

WHAT'S NEW WITH KIDS?

June 2007

Site of the Month

Views on Teen Pregnancy

Many of you may be familiar with the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. The organization has been conducting research on teen' and adults' views on pregnancy for about 11 years and publishing the findings in a report titled *With One Voice*. The 2007 report, released in February, is based on interviews with 1,162 adults aged 20 and older and with 1,037 youth aged 12 to 19. The author of the report, Bill Albert, concludes that, overall, the views of both groups toward teen sexual behavior have not changed much over the survey years. Some findings from the current report, data collected via telephone interviews in 2006, include:

- ◆ The largest percentage of adults think that when it comes to teens' decisions about sex, adults are the most influential, followed by friends (40 and 37 percent, respectively). Teens hold a similar view although a larger percentage of teens than adults say parents are the influential source (47 versus 40 percent). Twice as many adults as youth believe that friends are influential in teens' decisions about sex (37 versus 18 percent).
- ◆ Of the teens who have had sexual intercourse, 60 percent wished that they had waited longer. The percentage increases to 67 percent for teens aged 12 to 14, but decreases to 57 percent for teens aged 15 to 19.
- ◆ Sixty-four percent of teens acknowledge that they share the same values toward sex as do their parents. Seventy-five percent of adults believe that their children share their values about sex.
- ◆ Twenty-nine percent of teens agree that teen pregnancy and parenthood in their community is no big deal. Likewise, 25 percent of adults agree.

With One Voice is an easy-read report with 36 pages of colorful figures and charts that are self-explanatory. It is available online at: http://www.teenpregnancy.org/resources/data/pdf/WOV2007_fulltext.pdf.

Rennae Daneshvary, PhD
Nevada KIDS COUNT