

Challenges of adolescent parenting; Psychological interventions in a primary care setting



Linda Olszewski¹ and Melissa Klosk²

¹Pace University, USA ²NewYork-Presbyterian Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital, USA

Abstract

In recent decades, though a significant decline has been observed in rates of teen pregnancy, adolescent pregnancy continues to account for more than 10% of births globally. The vast majority of these births to adolescent parents occur in low or middle-income countries. In particular, Sub-Saharan Africa and Mexico are found to have the highest rates of births to teen mothers. Interestingly, amongst more developed nations, the United States has the highest reported rates of live births by adolescent mothers. There is a trifecta of social, cultural and economic circumstances that influence pregnancy rates in the adolescent population, and these rates vary widely across countries as well as within countries and socio-economic strata. Though cultural expectations on pregnancy may vary from one culture to another, multiple implications exist for those entering parenthood during their adolescent years, as well as for their children. This presentation aims to provide an overview of adolescent pregnancy and parenting taking a global perspective, while highlight the importance of an interdisciplinary approach to care when addressing teen parenting and its manifestations and predictors of risk.

Biography

Linda Olszewski completed her PsyD at Pace University, NYC. She is currently the Director of the McShane Center for Psychological Services. She is also an Associate Clinical Professor of Psychology at Pace University, NYC and on Volunteer Faculty at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai where she supervises PGY-3 and PGY-4 Psychiatry fellows. She has a focus on clinical work with the adolescent population and with parenting. Prior to her current appointment. She was the Co-Assistant Director of Psychology Training and Education at the Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center. She has diverse research interests currently focusing on teens, parenting, performance, as well as global mental health. She has presented her research at conferences both nationally and internationally. She is regularly contributes to Psychology Today, as the author of the blog Drifting into Adulthood.



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