

Social Inequalities In Teenage Pregnancy

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Introduction

Social inequality is the existence of unequal opportunities and rewards for different social positions or statuses within society. One factor of social inequalities is teenage pregnancy. Teen pregnancy is a problem many young girls face in society. Which is most common in minority.

What are the cause of teen pregnancy?

- Peer Pressure
- Absent Parent
- Lack of knowledge
- Social Inequalities

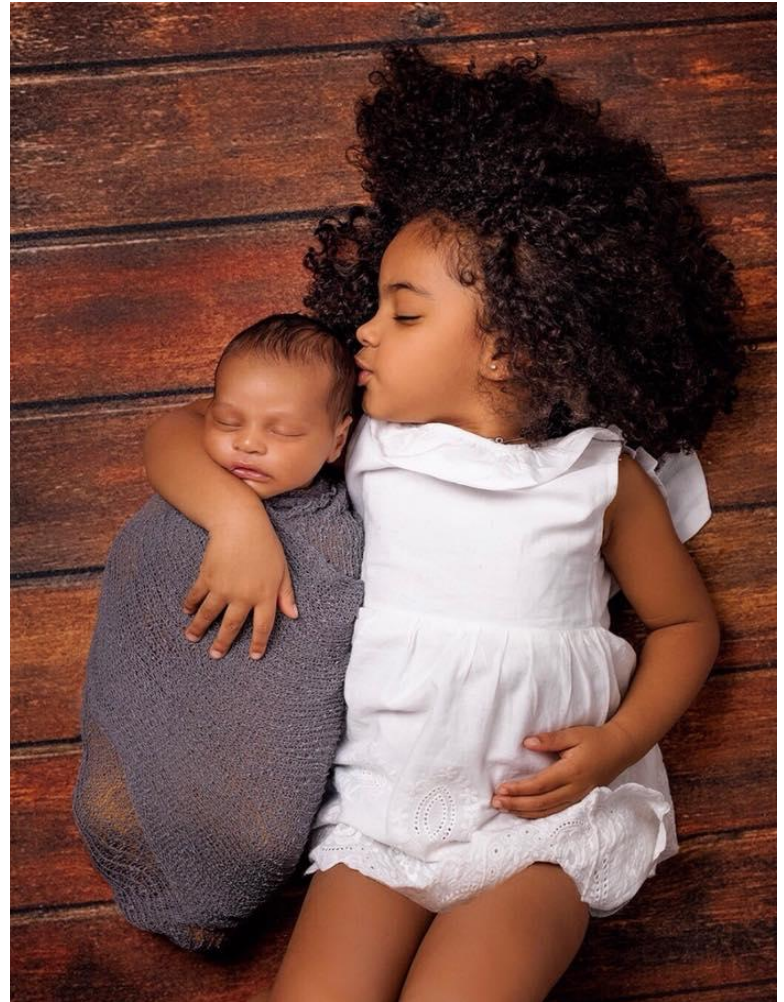
Findings

- Teenage pregnancy statistics states that only one-third of teen moms gain a high school diploma, and a few also get a college degree.
- Many teens that experience social inequality have kids at an early age and don't care to invest in their goals in life because they feel like they don't have the same opportunities as higher class.
- 50% of teen mother repeat the grade and are more likely to not return to school which leads to welfare dependency, and poverty.
- Studies conclude that teenage pregnancy directly affects teenage drug addiction rates.
- Teen mother may suffer from huge emotional crisis due to lack of social support from family.

Why Am I Interested

This topic interests me because of my personal experience being a teen mom.

When I became a teen mom, I continued school and didn't have to work because I had a good support system, but I was fortunate enough because many girls have to put their education on hold to get a minimum wage job to support their child. Being pregnant at a young age is a very difficult thing to go through. It can be hard mentally, financially and also physically.



How are ways teen pregnancy can be prevented ?

- **Leydaliz** “Parents need to speak to their teens, not have a one-time conversation at the dinner table but to talk to them at a young age because it’s a subject that parents need to start at an early age and develops over time in age-appropriate ways.”
- **Adrian** “ I was a teen parent myself, i had to step into adulthood. My parents didn't talk to me about sex so i think it's important for parents to make teens aware of safe sex. I didn't get the opportunity to have the same advantages as the kids my age growing up.”
- **Vanessa** “Parents need to sit with their kids such as sitting down and conversate with them. Young people today are smart, and they have access to more information than before. A parent’s role in contributing to the solution of the teen pregnancy issue is to do what they do in almost all other area which is to help put things into context and to help set limits, also to help young people set goals for the future and teach them how to achieve them.”

Similarities

The similarities between the three people i interviewed is that they all think that pregnancy can be prevented if parents are more involved and keep their teen informed about having kids at such a young age and all the disadvantages and lost opportunities teen pregnancy brings. Teen pregnancy is high amongst minority and in order to get yourself out of poverty is by making informed decisions that could lead to a successful future.

Conclusion

Social inequality has been around throughout America and has affected many people in various ways. Teens living in poverty don't have the same opportunity of those living in a high income county. Preventing Teenage pregnancy as a community would maybe be more effective keeping in mind that a teen is still developing mentally and physically and need guidance. We have teens getting pregnant at such a early age putting their education on hold instead of investing in themselves so they could prosper. The ages affecting teen pregnancy ranges from 14 through 19 these are stages in teens life where hormones are developing, emotional instability occurs, also is a time where teens are indecisive. As i've come to an end of this research it has made me realize that as a society we need to make sure our teens are getting the best programs, interventions, education, and support. So we could lead them to success because they are our future.

Source

- “Teenage Pregnancy.” American Pregnancy Association, 27 Sept. 2017, americanpregnancy.org/unplanned-pregnancy/teenage-pregnancy/.
- “About Teen Pregnancy | Teen Pregnancy | Reproductive Health | CDC.” Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 23 Feb. 2018, www.cdc.gov/teenpregnancy/about/index.htm.
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