

1995

Teen Pregnancy PREVENTION Month

A manual for organizing a community campaign to
increase awareness of the need to prevent teen pregnancy.



The Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of North Carolina

**TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH
MAY**

PLANNING GUIDEBOOK

TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH PLANNING GUIDEBOOK

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Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month Community Report Form
***** Please return to APPCNC by June 15! *****

State of North Carolina



JAMES B. HUNT JR.
GOVERNOR

TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH

1995

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

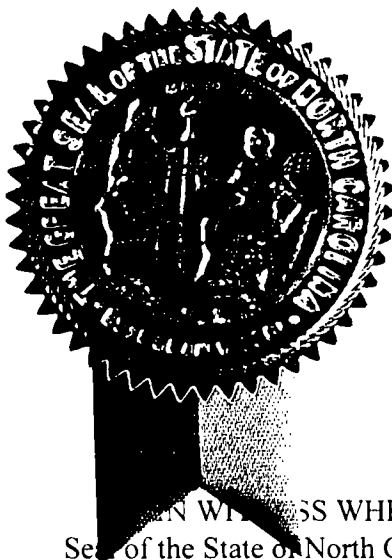
A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, teenage pregnancy significantly affects the health, economic and educational future of teenagers and cost our state more than \$458 million in 1991; and

WHEREAS, teenage parents are often unable to complete their education, which later results in unemployment, underemployment and dependence on public welfare. Teenage mothers often seek prenatal care late, if at all, and therefore frequently suffer higher than average levels of toxemia, anemia and cervical trauma. Their babies are often born premature and with low birthweights; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina is committed to involving churches, businesses, media, parents, agencies, educational institutions, policy makers, and health providers in helping to prevent teenage pregnancy. The purpose of the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of North Carolina is to advocate and support programs and strategies that prevent adolescent pregnancy and decrease the problems associated with adolescent pregnancy in North Carolina;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JAMES B. HUNT JR., Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May, 1995, as "Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month" in North Carolina, and commend this observance to our citizens.




JAMES B. HUNT JR.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this sixth day of February in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighteenth

• Bumper Stickers • Buttons • Posters • Newspaper Interviews •
 Newspaper Editorials • Talent Shows • TV/Radio Talk Shows •
 • Professional Training Programs • Film Festivals • Billboards • Library
 Bibliographies • Media Campaigns • Classroom Workshops • Governors'
 Proclamations • Balloons • Place Mats • Community Calendars • Teen
 Theater Performances • PSAs in School Announcements • Bulletin Boards •
 • Mayors' Proclamations • Panel Discussions • Spirituality & Sexuality
 Clergy Conferences • Street Banners • Speakers' Bureaus • Presentations •
 • Community Conferences • Donations • Local Teen Pregnancy Statistic
 Reports • Local and National Legislative Action Reports • Elected
 Officials at Meetings • Public Service Announcements • Teen Advisory
 Councils • Teen Pregnancy Videos • Press Conferences • Inserts in Utility
 Bills • Community Bulletin Boards • Fact Sheets • Financial Contributions •
 • Lunchtime Educational Programs • Resource Donations • Bookstores •
 Educational Institutions • Information • Employment • Clubs •
 • Civic Organizations • Awards • Local Community Councils • Resource
 Directories • Telephone Lines • Speakers at Day Care Centers • Teen
 Surveys • Speakers at School Boards • Articles • Workshops • Parents'
 Packets • Mother-Daughter/Father-Son Workshops • Workplace Lunch-
 time Seminars • Parent/Child Discussions • Parent Education Seminars •
 Communication • Parent/Teen Speak-Outs • Forums • Parent,
 Physician and Clergy Community Sexuality Education Conferences • Book
 Fairs • Letters to Elected Officials and Legislators • Local or State Legislator
 Luncheons • Teen Life Camps • Teen Conferences • Internships •
 Youth Leader Recognition/Award Programs • Teen Parent Panels • Essay,
 Poster, Poem or Rap Contest Sponsorships • Male Outreach Programs •
 • Teen Fathers' Legal and Financial Responsibilities Pamphlets • Coach,
 Boy Scout Leader, Clergy and Physician Sexuality Education Trainings •
 Special Church Sermons • Local Talk Shows • Teen Advisory Panels •
 • Teen Talk Shows • Annual Media Luncheon • Billboards • Community
 Film Festivals • Teen Advice Columns • Press Conferences • Annual
 Media Awards • Teen Help Cards • Physician Education Campaigns •
 Physician and Health Provider "I'm Askable Program" Sponsorships • Male
 Outreach Programs • Poster in Stores • Teens on Community Service
 Organization Boards • Peer Counseling Trainings • Teen Theater Groups •
 Rap or Song Contests • Teen Leadership Conferences • School Newspaper
 Editorials • Clergy and Youth Educator Trainings • Sunday School
 Awareness Presentations • Church/Synagogue Teen Councils • Teen
 Pregnancy Church Bulletin Inserts • Family Life Discussions in Congregations

For information and ideas, please call
Advocates for Youth 202.347.5700

TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH Summary

poster
the week
76000

In 1991, the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of North Carolina initiated the statewide "Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week", during the first week of May. Due to the success of the program and the rising community interest the campaign was expanded, and now involves the entire month. Each year the Coalition obtains a proclamation from the governor designating May as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month.

In 1991 it was discovered that North Carolina spent \$458 million dollars on adolescent childbearing. In 1993 more than 23,000 young women between the ages of 10 and 19 became pregnant, with more than 15,000 of these resulting in live births. Statistics from these pregnancies show that the vast majority were unintentional and out of wedlock. It is widely known that teenage pregnancy significantly affects the health of teens, as well as their economic and educational futures. Among this group, welfare dependency and unemployment rates are high. Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month was designed to encourage teens, and their parents through educational and awareness programs, to avoid this situation, and make positive life choices.

Since its founding, the program has been very successful in joining public and private organizations together in an effort to reduce the teenage pregnancy rates in North Carolina. In 1995, ninety-eight organizations including State Departments of Environment, Natural Resources, and Health, various counties in North Carolina, religious institutions, Planned Parenthood, YWCA, March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation, and the American Red Cross contributed to Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month. Through the support of these organizations the Coalition has been able to expand their public awareness initiatives.

The APPCNC is continually trying to recruit individuals in an effort to make Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month a yearly success. The central idea is that through individuals community involvement will increase and more teens will realize the consequences of an unwanted, unplanned pregnancies. The APPCNC has produced a very detailed list on possible ways for individuals to involve their communities in the Coalitions' efforts. These efforts range from media and billboard advertising, to television talk shows and teen conferences. The Coalition also offers it's own Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month advertising literature. Some examples involve posters, placemats, videos, buttons, and many other items off of the APPCNC order form.

AFY initiated develop poster

MD
TN
IL
AR

want materials

SC
GA
CA
IL
CT
VA
IA
OK
PA

govs have
proclaimed
it -
use of materials



**ADOLESCENT
PREGNANCY
PREVENTION**
Coalition of North Carolina

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PRESS RELEASE APRIL 1, 1995

TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH

Governor James B. Hunt has proclaimed the month of May 1995, as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month. Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month was started in 1991 as a statewide education and awareness effort by the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of North Carolina (APPCNC).

This year, **ninety-eight** organizations including the State Departments of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources, Human Resources and Public Instruction have joined forces with the Coalition to bring attention to North Carolina's teen pregnancy problem and how it might be addressed by communities. Among the ninety-eight co-sponsoring organizations are the American Red Cross, Cities In Schools of North Carolina, NC Association of Educators, NC Child Advocacy Institute, NC Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers, NC Child Support Enforcement Program, NC Medical Society Alliance, NC Nurses Association, and the NC PTA. These organizations, through their support, will enhance the campaign by conducting public awareness initiatives throughout the state. In many local communities community forums, meetings and media events have been planned.

According to statistics compiled by the State Center for Health and Environmental Statistics, more than 23,000 young women ages 10-19 became pregnant in 1993. More than 15,000 of these pregnancies resulted in live births. Ninety percent of these pregnancies were unintentional and more than seventy-nine percent were out of wedlock.

Teenage pregnancy significantly affects the health of teenagers as well as their economic and educational future. Of the young women who give birth, ninety-eight percent keep their babies. Typically, teen parents have few employment skills and are often unable to complete their education. In fiscal year 1991, adolescent childbearing cost the state of North Carolina close to \$458 million dollars.

Ms. Barbara Huberman, President of the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of North Carolina said, "a month of awareness will not, by itself prevent teen pregnancies, but it can help teenagers, parents, educators and community leaders focus on strategies that help young people make responsible sexual decisions.

Among a few of the successful prevention strategies cited by Ms. Huberman were programs and curricula that teach students to postpone sexual involvement, comprehensive family life education, programs that teach male responsibility and access to comprehensive adolescent health and family planning services.

1300 Baxter Street
Suite 171
Charlotte, NC 28204
704.335.1313
Fax 704.335.8209





ADOLESCENT
PREGNANCY
PREVENTION
Coalition of North Carolina

TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH REPORT FORM

Please return to APPCNC as soon as possible. Thank you and congratulations for your incredible effort to make "TPPM" a success.

Coordinating

Agency/Organization _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

County _____

Phone _____

Contact Person _____

Did You Do Any Of The Following? (PLEASE SEND 2 COPIES OF ALL MATERIALS FOR OUR FILES. THANK YOU.)

_____ Bumper Stickers

_____ Buttons/Stickers

_____ Posters

_____ Radio PSA's _____ Number of Stations who aired

_____ TV PSA's _____ Number of Stations who aired

_____ Cablevision _____ Number of stations who aired

_____ Newspaper Interviews/Stories _____ Number printed

_____ Newspaper Editorials

_____ Printed A Calendar of Events _____ Number of calendars printed

_____ Community Wide Conference or Forum _____ Number who attended

_____ Workshops/Seminars/Presentations _____ Number offered

_____ Offered by and how many?

_____ Churches _____

_____ Youth Organizations _____

_____ Schools _____

_____ Hospitals _____

_____ Health Departments _____

_____ Other _____

Pregnancy Centers _____

Physicians _____

Day Care Centers _____

Parent Organizations _____

Comm. Organizations _____

_____ Poster Contest/Teens

_____ Essay Contest

_____ Rap Contest

_____ TV/RADIO Talk Shows _____ Number

_____ Professional Training Programs

_____ Mayor and/or Commissioner Proclamation

_____ Film Festival

_____ Teen Health Fair

_____ Lunch Time Seminars For Parents

_____ Teen Conference

_____ Billboards, how many were put up _____

_____ Library Bibliography

_____ Teen Awards

_____ Other (Please List)

1300 Baxter Street

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Charlotte, NC 28204

704-335-1913

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OVER PLEASE

Summary of TPPM in your Community:

Estimate of Number of People who attended events:

Successes:

Problems:

May we use copies of your TPPM Materials in our Manual ____?

Did you use APPCNC materials?

____	Stickers	____	Poster
____	Bookmarks	____	Buttons
____	Gov. Proclamation		

RETURN TO: APPCNC, 1300 BAXTER ST., #171, CHARLOTTE, NC 28204, BY JULY 1, PLEASE!



**ADOLESCENT
PREGNANCY
PREVENTION**
Coalition of North Carolina

What is 'Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month?

In 1991, the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of North Carolina initiated the statewide "Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week" campaign for the first week in May. In response to the campaign's growth in participating communities, this education and awareness effort has now been extended to last throughout the entire month of May. The Coalition coordinates this statewide campaign each year which is directed at helping teenagers, parents, educators and community leaders focus on strategies to prevent teen pregnancy. Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month (TPPM) is an opportunity for individuals, community organizations and institutions to conduct special events which bring attention to the problem of teen pregnancy and how it might be addressed by communities.

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month emphasizes the importance of a strong partnership between the community and the family in helping young people develop responsible and healthy attitudes about sexuality and enhance decision making skills that lead to positive life choices. Religious organizations, media, businesses, schools and community agencies can assume a leadership role by providing information, resources, and educational programs for youth to support the development of healthy lifestyles and relationships that contribute to the development of self sufficient and productive community members.

Teenage pregnancy significantly affects the health of teenagers as well as their economic and educational future. Of the young women who give birth, ninety-eight percent keep their babies. Typically, teen parents have few employment skills and are often unable to complete their education. This contributes to welfare dependency, as well as the loss of opportunity of these young people to maximize their own skills and talents. Not only are teens at higher risk for difficulties during pregnancy and childbirth, they are rarely developmentally prepared for the challenges of parenthood and struggle to provide an environment that enhances the growth and development of their own child.

It is not too late to get your Community Advisory Board together and begin to plan activities and encourage local churches, agencies, health, educational, and social service providers to get on board. Parental involvement is important, as parents are the primary sexuality educators of their children. You can be a catalyst and organize to have a full calendar of events in your community. Remember - you are not offering all the activities, but are encouraging local resources to do what they would like to do to promote healthy decision making, sexual responsibility and raise the awareness of alternative positive life options for teens.

Each year the Coalition obtains a proclamation from the Governor designating May as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month. Copies of the proclamation are usually available March 1 of each year from APPCNC.

This is a opportunity to involve many groups in a positive way in your community. Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month can enhance your efforts to build support for other adolescent pregnancy prevention strategies. It builds credibility and support for local councils on adolescent pregnancy.

Please let us know if we can help you in any way and please let us know what you are planning. Send us examples of your campaign materials so that we can include them in the APPCNC newsletter, the "Advocate," and next year's Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month manual.

300 Baxter Street
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Let's get all counties involved!
Questions? Please Call APPCNC!



TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH ORGANIZING TIPS

1. Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month (TPPM) is a **Community Wide Campaign**. One agency should not do it all. If you already have a local council or a task force on teen pregnancy it is an excellent project for them to initiate and coordinate, but the idea is to eventually get many agencies, schools, clubs, organizations, and churches to plan a program or activity. Councils on adolescent pregnancy prevention serve as the calendar maker, the central clearinghouse or perhaps do things that everyone can use such as posters, buttons, a display, or speakers bureau. If you have no council, an agency can take on the lead role of coordinating. Try to encourage activities from all points of view about prevention.
2. Mayor and County Commissioner Proclamation:
Call the Mayor's Office at least 6 to 8 weeks before May. Take sample copies from this manual or revise and write your own. Ask to have the proclamation presented at a Council Meeting. Send copies of the proclamation to the media.
3. Use Teens on the Radio and TV:
Teens talking to teens is much more effective than adults. Ask teens to help write the messages or format and to participate on talk shows.
4. Speakers Bureau:
Ask community leaders and service providers to be a part of a speakers bureau. Your speakers bureau should participate in programs or give presentations to clubs, meetings, PTA's, churches, or the media.
5. Film Festival:
Videos or films can be collected which address teen pregnancy and/or prevention strategies and shown for the public and/or for professionals to use with clients. Some communities set up film festivals at shopping mall, an organization's office, or a church, and show films in succession. Other communities offer films to sponsoring organizations to use in their programs.
6. Teen Theaters:
We have several teen theaters in North Carolina and some are available to travel and perform in your community at schools, churches, or for youth-serving agencies. Most charge a small fee to cover expenses. Contact APPCNC for a list of teen theaters in the state.
7. Calendar:
If you have been able to get multiple programs/activities scheduled by community organizations and participants, printing one calendar or listing all events and distributing it throughout the community can be very productive and publicize Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month even more. Printing costs can be shared or donated. Designing the poster graphics could also be a contest for teens.
8. Community Wide Conference:
If your community has never held a general awareness conference, this can be a great opportunity to make your citizens aware of adolescent pregnancy and the need for prevention. Many communities hold a conference annually and change the focus each time (see the list of topics in "Successful Programs/Activities").

9. Involve Media:
The media welcomes the opportunity to report on issues related to children and adolescents. They continue to be a key factor in the promotion of Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month (TPPM) programs and activities. Media support can range from the printing of a calendar of events for the month on local newspapers to the airing of local programs aimed at reducing teen pregnancy. Follow up with radio stations to ensure frequent broadcasting of Public Service Announcements (PSA's). APPCNC has several PSA's you can use for radio and television.
10. Public Relations:
Public relations and advertising TPPM continue to be the areas needing significant effort. Lack of advertising and poor timing of advertising have led to poor attendance at events. Educating communities about TPPM must begin before May. Advertising of events should begin before TPPM and continue throughout the month.
11. Involve Schools:
Schools are typically willing to distribute TPPM calendars and educational materials to principals, teachers, students, and parents. Ask the PTA to devote their May meeting to TPPM. Have students record prevention messages for morning announcements. Encourage Art teachers to hold poster contests and English teachers to have an essay assignment or competition.
12. Involve Religious Organizations:
Churches, synagogues, and other houses of worship will welcome the chance to impart their values and beliefs to their congregants. Sermons, bulletin announcements, Sunday school lessons, and bulletin boards are just a few successful ideas.
13. Steering Committee:
A broad-based steering committee is essential to the success of TPPM. Include leaders from minority and at-risk populations. Several communities have encountered difficulty in garnering participation in TPPM activities from these groups. Make sure that you have activities that are relevant and interesting to all populations. The steering committee may also form strong links for future collaboration between groups that have not worked closely in the past.
14. Be flexible:
Schedule an alternate site in case inclement weather forces an activity indoors. Hold activities at times and locations that would be attractive to teens. Convenience is a must- bring TPPM activities to those who do not have transportation.
15. TIMING!!
Potentially successful activities can prove disastrous if you schedule them to coincide with the broadcasting of a major sporting event or activity that may compete for the teen's attention. Seminars will be more successful if they are offered in conjunction with other well-attended programs at schools, churches, or recreational sites.

SUCCESSFUL PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

- Community calendar listing all activities
- Posters
- Film Festival
- Contests (Rap, Essay, Poster, Song)
- Health or Teen Services Fair at shopping center or mall
- Bumper Stickers
- Button, Stickers, Labels, Balloons
- Media
 - Radio:
 - Talk Shows -- Call Ins
 - PSA's
 - Editorials
 - Sponsor Contest
 - TV:
 - PSA's
 - Talk Shows
 - Community Billboards
 - Documentary/Editorials
 - Sponsor Contest
 - Newspaper:
 - Editorials
 - Articles
 - Sponsor Contest
- Teen Theater Performances
- High School Drama Club plays on adolescent pregnancy or adolescent health issues
- Community Conference or Forum
- PSA's at school announcement breaks
- Bulletin Boards
- Teen Conference
- Mayor's Proclamation
- Billboards
- Outstanding Teen Awards
- Book Stores: display publications they stock on sexuality and teen development
- Library: display publications they stock on sexuality and teen development
- Pamphlet with tips for parents about Sexuality Education
- Help Cards listing community resources/agencies for teens
- Panel Discussion: Teen Pregnancy Prevention; Teen mothers & fathers speak out
- Professional training programs for teachers and counselors
- Clergy Conference: Spirituality & Sexuality - Responding to the needs of teens in today's world
- Churches: Sermons, Sunday School Lesson, and Bulletin Articles
- Restaurants: Table tents, Placemats
- Street Banners
- Businesses: Paycheck Stuffers, Brown Bag seminars at work site during lunch
- Hospitals: Lectures on adolescent pregnancy in grand rounds, teaching programs
- TPPM Posters in bathrooms of teen hangouts or businesses

SUGGESTED TOPICS FOR SEMINARS TO BE HELD BY AGENCIES

- Postponing Sexual Activity
- Little People Have Big Questions
- How To Say NO: Why Teens Should Wait
- Sexual Relationships: Much More Than Sex
- Teen Mothers-Teen Fathers Talk To US
- Parents of Teen Parents Speak Out
- Becoming A Community Advocate for Prevention
- Teacher Training in Sexuality Education
- Teen Panel: What We Want You To Talk To Us About
- Sexuality Education: Spiritual Perspectives
- Physical and Emotional Development of Adolescent
- Talking About Sex at Any Age
- What To Do If You Think You're Pregnant
- Teen Pregnancy and Alcohol & Drug Use
- Girl Talk
- Boy Talk
- Man To Man
- Teen Theater
- The Facts Of Life
- Babies Having Babies
- Self Esteem
- Peer Pressure
- Bridging The Gap
- Teen Marriage
- Healthy Relationships
- Legal Issues of Adolescent Health
- Living with your 10-15 year old

POTENTIAL PARTICIPANTS TO OFFER TPPM PROGRAMS OR PARTICIPATE IN CAMPAIGN

- Businesses
- Churches
- PTA's
- Newspapers
- Radio Stations
- Hospitals
- Libraries
- YWCA
- YMCA
- Family Services
- Youth Councils
- United Way
- Head Start
- Restaurants
- Universities
- Book Stores
- Board of Health
- Junior League
- Recreation Centers
- Health Departments
- Agricultural Extension
- Day Care Centers
- Planned Parenthoods
- Mental Health Agencies
- Medical Auxiliary
- Pregnancy Agencies
- Sexual Abuse Centers
- After School Programs
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters
- Boy/Girl Scouts
- TV Stations - Network & Cable
- Juvenile Justice Programs
- Department of Social Services
- Religious Service Organizations
- Parents without Partners
- Rape Crisis Centers
- American Red Cross
- Peer Helper Groups
- Community Colleges
- Ministerial Associations
- Teen Health Centers
- Alternative Schools
- Mentoring Programs
- Women's Clubs
- Child Development Agencies
- School Systems (Public, Private, Parochial)
- Salvation Army Boy's/Girl's Clubs
- American Association of University Women
- Teen Parent Programs
- Neighborhood Associations
- Parent Organizations
- Service Clubs (Kiwanis, Lions, Rotary, etc.)

EXEMPLARY TPPM PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

CALDWELL:

- Poster Contest: Newspaper featured one poster each week in paper for 10 weeks (Prom to Graduation time).
- Caldwell Council on Adolescent Health and the Employment Security Commission kicked off their joint project, a "Summer Teen Job Fair" for Caldwell county teens, by doing a radio talk show together.
- Presentations were made to County Commissioners and to the Caldwell County School Board.
- Council members were featured on a radio talk show.

CATAWBA:

- Teen Health Fair and Community Health Fair were held.
- Newspaper interviews and stories about teen pregnancy.
- Area businesses allowed space on their advertising billboards and contributed food and monetary support for Leadership Day. Leadership/Field Day was a combination field day, cookout and awards day.
- Teen Up After School displayed pictures, balloons and pamphlets.

FORSYTH:

- Television station interviewed a teen mother who described the difficulties of being a teen parent.
- Many radio stations aired public service announcements which addressed the issue of teen pregnancy and how it is a big problem in the county.

GRAHAM:

- Empathy belly was taken to Home Life class at High School.
- Health educators spoke on the costs of teen pregnancy in terms of risks to the mother and child, as well as costs to the state.
- Students had the opportunity to wear the belly.

GUILFORD:

- Media Campaign slogan: "The worst thing you can tell your kids about sex... is nothing."
- Several programs on topics for parents and teens: "Talking with young children/adolescents about sexuality," "Teens Taking Charge" and "Wise Guys."
- Mailed letters to 500 parents of middle school and high school students about the problems in the community concerning teen pregnancy and included a pamphlet on communicating with your child about sensitive issues.
- Presented five classroom workshops on relationships with 13-15 year old children.

HARNETT:

- Distributed bookmarks and table tents in approximately 20 local restaurants and teen hangouts.

HENDERSON:

- Mailed letters to clergy requesting they participate by providing parent-teen workshops or special events in their churches and/or include message of abstinence for teens in one of their May sermons.
- "Think About It" messages, related to saying no to sexual pressure, were read along with the daily announcements at area high schools.
- News article was placed in the Hendersonville Times-News concerning TPPM.
- PSA's were submitted to local radio stations.

JACKSON & MACON:

- *"In Touch,"* the Macon County Community Schools' publication ran publicity with statistics.
- Held poster campaign - six Children's Defense Fund posters were displayed at the five secondary schools. Posters featured adolescents and poignant messages.

MECKLENBURG:

- Held Seminar - "Prevention: So That Tomorrow May Come."
- Panel discussion - "Accentuating the Positive - Prevention Programs That Work."
- News releases giving information regarding TPPM.
- Mayor and Board of County Commissioners Proclamation.
- Billboards in the five zip code areas with the highest numbers of live births to teens.
- Mayor's endorsement following Children's Defense Fund PSA's.
- Newspaper article encouraging parents to discuss sex with kids.
- Agency-To-Agency Roundtable: Teen Girls and Repeat Pregnancy.
- Released county statistics on teen pregnancy.
- Articles in local council newspaper.
- Articles in area newspaper on teen pregnancy.
- Presentation on "Your Teens and Sexuality," sponsored by Teen Health Connection and Presbyterian Hospital.
- Radio Talk Show: week long "call-in" for teens to talk to professionals.
- TV interviews regarding statistics.

MOORE:

- Handouts and buttons were given to all staff in three high schools.
- Essay Contest.
- Announcement of teen pregnancy facts in high school daily television program.

NEW HANOVER:

- TV/Radio Talk Shows on teen pregnancy.
- Table tents at fast food restaurants and other locations.

ROCKINGHAM:

- Health Department staff wore TPPM buttons.
- Bulletin board on teen pregnancy at Health Department.
- Pizza restaurant used TPPM stickers.

ROBESON:

- Presentations on teen pregnancy were held at churches, schools and at the clinic.
- Booth at high school during Parent/Teacher night.
- Prom Promise Keepsakes were placed on tables Prom night for Seniors, stressing the importance of personal responsibility.
- Distributed flyers encouraging pregnancy prevention.
- Posters and flyers were displayed at the Health Department about TPPM.
- Participation in the Robeson County KIDS Count Forum.

RUTHERFORD:

- Essay contest open to all high school students. Cash prizes were awarded for winners in each school.
- Newspaper ran picture of winners.

SCOTLAND:

- Community wide program sponsored by Teen Pregnancy Council and High School PTA on topics of AIDS update and communicating with teens.

STOKES:

- Newspaper story: "How to talk to your child about sex."
- Presentation by Bowman Gray School of Medicine to department heads and ministers on their Adolescent Prevention Project and what pregnancy prevention activities could be done in Stokes county.

VANCE:

- Aired television commercial on teen pregnancy.

WAKE:

- Sponsored Walkathon, collaboratively with local APP programs, to raise awareness of teen pregnancy.
- PSA's were sent to every radio and TV station in the listening and viewing area.

WARREN:

- Set up a display table which included literature on teen pregnancy and AIDS, along with posters and balloons. Display was located in the middle and high schools and was manned by someone who could answer student's questions.
- Question and answer sessions were held in two classrooms.

WILSON:

- Provided six week course on "Taking Charge" to 25 children ages 11-14 at a community housing development.
- Sponsored workshops/seminars/presentations at the Health Department, Churches and 4-H Clubs.

SUGGESTED TIME LINE FOR TPPM COORDINATING BODY/COUNCIL

August-October:

1. Form TPPM Steering Committee. This should be a small group (5-10) who will become chairs of committees and be responsible for TPPM planning and implementation. Good resources are PTA, United Way, Clergy, Health Departments, Schools Systems, Media, Counselors, Elected Officials, and Libraries.
2. Send letter to community agencies, organizations, churches, schools, family-youth serving groups, volunteer organizations, media, and health services providers describing Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month and how they can participate.
3. Make master list of above contacts.
4. Form committees/secure chairs (see below).

November-January:

1. If possible, follow up phone calls to above contacts to address concerns. help them plan activities.
2. Committees meet!
 - **Calendar:** Responsible for sending out preliminary information and activity form, collecting them and putting together a community calendar of events.
 - **Media:** Responsible for planning and involving television (commercial & cable), radio, print, and outdoor advertising in community-wide publicity and coverage.
 - Examples:
 - Printing calendar
 - Articles for parents & youth in newspaper
 - Talk shows
 - PSA's
 - Billboards
 - Interviews with speakers
 - Coverage of events
 - **Special Events:** As the coordinator, you may want to plan an activity or several that benefit the entire community. Some possibilities include:
 - Community Forums: noted speakers, panel, or program (contact APPCNC for speakers)
 - Film Festival: if no agency does it
 - Community-wide contest: rap, disco, essay, poster
 - Youth Health Fair and Disco
 - Recognition and Awards for outstanding teens, providers, or programs in your community
 - Educational Conference or training program around a theme such as clergy and sexuality education, self-esteem, communication, media, sexuality education in our schools (see examples in manual)

- **Youth Committees:** Responsible for involving teens in TPPM through:
 - School service and interest clubs (HOSA, Key Club, 4-H)
 - Religious youth groups
 - Schools
- **Fundraising:** If you do not have funds allocated for TPPM or cannot use existing line items to cover expenses, you may need to do some fundraising. First, encourage participating organizations to cover their own expenses and if possible offer services in-kind to help with overall costs such as copying, postage, telephoning, Local businesses and service clubs will usually contribute small amounts if you are specific about what you want to do with the money. United Way may have undesignated grant funds to help. Ask the schools system or community college print shop to print your calendar and other items. TV stations, newspapers, and radio stations often have give-aways you can use as prizes or will cover the cost of a disco or media event. ASK-ASK before you buy - usually someone will be able to donate it.

February-March:

- **Calendar Committee:** The committee should be sending out activity forms to all contacts and retrieve these by March 15. Calendar should be printed in early April and ready for community distribution by April 15.
- **Media Committee:** This committee should be contacting media and lining up their participation. **You must do this in advance** if you expect coverage.
- **Youth Committee:** This committee should have made contacts with youth leaders. Reaffirm plans.
- **Special Events Committee:** Events should all be planned and confirmed by now with time lines for each one designed.
- Request Proclamation from Mayor/Commissioners

April:

- Calendar printed and distributed no later than April 15 throughout the community to: churches, bulletin boards, media, agencies, storefronts, schools, popular teen spots.
- Distribute and post APPCNC state Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month Poster
- Hold proclamation ceremony

May:

- ENJOY! Bask in limelight! Salute for a job well done!

June:

- Send out evaluation forms to all who participated to document impact and plan for next year. Include a thank you.

July:

- Do nothing!

August:

- Here we go again! Bigger and better this year!

SAMPLE TPPM INVITATION FORM FROM COUNCIL/COORDINATING BODY

TO: Community Agencies, Organizations, Religious Institutions, Schools

FROM: Local Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month President/Chair

DATE: _____

RE: TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH, MAY 19____

For the past _____ years
we have coordinated Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month
in _____ county.

(or)

We are initiating a Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month campaign
in _____ county.

The purpose of **Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month** is to help community institutions, like PTA's, religious organizations, schools, clubs, and health agencies to sponsor special activities which support teens in developing responsible and healthy attitudes about sexuality and increase awareness of the importance of delaying parenthood. Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month emphasizes the importance of a strong partnership between the community and the family in helping young people maximize their potentials and avoid life compromising behaviors.

All participating groups will be listed on the program of activities that will be widely distributed in the community and through a calendar of events in the newspaper. Also, at the bottom of this year's poster, we would like to list all of those agencies that endorse Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month.

A member of the coordinating committee will be contacting you within the next few weeks to discuss your participation in this year's activities.

Thank you for your interest and support. We look forward to your participation.

TPPM Committee Coordinating Council:

**SAMPLE TPPM AGENCY
PARTICIPATION FORM**

Organization: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Number of Years offering "TPPM" Activities: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

ACTIVITY/PROGRAM:

Title: _____

Date(s): _____ Time(s): _____

Place: _____

Address: _____

Who Should Attend: _____

Open To Public: ____Yes ____No Fee: _____

Reservation or Registration Required: _____

Brief Synopsis of Program/Activity: (Please Type Within Box)

--

Do you want to be listed on the "TPPM" Community Calendar? ____Yes ____No

Please return by: _____

Return to: _____

Do you wish to be listed as an endorser of "Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month" in our community? ____Yes ____No

(Agencies offering TPPM programs should fill out one of these for each program offered to be included in your community calendar)

SAMPLE TPPM EVALUATION FORM FOR PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS
--

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month, May, 19__

Please answer the following questions and return this form to the TPPM Coordinator below:

1. Your organization: _____
Your name: _____
2. Your presentation/activity/program: _____
Number of people attending: Youth _____ Adults: _____
3. Would you be interested in participating in TPPM next year? Yes ___ No ___
4. Would you repeat the program you did this year? Yes _____ No _____
5. What suggestions do you have for the Council/TPPM Coordinator for next year as far as coordinating Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month? _____

6. Please send us two examples of your handouts, printed materials, or resources used in your activity (one copy will go to APPCNC for the TPPM State Manual to show everyone what we did in our community).
7. Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month Coordinator:
Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____

PLEASE RETURN TO THE COORDINATOR ABOVE BY _____

APPCNC RESOURCES

APPCNC RESOURCES FOR TPPM

1. Governor's Proclamation: Each year the Governor commemorates Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month with a Proclamation describing the purpose of the campaign. Available by March 1 each year. Single copy available without charge.
2. Poster: Each year, APPCNC designs a poster commemorating Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month. Local Communities can add their phone and contact at the bottom and use the poster to promote local activities. Available by March 15 each year.
3. Audio Visual Loans: APPCNC has over 200 videos and films for short term loan for use in seminars, conferences, workshops, or film festivals. Call APPCNC for a complete list and call ahead to reserve.
4. Bookmarks: Bookmarks with the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month message are available. Libraries or book stores can print and distribute.
5. Balloons: Balloons with the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month message are available for displays and decoration.
6. Buttons: Red/White/Black universal stop sign with "Children Having Children" underneath TPPM at the bottom.
7. Stickers: Round sticker with the same design as the button.
8. Table Tents: Fold over table tents with the TPPM poster on both sides. Ideal for restaurants, offices, and businesses.
9. Place Mats: TPPM poster adapted for paper place Mats (great for schools, restaurants, home).

CONTACT APPCNC FOR AN ORDER FORM FOR ALL TPPM MATERIALS
THERE IS A SMALL CHARGE FOR THESE ITEMS

State of North Carolina



JAMES B. HUNT JR.
GOVERNOR

TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH

1995

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

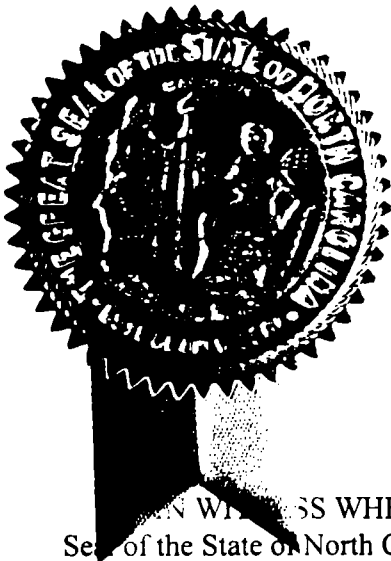
A PROCLAMATION

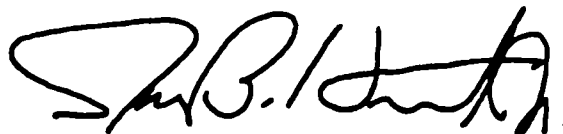
WHEREAS, teenage pregnancy significantly affects the health, economic and educational future of teenagers and cost our state more than \$458 million in 1991; and

WHEREAS, teenage parents are often unable to complete their education, which later results in unemployment, underemployment and dependence on public welfare. Teenage mothers often seek prenatal care late, if at all, and therefore frequently suffer higher than average levels of toxemia, anemia and cervical trauma. Their babies are often born premature and with low birthweights; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina is committed to involving churches, businesses, media, parents, agencies, educational institutions, policy makers, and health providers in helping to prevent teenage pregnancy. The purpose of the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of North Carolina is to advocate and support programs and strategies that prevent adolescent pregnancy and decrease the problems associated with adolescent pregnancy in North Carolina;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JAMES B. HUNT JR., Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May, 1995, as "Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month" in North Carolina, and commend this observance to our citizens.




JAMES B. HUNT JR.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this sixth day of February in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighteenth

UNEXCUSED

Dear Principal Smith,
Please excuse my
son John from Algebra I
class tomorrow. He needs
to take his son to the
doctor for a check-up.
Sincerely,
Mrs. Jones

MAY 1995: TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH



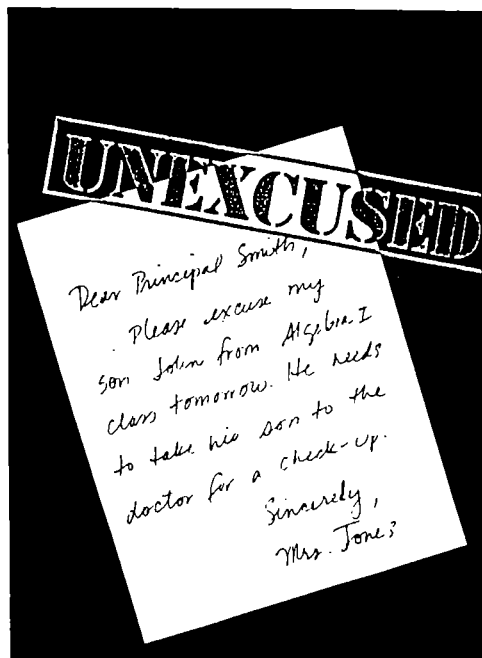
Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of North Carolina

1300 Baxter Street, Suite 171 • Charlotte, NC 28204 • 1-800-NC-4-FACTS



SPONSORS

North Carolina Department of Environment, Health & Natural Resources
North Carolina Department of Human Resources
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
Adolescent Parenting Program - NC Department of Social Services - DHR
Alliance Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy
Alliance For Children & Youth - Gastonia
American Red Cross - Charlotte
Anson County Health Department
Blue Ridge Center - Asheville
Brothers to Brothers Program - Wake County Department of Health
Buncombe County Council For Adolescents
Burke Coalition on Adolescent Health
Burke County Department of Social Services
Caldwell Council on Adolescent Health
Chatham Coalition for Adolescent Health
Children's Home Society of NC
Cities in Schools of NC
Coalition for Teen Health Promotion - Prospect Hill
Coalition to Improve the Quality of Life - Lee County
Coastal Pregnancy Care Center - Morehead City
Council for Children - Charlotte
Council on Adolescents of Catawba County
Cycle Busters Program - Wake County Department of Social Services
Durham Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention
Durham County Health Department
Edgemont Community Center - Durham
Family Health Program - Wake County Department of Health
Family Life Council - Greensboro
Family Services, Inc. - Winston-Salem
Family Support Center - Charlotte
Fayetteville Family YMCA
First Step Campaign of North Carolina
Florence Crittenton Services - Charlotte
Florence Crittenton Services - Greenville
Forsyth County Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Council
Girls Incorporated of Wilmington
Girl Scouts - Tarheel Triad Council
Greater High Point Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy
Greene County Health Care, Inc.
Gulford County Health Department
Harmony Medical Clinic - Harmony
Henderson County Health Department
Iredell Council on Adolescent Pregnancy
Jackson County Health Department
Johnston County Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy
Junior League of Greensboro
Junior League of High Point
Macon County Health Department
March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation - Charlotte
March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation - Raleigh
March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation - Greater Triad Chapter
March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation - Western Carolina Chapter
Mecklenburg Council on Adolescent Pregnancy
Metrolina AIDS Project - Charlotte
National Association of Social Workers - North Carolina Chapter
New Hanover County Health Department
North Carolina Association of Educators
North Carolina Central University, Department of Nursing
North Carolina Child Advocacy Institute
North Carolina Child Support Enforcement Program - DHR
North Carolina Council for Women
North Carolina Division of Family Development - DHR
North Carolina Institute of Minority Economic Development
North Carolina Medical Society Alliance
North Carolina Nurses Association
North Carolina PTA
North Carolina Social Services Association
Onslow County Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Council
Planned Parenthood of Orange & Durham Counties
Planned Parenthood of the Capital & Coast
Planned Parenthood of the Southern Piedmont & Carolina Mountains
Planned Parenthood of the Triad - Greensboro
Planned Parenthood of the Triad - Winston-Salem
Pitt County Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention, Inc.
Prevent Child Abuse, NC
Project CAN-STOP - Davie County Health Department
Project HOPE - Mecklenburg County Health Department
The Relatives - Charlotte
Richmond County Health Department
Rutherford County Health Department
The Salvation Army Boys & Girls Clubs of High Point
Stokes County Health Department
Teen Health Connection - Charlotte
Teen Improvement Program (T.I.P.) - Bertie County
Teen Life Council of Washington County
Teenspirit - Wake County Health Department
Twin County Rural Health Center - Hollister
Uplift, Inc.
Wake Council on Adolescent Pregnancy
Watauga County Coalition for the Prevention of Adolescent Pregnancy
Wayne County Council on Adolescent Pregnancy
Wayne County Health Department
YWCA of Asheville
YWCA of Greensboro
YWCA of Wake County, Inc.
Young Women's Outreach Center - Kinston
Youth Advocacy & Involvement Office - NC Department of Administration
Youth Focus, Inc. - Greensboro



MAY 1995

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month:

Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention
Coalition
of North Carolina
1300 Baxter Street, Suite 171
Charlotte, NC 28204
1-800-NC-4-FACTS



SPONSORS

North Carolina Department of Environment, Health & Natural Resources
North Carolina Department of Human Resources
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
Adolescent Parenting Program - NC Department of Social Services - DHR
Alliance Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy
Alliance for Children & Youth - Gastonia
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Burke Coalition on Adolescent Health
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Young Women's Outreach Center - Kinston
Youth Advocacy & Involvement Office - NC Department of Administration
Youth Focus, Inc. - Greensboro

May 1995

[illegible]

**Teen
Pregnancy
Prevention
Month
May 1995**

1-800-NC-4-FACTS

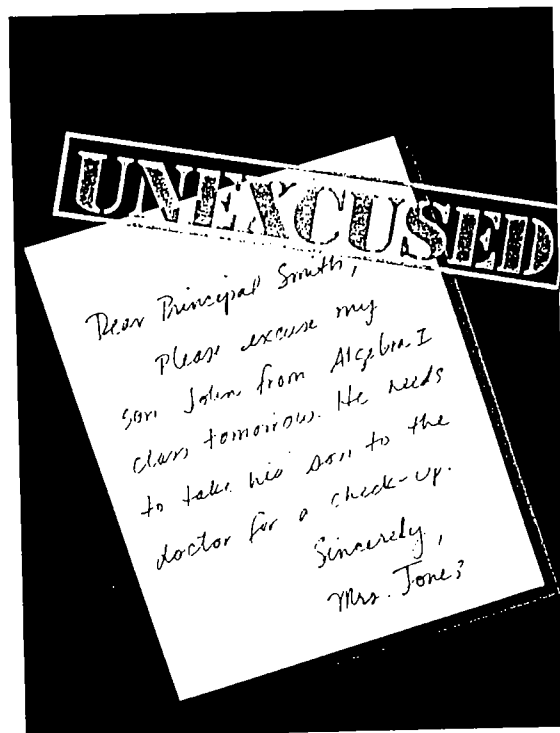


UNEXCUSED

Dear Principal Smith,

Please excuse my
son John from Algebra I
class tomorrow. He needs
to take his son to the
doctor for a check-up.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Jones



Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month May 1995

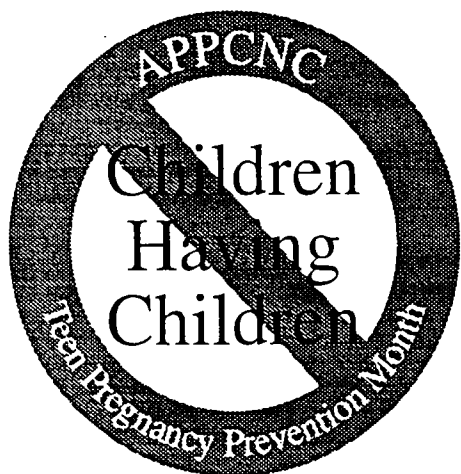


Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition
of North Carolina
1300 Baxter Street, Suite 171 • Charlotte, NC 28204

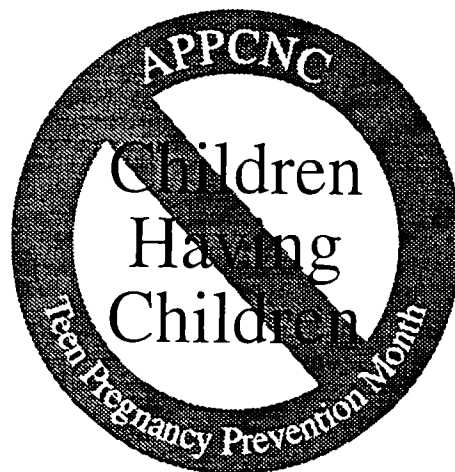
SPONSORS

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BUTTON



STICKER



BALLOON

"TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH" MATERIALS ORDER FORM

In 1991, the Coalition initiated the statewide "Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week" campaign for the first week in May. We know from research that April and May are the highest months of conception for teens. Maybe it is prom time, spring fever, free time --- we don't know for sure why. In 1993 the campaign was extended to a full month to give agencies and communities more time to participate.

We would like to see every community get involved and plan activities at schools, churches, youth organizations, and health agencies. We feel media attention and business participation is also crucial and hope that they will see the value of helping us increase the awareness of the need for prevention.

PLEASE POST YOUR TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH POSTER during April and May where everyone can see it.

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	1	25	100	QTY	TOTAL AMOUNT
TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH MANUAL	A complete "How To" set up a Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month campaign with over 200 examples of activities, programs and materials that have been successful. Includes 1 of every Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month item listed below. One button.					
	In State	\$25				
	Out of State	\$35				
BALLOONS	10" latex multi colored Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month Imprint	N/A	\$4	\$12		
BOOKMARKS 2 1/2" x 8"	Cardboard with Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month Message.	N/A	\$2	\$5		
BUTTONS 2 1/2" ROUND	Red/White/Black universal stop sign with "Children Having Children" underneath TPPM at bottom.	\$2	\$15	\$50		
STICKERS 2"	Round Sticker: Same as buttons	N/A	\$5	\$15		
POSTER 17 X 22	Annual APPCNC Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month Poster	.50	\$5	\$15		
TABLE TENTS 5" X 4"	Foldover table tents. Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month Poster on both sides. Ideal for restaurants, offices, and businesses.	N/A	\$5	\$15		
PLACE MATS	Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month Poster adapted for paper place mats (Great for schools, restaurants, home.)	N/A	\$5	\$15		
SAMPLE PACKET	Includes 1 of each balloon, bookmark, button, sticker, poster, table tent and place mat.	\$5	N/A	N/A		
	15% POSTAGE/HANDLING/SALES TAX					
	TOTAL ORDER					

DATE _____
NAME _____
ORGANIZATION _____
STREET ADDRESS (NO PO BOX) _____
CITY/STATE/ZIP _____ PHONE _____

N/A NOT AVAILABLE IN SINGLES (SEE SAMPLE PACKET) ALL ORDERS MUST BE PREPAID. ALLOW TWO WEEKS FOR DELIVERY. ENCLOSE AMOUNT AND SEND TO APPCNC. SHIP TO: (WE MUST HAVE STREET ADDRESS, NOT PO BOX)

Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of North Carolina
1300 Baxter Street, Suite 171 • Charlotte, NC 28204 • 704.335.1313 • FAX: 704.335.8209



TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH REPORT FORM

Please return to APPCNC as soon as possible. Thank you and congratulations for your incredible effort to make "TPPM" a success.

Coordinating
Agency/Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

County _____

Phone _____ Contact Person _____

Did You Do Any Of The Following? (PLEASE SEND 2 COPIES OF ALL MATERIALS FOR OUR FILES. THANK YOU.)

- | | | | |
|--|-------|------------------------------|-------|
| _____ Bumper Stickers | | | |
| _____ Buttons/Stickers | | | |
| _____ Posters | | | |
| _____ Radio PSA's | _____ | Number of Stations who aired | |
| _____ TV PSA's | _____ | Number of Stations who aired | |
| _____ Cablevision | _____ | Number of stations who aired | |
| _____ Newspaper Interviews/Stories | _____ | Number printed | |
| _____ Newspaper Editorials | | | |
| _____ Printed A Calendar of Events | _____ | Number of calendars printed | |
| _____ Community Wide Conference or Forum | _____ | Number who attended | |
| _____ Workshops/Seminars/Presentations | _____ | Number offered | |
| _____ Offered by and how many? | | | |
| _____ Churches | _____ | Pregnancy Centers | _____ |
| _____ Youth Organizations | _____ | Physicians | _____ |
| _____ Schools | _____ | Day Care Centers | _____ |
| _____ Hospitals | _____ | Parent Organizations | _____ |
| _____ Health Departments | _____ | Comm. Organizations | _____ |
| _____ Other | _____ | | |
| _____ Poster Contest/Teens | | | |
| _____ Essay Contest | | | |
| _____ Rap Contest | | | |
| _____ TV/RADIO Talk Shows | _____ | Number | |
| _____ Professional Training Programs | | | |
| _____ Mayor and/or Commissioner Proclamation | | | |
| _____ Film Festival | | | |
| _____ Teen Health Fair | | | |
| _____ Lunch Time Seminars For Parents | | | |
| _____ Teen Conference | | | |
| _____ Billboards, how many were put up | _____ | | |
| _____ Library Bibliography | | | |
| _____ Teen Awards | | | |
| _____ Other (Please List) | | | |

300 Baxter Street
Suite 171
Charlotte, NC 28204
704.335.1313
Fax 704.335.8209

OVER PLEASE



Summary of TPPM in your Community:

Estimate of Number of People who attended events:

Successes:

Problems:

May we use copies of your TPPM Materials in our Manual ?

Did you use APPCNC materials?

<u> </u> Stickers	<u> </u> Poster
<u> </u> Bookmarks	<u> </u> Buttons
<u> </u> Gov. Proclamation	

RETURN TO: APPCNC, 1300 BAXTER ST., #171, CHARLOTTE, NC 28204, BY JULY 1, PLEASE!

TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH

EXAMPLES

STATE LEGISLATURE ACTIVITIES

PRESS RELEASES

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOCAL PROCLAMATIONS

ACTIVITIES/PROGRAMS/MATERIALS IN N.C.

NEWSPAPER/NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

ACTIVITIES FROM OTHER STATES

STATE LEGISLATURE ACTIVITIES



THIS

IS

A

BANDAID



**NORTH CAROLINA TAXPAYERS SPENT
\$457,800,000
ON THE
BANDAIDS OF TEENAGE PREGNANCY.**

**OF EACH DOLLAR
ONLY ONE CENT
IS SPENT ON
PREVENTION PROGRAMS**

INVEST IN PREVENTION TODAY

MAY IS TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH

THE NORTH CAROLINA COALITION ON ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY



The
North Carolina
Coalition on
Adolescent Pregnancy

MAY IS TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH

INVEST IN PREVENTION TODAY



SOUTHERN REGIONAL PROJECT ON INFANT MORTALITY

Southern Governors' Association
Southern Legislative Conference

EXPENDITURES AND INVESTMENTS: ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY IN THE SOUTH NORTH CAROLINA STATE DATA SHEET

EXPENDITURES: COSTS AFTER PREGNANCY HAS OCCURRED
INVESTMENTS: PREVENTION OF PREGNANCY (NOT ABORTION)

ADOLESCENT CHILDBEARING - AGED 15-17

- o Adolescent childbearing rates increased 30% between 1986-1990, from 34.5 to 44.8 live births per 1,000 girls, 15-17.

EXPENDITURES

- o In 1991, \$457,828,000 was spent to support families begun by an adolescent.
- o This includes:

Medicaid	\$197,010,000
Food Stamps	\$ 79,100,000
Aid to Families with Dependent Children	\$181,718,000

INVESTMENTS

- o In 1992, \$5,148,000 of state and federal funds were invested in primary prevention of adolescent pregnancy.
- o This includes:

Family Planning	\$3,706,000
Special Initiatives	\$1,442,000

EXPENDITURES VS. INVESTMENTS

- o OUT OF EVERY \$1 SPENT ON ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY PROGRAMS, 1 CENT IS DIRECTED TO PRIMARY PREGNANCY PREVENTION.
- o ANNUAL PER CAPITA SPENDING ON ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY PREVENTION IS \$5.60. NORTH CAROLINA RANKS 13TH AMONG SEVENTEEN SOUTHERN STATES IN PER CAPITA SPENDING.



721 teens get pregnant each day in NC (1993)
78% are out-of-wedlock pregnancies (1992)
15,000 + each year become teen parents (1993)

FINANCIAL FACTS: ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY IN NC

\$\$ COST TO NORTH CAROLINA: \$457,828,000 EACH YEAR \$\$

**NC COST FOR AFDC, FOOD STAMPS, AND MEDICAID
FOR FAMILIES BEGUN BY A TEEN IN 1991.**

1987 - 1991: 96% INCREASE

FOR EVERY \$1.00 WE SPEND ON TEENAGE PREGNANCY IN NC ONLY 1¢ IS SPENT ON PRIMARY PREVENTION.

[illegible]

- \$ The maximum monthly AFDC payment in 1992 for a teen mother and one child is \$236 in North Carolina. Thus, the most a teen parent could receive from AFDC is \$2,832 for one year. Compare this to the average cost of raising a child for one year: \$3,157.00 to \$9,423.60.
- \$ AFDC maximum payment for teen mothers with two children in 1992: \$276.00 per month.
- \$ It costs \$600 to provide a mother with comprehensive prenatal care and thus to have healthier babies; it costs more than \$1,000 per day to keep low birth weight babies alive through neonatal intensive care.
- \$ 25% of all teen mothers receive AFDC--they represent 1/2 of all mothers on welfare in the U.S.
- \$ Teenage mothers earn about 50% of the income of those who first give birth in their 20's.
- \$ 71% of females under 30 who receive AFDC had their first child as a teenager.
- \$ 1 out of 5 low birthweight babies is born to a teenage mother. In 1990, the average cost of care for a very low birth weight infant was \$29,900.
- \$ It costs \$68 per year to provide family-planning services to a sexually active teen; it costs \$3,000 to provide that teen and her baby prenatal care and delivery costs under Medicaid.
- \$ It is estimated that for every \$1 spent on serving a teenage client by the federal family planning program (Title X), \$4.40 can be saved in the next year alone.
- \$ Cost of Norplant \$400.00 (contraceptive that lasts 5 years, 99% effective)
- \$ In Mecklenburg County 90% of mothers of "Willie M" certified children gave birth before their 21st birthday. "Willie M" is a class action suit that mandates severely disturbed juveniles in the criminal system receive social, psychological and physical services. Cost to the state is an average of \$60,000 each year per child.

PERCENT OF ADOLESCENT MOTHERS ON AFDC

	BY 1ST BIRTH	W/IN 1 YR. OF BIRTH	W/IN 5 YRS. OF BIRTH
All	7%	28%	49%
Married	2%	7%	24%
Unmarried	13%	50%	77%
White	7%	22%	39%
Black	9%	44%	76%
White, Unmarried	17%	53%	72%
Black, Unmarried	10%	49%	84%

SOURCE: Congressional Budget Office, Sources of Support for Adolescent Mothers, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, 1990



PRESS RELEASES





**ADOLESCENT
PREGNANCY
PREVENTION**

Coalition of North Carolina

CONTACT: BARBARA HUBERMAN
PRESIDENT
CHARLOTTE, NC 704/335-1313

PATRICIA YANCEY
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
RALEIGH, NC 919/787-1116

PRESS RELEASE APRIL 1, 1995

TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH

Governor James B. Hunt has proclaimed the month of May 1995, as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month. Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month was started in 1991 as a statewide education and awareness effort by the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of North Carolina (APPCNC).

This year, ninety-eight organizations including the State Departments of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources, Human Resources and Public Instruction have joined forces with the Coalition to bring attention to North Carolina's teen pregnancy problem and how it might be addressed by communities. Among the ninety-eight co-sponsoring organizations are the American Red Cross, Cities In Schools of North Carolina, NC Association of Educators, NC Child Advocacy Institute, NC Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers, NC Child Support Enforcement Program, NC Medical Society Alliance, NC Nurses Association, and the NC PTA. These organizations, through their support, will enhance the campaign by conducting public awareness initiatives throughout the state. In many local communities community forums, meetings and media events have been planned.

According to statistics compiled by the State Center for Health and Environmental Statistics, more than 23,000 young women ages 10-19 became pregnant in 1993. More than 15,000 of these pregnancies resulted in live births. Ninety percent of these pregnancies were unintentional and more than seventy-nine percent were out of wedlock.

Teenage pregnancy significantly affects the health of teenagers as well as their economic and educational future. Of the young women who give birth, ninety-eight percent keep their babies. Typically, teen parents have few employment skills and are often unable to complete their education. In fiscal year 1991, adolescent childbearing cost the state of North Carolina close to \$458 million dollars.

Ms. Barbara Huberman, President of the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of North Carolina said, "a month of awareness will not, by itself prevent teen pregnancies, but it can help teenagers, parents, educators and community leaders focus on strategies that help young people make responsible sexual decisions.

Among a few of the successful prevention strategies cited by Ms. Huberman were programs and curricula that teach students to postpone sexual involvement, comprehensive family life education, programs that teach male responsibility and access to comprehensive adolescent health and family planning services.

300 Baxter Street
Suite 171
Charlotte, NC 28204
704.335.1313
Fax 704.335.8209



NEWS RELEASE

May 6, 1993
For Immediate Release

CONTACT: Jo Kelly, (704) 332-6721

May is Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month

CHARLOTTE, NC – May is Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month. Several activities are taking place in our community this month to increase awareness of the issue and to encourage discussion about the prevention of teen pregnancy.

These activities include:

- * "Prevention: So That Tomorrow May Come" seminar will be held on Wednesday, May 19, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the Government House Hotel, 201 S. McDowell St. Keynote speaker is William R. Young, M.S., Director of the Masters & Johnson Institute. The seminar is sponsored by the Charlotte Area Health Education Center and the Mecklenburg Council on Adolescent Pregnancy. The cost is \$25.00, which includes lunch. For information, call AHEC, 355-3696; or MCAP, 332-6721.
- * A Public Service Announcement stressing the importance of teen pregnancy prevention will air on local TV stations from May through August. The 30-second PSA includes a message from Mayor Richard Vinroot.

- MORE -

- * Six billboards with the message "6 Teens Get Pregnant in Charlotte Every Day. Don't Be One of Them." will be posted in high-risk neighborhoods during May. These billboards are sponsored by Presbyterian Hospital, MCAP and Adams Outdoor Advertising.
- * The City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County issued a joint proclamation for Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month at the Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners' meeting on May 3. The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education will issue a proclamation at its meeting on May 11.
- * "Kids and Sex, are you prepared for the complex issues of sexuality during the teen years" is the topic of the Teen Health Connection's Parent Connection seminar on May 8, 7-8:30 p.m. in Presbyterian Hospital's multipurpose room. Dr. Linda Berne, Professor of Health Education at UNCC, will be the speaker. The seminar is free. For more information, call 344-8336.

Every day in Charlotte, six young women between the ages of 10 and 19 become pregnant, and three give birth. During the past ten years, the incidence of teen pregnancy in Mecklenburg County has remained fairly constant, with an average of 2,200 pregnancies per year. Adolescent pregnancy is related to many other problems, including crime, juvenile delinquency, poverty, child abuse, low birth weight and infant mortality, school dropouts, teen suicide, unemployment, violence, substance abuse and poor nutrition.

#



MECKLENBURG COUNCIL ON ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY
"SO THAT TOMORROW MAY COME"

NEWS RELEASE

April 30, 1993
For Immediate Release

CONTACT: Merle Green, 355-3696
Jo Kelly, 332-6721

William R. Young, Director, Masters & Johnson Institute, Will Be Keynote Speaker at Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month Seminar

CHARLOTTE, NC -- "Prevention: So That Tomorrow May Come" is the topic of a seminar scheduled for **Wednesday, May 19, 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.** at the Government House Hotel, 201 S. McDowell St. Sponsored by the Charlotte Area Health Education Center (AHEC) and the Mecklenburg Council on Adolescent Pregnancy (MCAP), the seminar will address the issue of teen pregnancy prevention. May is Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month.

The seminar will feature a keynote address by William R. Young, M.S., Director of the Masters & Johnson Institute. His topic will be "Teens, Families and Sex".

Mr. Young's remarks will be followed by a panel discussion entitled "Accentuating the Positive - Prevention Programs that Work". Panelists will include: Ben Ellington, "Teens 'n' Touch", Charlotte-Mecklenburg Urban League; B. Stanley Graham, "A Male's Place", Mecklenburg County Health Department; Mary Lucy Gunter & John Starmer, "FOCUS Teen Theatre", Planned Parenthood; and Ray Wilson, "Project HOPE", Mecklenburg County Health Department.

- MORE -



Area human services organizations will also have displays providing information on adolescent sexuality, pregnancy and prevention issues.

Every day in Charlotte, six young women between the ages of 10 and 19 become pregnant, and three give birth. During the past ten years, the incidence of teen pregnancy in Mecklenburg County has remained fairly constant, with an average of 2,200 pregnancies per year. Adolescent pregnancy is related to many other problems, including crime, juvenile delinquency, poverty, child abuse, low birth weight and infant mortality, school dropouts, teen suicide, unemployment, violence, substance abuse and poor nutrition.

The cost of the seminar is \$25, which includes lunch. Registration deadline is Monday, May 10 at 5 p.m. For information or reservations, call AHEC, 355-3696 or MCAP, 332-6721.

#

NOTE: *William R. Young will be available for interviews following his remarks on May 19. He will speak from 12:45-2:30 p.m.*

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS



LOCAL TAG ON CHILDREN'S DEFENSE FUND 15-SECOND SPOT

PSA: Mayor Vinroot/Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month

Air Date: May through summer

V.O.

TITLE: TALK TO YOUR KIDS ABOUT PREVENTION

I'M MAYOR RICHARD VINROOT. EACH DAY IN CHARLOTTE, SIX TEENS BECOME PREGNANT. DISCUSS THE FACTS OF LIFE WITH YOUR CHILDREN. KEEP THE FUTURE BRIGHT FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE. FOR INFORMATION, CALL THE MECKLENBURG COUNCIL ON ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY.

Did you know that in our own County, about 200 girls, between the ages of 10 and 19, become pregnant each year. That's right, 200 Wilkes County girls, age 10-19! If those statistics don't shock you, maybe these will. About 1 in 4 of these girls is pregnant with her second, third or fourth child.

Teen mothers are much less likely to finish their education and much more likely to be dependent on welfare. Their babies are much more likely to receive inadequate prenatal care, experience medical problems and be abused.

What chance for a healthy, productive life does a 17 year old mother of 3 have? What chance do her children have?

As you must know, their chances are far below normal. And the problem isn't theirs alone. The problem of teen pregnancy is Wilkes County's problem and it can be an expensive one when the mother can't manage her situation without help.

Governor Martin has proclaimed the week of May 5-12, Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week in North Carolina. The statistics associated with teen pregnancy are alarming. Please help prevent it by taking the time to talk to your child about the consequences.

Make a Baby - Make a Lifetime Commitment!

This message is sponsored by I Care About Teens, a local United Way Agency. For more information call 651-7837. (Radio 5-91)

Governor Martin has proclaimed the week of May 5-12, Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week in North Carolina.

Each year, about 200 Wilkes County teens, between the ages of 10 and 19, become pregnant. That's right, 200 Wilkes County teens, age 10-19! Most pregnancies are unplanned, most are unwanted and about 60 of these will end in abortion.

Teen mothers are much less likely to complete their education and much more likely to depend on public welfare. Their babies are much more likely to receive inadequate prenatal care, experience medical problems and be abused.

The statistics associated with teen pregnancy are alarming. Please help prevent it by taking the time to talk to your child about the consequences.

Make a Baby - Make a Lifetime Commitment!

This message is sponsored by I Care About Teens, a local United Way Agency. For more information call 651-7837.

John and Laurie came home from the hospital with their new baby boy. This is a special time for all new parents, but for them, it was a day they would never forget!

John was 17 when Laurie got pregnant. He hadn't finished school at the time and he might not, if he had to keep both jobs. A year ago, his life was different. He had the same concerns most young men have, stay in shape for his coach, be home on time and take care of a few chores around the house. He had plans. He was saving for a convertible. He never expected this would happen.

Laurie hadn't expected it either. She had plans of her own. But at 15, with a baby and a 9th grade education, she'll have a hard time realizing any of them.

Being a parent isn't easy, especially for a teenager.....and 200 Wilkes County teens between the ages of 10 and 19 become pregnant each year. 200 Wilkes County teens.....age 10-19.

Teen mothers are much less likely to finish their education and much more likely to be dependent on welfare. Their babies are much more likely to receive inadequate prenatal care, experience medical problems and be abused.

The problem of teen pregnancy doesn't just concern young people like John and Laurie. This is Wilkes County's problem and it can be an expensive one when the parents can't manage their situation without help.

Governor Martin has proclaimed the week of May 5-12, Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week in North Carolina. The statistics associated with teen pregnancy are alarming. Please help prevent it by taking the time to talk to your child about the consequences.

Make a Baby - Make a Lifetime Commitment!

This message is sponsored by I Care About Teens, a local United Way Agency. For more information call 651-7837.

About 200 Wilkes County girls between the ages of 10 and 19 become pregnant each year. About one in four is pregnant with her second, third or fourth child! About 60 will end in abortion and 2 babies will die.

Take time to talk to your child about the consequences of teen pregnancy.

North Carolina Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week

May 5-12

For more information contact I Care About Teens, at 651-7837.

(Cable 5/41)

First Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week Observed

Governor Jim Martin has designated the week of May 5-12, Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week in North Carolina. This is the first year that time has been set aside to call attention to the problem. State government and state and local agencies, that are involved with this area of adolescent health, hope to educate the public about the severity of the problem and, in doing so, reduce the number of pregnancies.

The statistics associated with local teen pregnancies are alarming. In Wilkes County, approximately 200 girls between the ages of 10 and 19 become pregnant each year. An average of 2 are between the ages of 10 and 14, and an average 193 are between 15 and 19. Of the 200, approximately 60 pregnancies will be aborted and 2 babies will die.

During recent years, the number of births to teens out of wedlock has risen. Local health sources estimate that 60 percent are born to single mothers.

Even more alarming are statistics associated with repeat pregnancies among teens. An estimated one in four teens is having her second, third or fourth child.

It is not hard to imagine that teen mothers are much less likely to finish their education and much more likely to be dependent on welfare. Their babies are much more likely to receive inadequate prenatal care, experience medical problems and be abused. Teen pregnancy is a far-reaching, expensive problem and one that needs to be recognized.

There are a number of government and private agencies, and local groups that provide programs of prevention and support. One of the largest and most active private agency is the North Carolina Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy. The Coalition promotes prevention through communication and education. It lobbies state government in support of prevention programs and is very supportive of local pregnancy prevention councils and programs around the State. Barbara Huberman, NCCAP's Executive Director, has been among the Nation's leaders in this area of adolescent health. The Coalition is located in Charlotte and is funded by grants from United Way and other agencies.

In 1987, the Wilkes Teen Pregnancy Council was formed locally. In 1990, after adding a crisis intervention hotline for local youth, the Council became I Care About Teens. However, the groups involvement with teen pregnancy remains unchanged. Like the NCCAP, ICAT promotes prevention through education and communication, and is funded by United Way and gifts from the Community. In addition, ICAT works alone and with other local agencies to offer help to individual teens with specific needs. Their focus, during Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week, is on community awareness. In addition, the group will sponsor a number of its members at the NCCAP Spring Conference on May 9th, in Raleigh.

Government funded programs and services are also available locally for pregnant teens and teen parents. One of the most effective is a program

offered by the Board of Education through the Extended Day Program. Girls are encouraged to continue their education and are offered specific courses that teach them how to care for themselves and for their babies. Special facilities make it possible for the girls to attend school and care for their children at the same time.

The Wilkes County Health Department and the Department of Social Services offer programs as well. The Health Department offers maternity, pediatric, family planning, and sexually-transmitted disease clinics, as well as a basic food supplement program of items like milk and cereal, for qualifying pregnant women, new mothers, and children, to 5 years of age.

The Department of Social Services offers financial assistance for certain basic needs, such as food and medical care. They offer transportation, family planning, adoption and other services. They also operate and provide financial assistance for day care services. These programs are available to qualifying individuals.

Our public Library and Board of Education are good sources of information. Both have a good selection of materials on child development and sexuality, adolescent pregnancy and communication between parent and child. Videos are available on certain subjects as well.

School and church sponsored youth groups also bring attention to the problem. West Wilkes and Wilkes Central High Schools' Drama Classes write and perform improvisational skits for County students about high-risk behavior that creates problems. When the skit ends, the audience is able to interact with the actors, who remain in character and take questions. Their audiences learn how the problem came about and how to avoid it.

Other groups, such as Welcome Home Baptist Church Youth Group, have taken an active interest in promoting prevention.

Teen pregnancy is indeed an issue for our Community to address and many Wilkes Countians are already involved. Community awareness of the problem is necessary to solve it. Education about who is at risk, the long-lasting consequences of a pregnancy, and prevention are also necessary, as is the development of good communication skills between parents and their children. Parents must take responsibility for their child's education in this area. Even though North Carolina supports the teaching of sex education in the classroom, there is no standardized curriculum. Your child may not be taught everything he needs to know!

I Care About Teens supports the idea that teen pregnancy can be reduced through preventive measures, such as education and communication. Help observe North Carolina's first Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week by using this opportunity to share your family's values about sexuality with your children. For more information about teen pregnancy or about services and programs offered locally or in North Carolina, contact Elise Ross at 651-7837 or through the United Way Offices.

LOCAL PROCLAMATIONS

SAMPLE LETTER TO GOVERNOR FOR PROCLAMATION



ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY PREVENTION

Coalition of North Carolina

January 10, 1995

The Honorable James Hunt
Governor
The State Capitol
Raleigh, NC 27611

Dear Governor Hunt:

The Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of NC (APPCNC) would like to ask you to help us in our efforts to reduce adolescent pregnancy in North Carolina by designating May and "Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month."

Initiated in 1990, the campaign has been very successful and we look forward to all 100 counties participating this year. Last year's proclamation is enclosed. If we could receive it by February 15, 1995 it would be very helpful to our printing schedule of the 1995 poster.

Enclosed are samples of some of the activities across the state last year.

Billboards
Posters in High Schools
Church Services and Programs
School Forums
Buttons
Rap Contests
Radio, TV interviews, PSA's
Mayor's Proclamation in over 30 cities
Newspaper articles
Curricula training for teachers
Health Fairs

We would like to arrange for a presentation of the Proclamation to our Board President and a few key Board Members in February. Please notify us when it would be convenient for you and your staff.

Thank you very much for your support and we look forward to your proclamation for 1995.

Sincerely,

Barbara Huberman
President

1300 Baxter Street
Suite 171
Charlotte, NC 28204
704.335.1313
Fax 704.335.8209





City of Salisbury

North Carolina

PROCLAMATION

"WHEREAS, teenage pregnancy significantly affects the health, economic and educational future of teenagers and cost our state more than \$458 million in 1991; and

WHEREAS, teenage parents are often unable to complete their education, which later results in unemployment, underemployment and dependence of public welfare. Teenage mothers often seek prenatal care late, if at all, and therefore frequently suffer higher than average levels of toxemia, anemia and cervical trauma. Their babies are often born premature and with low birthweights; and

WHEREAS, the state of North Carolina is committed to involving churches, businesses, media, parents, agencies, educational institutions, policy makers, and health providers in helping to prevent teenage pregnancy. The purpose of the North Carolina Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy is to advocate and support programs and strategies that prevent adolescent pregnancy and decrease the problems associated with adolescent pregnancy in North Carolina.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Margaret H. Kluttz, Mayor of the City of Salisbury, North Carolina, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM May, 1994, as

TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH

in Salisbury, and commend this observance to our citizens."

This 19th day of April 1994.



Margaret H. Kluttz

Mayor

PROCLAMATION

City of Charlotte/Mecklenburg County

WHEREAS, six young women between the ages of 10 and 19 become pregnant in Charlotte/Mecklenburg -- and three give birth; and,

WHEREAS, teen pregnancy has been linked with other serious issues facing our community, including crime, poverty, child abuse, infant mortality, unemployment, substance abuse and violence; and,

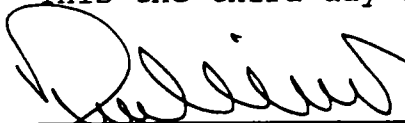
WHEREAS, the direct public costs of teen childbearing in Mecklenburg County is estimated to exceed \$30 million per year for Aid to Families with Dependent Children, Medicaid and food stamps; and,

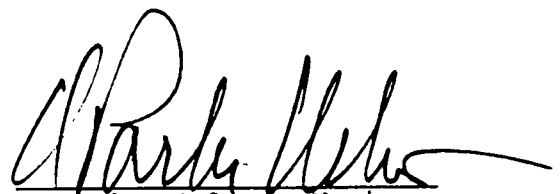
WHEREAS, the Mecklenburg Council on Adolescent Pregnancy is working with other organizations to heighten awareness of the personal and financial costs of teen pregnancy on our community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Charlotte and the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners do hereby proclaim May 1993 as

TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH IN CHARLOTTE/MECKLENBURG.

This the third day of May, 1993.


Richard Vinroot, Mayor
City of Charlotte


H. Parks Helms, Chairman
Mecklenburg Board of
County Commissioners



Proclamation

PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF MAY 5 - 12, 1991, AS

"TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION WEEK"

IN THE CITY OF BURLINGTON

WHEREAS, many families in our community are experiencing the adverse medical, financial and emotional expenses of children having children; and

WHEREAS, this is a problem in this community which should be of major concern, as statistical data for the year 1989 reveals that 452 teenage pregnancies occurred in Alamance County which meant that one in every 10 girls below the age of 19 became pregnant; and

WHEREAS, the arrival of spring brings with it increased sexual activity among our young people and thus the need to bring this issue to the forefront of community concern, with the aim of minimizing the number of adolescent pregnancies in our community this year

WHEREAS, it has been found that teenage pregnancies can be prevented through open communication between parents and their children and through sex education, community awareness and support;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, James A. Gerow, Mayor of the City of Burlington, do hereby proclaim the week of May 5 - 12, 1991, as

"TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION WEEK"

IN THE CITY OF BURLINGTON

AND I ENCOURAGE EVERY FAMILY IN ALAMANCE COUNTY to join in and support the efforts of the Alamance Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy in order that our children can be afforded every opportunity to reach adulthood before assuming the responsibilities of parenthood.

This the 16th day of April, 1991.



James A. Gerow

Mayor
City of Burlington

Town of Boone

COUNCIL:
VELMA C. BURNLEY
Mayor
BEN SUTTLE
Mayor Pro Tem
JAMES DUGGER
GENE REESE
JAMES MARSH, SR.
JAMES SMITH

L.D. HAGAMAN, JR.
Town Manager
DAVID PALETTA
Town Attorney



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, teenage pregnancy significantly affects the health, economic and educational future of teenagers and costs our state more than \$270 million each year.

WHEREAS, teenage parents are often unable to complete their education, which later results in unemployment, underemployment and dependence on public welfare. Teenage mothers often seek prenatal care late, if at all, and therefore frequently suffer higher than average levels of toxemia, anemia and cervical trauma. Their babies are often born premature and with low birthweights.

WHEREAS, the state of North Carolina is committed to involving churches, businesses, media, parents, agencies, educational institutions, policy makers and health providers in helping to prevent teenage pregnancy. The purpose of the North Carolina Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy is to advocate and support programs and strategies that prevent adolescent pregnancy and decrease the problems associated with adolescent pregnancy in North Carolina.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Velma C. Burnley, Mayor of the Town of Boone, do hereby proclaim May 5 through May 12, 1991, as "TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION WEEK," in Boone, North Carolina, and commend this observance to our citizens.

Velma C. Burnley

Velma C. Burnley, Mayor
Town of Boone

ATTEST:

Lisa F. Richman

Lisa F. Richman, Deputy Clerk
Town of Boone



PROCLAMATION

PROCLAIMING "TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION WEEK"

WHEREAS, today many local families are experiencing the negative medical, financial and emotional impact of children having children; and

WHEREAS, this problem impacts local young people as shown by the 1989 statistics, which reveal that four hundred fifty two (452) teenage pregnancies occurred in Alamance County, one (1) in every ten (10) girls below the age of 19 became pregnant; and

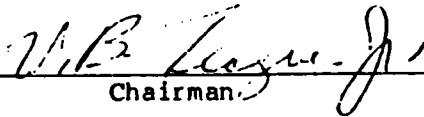
WHEREAS, statistics show that in the spring time there is an increase of sexual activity among our young people and focusing on this issue during this time can perhaps decrease the number of pregnancies that occur; and

WHEREAS, it has been found that teenage pregnancies can be prevented through open communication between parents and their children, through sex education and community awareness and support.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY the Alamance County Board of Commissioners that the week of May 5 through 12, 1991 is designated as "Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week" in Alamance County.

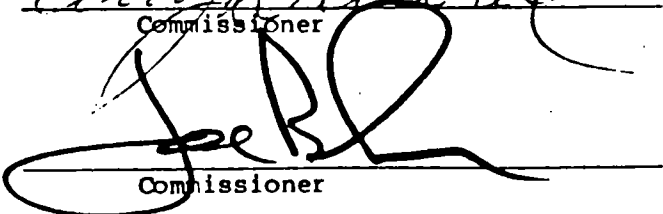
FURTHERMORE, all families in Alamance County are encouraged to join with the Alamance Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy to give our children the opportunity to reach adulthood before they take on the responsibilities of parenthood.

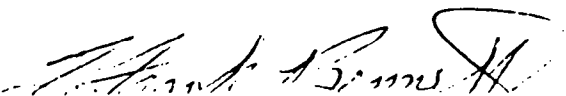
This the 6th day of May, 1991.


Chairman


Vice Chairman


Commissioner


Commissioner



ACTIVITIES/ PROGRAMS/ MATERIALS IN N.C.

SAMPLE LETTER TO LOCAL BUSINESSES, AGENCIES TO SPONSOR TPPM



**ADOLESCENT
PREGNANCY
PREVENTION**
Coalition of North Carolina

TO: TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION ADVOCATES
FROM: BARBARA HUBERMAN, PRESIDENT, APPCNC

For the fifth year, the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of North Carolina will be the coordinator of Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month in May. Communities, agencies, and churches are all encouraged to plan activities, programs, and develop resources that promote prevention. Last year over 50 organizations become co-sponsors. We would like to invite you to become a co-sponsor for Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month 1995. There is no cost to you.

Co-sponsorship means that you will be listed on the TPPM poster that is distributed statewide. Your organization may plan activities that involve your members in prevention, but it is not mandatory to be a sponsor. You might do articles in your newsletter, get your chapters to offer community programs, or use the Coalition's materials such as the posters, bookmarks, buttons, and stickers at your meetings or events.

.....

TPPM Co-Sponsor: We must receive your response by February 15, 1995.

_____ Yes, we would like to be listed as a co-sponsor of Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month, May 1995. We are not obligated to plan or take part in activities.

_____ No, we do not wish to be listed as a co-sponsor of Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month, May 1995.

_____ We are considering your invitation to become a co-sponsor of Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month, May 1995. We will notify you by _____.

Organization: _____

Respondent: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: () _____ Fax: () _____

PLEASE MAIL OR FAX BY FEBRUARY 15, 1995!

***Mail To:
APPCNC
1300 Baxter Street
Suite 171
Charlotte, NC 28204***

***Fax To:
APPCNC
704.335.8209***

1300 Baxter Street
Suite 171
Charlotte, NC 28204
704.335.1313
Fax 704.335.8209





**Will Her Prom Dress
Still Fit In December?**

**Be Responsible
SAY NO!**

**MAY IS
TEEN PREGNANCY
PREVENTION
MONTH**

*A message from the
Teen Council of Catawba County*



**Billboards for Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month
6 boards, one color for the month of May**

6 Teens Get Pregnant in Charlotte Every Day

Don't Be One of Them

Sponsored by the Mecklenburg Council on Adolescent Pregnancy,
Presbyterian Hospital and Adams Outdoor Advertising.

Our billboard locations need to be in the five zip code areas with the highest numbers of live births to teens in Charlotte-Mecklenburg - 28205, 28206, 28208, 28213 and 28216:

These zip codes are all within Charlotte city limits -

Key streets in these areas are:

West Blvd., Wilkinson Blvd., Freedom Dr., Beatties Ford Rd.,
N. Graham St., N. Tryon St., The Plaza

AGENCY-TO-AGENCY ROUNDTABLE

Sponsored by
Mecklenburg Council on Adolescent Pregnancy

TEEN GIRLS AND REPEAT PREGNANCY

39.2% of the young women ages 10-19 who gave birth in Mecklenburg County in 1991 had experienced one or more previous pregnancies.

Why do young women who already have a child become pregnant again?
What roles do the children's fathers play in their lives?
How do social pressures affect their attitudes about child bearing?

DATE: TUESDAY, MAY 25, 1993

TIME: 3:00-4:30 P.M.

PLACE: DOLLY TATE TEEN-AGE PARENTS SERVICES (T.A.P.S.)
MEDIA CENTER, 1817 CENTRAL AVENUE

A panel of T.A.P.S. students will discuss their attitudes and experiences relating to repeat pregnancy.

MCAP will also share the latest teen pregnancy statistics for Mecklenburg County.

RSVP: 332-6721

May is Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month

Did You Know:

- * Every day in Charlotte, 6 young women between the ages of 10 and 19 get pregnant - and three give birth
- * During the past ten years, the incidence of teen pregnancy in Mecklenburg County has remained fairly constant, with an average of 2,200 pregnancies per year.
- * In Mecklenburg County, more than \$30 million per year is spent on the direct public costs of teen childbearing.
- * Adolescent pregnancy is related to many other problems, including crime, juvenile delinquency, poverty, child abuse, low birth weight and infant mortality, school dropouts, teen suicide, unemployment, violence, substance abuse and poor nutrition.

Everyone has a role to play in the prevention of teen pregnancy.

Seminar Sponsors:

The Charlotte Area Health Education Center (AHEC) and
the Mecklenburg Council on Adolescent Pregnancy

PREVENTION: SO THAT TOMORROW MAY COME,

Teen Pregnancy Prevention
Month Seminar
Wednesday, May 19, 1993
11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Government House Hotel
201 South McDowell, St.
Charlotte, NC

PROGRAM

11:45 a.m. Luncheon, Continental C

Welcome

Merle Green, Associate Director, Allied/Public
Health Education, AHEC

Invocation

Dr. George Cook, Greater Mt. Sinai Baptist Church

Lunch

Remarks and Introduction of Guest Speaker

Sam Blumenthal, Ph.D., 1993 President, MCAP

Keynote Address

William R. Young, Director, Masters & Johnson Institute
"Teens, Families & Sex"

Break

2:45 p.m. Panel Discussion, Continental B

"Accentuating the Positive - Prevention Programs That Work"

Panelists

Ben Ellington - "Teens 'n' Touch"
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Urban League

B. Stanley Graham - "A Male's Place"
Mecklenburg County Health Department

Mary Lucy Gunter & John Starmer,
"FOCUS Teen Theatre"
Planned Parenthood

Ray Wilson - "Project HOPE"
Mecklenburg County Health Department

Moderator

Jo L. Kelly, Executive Director, MCAP

Displays

Take time before lunch or during the break to see
the displays with information on adolescent sexuality,
pregnancy and prevention issues.

Keynote Address

**William R. Young, Director
Masters & Johnson Institute**

"Teens, Families & Sex"

Panel Discussion

"Accentuating the Positive - Prevention Programs That Work"

Sponsored by the Charlotte Area Health Education Center (AHEC) and
the Mecklenburg Council on Adolescent Pregnancy (MCAP)

**PREVENTION:
SO THAT TOMORROW
MAY COME**

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Charlotte, NC
Permit No. 2773

Charlotte Area Health Education Center
P.O. Box 32861
Charlotte, NC 28232-2861

PREVENTION: SO THAT TOMORROW MAY COME

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month Seminar

Wednesday, May 19, 1993

11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

(Check-in begins at 11 a.m.)

Government House Hotel, 201 South McDowell St., Charlotte, N.C.

Why You Should Attend

☐ William R. Young, M.S., Director, Masters & Johnson Institute, will discuss such topics as what families should know about sexuality education, sexuality myths and misconceptions, and the teenage perspective.

☐ Panel Discussion will feature human services professionals sharing information about successful prevention programs in our area.

☐ Displays will provide information on adolescent sexuality, pregnancy and prevention issues. You are invited to display your agency's materials. To reserve your space, call 355-3696.

☐ Lunch and breaks will offer opportunities for networking with your peers.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MONDAY, MAY 10, 5 P.M.

Registration Form

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month: So That Tomorrow May Come

FEE: \$25.00 (Includes lunch)

Name _____ Soc. Security # _____

Employer _____

Degree/Discipline _____ Phone (day) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Method of Payment

☐ Check enclosed \$ _____

☐ Charge my: ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard Exp. Date _____

Account No. _____

Signature _____

☐ Payment by your organization approved. Check to be mailed to AHEC.

Authorized Signature _____

Mail registration and payment to: Charlotte AHEC
Attn. Registrar AH
PO Box 32861
Charlotte, NC 28232

FOR OFFICE USE: CA IN VI MC P F CK# _____ AMT\$ _____ C2333

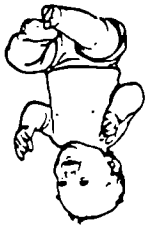


Don't Let Your Prom Date Turn Into A Due Date

This message, part of Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week, is brought to you by Mecklenburg County Chain Reaction, the March of Dimes Youth Leadership Council — for high school students dedicated to improving the health of our nation's newborns. For information, call the March of Dimes Campaign for Healthier Babies, 377-2009.

Don't let the Jr./Sr.
make you a Senior
with a Junior.

In New Hanover County
in 1991 there were 482
teenage pregnancies.



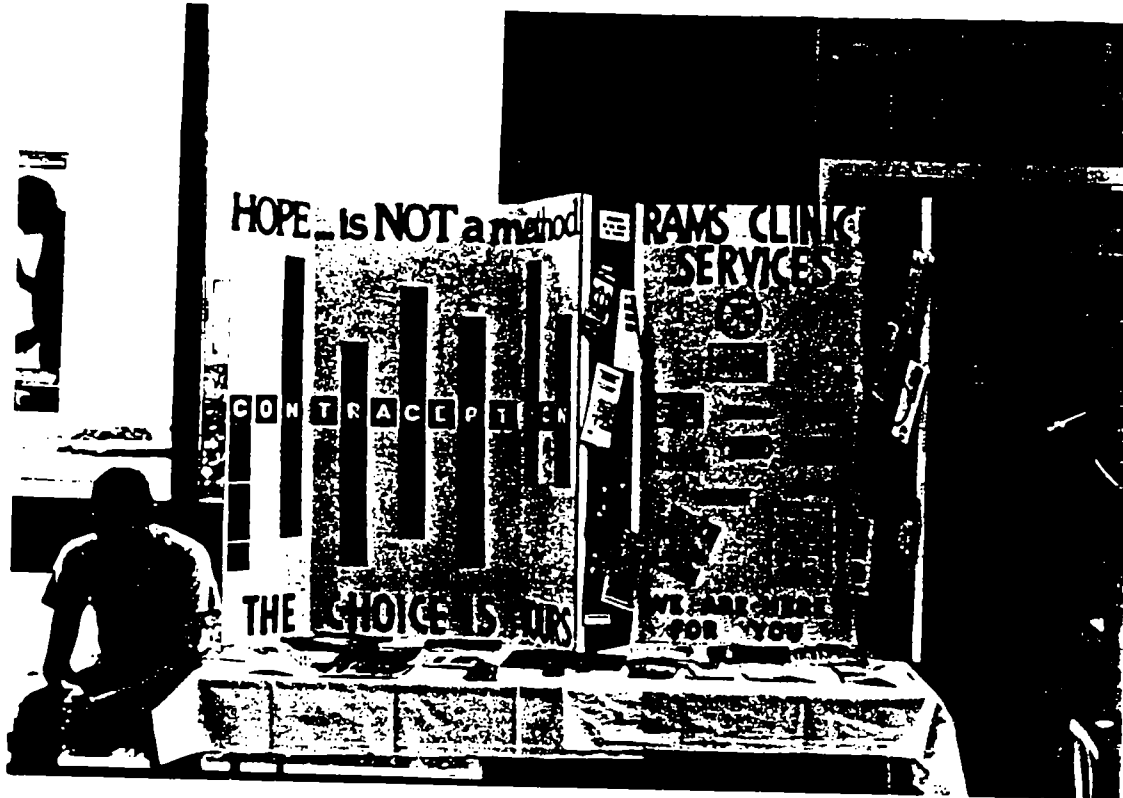
May is Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month

Sponsored by the

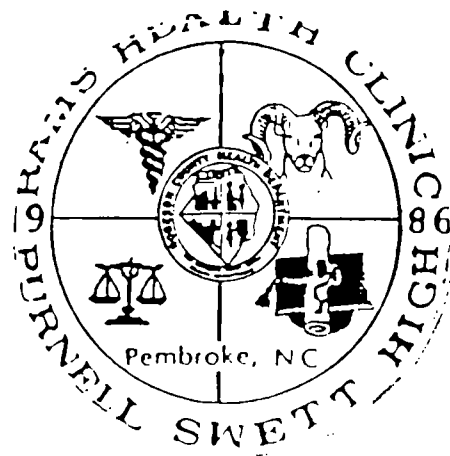


and the Mr. Yes Program

(919) 343-0198



BOOTH AT PURNELL SWITT HIGH SCHOOL
TEACHER/PARENT NIGHT



BUTTON

MAY IS ...

Teen Pregnancy

PREVENTION

MONTH

New Prospect Holiness Methodist Church

June 30, 1993

Teen Pregnancy and Self Esteem

- I. Introductions
- II. Icebreaker : M&M game
This game is played to show the interrelationship between choices and consequences.
- III. Teen Self Esteem
- IV. Teen Pregnancy and its consequences (personal, county and state)
- V. What can we do? Communication tips for Parents

FOR EVERY



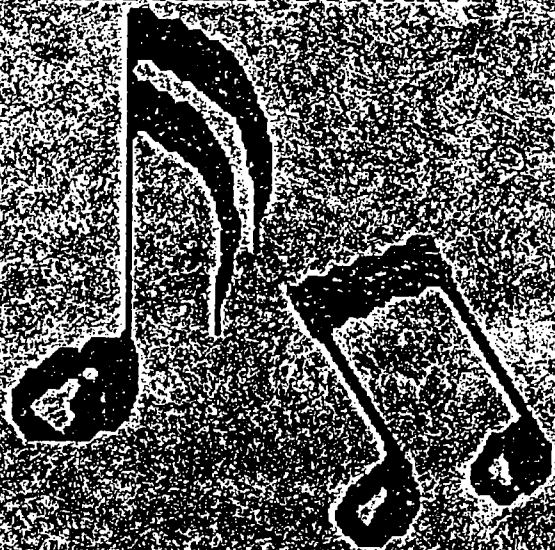
**WE SPEND ON ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY
PROGRAMS IN NORTH CAROLINA**



IS SPENT ON PREVENTION

THE NORTH CAROLINA COALITION ON ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY

THERE WILL NEVER BE
ANOTHER TONIGHT



PROM 1993

BE RESPONSIBLE

JUST SAY NO

RAMS HEALTH
CLINIC

WE CARE ABOUT YOU

2 3 4 5 6 7



ROCKINGHAM
COUNTY
HEALTH
DEPARTMENT

Eight popular reasons for having sex ... That no smart teenager would use.

1) Your partner says that if you don't it means, "you don't love me."

A person who loves you doesn't push you into doing things you don't feel right about. A person who loves you respects your beliefs.

2) All your friends are doing it.

Maybe all your friends just say they do it. *Lots of young men and women don't have sex.*

3) It proves that you're grown up.

What proves that you're grown up is your ability to educate yourself. Decide what you think is right and stick to your beliefs.

4) You're just curious.

Curiosity is a pretty poor (and risky) reason to have sex.

5) You want to lose your virginity, to get it over with.

Think about what message that attitude sends. For others to respect you, you have to respect yourself.

6) You want to be cool like everybody else.

Most people who talk about how "cool" they are really aren't. It makes more sense to tell the truth or say nothing. (Most people think that you know more than you're telling when you say nothing).

7) You owe it to a date who buys you dinner or takes you someplace nice.

Return the favor! Next time you pick up the check.

8) You won't get any dates if you don't.

Who wants to date somebody who only wants your body? You're too smart and special for that.

So what's wrong with saying no?

Nothing! Lots of people of every age aren't having sex because they choose not to. Even if you have already had sex you can still decide it's not for you - not now. If you decide you are going to say no to sex for now, make it work. Stay out of situations where it might be hard to say no (like hours spent alone together, using alcohol or other drugs- people make lousy decisions when they are under the influence of drugs.) and say up front "that's not for me" to the people you date. Be smart, be proud of yourself. Save some of the good things for later on in life when the opportunities to love and be loved carry less risk. You'll be in good company.

Just Say No!

We all know that abstaining from sex and drug use greatly reduces your risk of contracting HIV. Here are some other reasons to say no:

Everyday :

9,589 teens develop an STD
2,740 teenage girls become pregnant
1,140 have abortions
1,336 give birth

Besides the risk of pregnancy and contracting STD's, there are emotional and psychological reasons as well. Many young people have sex as a means of receiving love, and self esteem. Unfortunately, those are the two things they usually don't get from sex. Having sex before you're emotionally ready can be a disappointing experience which leads to loss of respect for yourself, and your body. As far as love is concerned, the difference between it, and physical attraction can be confusing no matter how old you are, but love

Why?

based on conditions, "if you really loved me you would" is unhealthy at any age. Besides, there are many ways to show someone you love them without having sex with them. Becoming sexually active before you are ready can also make it more difficult to develop positive relationships when you are older. These issues should be considered when deciding whether or not to have sex.

So, what do they say yes to? Things that they enjoy doing. Activities that make them feel good about themselves. Completing tasks that they have assigned themselves, fulfilling their goals, school projects, planning social events, becoming involved with positive organizations that help others. It is important for young people to decide what makes them happy, and what makes them proud of themselves. Building positive self esteem is the key to self determination, and that is what will make a teenager, or any one else for that matter abstain until they are ready to enter a mutually monogamous relationship.

Here are some tips for teenagers who decide they want to say no:

- **Make a commitment to yourself.** Decide what you feel is right and what you need to feel good about yourself. Don't let others make those decisions for you.
- **Avoid being completely alone with a date.** Try and date in groups. Don't visit his/her house when no one else is home, park in secluded areas, or walk in woods alone. Avoid things that may influence your behavior like drugs and alcohol they may cause you to temporarily forget your commitment to abstain.



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Chairman
RUSSELL DUNCAN
Vice Chairman
ROBERT Z. HAWKINS
Commissioner
TONY HELTON
Commissioner
ADEN LYNCH
Commissioner

JOHN W. CONDREY
County Manager
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Personnel/Planning Director
STELLA WOMACK
Finance Director
WALTER DALTON
County Attorney
HAZEL S. HAYNES
Clerk to the Board

Rutherford County

601 North Main Street
Rutherfordton, NC 28139
(704) 287-6045
(704) 287-6262 FAX

TO: Buck Petty, Superintendent
High School Principals
High School English Teachers

FROM: Rutherford County Family Planning Council
Barbara Anderson, Chairperson

RE: Essay Contest

May has been designated as TEEN PREGNANCY AWARENESS MONTH. In conjunction with this the Family Planning Council is sponsoring an essay contest open to ALL High School Students.

Contest Rules are as follows:

1. Topics can be anything dealing with any aspect of teen pregnancy (even a young mans viewpoint).
2. Length should be 300 to 500 words.
3. Judging will be based on content rather than grammatics.
4. Essays will be judged and winners announced by the Family Planning Council.
5. Deadline for entry will be May 7, 1993.

*****Winners announced May 21, 1993*****

Contest Prizes:

Each High School will receive 1st place student - \$100
2nd place student - \$ 75
3rd place student - \$ 50

The English teacher of the 1st place student will also receive a prize of \$25.00.

The Council will pick up the essays on May 7th by 3pm or May 10th before 12 noon.

For more information please contact Sherry Miller - 287-6049
Susan Good - 287-6339
Barbara Anderson - 287-6344

Please encourage all students who are interested to enter. This contest is for any student interested in expressing their opinion on this subject matter. The essays will not be judged on grammatics. The Council is more interested in hearing teens views on this subject.



Essay winners named

Danny Hirt photo

Winners were recently announced in the Rutherford County Family Planning Council's essay contest held in conjunction with Teen Pregnancy Awareness Month. First place prize was \$100, second, \$75 and third, \$50. The English teachers for the first place winners were each awarded \$25. The winners were (l-r): front row — Lynn Davis (teacher at R-S Central), Kathy Craft (Chase), Joy Crom-

er (East Rutherford), Jennifer Wilkerson (first place, East), Kristi Reid (first, Chase), Chris Lancaster (first, R-S), council members Barbara Anderson, Sherry Miller and John Con-drey; middle row — second place, Lee Davis (East) and Nikol McKinney (Chase); back row — third place, Brandon Childress (East), Jamie Gilbert (Chase) and Karen Camp (R-S). Absent from the photo was Andy Gib-bon, second place finisher from R-S.

QUOTES FROM ESSAY CONTEST SPONSORED IN
ALL THREE HIGH SCHOOLS "TEEN PREGNANCY:
THE CONCERNS, ISSUES AND SOLUTIONS"

"In schools, sex education should be taught to kids before they become teenagers and get themselves into trouble. Early education can warn them and make them understand how one dumb teenage act can ruin their life forever."

"Teenage pregnancy is an alarming thing in today's society. You can walk down the halls of most high schools and see ten or more girls pregnant."

"Being a junior in high school, it (teen pregnancy) is a subject that I am closely in touch with each day. A few of my friends, and many of my acquaintances have become pregnant within the past few years. Most of the pregnancies resulted from carelessness, misleading rumors, and ignorance of facts."

"There is a major problem in sexual education at schools. If this class is taught, sex is usually not adequately covered. They try to teach it in a cute fashion by showing film strips such as "Captain Condom" or "Sally Syphilis", then the teachers usually asks if anyone has any questions, knowing that most students are too embarrassed to ask. They should teach that abstinence is best, and then go over all of the methods of birth control."

"More education in schools would cut down on pregnancy."

"Parents need to take the responsibility to talk to their kids about sex."

"We need to start sex education young and be more open with it. Teachers and guidance counselors should make it clear to children that it is okay to talk openly about sex and pregnancy."

"There is always going to be some teens determined to have sex, but not ready for a child."

"They (parents) need to teach them abstinence, but if they do decide to have sex, they need to know how to protect themselves from pregnancies, AIDS and other STD's."

"I think that this (teen pregnancy) is partly the fault of the parents and partly the fault of the school systems because they are not educating the teens enough about sex and about the consequences of practicing unsafe sex."

"As an eighteen year old planning her high school graduation, I believe abstinence is the best birth control method. But in today's society, I feel it is unrealistic. Teenagers need to be educated at home and at school. Education ends ignorance. ...Encourage people to speak their minds, to stand up for what is right and moral, to make a difference. Help future generations set goals to reach for and help them to reach them. But most importantly, educate, because success has roots."

"Because some parents do not take the responsibility of teaching their kids about sex, the schools should. The school provides sex education when the students are in elementary, but as the students get older they stop. Sex education should be carried out through high school."

"Today, teen pregnancies strike anyone from drop-outs to cheerleaders."

"Teen pregnancy is everyone's problem, not just the ones it happens to. Pregnancy as well as sexually transmitted diseases do not discriminate against anyone. Let's talk about sex!"

"Misconceptions I've heard are: You can't get pregnant if you take a shower right after sex, abortions can be done by a coat hanger, you can't get pregnant while having your period, and you can't get pregnant while having sex in a pool. Somewhere in their education these people either skipped sex education, or they were not adequately taught."

IN NORTH CAROLINA AND WAKE COUNTY, TEEN PREGNANCY IS NO
JOKE!!!!

DURING TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH YOU CAN HELP US
BY:

- ♦ DOING A TV SHOW DEVELOPED TO TEEN PREGNANCY
- ♦ DOING A RADIO SHOW DEVELOPED TO TEEN PREGNANCY
- ♦ DOING PSA'S THAT WILL HELP TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC
- ♦ HIGHLIGHTING THE ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY PROGRAMS IN
WAKE COUNTY. THIS WILL HELP TO HEIGHTEN THE AWARENESS
OF THE PROGRAMS SO PEOPLE WILL KNOW WHERE TO GO FOR
HELP.

Please join the following agencies to help make this a successful
multi-media endeavor,

- North Carolina Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy
- Wake County Council on Adolescent Pregnancy
- Wake County Department of Health
- Wake County Department of Social Services
- YWCA of Wake County Inc.

For more information please call Phyllis Pittman at 834-7386.

PROGRAMS/RESOURCES

Brothers to Brother
Wake County Department of Health
10 Sunnybrook Road
Post Office Box 14049
Raleigh, North Carolina 27690
250-3990
Contact: Rick Peppers, Project Coordinator

This is an abstinence-based peer mentoring program for young minority males ages 10-14.

Cycle Busters
Wake County Department of Social Services
336 Fayetteville Street Mall
Post Office Box 1247
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602
856-7000
Contact: Nancy Godwin, Project Manager

This program work with teen mothers who have dropped out of school and who are receiving public assistance in Wake County.

NEW HORIZONS
YWCA of Wake County, Inc.
554 East Hargett Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601
834-7386
Contact: Phyllis Pittman, Program Director

This program seek to delay sexual activity by increasing self-worth through various activities through a club structure. Participants are male and female adolescents 9-14 years of age.

Wake County Council on Adolescent Pregnancy
Post Office Box 46195
Raleigh, North Carolina 27620
Contact: Patricia A. Yancey
Raleigh Office of the NC Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy
787-1116

The Council is a non-profit, community-based organization whose mission is to advocate for strategies and programs which serve Wake County's youth in the area of pregnancy prevention, teen parenting, and teen sexuality issues.



Central Administration
1012 Oberlin Road
Raleigh, NC 27605
919-828-3205

Hargett Street Branch
554 East Hargett Street
Raleigh, NC 27601
919-834-7386

Oberlin Road Branch
1012 Oberlin Road
Raleigh, NC 27605
919-828-3205

TO: Youth, Parents, Educators and Churches

FROM: Phyllis Pittman
New Horizons Program Director

DATE: May 14, 1993

SUBJECT: Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month/Walk-A-Thon

As you are probably aware Governor James B. Hunt has proclaimed May "Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month" in North Carolina. In its observance several organizations have joined forces with the YWCA's New Horizons Program to sponsor a three (3) mile walk-a-thon for youth, parents, educators, etc. This walk-a-thon is to take place May 22nd at the Edenton Street Methodist Church's parking lot.

The purpose of this event is two-folded 1) to educate people on teen pregnancy and 2) to heighten the awareness of the teen pregnancy prevention programs for males and females in Wake County. To further support the purpose, PSAs were sent to area television and radio stations, and television and/or radio shows are being planned which will address this important issue.

Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m., with the walk starting at 9:00 a.m. WFXC-FOXY 104/107 will be on hand after the walk and hot dogs and beverages will be served. Materials on teen pregnancy and programs in Wake County will be available.

Agencies co-sponsoring this event with the YWCA's "New Horizons Program" are: Wake County's Department of Health "Brothers to Brother Program"; Wake County's Department of Social Services "Cycle Busters Program" and; Wake Council on Adolescent Pregnancy.

Please bring your group out and walk with us in support of teen pregnancy prevention. Call me at 834-7386 for more information and to also confirm your attendance. Thanking you in advance for your understanding and support.



A United Way Member Agency

ONE IMPERATIVE:
ELIMINATION OF RACISM



TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION — Top photo, Rick Peppers of Brother To Brother is shown heightening the awareness of the Teen Prevention Programs for males and females in Wake County. Bottom photo: To help educate people of teen pregnancy, a 3-mile Walk-A-Thon was held

along Edenton and Hillsborough Streets. Several local agencies joined the YWCA's New Horizons Program in co-sponsoring the event. Gov. James Hunt proclaimed May Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month in North Carolina. Photo, James Giles

NEWSPAPER/ NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

THE ACAP UPDATE

Spring 1994

Volume 1 Issue 1

MAY IS TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH

EDUCATION + SUPPORT = PREVENTION

Welcome to the newly redeveloped ACAP newsletter. Our newsletter will be printed and distributed quarterly to all current paid members, agency providers, government officials and other interested persons. We hope to keep you abreast of trends, programs, and happenings in the area of adolescent pregnancy, too-early sexuality and prevention work. We hope you will find this informative and interesting.

We ask that you share it with coworkers, colleagues, and friends because education is the primary means to prevention. And, it's important for adults to remember that adolescent pregnancy is not just something for kids to be concerned about. We all have a role to play in preventing adolescent pregnancy.... If you are a parent, grandparent, guardian, aunt, uncle, teacher, coach, minister, volunteer, counselor, neighbor, employer, or friend to a young person you can help in many ways - through your actions, relationships, discussions with young people.

Remember that adolescents need:

- Confidence and self-esteem
- Caring support and love in their families, schools, religious congregations and communities
- Consciousness-raising about the consequences of too-early sexuality and parenthood
- Clear and consist values so they understand what parents and others think and expect of them
- Conversation on abstinence and sexual responsibility in the living room, classroom, and Sunday school room
- Constructive alternatives to life-limiting situations including pregnancy, substance use, and dropping out of school
- Communication, communication, communication
- Counseling and adult support at critical life choice points
- Confidentiality so they don't fear seeking the information and help they need to prevent pregnancy
- Comprehensive, convenient, and coordinated services
- Curricula on family life education that begins before they are teenagers
- Contraception if they are sexually active
- Childcare if they become parents, so they can stay in school, develop a skill, and get a job.

AGENCY NEWS

The last half of 1993 and the first three months of 1994 have been extremely busy, productive times for ACAP staff.

The first board orientation was held in December of 1993 to orient new and current board members about the problem of adolescent pregnancy, ACAP's history and programs, and board and volunteer roles and responsibilities. Board manuals containing all this information and more was provided for each board member. Feedback shared indicated that this was a very informative and valuable activity for both board and staff. This will be an annual event prior to the beginning of new board terms.

Since then board and staff have been very busy with short- and long-range planning for the agency. A fund-raising plan and timeline have been developed for 1994 and 1995 - we have some very exciting plans in the works.

As you probably know, ACAP is still conducting our membership campaign for 1994. Response has been extremely good so far. We will share the results in our summer newsletter (due out in June or July). If you have not yet joined and are interested in supporting our prevention efforts, contact Dawn at 227-2622 for more details.

Continued on page 3

ADOLESCENT

ADVOCATE

May, 1994
Teen Pregnancy
Prevention
Month

CALDWELL COUNCIL ON ADOLESCENT HEALTH, PO BOX 2564, LENOIR, NC (704) 757-9020

Governor Hunt has proclaimed the month of May 1994, as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month. Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month was started in 1991 as a statewide education and awareness effort by the North Carolina Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy (NCCAP).

This year, forty-four organizations and the State Departments of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources, Human Resources and Public Instruction have joined forces with the Coalition in hopes of bringing attention to North Carolina's teen pregnancy problem and how it might be addressed by communities. Among the forty-four co-sponsoring organizations are Cities In Schools of North Carolina, the Governor's Commission on the Reduction of Infant Mortality, NC Association of Educators, NC Child Advocacy Institute, the NC Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers, NC Medical Society Alliance, and The NC Nurses Association. These organizations and the Coalition will conduct public awareness initiatives throughout the state. In many local communities community forums, meetings and media events have been planned.

According to statistics compiled by the State Center for Health and Environmental Statistics, more than 25,000 young women ages 10-19 became pregnant in 1992. More than half of these 25,000 plus pregnancies result in live births. Ninety percent of these pregnancies were unintentional, and more than seventy-nine percent were out of wedlock.

Teenage pregnancy significantly affects the health of teenagers as well as their economic and educational future. Of the young women who give birth, ninety-eight percent keep their babies. Typically, teen parents have few employment skills and are often unable to complete their education. In fiscal year 1991, adolescent childbearing cost the state of North Carolina more than \$458 million.

Ms. Barbara Huberman, Executive Director of the NC Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy said, "A month of awareness will not, by itself prevent teen pregnancies, but it can help teenagers, parents, educators, community leaders focus on strategies that help young people make responsible sexual decisions."

Among a few of the successful prevention strategies cited by Ms. Huberman were programs and curricula that teach students to postpone sexual involvement, comprehensive family life education, programs that teach male responsibility, and access to comprehensive adolescent health and family planning services.

Will your teen be receiving this in '94 . . . or this?



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Ervil Anderson
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Pat Eller,
I & R, RN

Shirley White,
PSI Instructor

Carol DeFouw
Admin. Assistant

FAMILY

Out

Discuss sex with kids now; you won't regret it, expert says

By ANN DOSS HELMS
Staff Writer

As a Southern Baptist minister, William Young wasn't particularly comfortable talking about sex. One day, while working as a racetrack chaplain, an attractive thoroughbred trainer named Lisa



Young

Johnson caught his eye. They began dating, and she took him to meet her mother: sex research pioneer Virginia Johnson.

One thing led to another. Now Young is Lisa's husband and director of the Masters & Johnson Institute in St. Louis, which does sex research and education.

These days he does a lot of talking about sex, including a two-hour speech at a Charlotte seminar on teen pregnancy prevention on Wednesday, sponsored by the Charlotte Area Health Education Center and the Mecklenburg Council on Adolescent Pregnancy. And yes, he's fairly comfortable with it, mixing wisecracks and quips with serious talk

about how desperately teens need honest information.

The issue of teen sexuality and pregnancy bears personal urgency for Young, 40. He has two daughters, ages 10 and 7. So far, the toughest question he's gotten was the age-old one, asked by his younger daughter when she was 5: "Where do babies really come from?"

He did what he advises all parents to do: Answered calmly and truthfully, listened to her follow-up questions, and hoped for the best.

"It was tough because it's hard to describe on a 5-year-old level without scaring them about the act of sex," he recalled.

Young has also been a staff therapist at Masters & Johnson and a family counselor in private practice. Here are his thoughts for parents and educators, condensed from his talk and an interview afterward:

■ On children's questions about sex:

"They start asking these questions as soon as they get some kind of verbal skill, and they ask these questions frequently. You've got to communicate back to them in a simple, open and truthful manner.

Kids recognize a fake when they see it. . . . Try not to express any embarrassment and discomfort.

"When a high school girl asks you what an orgasm is, you know what? That is not only an appropriate question, that's a great question.

"We've got to avoid lecturing about sex. . . . If we don't know something, we ought to say that. We should never deny information, though.

"I think what I'm saying is we have to be non-shockable. They're going to ask some tough questions — and some very wonderful questions."

■ On talking to children early:

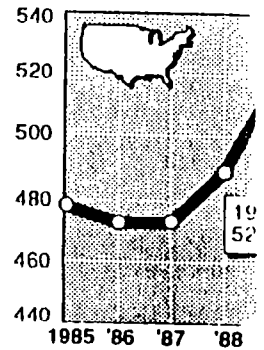
"If you wait until your kid is a teenager before discussing puberty, you've lost the kid. That's where we mess up horrendously. We wait too long.

"Physical changes like breast development and menstruation and nocturnal emissions frequently occur prior to age 10, so if you wait, it's too late. There are still young boys who believe they are bleeding to death when they have a nocturnal emission, even though it's not the color of blood or consistency of blood and it's semipleasurable. Nobody

Please see Education/next page

Teen pregnancies

Teen pregnancies increased 9.6% in the U.S. between 1985 and 1990. Teenagers in those age 19 and under.



SOURCE: The Alan Guttmacher Institute

Knight-Ridder

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mes: Good experience

mes actually may be good for en. "The toys and games of any pare young people for adult oc- Patricia Marks Greenfield, a ssion of psychology, tell-



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brought of

Discuss sex with kids now, expert says

From preceding page

has told them that nocturnal emissions are natural."

■ On abstinence and sex education:

"Effective sexuality education begins with the message that abstinence is the best choice for young people. . . . No teenager in America is ready for sex, but that doesn't change the facts.

"Only three in 10 teenagers remain virgins by their high school graduation, and only a handful by the time they get married, so we're dealing with something of tremendous proportion here. The argument that talking about it and providing contraception promotes sexual activity is a blatant lie. I read about flying, but I've never tried to flap my wings and jump off a building."

■ On effective pregnancy prevention programs:

"We were talking about one school system in Baltimore, Md., where one school received comprehensive sexuality education and referred to the school clinic for contraceptive information and devices when needed. Researchers compared this setting with a control group that got neither the sexuality education nor the health clinic, and teen pregnancies went up by more than 30% in the control group and were down by more than 50% in the Baltimore system that used this. . . . Most telling was that among the kids in this program, their average age at first intercourse was delayed by about six months. That's significant.

"Some people say we're giving a confusing message to young people: 'Wait to have sex, but if you don't wait, protect yourself and others from pregnancy and disease.' I don't think there's anything confusing at all.

"This apparent double message was effective when it was used in South Carolina recently, and it was a rural northwest corner (the town of Denmark), a region where traditional family values are very strong, where liberal sentiments are rare, to say the least. University of South Carolina teamed up parents and the clergy and the teachers and the media to agree to consistently give that double message as a project, and it worked. . . . Over a four-year period, pregnancies among 14- to 17-year-olds were cut by 40%.

"No purely abstinence-only program has ever demonstrated these same kinds of results, anywhere."

■ On adolescent sexuality:

what is.

"Sexually healthy adolescents appreciate their own bodies. They interact with both genders in appropriate and respectful ways. They express love and intimacy in appropriate ways. They identify their own values. They don't let others impress upon them the way they have to live, but work it out for themselves. Pushing and shoving and struggling and fighting and learning and cussing and fussing, they find out what life is all about.

"They take responsibility for their own behaviors. They also ask questions of parents and other adults about sexual issues. They enjoy sexual feelings without necessarily having to act on them. They are able to communicate and negotiate sexual limits, as all adults should be able to do. They also communicate desires not to have sex, and accept these refusals. And also, they use contraception effectively."

■ On parental sexuality:

"How about the myth that sex should always be spontaneous — folks, when was the last time sex was spontaneous in your life? The first time you had a child was the last time it was spontaneous, and from that time on, that child was the best form of contraception known to man. If you do it, they will come. . . . It's four in the morning, they've got their blanket and their stuffed animals and they're standing at your door: 'What are you doing?' My kids are shape-shifters; they can get under my door."

■ On masturbation:

"If you don't like the word 'masturbation,' call it self-stimulation, or autoerotic stimulation, but let's talk about it. It is not evil. It is a choice. It is not bad unless, like any behavior, it becomes compulsive."

■ On what young people need:

"We have to consider that young people do want to be responsible, and are responsible up to a point, and it's our job to help them with that value.

"Sex is an intrinsically good power, but like all powers it has to have a sense of control to it. "Young people have to be made to understand that there are ways to give and receive sexual pleasure that do not include intercourse. When you discuss sexual limits, they need to understand that sexual intercourse is not the way to achieve adulthood.

"What do kids need? They need honesty. They need comfort with the subject. They need an available ear. They need acceptance and understanding. They also need loving guidance over the rocky road

The Charlotte Observer

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RICHARD OPPEL, *Editor*

JOHN LUBY, *General Manager*

GENE WILLIAMS, *Executive Vice President*

ED WILLIAMS, *Editor of the Editorial Pages*

TOM BRADBURY, JERRY SHINN, *Associate Editors*

Sunday, April 21, 1991

• • • •

Editorials

Help stop teen pregnancies

A timely week of awareness could be important first step

More teens get pregnant in April and May than any other time of the year, according to the N.C. Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy. "Maybe it's prom time, spring fever, free time — we don't know," says the coalition. But it has decided to declare May 5-12 "Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week," and that's a good and timely idea.

Designating a week of awareness won't, by itself, prevent many teen pregnancies, of course. But it can be a good start. At helping teens become more aware of some of the problems associated with teenage pregnancy, and at a time of year when many teens get pregnant.

The state coalition wants churches, businesses, the media, parents, agencies, educational institutions, policy makers and health providers to sponsor events or create awareness campaigns that will give teens the message that teenage pregnancy is not all right: It can cause health problems for teen mothers. It disrupts the education and growing-up time of teenage mothers and sometimes of their babies' fathers. And it makes teens financially and emotionally responsible for another life when they are not yet prepared to be

fully responsible for their own lives.

While pregnancy rates have dropped among Mecklenburg County teens under 14, they have increased among teens 18 to 19 years old. Even worse, 48% of 18- and 19-year-olds who gave birth in 1989 were having their 2nd, 3rd or 4th baby.

Teen pregnancy can represent a crushing, continuing personal burden not only for the teenager, but also for the other lives it touches. It also is a large burden on society. Mecklenburg County spends \$18 million a year on teenage child bearing. North Carolina spends \$270 million. And in some cases, the social costs will continue through each baby's lifetime.

Let's hope a week of special focus on the problem will produce ongoing efforts that will make a difference.

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week will include a conference on "Sexuality and Spirituality: The Role of Religious Institutions in the Prevention of Adolescent Pregnancy" to be held in Raleigh on May 9. For more information about that or other activities, or ways you can get involved, call the North Carolina Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy in Charlotte, 335-1313.

Editorial Notebook: Jerry Shinn

The Conduit

CATAWBA COUNTY COUNCIL ON ADOLESCENTS

"A Sound Channel for Prevention"

Volume 1 Issue 3

Spring 1993

May is Teen Pregnancy Month

from the Director

May has been proclaimed Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month in North Carolina. "So how do we do it?" you ask. In a word, "together."

The African proverb that the child must be raised by the village has never been more true. A resolution to problems associated with early sexual involvement will come about only when disparate groups come together and begin to see young people as whole beings. Teens are not just organs that become pregnant, or contract STD's. They are not just brains whose thinking becomes disoriented from drugs. They are not just muscles which play sports.

Teens are human beings with real problems which are important to them. When their problems are not solved, they look for resolutions which may not be healthy. They need confidence in themselves and competence to fulfill their expectations. They need clear, accurate, sequential information from educational institutions. They need spiritual guidance from churches and their families to develop values and morals. They need health services which are accessible to them geographically and financially. They need role models. They need to have safe places to be with their friends. They need hope that when they "grow up" they can be what they want to be.

As a community, we must proclaim Teen Wellness every month. Maybe then May won't have to be Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month anymore.

Metrobits BY VANCE CARIAGA

Rock Redux

Last week's cover story reported on the recent firing of Fighting Back Project Director Nathaniel Rock, who was let go for being "insubordinate" to Mecklenburg Area Mental Health director Peter Safir. Safir was out of town and unavailable for comment when the story was being put together. He did return calls last week, but could offer little in the way of comment.

"I can't really talk about the specifics of the firing," he said. What he did say was that

the appeal Rock is filing should begin working its way through official circles in "about two or three weeks."

Meanwhile, Rock learned last week that Safir has taken over interim control of Fighting Back projects during the appeal process. He found out about it last Thursday, when he was invited to sit on the panel of *Black Agenda Live*, a call-in show on Public Access television. Mecklenburg County commissioner Bob Walton, also on the panel, mentioned it in response to a caller's question. Apparently no one with the county bothered to tell Rock about it.

Teenage Pregnancy Update

Despite last week's report that Mecklenburg County's overall teenage birth rate showed a slight decrease in 1992, local officials weren't doing much celebrating.

That's because live births to children 14 years of age and younger showed a whopping 44 percent increase over the previous year.

According to data compiled by the Mecklenburg Council on Adolescent Pregnancy (MCAP), 66 live births to 14-and-under girls were reported locally in 1992. In 1991, only 46 such births were reported.

Overall, teenage pregnancies were down 1.7 percent.

"We're real worried about the 44 percent increase in 14-and-under births," says MCAP Director Jo Kelly. "The main thing that distresses me is that we as a community are not offering any reasons for these girls not to get pregnant. They're not getting enough information. There's no comprehensive sexuality education in our public schools, and many of the churches in high-risk areas are not addressing these issues. So children aren't getting the

right messages about responsible sexual relations."

Kelly says she's also concerned about the high percentage of Low Birth Weight babies. In 1991, 27 percent of babies born to teenagers suffered from Low or Very Low Birth Weights.

"Low birth weight has all kinds of implications," she says. "It means that young girls do not have access to family planning, and that their babies are developmentally delayed. In the long run, a lot of these babies are going to end up with mental or physical deficiencies. And we're going to end up paying for them. If we would put more money into preventing these problems, we'd save money in the long run."

Work may finally be underway to do just that. Earlier this year, Mecklenburg County

continued on on next page

METROBITS

continued from previous page

commissioners enlisted MCAP to develop a plan to reduce the number of teenage pregnancies by 50 percent by the year 2000. Kelly admits it's a "lofty goal," but she's looking forward to the challenge.

"I'm delighted the county wants to take some real steps toward addressing the problem," Kelly says. "We need more funding for outreach, but at least we've been given the go ahead to do something about the problem."



NEWSLINE

MECKLENBURG COUNCIL ON ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY

"So That Tomorrow May Come"

Number 41

Second Quarter 1993

MAY IS TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH

In recognition of the importance of the issue, Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week has been extended. Effective this year, May is Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month.

MCAP will be observing the occasion with a variety of activities designed to heighten awareness of adolescent pregnancy. These include:

Prevention: So That Tomorrow May Come - a seminar on May 19, co-sponsored by MCAP and AHEC. Keynote speaker will be William R. Young, Director of the Masters & Johnson Institute.

Agency-to-Agency Roundtable for service providers on repeat pregnancy. The Roundtable will be held Tuesday, May 25.

Media campaign, including public service announcements and press releases on teen pregnancy issues and activities scheduled for May. Area media will be encouraged to disseminate information about adolescent pregnancy during May and, look for **billboards** in the 5 high-risk zip codes!

Director of the Masters & Johnson Institute To Address Seminar

William R. Young, Director of the Masters & Johnson Institute in St. Louis, will be the keynote speaker at a seminar sponsored by MCAP and AHEC (Charlotte Area Health Education Center) for Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month. His topic will be "Teens, Families & Sex". He will discuss such topics as what families should know about sexuality education, sexuality myths and misconceptions, and the teenage perspective.

The seminar, entitled "Prevention: So That Tomorrow May Come" will be held on Wednesday, May 19, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the Government House Hotel, 201 S. McDowell St. in Charlotte.

Mr. Young, who is also a Southern Baptist minister, has been a staff therapist at the Institute for seven years, and director since 1992. He is the third director in the Institute's history, following Dr. William Masters and Dr. Virginia Johnson.

The seminar will also include a panel discussion on "Accentuating the Positive-Prevention Programs That Work". Panelists will include Ben Ellington, Teens in Touch, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Urban League; B. Stanley Graham, A Male's Place, Mecklenburg County Health Department; and Ray Wilson, Project HOPE, Mecklenburg County Health Department.

Cost of the seminar, which includes lunch, is \$25. Area service agencies dealing with adolescent sexuality issues are invited to distribute information.

For reservations or more information, call MCAP, 332-6721 or AHEC, 355-3694.

Mecklenburg County teen pregnancy statistics report for 1992 will be issued by MCAP. If you would like a copy of the report, call MCAP, 332-6721.

May is a great time for discussions of sexuality and adolescent pregnancy prevention - at home, at church and at community groups. Your participation will help make Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month meaningful. For more information about activities planned for May, or information about adolescent pregnancy in our community, call MCAP, 332-6721.

HOORAY! This Resolution is right on target! An identical Resolution was adopted by the Mecklenburg County Commissioners on April 5, 1993 and signed by H. Parks Helms, Chairman. We applaud the involvement of elected officials in teen pregnancy prevention efforts!

RESOLUTION

CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG SCHOOLS ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY

WHEREAS, some 2,200 adolescents currently find themselves pregnant annually in Mecklenburg County,

WHEREAS, adolescent Parent(s) often find themselves unprepared to assume parenthood and the associated responsibility to secure their child's proper growth and development, not the least of which is preparation for learning at school, and

WHEREAS, a significant number of children presently do come to school at age 5 unprepared to learn.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education will:

- 1) Work with all facets of the community (government bodies, volunteer agencies, religious affiliates, etc.) to highlight the extent of the problem.*
- 2) Educate our students on responsible family planning within the context of a thorough human sexuality curriculum, promoting first and foremost abstinence from sex. In the process, the present reality and growing threat of sexually transmitted diseases will be addressed, and*
- 3) Join in the broader community's effort to curb the incidence of adolescent pregnancy by adopting a goal of 10 percent reduction for 1994, and a like reduction annually thereafter - so that by the year 2000, we will pare the present number of adolescent pregnancies by half.*

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education by copy of this resolution encourages fellow members of elected bodies to join us in our effort by adopting goals to address adolescent pregnancy in Mecklenburg County.

George E. Battle Jr., Chairperson
Board of Education

John A. Murphy, Superintendent
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools

Adopted March 23, 1993



NEWSLINE

MECKLENBURG COUNCIL ON ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY

"So That Tomorrow May Come"

Number 42

Third Quarter 1993

William Young, Director, Masters & Johnson Institute, Shared Insights at Seminar

"Prevention: So That Tomorrow May Come" was the topic of a May seminar sponsored by MCAP and the Charlotte Area Health Education Center (AHEC). The seminar was one of Charlotte's Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month activities. Approximately 60 social service providers attended the half-day event.

The keynote speaker was William R. Young, M.S., Director of the Masters & Johnson Institute. His topic was "Teens, Families and Sex". Here are excerpts from Mr. Young's remarks.

"Sex education should increase the learner's knowledge - general knowledge and comfort level with the subject. It has to give values as options and clarify values, so young people can develop and evaluate their own values. The three greatest values are: the value of information - beyond plumbing. There's no evidence that sound knowledge leads to experimentation. The value of responsibility - any action taken with consideration of consequences is a responsible act. The value of control - like all powers, sex needs control to be used responsibly.

We have to address decision-making skills. Most sexuality education programs don't. Most only talk about plumbing, abstinence and one set of values.

We need to discuss readiness for sex, making a decision. If the decision is yes, these are the measures you need to protect yourself and your partner. We need to teach that no sex is worth dying for.

Sex education curriculums should include:

- Complete biological facts
- Care of the sexual system - including self-examination and health care
- Family planning - the basic facts of contraception
- Real differences between men and women - including sex roles, societal expectations and sexual response
- Information about sexuality, not just sex, including acknowledgement that there are different lifestyles
- Facts of masturbation
- Homosexuality
- Possible results of sex
- Place of sex in family life
- Recognition that people don't always have the same feelings for each other

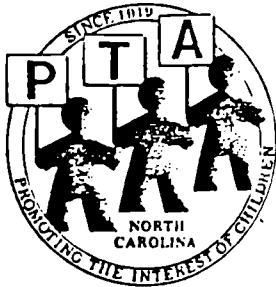


(L-R) Dr. George Cook, Board Member, MCAP; William R. Young, M.S., Director of the Masters & Johnson Institute; Merle Green, Associate Director, Allied Public Health Education, AHEC; Jo L. Kelly, Executive Director, MCAP.

Sexually healthy adolescents:

- Appreciate their own bodies and appreciate differences
- Interact with both genders in appropriate and respectful ways
- Express love and intimacy in appropriate ways
- Avoid exploitive relationships
- Identify their own values
- Take responsibility for their own behaviors
- Communicate effectively with family and friends
- Ask questions about sex of parents and other adults they trust
- Have sexual feelings and accept them
- Can communicate and negotiate sexual limits
- Decide what is personally right and act on those feelings
- Understand consequences of sexual activity
- Talk about sexual activity before it occurs
- Communicate desires not to have sex, use contraceptives effectively
- Practice how to engage in sexually healthy behaviors
- Demonstrate tolerance for people with different values
- Understand the impact of media messages
- Seek information about sex as needed

Kids need understanding, comfort, honesty and loving guidance over the rocky road that we've already traveled."



THE NORTH CAROLINA PARENT-TEACHER BULLETIN

State Membership Goal - 265,250

Membership 3 • 25 • 94 = 268,039

Volume LXIX

April 1994

Number 8

May Is Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month

Teen pregnancy compromises the future and potential of students, leaving them unprepared for the demands and challenges of adulthood. Teens who become pregnant while in school are less likely to complete their education, and more likely to become welfare dependent. These young men and women need their teen years to develop skills and meet their own developmental needs. In addition, teens often lack the parenting skills and maturity to maximize the growth and potential of their own children, who later enter school unprepared to learn and at risk for school failure.

PTAs have been leaders in recognizing and addressing the needs of students and can play an important role in reducing teen pregnancy by offering activities that increase awareness of the consequences of teen pregnancy, and help teens develop decision-making skills that are life enhancing and delay sexual involvement. Teens need adults who are invested in them and believe they are worthwhile. Prevention does make a difference!

Listed below are a few suggestions and ideas for how your PTA can participate in Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month.

- Sponsor a panel discussion of teen parents and grandparents at your junior and senior high schools to share their experiences of the impact of teen pregnancy on their lives.
- Invite a speaker to your May meeting that is knowledgeable about teen pregnancy in your community.
- Sponsor a poster, essay and/or rap contest on Teen Pregnancy Prevention with prizes.
- Advocate for comprehensive life education programs to be taught in your school that will provide students with the skills that are needed for good decision-making.
- Sponsor a health fair; invite local agencies and organizations to participate and share healthy living skills with students.

While teens need our support year round, Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month is a great way to begin exploring what role your PTA can take in reducing teen pregnancy in your community.

For more information, please contact: The North Carolina Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy; 1300 Baxter Street, Suite 171; Charlotte, NC 28204 (704) 335-1313.



THE NORTH CAROLINA PARENT-TEACHER BULLETIN

State Membership Goal - 264,000

Membership 3 • 31 • 93 = 264,617

Volume LXVIII

May 1993

Number 9

May Is Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month

The Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy first held the statewide "Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week" in May since it is known from research that April and May are the highest months of conception for teens. Maybe it's prom time, spring fever, or free time. This year the campaign is being extended to a month to give health agencies, communities, parents, youth organizations, churches, and schools more time to participate in prevention programs. For information contact:

The North Carolina Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy
1300 Baxter Street, Suite 171, Charlotte, NC 28204
1-800-NC-4-FACTS

The following are quotes from Governor James B. Hunt's proclamation:

"Teenage pregnancy significantly affects the health, economic and educational future of teenagers and costs our state more than \$270 million each year.

"Teenage parents are often unable to complete their education, which later results in unemployment, underemployment and dependence on public welfare. Teenage mothers often seek prenatal care late, if at all, and therefore frequently suffer higher than average levels of toxemia, anemia and cervical trauma. Their babies are often born premature and with low birthweights.

"The state of North Carolina is committed to involving churches, businesses, media, parents, agencies, educational institutions, policy makers, and health providers in helping to prevent teenage pregnancy. The purpose of the North Carolina Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy is to advocate and support programs and strategies that prevent adolescent pregnancy and decrease the problems associated with adolescent pregnancy in North Carolina."

For Every



**We Spend On
Adolescent Pregnancy
Programs In
North Carolina,
Only**



**Is Spent On
PREVENT ON.**

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SUCCESS

I tried to teach my child from books,
He gave me only puzzled looks.
I tried to teach my child with words,
They passed by him often unheard.
Despairingly, I turned aside,
How shall I teach this child?, I cried.
Into my hand, he put the key,
"Come," he said,
"And play with me!"

Author Unknown
Reprinted from: Child Care Community Network,
Rockland Council For Young Children

It is not too early to start planning for the 1993-94 school year and what your PTA will do to be the best it can be. Come to a Summer Leadership Conference!

- Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week May 3-9

Contact the North Carolina Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy (NCCAP) for Prevention Program ideas: NCCAP, 1300 Baxter Street, Suite 171, Charlotte, NC 28204 (704) 335-1313.

Why do teens become pregnant? A few reasons are: lack of self-esteem, hopelessness about the future, dysfunctional families, and media influence. Consider this: The media—primarily radio and TV—bear a heavy responsibility. Listen to the words of the music on any radio station which targets the adolescent audience. Watch MTV and listen to the words. Watch a few evenings of prime-time television and note the number of sexual innuendos, references to out-of-wedlock sexual activity, out-of-wedlock pregnancies, and other indications that "everybody's doing it." The most powerful means of communication in our society are giving teens some strong messages about sex.

NORTH CAROLINA PARENT-TEACHER BULLETIN (USPS 392-940)

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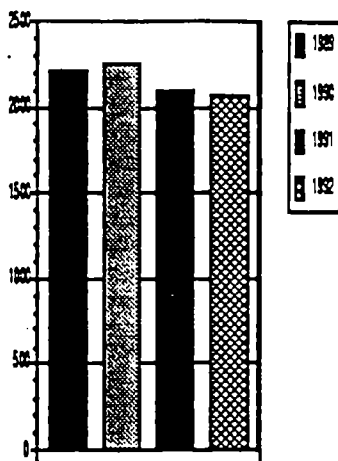
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TEEN PREGNANCIES IN MECKLENBURG



SOURCE/MECKLENBURG COUNCIL ON
ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY

Moms Getting Younger Pregnancies On Rise Among Kids 14 And Under

By Herbert L. White
THE CHARLOTTE POST

Mecklenburg County teens got pregnant less often in 1992 than the year before.

But they had more babies than in 1991. And the mothers are getting younger.

According to statistics released this week by the Mecklenburg Council On Adolescent Pregnancy (MCAP), 2,064 teens became pregnant last year, down 1.7% from 1991's 2,100. The rate of pregnancy remained constant, with one teen impregnated every four hours.

The report recorded the biggest jump in live births among girls 14 and under. Sixty-six girls in that age group gave birth last year, compared to 46 in 1991. Ninety-seven girls 14 and under became pregnant in 1992, compared to 92 the

Rise Among Kids 14 And Under

By Herbert L. White
THE CHARLOTTE POST

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"I get really concerned when I look at that. It's really child abuse," said Jo Kelly, executive director of MCAP. "The really distressing thing is apparently these children don't see any reason for them not to have a child."

Even with fewer pregnancies overall, more girls decided to give birth. Total

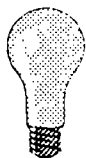
See LIVE BIRTHS On Page 2A

Live Births Increased In 1992

Continued From Page 1A

births increased from 1241 in 1991 to 1260 in 1992, up 1.5%. Therapeutic abortions decreased from 643 to 615 over the year, a 4.4% decrease.

The number of live births were overwhelmingly among black mothers. They accounted for 69% of all births in '91 (758), with five ZIP codes - all in north and west Charlotte - accounting for 602 (54.2%).



GRADUATES 1990-1993

Tamekia Armstrong
Jamie Bennett
Letisha Berry
Alisha Blackmon
Nicole Boswell
Ella Campbell
Melissa Carmichael
Christal Collins
Amanda Renee Craig
La Toya Cureton
Leslie Dilloway
Nikki Dowdy
Amanda Dye
Latoya Gladney
Sherelle Gladney
Kesha Hairston
Renika Hamilton
J'neia Headen
Sallie Alietha Hernandez
Damaka Hilton
Natashia Johnson
Sharonne Johnson
Beth Jordan
Catherine K. Kearse
Jamie Kearse
Olivia Laney
Nikia Ledbetter
Leticia Little
Melanie Lockwood
Latasha Lovet
JoAnna Lyndrup
Andrel McBride
Tiffany McCauley
Shondrika McKinney
Mickey Middlebrooks
Nakeshia Miller
Betina Kay Morrison
Catherine Marie Myers
Jamilia L. Nealy
Sharonne Nelson
Tanisha Nelson
Leslie Ann Newman
Yo Landa Pannell
Michelle Pickenpack
Alicia Poole
Shavonna Ray
Tiffany N. Robinson
Cynthia Rogers
Michelle Rogers
Sharmainia Rorie
Taneshia Rorie
Tanya Shipwash
LaPrina Smith
Tumeka L. Smith
Bridget Soles
Lakita Southern
Loretta Thomas
Leola Tomlin
LaTisha Turner
Tia Turner
Lakiya Ulmer
Toriano Wilfoung
Chiquita Wilson
Kara Woods
Mashika Zimmerman

THINK GRADUATES ANOTHER CLASS!

On June 3, ten young ladies joined an active corps of young leaders who have participated in the **THINK** program. More than three dozen friends and supporters were on hand at Western Steer to congratulate them and to recognize their achievement. Following the graduation dinner, Donna Dinkin welcomed the Spring 1993 participants and asked them to introduce their guests.

Ms. Dinkin outlined the history of the **THINK** program. She recognized individuals and groups that have supported the program for four successful years. Special mention was made of the support provided by the Junior League, the Kiwanis Club, Leadership:High Point and the American Association of University Women.

Debra White, Ferndale School Nurse led applause for the parents and friends who encouraged the participants during their 11-week program. She discussed the criteria and method of selecting the participants. Members of the faculty of Ferndale Middle School looked for evidence of strong natural leadership in the girls they recommended for the program.

Pam Spence, program coordinator from the Guilford County Department of Public Health, described the content of the program.

Dr. Virginia Lewis presented the first American Association of University Women *Leadership Trophy* to Alietha Hernandez. For the Steering Committee, Phil Morris awarded Tiffany McCauley and Jamie Bennett with *Perfect Attendance* bracelets. The *Friendship Award* bracelet went to Loretta Thomas.

Finally, each graduate received a framed graduation certificate, a participant's manual, and a **THINK** T-shirt. The Spring 1993 **THINK** class posed for their class photograph, and quickly adjourned to the ice cream bar of Western Steer.



THINK GRADUATES STAY INVOLVED!

Graduation is only the beginning for **THINK** program participants. Nurse Debra White has discovered that **THINK** graduates are anxious to continue the process that the program began. They want to learn more and to practice leadership skills learned in the program.

Nurse White reinforces their listening and assertiveness skills. She develops their understanding of interpersonal relationships, sexually transmitted diseases, and methods of contraception. **THINK** graduates, in return, help Nurse White teach other students about sexually transmitted diseases and risky behavior.

May is *Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month*. This year the graduates prepared posters fostering pregnancy prevention and displayed them in the school cafeteria. They wrote scripts and delivered each morning's public-address announcements on subjects such as peer pressure, and assertiveness. Also, they addressed concerns involving risky behavior. And, they introduced their peers to the **THINK** program. The year for the **THINK** alumni ended with a pizza party.



Dr. Virginia Lewis presents THINK Leadership Trophy to Alietha Hernandez.

YOUNG TEENS WANT TO BE A PART OF THE SOLUTION.

Graduation capped a set of intense training sessions led by qualified instructors from local health care agencies. For the greater part of the spring semester **THINK** participants studied sources of authoritative health-care information and strategies for good health.

Once the participants complete the course they are empowered with accurate information with which they may help their friends in times of personal crisis.

An overnight retreat and field trips to health-care agencies, provide opportunities for the participants to bond and learn to trust each other.

THINK supports, coordinates and provides structure to a program that challenges the participants to work with their peers to help spread accurate information about life's personal problems.

The three components of the program include fund-raising and publicity, instructional coordination and leadership training. The program succeeds because the trainers empower the participants. They don't "lecture at" them. The participants are invited to join with the trainers in promoting responsible decision-making among their peers.



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The **Teen Health Information Network (THINK)** is an educational program directed toward girls in their early teen years. The program identifies girls who are natural leaders among their peers. It provides class experiences during which health-providing agencies and ancillary agencies are introduced to the girls. As these girls interact with their friends it is hoped that they can provide more authoritative information and advice when their friends are experiencing personal crisis. Areas in which the girls are trained include listening skills, teen pregnancy and prevention, sexuality, family violence, substance abuse, sexually transmitted diseases and AIDS, and anatomy.

The **THINK** program was developed by *Challenge:High Point* Class of 1989. It was patterned on the Community Health Advocacy Program (CHAP), developed by Eastern Carolina University School of Medicine. **CHAP** trains adult leaders, **THINK** trains young teen leaders.

THINK has operated since Spring 1990. Over 5 dozen girls have graduated. None of those participating in this program and in the follow-up program at Ferndale Middle School have been pregnant while attending middle school. Only one pregnancy was reported among those participants who went on to high school. The statistics are gratifying when viewed against statistics reported for Central High School where, of approximately 450 girls, there were 34 known pregnancies.



PRIMARY AGENCIES INVOLVED

THINK is operated cooperatively by the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club in High Point, the Guilford County Department of Public Health and the School Nurse at Ferndale Middle School. It has been guided by a Steering Committee who helps identify funding sources and oversees the general direction of the program.

The **Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club** provides logistical support: access to Camp Johnson in Denton, transportation, and all arrangements required to provided for an atmosphere in which the training can be conducted. Financial contributions to the **THINK** program have been directed through the Boys and Girls Club to avoid the need for **THINK** to incorporate. In the Fall of 1992, at the request of the Boys and Girls Club, the program was expanded to include the Carson Stout neighborhood.

The **Guilford County Department of Public Health** has provided the instructional component of the program: arranging for qualified speakers to train the participants.

The **School Nurse at Ferndale Middle School** has been actively involved in identifying the girls who participate in the program and advising the Steering Committee of ways the program should be fine-tuned to accomplish its objectives more effectively.



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

THINK receives significant financial support from the Junior League of High Point, Inc. **THINK** has also regularly received funds from *Leadership:High Point*, the alumni organization of *Challenge:High Point*. The *American Association of University Women* and the *Kiwanis Club* have also supported it. It has also attracted financial contributions from several private sources, including members of the program's Steering Committee. The cost of a session of **THINK** is approximately \$1,000.

STRUCTURE OF PROGRAM & INSTRUCTION

Initial Weekend: Retreat, Camp Walter Johnson. Donna Dinkin, Guilford County Department of Public Health (GCDPH), *Wellness*.

Weekly Sessions: One after-school session each week at High Point Public Library with occasional field trips.

Keri Gross, GCDPH, *Life Planning*
Annette Long, GCDPH, *Reproductive Anatomy*

Linda Deshazo, GCDPH, *Teen Pregnancy and Contraception*

Diane Waddell, Triad Health Project, *HIV/AIDS*

Holli Kurtiak, Greenpoint, *Substance Abuse*

Kitsy Smith, Family Services, *Healthy Relationships*

Olga Comissiong, GCDPH, *Conflict (2 sessions)*

Pam Spence, GCDPH, *The Role of the Advocate*

Last Week: Graduation



THE STEERING COMMITTEE

*David Miller, D.S. Miller, Inc.

*Phil Morris, High Point Public Library
Debra White, School Nurse, Ferndale Middle School

Pam Spence, Guilford County Department of Public Health

Steve Morris, Salvation Army Boys and Girls Clubs

* members of the original Steering Committee.



THINK PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLUNTEERS!

● Refreshment Coordinator - to supply refreshments for the participants during their weekly meetings.

—Summer 1993

Times-News

VOLUME 116, NUMBER 133

Hendersonville, N.C./Thursday, May 13, 1993

25c

County sees increasing teen pregnancy rate

BY LAURA J. PERRICONE

Times News Staff Writer

For some teen-agers, life isn't as simple as deciding where to shop for clothes or who to take to the senior prom. There are other things to consider — like who is going to take care of the newborn baby.

In 1991, 216 girls between the ages of 10 and 19 became pregnant in Henderson County. Statewide, teen-agers became bar-

bies cost taxpayers about \$157.8 million in Medicaid, food stamps and Aid to Families with Dependent Children.

But rather than handing out birth control devices, a program in the area is teaching young people abstinence. And so far, the lesson is making an impact.

The Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program, a division of the Henderson County Health Department, reported that the ninth graders participating in the state

grant program are showing a change in attitude regarding adolescent sex.

"Our Sex Respect curriculum teaches seventh, eighth and ninth graders abstinence until marriage," said Linda Charping, health education supervisor and project director for the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program. "They learn the benefits of not being sexually active ... and how to make healthier decisions."

Organized in 1985, the program started

working closely with the schools three years ago by implementing the Sex Respect curriculum into participating health education classes. Last year, 309 students received instruction from the pregnancy prevention program, increased to 400 students this year. Charping said a recent follow-up survey indicates that students have a more positive attitude about abstinence than before the program began.

COUNTY continues on page 13A

County fighting teen pregnancy

Continued from page 1A

"I'm certainly glad to see the attitude and knowledge improve, but the real test is the behavior," she said. Charping said the results of a survey regarding the sexual activity of ninth graders will indicate whether the program has been a complete success.

The 10-chapter text used in the program has been consolidated into four sessions. Kay Thompson, the health educator for the program, works one-on-one with the schools, focusing on issues of friendship, dating, assertiveness, how to say no, teen parenthood and the risks of sexually transmitted diseases.

The pregnancy prevention program is not mandatory and is considered a supplemental educational course.

"I recently talked with a teen-ager who was a mom, and she made the comment that she missed being a teen. They're not seeing the glamour of it and they know it's not so great when it happens," Thompson said.

Thompson drives that point home by introducing a pregnancy simulator. Strapping on an "empathy belly" that weighs about 30 pounds, the students get a chance to experience the discomfort of pregnancy and learn that it can be anything but glamorous.

The Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program also focuses on community awareness programs with a council of more than 20 members eager to deliver the message. Jim Brissie, chairman of the Henderson County Teen Pregnancy Prevention Advisory Council, said the more than 20 volunteers who serve on the council are committed to attacking the problem by stressing the abstinence theme.

"We feel abstinence is the only approach to stop teen-age pregnancy," he said. "There's a lot of peer pressure and confusing signals out there."

One way the program is attempting to attack peer pressure is through parent and teen workshops and public service announcements.

'We feel abstinence is the only approach to stop teen-age pregnancy. There's a lot of peer pressure and confusing signals out there.'

JIM BRISSIE

Billboards are also used to spread the message of abstinence across the county. But a signal that the problem has not gone away came when the annual Teen-age Pregnancy Prevention Week turned into a month-long observance.

The consequences of teen-age pregnancies are other factors the public needs to face, Brissie said. First, there is the health risk to the child and mother, the financial burden to the state, and the quality of life the mother has to endure after the baby is born.

"But the dark side of teen pregnancy is abortion," Brissie continued.

According to statistics released by the county health department, 71 abortions were performed in 1991 on teen-age girls between the ages of 10 and 19. There were 216 teen-age pregnancies that year and 144 live births. Only one fetal death was reported that year.

Statistics also indicate that Hen-

Teen pregnancy rates 10 to 19 years olds

Year	Rate
1981.....	175
1985.....	188
1986.....	187
1987.....	210
1988.....	169
1989.....	215
1990.....	219
1991.....	216

Statistics show number of reported pregnancies for people aged 10 to 19 in Henderson County.

derson County had a higher adolescent pregnancy rate than the state's average. In 1991, there were 107.9 pregnancies reported per 1,000 women ages 15-19. The state averaged 101.1 that same year. Still, North Carolina only funds \$5 million for primary prevention of adolescent pregnancy, which translates to 1 cent per every \$1 spent on teen-age pregnancy programs.

Charping said the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program, supported through a five year state grant and matching county funds, will eventually have to become a self-supported project. Nevertheless, she added, the problem won't go away when the funding is gone.

"This is not something that will go away if we ignore it," she said. "If it's not a priority for the state, it is a priority for this county. Teaching abstinence is something we strive for. We may not reach every teen-ager, but we will work with them and teach them how to say no and feel comfortable about doing it."

County hopes to curb teen-age pregnancies

TIMES-NEWS
(Hendersonville)

By BENNY SMITH
Times-News Staff Writer

HENDERSONVILLE — Henderson County Health Department officials hope high school students will get the message, "Say No! on Prom 'Night," and prevent teen pregnancies.

The department is renting six billboards around the county to get the message to teenagers.

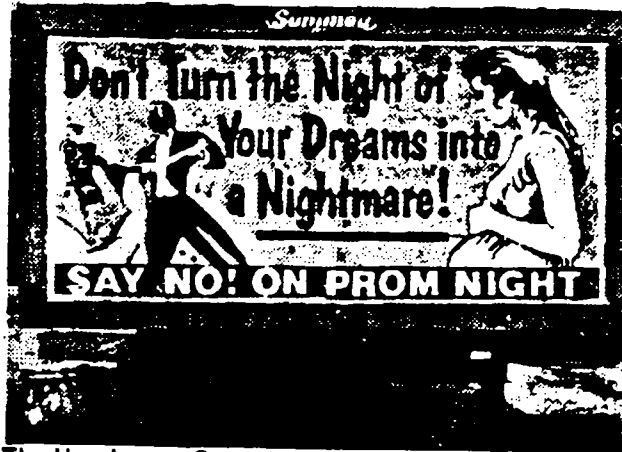
The billboards are the department's way of showing parents and students "that we support Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week, May 5 through 11," said Kaye Thompson, the department's program educator.

The department decided to focus on teen-age pregnancy and prom season because they occur in the same month.

"Four of the billboards are in locations near our high schools in the

county," Thompson said. "We specifically wanted them in those areas so they would be visible to teens."

The department is also conducting a prom poster campaign in conjunction



The Henderson County Health Department put up this billboard near Kanuga Road as part of Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week May 5-11.

with the four high schools.

"In this campaign, the schools allow us to put up posters about teen pregnancy and prom season," Thompson said. Please see COUNTY, Page 9

County hopes to curb teen-age pregnancies

From Page 5

said.

Thompson said high schools also are doing what they can to educate students about teen-age pregnancy during prom season.

Hendersonville and East Henderson high schools holding all-night, after-prom dances for their students, complete with door prizes, activities and entertainment, she said.

The dances are sponsored by parents and teachers of the schools.

In 1989, there were 215 teen pregnancies reported to the Henderson County Health Department, up from 169 teen pregnancies in 1988.

"Teen-age pregnancy significantly affects the health, economic, and educational future of teenagers," said Gov. Jim Martin in the proclamation declaring Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week.

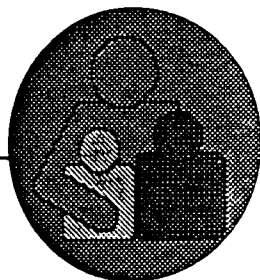
"Teen-age pregnancy costs our state more than \$270 million each year," Martin said.

In the proclamation, Martin urged churches, businesses, media, parents, educational institutions, and policy makers to help prevent teen-age pregnancy.

"Teen-age parents are often unable to complete their education which later results in unemployment, underemployment and dependence on public welfare," he said.

WAKE COUNCIL ON ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY

NEWSLETTER



May 1994

Governor Proclaims May Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month

Will your teen be
receiving this in '94?



...or this?



MAY 1994

**Teen Pregnancy
Prevention
Month:**

The North Carolina Coalition
on Adolescent Pregnancy
1300 Baxter Street, Suite 171
Charlotte, NC 28204
1-800-NC-4-FACTS

A United Way Agency



"Teenage pregnancy significantly affects the health, economic and educational future of teenagers and cost our state more than \$458 million in 1991.

Teenage parents are often unable to complete their education, which later results in unemployment, underemployment and dependence on public welfare. Teenage mothers often seek prenatal care late, if at all, and therefore frequently suffer higher than average levels of toxemia, anemia and cervical trauma. Their babies are often born premature and with low birth weights.

The state of North Carolina is committed to involving churches, businesses, media, parents, agencies, educational institutions, policy makers, and health providers in helping to prevent teenage pregnancy. The purpose of the North Carolina Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy is to advocate and support programs and strategies that prevent adolescent pregnancy and decrease the problems associated with adolescent pregnancy in North Carolina.

Now, therefore, I, James B. Hunt Jr., Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May, 1994, as "Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month" in North Carolina, and commend this observance to our citizens."

JAMES B. HUNT JR.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month

- May 17** WCAP Board Meeting - Staff Development Room, Holly Hill Hospital, Raleigh, noon
- May 18** "Kids in the Country: Rural Initiatives" - NCCAP Annual Conference
- May 24** "Reaching the Boys: Understanding Male Sexuality" - Planned Parenthood Training Institute, Wake Commons Building, Raleigh
- June 2** "Fertility Awareness - Natural Family Planning" - Planned Parenthood Training Institute, American Red Cross, Durham
- June 13 - July 1** NCCAP and UNC-Charlotte's Summer Institute in Family Life Education, UNC-Charlotte
- August 16** "Adolescent Pregnancy 101" - NCCAP's professional development program on adolescent sexuality, pregnancy and childbearing, Winston-Salem

Teens View Pregnancy Prevention

By CHANDA BLITCH
Record Staff Writer

Getting the message out was one reason behind the poster board, the markers and construction paper.

The message was simple.

Teen pregnancy is an 18-year job at no pay.

As members of the Nurturing Group, the teen-age mothers had been invited to put their ideas on paper for the best ways of telling other teen-agers about pregnancy prevention.

And as part of Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week, the poster contest emphasized a message that is equally pressing 365 days a year.

Mary Lou Grant, who began the Nurturing Group in February, meets with up to 27 young women at Catawba Valley High School for one to two hours a week.

At stake in the contest, to be judged next week, was a chance to win one of three gift certificates.

Equally important was the chance to learn while doing, Ms. Grant said.

"The poster project was a good, rewarding experience," she said. "I think they gained a lot of insight into themselves from doing this project."

The Nurturing Group is backed by JOBS, a federally mandated support system administered by the Catawba County Department of Social Services.

JOBS — Job Opportunities and Basic Skills training — came into being through the Family Support Act of 1988, Ms. Grant said.

It uses some state monies, but most funding comes from the federal government, she added.

Through the program, the young women receive extra attention to help them finish school, learn enough skills to be able to make choices about their lives — and hopefully, defer additional pregnancies until they choose to have more children.

In the Nurturing Group, Ms. Grant and social worker Karen Heffner offer instruction about parenting skills, anatomy, the reproductive cycle and methods of birth control.

See Teens, Page 8A



Record Photo By Candace Mathburn

Students Work On Posters At Catawba Valley High School

• From Page 1A

They also help the young mothers find the services they need through county agencies. One such need is for housing, Ms. Grant said.

"They get very interested in finding a place of their own at about this time," she added. Home visits and telephone contact are an important part of the Nurturing Group.

Ms. Grant also does family counseling with the young mothers, most of whom live at home with their children and their own families.

"It takes awhile to build trust," she said. "But they are starting to come to me with their problems. Sometimes it's hard to put three or more generations under one roof."

Stressed in the program is self-esteem and the importance of education for building a better life for

themselves and their children.

One objective of JOBS is to help students get the preparation they need to go on to a community college or get a better job after they finish school.

To help the young women meet their goals, JOBS pays for transportation, school activities, day care or any other expenditures that ultimately will help them take control of their own lives and get off wel-

fare. Ms. Grant emphasized the responsibility the students handle every day. Their small children also come to school with them, riding the bus in the morning and home again in the afternoon. During the day, they stay in the school's day care program.

"I'm really proud of these girls," Ms. Grant said. "They work very hard, and they do a good job."

CATAWBA COUNTY

12 CATAWBA VALLEY NEIGHBORS Sunday, May 19, 1991

Teen Up day will honor 8th-graders

NEWTON — The Teen Up Group Leadership Day will be Friday at Lenoir-Rhyne College's Belk Centrum at 9:30 a.m. Some 175 Catawba County eighth-graders will be honored for taking part in the teen pregnancy prevention program, sponsored by the Catawba County Department of Social Services.

Worth Bolton of Raleigh will speak, and a teen/parent panel will discuss "Don't Do What I Did (Yet)."

A picnic lunch will be contributed by area business and civic leaders. Beth Brandes is the Teen Up coordinator. Details: 324-9940, weekdays 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

10A—HICKORY DAILY RECORD—Tues., May 21, 1991

The first **TEEN UP LEADERSHIP DAY** will be Friday at the Belk Centrum on the Lenoir-Rhyne College campus from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The event will honor 175 Catawba County eighth-grade students for their participation in Teen Up, the highly decorated teen pregnancy prevention program in the county's Department of Social Services.

Worth Bolton of Raleigh will speak to the students and a teen parent panel from Charlotte will share stories about the difficulties they've encountered as teen parents.

A picnic lunch will be provided through contributions from area businesses and civic leaders.

"We want to bring together Teen Up participants from all over the county to demonstrate the energy, commitment and creativity of Teen Up groups," said Beth Brandes, Teen Up coordinator.

Group

Continued from Page 1A

Mrs. Linens feels that if teens could feel comfortable talking to their parents about sex, they would be more likely to take some form of birth control. However, that is most teens' worst fear — that Mom and Dad will find out.

"The coalition is trying now to get into the churches because this area is such a church-oriented community. We need parental involvement. Parents just seem to ignore the fact that there is a teen pregnancy problem," Mrs. Linens said. "They don't want the schools or the community to educate their children about sex, but yet they aren't doing it either."

Mrs. Linens believes that educating parents and teens about the problems of early, unprotected sexual activity that can lead to pregnancy is the only way to combat the problem.

In 1988, the most recent year that statistics are available for the state detailing pregnancy rates for women between the ages of 15 and 44, shows that for whites, 75.9 pregnancies were reported; for non whites, 113.5. These figures are based on a percentage of 1000 women.

For Sampson County the numbers were 63.1, whites and 91.2 non-white. Broken down even further, for teens between the ages of 15-19 in Sampson County, there were 62.1 pregnancies reported for whites as opposed to 106.2 for non-whites. In North Carolina, the numbers were 80.2 pregnancies for whites and 147.0 for non-whites.

"Teenage pregnancy significantly affects the health, economic and educational future of teens and costs the state more than \$270 million each year. Teenage parents are often unable to complete their education, which later results in underemployment, underemployment and dependence on public welfare," the proclamation read. "Teenage mothers often seek prenatal care late, if at all, and therefore frequently suffer higher than average levels of toxemia, anemia and cervical trauma. Their babies are often born premature and with low birth weights."

The Sampson County Coalition like the state group, advocates and supports programs and strategies that prevent adolescent pregnancy and decrease the problems associated with adolescent pregnancy in the county.

Group dispels myths about teen pregnancy

By Vickie D. Williams
Sunday Editor

All week, the Sampson County Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy, a volunteer group formed in early March and made up of doctors, nurses, educators and community leaders, has focused its attention on the growing problem of teen pregnancy in Sampson County and across the state.

The event was part of Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week which was proclaimed by Gov. James Martin as the week of May 5-12.

In Sampson County schools alone — which includes all five high schools — 51 young women have been referred to the Health Department for pregnancy, an alarming statistic and one that needs addressing especially in light of the growing number of teens who are susceptible to contracting the HIV virus which may cause AIDS because they do not believe the disease can strike them.

Much like AIDS, many myths surround the issue of pregnancy, myths that need dispelling. Many teens still believe that they cannot get pregnant the first time they engage in sex, one of the most common misconceptions.

"What we are trying to do is come up with a way to help prevent teen pre-

gnancy and to make parents aware that there indeed is a problem with teens engaging in sexual activity," said Glenda Linens, a registered nurse with the health department and the school nurse for both school systems.

Of the 51 documented cases Mrs. Linens has encountered, three of the young were in junior high, with the youngest expectant mother being only 11 years old.

"We sponsor a family planning clinic here at the health department which is free of charge up until age 19. This includes condoms and birth control pills," Mrs. Linens said. "They can even get the condoms without seeing a nurse. You can get them at the front desk."

The family planning clinic in no way promotes sexual activity. What it does offer is advice and strategies for those teens and adults who do decide to engage in sex to take the necessary precautions to prevent pregnancy and the contraction of sexually transmitted diseases.

"We offer classes on birth control and at the request of a teacher, we will go into the schools and teach the different methods of birth control," Mrs. Linens said. "Among the seventh and eighth grade classes, we try to teach students if they aren't going to abstain from sexual activity to at least postpone it." See Group on Page 10A



The News & Observer

I advise and enjoin those who direct the paper in the tomorrows never to advocate any cause for personal profit or preferment. I would wish it always to be "the forerunner" and to devote itself to the policies of equality and justice to the underprivileged. If the paper should at any time be the voice of self-interest or become the spokesman of privilege or selfishness it would be untrue to its history. — JOSEPHUS DANIELS, Editor and Publisher 1894-1948

Price of teen pregnancy

In North Carolina, the spending of public money on programs to prevent teenage pregnancy is sometimes enough to set off a social paroxysm. So it should come as no surprise that the rate of births among 15- to 17-year-olds is rising faster here than in any other Southern state.

The causes of adolescent pregnancy are many: misinformation, social pressure, low self-esteem, lagging aspirations, poverty, lack of moral guidelines. Some of these must be addressed through long-range political and economic policy, and some are best dealt with at home or in church.

At the same time, North Carolina cannot afford to continue to run away from the immediate need to provide real help to keep teens from ruining their lives with premature parenthood. That means better funding for prevention programs, including ready access to contraceptives, counseling and information.

From 1986 to 1990, North Carolina had a 24 percent increase in the number of births to girls, ages 15 to 17. In 1990 alone, 5,912 girls in that age range had babies in the state. How many wrecked futures does that represent? And how many children are getting off to a sorry start with unprepared mothers and absentee fathers?

By providing only meager funds for adolescent pregnancy prevention, the state not only short-changes teens but also drives up the ultimate costs to taxpayers. That's the clear message in a new report by the Southern Center on Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention.

Spending in North Carolina related to teen parenthood rose to \$458

million in 1991, nearly double what it was in 1987. That money went to Medicaid, food stamps and Aid to Families with Dependent Children. That should give taxpayers a fair idea of the price of ignorance, of fear and of pandering to know-nothings who refuse to acknowledge the fact of teenage sexuality.

Meanwhile, state financial support for programs to prevent teens from becoming pregnant in the first place is entirely inadequate. Total spending on family planning services for teens in North Carolina amounts to \$5.60 per capita, far below the regional average of \$8.50. In North Carolina, that's one pathetic penny on prevention for every dollar that goes to support teens and their babies.

One of the main publicly financed programs in North Carolina provides grants to 34 projects developed and run at the community level. These projects are subject to tough evaluations in which they must prove their effectiveness. Yet the agency that administers these paltry funds frequently must put up with public hysteria, some of it encouraged by fundamentalist preachers and malicious demagogues.

Many people concerned about sexual activity by adolescents like to exhort teens to show some maturity and courage. North Carolina's leaders, and the public, must exhibit those same characteristics if the state is ever going to get serious about preventing teen pregnancy.

Good Morning

With Toronto in the World Series, the size of the world just doubled.

3 of these projects exist right here in Wake Co.

N.C. Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week Designated



Research done by the North Carolina Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy (NCCAP) shows that April and May are the highest months of conception for teens. In response to this, the coalition has designated May 5-12, 1991 as "North Carolina Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week".

To localize this effort Wadesboro Mayor Joe Gaddy, in conjunction with Mid-Carolina Medical Center, signed a declaration for "Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week" in Anson County. It is hoped that this proclamation will increase the

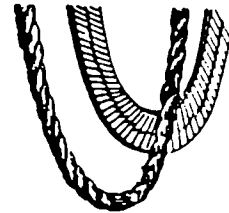
5-8-91

awareness of the problem and help others in the county become more involved in teen pregnancy prevention.

The Express -

Pictured with Mayor Gaddy is Brenda Smith, Maternity Outreach Worker with Mid-Carolina Medical Center.

Just For Mom



14KT Gold

Herringbone: 2mm to 7mm
Solid Diamond Cut Rope: 1 1/2mm to 4mm

Teen pregnancy prevention goal of special week in N.C.

May 5-12 has been named "Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week" by both Gov. Jim Martin and Boone Mayor Velma Burnley.

The problem of teen pregnancy is extensive in the state of North Carolina and in the nation. About 1 million teen-age girls become pregnant in the United States each year, about half of whom become teen mothers. Forty-five percent go on to have therapeutic abortions and only 5 percent release their babies for adoption, according to a spokesman for the Watauga County Coalition for the Prevention of Adolescent Pregnancy.

In the state, 75 teen-agers become pregnant every day, costing N.C. taxpayers around \$275 million in direct costs each year. Teen pregnancy is a leading cause of school drop out; young mothers tend to be unemployed or employed in low-paying and temporary jobs, the spokesman said. They must depend on public assistance in many cases.

Their children rank high in the numbers of abused and neglected. Many are premature and are disproportionately represented in

groups with low IQ and high rates of learning disabilities, the spokesman said.

The best solution to the problem of teen pregnancy is prevention, the spokesman said. The Watauga County Coalition for the Prevention of Adolescent Pregnancy encourages parents to talk with their teen-agers and younger children about pregnancy, its prevention, sexual attitudes, abstinence, consequences of unintended pregnancy.

For more information about Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week, call Rose Bridgeman at the coalition at 264-2733.

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT
(MAY 5, 1991)

WILKES COUNTY

Focus Is On Teen Pregnancy 5-91

Governor Jim Martin has designated the week of May 5-12 as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week in North Carolina.

This is the first year that time has been set aside to call attention to the problem, said Elise Ross, director of Wilkes "I Care About Teens."

"The statistics associated with local teen pregnancies are alarming," Mrs. Ross said.

In Wilkes County, approximately 200 girls between the ages of 10 and 19 become pregnant each year.

An average of two are between the ages of 10 and 14, and an average 193 are between 15 and 19.

Of the 200, approximately 60 pregnancies will be aborted and two babies will die.

ACTIVITIES FROM OTHER STATES

Executive Committee

Rabbi Irwin Goldenberg, Chairperson
Chris Echterling, M.D., Vice-Chairperson
Audrey Harnish, Secretary
Brooke Bensinger, Treasurer
Cindy Dixon
Joe Fay
Debbie Gable-Pauley
Dee Stremmel
Roselyn Ward

A special note of appreciation is extended to the following who were actively involved in the planning of Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week 1994.

Brooke Bensinger, Co-Chair
Dee Stremmel, Co-Chair
Rev. Rick Bender
Carrie Budoff
Joe Fay
Debbie Gable-Pauley
Rabbi Irwin Goldenberg
Audrey Harnish
Jeanne Hickman
Lorraine Hopper
Helen Jackson
Barb Krout
Patricia Learned
Rev. Janet Ray
Mary Stough
Rev. Partick Walker
Roselyn Ward

Corporate Sponsors

Appleby Window Systems
Cable TV of York County
College Club of York County
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Core States Hamilton Bank
Delta Kappa Gamma (Beta Gamma Chapter)
Fertility Center of York
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Maple Press
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Met-Ed
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Penn Laurel Girl Scout Council
Pennsylvania State Education Association/York County
Susquehanna Pfaltzgraff
Stanton Lebouitz, MD
Strand Capitol
Threefold Janitorial Services
The Benyak Corporation
Tighe Industries
Topflight Corporation
Women's Healthcare Group
YWCA
York Casket Company
York County March of Dimes
York Dispatch/Sunday News
York Hospital
York International
York Traffic Club
York Helping Hand for the Homeless
York Water Company
York Women's Health Center
York Youth Advocates
Yorktowne Optical

The
Teen Pregnancy Coalition
of York County
Presents:

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week

March 14 - 20, 1994

About Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week . . .

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week is a community-wide event designed to "blitz" York County with activities that highlight our problem of teen pregnancy and what our community can do about it. Last year's event proved successful beyond our wildest dreams. We conducted a week-long series of excellent community events and received outstanding media coverage. The event taught us that there is a widespread desire for a serious debate on the subject of adolescent sexuality and the messages we need to be transmitting to teens about sex. The efforts of the Coalition proved to be a catalyst that stimulated this decision.

It is with this enthusiasm that we recognize the second annual Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week. We built on the success of last year's events. More schools, churches, businesses, and organizations have been involved so that every York County teen receives messages about sexual responsibility and the importance of postponing parenthood.

The Teen Pregnancy Coalition of York County is a group of professionals and concerned citizens throughout York County who are concerned about the issue of teenage pregnancy and its attendant problems. The goals of the group are:

1. To increase community awareness about the seriousness of the teenage pregnancy problem;
2. To formulate a concrete plan of action to reduce teenage pregnancy in York County;
3. To work cooperatively with school districts, agencies, and other organizations that serve teenagers; and
4. To advocate for improved health services to teenagers.

Calendar of Events

Sunday, March 13th

- ▲ Teen Discussion Night, Phoenix Night Club

Monday, March 14th

- ▲ Kick-Off Press Conference, York City Council Chambers at 9 a.m.

Wednesday, March 16th

- ▲ Awards Banquet, Jewish Community Center at 6 p.m.
- ▲ Cable 4's "Nuestra Salud" at 9 p.m.

Friday, March 18th

- ▲ Great York County Sex-Out (Day of Abstinence)
- ▲ Seminar for medical students, Memorial Hospital at Noon

Sunday, March 20th

- ▲ Religious Involvement via bulletin inserts, speakers, etc.
- ▲ Cable 4's "Nuestra Salud" at 3 p.m.

Activities you can do!

- ▲ Wear a green ribbon in recognition of the week.
- ▲ Talk to family and friends about teen pregnancy prevention.
- ▲ Read a book about teen pregnancy and prevention strategies.
- ▲ Get involved with a community organization that sponsors teen pregnancy prevention programs.
- ▲ Mobilize groups in which you are a member and encourage their participation in teen pregnancy prevention programs.
- ▲ Attend lectures or seminars about teen pregnancy.

A sampling of other activities throughout the week . . .

Sponsoring teens to attend Pride Leadership Conference in Philadelphia.

Stepping Stone, Susquehanna Counseling, York/Adams Drug & Alcohol

Conducting a mini-health fair.

York Hospital Mother-Child Clinic

Presenting a parent workshop on sexuality.

York Hospital Health Promotions

Conducting a debate.

Central York Middle School

Exhibiting bulletin board displays.

Susquehannock High School

Furnishing "Helpful Hints" list for parent-child communication.

York Health Corporation

Placing a prevention message in pay check envelopes.

YWCA

Offering a lesson plan concerning postponing sexual involvement to educators.

Planned Parenthood

Promoting Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week in agency newsletter.

Lehman Center

Distributing green ribbons in recognition of the week.

Family-Child Resource, Contact - York

Placing informational flyers throughout the facility.

Martin Library

**For More Information call Brooke Bensinger
or Dee Stremmel at 845-9683**

A Sampling of Other Activities Throughout the Week...

A panel presentation of teen mothers at
York City Schools.

—CHOICES

Promoting Teen Line.

—CONTACT

Informational placemats.

—DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

Pizza box stickers at Pizza Hut and
Domino's.

—DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

Window display at Martin Memorial Library.

—DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

Place information about teen pregnancy
in bathrooms of teen hang-outs.

—DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

Performances of "Tell Me It's Going To Be
Wonderful" scheduled for Eastern School
District.

—FAMILY SERVICE

Display at Jewish Community Center.

—JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

Re-run cable show on teen pregnancy
among the Hispanic community.

—YORK HOSPITAL
HEALTH PROMOTION DEPT.

Mini-Health Fair.

—YORK HOSPITAL MOTHER-CHILD CLINIC



The Teen Pregnancy Coalition of York County Is...

...a group of professionals representing
various agencies, schools, and organizations
who are concerned about the issue of teen-
age pregnancy and its attendant problems.

Executive Committee...

Joe Fay York City Health Bureau
Peggy Swensen York County Children
and Youth Services
Sharon Smith State Health Center
Sharon Newswanger Concerned Citizen
Sharon Niesley York City Health Bureau
Dee Bortner Planned Parenthood
Brooke Bensinger Planned Parenthood
Carolyn Warman Junior League of York

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week Committee...

Brooke Bensinger Planned Parenthood
of Central PA, co-chair
Dee Bortner Planned Parenthood
of Central PA, co-chair
Joe Fay York City Health Bureau
Audrey Hamish Memorial Hospital
Jeanne Hickman Concerned Citizen
Janice Hoffman York Hospital
Mother-Child Clinic
Lorraine Hopper York County
Library System
Seth Klaskin Jewish Community Center
Gail Kollmar CPC Choices Program
Barbara Krout Eastern School District
Sharon Niesley York City Health Bureau
Mary Stough ... Central York Middle School
Roselyn Ward Penn Laurel Girl Scouts

*For more information,
call Brooke Bensinger, 845-9683*

Brochures printed by Memorial Hospital

The Teen Pregnancy Coalition of York County *presents*

T Teen P Pregnancy P Prevention W Week

Be aware - - prepare!

March 18—25, 1993

About Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week...

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week is a first-ever community-wide event designed to "blitz" York County with daily activities that highlight our problem of teen pregnancy and what our community can do about it.

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week has two major goals. First, we want to enable all York Countians to become more aware of the importance of preventing teen pregnancies. Second, we want to reach teens with messages of awareness, sexual responsibility, and the importance of postponing parenthood.

Corporate Sponsors...

Albert and Judy Blakey
BMJ Combat Systems
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(Beta Gamma Chapter)
Elmwood Medical Associates
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Women's Healthcare Group
York Daily Record
York International
York Ob/Gyn Associates
York Water Company
York Women's Health Center
Yorktowne Business Institute
Yorktowne Optical

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week — March 18 - 25, 1993 Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Sponsor	Time	Location
Thursday, March 18th	Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week Kick-Off * Press conference with mayor, county commissioners and state legislators	Coalition	9AM	City Council Chambers
Friday, March 19th	* Galleria Mall Event ◆ "Kids on the Block" puppet show ◆ Game Show for teens (with DJ) ◆ Informational Mall Display ◆ Comic entertainment	Girl Scouts Planned Parenthood Coalition Mall Management	6PM-9PM	Galleria Mall
Saturday, March 20th	* Parent/Child Retreat	Planned Parenthood & YWCA	9AM-4:30PM	YWCA
Sunday, March 21st	* Church bulletin inserts * Speakers for churches, youth groups, Sunday School classes	Coalition		
Monday, March 22nd	* "Great York County Sex-Out" (Day of Abstinence)	Coalition		
Tuesday, March 23rd	* WGAL Live * Panel - "Saying No From the Fast Lane: Teens and Peer Pressure"	Coalition York County Library System, Meadowlands, Penn State Cooperative Extension	10-10:30AM 7PM-8:30PM	Martin Library
Wednesday, March 24th	* York Hospital Grand Rounds * Teen Pregnancy Coalition Awards Banquet Recognition for: ◆ expressive arts/writing contest ◆ exemplary church program ◆ teen making a difference ◆ media coverage ◆ schools ◆ organizations ◆ legislators ◆ businesses ◆ community activists * Cable 4's "Medically Speaking"	The Women's Healthcare Group York Hospital Dept. of Ob/Gyn Coalition York County Medical Society	7:30AM-8:30AM 6PM-8PM 8PM-8:30PM	York Hospital Jewish Community Center
Thursday, March 25th	* Adolescent Sexuality Conference: Sexuality & Diversity	Planned Parenthood	9AM-4PM	Yorktowne Hotel

TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION WEEK

March 18 - 25, 1993

HELP PREVENT TEEN PREGNANCY - THIS WEEK AND EVERY WEEK

1. Wear a green ribbon in recognition of the week.
2. Talk to family and friends about teen pregnancy prevention.
3. Read a book about teen pregnancy and prevention strategies.
4. Get involved with a community organization that sponsors teen pregnancy prevention programs.
5. Mobilize groups in which you are a member and encourage their participation in teen pregnancy prevention programs.
6. Attend lectures or seminars about teen pregnancy.

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week
is sponsored by
the Teen Pregnancy Coalition
of York County

For more information, call 845-6532

- * In the U.S. over one million teens become pregnant each year. The U.S. has the highest teen pregnancy rate of any developed country in the world.
- * Over 80% of teen pregnancies are unintended.
- * Four in ten girls will become pregnant at least once before they are twenty years old.
- * Of teens who get pregnant, 15% will be pregnant again within one year.
- * The average delay from onset of intercourse to first visit to a contraceptive clinic is one year.
- * Half of teen pregnancies occur within six months of first intercourse.
- * Almost half of all teen pregnancies end in abortion.
- * The younger the mother, the more likely she is to suffer complications from pregnancy, including anemia, toxemia, and miscarriage.
- * Babies born to teen mothers are almost twice as likely to have low birth weight (a major cause of infant mortality and birth defects).
- * Sixty percent of all women receiving AFDC do so as a result of a teenage pregnancy. In 1990, the U.S. spent \$25 billion in costs of AFDC, Food Stamps, and Medicaid for families begun by a teen birth.
- * Teen pregnancy is the major cause of school dropout among girls.
- * In 1990, there were 810 reported pregnancies to teens in York County.
- * In 1990, York had the highest teen birth ratio of any city in PA. More than one out of four births in York were to teenage mothers.
- * In 1990, almost one out of every six York girls aged 15 - 19 gave birth.

Teen Pregnancy Coalition of York County
P. O. Box 509
York, PA 17405

RECEIVED
2/22/93

Dear Educator:

The Teen Pregnancy Coalition of York County will be recognizing March 18 - 25, 1993 as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week. This first-time event will "blitz" York County with daily activities that highlight our problem of teen pregnancy and what our community can do about it. We would like to enlist your support by promoting the event in your school.

The theme for the week is "Be aware -- prepare!" Making responsible decisions about sexual activity is hard to do in our confusing world of mixed messages and misinformation. Teens need to be aware of the growth and development of their bodies, physiology, human reproduction, STDs and HIV, contraception, relationships, and interpersonal skills (just to name a few!). They need to prepare for intense feelings and urges, peer and partner pressure, decision-making that challenges values, and communication about personal matters. This awareness and preparation will assist teens in making healthy choices about sexual activity.

We urge your participation during Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week by incorporating one or more of the following activities into your lesson plans. For further information, contact Dee or Brooke at 845-9683.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

1. Set aside class time for a special lesson on teen pregnancy. Discuss issues relevant to the theme: "Be aware -- prepare!"
2. Distribute green ribbons to students and other school employees.
3. Show a film on teen pregnancy. Follow-up with class discussion.
4. Invite a speaker who deals with the teen pregnancy problem.
5. Sponsor a poster, t-shirt, or bumper sticker contest. Ask students to illustrate a way in which people are sharing the challenge in preventing teen pregnancy.
6. Create a special writing assignment for the week: an essay, a poem, a book report, or a research report.
7. Air public service announcements about teen pregnancy on the school public address system.
8. Organize a panel discussion on teen pregnancy, including teen parents as panel members.
9. Conduct a debate on an issue related to teen pregnancy.
10. Create a Teen Pregnancy Awareness Committee that will continue to educate your school by providing information and hosting seminars on teen pregnancy.
11. Promote Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week in the school newspaper.

Please let us know what you did in recognition of the week.

Teen Pregnancy Coalition of York County
P. O. Box 509
York, PA 17405

Dear Clergy Member:

The Teen Pregnancy Coalition of York County will be recognizing March 18 - 25, 1993 as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week. This first-time event will "blitz" York County with daily activities that highlight our problem of teen pregnancy and what our community can do about it. We would like to enlist your support by promoting the event within your congregation.

The theme for the week is "Be aware -- prepare!" Making responsible decisions about sexual activity is hard to do in our confusing world of mixed messages and misinformation. Teens need to be aware of and prepare for intense feelings and urges, peer and partner pressure, decision-making that challenges values, and communication about personal matters. This awareness and preparation will assist them in making healthy choices about sexual activity.

We urge your participation during Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week by incorporating one or more of the following activities into your worship services, religious classes, youth group meetings, and other gatherings throughout the week. For further information, contact Dee Stremmel Bortner or Brooke Bensinger at 845-9683.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

1. Include teen pregnancy among the prayer concerns.
2. Invite a speaker who deals with the teen pregnancy problem to a meeting, class, etc.
3. Collect a special offering and donate it to one of the many community organizations that deal with the teen pregnancy issue.
4. Organize an adult Sunday school class which relates faith to the teen pregnancy problem.
5. Discuss how spiritual values relate to teen pregnancy prevention.
6. Sponsor a parent-child workshop on communication.
7. Arrange for the youth to take part in a hands-on volunteer project, e.g. plan an activity for teen mothers at a maternity home.
8. Include informational inserts (available from the Teen Pregnancy Coalition) in the weekly worship bulletin.
9. Create a display in the narthex.
10. Incorporate family life education into the religious school program.

Please inform us of how your congregation recognized the week.

TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION WEEK FEATURES STATEWIDE ACTIVITIES, WIDESPREAD SUPPORT

The first annual Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week in April was a resounding success. Coordinated by the TPPC, the celebration raised awareness of teenage sex and its consequences. Coalition members organized dozens of seminars, workshops, speeches and other special events throughout Connecticut, generating unprecedented public interest and media attention.

The activities began with a proclamation signed by Governor Lowell P. Weicker, who lauded the Coalition for its efforts on teen pregnancy prevention. The ceremony was covered by Channels 3, 8, and 61, along with major Connecticut radio stations and newspapers.

The Coalition also sponsored a month-long poster/photo exhibit, *The Risky Business of Teenage Sex*, which opened to rave reviews in the Legislative Office Building. More than 80 creative and insightful posters by teens and pre-teens were submitted for display.



Suzie Burns, Junior League of Hartford, and photographer Sandy Hale, helped mount the TPPC exhibit at the Capitol.

The exhibit included excerpts from Sandy Hale's book, *Child Mothers*, and photos by other Connecticut photographers. They were interspersed with grim statistics, as well as descriptions of model programs that work, including the empathy belly, mentoring, family planning and risk reduction education.

Many who viewed the exhibit commented on its effectiveness. Secretary of the State, Pauline R. Kezer, said: "It was one of the most powerful exhibits ever displayed at the state Capitol. It illustrated how teenage pregnancy affects real lives. The black-and-white photos were a stark reminder of this major problem that faces so many of our young girls."

Coalition members coordinated other events across

the state. Here's a sampling:

- In Bristol, a youth discussion by peer educators, sponsored by the Bristol Family Center for Girls And Boys, coordinated by Patti Kalat;

- In New London, a "Postponing Sexual Involvement" training session for Youth Service Workers and teachers, sponsored by the New London Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program and conducted by Planned Parenthood, coordinated by Karen Valentine;

- In Bridgeport, a library display and presentations to Women, Infant and Children recipients, sponsored by the Bridgeport School-Based Health Centers, coordinated by Mary Ellen Hass.

Mary Russell, Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coordinator for the New Haven Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program, organized a teen-life conference at the high school, set up 4th-5th grade workshops, and worked with Victoria McEvoy, a community educator with Planned Parenthood, on a seminar for parents of teens. "It was a rewarding experience for everyone," Mary said. "We got people to pay attention to the problems of teen pregnancy, and make them realize that it's our responsibility to work on solutions. I'm already thinking about what we can do next year."

Susan Harrod, Coordinator of the Northeast Pregnancy Prevention Initiative, described the week as "fantastic. It gave us all that extra push to get out into the community and spread the word."

Activities in Susan's region included radio interviews and a teen/parent panel, sponsored by peer educators in the Natural Helpers program.

Coalition members got the word out with radio and newspaper interviews. TPPC co-chair Cyndi Billian Stern did interviews on WPOP, WDRC and WNEZ (CNN radio). Iris Nieves-Cross, Adolescent Parenting Program, Hartford Health Department, discussed teen stress on Hartford's Spanish-speaking radio station, Latino 1230; Enid Hirst, who organized a panel of teen mothers to speak at Avon High School, was covered in the *Hartford Courant*. A public service announcement also ran on radio stations statewide.

The week's activities were capped by a legislative reception at the Capitol, attended by over 100 people.



Celebrate

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week

- ¶ Join the *Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of Connecticut*
- ¶ See the photo and poster exhibit, "The Risky Business of Teenage Sex"
- ¶ Meet your lawmakers and others who care about teens at the ...

TPPC Legislative Reception

Wednesday, April 7, 1993

4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The Old Judiciary Room at the Capitol

Legislative Co- Hosts:

Senator John Larson
Senator Joseph Harper

Senator William DiBella
Senator Amelia Mustone
Senator Kevin Sullivan

Senator Adela Eads
Senator William Aniskovitch

Contributors:

This reception has been made possible through donations and in-kind services from the Junior League of Hartford, the National Puerto Rican Forum, Planned Parenthood of Connecticut, the YWCA of Hartford, the Greater Norwalk Community Council, and the United Way of Connecticut, Hot Tamales, and Congress Rotisserie

Please return the form below by April 1, 1993:

Name: _____ Organization: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____ Zip: _____

___ I will attend, and will be bringing _____ guests to the event.

___ I would like to contribute* to the TPPC to help defray the costs of this event

___ I cannot attend but would like to contribute to the TPPC

* Contributions are optional, and appreciated. Please make checks out to: TPPC, a project of the Greater Norwalk Community Council. Return this form to:

TPPC/ project of GNCC
32 Grand Street
Hartford, CT 06106

DON'T KEEP IT A SECRET

You've worked hard to plan your activities for Teen Pregnancy Prevention Week. And the members of your community will want to know about it. So take a few minutes to complete this form. When the media from your area calls the TPPC office we will refer them to your office to cover the story. Please complete the enclosed form below and return it to the TPPC office by March 30th.

Contact Person: _____ phone: _____

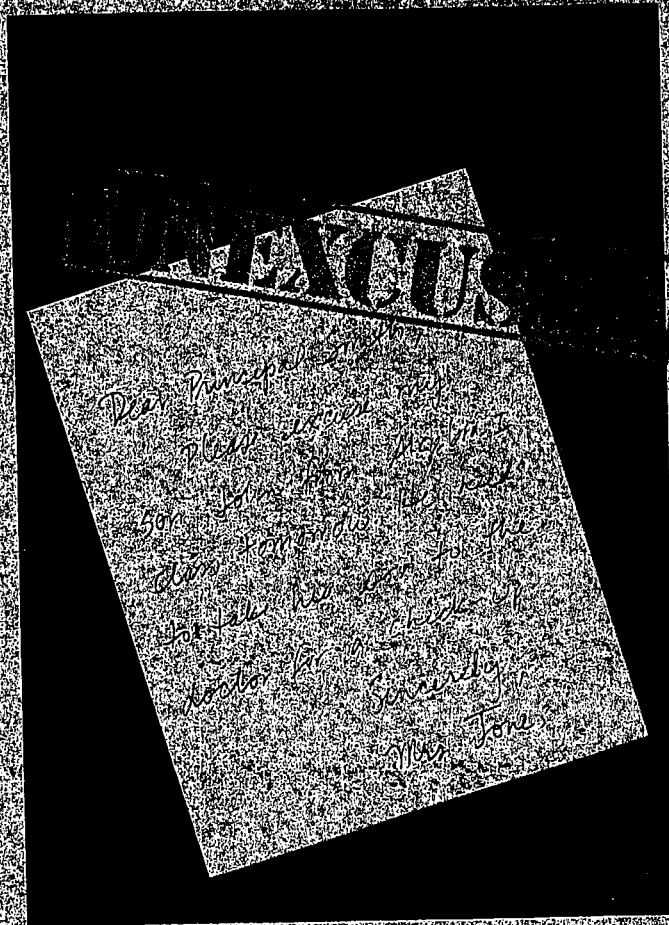
Name of Organization: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Date of Event: _____ Time: _____ Location of event: _____

Description of event: _____

Return this form to : The Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of Connecticut



Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month
May 1995



SPONSORS

North Carolina Department of Environment, Health & Natural Resources
 North Carolina Department of Human Resources
 North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
 Adolescent Parenting Program - NC Department of Social Services - DHR
 Alliance Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy
 Alliance for Children & Youth - Gastonia
 American Red Cross - Charlotte
 Anson County Health Department
 Blue Ridge Center - Asheville
 Brothers to Brothers Program - Wake County Department of Health
 Buncombe County Council for Adolescents
 Burke Coalition on Adolescent Health
 Burke County Department of Social Services
 Caldwell Council on Adolescent Health
 Chatham Coalition for Adolescent Health
 Children's Home Society of NC
 Cities in Schools of NC
 Coalition for Teen Health Promotion - Prospect Hill
 Coalition to Improve the Quality of Life - Lee County
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 Cycle Busters Program - Wake County Department of Social Services
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 Florence Crittenton Services - Charlotte
 Florence Crittenton Services - Greenville
 Forsyth County Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Council
 Girls Incorporated of Wilmington
 Girl Scouts - Tarheel Triad Council
 Greater High Point Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy
 Greene County Health Care, Inc.
 Guilford County Health Department
 Harmony Medical Clinic - Harmony
 Henderson County Health Department
 Iredell Council on Adolescent Pregnancy
 Jackson County Health Department
 Johnston County Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy
 Junior League of Greensboro
 Junior League of High Point
 Macon County Health Department
 March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation - Charlotte
 March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation - Raleigh
 March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation - Greater Triad Chapter
 March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation - Western Carolina Chapter
 Mecklenburg Council on Adolescent Pregnancy
 Metrolina AIDS Project - Charlotte
 National Association of Social Workers - North Carolina Chapter
 New Hanover County Health Department
 North Carolina Association of Educators
 North Carolina Central University - Department of Nursing
 North Carolina Child Advocacy Institute
 North Carolina Child Support Enforcement Program - DHR
 North Carolina Council for Women
 North Carolina Division of Family Development - DHR
 North Carolina Institute of Minority Economic Development
 North Carolina Medical Society Alliance
 North Carolina Nurses Association
 North Carolina PTA
 North Carolina Social Services Association
 Onslow County Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Council
 Planned Parenthood of Orange & Durham Counties
 Planned Parenthood of the Capital & Coast
 Planned Parenthood of the Southern Piedmont & Carolina Mountains
 Planned Parenthood of the Triad - Greensboro
 Planned Parenthood of the Triad - Winston-Salem
 Pitt County Coalition on Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention, Inc.
 Project Child Abuse - NC
 Project OAM STEP - Davie County Health Department
 Project HOPE - Mecklenburg County Health Department
 The Relatives - Charlotte
 Richmond County Health Department
 Rutherford County Health Department
 The Salvation Army Boys & Girls Clubs of High Point
 Stokes County Health Department
 Teen Health Connection - Charlotte
 Teen Improvement Program (T.I.P.) - Burke County
 Teen Life Council of Washington County
 Teenspot - Wake County Health Department
 Twin County Rural Health Center - Hollister
 Unity, Inc.
 Wake Council on Adolescent Pregnancy
 Watauga County Coalition for the Prevention of Adolescent Pregnancy
 Wayne County Council on Adolescent Pregnancy
 Wayne County Health Department
 YWCA of Asheville
 YWCA of Greensboro
 YWCA of Wake County, Inc.
 Young Women's Outreach Center - Kinston
 Youth Advocacy & Involvement Office - NC Department of Administration
 Youth Focus, Inc. - Greensboro

**Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition
 of North Carolina**

1300 Baxter Street, Suite 171 • Charlotte, NC 28204

Beginning Too Soon: Adolescent Sexual Behavior, Pregnancy, and Parenthood

Executive Summary

Kristin A. Moore, PhD
Brent C. Miller, PhD
Barbara W. Sugland, MPH, ScD
Donna Ruane Morrison, PhD
Dana A. Glei, MA
Connie Blumenthal, BA

June 1995

CHILD TRENDS, INC.

4301 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 100, Washington, DC 20008

Beginning Too Soon: Adolescent Sexual Behavior, Pregnancy, and Parenthood

Executive Summary

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June 1995

CHILD TRENDS, INC.

4301 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 100, Washington, DC 20008

Preface

This is an overview of two related reports that describe, respectively, recent research findings regarding adolescent sexual and fertility behavior and intervention programs aimed at reducing adolescent pregnancy and parenthood in the United States. The reports were commissioned by the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The reports emphasize original studies conducted in the late 1980s and 1990s that have high research standards with respect to study design, sampling, and measurement, and that employ multivariate analyses. Detailed explanations and elaborations which can not be included here because of space limitations are provided in the individual reports: “Adolescent Sex, Contraception and Childbearing: A Review of Recent Research” and “Adolescent Pregnancy Programs: Interventions and Evaluations.” Copies of the reports are available from Child Trends, Inc.

Affiliations

Kristin A. Moore is Executive Director and Director of Research at Child Trends, Inc. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. Brent C. Miller is Professor of Family and Human Development at Utah State University and received his Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota. Barbara W. Sugland is a Research Associate at Child Trends and received her Sc.D. from Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health. Donna Ruane Morrison is a Senior Research Associate at Child Trends and received her Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University. Dana A. Glei is a Research Analyst at Child Trends and received her M.A. from the University of Virginia. Connie Blumenthal is a Research Analyst at Child Trends and received her B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania.

Acknowledgments

This report was prepared for and funded by the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under Contract No. DHHS-100-92-0015, D.O.08. The contributions of Deanna Cooke, Joy Near, Roxanne Pfister, Nancy Snyder, and Kenneth Thevenin are greatly appreciated. In addition, the helpful comments provided by our Project Officers, Elisa Koff and Amy Nevel, and their colleagues, Barbara Broman and Ann Segal, and other anonymous reviewers are much appreciated. We also appreciate the production assistance of Fanette Jones, Carla Butler, and Cheryl Oakes in the preparation of this report.

Introduction

Infants and young children are totally dependent on nurturance from their parents and/or other caregivers. Parenting is demanding because meeting the needs of children, let alone maximizing their potential, requires personal, social, and economic resources. Thus, becoming a parent too soon, before adult abilities are attained and before the necessary resources are acquired, usually poses problems for children and their young parents. Because of their need for assistance from others, early parenthood represents a drain on the resources of their extended families and the larger society.

For several decades, concerns have been mounting in the United States about adolescent sexual behavior, pregnancy, and parenthood. These concerns have been intensified by several realizations. First, rates of adolescent births in the United States are much higher--from two to ten times higher--than in other industrialized societies. Second, although teen birth rates are lower now than they were after World War II, there have been increases in rates of adolescent childbearing in the U.S. since the mid 1980's; birth rates among teens currently are nearly one-quarter higher than they were in 1986. Third, adolescent childbearing outside of marriage has been increasing for several decades and at a very rapid pace. Of all births to young women under age 20, only 15 percent were nonmarital in 1960, compared to 30 percent in 1970, 48 percent in 1980, and 71 percent in 1992. Another reason for attention to the issue of adolescent pregnancy and birth is that the overwhelming majority of adolescents do not want to become parents this soon. Among all pregnancies to females under age 20, the proportion that were unintended was 84 percent in 1990. Moreover, there is increasing concern about adolescent sexual intercourse per se, not only because it leads to unintended pregnancy and parenthood, but also because sexually active adolescents have

extremely high rates of sexually transmitted infections and are at risk of exposure to the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Finally, initial sexual experiences are often coercive. Indeed, before age 15, a majority of first intercourse experiences among females are reported to be non-voluntary. Coercion is not only a problem in its own right, but is presumed to be associated with poor protection from pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections.

Review of Recent Research

The process leading to teenage pregnancy involves a sequence of turning points or events. Our review of research evidence in the full research report is organized around these turning points and events, including sexual intercourse, use of contraception, pregnancy, and pregnancy resolution. The flow chart shown in Figure 1 presents these transitions graphically. Interventions can be implemented at any or all of these stages. The initial and primary risk behavior for adolescent pregnancy and parenthood is having sexual intercourse, including the frequency with which adolescents have sex. Among sexually active adolescents, the degree of pregnancy risk depends largely on their frequency of intercourse and consistent use of effective contraceptives. As shown in Figure 1, sexually active adolescents who do not consistently use contraceptives will usually become pregnant and have to face potentially life altering decisions about resolving their pregnancy through abortion, adoption, or parenthood. A summary of recent research about each of these issues is provided below.

Sexual Intercourse

Most young people in the United States begin having sexual intercourse during their teenage years. Current data suggest that slightly more than half of females and nearly two-thirds of males have had intercourse by their 18th birthday. In the last several decades there have been substantial

increases in the proportion of adolescents who report sexual activity at each year of age. Increases have been greatest among females, especially among young females. Thus, more than twice as many females ages 14, 15, and 16 are sexually active now, compared with young women of the same ages just 15 years ago. Moreover, on average, there are seven years for women and ten years for men between first intercourse and first marriage. This creates a substantial interval of risk for non-marital pregnancy.

Initial sexual intercourse experiences are usually important (and sometimes defining) events in the lives of young people. Early timing of sexual initiation is important for two reasons. First, the younger the age of first sexual intercourse, the more likely that the experience was coercive, and forced sexual intercourse is related to long lasting negative effects. Secondly, the younger the age of first sexual intercourse, the greater the risk of unwanted pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections. This is because those who begin having sex at young ages are generally exposed to risk for a longer time, are less likely to use contraception, generally have more sexual partners, and tend to engage in higher risk sexual behaviors such as alcohol or drug use prior to sexual intercourse and having multiple concurrent sexual partners. It must be recognized as well that early intercourse is frequently not voluntary. Among females, as noted above, the majority of initial sexual experiences that occur at age 14 or younger are non-voluntary.

Many variables are related to the timing of first sexual intercourse. On average, males begin having sex at younger ages than females, and blacks begin at younger ages than whites or Hispanics. There are also strong effects of developmental characteristics, such as early puberty and high levels of androgen hormones (i.e., testosterone), which are associated with increased adolescent sexual behavior. Dating, and especially early steady dating, provides a context for many adolescent sexual

experiences. Unconventional psychosocial attitudes and behaviors--as reflected by early use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, school problems, delinquency, and physical aggression--are associated with earlier onset of adolescent sexual intercourse. Parents' marital disruption and living with a single parent have been found to be associated with earlier onset of adolescent sexual behavior. This finding probably reflects a variety of factors, including lower family incomes, disadvantaged neighborhoods, lesser supervision, parental modeling, and more permissive attitudes in single parent families. Similarly, having sexually active siblings and friends is strongly related to a younger age at the onset of sexual activity. On the other hand, having better educated parents, supportive family relationships, parental supervision, sexually abstinent friends, good school grades and attending church frequently are all related to later onset of sexual intercourse.

In addition to families and schools, neighborhoods provide an environment within which adolescents make decisions related to sexual activity. The effects of the neighborhood environment, such as the community economic base and labor market conditions for women, account for a substantial portion of the racial differences among blacks and whites in the timing of first sexual intercourse. Thus, in one study, the overall risk of non-marital first intercourse was reported to be 50 percent higher for black teens than white teens, even controlling for individual and family level factors such as mothers' education and marital status and respondents' education and religious affiliation. The addition of contextual variables such as median family income, female unemployment, and female full-time employment reduced the racial difference in risk of first non-marital intercourse to 36 percent. Net of individual and family level factors, the only contextual variable found to be significant was female full-time employment in the community, which was related to a greater risk of first sex.

Contraception

Effective contraceptive use generally requires planning and preparation prior to having sexual intercourse. This is often a problem for adolescents because young people usually report that their first sexual intercourse “just happened” and that they were not planning to have sex at the time. Consequently, condoms, which require the least amount of advance planning, are used more than any other method of contraception at first sexual intercourse, but about 35 percent of first intercourse experiences take place without the use of any contraception at all.

Avoiding pregnancy after the first (often unplanned) sexual intercourse experience requires consistent use of an effective contraceptive method. This can be additionally problematic for adolescents because young adolescents tend to be less deliberative and rational about sexual decisions than older persons, and they also tend to have sexual intercourse more sporadically. Consequently, approximately one-fifth of adolescents report that they did not use any effective contraceptive at their last intercourse experience. Seven in ten pregnancies to adolescent teens occur to teens who were not using any method of contraception when they became pregnant.

A major challenge to preventing pregnancies is the fact that so many adolescents delay seeking contraceptive services until some months after they have become sexually active. The delay between first intercourse and obtaining contraceptive services has been found to average almost one year in some studies. Procrastination, not thinking that they could get pregnant or being ambivalent about sex, contraception and pregnancy, and worrying about confidentiality are the reasons sexually active adolescents most often give for not seeking contraceptive services sooner. The year after the initiation of sexual intercourse is a time of high risk for unintended pregnancy, and in one study about one-third of adolescents made their first visit to a clinic because they suspected that they

already were pregnant. Thus, helping adolescents to plan for effective contraception (preferably before, but at least soon after initiating sex) could be an important strategy for reducing unintended pregnancy.

There are developmental patterns such that the older adolescents are when they first have intercourse, the more likely they are to use contraception. Stronger preferences to avoid pregnancy and higher educational aspirations and achievement are related to earlier and more consistent contraceptive use. Over time, sexually active adolescents, especially those in longer-term couple relationships, increasingly use the pill.

Pregnancy Resolution

When adolescents become unintentionally pregnant they face several difficult choices. About equal proportions of pregnant adolescents have unintended births (37 percent) or induced abortions (35 percent), with smaller percentages of adolescent pregnancies ending in miscarriages or intended births (about 14 percent each). Given their young age and the future implications of these choices, relatives, partners, and friends would be expected to play an important role in adolescents' pregnancy resolution decisions. Studies confirm that parents (especially mothers), and to a lesser extent friends and sexual partners, have significant influences on what pregnant adolescents decide to do. Abortion is a more likely outcome when a pregnant adolescent has a poor relationship with the male who impregnated her. Research findings are inconsistent about whether adoption is influenced by the relationship with the baby's father. Although data on adoption among teens is not available, among never-married women of all ages who have a birth, adoption is a relatively uncommon outcome. Currently, only about two percent of premarital births are relinquished for adoption.

Decisions about abortion, adoption, and parenthood are influenced not only by adolescents' perceptions of what their parents and peers think about their actions, but also by opportunities in their communities. For example, better employment opportunities have been found to be associated with a lower probability of childbearing. While research is inconsistent regarding an hypothesized association between welfare benefit levels at the state level and adolescent birth rates, higher state-level funding for family planning services is associated with lower state-level birth rates. Adolescents who terminate their pregnancies or relinquish their babies for adoption tend to come from higher socioeconomic backgrounds, to have done well in school, and to have higher educational aspirations. In general, adolescents from more advantaged families and communities are less likely to have a birth. In other words, parenthood tends to be avoided by pregnant adolescents who have more concrete and attainable future plans.

With respect to characteristics that differentiate women according to their pregnancy resolution choices, researchers find that those who choose adoption are more likely to be younger, expect to have fewer children, and are less likely to have received AFDC prior to pregnancy. The strongest predictor of choosing to abort is a woman's attitude about abortion. Also, teen females with higher self-esteem have been found to be more likely to terminate their pregnancy, as are teens in states where there is greater access to abortion services. Given pregnancy, the likelihood of marriage versus other alternatives (i.e., abortion or single parenthood) is lower for teens who are Jewish and those with highly educated mothers. Among those with premarital conceptions who gave birth to their first child, young teens and teens with less than a high school education were less likely to marry prior to the birth. However, teen females who live in an intact family are more likely to

marry prior to the birth. In general, the fathers tend to be older than the teen mothers. Indeed, two-thirds of the fathers of babies born to teen mothers under age 20 are themselves age 20 or older.

In summary, recent trends in teen pregnancy and childbirth are the results of many factors. Increasing teen birth rates are not due to higher pregnancy rates among sexually active teens, but to increasing levels of sexual activity and decreasing rates of abortion. Once higher levels of sexual activity are taken into account, pregnancy rates are actually declining. Moreover, the propensity to marry is less common. Also, few teens place their babies up for adoption and the proportion who do choose adoption has declined sharply over recent decades.

Review of Prevention Programs

Many concerned parties, including policy makers, tax payers, parents, scholars and program providers, want to identify programs that could bring about large reductions in unintended adolescent pregnancy and parenthood. For at least two decades now, varied approaches to prevention and intervention have been tried in the United States. As suggested by the conceptual model in Figure 1, there are several points at which prevention programs can be targeted. Interventions have been attempted to delay the initiation of sexual activity, to improve contraceptive use among sexually active adolescents, to (in some cases) influence pregnancy resolution decisions among those who become pregnant, and to reduce or delay subsequent births. Some programs are less direct, focusing on issues like life options, in the belief that adolescents who perceive better educational, occupational, and economic opportunities for themselves will seek to postpone parenthood. Prevention programs are often school-based because students are an accessible and somewhat captive audience; however, programs are also based in clinics and agencies, and sometimes they are

based in churches, provided directly to families, or embedded in a community wide intervention context that includes all of the above.

Unfortunately, no evaluations point to remarkably successful adolescent pregnancy prevention programs that stand out as having large, sustained and clearly documented impacts. Most of the programs have been small, short-term projects implemented without a theoretical basis or even a clear operational model, without a design based on prior scientific studies, and without rigorous evaluations. Because there usually is not a scientifically rigorous evaluation plan, it is unclear whether many programs are effective. Some programs appear to be effective, but more often no effects have been shown.

Family life or sex education in the public schools, which traditionally has consisted largely of providing factual information at the secondary school level, is the most general or pervasive approach to preventing pregnancy among adolescents. The effects of sex education as offered in the public schools continue to be widely debated, however. Recent perspectives range from the view that school sex education is wrong or has simply failed, to the view that too little is being provided too late. The evidence shows that traditional sex education, as it has been offered in the United States, increases sexual knowledge, but it has little or no effect on whether or not teens initiate sex or use contraception. Consequently, traditional school sex education usually is found to be unrelated to adolescent pregnancy or births. The most consistent and clear finding is that sex education does not cause adolescents to initiate sex when they would not otherwise have done so.

School-based clinics, which typically provide comprehensive adolescent health services but not necessarily contraceptive services, have not shown convincing evidence of success at reducing adolescent pregnancies or births. One apparent exception, the *Self Center* in Baltimore, Maryland,

linked school-based sex education with the provision of contraceptive services at a nearby facility. However, school-based programs do not reach older non-teen partners or school drop-outs.

Studies show a relationship between the presence and use of contraceptive services by adolescents, and lower pregnancies and birth rates. Family planning services reduce unwanted births by preventing pregnancy and, in some instances, by providing access to abortion.

Compared with traditional knowledge-based sex education, more focused behavioral-skills types of sex education have recently shown more promising results, for example, *Postponing Sexual Involvement* and *Reducing the Risk*. Based on social learning theory, skills-oriented prevention programs combine the traditional informational approach with skill building activities. These are active rather than passive strategies, that help adolescents to personalize sexual issues and develop specific negotiation and refusal skills needed in sexual relations. Activities are used that teach about social and media pressures, modeling, and communication/negotiation with respect to both sexual behavior and contraceptive use. Such programs have been shown to result in short delays in onset of sexual intercourse among some groups, and to have moderate effects on improving contraceptive protection among those who are sexually active.

Programs that focus on educational and employment outcomes do not generally examine sexual and fertility outcomes. Several studies, however, provide evidence suggesting that such approaches may be helpful in preventing adolescent pregnancy or childbearing. Specifically, children who attended the enriched *Perry Pre-School Program* were found to have lower birth rates more than a dozen years later; and high school youth in the intensive Philadelphia site of the *Quantum Opportunities Program* experienced lower birth rates. Finally, evidence from the *School/Community Program for Sexual Risk Reduction Among Teens* in Denmark, South Carolina

indicates that a community-wide education, services, and media campaign can reduce adolescent fertility.

Conclusions

Adolescence is usually too young an age to become a parent in the contemporary United States. This is largely because raising a child takes patience and resources that are acquired in advanced societies gradually with age, education, and experience. Moreover, among adolescents, it is those who are least well prepared to nurture and raise a child who are most likely to become parents. That is, adolescents who have substance abuse and behavior problems, who are not doing well in school, who have low aspirations for their own educational attainment, and who live in economically disadvantaged families and communities tend to initiate sexual intercourse at younger ages, contracept less effectively, and have unintended pregnancies. When pregnancy occurs, higher risk adolescents are also the most likely to bear children, particularly outside of marriage.

Research in the 1990s has recognized the complexity of the problem of adolescent pregnancy and the multiplicity of factors that place adolescents at risk. Recent studies have highlighted several related issues in particular. One of the most noted changes in research emphasis in the 1990s is that there is greater concern about higher risk sexual behaviors. Current research also tends to focus on studying virgin/nonvirgin status, to consider the early age of onset of sexual intercourse, non-voluntary sex, the number and characteristics of sexual partners, the frequency of sex, and the use of alcohol and other drugs that increase risky sexual behavior. While earlier studies tended only to examine the use or non-use of condoms, current research regarding contraceptive use has sharpened the question, examining the use of contraception at first and most recent intercourse, as well as on

consistent contraceptive use. Given the high incidence of sexually transmitted infections, research has focussed on strategies to prevent both pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections.

The long-term effects of early interventions designed to enhance school readiness and academic achievement only rarely have been assessed for their impact on early childbearing. The *Perry Pre-School Program* is one of few studies to examine long-term impacts. Such research is costly, but addresses an important question about which we currently know very little.

Current research also has made use of more diverse and representative samples. This is most evident with longitudinal national surveys of adolescent males' sexual and fertility-related behaviors, begun in 1988, which have added substantially to our understanding. Increasing attention is being paid to Hispanic youth, who also need to be studied as a unique group. Additional studies are needed on Hispanic subgroups (e.g. Mexicans and Puerto Ricans), as well as other immigrant subgroups.

Further research is needed to add to our understanding of key antecedents of the timing of first sexual intercourse and adolescents' early and consistent use of effective contraception. For example, media messages about adolescent sexual behavior are pervasive whereas contraceptive media messages are rare; both types of media messages are potentially influential. Media effects on teens' sexual behavior are poorly understood, however, partly because little rigorous research has been conducted on this topic.

Many kinds of adolescent pregnancy prevention programs have been implemented in recent years. Unfortunately, many of them have had very limited evaluations or, if evaluated credibly, they tend to show only slight or moderate effects. There is a great need for prevention programs that have clear, concrete, and attainable objectives, such as delaying sexual involvement and increasing

contraceptive use. Programs need to be established on the foundation of previous research and theory, and promising approaches should incorporate a scientifically rigorous evaluation plan.

For example, recent evidence from behavioral skills-oriented sex education programs suggest the practical utility of emphasizing two fundamental and specific messages in a social learning theory paradigm. First, adolescents should delay sexual intercourse and, second, when adolescents become sexually active they should consistently use an effective method of contraception. Research evidence has also shown that the dual message encouraging adolescents to delay intercourse, but to use contraception if and when they have sex, is more effective than approaches that focus solely on abstinence or solely on contraception. The younger adolescents are when they begin having sex, the greater their risks of negative consequences, and early sexual intercourse experiences often are psychologically or physically coercive. Evidence suggests that by learning more about social pressures, negotiation, and refusal skills, many adolescents will be capable of postponing their sexual involvement.

Adolescents who begin having sexual intercourse need to understand the importance of using an effective contraceptive every time they have sex. This requires convincing sexually active teens who have never used contraception to do so. In addition, sexually active teens who sometimes use contraceptives need to use them more consistently (every time they have sex) and use them correctly. Finally, sexually active teens need to take actions to prevent sexually transmitted infections, as well as unintended pregnancy.

Another body of mostly consistent evidence and theory shows that family disadvantage, poverty, low educational aspirations, and limited economic opportunities are related to earlier unprotected sexual intercourse, unintended pregnancy, and unmarried adolescent parenthood. At

the contextual or social level, these factors often reflect limited future opportunities or life options. Life options (or opportunity cost) theory suggests that adolescents engage in risky sexual behaviors because they believe that they have little to lose. Adolescents who experience educational and job success and perceive positive future opportunities for themselves should have stronger motivation for avoiding early pregnancy and parenthood. To some extent interventions that focus on enhancing educational achievement and providing apprenticeships and employment appear to be effective, though the research base available to assess causality is fairly thin. More long-term rigorous studies of these types of interventions should be a high priority.

Another limit of current interventions is their lack of attention to males. The majority of interventions are female-focussed, and either fail to include males in the intervention, or fail to consider the role of males in teen pregnancy at all. In addition, sexual coercion has been linked with early sexual activity among females; however, few programs take this into account in designing interventions. It is difficult to prevent pregnancy by increasing a female's knowledge and motivation to prevent pregnancy if the female is becoming pregnant as a result of a non-voluntary sexual experience.

Major reductions in adolescent pregnancy and childbearing at the national level are not likely to occur without more systematic, sustained, and coordinated approaches to program design and implementation. While small-scale, short-term, *ad hoc* interventions can be helpful for identifying and developing improved strategies, carefully documented demonstration projects accompanied by rigorous evaluations are greatly needed. The strongest possible evidence of the effectiveness of pregnancy prevention programs will come from randomized experimental designs. In some instances, quasi-experimental designs, without random assignment, might be justified. Whenever

possible, evaluation designs should allow for the comparison of the relative effects of various program components. National programmatic efforts need to be based on the most promising theoretical models, including the life options and social learning theories outlined above. Evidence from existing program evaluations suggests that prevention models should build on these theories, employ intervention strategies consistent with them, and use systematic and scientifically rigorous evaluation designs to assess their effectiveness.

There is no shortage of opinions as to what will reduce adolescent pregnancy, nor is there a shortage of program models or model programs. What is in short supply is objective, empirical evidence identifying programs and policies that reduce pregnancy and childbearing among teenagers, the components of the program or policy that are effective, and the populations among whom particular approaches have impacts.

Figure 1

