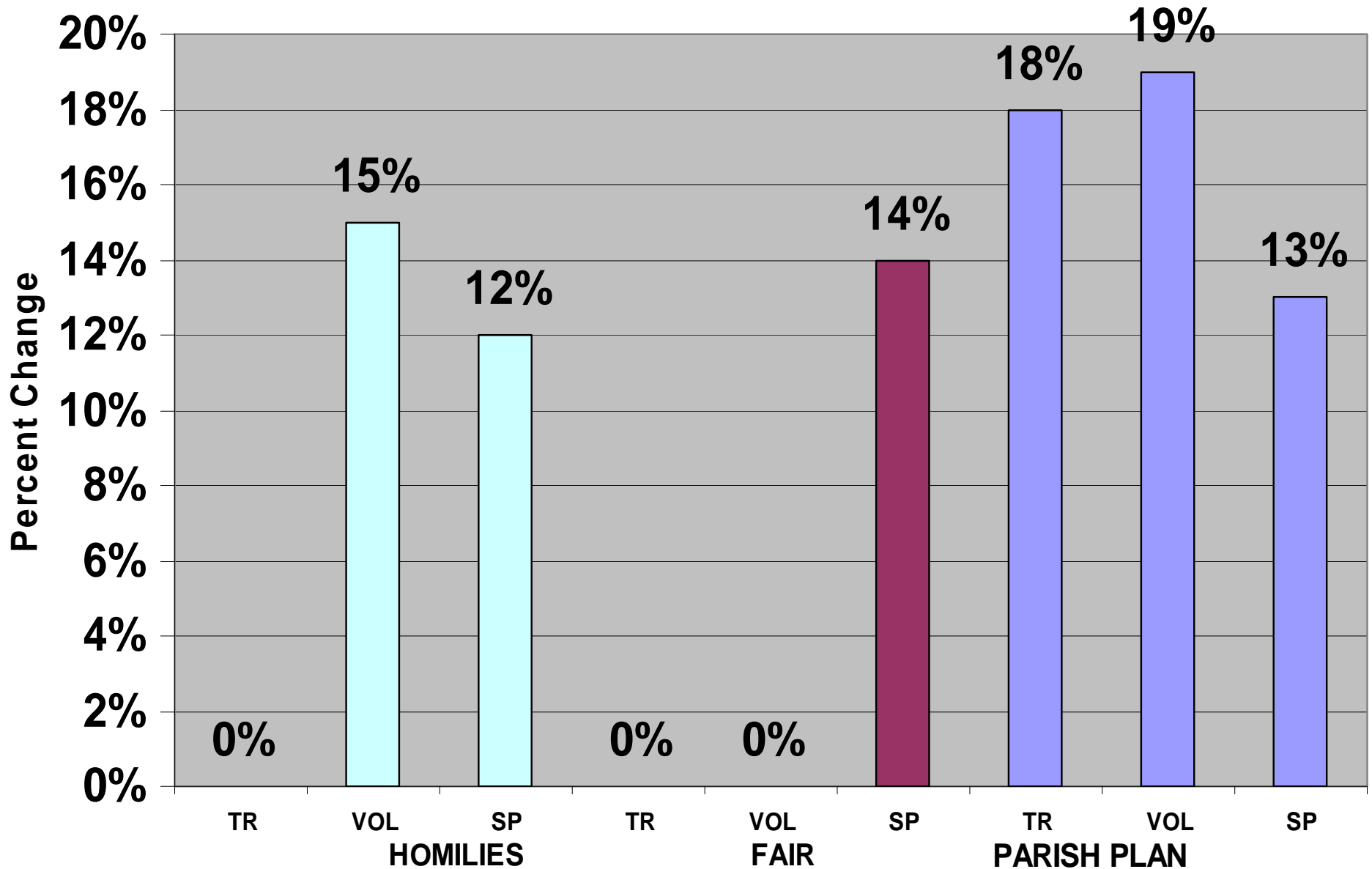
3. Which of the following parish stewardship activities is most effective?

a. Frequent homilies on stewardship

b. A parish ministry fair

c. Including stewardship as part of a parish plan

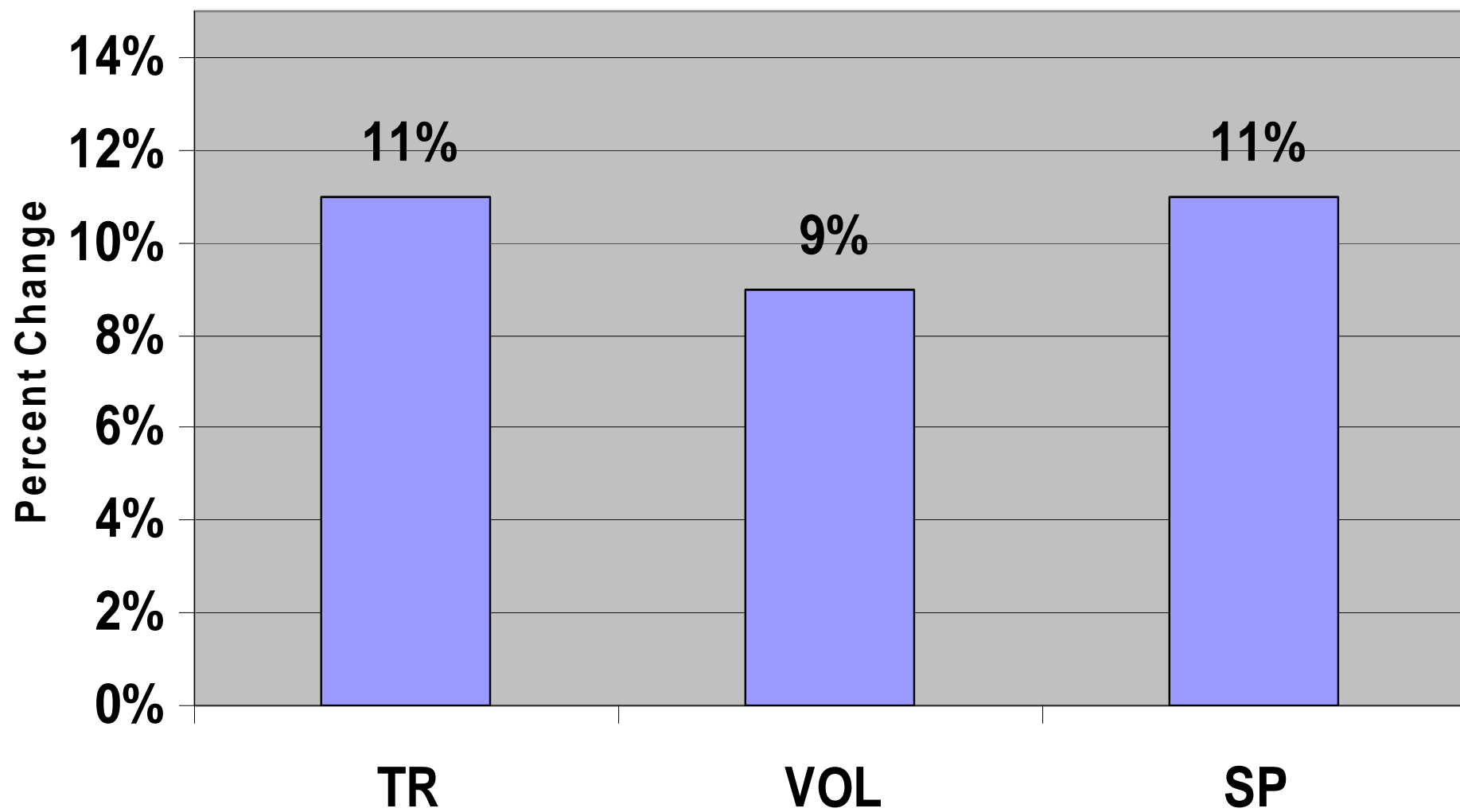
Figure 3: Effectiveness of Stewardship Activities



4. True or false.

The use of lay witnesses is
an effective parish
stewardship activity?

Figure 4: Use of Lay Witnesses



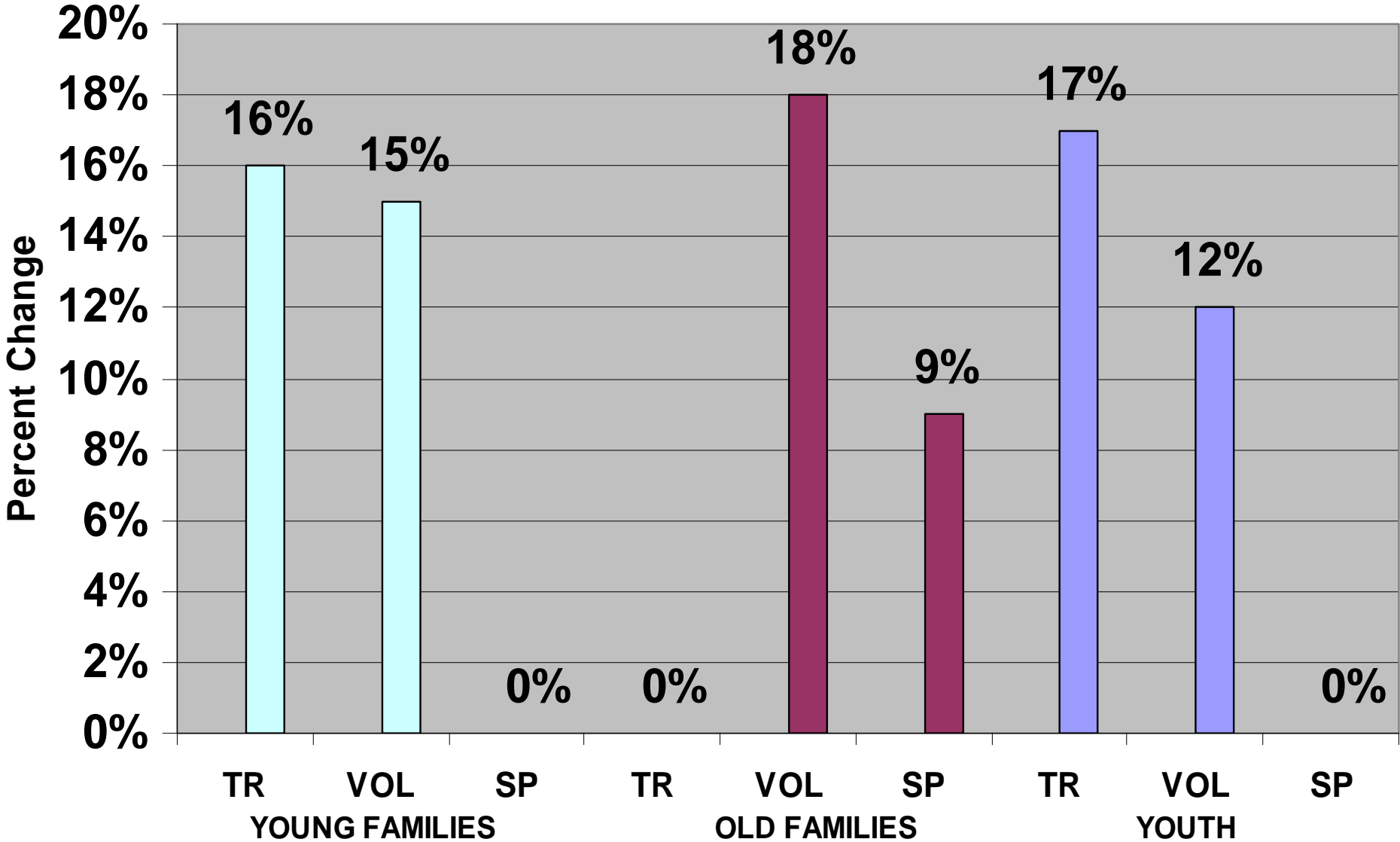
5. Which of the following is the most effective type of lay witness?

a. Young families

b. Old families

c. Youth

Figure 5: Most Effective Lay Witness

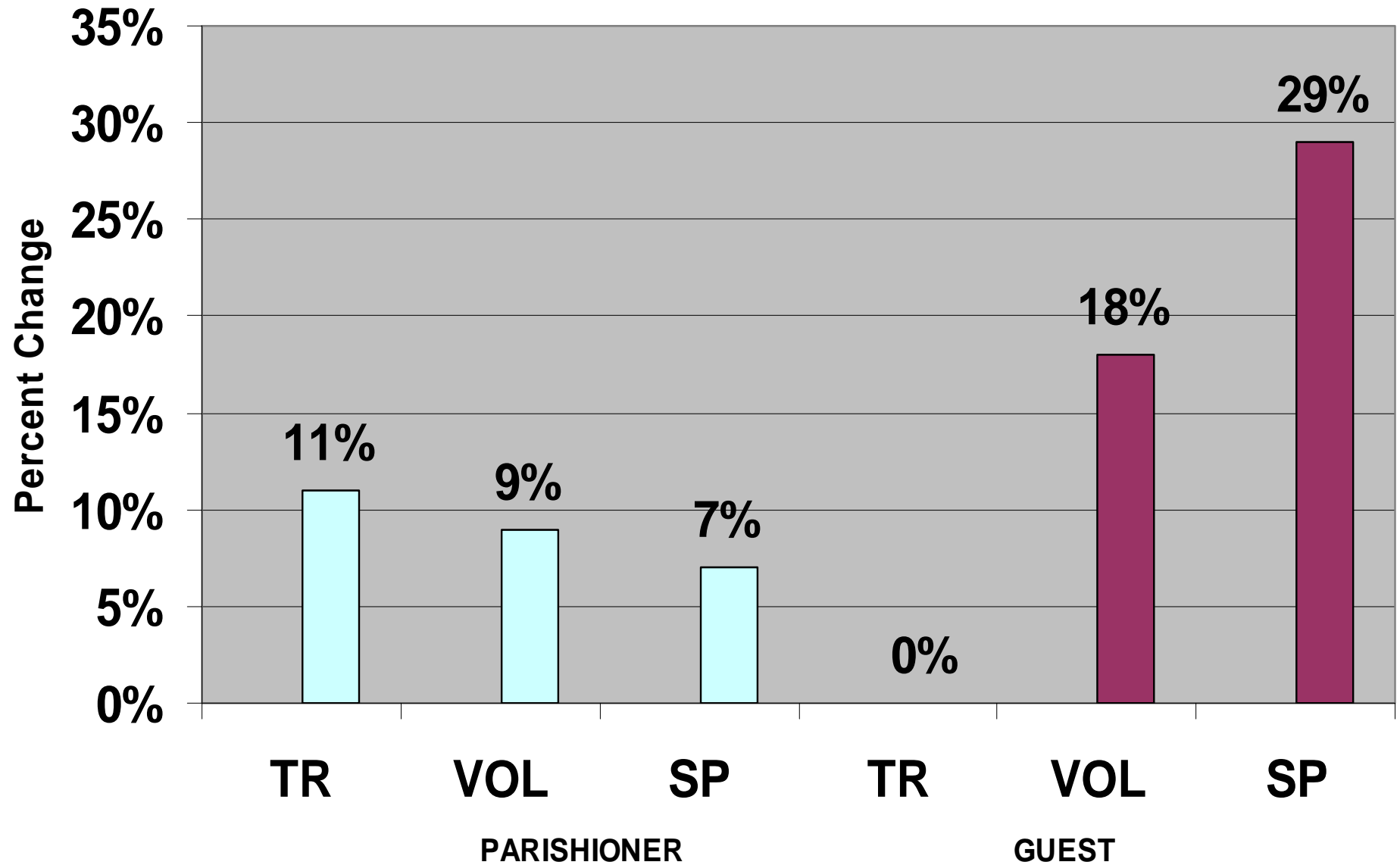


6. Which of the following makes a more effective lay witness?

a. Parishioners

b. Guest lay witnesses

Figure 6: More Effective Lay Witness



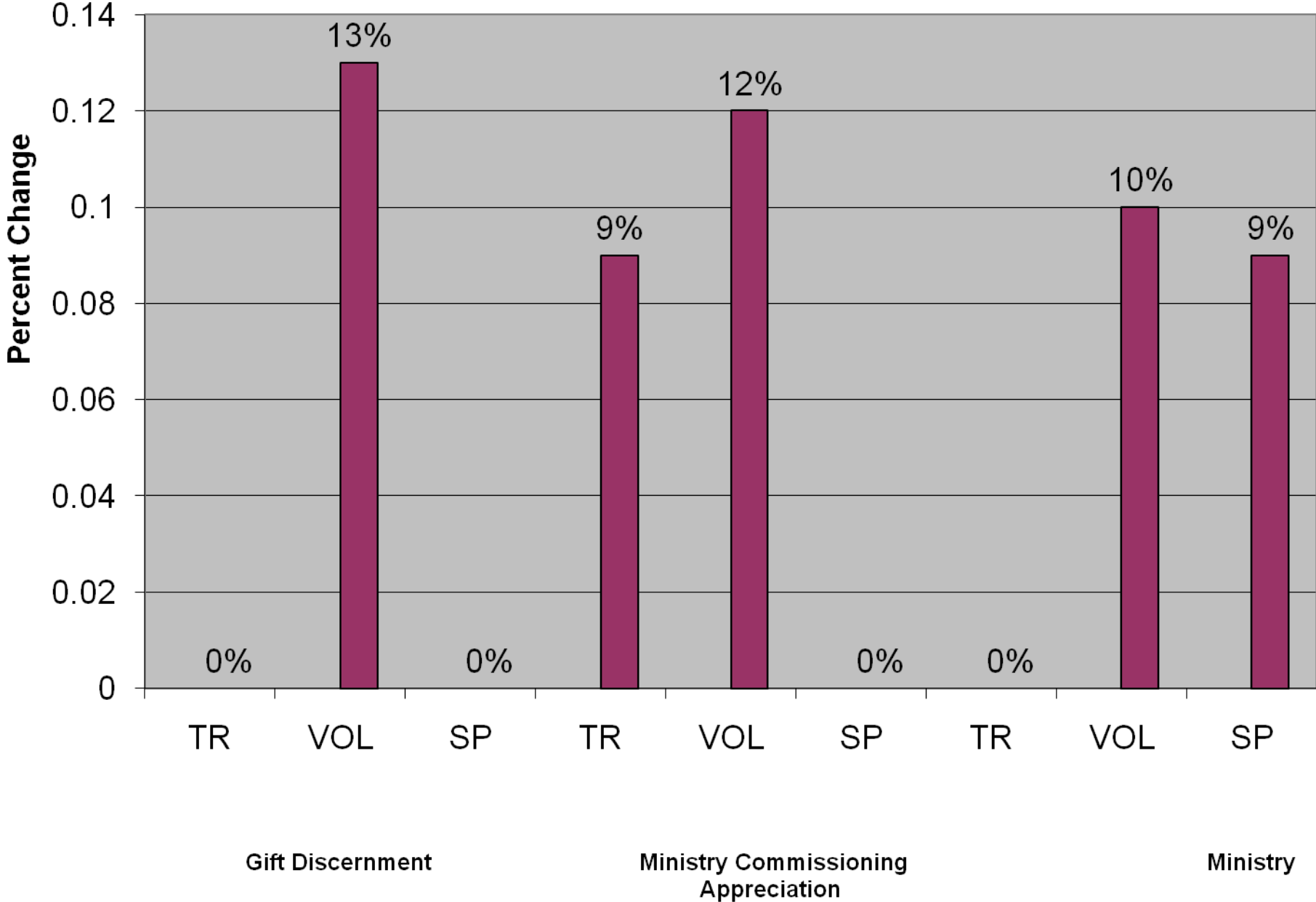
7. Which of the following stewardship support activities is most effective?

a. Gift discernment

b. Ministry commissioning

c. Ministry appreciation dinner

Parish Support of Time and Talent



Conclusion: Four Activities to Advance Parish Stewardship

- 1. Appoint a Stewardship Council**
- 2. Include stewardship as a vital component of the parish plan**
- 3. Provide the opportunity for lay witness presentations**
- 4. Minimize your use of "volunteers"**