

FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO PREVENT TEEN PREGNANCY
THE EAST ROOM
MAY 2, 1997

[Acknowledgments: Dr. Bel Sawhill, the Campaign's President; general acknowledgment of the leaders of the National Campaign; Senator Nancy Kassebaum-Baker; Senator Olympia Snowe; Congresswoman Nita Lowey; Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton; Congresswoman Connie Morella; Congresswoman Eva Clayton.]

- Thank you for joining me as we mark the beginning of teen pregnancy prevention month and the first anniversary of the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. In his 1995 State of the Union address, the President called on parents and leaders across the country to join together to prevent teen pregnancy. You met that challenge and formed the nonpartisan, non-profit National Campaign. I want to thank you for all of your work over the past year: including your efforts on Capitol Hill to raise interest in teen pregnancy; your leadership in forging partnerships among government, business, the media, and others; your support for state and local action; and your series of informative and insightful reports. I am particularly happy to welcome you here today to recognize the National Campaign's first 12 honorees -- leaders whose efforts to prevent teen pregnancy are making a difference across the country.
- Teen pregnancy is a serious problem in the United States. *Four in ten girls become pregnant at least once before turning 20, and 75% of teenagers who have children are not married.*
- Having a child as a teenager limits a young mother's likelihood of finishing high school and increases the chances that she will end up in poverty. And the children of teen parents often suffer. They have poorer health, more difficulty in school, and a greater chance of being abused or neglected. With the new information we have about the importance of the earliest years of childhood, it is especially heartbreaking to think that children are being born to parents who are not yet prepared to care for, nurture and stimulate them.

- We *are* making progress. We are heartened that the teen birth rate has fallen four years in a row after reaching its highest point in two decades in 1991. And an HHS study released yesterday has given us more encouraging news by showing that teenage sexual activity has dropped for the first time since the survey began 20 years ago.
- The President is committed to reducing teen pregnancy. Since 1993, the Administration has supported innovative and promising teen pregnancy prevention strategies in over 1,400 communities across the country. Just yesterday, Secretary Shalala announced two new grants to prevent teen pregnancy and promote responsible behavior. One grant, part of the Girl Power! Campaign, will give communities tools to work with girls between the ages of nine and 14 to build self-esteem and prevent teen pregnancy, as well as smoking and drug use. The other will help communities educate boys and encourage them to make responsible decisions.
- The unifying theme of the President's work on teen pregnancy is that there is *no one size fits all answer* to teen pregnancy. We know that people in communities around the country are developing unique and diverse solutions that are making a real difference. The Administration is dedicated to supporting and fostering these community-based efforts.
- That is why I am so pleased today to recognize the leaders of 12 organizations that are being honored by the National Campaign. These programs share important basic themes. They all emphasize the importance of values and self-esteem in attacking teen pregnancy; of working hand in hand with businesses and the media; of adapting approaches to changing times and circumstances; of including boys in prevention strategies; and of encouraging communication between adults and children and involving our young people in the discussion about how to prevent teen pregnancy.

[RECOGNIZE EACH OF THE HONOREES. ASK THEM EACH TO STAND BUT ASK AUDIENCE TO HOLD APPLAUSE UNTIL THE END.]

Elayne Bennett, President and Founder of the Best Friends Foundation, a school-based program reaching about 2,000 girls in 15 cities to promote responsible behavior and abstinence, and to build self-esteem. I would also like to recognize **Alma Powell**, Chair of the National Council and a member of the board of the Best Friends Foundation, who is also here today.

Patricia Canessa, President of the Board of the National Organization on Adolescent Pregnancy, Parenting and Prevention, who has brought together a diverse network of health care providers, education and social service professionals, and national, state and community leaders to reduce teen pregnancy.

Russell C. Deyo, Vice President of the Johnson & Johnson Family of Companies and the Chair of Johnson & Johnson's Corporate Contributions Committee, for Johnson & Johnson's civic commitment and ongoing support of this cause.

Sue Cameron, County Commissioner of Tillamook County, Oregon, who through unity of purpose and diversity of means have achieved dramatic success -- reducing the teen pregnancy rate in the county by nearly 75% between 1990 and 1994.

Gloria Feldt, President, Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Inc., who unfortunately could not be here, for the work she and Planned Parenthood have done to encourage families to communicate about this difficult issue. **Michael McGee**, the Vice President of Educational Services at Planned Parenthood, is here today on her behalf.

Eric Graham, President of Children's Express, who through journalism has given children a voice on this and other important issues.

Susan Wilson, Executive Director for the Network for Family Life Education at Rutgers University, for creating a forum for teens to discuss pregnancy, abstinence, drugs and other issues.

Dr. Wade Horn, Director of the National Fatherhood Initiative, who has worked to improve the well-being of children by increasing the chances that they will grow up with loving, committed and responsible fathers.

Edward Pitt, Associate Director of the Fatherhood Project, and Director for the National Practitioners Network for Fathers and Families at the Families and Work Institute, who has also been a strong voice for the role of fathers and other men in the lives of children and teens.

Marion Howard, Ph.D., Clinical Director of the Grady Teen Services Program, who, since the 1970s, has run innovative programs and paired them with rigorous evaluations, thereby increasing our knowledge about how to prevent teen pregnancy.

Sheila Johnson, Executive Vice President of Corporate Affairs for Black Entertainment Television (BET), who has used the media to raise awareness on this critical issue and will host a live, nationally-televised town meeting on teen pregnancy tomorrow.

Ann S. Moore, President of People Magazine, who printed a compelling cover story on teen pregnancy which informed millions of Americans about the serious consequences of teen pregnancy.

- I am grateful for the work of all of these honorees, the National Campaign, and so many others who are with us today. You show all of us that while teen pregnancy is one of the most difficult problems facing this country, there *are* approaches that can work if all of us who have a stake in this problem and in the future of our children dedicate ourselves to the challenge.
- I'd like to introduce someone who has done just that. My good friend Governor Kean, the Board Chairman of the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, the President of Drew University, and the former Governor of New Jersey, has been a powerful and determined voice in the battle against teen pregnancy. I am so happy, Governor Kean, that you could be with us today.

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Booklet, "National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy," 5 pages

FIRST LADY
HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

welcomes you to

THE WHITE HOUSE



In recognition of the

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO
PREVENT TEEN PREGNANCY



Friday, May 2, 1997

Remarks at White House Reception

Mrs. Clinton, thank you so much for your support and for hosting this wonderful reception. I want to say, on behalf of the entire Campaign family, how pleased and honored we are to be here. Your leadership and the President's have been so important in focusing the nation's attention of this very serious issue. It was his State of the Union message in 1995 that challenged all of us to get involved in working on the problem of teen pregnancy and we wouldn't be here today if it hadn't been for his and your leadership.

We have accomplished a great deal during the past year but it wouldn't have been possible without the help of an absolutely terrific group of people who have agreed to serve on the Campaign's four task forces as well as on its national board, its staff, and its congressional advisory panels. Many of them are here today and I wish I could recognize all of them and their impressive contributions. These groups are hard at work trying to get new messages into the media, encouraging and supporting states and local communities in their efforts, sharing with these communities and others the research on what works to prevent teen pregnancy, and looking for ways to reduce the conflict that has too often impeded taking concrete action to prevent teen pregnancy.

We have now visited 10 different states or communities and are making available today a report to the nation on the lessons we have learned from talking with those working on the front lines.

We are also releasing today a new publication, aptly entitled I think, "Whatever Happened to Childhood" as well as some new polling data.

The polling data suggests how strongly the public feels about this

issue and how much they support a standard of abstinence during the school age years, even while recognizing that not every teen is going to achieve that standard, and that for those who don't, we must insure that they have the means to protect themselves from pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

Equally important, we think, is giving teens reasons to avoid pregnancy. Our work suggests they often have the means to prevent teen pregnancy but they may not have the will. To strengthen their motivation:

We need to provide them with more guidance and supervision. We need to mentor them and invest in their futures. And we need to talk to them about love and sex and how to tell the difference.

At the same time, we need to strengthen the consensus that pregnancy and childbearing among teens is not O.K. -- that every baby deserves parents who are ready and able to provide the care that everyone knows -- and your recent conference on brain development further emphasizes -- is so essential to healthy child development.

And finally we all need to be involved and we need to intensify our efforts. This is the message coming from the Summit on voluntarism and it is a message we heartily applaud.

And it is why we are honoring those whose efforts are already making a difference. I hope you will join me and other Campaign leaders in our salute to these groups who have contributed so much to turning this problem around. As you know, there is some recent good news on this front. Teen pregnancy rates are beginning to fall, sexual activity among teens is down, and contraceptive use is up. I wouldn't want to suggest that our honorees have single-handedly caused all of this to happen, but they embody the kind of efforts that will be needed to sustain our progress.

MAY. 2. 1997 8:34AM

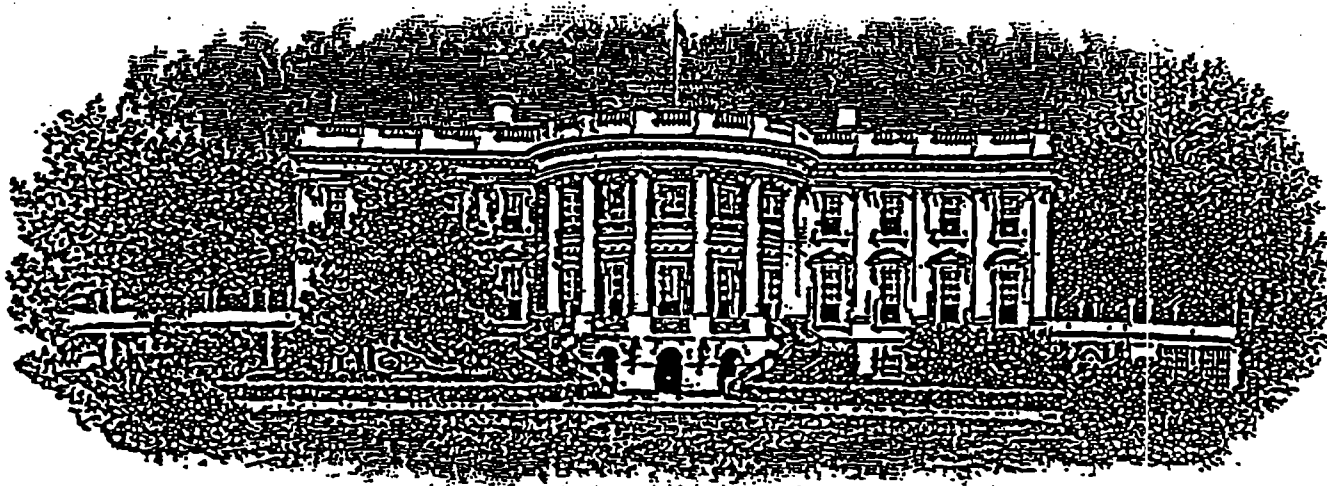
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**Again, thank you so much for your help, your leadership, and
for so graciously hosting this event.**



The White House



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COMMENTS: 6 Members of Congress /
former members who should be
acknowledged are circled

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President's List

TEEN PREGNANCY - Friday MAY 2 1997 - 1:30 AM White House - Business - East Visitors Entrance
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THE FIRST LADY

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Accepts and No Responses

- A **Ms. Delia Abarra**
Speechwriter, Office of the Asst. Secretary for Public Affairs
- A **Ms. Kim Armstrong**
Children's Express
Washington, DC
- A **Ms. Elayne G. Bennett**
The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy
Washington, DC
- A **Dr. Linda Berne**
Professor, UNC-Charlotte College of Nursing
Charlotte, NC
- R **Dr. Robert W. Blum**
Director, University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, MN
- A **Ms. Katrina Braxton**
Network for Family Life Education, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
New Brunswick, NJ
- A **Dr. Claire Brindis**
Director, Center for Reproductive Health Policy Research
San Francisco, CA
- A **Ms. Barbara Broman**
Director for Children and Youth Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
Washington, DC
- A **Dr. Jane Brown**
Professor, Department of Journalism and Mass Communications, University of North Carolina
- A **Mrs. Sarah Brown (Spouse of: Winthrop Brown)**
- A **Ms. Donna Butts**
Exec. Dir., NOAPPP
Washington, DC
- A **Mr. Michael Bzdak**
Johnson and Johnson Family of Companies
New Brunswick, NJ
- A **Mr. Brian Cameron**
County Courthouse
Tillamook, OR
- A **Ms. Sue Cameron**
State Commissioner
Tillamook, OR
- A **Ms. Patricia Canessa-Mancera**
President of the Board, National Organization on Adolescent Pregnancy, Parenting, and Prevention
Washington, DC

*This is the
list for today's
event!
Julie*

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Accepts and No Responses

- A **Dr. J.J. Card**
President, Sociometrics Corporation
Los Altos, CA
- A **Ms. Laurie Rubiner (Substitute for: John Chafee)**
- A **Ms. Linda Chavez**
President, The Center for Equal Opportunity
Washington, DC
- A **Hon. (Rep.) Eva M. Clayton**
D/North Carolina, House of Representatives
Washington, DC
- A **Mr. Dax Clinkscale**
- A **Ms. Lorriane Cole**
Executive Director, National Medical Association
- A **Ms. Margaret Conway**
Vice President of Public Policy, Planned Parenthood Federation of America
New York, NY
- A **Mr. Aldrich Cooper**
Johnson and Johnson Family of Companies
New Brunswick, NJ
- A **Ms. Rosann Wisman (Substitute for: Brenda Cooper)**
- A **Mrs. Annette P. Cumming**
Facilities Administrator, Leucadia Financial Corporation
Salt Lake City, UT
- A **Ms. Constance Danielson**
Atlanta, GA
- A **Mr. Richard Deem**
Government Relations, American Medical Association
Washington, DC
- A **Mr. Russell C. Deyo**
Vice President, Johnson and Johnson Family of Companies
New Brunswick, NJ
- A **Mr. Harold Donofrio**
Executive Director, Campaign for Our Children
Baltimore, MD
- A **Mr. Robert Dugger**
National Organization on Adolescent Pregnancy, Parenting, and Prevention
Washington, DC
- A **Mr. Jaben Early**
- A **Ms. Martha Easton**
Corporate Secretary and Assistant to the President, The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy
Washington, DC

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Accepts and No Responses

- A **Ms. Christina Ferrari**
President, People Magazine
New York, NY
- A **Ms. Carmen Ford**
Director of Administration, The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy
- A **Ms. Vanya Francis**
Hyattsville, MD
- A **Ms. Carol Galaty**
Director, Office of Program Development / Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Rockville, MD
- A **Dr. William Galston**
University of Maryland
College Park, MD
- A **Ms. Lisa Gilmore**
Washington, DC
- A **Ms. Olivia Golden**
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services
Washington, DC
- A **Ms. Toby Graff**
Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services
Washington, DC
- A **Mr. Eric Graham**
President, Children's Express
Washington, DC
- A **Dr. Bradley Greenberg**
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI
- A **Ms. Marcia Greenburger**
- A **Ms. Lisa Haileab**
Washington, DC
- A **Dr. David Alan Hamburg**
President, Carnegie Corporation of New York
New York, NY
- A **Mrs. Pauline Hamlette**
Washington, DC
- A **Mr. Irving Harris**
Chairman, The Harris Foundation
Chicago, IL
- A **Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton**
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC

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Accepts and No Responses

- A **Ms. Katrina Holt**
National Organization on Adolescent Pregnancy, Parenting and Prevention
- A **Ms. Caroline Horn**
Gaithersburg, MD
- A **Ms. Christen Horn**
Gaithersburg, MD
- A **Mrs. Claudia Horn**
Gaithersburg, MD
- A **Mr. Wade Horn**
Executive Director, Association for Children with Hyperactivity and Attention Deficit Disorder
Gaithersburg, MD
- A **Dr. Marion Howard**
Grady Memorial Hospital
Atlanta, GA
- A **Ms. Barbara Huberman**
- A **Ms. Bernice Humphrey**
Director, Teen Connections, Girls, Inc.
Indianapolis, IN
- A **Mr. John Hutchins**
Communications Manager, The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Prenancy
- A **Dr. Renee Jenkins**
Society for Adolescent Medicine
Washington, DC
- A **Mrs. Sheila Johnson**
Executive Vice President, Corporate Affairs, Black Entertainment Television
Washington, DC
- R **Dr. Waldo Johnson**
Assistant Professor, University of Chicago
Chicago, IL
- ? **Mr. Paul Tudor Jones**
Chairman & CEO, Tudor Investment Corporation
New York, NY
- A **Ms. Leslie Kantor**
Vice President of Education, Planned Parenthood of New York City
New York, NY
- A **Mrs. Nancy Kassebaum-Baker**
Washington, DC
- A **Mr. Thomas H. Kean**
Drew University
Madison, NJ

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- A **Dr. and Mrs. Douglas Kirby**
Director of Research, ETR Association
Santa Cruz, CA
- A **Ms. Elisa Koff**
Social Science Program Specialist, Office of the Asst. Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
- A **Ms. Seo Hee Koh**
Rutgers School of Social Work, Livingston Campus
New Brunswick, NJ
- A **Ms. Linda Kramer**
People Magazine
New York, NY
- A **Ms. Tamara Kreinin**
Director of State and Local Affairs, The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy
- A **Mr. Thomas Kring**
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Population Affairs, Office of Public Health Science
Washington, DC
- A **Ms. Tracey Lauterborn**
Director of State and Local Affairs, The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy
- A **Mr. Ira Lederer**
Rutgers School of Social Work, Livingston Campus
New Brunswick, NJ
- A **Mr. Jefferi Lee**
Washington, DC
- A **Ms. Alexandra Leverich**
Assistant to the Director, The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy
- A **Ms. Judith L. Lichtman**
Women's Legal Defense Fund
- A **Ms. Cecilia Llana**
Rutgers School of Social Work, Livingston Campus
New Brunswick, NJ
- A **Hon. (Rep.) Nita H. Lowey**
D/New York, House of Representatives
Washington, DC
- A **Ms. Yvonne Maddox**
Deputy Director, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
Bethesda, MD
- A **Dr. Beverly Malone**
American Nurses Association
Washington, DC
- A **Dr. Rebecca Maynard**
Professor, University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA

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Accepts and No Responses

- A **Sister Mary Rose McGeady**
- A **Mr. Michael McGee**
Vice President of Education, Planned Parenthood Federation of America
New York, NY
- A **Ms. Eileen McGrath**
Executive Director, American Medical Women's Association
Alexandria, VA
- A **Ms Judy McGrath**
- A **Ms. Martha McKay**
Children's Express
Washington, DC
- A **Mr. David Mechlin**
Senior Partner, Ogilvy and Mather Worldwide
New York, NY
- A **Mr. Stuart Merkel**
Children's Express
Washington, DC
- A **Ms. Marie Mitchell**
c/o Dr. Marion Howard
Atlanta, GA
- A **Ms. Izetta Mobley**
Children's Express
Washington, DC
- A **Ms. Ann Moore**
President, People Magazine
New York, NY
- A **Dr. Kristin Moore**
Washington, DC
- A **Hon. (Rep.) Constance "Connie" A. Morella ***
R/Maryland, House of Representatives
Washington, DC
~~Guest: Ms. Kathryn Pearson~~
- A **Mr. Chris P. Nelson**
Director of Social Services, Bridges/PEER
Caldwell, ID
- A **Ms. Marisa Nightingale**
Program Development Associate, The national Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy
- A **Ms. Audrey Nora**
Department of Health and Human Services
Rockville, MD
- A **Ms. Angela Norman**
Washington, DC

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- A **Ms. Theodora Ooms**
Executive Director, Family Impact Seminar
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- A **Ms. Ara-Cely Panameno**
Latina National Aid's Education Leadership Council
Washington, DC
- A **Ms. Nancy Parello**
Sex ect. - - A Newsletter by Teens, for Teens, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
New Brunswick, NJ
- A **Mr. Wayne Pawlowski**
Director of Training, Planned Parenthood Federation of America
Washington, DC
- A **Ms. Annette Pitt**
Families and Work Institute
New York, NY
- A **Mr. Edward Pitt**
Director, National Practitioners Network for Fathers and Families
New York, NY
- A **Mr. Eric Pitt**
- A **Mrs. Alma Powell**
Alexandria, VA
- A **Ms. Sally Quinn**
Washington, DC
- A **Ms. Connie Revell**
County Courthouse
Tillamook, OR
- A **Ms. Angela Rice**
Coordinator, Best Friends Foundation
Washington, DC
- A **Ms. Elana Rios**
- A **Ms. Sharon Rodine**
Coordinator: Heart of OKC Project, Oklahoma Child Advocacy Institute
Oklahoma City, OK
- A **Ms. Ann Rosewater**
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and External Affairs, Department of Health and Human Services
Washington DC
- A **Ms. Jeannie Rosoff**
President, Alan Guttmacher Institute
New York, NY
- A **Ms. Nancy H. Rubin**
The White House
Washington, DC

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Accepts and No Responses

- A **Mr. Rush Russell**
The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Princeton, NJ
- A **Ms. Victoria Post Sant**
Washington, DC
- A **Ms. Shira Saperstein**
The Moriah Fund
Washington, DC
- A **Dr. Isabel Sawhill**
President, The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy
Washington, DC
- A **Mr. John J. Schlitt**
Associate Director, Making the Grade, The George Washington University
Washington, DC
- A **Ms. Hilary Shelton**
UMC
Washington, DC
- A **Dr. Aaron Shirley**
Jackson Medical Mall
Jackson, MS
- A **Ms. Kristin Siebenaler**
- A **Ms. Melissa Skolfield**
Dept. of Health & Human Services
Washington, DC
- A **Mr. William Smith**
Program Associate for Religion and Public Values
- A **Hon. (Sen.) Olympia J. Snowe**
R/Maine, United States Senate
- A **Dr. Edward Sondik**
Director, National Center for Health Statistics
Hyattsville, MD
- A **Ms. Isabel Carter Stewart**
President, Girls, Inc.
New York, NY
- A **Dr. Barbara Sugland**
Senior Research Associate, Child Trends, Inc.
Washington, DC
- A **Ms. Deborah Tang**
Exec VP of Corporate Affairs, Black Entertainment Television
Washington, DC
- A **Ms. Vivien Stewart Teitelbaum**

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REPORT DATE: May 2, 1997
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- A **Ms. Francine Tollver**
- A **DR Kathleen E Toomey**
Atlanta, GA
- A **Ms. Jamie Tullman**
Special Assistant to the President
- A **Dr. Mary Vernon**
Medical Officer, Centers of Adolescent and School Health
Atlanta, GA
- A **Ms. Patricia Funderburk Ware**
Director of Educational Services, Americans for a Sound AIDS/HIV Policy
Washington, DC
- A **Ms. Samara Weinstein**
Office of the Assistant Secret, HHS
- A **Ms. Susan Wilson**
Executive Coordinator, Network for Family Life Education
New Brunswick, NJ
- A **Mr. Jay Winsten**
Associate Dean for Public and Community Affairs, Center for Health Communications
Boston, MA
- A **Dr. Roger Witherspoon**
Families and Work Institute
New York, NY
- A **Ms. Phyllis Wolfe**

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Teenagers Less Sexually Active in U.S.

Surveys Also Show More Using Condoms

A1 By Barbara Vobejda
and Judith Havemann
Washington Post Staff Writers

After climbing steadily for more than two decades, sexual activity among American teenagers has declined, the first drop since the federal government began tracking the information in 1970, according to a new government survey released yesterday.

Among girls aged 15 to 19, the proportion who reported having had sexual intercourse had fallen to 50 percent in 1995 from 55 percent in 1990, the last time the study was conducted. A separate federal study showed the figure for boys had dropped to 55 percent in 1995 from 60 percent in 1988.

The national studies also found that those teenagers who are sexually active are more likely to use contraceptives than they were in the past, and condom use has increased most dramatically.

Those two changes—fewer teenagers having sex and better contraceptive use among those who are—explain why the birth rate among teenagers has fallen since 1991, researchers said.

"We welcome the news that the long-term increase in teenage sexual activity may finally have stopped," Health and Human Services Secretary Donna E. Shalala said in a statement.

While researchers cautioned that teenage birth rates in this country remain disturbingly high, they also said the new studies show young

See TEENAGERS, A12, Col. 1

TEENAGERS, From A1

people are responding to programs urging them to delay sex and take steps to avoid pregnancy and AIDS.

That message is now a common ingredient in sex education courses, AIDS awareness programs and other community efforts aimed at reducing teenage sexual activity and births. Many of these programs offer information on both contraception and safe sex, as well as teaching young people how to resist peer pressure to become sexually active.

"I think it is easier for young people to refuse to become sexually involved," said Marion Howard, co-author of a program used in the Atlanta public schools that trains and hires older teenagers to help younger students postpone sex.

"The word about HIV and AIDS has gotten out, and that's contributed" to the decline in sexual activity, she said. "And there's been a willingness of adults to begin to acknowledge that young people are sexual human beings and they need to talk to them."

The National Center for Health Statistics, which conducted the survey of young women, also found that use of condoms had tripled since the 1970s. The proportion of young women saying they had used condoms the first time they had intercourse went from 18 percent two decades ago to 54 percent in the 1990s.

Researchers have known for several years that teenage births were declining—a trend that first appeared in 1991—but they did not know if it was because young people were having

less sex, improving their use of contraceptives or having more abortions.

The new figures, combined with

*"I think it is easier
for young people to
refuse to become
sexually involved."*

— educator Marion Howard

studies showing that abortion rates have declined among teenagers, provide the answer.

"Something is turning around here," said Isabel V. Sawhill, a senior fellow at the Urban Institute, "but we

still have the highest teen pregnancy rate in the industrialized world."

The new figures were released as a group of civic leaders, politicians, and researchers, including Sawhill, launched a far-reaching effort known as the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. The group, which has as its goal to reduce teenage pregnancy rates by one-third over the next eight years, is holding a series of events in Washington this week, including a White House reception today hosted by first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton.

The organization was initiated last year at the prompting of President Clinton and is now raising private funds to support research into which programs work, and to enlist the help of the media in changing the messages going out to young people and support

local programs across the country aimed at reducing teenage pregnancy.

Among the programs cited by the campaign is one in Tillamook, Ore., where the community offered birth control at the local health department, sex education focusing on abstinence in the schools, strong programs for teenagers in the churches, more after-school activities for girls at the YMCA, a teenage center and other educational activities.

The county, on the Oregon coast just south of the Washington border, had the second highest teenage pregnancy rate in the state in the 1980s, and after instituting the programs, the lowest. But since then, the rate has risen again, as some efforts slackened off, and the community is gearing up to attack the problem again.

Fifteen-year-old Emmalea Trent, a high school freshman in the area, said she was influenced by all the messages she's heard about teenage pregnancy. "I'm afraid to go out and do it because I don't want to get pregnant," she said.

But the story of Jesmine Meltzer underscores the complexities of getting that message through to all teenagers. At 14, she is the mother of an 11-month-old son, Austin. The daughter of a registered nurse and construction worker, Jesmine became sexually active at 11, pregnant at 13, and now, as a high school freshman, she lives at home and supports her son with child support checks from the child's 18-year-old father, who is in the Army.

"I always used birth control," she said, "but the one time I didn't, I got pregnant. It was really dumb."

The Washington Post

FRIDAY, MAY 2, 1997

In Bosnia, a Dubious Peace Process

Karadzic's Power Symbolizes Weakness in Pressing Balkan Accords

A1

By Michael Dobbs
Washington Post Staff Writer

Virtually every day, an easily recognizable figure with an unruly pompadour of gray hair reports to work at his political headquarters in Pale, capital of the Bosnian Serb minstate. U.S. officials say they are in no doubt that Radovan Karadzic, an indicted war criminal, is effectively calling the shots in the Serbian half of Bosnia more than eight months after an American-brokered agreement supposedly stripped him of all power.

The continuing influence of Karadzic and others wanted for war crimes is turning into a major headache for the Clinton administration as it searches for ways to make good on its commitment to withdraw 8,600 U.S. peacekeeping troops from Bosnia by the middle of 1998 without reigniting Europe's worst conflagration since World War II. Balkan experts in the administration and elsewhere agree that the goal of a self-sustaining peace in Bosnia will remain illusory as long as people like Karadzic stand in the way of even a minimal reintegration of the country.

While the war criminals issue is only one of several examples of non-compliance with the 1995 Dayton Peace Accords, it has become a symbol of a much larger problem. In purely military terms, the Bosnia operation has been a huge success, with scarcely any casualties to NATO troops. But the prospects for long-term peace in Bosnia seem dubious as long as the economic reconstruction of the country and the fate of more than a million refugees are held hostage to the ambitions of the politicians who plunged the country into war.

Critics, both inside and outside the administration, complain of an

See POLICY, A25, Col. 1

POLICY, From A1

atmosphere of drift that has resulted in widespread noncompliance with the political provisions of Dayton. At the same time, pressure is growing in Congress for a unilateral pullout of U.S. troops from Bosnia, with a bipartisan group of lawmakers led by Rep. John R. Kasich (R-Ohio) proposing to cut off funding by the end of this year.

The critics have recently obtained new ammunition in the form of a gloomy assessment by the General Accounting Office, the investigative arm of Congress, which concludes that hardly any of the major political and economic components of Dayton have been implemented.

The draft report, based on GAO visits to Bosnia in July and December and on interviews with U.S. and European officials, says that while the shooting has stopped the Dayton accord signatories have refused to carry out most of its provisions.

As a result, according to the GAO, "many western observers" said some international peacekeeping force probably will be needed there "for many years." That conclusion is beginning to gain some currency within the Clinton administration, according to senior officials, despite Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen's insistence that U.S. troops will pull out of Bosnia next year whatever the consequences.

"There is a growing sense of pessimism, both within the international bureaucracy and the U.S. bureaucracy, that this is not working out," said Morton Abramowitz, president of the Carnegie Foundation for International Peace and a former intelligence chief at the State Department. "There has been a loss of high-level concentration on Bosnia. The zest has gone out, and political concerns have crept in."

In the absence of an energetic lead from the White House, squabbles have broken out between the Pentagon and the State Department over the extent to which U.S. troops should get involved in catching war criminals and otherwise implementing the Dayton accords. Many officials in the State Department were dismayed when Cohen issued his pull-out deadline earlier this year.

If Bosnians want to "go back to slaughtering each other," that will be "up to them," Cohen told reporters on a trip to Europe. According to the GAO assessment, that is the outcome to be expected if all troops are withdrawn.

The struggle to shape Bosnia policy is emerging as a test of the credibility and political skills of Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright, who was one of the leading proponents of forceful western intervention to end the 3½-year Bosnian war in her previous job as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. Self-proclaimed admirers of Albright are watching her very closely to see if, in the words of a colleague, "she can wrestle Cohen back onto the reservation."

Although much of the sniping is taking place in private, some of it has surfaced in public. In a letter published in the policy journal *Foreign Affairs*, former Bosnia peace negotiator Richard C. Holbrooke complained that the Defense Department's "reluctance to go beyond a rather narrow definition of its role and mandate" had reduced the chances of a successful reconstruction effort in Bosnia. He added that the military's "continuing refusal to even consider, let alone attempt, the arrest of Radovan Karadzic or any other indicted war criminal has... given strength to the [Serb] separatist cause."

Last July, Holbrooke negotiated an agreement with the Bosnian Serbs under which Karadzic would give up his political posts and retire completely from public life. While Karadzic did step down from his position as president of the Bosnian Serb republic, U.S. officials now concede that, behind the scenes, he continues to pull the strings. In recent weeks,

he appears to have consolidated his position, winning a power struggle with his nominal successor, Biljana Plavsic.

While sharing Holbrooke's frustration over the failure to arrest war criminals, a former State Department colleague described Holbrooke's letter to Foreign Affairs as "self-serving." He traced the present impasse back to inherent flaws in the Dayton agreement itself, which was negotiated by Holbrooke and sought to reconcile two fundamentally irreconcilable visions of Bosnia's future. The Serbs regarded the agreement as tantamount to western recognition of their own minstate, while the Muslims saw it as a blueprint for a reunified country.

State Department officials have paid tribute to the military for going out of its way to assist the civilian authorities with certain aspects of Dayton implementation. The most frequently cited example are last summer's Bosnia-wide elections, which NATO troops rescued by transporting ballot boxes, guarding polling stations and providing other support.

However, to the great frustration of most Bosnia experts in the State Department, the military has missed several easy opportunities to grab Karadzic. As a result, in the words of one Bosnia negotiator, "he has become a walking symbol to the rest of the region that you can defy NATO and get away with it."

NATO and U.S. officials in the past two months have talked vaguely of plans to form special police squads to arrest Bosnian war criminals, but nothing has come of it.

State Department officials and western diplomats say that Albright's thinking on Bosnia is still unclear. The clearest evidence of her approach has come with the appointment of one of the State Department's top trouble-shooters, Robert S. Gelbard, to take over from John Kornblum as the administration's Bosnia point man.

Some Bosnia experts in the administration interpret the appointment as a sign that Albright favors an activist approach, because Gelbard is regarded as a tough, results-oriented diplomat, in the Holbrooke mode, who is ready to make a few enemies in order to get the job done. "You don't choose Bob Gelbard for such a job if your preferred option is just to muddle through," said a State Department official.

Staff writer Thomas W. Lippman contributed to this report.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For key texts from the mission in Bosnia, including the Dayton Peace Accords and war crimes indictments against Bosnian Serb leaders, click on the above symbol on the front page of The Post's Web site at www.washingtonpost.com

The Washington Post

FRIDAY, MAY 2, 1997

House Passes Financing Bill After Rebels Win Points

By ERIC SCHMITT

WASHINGTON, May 1 — The House approved the financing for its 18 committees in the 105th Congress today, but only after a group of Republican renegades had wrung several unrelated concessions from Speaker Newt Gingrich.

Many of the 11 rebellious conservative Republicans said that over the past month they had won promises to freeze some legislative spending and to refocus their leaders' efforts to cut taxes, balance the budget and overhaul entitlement programs.

"The old Contract With America feeling is back," said Representative Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, one of the renegades.

The rebels embarrassed Mr. Gingrich in late March when they joined House Democrats and stalled a bill that would have paid for an investigation into White House and Democratic campaign fund-raising.

While the House approved the inquiry's financing the very next day, lawmakers were forced to adopt a 30-day stopgap measure, which would have expired on Friday, to allow committees to continue their business while Mr. Gingrich negotiated with the insurgents.

The lawmakers decided to pick a fight over the financing measure because they saw it as the last straw in a move away from the principles that catapulted Republicans to control of Congress in 1994.

"That first 'No' vote was not just about committee funding, it was about drift in the party," Mr. Graham said. "Since that last vote, we've seen a newly energized leadership."

The immediate issue today was approval of a \$149.9 million measure to pay for the operations of 18 House committees over the next two years. That is a 4 percent increase over the levels in last Congress.

But the overall increase is actually 13 percent when the measure is combined with the \$20 million approved for the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee, the panel conducting the fund-raising inquiry, and \$7.9 million for a special reserve fund that could be used for the investigation. The committee received \$13.5 million in the 104th Congress and there was no reserve fund then.

The measure was approved today, 262 to 157, with all but one of the rebels, Representative Mark W. Neumann of Wisconsin, and 52 Democrats, voting for it.

Nine Republicans, including Representative Mike Pappas of New Jersey, voted against it.

A spokesman for Mr. Pappas, Sean Spicer, said, "While the people of New Jersey continue to work harder, it's not appropriate to be spending more money on Congress."

The measure emerged with only marginal changes. Republican leaders agreed to trim \$550,000 and change certain financing rules.

But Mr. Gingrich also promised the rebels to freeze the allocation to the House subcommittee that finances several agencies under the auspices of Congress, including the Library of Congress, Government Printing Office and Botanic Garden. The 1998 fiscal year level would remain at \$2.2 billion. Because this would require Senate consent, it was unclear today how Mr. Gingrich would fulfill his pledge.

Check Counterfeiters Enter Computer Age

WASHINGTON, May 1 (AP) — A fast-growing computerized corps of check counterfeiters is stealing billions of dollars with phony checks — many times what bank robbers steal with guns, the Federal authorities warned today.

The Secret Service and F.B.I. told a Congressional subcommittee that counterfeit checks were thriving.

"Over 1.2 million worthless checks are accepted for payment every day," said Chuck Owens, the financial crimes section chief at the F.B.I. That is fewer than 1 percent of the 180 million written daily but enough to amount to an expensive problem.

Its cause lies in the rapid spread of personal computers and desk-top publishing. A decade ago, producing convincing counterfeit checks required offset printing equipment and a fair degree of skill. Now, all that is needed is a laser scanner to capture an original check, a personal computer to alter the data and a quality laser printer. Total cost of the equipment is less than \$5,000.

Sex Activity By Youths Is on Decline

WASHINGTON, May 1 (Reuters) — The proportion of American teenagers who have had sexual intercourse at least once has dropped for the first time in more than 20 years, the Government reported today.

The finding came from two surveys, both using 1995 data.

One of them found that 50 percent of girls 15 to 19 years of age had had sex, a drop of five percentage points since that survey was last taken, in 1990.

A separate but similar study found a five-percentage-point drop as well among boys in that age group: 55 percent had experienced intercourse, compared with 60 percent in 1988.

The decline follows a long period in which teen-age sexual activity rose relentlessly. When the survey on girls, which is taken every five years, was first adopted in 1970, only 29 percent reported having had sex.

The new survey on girls' sexual activity was part of a larger study, scheduled for release later in May, on childbearing and family planning. The study was carried out by the National Center for Health Statistics.

The data on teen-age boys were collected separately, in a study sponsored by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

"We welcome the news that the long-term increase in teen-age sexual activity may finally have stopped," said Donna E. Shalala, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, who called for further efforts to "change the cultural messages that have been accepted too long" about teen-age sex.

The survey on girls also found that more of them were likely to use birth control the first time they had sex: three of four had used contraception the first time, compared with about 64 percent found doing so in surveys in the late 1980's.

Much of the increase is due to more condom use, the new study found.

Dr. Shalala said the decreasing sexual activity and greater use of contraception might be responsible for the leveling off and recent decline in the teen-age birth rate. The latest data, through June 1996, show that this decline has continued.

The New York Times

FRIDAY, MAY 2, 1997

Government Finds Racial Bias On Corps of Engineers Dredge

By KEVIN SACK

MEMPHIS, May 1 — An investigation by the Department of Defense has concluded that black deckhands on a Mississippi River dredge operated here by the United States Army Corps of Engineers have for years endured racial slurs and discriminatory personnel practices by white authorities on the boat.

One of the black workers, Randy C. Galloway, said in an interview today that conditions on the dredge, known as the Hurley, were "modern-day slavery." Mr. Galloway, 41, who has 10 years with the corps, added, "All they wanted blacks to do was make their beds, cook their food and clean their toilets and walkways."

Another black worker, Chancey Wilson, a 42-year-old deckhand leader with 17 years' corps experience, said, "They wanted you just to be a houseboy."

The finding of discrimination, which was made public this week, is the second such judgment against the Army Corps of Engineers this year. In February, the corps agreed to pay \$800,000 in damages and to revise its personnel policies to settle a racial discrimination case brought by black workers in Pittsburgh.

Officials with the corps said today that they did not believe that discrimination was endemic in the agency.

"I don't think there's as much concern that it is a recurring problem as there is in making sure that it doesn't become a recurring problem," said Homer H. Perkins, a spokesman for the corps in Washington.

In the Memphis case, investigators took particular issue with the decision by officers last year to promote the only black employee on the dredge who had not recently filed a discrimination complaint against them. A second black man, who had filed a discrimination complaint, was also promoted last year. But the investigators concluded that his promotion was apparently designed "as a shield against a possible finding of discrimination."

The two men who were promoted

became the first blacks in the 64-year-history of the Hurley and its predecessor boat, the Burgess, to be moved from seasonal work to full-year status. The full-year jobs are coveted because they carry higher salaries, a guarantee of year-round employment and faster advancement toward eligibility for retirement benefits.

The Hurley, a five-story, 300-foot-long vessel, dredges mud from the Mississippi River bottom during a shallow-water season that usually stretches from late spring into the fall. During the season, the dredge operates from Cape Girardeau, Mo., to just north of Baton Rouge, La. In the off-season, it docks in Memphis and full-year employees spend their time maintaining the boat.

Last year, after the two black men were promoted, the Hurley carried a staff of 22 full-year employees and 25 seasonal employees. Most of the seasonal workers are black, while all but the two recently promoted full-year employees are white.

Several black dredge workers said that on the Burgess, which was used until 1993, sleeping quarters, bathrooms and mess halls were segregated by race. While white workers were assigned semiprivate quarters in the front of the boat, blacks slept 10 to 12 to a room in the aft. The Defense Department investigation did not address that complaint.

The report, which was filed by the Office of Complaint Investigations in the Defense Department, found that the environment on the Hurley was "permeated with malicious and reckless indifference toward African-American employees."

While saying that black employees who testified in the case may have exaggerated the pervasiveness of racial slurs, the investigators concluded that "the evidence clearly shows white managers used racially charged language" and that they "stifled the progress of African-American employees." The Hurley's captain, Jimmy Nation, "either condoned or ignored discriminatory behavior," the report states.

The report found that white workers regularly used racial epithets to refer to black counterparts in their presence. It also said that white workers told racist jokes on the boat.

Regarding the promotion of David Woods, the black worker who did not file a discrimination complaint, the report concluded that "retaliation such as this is especially egregious since it sends a chilling message to the complainants and others that speaking out against employment discrimination is unacceptable."

The report also found that Mr. Nation had awarded a significant promotion in 1994 to Roger D. Conrad, a white officer who had "exhibited alcohol problems for an extended period of time while occupying a position in the pilot house." The investigators found that Mr. Conrad was "an abusive supervisor prone to berate African-American employees by using harsh and unmistakably racist terms."

The bottom line, they concluded, is that "Mr. Nation placed his trust in an individual with a known alcohol abuse problem but lacked confidence any African-American employee could handle such responsibility."

Alvin C.W. Ellis, counsel to the Memphis district of the Corps of Engineers, said Mr. Conrad had resigned from the Corps last year. He said that the corps was studying the investigative report and that no employees of the Hurley had been disciplined thus far.

Officials with the Corps of Engineers and the National Federation of Federal Employees, the union representing the black workers, agreed that the language in the investigative report was unusually strong.

"This is the agency investigating itself, and you just don't see reports like this come down that often," said Clark D. King, president of Local 259 of the Federal employees union.

The report recommends that the corps provide an "appropriate remedy." The black workers are seeking hundreds of thousands of dollars in compensation, training that would qualify them for advancement, and punishment of white officers who have discriminated.

On Wednesday, the corps began discussing a possible settlement of the case with Joshua A. Bowers, a lawyer for the black workers.

"The offer was not serious," Mr. Bowers said. "In fact, it was outrageous."

If a settlement cannot be reached, Mr. Bowers said he was likely to take the case to Federal court.

The New York Times

FRIDAY, MAY 2, 1997

DRAFT 2 WHSO LAYOUT
a/o 4/30/97 S. Warren

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO PREVENT TEEN PREGNANCY EVENT

Friday, May 2, 1997

Guest invite: 2:00pm

Principal Time: 2:00pm

EV Gate Opens: 1:30pm

Guests Invited: 175

Open Press

2:00p.m. The First Lady arrives in the Red Room for event briefing

2:05p.m. The First Lady proceeds to the Blue Room to meet recipients and stage participants.

2:10p.m. PROGRAM BEGINS:

-recipients are announced into the East Room and proceed to seats in the front row.

-The First Lady, and Governor Thomas Kean are announced in to the

East Room -The First Lady, delivers remarks and introduces Governor Thomas Kean.

-Governor Kean delivers remarks.

2:30p.m. Upon conclusion of program, The First Lady, returns to the podium to invite guests into State Dining Room for a tea.

The First Lady proceeds to receiving line with guests.

Receiving line flow: Red Room to Blue Room to Green Room.

2:50p.m. Upon conclusion of receiving line, The First Lady proceeds to the Diplomatic Reception Room for an interview with Black Entertainment Television.

3:10p.m. The First Lady departs.

TO: THE FIRST LADY

WHAT: NATIONAL TEEN CAMPAIGN TO PREVENT TEEN PREGNANCY

WHERE: Greeting: Blue Room
Speaking Program: East Room
Rec. Line: Blue Room

WHEN: Friday, May 2, 1997
2:00p.m.

NOTES: 170 Guests/Open Press

FROM: Ann Stock, Setti Warren

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May 2, 1997

TEEN PREGNANCY EVENT

DATE: May 2, 1997
LOCATION: Roosevelt Room
TIME: 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm
FROM: Bruce Reed

I. PURPOSE

To demonstrate the Administration's commitment to reducing teen pregnancy and to highlight the one year anniversary of the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy and their first 12 honorees. The event also recognizes the month of May as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month.

II. BACKGROUND

The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy is a private nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing teen pregnancy. It formed in response to President Clinton's challenge, issued in his 1995 State of the Union address, that "parents and leaders across the country... join together in a national campaign against teen pregnancy." May 1997 marks the campaign's first anniversary.

Following his State of the Union comments, the President held a meeting at the White House with a group of prominent teen pregnancy prevention experts and advocates to discuss what could be done to combat the problem. From that meeting came a private sector planning effort that led to the creation of the national campaign.

The campaign is chaired by former New Jersey Governor Thomas H. Kean. Its Board of Directors includes Whoopi Goldberg, Katherine Graham, the Hon. Nancy Kassebaum-Baker, the Hon. Warren B. Rudman, and William Galston. Isabel V. Sawhill, President of the campaign, was an Associate Director of the Office of Management and Budget during President Clinton's first term.

Today, at an earlier event on Capitol Hill, the campaign distributed three reports. The first, Whatever Happened to Childhood, chronicles the problem of teen pregnancy in the United States. Using mostly previously released data, the report finds that: 1) although we are making some progress, there is much more work to do and 2) there is no single or simple solution to the problem so we must continue to be creative, innovative, and persistent in our efforts. A second report, Snapshots from the Front Line, provides examples of community efforts to prevent teen pregnancy, highlighting some of today's honorees. The campaign is also distributing a previously released report No Easy Answers: Research Findings on Programs to Reduce Teen Pregnancy, which finds that only a few programs have produced credible evidence that they reduce the risk of pregnancy, but the overwhelming evidence shows that sex education does not increase sexual activity.

At the close of the program you will recognize 12 honorees chosen by the campaign who will be seated in the front row. Each honoree supports prevention approaches that are helping to lower teen pregnancy rates and strengthen communities. The honorees' work embodies several key themes that are essential to preventing teen pregnancy:

- Emphasizing values and self-esteem in working with adolescents;
- Forging partnerships with the corporate sector;
- Focusing the community on a "unity of goal" to prevent teen pregnancy even when there are conflicts over program approaches;
- Encouraging adult-child communication;
- Involving youth in the discussion;
- Emphasizing the importance of male involvement in prevention;
- Recognizing the importance of program evaluation; and
- Involving the media in reducing teen pregnancy.

In your remarks, you will discuss two new teen pregnancy prevention grant programs and new findings from a study of childbearing and family planning released yesterday by the Department of Health and Human Services.

Grants: In Los Angeles yesterday (May 1), Secretary Shalala announced the two new community grant programs to prevent teen pregnancy and promote responsible behavior. One program will be aimed at teenage girls and the other at teenage boys. Each of the grant programs will total about \$1 million per year and involve public-private partnerships organized by individual communities.

HHS Study: The Secretary also discussed a newly released study which shows that teen sexual activity declined from 55 to 50 percent during the

1990s after increasing steadily for more than two decades. The decline is small -- 10 percent -- but significant because it shows that the long-term increase in teenage sexual activity may finally be over. This data is part of a new study of child bearing and family planning covering all women 15-44.

III. PARTICIPANTS

The First Lady
Former New Jersey Governor Thomas H. Kean,
Chair of the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

*Attached is a list of the 12 Campaign honorees who will be seated in the front row. Also, please note that Alma Powell, who is on the board of Best Friends, one of the honored organizations, will be seated in the front row as well.

IV. PRESS PLAN

Open.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- You will greet the 12 honorees and Isabel Sawhill in a brief photo receiving line prior to the event in the Blue Room.
- The 12 honorees and Isabel Sawhill will then be announced into the East Room and proceed to their seats in the front row.
- You and former Governor Kean will be announced into the East Room and proceed to the stage.
- You will make remarks and then individually recognize the 12 honorees and ask them to stand.
- You will then introduce Governor Kean.
- Governor Kean will make remarks.
- You will then close the event by inviting the guests into the State Dining Room for tea.

VI. REMARKS

Prepared by Jennifer Klein.

BACKGROUND AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FACT SHEET

Over the past four years, the Clinton Administration has launched a comprehensive effort to prevent teen pregnancy. Data shows we are making progress:

- Teen birth rates have fallen four years in a row, by 8 percent from 1991 to 1995, and appear to have continued to drop since then; and
- A new study, released today by HHS, shows the percentage of teenagers who have had sex declined by 10 percent in the 1990s (from 55 percent in 1990 to 50 percent in 1995).

However, there is still much work to do. More than 4 out of 10 young women become pregnant before age 20 and 75 percent of those who give birth do so outside of marriage. Teen pregnancy remains a major social problem for this country and one that none of us can ignore.

Administration Accomplishments

- Since 1993, the Administration has supported innovative and promising teen pregnancy prevention strategies tailored to the unique needs of communities. HHS-supported programs already reach about 30 percent or 1,410 communities in the United States.
- In his 1995 State of the Union address, President Clinton challenged "parents and leaders across the country ... to join together in a national campaign against teen pregnancy to make a difference." In response to his challenge, The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy was formed. The national campaign is a private nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing teen pregnancy by supporting values and fostering actions that are consistent with a pregnancy-free adolescence. This month marks the national campaign's first anniversary.
- The President has consistently supported efforts to reduce teen pregnancy as part of welfare reform, and the law he signed in August 1996 contains several important provisions:
 - Unmarried minor parents are required to stay in school and live at home, or in an adult-supervised setting, in order to receive assistance;
 - The law encourages "second chance homes" -- adult-supervised residential homes designed to provide teen parents with the skills and support they need;
 - \$50 million a year in new funding for state abstinence education activities is provided starting FY 1998;
 - The law includes the toughest ever child support enforcement measurements which send a strong message to young boys and girls

that they should not have children until they are ready to provide for them.

- Just yesterday, Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala announced two new community grant programs to prevent teen pregnancy and promote responsible behavior. One program will be aimed at teenage girls and the other at teenage boys. Each of the grant programs will total about \$1 million per year and involve public-private partnerships organized by individual communities.
- The Secretary also released a new study that shows that teen sexual activity declined from 55 to 50 percent in the 1990s after increasing steadily for more than two decades. The decline is small -- 10 percent -- but is significant because it shows that the long-term increase in teenage sexual activity may finally be over. This data is part of a new study of child bearing and family planning covering all women 15-44.

TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION

May 2, 1997

Announcement

To mark the first anniversary of the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, the First Lady will today recognize 12 individuals chosen by the campaign for their efforts to prevent teen pregnancy. The First Lady will also discuss two new teen pregnancy prevention grant programs, as well as findings from a new study of childbearing and family planning released yesterday by the Department of Health and Human Services.

Background

The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy is a private nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing teen pregnancy. It formed in response to President Clinton's challenge, issued in his 1995 State of the Union address, that "parents and leaders across the country... join together in a national campaign against teen pregnancy." May 1997 marks the campaign's first anniversary.

Following his State of the Union comments, the President held a meeting at the White House with a group of prominent teen pregnancy prevention experts and advocates to discuss what could be done to combat the problem. From that meeting came a private sector planning effort that led to the creation of the national campaign.

The campaign is chaired by former New Jersey Governor Thomas H. Kean. Its Board of Directors includes Whoopi Goldberg, Katherine Graham, the Hon. Nancy Kassebaum-Baker, the Hon. Warren B. Rudman, and William Galston. Isabel V. Sawhill, President of the campaign, was an Associate Director of the Office of Management and Budget during President Clinton's first term.

To commemorate the first anniversary of the campaign, the First Lady is recognizing

12 honorees chosen by the campaign for their outstanding leadership. Each honoree has promoted prevention approaches that are helping to lower teen pregnancy rates and strengthening communities. The honorees' work embodies several key themes that are essential to preventing teen pregnancy:

- Emphasizing values and self-esteem in working with adolescents;
- Forging partnerships with the corporate sector;
- Focusing the community on a "unity of goal" to prevent teen pregnancy even when there are conflicts over program approaches;

- Encouraging adult-child communication;
- Involving youth in the discussion;
- Emphasizing the importance of male involvement in prevention;
- Recognizing the importance of program evaluation; and
- Involving the media in reducing teen pregnancy.

Secretary Shalala's Announcements

In Los Angeles yesterday (May 1), Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala announced two new community grant programs to prevent teen pregnancy and promote responsible behavior. Each of the grant programs will total about \$1 million per year and involve public-private partnerships organized by individual communities.

The Secretary also discussed a newly released study which shows that teen sexual activity declined from 55 to 50 percent during the 1990s after increasing steadily for more than two decades. The decline is small -- 10 percent -- but significant because it shows that the long-term increase in teenage sexual activity may finally be over. This data is part of a new study of child bearing and family planning covering all women 15-44.

Q&A MAY 2 TEEN PREGNANCY EVENT

Question: Why did you choose to honor these specific programs picked by the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy?

Answer: Each of these people has offered tremendous leadership in the fight against teen pregnancy. The honorees' work embodies several key themes that are essential to preventing teen pregnancy: emphasizing values and self-esteem in working with adolescents; forging partnerships with the corporate sector; encouraging adult-child communication; involving youth in the discussion; emphasizing the importance of male involvement in prevention; and involving the media.

Question: What was it that Secretary Shalala announced yesterday in California?

Answer: Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala announced two new community grant programs to prevent teen pregnancy and promote responsible behavior. One program will be aimed at teenage girls and the other at teenage boys. Each of the grant programs will total about \$1 million per year and involve public-private partnerships organized by individual communities.

The Secretary also released a new study that shows that teen sexual activity declined from 55 to 50 percent in the 1990s after increasing steadily for more than two decades. The decline is small -- 10 percent -- but is significant because it shows that the long-term increase in teenage sexual activity may finally be over.

Question: How much has the teen birth rate fallen over the past several years?

Answer: HHS last October released data showing an 8 percent drop in teen birth rates from 1991 to 1995, and the latest data indicates that the decline has continued.

Question: Why do you cite teen birth rates but not teen pregnancy rates? Have teen pregnancy rates fallen too?

Answer: Teen pregnancy rates refer to the rate at which teens become *pregnant* while teen birth rates measure the rate at which teens actually *give birth*. Teen pregnancy rates and teen birth rates have *both* fallen over the last few years. Teen pregnancy rates fell slightly from a high of 117 pregnancies per 1,000 women in 1990 to 112 per 1,000 women in 1992 (the most recent year for which data is available). The reason we cite teen birth rates more often than teen pregnancy rates is that teen birth rates are more current.

Question: What causes the difference between the teen pregnancy rate and the teen birth rate?

Answer: More than half of teen pregnancies result in birth, one third end in abortion and another 14 percent end in miscarriage.

Question: In other words, are you saying that teen pregnancy increases the incidence of abortion?

Answer: Since 1990, abortion rates among teens have declined because fewer teens are becoming pregnant, and, in recent years, fewer pregnant teens have chosen to have an abortion. Today, one-third of teens end their pregnancies in abortion, and teens account for roughly one-quarter of all abortions performed annually. There is no stronger argument for teen pregnancy prevention and family planning than the need to reduce the number of abortions in this country.

Question: Isn't abstinence alone the best way to prevent abortion? Don't family planning and sex education increase abortion?

Answer: We believe unmarried teenagers should abstain from having sex. However, it is unrealistic, even dangerous, to ignore the fact that some teens will, in fact, have sex outside of marriage and before they are ready for it. It is for that reason, that we must simultaneously preach abstinence and teach teens about family planning and sex, including the use of birth control. By offering teens family planning and sex education, we are working to prevent abortion.

Question: Is teen pregnancy primarily a problem in African-American neighborhoods?

Answer: No. Teen pregnancy is a problem everywhere, across racial and

socio-economic lines. About half of all pregnant teens aged 15-19 are white. However, teen *birth rates* are higher among African-American and Hispanic teens than among white teens.

Question: What are the negative effects on a teen mother and her child?

Answer: Early parenting limits a young mother's likelihood of completing high school -- less than one-third of teens who begin their families before age 18 ever complete high school -- and increases the likelihood that young mothers will end up in poverty. In addition, the children of teen mothers have more health problems, do much worse in school, live in home environments of lower quality, suffer higher rates of abuse and neglect, and are more likely to become teen mothers themselves.

Question: What else has the Clinton Administration done to prevent teen pregnancy?

Answer: We have done a lot.

Since 1993, the Administration has supported innovative and promising teen pregnancy prevention strategies tailored to the unique needs of communities. HHS-supported programs already reach about 30 percent or 1,410 communities in the United States.

In his 1995 State of the Union address, President Clinton challenged "parents and leaders across the country ... to join together in a national campaign against teen pregnancy to make a difference." In response to his challenge, The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy was formed. The national campaign is a private nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing teen pregnancy. This month marks the national campaign's first anniversary.

The President has consistently supported efforts to reduce teen pregnancy as part of welfare reform, and the law he signed in August 1996 contains several important provisions:

- Unmarried minor parents are required to stay in school and live at home, or in an adult-supervised settings in order to receive assistance;
- "Second Chance Homes" -- adult-supervised residential homes designed to provide teen parents with the skills and support they need to finish school, become good role models, and providers for their children -- are allowed and encouraged;
- \$50 million a year in new funding for state abstinence education activities is provided starting FY 1998;
- The new law includes tough child support enforcement which sends the strongest possible message to young boys and girls that they should not have children until they are ready to provide for them.

Question: Last year the President appointed Dr. Henry Foster as his senior advisor on teen pregnancy prevention and youth issues. What has Dr. Foster accomplished to date?

Answer: Dr. Foster is a key part of the Administration's effort to send a message to teenagers of the importance of postponing child bearing until they are emotionally, physically, and financially prepared for the responsibility. Dr. Foster has spent the last year-plus traveling around the country visiting with teenagers and community-based prevention programs.

1997 NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO PREVENT TEEN PREGNANCY HONOREES

Elayne Bennett, President and Founder, Best Friends Foundation

Best Friends is a school-based program for girls in grades five through nine that fosters self-respect and promotes responsible behavior and abstinence. Best Friends helps girls identify what self-respect is, and teaches them how they can succeed in life if they set goals and maintain their self-respect. Ms. Bennett formed the program in 1987 in Washington, D.C. and now approximately 2,000 girls participate in 50 schools in 15 cities.

Patricia Canessa, President of the Board, the National Organization on Adolescent Pregnancy, Parenting and Prevention (NOAPPP)

NOAPPP is a diverse national network of national, state and community leaders and health care, education and social service professionals dedicated to preventing teen pregnancy and addressing problems related to adolescent sexuality, pregnancy, and parenting. NOAPP provides technical assistance and training, informational materials, and organizes conferences to enhance state and local coalitions working to reduce teen pregnancy.

Russell C. Deyo, Vice President of the Johnson and Johnson Family of Companies New Brunswick, New Jersey

Mr. Deyo serves as the Chair of Johnson and Johnson's Corporate Contributions Committee, which supports socially responsible charities and encourages civic improvements and better health and education for young people. Mr. Deyo and Ms. Canessa serve on the National Urban Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program, an effort that identifies, evaluates and disseminates information about successful adolescent pregnancy programs.

Sue Cameron, County Commissioner, Tillamook County, Oregon

County Commissioner Cameron has lead a successful county-wide effort which has reduced the teen pregnancy rate of girls under age 18 by nearly 75 percent between 1990 and 1994. Realizing that there are differing values and that no single approach can alone reduce teen pregnancy, Ms. Cameron used the debate over teen pregnancy as an opportunity to incorporate several different approaches into one coordinated effort to reduce teen pregnancy in Tillamook.

Gloria Feldt, President, Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Inc., New York, NY

Planned Parenthood is the world's oldest and largest voluntary family planning organization which provides educational programs to enhance the understanding of individual and societal implications of human sexuality. Ms. Feldt has increased efforts to help parents talk with their children and teenagers about sexuality, growth and development through a comprehensive program, *Talking About Sex: A*

Guide for Families.

Eric Graham, President of Children's Express

Children's Express is a national, non-profit youth development and leadership organization that uses journalism to give children a voice. Children's Express issues a weekly national column which is researched, reported and edited by children and adolescents and is syndicated to newspapers around the country.

Susan Wilson, Executive Director for the Network for Family Life Education

New Brunswick, New Jersey

The Network for Family Life Education publishes *Sex, Etc. -- A Newsletter by Teens, for Teens*, which publishes the opinions of teens on social issues, including sexuality, abstinence, teen pregnancy, drugs, etc. It also provides educational information to teens on these issues.

Wade Horn, Ph.D., Director of the National Fatherhood Initiative

Gaithersburg, Maryland

The National Fatherhood Initiative is a non-profit, non-sectarian organization that aims to improve the well-being of children by increasing the number of children growing up with loving, committed and responsible fathers. This organization promotes fatherhood through public awareness campaigns, conferences and community fatherhood forums.

Edward Pitt, Associate Director of the Fatherhood Project and Director for the National Practitioners Network for Fathers and Families at the Families and Work Institute

New York, New York

The National Practitioners Network is a center for research-based solutions to the problems associated with changing trends in family life. Mr. Pitt has worked for the Urban League's Male Responsibility Campaign and has been a committed voice for the role of fathers and other men in the lives of children and teens.

Marion Howard, Ph.D., Clinical Director, Grady Teen Services Program, Atlanta, Georgia

The Grady Teen Services Program has been providing educational classes on *Postponing Sexual Involvement* since the 1970's. The classes evolved into a comprehensive program designed to help young teens understand the pressures influencing their sexual behavior; to understand their rights in social relationships and ways of meeting social and personal needs other than by sexual involvement.

Sheila Johnson, Executive Vice President of Corporate Affairs, Black Entertainment Television (BET)

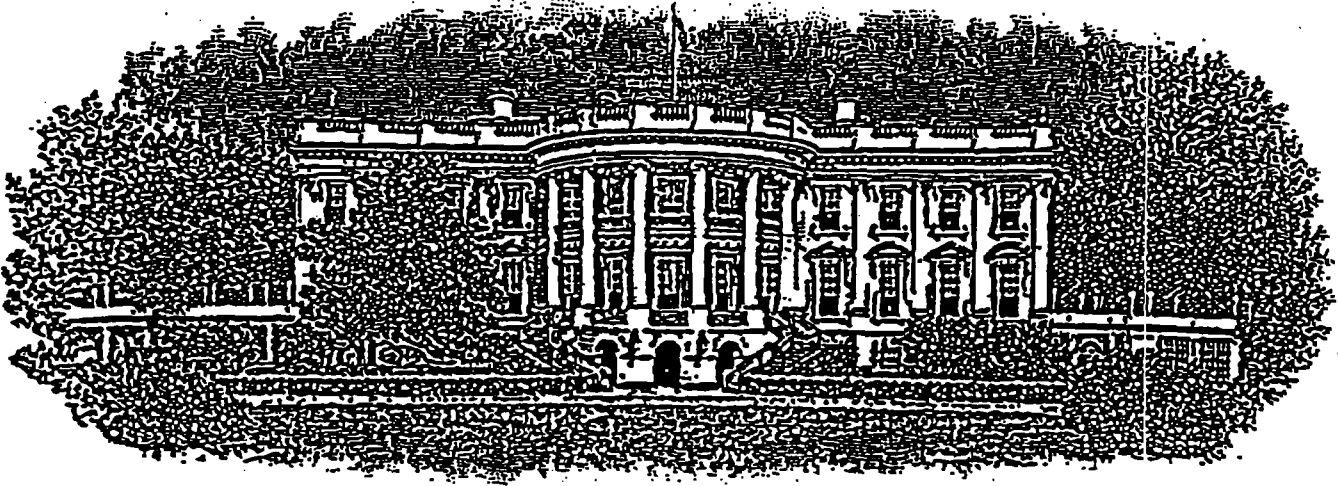
Teen Summit is BET's award-winning, weekly talk show that focuses on African-American teens and engages teens and celebrities in frank discussions

about issues affecting young people. In May 1997, as part of their Teen Summit programming, BET will air a live Town Meeting focusing on the consequences of teen pregnancy and on involving boys and men in preventing teen pregnancy. BET has also created teen pregnancy PSAs which will be broadcasted around the time of the Town Meeting and shared with other networks who wish to promote the issue.

Ann S. Moore, President of People Magazine, New York, New York

In the fall of 1994, Ms. Moore ran a cover article for *People* on teen pregnancy entitled, "Babies Who Have Babies: A Day in the Life of Teen Pregnancy in America." This issue was one of the highest selling issues in People Magazine history. The article focused on the stress teen pregnancy puts on teen mothers and all involved. The article and its sequel a year later raised the profile of the consequences of teen pregnancy.

The White House



DOMESTIC POLICY

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

TO: Elena / Jen Klein (Please giveFAX NUMBER: 6-2878 to both)TELEPHONE NUMBER: 65573FROM: CynthiaTELEPHONE NUMBER: 62846

PAGES (INCLUDING COVER): _____

COMMENTS: Final HHS press release_____



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NCHS Press Office, (301) 436-7551
Sandra Smith or Jeffrey Lancashire

TEEN SEX DOWN, NEW STUDY SHOWS Secretary Shalala Announces New Teen Pregnancy Prevention Grant Programs

The percentage of teenagers who have had sexual intercourse has declined for the first time after increasing steadily for more than two decades, HHS Secretary Donna E. Shalala announced today. These findings are part of a major new study of childbearing and family planning covering women 15-44 to be released later this month by HHS.

The 1995 National Survey of Family Growth, conducted by HHS' National Center for Health Statistics, found that 50 percent of women 15-19 years of age had ever had intercourse, the first decline ever recorded by the periodic survey. The survey previously found that 55 percent of 15-19 year old women had ever had intercourse in 1990, reflecting a steady increase from 53 percent in 1988 and 47 percent in 1982. Earlier surveys found the percentage to be 36 percent in 1975 and 29 percent in 1970.

Additional research sponsored by HHS' National Institute of Child Health and Human Development indicates a similar trend for teenage males. The percentage of never-married males 15-19 who have ever had sexual intercourse declined from 60 percent in 1988 to 55 percent in 1995, reversing a trend measured since 1979. The NICHD research was carried out by the Urban Institute.

"We welcome the news that the long term increase in teenage sexual activity may finally have stopped," said Secretary Shalala. "But this news should encourage us to do more, not lull us into doing less. We need to change the cultural messages that have been accepted too long. Continual increases in teen sexual activity are not inevitable, and we can take action together to protect the health and well-being of our young people."

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The survey released today also found increases in the use of contraceptives at the time of first intercourse. Among women of all ages, some 76 percent of all those who began having intercourse in the 1990s used contraception at first intercourse, up from 64 percent in the late 1980s, according to the Survey of Family Growth. The increase in contraception at first intercourse was a result of marked increases in condom use: from 18 percent in the 1970's to 36 percent in the late 1980s and 54 percent in the 1990's. The NICHD-sponsored research also showed an increase in the use of contraceptives by teenage males or their partners at the time of first intercourse.

These increases in condom use may be related to another finding from the survey: 90 percent of women 18-19 reported that they have received formal instruction on sexually transmitted diseases, safe sex to prevent HIV, and how to say no to sex.

Secretary Shalala said the dramatic increase in contraceptive use at first intercourse and the decrease in sexual activity among teens may be responsible for the leveling off and recent decline of the teenage birth rate. HHS last October released data showing an 8-percent drop in the teen birth rate from 1991 to 1995, and the latest data available through June 1996 indicate that the decline has continued. Pregnancy rates for teens aged 15-19 also declined in 30 of 41 reporting states in 1992, the latest year for which statistics are available, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Speaking in Los Angeles today at a conference on girls and the media, Secretary Shalala announced two new community grant programs to prevent teen pregnancy and promote responsible behavior. One program will be aimed at teenage girls and the other at teenage boys. They are part of the National Strategy to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, announced in January.

"These grants will help communities develop innovative and comprehensive approaches to preventing teen pregnancy, especially by promoting all the activities and achievements that boys and girls should be saying 'yes' to," Secretary Shalala said. "When young people can see lives of opportunity and hope ahead of them, they are more likely to make the right choices."

The grant program for girls is part of the secretary's new Girl Power! campaign, which is aimed at enhancing self-esteem, promoting good health and preventing unhealthy behaviors among girls 9 to 14 years old. Each of the grant programs will total about \$1 million per year and involve public-private partnerships organized by individual communities.

Tomorrow, in a White House ceremony, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will honor 12 organizations and individuals who are working in their communities to prevent and reduce teen pregnancy.

- More -

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The 1995 National Survey of Family Growth, to be released in full later this month, will provide the latest and most comprehensive national data on fertility, contraception, marriage and cohabitation, infertility, adoption, maternity leave, medical services, breast-feeding, smoking and other factors which impact both teenage and adult women, and the health and well-being of their children. The study updates key trends, includes many new topics, and has significant new findings on teenagers. More findings of the survey available today include:

- Approximately 16 percent of girls whose first intercourse was before age 16 reported that first intercourse was not voluntary, compared with just 3 percent of women whose first intercourse was at age 20 or older. (Overall, 8 percent of all women said that their first intercourse was not voluntary.) In addition, nearly two-thirds of births to teenagers (65 percent) were unintended when they were conceived, compared with 31 percent of births to women of all ages. The study also found that teenage wives face a much higher risk of separation and divorce than women who wait longer to marry: 47 percent of women who married before age 18 saw their marriages dissolve within 10 years, compared with 19 percent of women who married at age 23 or older.

- The study asked for the age of the woman and her male partner when she had her first voluntary intercourse. Of women who had their first voluntary intercourse before age 16, 66 percent reported that their partner was under 18, 21 percent said their partner was 18 or 19, 7 percent said their partner was 20-22 and for 6 percent their partner was 23 or older.

- Only 36 percent of teenage mothers breastfed their infants, compared with 55 percent of all mothers; and teen mothers who do breastfeed do so for a shorter time than adult mothers (an average of 18 vs 29 weeks, or about 4 vs 7 months).

The 1995 survey was based on 10,847 in-person interviews conducted by female interviewers in the homes of women 15-44 years of age who comprise a nationally representative sample.

The National Survey of Family Growth was jointly planned and funded by a number of HHS agencies: the National Center for Health Statistics, a part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, one of the National Institutes of Health; and the Office of Population Affairs; with additional support from the Administration for Children and Families.

Excerpts from "Fertility, Family Planning, and Women's Health" can be downloaded from the NCHS Home Page on the Internet at <http://www.cdc.gov/nchswww/nchshome.htm>, along with the news release and ordering information for the full report.

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Note: HHS press releases are available on the World Wide Web at:
<http://www.dhhs.gov>.

HHS CHALLENGES COMMUNITIES TO INVEST IN THE FUTURES OF GIRLS AND BOYS

Today Secretary Shalala announced the availability of two new grant programs for communities to develop innovative approaches -- one targeted to girls and other to boys -- to prevent teen pregnancy and promote responsible behavior. Both grant programs build on the Clinton Administration's comprehensive teen pregnancy prevention strategy and one also supports the Department of Health Human Services (HHS) Girl Power! public education campaign.

Building Bright Futures For Girls

As part of HHS' Girl Power! public education campaign, HHS will offer a total of \$1 million in grants to communities to build public-private partnerships to promote healthy behavior, increase confidence and prevent teen pregnancy and other risky behaviors, such as smoking and drug use, among girls 9 to 14 years old.

Focusing on Young Girls: Recognizing that girls experience adolescence differently than boys and that 9-14 year old girls are particularly vulnerable to negative influences, loss of self confidence and mixed messages about health risk behaviors, the projects will address the critical and unique needs, interests and challenges of this age group.

Offering a Comprehensive Approach: The projects will take a comprehensive approach by addressing teen pregnancy prevention as it relates to other risky behaviors and within the overall context of health promotion, self confidence, motivation and opportunity.

Building Partnerships: By building strong partnerships with parents, schools, communities, youth groups, religious organizations, media, health providers, businesses and local governments, the grant projects will demonstrate how communities can work together to improve the health, education, and well-being of young girls and their families.

Promoting Volunteerism: Responding to the challenge of the Presidents' Summit for America's Future, the projects will utilize community volunteers to serve as mentors to the girls, to encourage the girls to get involved in community service and to spread the messages of delaying sexual activity, staying in school and preparing for the future.

Expanding The Message To Boys and Young Men

Recognizing that a comprehensive strategy to prevent teen pregnancy and promote responsible behavior must also target boys and young men, HHS announced the availability of \$1 million in grants to organizations already working with males to add a family planning component to their existing programs.

Helping to Develop Long-Term Strategies: We do not know enough about what influences a boy's and young men's decisions about abstinence, sexual activity and fatherhood. Similarly little is known about what family planning/reproductive health services are appropriate and effective for males. Therefore these projects will be critical in developing long-term strategies at the federal, state and local levels for including boys and young men in teen pregnancy prevention and family planning efforts.

Focusing on Safe and Responsible Behavior: The projects will focus on developing and testing approaches to providing family planning services to males; ensuring that adult males send the message of abstinence, responsibility and health to young men and boys; and involving males in building community support for teen pregnancy prevention and respectful relationships.

Offering a Wide Range of Services: The projects will provide educational services, counseling, outreach to males and their families, clinical services and public information on family planning/reproductive health issues.

Utilizing Existing Resources: Utilizing the best available resources, the grantees will work in partnership with federal, state, local and community-based health and social service agencies to educate males about health decision-making and family planning.

- 2 -

- According to the latest state-by-state data on teen births, released by HHS in January 1997, 37 states had a sustained decline in their teen birth rates between 1991 and 1994. Twenty-one of these states had declines of between 5 and 10 percent, and 10 states had declines of more than 10 percent over this period.
- In addition, teen pregnancy rates for 15-19-year-olds fell 3 percent from 1991 to 1992. Teen pregnancy rates also declined in 30 of 41 reporting states in 1992, the latest year for which statistics are available.

Similar Trend for Males: A recent study -- the 1995 National Survey of Adolescent Males -- sponsored by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) indicates similar trends for teenage males.

- The percentage of teenage males who have ever had sexual intercourse declined from 60 percent in 1988 to 55 percent in 1995.
- The proportion of teenagers protected by contraception at first intercourse rose from 62 percent in 1988 to 73 percent in 1995.
- Condom use at first intercourse increased sharply from 55 percent in 1988 to 69 percent in 1995. In 1995 two-thirds of males aged 15-19 reported using a condom at first intercourse.
- Use of ineffective or no method of contraception at first intercourse declined from 38 percent to 27 percent.

Other interesting findings of the NSFG:

- Approximately 16 percent of girls whose first intercourse was before age 16 reported that first intercourse was not voluntary, compared with just 3 percent of women whose first intercourse was at age 20 or older.
- Nearly two-thirds of births to teenagers were unintended when they were conceived, compared with 31 percent of births to women of all ages.
- 47 percent of women who married before age 18 saw their marriages dissolve within 10 years, compared with 19 percent of women who married at age 23 or older.
- Of women who had their first voluntary intercourse before age 16: 66 percent reported that their partner was under 18; 21 percent said their partner was 18 or 19; 7 percent said their partner was 20-22; and for 6 percent their partner was 23 or older.
- Only 36 percent of teenage mothers breastfed their infants, compared with 55 percent of all mothers.

FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY - Questions and Answers on Teen Pregnancy/NSFG Report

Q What is the NSFG and why is it important?

A The National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG) is a periodic study, of childbearing and family planning covering women ages 15-44, conducted by HHS' National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) every five years. Among the many important findings of the 1995 NSFG, to be released by HHS later this month, is that the percentage of teenagers who have had sexual intercourse has declined for the first time after increasing steadily for more than two decades. The percent of women 15-19 who have had sexual intercourse declined from 55 percent in 1990 to 50 percent in 1995. The survey also found increases in the use of contraception at the time of first intercourse. The combination of the dramatic increase in contraceptive use at first intercourse and the delay of sexual activity among teens may be responsible for the leveling off and recent decline of the teenage birth rate.

Q Did you get parents' permission to ask girls under 18 about their sex lives?

A Yes. We obtained parental permission before interviewing unmarried girls between the ages 15 of 17.

Q Do you survey boys too?

A In this survey of fertility and reproductive health we interview only women ages 15-44. Women can provide the most accurate and detailed information on their pregnancies and the health-related aspects of childbearing. Meanwhile, additional research sponsored by HHS' NICHD indicates a similar trend for males. The percentage of never-married males 15-19 who have ever had sexual intercourse declined from 60 percent in 1988 to 55 percent in 1995, reversing a trend measured since 1979. The NICHD study, the 1995 National Survey of Adolescent Males was carried out by the Urban Institute.

Q Why do you say that the use of contraception at first intercourse is a factor in the declining teen birth rate?

A Almost 80 percent of women interviewed reported that they had their first premarital intercourse when they were under age 20, so the assumption is reasonable. The decline in teen sexual activity is also playing an important role.

Q What is having the most impact on teen birth rates - delayed sexual activity or increased condom use?

A Both the delay in sexual activity and the increase in the use of contraceptives are probably contributing to the decline in teen birth rates. The increase in the use of contraceptives seems to have had an even greater effect. For example, contraceptive use for women at first premarital intercourse (the overwhelming majority of whom are teenagers) increased from 64 percent in the late 1980's to 76 percent in the 1990's. Teens typically choose condoms as their contraceptive method at first intercourse. The percentage of teenagers who were having sex without using birth control has also been slowly declining--from 10 percent in 1982 to 8 percent in 1988 and 7 percent in 1995.

That said, we believe that communities, schools, and parents - not Washington - are best able to determine the needs, interests and challenges of children, and that communities must be allowed to design programs that are right for them.

Q How do you get information on the age differential between teenage girls and their sexual partners and why?

A The survey asked the woman for her age when she had her first intercourse. We asked a separate question about her partner's age. This information contributes to our understanding of teen pregnancy prevention and to the design of prevention strategies.

Q Has there been an increase in abortions causing the decline in the teen birth rate?

A While we don't have complete and comprehensive data on abortions among teens since 1992, we know that according to preliminary Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data, total abortions have declined, and the proportion of abortions to teens has declined. Thus, the teen abortion rate has dropped concurrently with the birth rate, signaling a definite drop in teen pregnancy.

Q Are you claiming credit for the results of this study?

A This particular survey measures the differences from 1990 to 1995 and does not include annual data. However, teen birth rates have been going down every year from 1992 to 1995, according to the CDC. The recent declines in teen birth rates indicate that public and private-sector programs may be having some success. The reasons for the good news are complex. But certainly in the past few years, we've been able to forge a consensus about the importance of both personal responsibility and community involvement. We've promoted abstinence education. And we've cracked down on child support enforcement. In addition, preventing teen pregnancy has been a top priority for the President since he took office:

- In January, HHS announced the National Strategy to Prevent Teen Pregnancy to strengthen our existing efforts to assure that every community in the country is working to prevent out-of-wedlock teen pregnancies by: increasing opportunities through welfare reform; supporting promising approaches; building public-private partnerships; improving data collection, research and evaluation; and disseminating information on innovative and effective practices.
- President Clinton fought for three-and-a-half years for a welfare bill that sends teenagers the message that staying in school, postponing sexual activity, and preparing to work are the right things to do. And teens have been getting that message.
- Overall HHS has increased funding for teen pregnancy prevention. We've provided funding for 13 grants through the CDC to help communities build coalitions to reduce teen pregnancy; 17 demonstration projects through the Adolescent Family Life program aimed at preventing early teen sexual activity and pregnancy; and 27 grants through HRSA to specifically address a wide range of adolescent pregnancy issues.
- Last year, President Clinton challenged parents and leaders all across this country to join together in a national campaign against teen pregnancy. A group of prominent Americans responded to that challenge, forming an organization that will support grassroots community efforts all across our country.

Q You note approvingly that more women are getting sex education. Are you promoting this?

A The survey measured trends in percent of women who had formal education on sexually transmitted diseases, safe sex to prevent HIV, and how to say no to sex by the time they were 18 years of age. We found that 9 out of 10 women 18-19 had formal education--which could have taken place at school, church, health center, clinic, or other location--in those topics.

BACKGROUND: The survey asked this of all women but answers are really only meaningful beginning with the 18-19 year olds. Results show that formal instruction in each of these areas has increased.

Again, we believe that communities, schools, and parents - not Washington - are best able to determine the needs of children, and that communities must be allowed to design programs that are right for them. But appropriate instruction on the risks of teen pregnancy and on building refusal skills to avoid both premature sexual activity and teen pregnancy, can be useful.

Q Are you saying your way - i.e. two \$1 million grant programs - are the only way?

A Absolutely not. Preventing teen pregnancy has been a priority of the Clinton Administration since the President took office and we support a wide variety of community-based strategies. These grants build on the Administration's comprehensive, ongoing efforts to prevent teen pregnancy and HHS' Girl Power! public education campaign.

The Administration has supported many innovative and promising teen pregnancy prevention strategies tailored to the unique needs of communities based on five principles: parent and adult involvement; strong messages of abstinence and personal responsibility; clear strategies for young people's futures; involvement of all facets of the community; and a sustained commitment to young people. HHS-supported programs in this area already reach about 30 percent of communities in the United States. And our National Strategy strengthens our existing efforts to assure that every community throughout the country is working to prevent out-of-wedlock teen pregnancies. We believe that communities, schools, and parents - not Washington - are best able to determine the needs of children, and that communities must be allowed to design programs that are right for them.

Q Are you promoting condoms for boys and abstinence for girls? If so, isn't this a double standard?

A No. These grants build on our comprehensive, ongoing strategy to prevent teen pregnancy, encourage responsible behavior and send the strongest possible message to girls and boys that postponing sexual activity, staying in school and preparing for work are the right things to do. Because we know that there is no single or simple intervention to combat teen pregnancy, our strategy approaches teen pregnancy on a number of fronts, including abstinence education and family planning. Ultimately, we believe that communities, schools, and parents - not Washington - are best able to determine the needs of children, and that communities must be allowed to design programs that are right for them.

But it is simply not acceptable - emotionally, physically, and financially - for 9 to 14-year-olds, boys and girls, to be having sex and having children. Therefore, as part of our national strategy, we will engage all of our teen pregnancy prevention and related youth programs in sending a strong abstinence message to boys and girls in this age group.

The new Girl Neighborhood Power grant program is specifically targeted to girls in this age group for whom the abstinence message is most appropriate. Recognizing that girls experience adolescence differently than boys and that 9-14 year old girls are particularly vulnerable to negative influences, loss of self confidence and mixed messages about risky behaviors, the projects will address the critical and unique needs, interests and challenges of this age group.

The other new grants projects are not targeted to a specific age of males and may serve adult males as well as boys. Grantees should determine what message is appropriate based on the age group they serve.

Q How can you be sure that the survey data are accurate? why would teens report truthfully about sensitive topics, such as sex?

A First, we do the NSFG and our other surveys using the best practices in the field, and there is now more than 2 decades of experience interviewing teens on these topics. For example in the NSFG, we make certain that parents and teens know who is doing the study by sending them a letter and a pamphlet that explains the survey before the interviewer contacts the respondent. For minors, parental consent is obtained. The interviews are conducted in private; if anyone comes into the room during the interview the interviewing stops until privacy is restored. We paid \$20 incentives because our pretesting showed that they improve response rates, save money, and improve data quality--especially for teens. We designed the questionnaires carefully and tested them extensively before using them in the national study. Finally, we can compare the findings to findings from other surveys. We generally find very good agreement with other well-conducted studies.

Q What are the latest data on the teen birth rate?

A HHS last October released data showing an 8-percent drop in the teen birth rate from 1991 to 1995, and the latest data available through June 1996 indicate that the decline has continued. Pregnancy rates for teens aged 15-19 also declined in 30 of 41 reporting states in 1992, the latest year for which statistics are available, according to CDC.

Q Are young teens vulnerable to involuntary sex or sexual intercourse with older partners?

A About 8 percent of women in the study (1 in 12) said that their first intercourse was not voluntary. The younger a woman is at first intercourse the more likely it is that her first sexual experience was not voluntary. About 16 percent of women who had their first intercourse before age 16 said it was involuntary, but that drops to 7 percent or less at age 16 or older.

BACKGROUND: In the United States, the man is typically 1-3 years older than the woman—whether at first intercourse, first marriage, or remarriage. Of course, in some cases the age difference is larger. For women who were 17 at their first intercourse: 89 percent of their first partners were age 22 or younger; 11 percent were 23 or older, for example. At first marriage, the average age of men is about 2 years older than women; at remarriage, men average about 3 years older women. [Source: NSFG report and 1990 marriage data.]

Q When will the full survey results be released? Did you rush the teen findings for teen pregnancy prevention month?

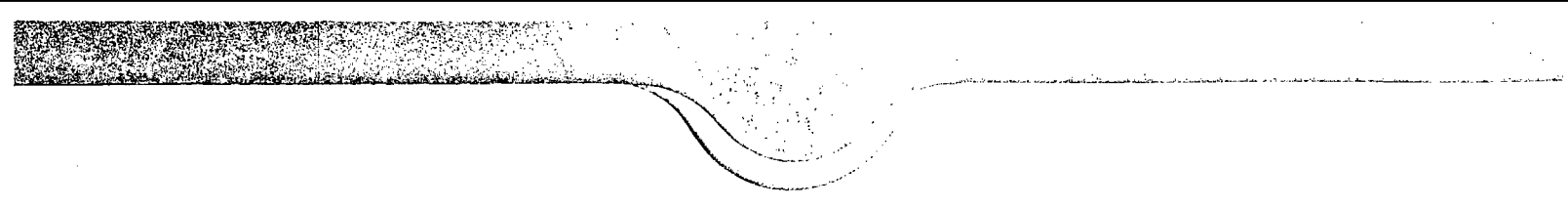
A The 1995 National Survey of Family Growth was a major study which collected a wide range of data on many, many topics. In the past, the NSFG results have been released one topic at a time. In this cycle, the NSFG staff decided to do a large report covering a wide range of topics, so that more of the study's data would be available as quickly as possible. The findings on teen sexual activity and contraception from this large report are being released now. The rest of the full report of the survey results will be available electronically in a week or two, and the printed report should be available in about a month.

Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

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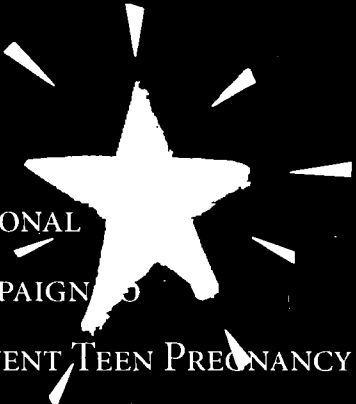
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Booklet, "National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy: No Easy Answers," 24 pages

Summary



THE
NATIONAL
CAMPAIGN TO
PREVENT TEEN PREGNANCY

No Easy Answers

RESEARCH FINDINGS ON PROGRAMS
TO REDUCE TEEN PREGNANCY

Douglas Kirby, Ph.D.

A RESEARCH REVIEW COMMISSIONED BY THE
NATIONAL CAMPAIGN'S TASK FORCE ON
EFFECTIVE PROGRAMS AND RESEARCH