

Consequences of teen pregnancy to mother, infant, and community

[Family](#), [Abortion](#)



Consequences of teen pregnancy to mother, infant, and community 1

Consequences of teen pregnancy to the mother, infant, and to the

community Terra Allen HCA 402 Professor Patricia Pierce Consequences of

teen pregnancy to the mother, infant, and community 2 Teen pregnancy has negative effects on teens, and the infant including low birth rate, poor

nutrition, and infant mortality. Valanis stated that there was 23% of stated

that there was also a high rate of black infants and 11 % of white infants to

teenage mothers in 1993, (Valanis, 1999). Valanis teenage births to Native

Americans, Eskimos, Aleution Islanders, and Hawaiians. She also stated there

is a higher rate of complications and their infants are born with low birth rate or prematurely. This age group has been hard to teach because of the

physiological and psychological characteristics. The past has proved that the

schools are reluctant to teach sex and contraception in health education

classes, (Valanis, 1999). The National Survey of Family Growth showed that

in 1988, that the age group of 15 — 17 year olds, who were sexually active,

increased from 33% to 38% in 1988. In the 1996 U. S. Bureau of the

Consensus, It showed that there were 200, 000 births to age 12 — 17 year

old girls, nearly 12, 220 of those births were to 14 year old girls are younger.

Valanis stated that it is important for patient to decide whether or not to

keep baby, give baby up for adoption, or have an abortion. The threats listed

for the mother and infant are poor housing, malnutrition, and lack of health

care. Valanis also stated that there is an increased rate of mortality, fetal

death, and low birth rate associated with births of unmarried women,

(Valanis, 1999). Some of the other factors stated in " Epidemiology in Health

Care, " are the spacing between children and the timing of pregnancy. The

National Center for Health Statistics in 1990, documented that the timing and spacing of 24 months or longer than 48 months caused low birth rate. The National Center for Health Statistics stated that mother has less time to restore body to health when births are Consequences of teen pregnancy to the mother, infant, and community 3 less than 24 months apart. The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health and Surgeon General, in 1979 issued warnings on smoking and drinking during pregnancy. The Surgeon General showed that smoking slows down fetal growth, lowers birth rate, and increases the chance of stillbirth. The Surgeon General showed that the use of alcohol caused low birth rate, birth defects, and mental retardation. Valanis stated on page 159 that those in 1994 only 50% of white mothers and 42% of black women 15 years and younger received prenatal care. Young women age 15 years and younger are more likely to have toxemia, and if reproductive system not mature, then they have fetopelvic disproportion, (Valanis, 1999). Some anomalies that have contributed to infant mortality are child morbidity, disability, and years lost. These have included congenital anomaly of heart, digestive system, musculoskeletal system, genitourinary system, and the circulatory system. According to the U. S. Preventive Service Task Force for pregnant women what is needed is monitoring for pregnant women, continuous monitoring of laboring woman, and good nutrition during pregnancy. The federally funded program (WIC) Women, Infant, and Children supplemental feeding program has improved health status of pregnant women. The improvement of better intrapartum and neonatal care has improved infant outcome. Methods such as ultrasound and amniocentesis have helped to determine gestational age, causes of

vaginal bleeding, and the use of amniocentesis has helped to better diagnose problems with fetus, (Valanis 1999). Teen pregnancy has had negative effects on the teen, infant, and the community. There have been high mortality rates to infant and teenage mother. There has been improvement in prenatal and postpartum programs since the 1990's, but improvement still needs to be made for the black population. Improvements need to be made for teaching men and women about reproduction and fertility to prevent unwanted pregnancy. Valanis states that it is important to make sure that every woman has prenatal care, ensure that research on SIDS, congenital malformations, and women with toxemia and ectopic pregnancies are continued. There also needs to be advancement of knowledge in fetal medicine, fetal surgery, and neonatology, (Valanis, 1999). Consequences in teen pregnancy to mother 5 Resources Valanis, B. (1999) Epidemiology in Health Care. (3rd Ed.). Boston, MA; Pearson, Custom Publishing.