

How it alters the teen's future

[Family](#), [Teenage Pregnancy](#)



Teen pregnancy is a thing that ultimately alters a teen's future forever with negative side effects. In the United States, 2.8 million teenagers become pregnant each day. When I graduated in 2011; out of all the girls I graduated with 10 of those girls have had babies. One of them just had her second baby this year. Think more needs to be done to make girls realize that it affects their future, their children's, the baby's father, and other family members. I couldn't imagine having a baby at this age. My cousin became a teen mom at the age of 19 with her long time boyfriend.

But, I see the struggle they have to make money to pay the bills. He works two jobs to support her and their child because child care is so expensive. They don't regret having their son, but they regret dropping out of college. Teen pregnancy is the leading reason teen girls drop out of school. More than half of teen mothers never graduate. Of them earn a college degree by the time their 30. About a quarter of them have a second child within two years of their first. Teenage girls in relationships with older boys are more likely to become pregnant, than a teenage girl in a relationship with a boy her own age.

Poverty is associated with increased rates of teen pregnancy. 80% of teen mothers have to go on welfare at some point due to less than one third of teen mothers receive no child support. Girls whose mother or older sister gave birth as a teen are more likely to get pregnant themselves. Teenage parents who can rely on family and community support, social services and child care are more likely to continue with their education and get a higher paying job as they progress with their education. In the United States alone 820,000 teens become pregnant each year.

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Birth rate in the United States is the highest in the developed world and teen abortion rate is also high. In 2006, the United States teen rate rose for the first time in fourteen years. Canada also trended towards a steady decline for both 15-17 and older 18-19 teens in the period of 1992-2002. Majority of teenage mothers are not married to the father of their children. Babies born to teenagers are at risk for neglect and abuse because their young mothers are uncertain about their roles and may be frustrated by the constant demand of care taking.

Children of teen mothers are more likely to be born prematurely with low birth weight. They're at a higher risk for intellectual, language, socio-emotional, development disabilities and behavioural issues are increased. Children of teen mothers have a 31% incidence of depression and a 25% risk of parenthood as a teen. Mothers are less likely to stimulate their infant through affectionate behaviours such as touch, smile, smiling and verbal communication or to be sensitive and accepting their needs.

Teen parents don't have the intellectual performance in children of teenage mother also been noted with many of them being more likely to fail to graduate high school, be held back a grade level or score low on standardised test. As a son born to a young woman in her teens is three times more likely to spend time in prison. Only 20% of teen fathers marry the mother of their child, many teen mothers continue to live at home with their parents. Teen fathers may continue a relationship with the baby's mother but it's common the relationship to end and when it does many fathers don't have much interaction with their children.

Teen dads are less likely to earn a high school diploma; the failure to graduate can be due to financial pressure resulting from having a baby to take care of. Despite the stereotype, there is increasing evidence that teen fathers want to be (and are) involved with their children, though this involvement may not always include financial support. Young fathers are more likely to have economic and employment challenges and are more often economically disadvantaged than adult fathers. A large percentage of fathers involved in teen pregnancies are 20 years or older.

Teen pregnancy and motherhood can influence younger siblings. One study found that younger sisters of teen mothers were less likely to emphasise the importance of education and employment. Younger brothers too, were found to be more tolerant of non-marital and early births in addition to being more susceptible to high risk behaviours. Many programs available for teen moms are based on income. If the teen mom's parents earn above the minimum income, the teen may be denied services which leaves the burden of the costs on the parents.

Teen pregnancy has a negative affect on their children, the teen mothers, and teen fathers. More needs to be done to prevent teen pregnancy more education and guidance from parents. Also, more needs to be done to help teens who become pregnant and the teen fathers. I don't think theirs enough done for teen dads. With more support groups, financial help, helping with them (teen moms and fathers) graduating and getting their diploma. They shouldn't be shamed because they become pregnant at a young age, they

should get the opportunity to graduate and have a better life for them and their child.