

Royal Oak Day for Healthy Teens May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008

# National Day to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

The purpose of the National Day is to focus the attention of teens on the importance of avoiding teen pregnancy and other serious consequences of sex. In 2007 73% of teens said the Quiz made the risks of sex and teen pregnancy seem more real to them;

**Teens 13 years and up: Take the Quiz at:**



*"The Quiz did teach me things and made me think about something I was going to do with my boyfriend. I will have to rethink it now, knowing more about the consequences."*

- Female, aged 13-14

**Parents and caregivers go to [teenpregnancy.org](http://teenpregnancy.org) for a parent discussion guide and more info.**

*"What is the most helpful thing my parents told me about sex? I wouldn't know. My parents never talked to me; that's why I am now a dad."*

- Boy, 17

## Some of your Local supporting Organizations and Business:



safe.smart.strong.



Marie Donigan State Representative 26th District,

## Some of the national sponsors are:

[American Academy of Pediatrics](#) [American Medical Association](#) [American School Counselor Association](#) [Boys and Girls Clubs of America](#) [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) [Girl Scouts of the USA](#) [MySpace.com](#) [National 4-H Council](#) [National School Boards Association](#) [United Methodist Church, Global Ministries, Women's Division](#) [YWCA USA](#)

# Talking Back

Teens hear advice on all kinds of issues from their parents, teachers, and other adults in their lives. But they don't often get asked to offer it.

This list represents the National Campaign's effort to ask teens from all over the country a fairly simple question:

**If you could give your parents and other important adults advice about how to help you and your friends avoid pregnancy, what would it be?**

## ***1. Show us why teen pregnancy is such a bad idea.***

For instance, let us hear directly from teen mothers and fathers about how hard it has been for them. Even though most of us don't want to get pregnant, sometimes we need real-life examples to motivate us.

## ***2. Talk to us honestly about sex, love, and relationships.***

Just because we're young doesn't mean that we can't fall in love or be deeply interested in sex. These feelings are very real and powerful to us. Help us to handle the feelings in a safe way - without getting hurt or hurting others.

## ***3. Telling us not to have sex is not enough.***

Explain why you feel that way, and ask us what we think. Tell us how you felt as a teen. Listen to us and take our opinions seriously. And no lectures, please.

## ***4. Whether we're having sex or not, we need to be prepared.***

We need to know how to avoid pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

## ***5. If we ask you about sex or birth control, don't assume we are already having sex.***

We may just be curious, or we may want to talk with someone we trust. And don't think that giving us information about sex and birth control will encourage us to have sex.

## ***6. Pay attention to us before we get into trouble.***

Programs for teen moms and teen fathers are great, but we all need encouragement, attention, and support. Reward us for doing the right thing - even when it seems like no big thing. Don't shower us with attention only when there is a baby involved.

## ***7. Sometimes, all it takes not to have sex is not to have the opportunity.***

If you can't be home with us after school, make sure we have something to do that we really like, where there are other kids and some adults who are comfortable with kids our age. Often we have sex because there's not much else to do. Don't leave us alone so much.

## ***8. We really care what you think, even if we don't always act like it.***

When we don't end up doing *exactly* what you tell us to, don't think that you've failed to reach us.

## ***9. Show us what good, responsible relationships look like.***

We're as influenced by what you do as by what you say. If you demonstrate sharing, communication, and responsibility in your own relationships, we will be more likely to follow your example.

## ***10. We hate "The Talk" as much as you do.***

Instead, start talking with us about sex and responsibility when we're young, and keep the conversation going as we grow older.