

Expecting and Parenting Teens Without Brave Village

Social Stigma¹



Expecting and parenting teenagers experience a high level of stigma and disapproval in their communities

Stigma reduces the expecting and parenting teenager's ability to access education and services in spite of high hopes for their families and career

Expecting and parenting teenagers experience alienation from their peers and family, contributing to eroded self-esteem and feelings of self-worth

Community opinion and debate around choice diminishes efforts to provide to some 24,000 young people yearly

Education²



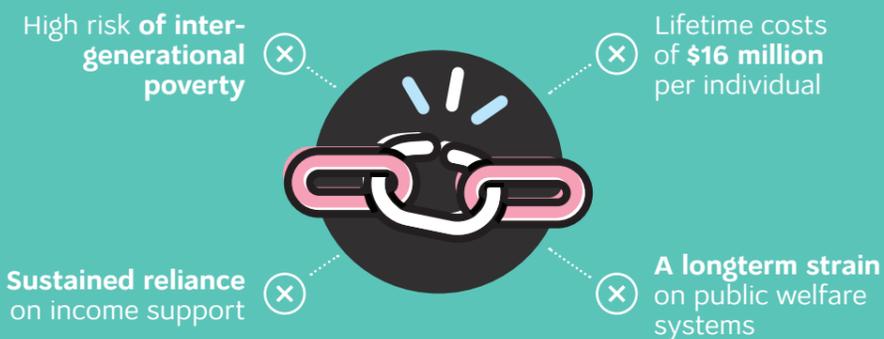
Anecdotal evidence suggests that only 5% of teenage mothers return to / remain in school, and only 2.3% of teenage mothers commence or complete tertiary education

Children of teenage mothers are less likely to commence or complete secondary and/or tertiary education

No coordinated strategy or national policy for education exists to develop education pathways for expecting and parenting teenagers

Typical funding for childcare lasts 2 years, prohibiting tertiary study for expecting and parenting teenagers

Welfare Dependency³



80% of teenage mothers receive income support AND are still receiving the same income support seven years later, increasing the risk of inter-generational poverty

According to ADOSS*, "based on actuarial and other analysis, the lifetime cost of welfare dependence per individual is approximately \$16 million, equating to \$200,000 per year for 80 years"

Wellbeing⁴



Higher incidence of low birth weight babies and premature birth

Higher risk of complicated pregnancies and post natal depression

Increased risk of domestic violence

Increased risk of generational teenage pregnancies

References

1. Butler et al (2010). Experiences and Aspirations of Younger Mothers. Report for the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs. Institute of Child Protection Studies Australian Catholic University.

2. Deloitte Access Economics (2016). A practical guide to understanding social costs: Developing the evidence base of informed social impact investment.

Pillow W 2000 Unfit Subjects, Teen Parents and Educational Policy, Routledge, p. 102.

3. *Australian Department of Social Services Bradbury, B 2006, 'Disadvantage among Australian young mothers. Paper in: New Perspectives on the Labour Market', Australian Journal of Labour Economics, vol. 9, no. 2, June 2006, pp. 147-71.

4. Queensland Health. Health Determinants: Chapter Three Young People Queensland Government 2004 p30 http://www.health.qld.gov.au/hdq/documents/22418_3.pdf

Krystyna Slowinski, Unplanned Teenage Pregnancy and the Support Needs of Young Mothers South Australia Department of Human services 2001 <http://www.sapo.org.au/pub/pub1321.html>

Expecting and Parenting Teens

The Brave Village and Beyond

Brave Village¹



Facilitates support and guidance for 24,000+ expecting and parenting teens towards happy, healthy and skilled families

Positively impact 280,000 people per year (parents, grandparents and significant others), improving quality of life for future generations

Supports acceptance, socialisation and education opportunities to expecting and parenting teenagers via referral to existing services in Australia

Independent of the choice debate, serving after the fact and aims to break the stigma of expecting and parenting teenagers in Australian communities

Education²



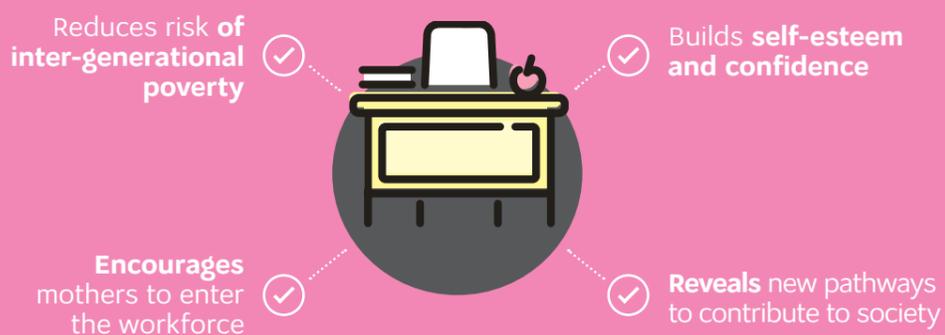
Advocate for policy change in secondary schools of continuing education for expecting and parenting teenagers, including scholarship opportunities

More teenage mothers will complete secondary education and will commence / complete tertiary education

Children of teenage parents who complete secondary schooling are more likely to complete their tertiary studies

Advocate for coordinated, targeted support and education pathways for expecting and parenting teenagers in national policy

Happy, skilled futures³



Less teenage mothers will be dependent on long-term welfare, breaking generational poverty cycles

More teenage mothers will be skilled to enter the work force

More teenage mothers will develop confidence and aspire to better outcomes for their families and careers

Teenage mothers will be given a pathway to contribute to society reducing the welfare burden on the public at large

Healthy families⁴



Greater access to community services and education opportunities via the Brave Triage Service and Directory

Increased likelihood of full-term pregnancies and healthy baby birth weights

Reduced risk of risk of domestic violence and post/ante natal depression in expecting and parenting teenagers

Increased opportunity for the children of teenage parents to have the gift of a healthy, happy teenage life

References

1. ABS Census, 2012.

2. Recommendations from: Butler et al (2010). Experiences and Aspirations of Younger Mothers. Report for the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs. Institute of Child Protection Studies Australian Catholic University.

3. Recommendations from: Butler et al (2010). Experiences and Aspirations of Younger Mothers. Report for the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs. Institute of Child Protection Studies Australian Catholic University

Queensland Health. Health Determinants: Chapter Three Young People Queensland Government 2004 p30 http://www.health.qld.gov.au/hdq/documents/22418_3.pdf

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