

PREGNANCY

(Josh McDowell research 2006 to present)

“44% OF BRITAIN’S CHILDREN ARE BORN OUT-OF-WEDLOCK.”

“44% of Britain’s children are born out-of-wedlock.”

(Gary Foster, “Fast Facts,” *Religious Market Update*, August 25, 2009, p4; www.garydfoster.com)

“A BABY CHANGES EVERYTHING: THE TRUE COST OF TEEN PREGNANCY’S UPTICK”

“After declining for 15 years, the teen pregnancy rate is now on the rise in the United States, which has by far the highest rate in the industrialized world. The number of pregnancies among girls age 15 to 19 increased 3 percent between 2005 and 2006, showed a study of the most recent data collected by the federal government and the Guttmacher Institute, the non-profit research group in New York that released the report last month.”

(Huus, Kari, “A baby changes everything: The true cost of teen pregnancy’s uptick” *msnbc.com* U.S. News, www.msnbc.msn.com/id/35448556/ns/us_news-the_elkhart_project/)

“FAST FACTS ABOUT PREGNANCY”

“Sexual activity among adolescents in the U.S. results in over 750,000 teenage pregnancies each year.”

(Gary Foster, “Fast Facts,” *Religious Market Update*, (March 10, 2009): 4; www.garydfoster.com)

“MEDICAL NEWS TODAY”

“The U.S. government in 2004 incurred at least \$9.1 billion in costs related to teen births, despite significant decreases in teen pregnancy and birth rates since the early 1990s, according to a report released on Monday by the National Campaign To Prevent Teen Pregnancy, USA Today reports (Koch [1], USA Today, 10/30).”

“The teen birth rate and teen pregnancy rate from 1991 through 2002 decreased by 30% and 36%, respectively, according to figures from the government and the Guttmacher Institute (Koch [2], USA Today, 10/30). The report -- titled "By the Numbers: The Public Costs of Teen Childbearing" and written by Saul Hoffman, an economics professor at the University of Delaware -- found that \$8.6 billion of the \$9.1 billion the government paid in 2004 birth-related care was for girls age 17 and younger. According to the report, the costs included \$1.9 billion for health care, \$2.3 billion for child welfare, \$2.1 billion for incarceration and \$2.9 billion in lower tax revenue.”

“Children born to teenagers have higher health care, foster care and incarceration costs than children born to older women. In addition, children born to teen mothers on average earn a lower income as adults and pay less in taxes, the report found. In addition, girls who gave birth at ages younger than age 17 are more than twice as likely as women who had their first child at ages 20 or 21 to have a child placed in foster care, to be reported for child abuse or neglect and to have a son incarcerated, the report found. NCPTP Director Sarah Brown said, ‘It’s important to remind people the problems [related to teen pregnancy] are very serious and expensive’ (Koch [1], USA Today, 10/30). Brown also said that the drop in the teen pregnancy rate is a ‘combination of many factors,’ including welfare reform, reduced benefits, and more schools, churches and community groups offering abstinence and sex education programs.”

“HIV and sex education programs nationwide also are contributing factors, Douglas Kirby of the health education organization ETR Associates said, adding that the most significant drop generally is in states with comprehensive sex education programs (Koch [2], USA Today, 10/30).”

(Medical News Today <http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/55373.php>, November 1, 2006
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“STATEMENT ON JAMIE LYNN SPEARS”

“Recent data shows that the decline in teen sex and improvements in contraceptive use have leveled off and that the teen birth rate is on the rise for the first time in 15 years. At present, 3 in 10 girls in the United States become pregnant by age 20. Despite a 38% decline between 1990 and 2004 (most recent data available), there are more than 729,000 teen pregnancies annually. In 2006, there were 435,000 births to teens. Moreover, at present, half of all pregnancies in the United States are unplanned.”

(“National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy – Statement on Jamie Lynn Spears,” The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, June 19, 2008, www.TheNationalCampaign.org)

“TEEN PREGNANCY STILL A GROWING TREND”

“Bill Albert of the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy says roughly four out of ten births now occur outside of marriage.”

“‘What may be going on here is that we have come to a time, unfortunately, when many young people are spending more time, effort, and thought about what vacation they may be taking than under what circumstances they want to begin a family,’ Albert notes.”

“What we’ve lost in part...is the notion...what constitutes a healthy relationship.”

(Charlie Butts, “Teen Pregnancy Still a Growing Trend,” OneNewsNow.com, April 23, 2009, <http://onenewsnow.com/Printer.aspx?id=499896>)

“TEEN PREGNANCY”

“Teen pregnancy can have serious consequences for girls and guys, including decreased chances of finishing school, a rocky financial future, and health risks for both the mother and the child. If you are thinking about having sex, it is important to know that the effects can last a lifetime. Here's the facts about teen pregnancy:”

- **“Three out of ten teenage girls in the United States get pregnant at least one before age 20 --** that amounts to 745,000 teen pregnancies each year. Shocking right?”
- **“The United States has the highest teen pregnancy rate in the industrialized world --** twice as high as in England or Canada and eight times as high as in the Netherlands or Japan.”
- **“Two-thirds of all teen pregnancies occur among 18-19-year-olds,** but that doesn't mean that you're immune if you are under 18.”
- **“Almost 50% of teens have never considered how a pregnancy would affect their lives.”**
- **“Parenthood is the leading reason why teen girls drop out of school.** Less than half of teen mothers ever graduate from high school and fewer than two percent earn a college degree by age 30.”
- **“Children of teen mothers do worse in school than those born to older parents --** they are 50 percent more likely to repeat a grade, are less likely to complete high school than the children of older mothers, and have lower performance on standardized tests.”
- **“Pregnant teens are far less likely to receive timely and consistent prenatal care than those who get pregnant at a later age.** The children of teen mothers are more likely to be born prematurely and at low birthweight and are two times more likely to suffer abuse and neglect compared to children of older mothers. Teen mothers are also more likely to smoke during pregnancy, and often teen mothers are not at adequate pre-pregnancy weight and/or do not gain the appropriate amount of weight while pregnant.”
- **“Two-thirds of families begun by a young unmarried mother are poor.** More than half of all mothers on welfare had their first child as a teenager.”
- **“Teen mothers are likely to have a second birth relatively soon --** about one-fourth of teenage mothers have a second child within 24 months of the first birth -- which can further impede their ability to finish school or keep a job, and to escape poverty.”
- **“Eight out of ten fathers don't marry the mother of their child.** These absent fathers pay less than \$800 annually for child support, often because they are poor themselves. Children who live apart from their fathers are also five times more likely to be poor than children with both parents at home.”

- **“The daughters of young teen mothers are three times more likely to become teen mothers themselves.”**
- **“The sons of teen mothers are twice as likely to end up in prison.”**

(“Teen Pregnancy,” StayTeen.org, February 2009, <http://www.stayteen.org/get-informed/default.aspx>)

“THE U.S. TEEN BIRTHRATE”

“An estimated 1.7 million babies were born to unmarried women, accounting for 39.7% of all U.S. births.” (Christian Post 3/19/09)

(Gary Foster, “The U.S. Teen Birth Rate,” *Religious Market Update*, (April 10, 2009): 3; www.garydfoster.com)

“U.S. WOMEN WAITING LONGER TO HAVE FIRST CHILD”

“The average age at which American women are having their first child has climbed to an all-time high of 25.1, the government said Wednesday.”

“The age of first-time American moms has risen steadily during the past three decades, from an average of 21.4 in 1970.”

(Associated Press, “U.S. Women Waiting Longer to Have First Child,” FOX News, December 17, 2003; www.foxnews.com/printer_friendly_story/0,3566,106018,00.html)

“US TEEN BIRTH RATE DECLINING”

“The U.S. Teen Birth Rate has been declining; in '04 it was 41.2 births per 1,000 girls ages 15-19, vs. 61.8 births per 1,000 in '91. (USA Today 8/2/06)

(Gary D. Foster, “Religious Market Update,” August 10, 2006, p2)
