

NEW MEXICO TEEN PREGNANCY COALITION

NEWS FLASH

November 2005

Welcome to the November issue of the New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition's
NEWS FLASH

If you would like to be removed from the **NEWS FLASH** list, please use the connection at the end of this issue to communicate with us.

NATIONAL RESOURCES

1. New from the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy
2. New from Advocates for Youth
3. New from the Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)
4. New from the National Center for Education in Maternal and Child Health
5. New from the Kaiser Family Foundation

WEBSITE

- [Young Mommies Unite](#)

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

- [YIPESHARE Meeting](#)
- [Legislative Budget Training and 2005 Health Policy Legislative Forum](#)

Message from Sylvia Ruiz, Executive Director

NATIONAL RESOURCES

[1. New from the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy](#)

- A. Two New "Science Says" Briefs on HIV Testing & Counseling
- B. New 2004 Birth Rate Data
- C. Risk and Protective Table
- D. National Campaign Announces 5th Annual National Day
- E. Sociometrics Program Archive
- F. New National Campaign Publications Related to Religion and Teen Pregnancy

A. Two New "Science Says" Briefs on HIV Testing & Counseling

The National Campaign now has available two new "Science Says" research briefs on [HIV testing](#) and [HIV counseling](#) for sexually experienced teens. Among the primary

findings: Only about one in three sexually experienced teens (aged 15-19) have ever been tested for HIV. Sexually experienced teen girls are more likely than sexually experienced teen boys to be tested. And only about one-third of sexually experienced teens who are tested for HIV talk to a doctor or other health professional about AIDS after the test. [Visit the Campaign's website](#) to review or download these briefs.

These two Science Says documents are the latest in a series of briefs (now numbering 19) prepared as part of the National Campaign's CDC-funded "Putting What Works to Work Project." Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of CDC.

B. New 2004 Birth Rate Data

The federal government recently released preliminary birth data for 2004. To see more information about this data, visit the [campaign's homepage](#).

Overall Teen Birth Rates

- A. For 2004, the preliminary birth rate for girls aged 15-19 is 41.2 per 1,000.
- B. This is down from 41.6 in 2003 and 61.8 in 1991. While the teen birth rate declined between 2003 and 2004 (1%), it was at a slower pace than previous years. Overall, the teen birth rate decreased 33.3% between 1991 and 2004.

Rates by Age

- The preliminary birth rate for girls aged 10-14 in 2004 is 0.7 per 1,000, down 50.0% from 1991 levels. Please note that this is an increase from 2003 to 2004.
- The preliminary birth rate for girls aged 15-17 in 2004 is 22.1 per 1,000, down 42.7% from 1991 levels.
- The preliminary birth rate for girls aged 18-19 in 2004 is 70.0 per 1,000, down 25.5% from 1991 levels.

C. Risk and Protective Tables

In order to reduce the still high rates of teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease (STD) in the United States, it is important to address two primary questions: (1) What factors influence adolescents' decisions about sex and (2) which of these factors can be altered?

By identifying and targeting those factors that both affect adolescents' decisions about sex and can be changed by interventions, the chances of reducing sexual risk-taking among teens are greatly improved.

"Sexual Risk and Protective Factors: Factors Affecting Teen Sexual Behavior, Pregnancy, Childbearing, and Sexually Transmitted Disease" by Douglas Kirby, Ph.D., Gina Lepore, B.A., and Jennifer Ryan, M.A. provides an exhaustive analysis of the more than 400 factors that can effect teen sexual behavior.

Readers are welcome to review the entire document, the matrix listing all 400+ risk and protective factors, or to download any or all portions of document. This publication is

only available as a PDF. [Click here to view it.](#)

D. National Campaign Announces 5th Annual National Day

The **5th annual National Day to Prevent Teen Pregnancy** will take place on May 3, 2006. Sponsored by the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy and National Day founding partners *Teen People* magazine and TeenPeople.com, the National Day is designed to focus the attention of teens on the importance of avoiding teen pregnancy and other consequences of sex. The National Day is organized to reach teens directly through an innovative, online quiz. On May 3, 2006 (and for a few weeks thereafter), teens will be encouraged to go online to the National Campaign's website - www.teenpregnancy.org - to take a short, engaging, and informative quiz that asks teens to reflect on the best course of action in a number of tough and realistic sexual situations.

Thanks to the hard work of our National Day partners, state and local community groups, committed individuals, and teens themselves, nearly 630,000 teens participated in the 2005 National Day. Thousands of teens participated in an evaluation of last year's quiz. Of these teens:

- 84% said the Quiz made them think about what they might do in such situations;
- 66% said the Quiz made the risks of sex and teen pregnancy seem more real to them; and
- 61% said some of the situations in the Quiz were things that they or their friends had faced.

As in past years, we plan to develop a number of fun promotional items for teens that will be available from our online store. In the past, we've offered items such as stickers, pens, temporary tattoos, and others. This year, we'd like to get some input from you on what promotional items the National Campaign should offer. Tell us what items you like to see by answering this [short survey question](#). The survey includes only one question and it should only take a moment of your time. Your feedback is very important to us! Please respond to this survey no later than November 11, 2005.

To learn more about how you can support the National Day, please visit www.teenpregnancy.org/national. If your organization is interested in becoming an official National Day Partner, please contact us at nationalday@teenpregnancy.org.

E. Sociometrics Program Archive

Sociometrics wants you to know about the effective teen pregnancy, HIV/AIDS, and substance abuse prevention programs comprising the Sociometrics Program Archives. You may be interested in using this NIH-sponsored compilation of program resources as you search for evidence-based programming. Development of these replication kits for effective prevention programs has been sponsored by the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) as part of NIH's mission to facilitate access to research-based resources by practitioners, clinicians, teachers, and other health education professionals.

Fifty two (52) outstanding prevention programs in key health areas are now available for dissemination and distribution to the public. Scientist Expert Panels have selected the programs in the collection based on their evidence of effectiveness.

Sociometrics looks forward to discussing with you how its program archives can best fit into your organization's goals and mission. Please feel free to 1-800-846-3475 ext. 211. For more information, please [click here](#).

For special discounts, please use the discount code **NATCAMPAIGN**.

F. New National Campaign Publications Related to Religion and Teen Pregnancy.

Research has long connected teens' own religious beliefs with their sexual attitudes and behavior. New research released by the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy indicates that teens' from religious families and those with friends who regularly attend religious services tend to have sex at later ages compared to teens whose parents have religious beliefs that are not as strong and whose peers don't attend services as regularly.

This new research-developed by Child Trends and released by the National Campaign is being released in conjunction with a new guide, Faith, Hope, and Love: How Latino Faith Communities can Help Prevent Teen pregnancy. Created in partnership with a distinguished group of advisors, the guide provides faith leaders serving Latino families ideas to help young people avoid too-early pregnancy and parenthood. Currently, half of all Latina teens get pregnant by age 20 and Latina teens have the highest teen birth rate among major racial/ethnic groups. The new Faith, Hope, and Love guide highlights the strong connection between faith and preventing teen pregnancy. It also provides practical tips to help young people navigate the difficult issues of love, sex, and relationships and avoid teen pregnancy.

"Religion is an important part of everyday life for many Latinos," said National Campaign Board Member Daisy Exposito-Ulla. "Priests, pastors, ministers, pastoral associates, directors of religious education, youth leaders, pastors' spouses, and others are in unique and powerful position to help young people and their parents address the issue of teen pregnancy which is a serious challenge for Latino communities."

Please visit the national Campaign's website at www.teenpregnancy.org for the following:

- Science Says Research Brief #20 containing details of the new research
- English and Spanish versions of the Faith, Hope, and Love guide
- A fact sheet on pregnancy and childbearing among Hispanics
- What others are saying about the Faith, Hope and Love document
- Source information
- Links to related National Campaign materials.

[2. New from Advocates for Youth](#)

- A. The American Academy of Pediatrics supports sex education.
- B Job opportunity at Advocates for Youth: Project Coordinator, Young Women of Color Leadership Council
- C. Feature: Peer Education/Youth-Adult Partnerships
- D Capacity Building & Professional Development
- E Funding Opportunities

A. The American Academy of Pediatrics Supports Sex Education

Click here to send an e-mail to Congress, donate, or see Advocates' ad in [Ms.](#)

[Magazine](#)

B. Job Opportunity at Advocates for Youth: Project Coordinator, Young Women of Color Leadership Council

The Project Coordinator will manage Advocates' grant with the Office of Minority Health and coordinate Advocates' Young Women of Color Leadership Council. Activities include conducting conference calls, meetings, and trainings for community-based organizations and for members of the Leadership Council and developing and disseminating an HIV prevention social marketing campaign for young women of color, assisting community-based organizations with local council development; developing materials; conducting workshops and presentations to national, state, and local audiences; filling technical assistance request; and collecting information and preparing materials.

For more information or to apply, visit

www.advocatesforyouth.org/about/employment.htm#Internet

<http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/about/employment.htm>

C. Feature: Peer Education/Youth-Adult Partnerships*

That *young people gain more from an experience when they are actively involved* is a core premise of peer education and youth development. Research suggest that programs for youth that are developed through partnership of youth and adults may be highly effective in building young people's skills and reducing their sexual risk-taking behaviors. The Innovation Center for Community and Youth Development (a division of National 4-H Council) conducted a study on the effect of youth-adult partnerships. The study showed that "involving young people in decision making provides them with essential opportunities and supports (i.e. challenge, relevancy, voice, cause based action, skill building, adult structure, and affirmation) that are consistently shown to help young people achieve mastery, compassion, and health."**

Direct youth involvement offers potential benefits to the young people--both those who help to develop the program and those served by the program--and also to the organizations. To name but a few benefits--youth gain experience and confidence; organizations gain a fresh perspective on youth culture and develop more effective outreach. The essence of youth involvement is a *partnership* between adults and young

people. Effective youth-adult partnerships work toward solving community problems. Working partnerships also acknowledge the contributions of *all* participants--youth and adults.

*This summary is taken from: Klindera K, Mendenwald J. [Youth Involvement in Prevention Programming \[Issues at a Glance\]](#). Washington, DC: Advocates for Youth, 2001.

** Shepherd Z et al. Youth in Decision Making: a Study on the Impacts of Youth on Adults and Organizations. Madison, WI: National 4-H Council, 2000.

D. Capacity Building & Professional Development International Health Conference at Yale University in April 2006, "Empowering Communities to Bridge Health Divides"

The goal of the conference is to empower participants to identify health needs and to develop solutions to improve access to care for the medically underserved. Anyone interested in medicine, health education, health promotion, public health, international health, international service, nonprofits, or eye care should attend the conference. For early bird registration, conference highlights and complete schedule, please visit http://www.uniteforsight.org/2006_annual_conference.php

"People of Color Living With HIV Leadership Forum, " Sponsored by the National Minority AIDS Council, National Black Alcoholism & Addiction Council and the Community Wellness Project of Saint Louis University

The "People of Color Living with HIV Leadership Forum" (POC) is an opportunity for people of color living with HIV or AIDS to build skills and organizational capacity, share personal experiences, mentor new leaders, and support veteran leaders. This year's forum will take place in Miami, Florida, and will focus on providing a safe space where people of color living with HIV or AIDS can come together to build skills in the area of organizational development and to discuss consumer relevance, mental health, substance abuse, and HIV and AIDS as well as issues surrounding caretakers. This meeting will allow people of color to look back at what they have done, and look forward to a future that they create for themselves through building leadership and empowering peers. For up-to-date information including registration please visit:

www.nmac.org/programs_services/treatment_education_trainings/regional_trainings/903.cfm

For additional information contact NMAC by e-mail: info@nmac.org; telephone: (202) 483-6622; or postal mail: National Minority AIDS Council, 1931 13th St., NW, Washington, DC 20009-4432. Registration Deadline: January 1, 2006.

E. Funding Opportunities

Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Procurement and Grants Office

- CDC's Procurement and Grants Office has published a new funding opportunity entitled, "Translating Proven Interventions for Underserved and Emergent High-Risk Populations (REP 7)." \$440,000 will be available in FY2006 to fund two awards to organizations able to translate effective HIV prevention interventions, and create curricula and guidance materials for HIV prevention providers who want to adapt interventions that have already been effectively implemented. For

complete program details, please see the full announcement on the CDC website at www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/grantmain.htm. The estimated funding date is February 1, 2006. Due date for the application is December 5th 2005.

- CDC's Procurement and Grants Office has published a new funding opportunity entitled, "Evaluation of the Relative Effectiveness of Four Public Health Strategies for Providing HIV Testing to High-Risk African American Women with Undiagnosed HIV Infection." \$800,000 will be available in FY2006 to fund four awards to organizations able to evaluate multiple strategies for reaching and providing HIV counseling, testing, and referral services to African American women at high risk for HIV. For complete program details, please see the full announcement on the CDC website at www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/grantmain.htm. The estimated funding date is February 1, 2006. Due date for the application is December 5th 2005.

[3. New from The Center for Law and Social Policy \(CLASP\), www.clasp.org](http://www.clasp.org)

New Publications

- [Backing Away From Parental Responsibility: Child Support Budget Cuts Will Unravel a Decade of Progress](#) by Vicki Turetsky. Under the House of Representatives' proposed budget reconciliation bill, the child support program faces a 40 percent cut in federal funds over the next 10 years—funds the program uses to establish and enforce non-custodial parents' child support responsibilities to their children. The cuts threaten to reverse a decade of stunning progress in a program that serves two-thirds of all single-parent families in the United States and benefits more than 17 million children. This paper examines the importance of the child support program, the reasons behind its dramatic improvement in performance, and how these cuts would jeopardize families of all income levels. Pub No. 05-49. 8 pages. 11/17/2005
www.clasp.org/publications/backing_away_on_child_support.pdf
- [Update: Ways and Means Committee Approves 40 Percent Cut in Child Support Funds](#) by Vicki Turetsky. The Committee on Ways and Means has approved deep cuts to the federal funding for child support services, which would severely reduce states' ability to collect child support for low- and moderate-income families. This policy brief outlines the changes, and uses Congressional Budget Office projections to show how much funding each state stands to lose and how much child support will go uncollected if the cuts are enacted. Pub No. 05-46. 7 pages. 10/27/2005
www.clasp.org/publications/child_support_cuts.pdf

The Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP), a national, nonprofit organization founded in 1968, conducts research, policy analysis, technical assistance, and advocacy on issues related to economic security for low-income families with children. For more information about CLASP, visit www.clasp.org

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4. New from the National Center for Education in Maternal and Child Health

MCH Alert: Tomorrow's Policy Today

This and past issues of the MCH Alert are available at
www.mchlibrary.info/alert/archives.html.

Maternal and Child Health Library

November 11, 2005

1. Brochure Released to Aid Families' Understanding of Rotavirus in Infants and Young Children.
2. Brief Focuses on the Needs of Children Exposed to Trauma
3. Report Summarizes Recommendations Concerning Referral of Children and Diagnosis of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome
4. Article Examines Effect of Smoking During Pregnancy on Birthweight
5. Authors Assess State-Level Costs and Savings Associated with Community Water Fluoridation Programs.

1. BROCHURE RELEASED TO AID FAMILIES' UNDERSTANDING OF ROTAVIRUS IN INFANTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Fast Facts for Families: What You Need to Know About Rotavirus provides information for parents and other caregivers about rotavirus, the leading cause of severe, dehydrating diarrhea in infants and young children worldwide. The brochure, published by the National Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition with support from Merck, describes how a child may become infected with rotavirus, symptoms associated with infection and dehydration, how to manage symptoms at home, and when to contact a health professional. Selected fast facts and sources and a list of other resources are also provided. The brochure is available at
www.hmhb.org/rotavirus/pdf/HMHB_rotavirus_final.pdf.

2. BRIEF FOCUSES ON THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN EXPOSED TO TRAUMA

In Harm's Way: Aiding Children Exposed to Trauma discusses the role of philanthropy in meeting the needs of children exposed to trauma. The issue brief, produced by

Grantmakers in Health, examines the extent of childhood exposure to trauma, the effects of this exposure, and proven and promising approaches for identifying and serving traumatized children. The brief is intended for use by grantmakers and others interested in expanding their efforts to address children's mental health and ameliorate the effects of childhood trauma. The brief is available at www.gih.org/usr_doc/GIH_IssueBrief23pdf.pdf. An executive summary is also available at www.gih.org/usr_doc/Exec_Summaery.pdf.

3. REPORT SUMMARIZES RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING REFERRAL OF CHILDREN AND DIAGNOSIS OF FETAL ALCOHOL SYNDROME

Guidelines for Identifying and Referring Persons with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome updates and refines diagnostic and referral criteria for fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS), incorporating recent scientific and clinical evidence. The report, published in the October 28, 2005, issue of Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report Recommendations, summarizes diagnostic guidelines formulated on the basis of consensus among members of a scientific working group convened by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in coordination with the National Task Force on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Fetal Alcohol Effect, other federally funded FAS programs, and nongovernment organizations concerned with FAS. The report provides recommendations for when and how to refer an individual suspected of having problems related to prenatal alcohol exposure, and it assesses existing practices for creating supportive environments that might prevent long-term adverse consequences of FAS. The report is intended for use by health professionals, policymakers, and others in facilitating early identification of individuals affected by prenatal alcohol exposure so that they and their families can receive services. The report is available at www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5411a1.htm.

4. ARTICLE EXAMINES EFFECT OF SMOKING DURING PREGNANCY ON BIRTHWEIGHT

"Our data suggest that, after accounting for established factors known to influence birth weight, a linear relationship persists between the self-reported consumption of cigarettes in the third trimester and newborn birth weight," write the authors of an article published in the November 2005 issue of Obstetrics & Gynecology. Maternal smoking in pregnancy is associated with adverse pregnancy outcomes, including increased risk for preterm birth, placental abruption, placenta previa, and low birth weight. The primary objective of the study described in this article was to define smoking consumption at three distinct time points important to the evaluation of the effect of smoking on birthweight: before pregnancy, in early pregnancy at the time of study enrollment, and in late pregnancy. The authors also examined the change in amount of maternal smoking over time. The overall goal was to examine the relative strength of the association of these indicators of maternal smoking levels with birth weight corrected for important confounding variables in well-dated pregnancies. The secondary goal was to specifically quantify the effects of individual cigarette consumption on newborn birth weight, controlling for established contributors to newborn size.

Data were collected from 160 women enrolled in a university-based outpatient research

clinic for smoking cessation and relapse prevention during pregnancy and postpartum.

The authors found that

- Smoking levels across assessment times within individuals were highly correlated with birth weight percentile.
- Prepregnancy smoking level was strongly associated with smoking levels, both at study enrollment and in the third trimester. Smoking levels at study enrollment and in the third trimester were also highly correlated.
- Of the smoking levels examined, maternal third-trimester level was the strongest predictor of birth weight after adjusting for gestational age. For each additional cigarette per day smoked in the third trimester, there was an estimated 27-gram reduction in birth weight.

The authors conclude that "the resulting data are encouraging in that they suggest that continued efforts aimed at reducing cigarette consumption in pregnant smokers are warranted throughout pregnancy and can lead to improvement in birth weight, even when these reductions occur in the last half of pregnancy."

Bernstein IM, Mongeon JA, Badger GJ. 2005. Maternal smoking and its association with birth weight. *Obstetrics & Gynecology* 106(5):986-991. Abstract available at www.greenjournal.org/cgi/content/abstract/106/5/986.

Readers: More information is available from the MCH Library's annotated bibliographies, Smoking During Pregnancy, at www.mchlibrary.info/action.lasso?-database=Biblio&-layout=Web&-response=/databases/BibLists/bib_smokingpreg.html&-MaxRecords=all&-DoScript=auto_search_smokingpreg&-search and Smoking/Tobacco Use Prevention, at www.mchlibrary.info/action.lasso?-database=Biblio&-layout=Web&-response=/databases/BibLists/bib_smokingprev.html&-MaxRecords=all&-DoScript=auto_search_smokingprev&-search.

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Website: www.mchlibrary.info/alert/default.html

5. New from the Kaiser Family Foundation

1. New Resources from MTV and the Kaiser Family Foundation
2. New Study Finds Number of Sexual Scenes on TV Nearly Double Since 1998.

1. New Resources From MTV and the Kaiser Family Foundation

The Kaiser Family Foundation and MTV are partners on “think: Sexual Health,” a campaign to inform young people about HIV/AIDS, other STDs and related issues. The partnership includes targeted public service announcements (PSAs), long-form documentary and entertainment programming, news segments, and free resources, including the “It’s Your (Sex) Life” guide developed especially for the campaign, and a comprehensive website.

We would like to let you know about some new resources for your education and outreach efforts, which are available to you free of cost.

As part of our series of MTV News Segments, we have a two-part program that shadows MTV News Correspondent Gideon Yago visiting a health center to be tested for STDs and HIV. The program addresses some of the barriers that many young people face around testing, including gear, lack of information, cost and confidentiality. It also profiles Gideon going back to pick up his results and talking with his health care provider.

This piece may be useful to you in your outreach efforts with youth, in your waiting rooms or as part of a broader curriculum around these issues. You may use it with campaign’s updated “It’s Your (Sex) Life” guide, which provides information on decision making, communication, HIV and other STDs (including prevention and testing). If you are interested in receiving a copy of the show on VHS tape, or copies of the guide, go to: www.kff.org/entpartnerships/7430.cfm.

Learn more about the campaign at www.kff.org/entpartnerships/mtv/index.cfm or visit the campaign website at: www.mtv.com/thinkmtv/sexual_health/

2. New Study Finds Number of Sexual Scenes on TV Nearly Double Since 1998.

News Release

For further information, contact:

Rob Graham, (650) 854-9400 or

Sarah Williams Kingsley, (650) 854-9400

Number of Sexual Scenes on TV Nearly Double Since 1998

Rate of “Safer Sex” Messages Up From ’98, Has Now Leveled Off

Despite Overall Increase in Sexual Content, Scenes with Sexual Intercourse are Down Slightly in Recent Years

Washington, D.C. – The number of sexual scenes on television has nearly doubled

since 1998, according to "Sex on TV 4," a biennial study release today by the Kaiser Family Foundation. And while the inclusion of references to "safer sex" issues – such as waiting to have sex, using protection, or possible consequences of unprotected sex – has also increased since 1998, that rate has leveled off in recent years. The study examined a representative sample of more than 1,000 hours of programming including all genres other than daily newscasts, sports events, and children's shows. All sexual content was measured, including talk about sex and sexual behavior.

The Study found that 70% of all shows include some sexual content, and that these shows average 5.0 sexual scenes per hour, compared to 56% and 3.2 scenes per hour respectively in 1998, and 64% and 4.4 scenes per hour in 2002. These increases combined represent nearly twice as many scenes of sexual content on TV since 1998 (going from 1,930 to 3,780 scenes in the program sample totaling a 96% increase between 1998 and 2005). But despite these overall increases in sexual content, the number of shows in which sexual intercourse is either depicted or strongly implied is down slightly in recent years (7% in 1998, 14% in 2002, and 11% in 2005).

Among shows with any sexual content, 14% include at least one scene with a reference to sexual risks or responsibilities – up from 9% in 1998, but approximately the same rate as in 2002 (15%). In shows with intercourse-related content, more than one in four (27%) includes a reference to sexual risks or responsibilities. This is nearly double the rate found in 1998 (14%), but approximately the same as in 2002 (26%)

"Given how high the stakes are, the messages TV sends teens about sex are important," said Vicky Rideout, a Kaiser Family Foundation Vice President who oversaw the study. "Television has the power to bring issues of sexual risk and responsibility to life in a way that no sex ed class or public health brochure really can."

"Sex on TV 4" was released today at a forum that included opening remarks by Kaiser Family Foundation President and CEO Drew Altman, a keynote speech by Senator Barack Obama, and a roundtable discussion featuring Federal Communications Commission Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy; Fox Television Networks President and CEO Tony Vinciguerra; "Law & Order: SVU" Executive Producer Neal Baer; behavioral scientist and RAND Corporation Researcher Rebecca Collins; and National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy Executive Director Sarah Brown. A web cast of the event will be available after 5 p.m. ET today at www.kaisernetwork.org/healthcast/kff/09nov05.

"The increase in the number of TV shows with sexual content, combined with the increase in sexual scenes per show has led to a dramatic overall increase in sexual content on TV since 1998," said Dale Kunkel, lead researcher on the study and University of Arizona professor. "During the same period, the percentage of these shows that include "safer sex" messages has also increased significantly, but has leveled off in recent years."

Additional findings:

Sexual Content on TV

- * Among the top 20 most watched shows by teens, 70% include sexual content, and nearly half (45%) include sexual behavior.
- * During prime time hours sex is even more common with nearly 8 in 10 (77%) shows including sexual content, averaging 5.9 sexual scenes per hour.
- * Two-thirds (68%) of all shows include talk about sex and 35% of all shows include sexual behaviors.
- * Reality shows are the only genre of programming in which less than two-thirds (28%) of shows include sexual content. The percentage of shows with sexual content by genre includes movies 92%, sitcoms 87%, drama series 87%, and soap operas 85%.

Safer Sex Messages

- * Two-thirds of all references to sexual risks or responsibilities on TV are "minor or inconsequential," compared to one-third that are "substantial" or "primary" elements of the scene. Since the first study was conducted in 1998 this ratio has remained consistent.
- * One in nine (11%) network prime time shows with sex include a reference to risks or responsibilities. This rate in prime time has held relatively steady over the years -- 11% in 1998 and 13% in 2002.
- * Among the 20 most highly rated shows for teen viewers, 10% of those with sexual content include a reference to sexual risks or responsibilities at some point in the episode.

"Over the past seven years, more and more Hollywood writers have incorporated health messages into their programming," said Vicky Rideout. "But the potential is there to do much more."

Sexual Intercourse

- * The vast majority (89%) of characters on TV involved in sexual intercourse appear to be adults age 25 or older. One in ten (10%) appear to be teens or young adults, down from one in four (26%) in 1998 and one in six (17%) in 2002.
- * About half of all scenes with intercourse (53%) involve characters who have an established relationship with one another. Fifteen percent of scenes present characters having sex when they have just met -- up from 7% in 2002.

Methodology

The "Sex on TV 4" study was designed and analyzed by Professors Dale Kunkel and Keren Eyal and their colleagues at the University of Arizona in consultation with researchers at the Kaiser Family Foundation.

The study examined a representative sample of a week's worth of programming across the four major commercial broadcast networks (ABC, CBS, Fox, NBC), one independent broadcast station that is a WB network affiliate, one public broadcasting station (PBS), three top-ranked basic cable channels (Lifetime, TNT, and USA Network), and one premium cable channel (HBO). A composite week sample of

programs was collected from each channel, from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Mountain Standard Time (the equivalent to 7 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Eastern or Pacific time.) In addition, the top 20 most watched teen shows from all networks were analyzed and reported on separately. All genres other than daily newscasts, sports events, and children's shows were included.

Across the four studies conducted since 1998, a total of 4,742 television programs have been analyzed. For this report, a total of 1,154 programs were analyzed for the 2004-2005 television season. This includes 959 programs in the composite week sample, 261 in the prime-time broadcast over-sample, and 60 from the teen programming sample (because of overlap in the programs, these numbers cannot be summed). Programs for each of these three samples were digitally recorded and then systematically evaluated using scientific content analysis procedures applied by trained coders.

Sexual content includes both talk about sex and depictions of sexual behavior, ranging from kissing and fondling to sexual intercourse. Only those scenes in which the sexual behavior was a "primary" or "substantial" emphasis of the scene were counted. "Talk about sex" includes characters discussing their own or others' sexual actions or interests. Sexual behaviors range from kissing and fondling to sexual intercourse.

The Kaiser Family Foundation is a non-profit, private operating foundation dedicated to providing information and analysis on health care issues to policymakers, the media, the health care community, and the general public. The Foundation is not associated with Kaiser Permanente or Kaiser Industries.

[WEBSITE](#)

[Young Mommies Unite](#)

Young Mommies Unite is a website for pregnant and parenting teens created by two former teen moms. It also supports and provides information about teen pregnancy prevention.

Formed by two teenage mothers we aim to connect with teens on a peer level. The site offers support, information, links, advice, message boards, chat and more!

We would love for you to invite anyone you know that may find this site useful to come visit us!

Young Mommies Unite recently partnered with the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy.

We are hosting a charity called Operation Baby Bag that provides teen mothers with a

baby bag filled with necessary items in the PA area. If you are interested in getting involved please contact us.

Experienced teen parent speakers are available to Bucks County/Philadelphia Schools.

We are currently seeking donations/fiscal sponsorship.

For More Information, Questions or Comments:

Rachel Rawes/Sarah Bennett

Young Mommies Unite

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Each month the New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition provides a review of the research and policy reports distributed by National Resources for your information only. The information, and comments expressed in this newsflash as well as any of the information distributed do not necessarily reflect the position of the NMTPC or its funders. Therefore, NMTPC assumes no responsibility for the concepts expressed in this NEWS FLASH.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

A. YIPESHARE Meeting

B. Legislative Budget Training and 2005 Health Policy Legislative Forum

A. NEXT YIPESHARE MEETING

Friday, December 2, 2005

10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

Cooperative Education Services

4216 Balloon Park Road NE

Albuquerque, NM

(From I-25 take exit 229 to Jefferson, go one block north of Singer, turn west or left onto Balloon Park Road)

For any person or organization working to reduce risky sexual behavior among school-age youth

For More Information Contact:

Linda Brooks

NM SHARE Collaborative Coordinator
Phone: 505-286-5366
Email: share@nmtpc.org
Website: www.nmshare.org

Please save the date and plan to join us then

B. Legislative Budget Training and 2005 Health Policy Legislative Forum

Mark Your Calendar Now!!

Legislative Budget Training and 2005 Health Policy Legislative Forum

Thursday, December 8th, 2005, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
UNM Conference Center, 1634 University Blvd. NE, Albuquerque

Before you know it, the 2006 Legislative Session will be upon us! Do you *really* understand the state's complicated budget process and ready to face a budget session? Are you up to speed with important issues that your colleagues in health and human service issues will be taking to the Legislature this year? Come prepare yourself with an action-packed day of training and advocacy sponsored by the New Mexico Public Health Association (NMPHA)!

- NMPHA is offering a **new** advocacy-related training: **“What’s Behind the Curtain? Demystifying the New Mexico Budget Process” on Thursday, December 8 (9 a.m. -noon; registration at 8:30 a.m.)** The half-day training will focus on understanding how, when, and where budget/funding decisions are made by the NM Legislature – with presenters including current and former legislators and state agency staff who are experts in the budget formation and decision process. Registration Fee: \$30. *Space will be limited for the training to the first 60 registrants*

- The second part of the day will be the **Second Annual NMPHA Health Policy Legislative Forum**. Over 100 people attended the first Forum held December 2004. This year's Forum will kick-off with a state legislator and an environmental health advocate speaking about the priority health, human needs, and environmental health/justice issues for the 2006 legislative session. This will be followed by Roundtable discussions for sharing of policy issues and legislative priorities by participants focusing on the following topics: Medicaid; health insurance/access; public health issues (including infrastructure and programs/services); environmental health and justice; tax reform and social justice issues. The Legislative Forum will be held from **11:45 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Registration and lunch from 11:45 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.)** Registration Fee: \$30 (lunch and materials).

You are encouraged to attend either or both of these events. **A discounted registration rate of \$50 is available for those who attend both!** Limited scholarships

are also available.

For more information on the day's events, please contact the Policy Committee Co-Chairs, Cheryl Ferguson (856-1403- Albuquerque; Cheryl@nmpolicymatters.com) or Barak Wolff (988-2333 – Santa Fe; barakwolff@msn.com) or NMPHA Executive Director, Lydia Pendley (505-989-1154; lpendley1@juno.com).

[Message from Sylvia Ruiz, Executive Director](#)

Please join the New Mexico Teen Pregnancy Coalition for **Teen Pregnancy: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow** on **Friday, December 9, 2005** in Albuquerque. This annual conference provides educators, youth workers, maternal & child health advocates, health practitioners, human service professionals and *anyone* interested in reducing teen pregnancy with an opportunity to network with local experts and service providers on a variety of topics and address plans for teen pregnancy prevention in the future, building upon information and strategies we have today and the progress that has been made over the last twenty years in New Mexico.

This conference is approved for **6 hours Continuing Education Units** for Counselors and Social Workers. We have applied for 6 hours for Certified Health Education Specialists as well as 7.2 Continuing Nurse Education hours.

[Click here to view the conference brochure](#). The early bird registration deadline is November 23. We hope you can join us!

Thanks to Lynn and Mike Mundt for the generous donation of a weekend in Pagosa Springs. The time Share will be raffled at our conference December 9, 2005.

NMTPC is proud to announce the addition of two new board members. Michelle Peixinho joins us from Chimayo, New Mexico. Michelle is employed by the Tewa Birthing Project and has been active in initiatives for many years that work to prevent teen pregnancy or provides services to parenting teens. David Connolly joins us from Las Cruces, New Mexico. David is the CEO for the First Step Center for Pediatric and Women's Health Center in Las Cruces. David brings a wealth of experience working in health care organizations.

Mil Gracias!
Sylvia Ruiz, Executive Director
director@nmtpc.org

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