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Teenage Pregnancy

More than half of the country's 21 million teenagers over the age of 15, and one fifth of those under 15 are thought to be sexually active.

Prospects for the teenage mother who keeps her baby. The first thing to go is your childhood. If you are under 17, you don't have to drop out of school, even without relatives to care for your child. A study made by Planned Parenthood shows that eight out of ten women who give birth at ages 15 to 17 never complete High School.

Toni Parnell states "Teenage pregnancies happen mostly because the teenager wants attention and feels teenage pregnancy is the only way to get it. I also feel teenage pregnancy is caused from lack of knowledge." Each couple always says "I thought he/she was

protected." That's no excuse!! Don't engage in sex if you don't know the Basics.

Catching the Isolation Problem you feel cut off from the rest of the teenagers in your world. Your best friends are talking about their first jobs, or going off to State Colleges and majoring in nursing, computer science, business, and medical technology careers that will bring them excellent incomes and a dream home in the suburbs with a professional husband and all the good things in life. You're afraid you'll have to settle for that waitress job or the one in the factory or typing pool, or dull clerical routines for the rest of your life. You'll be afraid of the type of men you'll later meet. Who'll marry you with a baby, you think? Will it have to be a divorced man supporting his first wife's chil-

dren? A drinking man? A man who'll batter you and your baby when she cries? A man with an unstable earning? Ten years from now will you be earning less than your classmate? Will you be in a less secure or more boring job? All these thoughts will undoubtedly cross your mind, especially if your parents spoke to you of middle class dreams of success.

"Its terrible, there is a lot of pregnant teenagers these days and I think the young girls should carry themselves better by using methods of birth control. Some girls act as if they don't care, while other girls try to hide it after they have already become pregnant. "In my own opinion, young girls should take a few minutes to think, it would save a child alot of grief," says **Tyra Risher**.

T.S.



Telling others of his experience, a member of the Get Smart Operation tells students To Get Smart!

Vibrating school spirit are the J.V. cheerleaders. Go Dogs!!

