

Briefing:
Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenting Conference:
Choices in a Changing Culture: Empowering Decision Making
for Youth, Families, and Communities

Workshop 1: Adolescents and the Media

July 23, 2002, Anaheim, CA - Exploring the realities of adolescent pregnancy in the United States and the role of the media in teenagers' lives, this workshop focused on lessons learned from Hollywood, which has become a "hot spot" for teen pregnancy in California and the U.S. Experts in adolescent pregnancy and television programming discussed the many challenges faced by teens, as well as their parents and teachers who strive to help them develop high aspirations for the future, make constructive use of their time, develop skills, and learn to make positive connections in their tumultuous teen years. While parents and teachers work to help teens develop the skills to build successful lives, they are bombarded by many as many as 12 sexual messages per hour on television each day. This workshop reviewed the efforts to utilize billboards and the media to inform millions of teens about sexuality, relationships, and available community resources.

Introduction:

Nancy Thorne, Vice President, Population Resource Center

Speakers:

Susan Rabinovitz, RN, MPH, Associate Director, Division of Adolescent Medicine, Children's Hospital of Los Angeles

Sonny Fox, Vice President, Population Communications International

Co-Sponsor:

Child Welfare League of America

Factoids:

"Two out of five teen girls – and three out of six Latina teens – get pregnant by the time they turn 20."

Susan Rabinovitz, Children's Hospital of Los Angeles

"Across the country, some 20 million viewers tune in to one or more daytime soap operas every day and prime time shows reach a U.S. audience of over 60 million."

Sonny Fox, Population Communications International

"Eighty six percent of adults do not know any places, classes or workshops for adults where they can learn about sex and sexuality and 50 percent of teens have never talked with their parents or care-givers about sex and birth control."

Susan Rabinovitz, Children's Hospital of Los Angeles

Workshop 2: Teen Pregnancy: What We Know About Teen Pregnancy and Prevention Strategies

July 23, 2002, Anaheim, CA - This program provided a "hands on" experience on innovative research underway in a clinic-based intervention and outreach program to prevent too-early pregnancy among teens. This research and youth development program was created by the National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Research Center (NTPPRC), the only Center supported teen pregnancy prevention research by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). The NTPPRC utilizes intervention strategies with adolescent females who initially receive a negative pregnancy test, as well as others at high risk for pregnancy. The workshop brought together practical advice for training clinicians, program directors, nurses, and social workers who work with teens in schools and health departments about youth development. The Center's youth development approach, *Prime Time*, focuses on participants' strengths, capacities, and formative needs, and facilitates the transition into adult life.

Introduction:

Nancy Thorne, Vice President, Population Resource Center

Speaker:

Jenny Oliphant, MPH, Community Outreach Coordinator, National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Research Center, Division of General Pediatrics and Adolescent Health, University of Minnesota

Co-Sponsor:

Child Welfare League of America

Factoids:

"Problem free is not fully prepared. We should be as articulate about the attitudes, skills, behaviors and values we wish young people to have as we are about those we do not want."

Pittman and Irby, 2001

"The study goals for the youth development program *Prime Time* are to increase consistency of participants' contraceptive use, increase "sexual selectivity," and reduce pregnancy rates."

Jenny Oliphant, Nation Teen Pregnancy Prevention Research Center

The Empowerment Health Education Model puts a learner's interest, needs, and questions about health central to the learning process and where learners are active participants in the learning process. There is a focus on facilitation of individual and community choices by supplementing knowledge acquisition with values clarification and decision-making practice thought non-traditional teaching methods."

The National Institute for Literacy's Empowerment Health Education in Adult Literacy