



THE
NATIONAL
CAMPAIGN TO
PREVENT TEEN PREGNANCY

CELEBRATING A DECADE OF PROGRESS
IN IMPROVING THE LIVES OF CHILDREN,
YOUTH AND FAMILIES

1776 Massachusetts Ave, NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: 202.478.8500; Fax: 202.478.8588
Email: campaign@teenpregnancy.org

Parents and Teen Pregnancy: What Surveys Show

Each year the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy commissions an independent survey of adults and teens nationwide. Many of these questions focus on parents and their role in preventing teen pregnancy. Collected here is a sampling of polling results¹ that parents may find of interest.

- Who teens say most influences their decisions about sex: **Parents**
- Who adults believe most influence teens' decisions about sex: **Teens' friends**
- Percentage of teens who say it would be easier for them to postpone sexual activity and avoid teen pregnancy if they were able to have more open, honest conversations with their parents: **87%**
- Percentage of teens who say they haven't had a single such conversation with their parents: **37%**
- Percentage of parents of teens who believe they should talk to their kids about sex but often don't know what to say, how to say it, or when to start: **90%**
- Percentage of teens who think society should provide them with a strong message to not have sex until they are at least out of high school: **92%**
- Percentage of adults who think teens should receive more information about both abstinence *and* contraception: **75%**
- Percentage of teens who don't think they are getting enough information about abstinence and contraception: **80%**
- Percentage of teens say believe that teen boys often receive the message that sex and pregnancy are not a big deal: **61%**
- Percentage of teens who believe teen girls often receive the message that attracting boys and looking sexy is one of the most important things they can do: **65%**

¹All results reported here provide a nationally-representative sample of adults age 20 and older or adolescents aged 12-19.