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*Evaluating Programs Aimed at Preventing Teenage Pregnancies Teen Pregnancy: Your Questions Answered*

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For teenagers, pregnancy presents especially challenging obstacles. Pregnant teens are suddenly faced with adult responsibilities. They need to consider the changes a baby will bring, including the ways it will affect their plans for school, a career, and relationships. This compelling volume explores the physical and emotional changes that pregnancy brings. Medical risks and options for deciding not to keep or have a baby are also presented. Teen childbearing has risen to

frighteningly high levels over the last four decades, jeopardizing the life chances of young parents and their offspring alike, particularly among minority communities. Or at least, that's what politicians on the right and left often tell us, and what the American public largely believes. But sociologist Frank Furstenberg argues that the conventional wisdom distorts reality. In *Destinies of the Disadvantaged*, Furstenberg traces the history of public concern over teen pregnancy, exploring why this topic has become so politically powerful, and so misunderstood. Based on over forty years of Furstenberg's research on teen childbearing, *Destinies of the Disadvantaged* relates how the issue emerged from obscurity to become one of the most heated social controversies in America. Both slipshod research by social scientists and opportunistic grandstanding by politicians have contributed to public misunderstanding of the issue. Although out-of-wedlock teen pregnancy rose notably between 1960 and 1990—a cause for concern given the burdens of single motherhood at a young age—this trend did not reflect a rise in the rate of overall teen pregnancies. In fact, teen pregnancy actually declined dramatically in the 1960s and 1970s. The number of unmarried teenage mothers rose after 1960, not because more young women became pregnant, but because those who did increasingly chose not to rush into marriage. Furstenberg shows how early social science research on this topic exaggerated the adverse consequences of early parenthood both for young parents and for their children. Researchers also inaccurately portrayed single teenage motherhood as a phenomenon concentrated among minorities. Both of these misapprehensions skewed subsequent political debates. The issue became a public obsession and remained so during the 1990s, even as rates of out-of-wedlock teen childbearing plummeted. Addressing teen pregnancy was originally a liberal cause, led by advocates of family planning services, legalized abortion, and social welfare programs for single mothers. The issue was later adopted by conservatives, who argued that those liberal remedies were encouraging teen parenthood.

According to Furstenberg, the flexible political usefulness of the issue explains its hold on political discourse. The politics of teen parenthood is a fascinating case study in the abuse of social science for political ends. In *Destinies of the Disadvantaged*, Furstenberg brings that tale to life with the perspective of a historian and the insight of an insider, and provides the straight facts needed to craft effective policies to address teen pregnancy. Choosing the best method for preventing and avoiding pregnancy is a personal decision that is not always simple. Fortunately, there are many options available today to help you avoid an unplanned pregnancy. Consider your personal needs, lifestyle, and physical health when deciding which one is best for you. Teen pregnancy rates have been declining in recent years, in large part because parents and schools have done a better job than ever before of providing teens with as many tools as possible to make wise decisions. The evidence for effective methods to prevent teen pregnancy is overwhelmingly in favour of comprehensive education and effective communication. Abstract: While acknowledging the fact that a lot has been accomplished for the prevention of teen pregnancy, this publication looks at the need for the beginning of a real hard work. A step-by-step history of the teenage pregnancy activities are outlined. With the use of data from different sources, graphs, tables, bar and pie charts, the booklet looks at the trends of teen pregnancy, racial and ethnic differences, adolescent males and their reproductive behavior, geographic differences and geographic differences by race and ethnicity. In this dazzling debut novel, a pregnant teen learns the meaning of friendship—from the boy who pretends to be her baby's father. When the entire high school finds out that Hannah Shepard is pregnant via her ex-best friend, she has a full-on meltdown in her backyard. The one witness (besides the rest of the world): Aaron Tyler, a transfer student and the only boy who doesn't seem to want to get into Hannah's pants. Confused and scared, Hannah needs someone to be on her side. Wishing to make up for his own past mistakes, Aaron does the unthinkable and

offers to pretend to be the father of Hannah's unborn baby. Even more unbelievable, Hannah hears herself saying "yes." Told in alternating perspectives between Hannah and Aaron, *Trouble* is the story of two teenagers helping each other to move forward in the wake of tragedy and devastating choices. In a year marked by loss, regret, and hope, the two will discover a simple truth: Nothing compares to finding your first, true best friend. Quiet Halley and popular Scarlett have been friends for years, balancing each other perfectly - until the summer of their 16th birthdays. Scarlett's boyfriend is killed in a motorbike accident, just before she discovers she is carrying his baby. Now, for the first time, Scarlett really needs Halley at the same time as Halley needs her. Halley is caught up in the spell of first love, and the pressure to lose her virginity...Each with their own problems, can this friendship survive the strain of support that both Halley and Scarlett expect from each other? In *MTV and Teen Pregnancy: Critical Essays on 16 and Pregnant and Teen Mom*, contributors from a variety of backgrounds and expertise offer potent essays about the MTV programs *16 and Pregnant*, *Teen Mom*, and *Teen Mom 2*. Divided into four parts, each section tackles the controversial representation of teen pregnancy from a different discipline. Part One explores gendered social norms and the shows' representations of teenage motherhood. Part Two prompts readers to consider the intersections of race, class, gender, and the social and cultural power structures often glossed over in these programs. Part Three turns its attention to teenage fathers, and Part Four draws from TV's representations of reality to discuss the impact these shows may have on the viewing audience. As the debates about these shows continue, this collection provides a valuable critical discourse to be used both inside and outside the classroom. This examination of changes in adolescent fertility emphasizes the changing social context within which adolescent childbearing takes place. Pregnant teens have three options—abortion, adoption, or keeping the baby—and each comes with its own challenges and issues. Teen pregnancy can have

an enormous impact on adolescents, their families, and society. What options are available to teens? What resources are available, and what rights and responsibilities do the pregnant teen, the father, and the teen's parents have? Do pregnancy and birth pose unique health risks for mother and child? How does being born to a teen mother affect a child's health and future? Part of Greenwood's Q&A Health Guides series, *Teen Pregnancy: Your Questions Answered* follows a reader-friendly question-and-answer format that anticipates readers' needs and concerns. Prevalent myths and misconceptions are identified and dispelled, and a collection of case studies illustrates key concepts and issues through relatable stories and insightful recommendations. Each book in the series also includes a section on health literacy, equipping teens and young adults with practical tools and strategies for finding, evaluating, and using credible sources of health information both on and off the internet—important skills that contribute to a lifetime of healthy decision-making. Makes the subject approachable and accessible to readers through a simple Q&A format Helps readers to improve their research and critical thinking skills in a Guide to Health Literacy section Provides real-world examples of concepts discussed in the book through case studies Dispels popular misconceptions surrounding teen pregnancy in a Common Myths section and points readers toward accurate information Teenage Pregnancy and Young Parenthood provides a comprehensive, unparalleled insight into the UK Government's highly successful Teenage Pregnancy Strategy (TPS) for England which reduced the under-18 pregnancy rate by well over 50%, and considers how the lessons from this policy can be applied internationally. This important book captures and shares the lessons from the TPS for future governments and policy makers, and documents the details of implementing a long-term strategy with its innovative approach to policy issues. After providing the rationale for prioritising teenage pregnancy, the book demonstrates evidence for what is effective, both in helping young people avoid unplanned

pregnancy and in improving outcomes for young parents. The TPS is analysed against the World Health Organisation's key actions for effective scale-up of adolescent sexual and reproductive health programmes, to offer an important contribution to international understanding of this global public health challenge. Advocating a 'whole systems' multi-agency approach this book translates evidence into clear action, and combines theory and practice with illustrative case studies to demonstrate how to implement policy successfully. It is valuable reading for policy makers and practitioners dealing with young people's health, as well as undergraduate and postgraduate students in the fields of psychology, health studies, social work, youth work, education, social policy, sociology and related disciplines. A NPR BOOKS WE LOVE 2021 Selection "[T]his book is so much more than a memoir . . . Her prose has the power to undo deep-set cultural biases about poverty and parenthood."—New York Times Book Review An activist calls for better support of young families so they can thrive and reflects on her experiences as a Black mother and college student fighting for opportunities for herself and her child. *Pregnant Girl* presents the possibility of a different future for young mothers—one of success and stability—in the midst of the dismal statistics that dominate the national conversation. Along with her own story as a young Black mother, Nicole Lynn Lewis weaves in those of the men and women she's worked with to share a new perspective on how poverty, classism, and systemic racism impact teen pregnancy and on how effective programs and equitable policies can help teen parents earn college degrees, have increased opportunity, and create a legacy of educational and career achievements in their families. After Nicole became pregnant during her senior year in high school, she was told that college was no longer a reality—a negative outlook often unfairly presented to teen mothers. Nicole left home and experienced periods of homelessness, hunger, and poverty. Despite these obstacles, she enrolled at the College of William & Mary and brought her 3-month-old daughter



along. Through her experiences fighting for resources to put herself through college, she discovered her true calling and founded her organization, Generation Hope, to provide support for teen parents and their children so they can thrive in college and kindergarten—driving a 2-generation solution to poverty. *Pregnant Girl* will inspire young parents faced with similar choices and obstacles that they too can pursue their goals with the right support. In the last decades of the 20th century, successive British governments have regarded adolescent pregnancy and childbearing as a significant public health and social problem. Youthful pregnancy was once tackled by attacking young, single mothers but New Labour, through its Teenage Pregnancy Strategy, linked early pregnancy to social exclusion rather than personal morality and aimed, instead, to reduce teenage pregnancy and increase young mothers' participation in education and employment. However, the problematisation of early pregnancy has been contested, and it has been suggested that teenage mothers have been made scapegoats for wider, often unsettling, social and demographic changes. The re-evaluation of early pregnancy as problematic means that, in some respects, teenage pregnancy has been 'made' and 'unmade' as a problem. Focusing on the period from the late-1990s to the present, *Teenage pregnancy* examines who is likely to have a baby as a teenager, the consequences of early motherhood and how teenage pregnancy is dealt with in the media. The author argues that society's negative attitude to young mothers is likely to marginalise an already excluded group and that efforts should be focused primarily on supporting young mothers and their children. This comprehensive examination of teenage pregnancy focuses on the situation in the UK, but will be useful for readers in other developed world countries. It will be of interest to students in sociology, social policy, health studies and public health, and also to policy makers and young people's interest groups. Discusses such aspects of teenage pregnancy as the causes and nature of pregnancy, the proper care for mother and baby, and alternative choices

such as adoption and abortion. By all indicators, the reproductive health of Americans has been deteriorating since 1980. Our nation is troubled by rates of teen pregnancies and newborn deaths that are worse than almost all others in the Western world. *Science and Babies* is a straightforward presentation of the major reproductive issues we face that suggests answers for the public. The book discusses how the clash of opinions on sex and family planning prevents us from making a national commitment to reproductive health; why people in the United States have fewer contraceptive choices than those in many other countries; what we need to do to improve social and medical services for teens and people living in poverty; how couples should "shop" for a fertility service and make consumer-wise decisions; and what we can expect in the future—featuring interesting accounts of potential scientific advances. The rates are on the decline worldwide. But adolescent pregnancies still occur, placing millions of girls each year at risk for medical complications and social isolation and their babies for severe health problems—especially when prenatal care is inadequate or nonexistent. But as the opportunity for young women and girls increases around the world, adolescent pregnancy will continue to decline. Featuring reports from countries across the developed and developing worlds, the *International Handbook of Adolescent Pregnancy* analyzes the scope of the problem and the diversity of social and professional responses. Its biological/ecological perspective identifies factors influencing childhood pregnancy, as well as outcomes, challenges and needs of very young mothers as they differ across nations and regions. Salient comparisons are made as cultural contexts and community support vary widely and attention is paid to issues such as child marriage, LGBT concerns and the impact of religion and politics on health care, particularly access to contraception, abortion and other services. This global coverage heightens the understanding of readers involved in care, education and prevention programs and otherwise concerned with the psychosocial development,

reproductive health and general well-being of girls. Included in the Handbook: Biological influences of adolescent pregnancy. Adolescent maternal health and childbearing. Adolescent pregnancy and mental health. International perspectives on adolescent fathers. Adolescent pregnancy as a feminist issue. Adolescent pregnancy as a social problem. Plus viewpoints from more than thirty countries. As a unique source of up-to-date findings and clear-headed analysis, the International Handbook of Adolescent Pregnancy is a go-to reference for practitioners and researchers in maternal and child health, pediatrics, adolescent medicine and global health. Teenage pregnancy is a public health concern that is growing more prevalent in both developed and developing countries. Understanding the problems of teenage motherhood and suggesting relevant preventive strategies and interventions can help break the cycle of poverty, poor education, and risky behaviors that can lead to health and child welfare issues. Socio-Cultural Influences on Teenage Pregnancy and Contemporary Prevention Measures is an essential reference source that discusses the causes and factors responsible for early motherhood, as well as the mental and psychological outlooks of teen mothers. Featuring research on topics such as minority populations, family dynamics, and sex education, this book is ideally designed for healthcare students, medical professionals, practitioners, nurses, and counselors seeking coverage on the issues, reasons, and outcomes of teenage pregnancy, as well as preventive strategies to combat teenage motherhood. Unwed teenage pregnancy is a national problem - and a puzzle for clinicians and social psychologists. For how are we to understand a pattern of behavior that is strongly motivated and yet likely to end in unfortunate outcomes? Moreover, why does the pattern of unwed teenage pregnancy repeat in successive generations in some families, despite education and previous experience, whereas in other families the pattern is broken? Reporting on intensive social and psychological research in a rural African American community in Louisiana, Anne Dean offers a

compelling view of this phenomenon that integrates historical and economic analysis with a sensitive psychological inquiry into the minds of mothers and daughters and the patterns of communication between them. *Teenage Pregnancy: The Interaction of Psyche and Culture* transcends earlier investigations by going beyond conventional research strategies to test psychodynamic theories about the formation of internal worlds. Drawing on the work of Erik Erikson and Hans Loewald, Dean not only finds empirical justification for psychodynamic theories of psychic structure, but also extends the scope and methodology of attachment research in an exciting new direction. Specifically, her analysis reveals how different kinds of attachment relationships between mothers and daughters manifest themselves in adolescence as internal working models that become the templates for interpreting, and acting upon, contradictory economic, social, and familial expectations. In demonstrating how social factors and cultural schemas interact with psychodynamic motives and structures, *Teenage Pregnancy* has widespread applicability to social science research in general. And it offers psychodynamically oriented clinicians working with adolescents the opportunity to become better acquainted with the ways in which mother-daughter relationships gain expression in the identity choices of teenage girls. "The *Unplanned Pregnancy Book for Teens & College Students* is a helpful guide written to provide you with information and resources that can help you come to terms with how to handle your unplanned pregnancy. This book is not written to influence you or to change your mind about how you should deal with your unplanned pregnancy. This book aims to educate"--Page 4 of cover. Examining the social consequences of teenage childbearing, the editors explain the effects on adolescent parents themselves, their offspring, and their families, and discuss ways of preventing or tempering those effects. Why have Americans suddenly become troubled about teenage sexuality, pregnancy, and childbearing? These are not new problems, certainly, and the birthrate

among teenagers--even the youngest of them--has been declining for some years. What has aroused public concern, according to the editors of these essays, is the increased visibility of the problem. The pregnant teenager is no longer expelled from school and forced to marry or discreetly bear a child out of wedlock. She has the option of abortion, and even if she decides to have the child, she is even more likely not to marry. Thus, the sensitivity of Americans to the issues of abortion and illegitimacy is inexorably linked to their concern about adolescent sexuality and pregnancy. The attention focused on the problem has resulted in a considerable amount of research on the causes and consequences of teenage pregnancy, and on the means of preventing it. Over the past decade, Family Planning Perspectives has published much, if not most, of the research on the causes, consequences, and means of coping with problems associated with teenage pregnancy and childbearing. From about 100 articles, the editors have selected 28 key reports that illuminate the issue for scholars, students, and professionals who work with young people in various settings. The contributors to the first section examine historical trends in regard to teenage sexual activity, use of contraception and abortion, pregnancy, and childbirth in and out of wedlock in the context of other changes in social structure and mores. The second section assesses the serious adverse consequences of early childbearing on the young people involved, on their children, and on society. The third section looks into what courses of action are practicable to help teenagers avert the pregnancies and births they do not wish to have, and to cope with problems resulting from early childbearing. The final section evaluates current programs and materials designed to help teenagers prevent unwanted pregnancies or deal with pregnancy when it occurs; it also reviews the state of the law involving contraception, abortion, and pregnancy among teenagers. The book includes an overview and section introductions by the editors, which draw together the implications of the contributions and those of other investigators who have

written on this subject. All articles, as well as the editors' contributions, are followed by extensive, up-to-date bibliographies. This is the 2nd, revised and extended edition building on the success of the first edition. The extended contents of this second edition reflect the growing spectrum of topics in pediatric and adolescent gynecology. Like its predecessor, this book addresses the most common gynecological problems encountered in childhood medicine, including endocrinological and surgical aspects. New chapters place particular emphasis on an update of technological aspects such as ultrasound, molecular genetics, surgery in sex disorders and new problems encountered in reproductive medicine. The book opens with a comprehensive description of the background of infant and adolescent gynecology and diagnostic tools. Several chapters are devoted to the various pathologies encountered in prepubertal and adolescent girls. Contemporary social issues such as sexual abuse, sexually transmitted diseases, contraception for teenagers and teenage pregnancy are also discussed in detail. Presenting a clear plan for clinical management and treatment of frequently encountered problems in prepubertal and adolescent girls, this book should be read by pediatricians, endocrinologists, gynecologists and family practitioners. More than 1 million teenage girls in the United States become pregnant each year; nearly half give birth. Why do these young people, who are hardly more than children themselves, become parents? This volume reviews in detail the trends in and consequences of teenage sexual behavior and offers thoughtful insights on the issues of sexual initiation, contraception, pregnancy, abortion, adoption, and the well-being of adolescent families. It provides a systematic assessment of the impact of various programmatic approaches, both preventive and ameliorative, in light of the growing scientific understanding of the topic. This book is a parenting guide written just for teenage parents. Major parts of it are the comments and parenting ideas from young people who are "practicing" parents, teenagers who have children of their own. Written for teens who straddle the world of adolescence and

parenthood, this parenting guide is geared to the special needs of very young parents. Interviews with teen mothers and fathers reinforce discussions of the stages of development during the first year—breast- and bottle-feeding, moving to solid food, teaching and playing with babies, providing appropriate health care, and ensuring their safety. The needs of the young parents are stressed along with the developmental needs of the child. Presented in an accessible, teen-friendly format, this book is appropriate for all parents, whether they are married, single but living together, together but living separately, or a single parent alone. This book has been written to help you navigate the many decisions and uncertainties you face when discovering that your daughter, a teenager, may be pregnant. It doesn't promote keeping the baby, abortion or adoption. Its purpose is simply to give you information. This book considers the opposition between pregnancy and parenthood on the one hand, and education on the other, using the specific case of in-school pregnancy in Mozambique. Childhood and teenage pregnancy continues to pose significant social and health concerns within the UK and beyond. It is an issue that has implications for individuals across a range of professions and disciplines. This book is written for nurses, midwives, doctors, social workers and teachers, as well as students of sexual and reproductive health and welfare. It highlights some of the issues faced by sexually active young people and those who work with them. It will also be useful to general readers with a broad interest in the area, or the topic of particular chapters, which are structured to allow readers to dip into topics as necessary. However we would encourage readers to read the book as a whole for a broader understanding of the issues." Discusses how psychological pressures of adolescence interact with the problems of being poor to create a situation in which early sexuality, pregnancy and childbearing seem almost inevitable. Musick also looks at what is required to improve the life chances of teenage mothers and their children. The approach the United States has taken to addressing teen pregnancy -- a

ubiquitous concern in teen education and perennial topic in popular culture -- has changed dramatically over the past few decades. Specifically since the radical overhaul of welfare policy in 1996, Clare Daniel argues, teen pregnancy, previously regarded as a social problem requiring public solutions, is seen as an individual failure on the part of the teens involved. Daniel investigates coordinated teen pregnancy prevention efforts within federal political discourse, along with public policy, popular culture, national advocacy, and local initiatives, revealing the evidence of this transformation. In the 1970s and 1980s, political leaders from both parties used teen pregnancy to strengthen their attacks on racialized impoverished communities. With a new welfare policy in 1996 that rhetoric moved toward blaming teen pregnancy -- seemingly in a race- and class-neutral way -- on the teens who engaged in sex prematurely and irresponsibly. Daniel effectively illustrates that the construction of teen pregnancy as an individual's problem has been a key component in a neoliberal agenda that frees the government from the responsibility of addressing systemic problems of poverty, lack of access to education, ongoing structural racism, and more. Teen childbearing is associated with adverse health and social outcomes for teen mothers and their children, although these outcomes often reflect pre-existing social deficits. Compared with women who delay childbearing until their 20s, teen mothers are more likely to drop out of school and have low educational attainment; to face unemployment, poverty, and welfare dependency; to experience more rapid repeat pregnancy; to become single mothers; and to experience divorce, if they marry. Infants of teen mothers are more likely to be premature and experience infant mortality. The children of teenage mothers do less well on indicators of health and social wellbeing than do children of older mothers. This book briefly examines some of the data collected by the National Center for Health Statistics on teenage childbearing, offers potential reasons for high teen pregnancy and birth rates, and provides basic information on federal



programs whose purpose is primarily to delay sexual activity among teenagers and to reduce teen pregnancy. It also discusses the decline in state teen birth rates by race and Hispanic origin; birth rates for United States' teenagers; and the Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP). Explores teen mothers' perceptions of their situations and the social stigma that affects them. Details how Gaby was able to fake her own pregnancy--hiding the truth from even her siblings and boyfriend's parents--and what it was like to become an accidental overnight media sensation. The debate of teenage pregnancy and parenthood continues to be a topical media and political issue, and a contested policy area. Covering the controversial issues, this book contributes to the debate, filling the gap in the current market. The strong chapter selection looks at areas such as: education social policy and welfare reforms in the UK and US issues for young fathers child sex abuse girls with emotional and behavioural difficulties. This is invaluable reading for those working on government strategies to reduce teen pregnancies and those working in sex education and youth care. This book serves as a guide to assist teenagers in working through their social and emotional issues as they find themselves in the middle of two worlds colliding. The mission is to ignite, motivate and encourage teen parents to reach their full potential. Traces the way popular attitudes came to demonize young mothers and examines the profound social and economic changes that have influenced debate on the issue, especially since the 1970s. --From publisher description. Published in 1997. Adolescent mothers are more likely to encounter a variety of economic and social ills than women who delay childbearing until they are adults. This work is a comprehensive examination of the extent to which these undesirable outcomes are attributable to teen pregnancy itself rather than to the wider environment in which most of the pregnancies and the subsequent child-rearing take place. It also examines the consequences of adolescent pregnancy for the fathers of children, and even more importantly, for the children themselves. The author's

exploration of the causes and effects of the ever-lowering age of teenage parents among poor black youths finds that the growing trend toward early motherhood is a result of a deliberate choice, rather than a lack of birth control and inadequate sex education.

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