



Special Reports

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THE UNITED KINGDOM GONE WILD

Canada And The United States Are Close Behind

by Douglas R. Scott

WARNING: This edition of *Special Reports* includes content that is offensive. Please use appropriate discretion.

Note: The English spell several words differently than do Americans. We have not changed or referenced such spelling when used in a quotation.

Hard-hitting. Haunting. Frightening. These are some of the adjectives that would apply to an advertising campaign launched this past autumn by the Blair Government in Great Britain. But “desperate times call for desperate measures” as the number of reported cases of sexually transmitted diseases continues to rise in the United Kingdom (UK).

Planned Parenthood has long been critical of using “fear-based” tactics to achieve a change in behavior. But the pro-abortion group has turned a blind eye to the new campaign. It seems that “fear-based” tactics are bad only if used by pro-life organizations.

A NATIONAL PROBLEM

Sexually transmitted diseases (now called “sexually transmitted infections [STIs]” by birth control advocates) are spreading fast among UK youth. And there is no reason to believe the number of diagnosed cases will begin to level off any time soon.



“Young men and women aged 16 to 24 are a crucial population for targeted sexual health promotion as rates of HIV (human immunodeficiency virus), chlamydia, syphilis, genital warts and genital herpes diagnoses have continued to rise in this [age] group,” concluded the UK’s Health Protection Agency (HPA) in its report titled “A Complex Picture:

A Complex Picture

HIV & other Sexually Transmitted Infections in the United Kingdom: 2006.



HIV & other Sexually Transmitted Infections in the United Kingdom: 2006.” It was noted that the rate of sexually transmitted disease diagnoses in the age group continued to increase in 2005:

Young people are behaviourally vulnerable to STI acquisition as they generally have higher numbers of sexual partners, higher numbers of concurrent partners and a higher frequency of partner change than older people. This group may also be at particular risk of infection because they do not have the skills and confidence to negotiate safer sex.

Chlamydia infection rates were highest among youth. In 2005, 16 to 24 year olds accounted for 57 percent of all Chlamydia cases in males and 75 percent in females. Between 2001 and 2005, Chlamydia increased by 81 percent in males aged 16 to 19 and 74 percent in men aged 20 to 24. Over this five year period, diagnoses in females increased by 47 percent in those aged 16 to 19 and 39 percent for those aged 20 to 24.

The highest rates of gonorrhoea infection in 2005 were in males aged 20 to 24 and females aged 16 to 19. The report noted that the prevalence of gonorrhoea is likely underestimated because it is frequently asymptomatic. Between 1995 and 2005, confirmed cases of gonorrhoea increased by 55 percent. Genital herpes had gone up 18 percent. Chlamydia rose a staggering 206 percent.

A lack of condom use has been blamed for the increase in the number of young people who have contracted one or more sexually transmitted diseases. A survey conducted by the UK Government showed that only 20 percent of 16 to 24 year olds routinely carry a condom, but 90 percent of girls and 70 percent of boys own a pair of “pulling pants.”

“Pulling pants” are a “special” undergarment some people wear when they go to a club. Pulling pants are worn by young people who go “on the pull.” In British slang, a person “on the pull” is intending or hoping to attract a partner for sex. The underwear is designed to make the wearers look sexier than they would if normal boxer shorts or white-cotton panties were worn. According to the UK Government there is a much greater likelihood these young people will have sex, which puts them at increased risk of contracting a sexually transmitted disease.



Wearing pulling pants and not using condoms are only part of the story. According to school nurses, increasing numbers of teenagers are taking part in a group sex activity known as “daisy-chaining,” a term that originated in the UK’s homosexual community. The phenomena first became public just two years ago.

According to Gary Wood, Ph.D., a social psychologist at the University of Birmingham, it is hard to gauge how common the activity is among young people. “Sometimes these stories get pushed out of all proportion,” he cautioned. However, the prospect of engaging in something deemed unsuitable could be tempting for young people. “People tend to explore sex. There are lots of images in the media and in advertising about sex, but it’s still repressed, it’s still forbidden. As something that is seen to be in need of regulation, it is seen as more dangerous to young people.”

Judy McRae, a sexual health nurse in London, said her colleagues are “coming across reports of groups of young people having sex in large groups.” She said daisy-chaining is “obviously very worrying as far as sexually transmitted infections and pregnancy is concerned. As we understand it, it involves groups of older teenagers going round to each other’s homes and having sex in a similar way as swinging.”

What would convince a young male to participate in such activity with his peers both watching and participating? The group sex nature of the activity would raise questions of sexuality for males. “Young men are frightened of being labeled gay,” Wood said. “One of the strongest elements of peer pressure for boys is not being labeled as gay.”

While seen as vastly more “open-minded” about sex, UK youth are not the first to participate in such behavior. In 1996, an outbreak of syphilis among more than 200 affluent teenagers in Conyers, Georgia, revealed an underground youth culture of drinking, violence, drugs and group sex. Parents were shocked and dumbfounded to learn the kinds of activities that we going on under their noses involving kids as young as 12.

In 1999, PBS aired a documentary about the matter called, “The Lost Children of Rockdale County” on its “Frontline” program. “There were lots of parties back then—anywhere that adults weren’t around,” narrator Will Lyman said. “Kids would meet in empty homes all over Conyers; sometimes in rented motel rooms.”

Kevin (last names of minors were not used in the documentary) attended many parties but denied engaging in sexual conduct while there, described the events:

There was a lot of sex going on then. Like, one girl would come in the group and she’d be passed around, or one guy would go in the girls’ group and get passed around. Yeah,

they’d just—one guy would do it with her one night. The next night somebody else has her. The next night somebody else has her.

Nicole described events from her personal experience:

There was a lot of sex then, about 16 years old—a lot of sex. We would fight. There was about four of the guys that drove BMWs and had everything, and those were—all the girls wanted to be with those guys, so we would all fight over them or do whatever. And then you’d have sex with them, so you’d be, like, “Yeah, I had sex with your man last night”...And that’s—I think that’s how the syphilis came about. It was everybody just having sex with everybody.



Nicole

One of the “games” centered around 10 to 12 teenagers who would gather at a house where parents were usually gone. The young people would go up to the daughter’s bedroom and watch the Playboy Channel. They would then imitate what they had seen on television. One boy later remarked that participants were “getting pretty good” at imitating what they had watched.

Sixteen-year-old Nicole spoke of another experience:

There was this one time when we were all at a party. There’s about 30, 40 people there. And this one girl, she—they had been drinking. They were pretty drunk. And she, like, was going to have—she told everybody she was going to have sex with almost every guy that was there.

And her and her friend went back in the bedroom. Her friend had sex with her boyfriend and came out. And then the girl stayed in there, and it was, like, all the guys lined up. And it was like they were from the door to the front door. I mean, it was a lot of people.

And we brought out the bag of condoms we got from the health department, passed them out. And, like, two guys would go in there, you know, and they were having sex with her. And they were, like, having oral sex and, you know, sex. And all the guys that—most of the guys that were there went in the room and had sex with her.

And then she came out. She was—she thought it was the coolest thing, just that she had just had sex with all them. Or maybe they thought she was cool or whatever. Then she was like, bleeding, and her hair had [expletive deleted] all in it, and it was all over her clothes.

A 14-year-old boy, D.J., said everybody was “secretively having sex with everybody and everybody knew it—teenagers knew it—but parents never knew.” D.J. was responsible for organizing many of the parties. His parents were divorced and he had access to money from his affluent family and friends.

How could parents be so oblivious? Many were working 50 to 80 hours per week so they could continue to give their children all they wanted. Most parties took place after school was dismissed and before parents

came home from work. Some also took place after midnight, when parents were asleep.

Nicole said most of her friends' parents "were not the kind...that really cared. They cared what went on, but if it interfered with their lives they didn't really—wouldn't—they didn't want to bother with it." Three teens responded to questions posed by the interviewer:

Interviewer: *Are your parents very strict on you?*

Brandi: No, they're not. They're--we're pretty much like best friends or something. I mean I can pretty much tell 'em how I feel, what I wanna do and they'll let me do it

Interviewer: *Do you feel like she was more of a friend than a parent?*

Nicole: From about 14 and up she was. She tried to be. She just tried different ways to get me to do right. And that was one of the ways she tried was to talk to me like a friend would.

Katy: I don't really consider her a mom all that much. She takes care of me and such, but, I consider her a friend more.

Interviewer: *You don't really consider her a parent?*

Katy: Mm mm, not really.



So what did Planned Parenthood have to say about the documentary? Nothing. The kids were using condoms. Precautions were taken. Well, Planned Parenthood did raise one question as a result of the program: "Is Oral Sex Really 'Sex'?"

This was not an isolated case of teenagers out of control. There are many examples of young people who willingly participated in similar behavior:

- Girls wear different colored lipstick when they attend "Rainbow Parties." This is not a fashion statement; it is part of a game. Each boy is to get as many different colored rings (from the lipstick) on his penis as possible before the party ends.

- Girls as young as 11 are stacking colorful rubber "sex bracelets" up their arms while their parents and teachers are unaware that each piece represents a different sex act the girl is willing to perform. The kids play a game called "Snap" associated with wearing the bracelets. In the game, girls wear the bracelets around their wrists, and if a boy runs up and rips one off, he gets a "coupon" from the girl to perform whatever sex act the color stands for. For example, a black bracelet indicates sexual intercourse, blue represents a willingness to engage in oral sex, red is a lap dance or French kissing, white is a homosexual kiss, and green is for having sex outside. It gets more specific from there. Some of the bracelets stand for specific sexual positions. There is



even a light-green glow-in-the-dark version that indicates a desire to use "sex toys." (The *New York Post* ran a story about a fifth grade girl who was selling the bracelets for \$1.25 each to her schoolmates—at Holy Child Jesus School in Richmond Hill, New York. The girl's mother was so appalled she transferred her to a Catholic School. The mother soon learned the bracelets were being sold there as well.)

- At "Chicken Head" parties several girls give oral sex to boys at the same time, thus bobbing their heads up and down like chickens.
- In one New Jersey community, oral sex was becoming the "ultimate" bar mitzvah gift. It would be done under the table during the reception. At one synagogue, the caterer was asked to shorten the tablecloths to prevent inappropriate conduct.
- Some young homosexual males who are HIV negative are actively trying to get infected. They want to get "the gift" because they figure it will happen sooner or later and they want to get it over with so they do not have to worry about it anymore.



"It's...essential that every young person has comprehensive sex and relationships education in schools, which not only teaches them how to protect themselves but also gives them opportunities to discuss issues such as how to resist peer pressure to take part in unwanted sexual activity," said Jan Barlow, then-chief executive of Brook Advisory Centres (UK), a group with essentially the same agenda and philosophy as Planned Parenthood.

"Backing the campaign up with comprehensive sex and relationships education (SRE) in schools, and with investment in sexual health services for young people would ensure it was even more effective," said Simon Blake, the current chief executive at Brook. "The fact that SRE is still not a compulsory part of the national curriculum means many young people are not given the opportunity to develop the skills they need to negotiate safer sex."

In no case mentioned herein was anyone "forced" to participate in sexual acts. This is not about rejecting peer pressure. It is about morality. Why would any boy or girl want to go against their peers when it comes to sex? Unless there is something deep inside that makes them realize what they would be doing is wrong, there is nothing to hold them back.

Simply put, casual sex is common among young Britons. This fact was confirmed by a survey conducted in 2006. Nearly a third of 16 to 24 year olds lost their virginity before the age of consent (16). Fifty-seven percent of respondents admitted to having had a one-night

stand. Forty-three percent have had at least five sexual partners, while 18 percent have had ten or more. The survey showed that young people are twice as worried about pregnancy (41 percent chose it as their main concern) than they are about contracting a sexually transmitted disease or infection.



The closing scene in this government-sponsored TV ad.

“Overall, our results have shown that young people are informed about methods of contraception, but they simply aren’t using their knowledge,” said Sam Steele, BBC

Radio 1’s executive producer of Speech and Campaigns, which assisted in the survey. Other corporations participating in the survey were 1Xtra (radio), MTV and Durex (a condom manufacturer). It was supported by the Department of Health.

FREE CONDOMS FOR YOUNGSTERS

In August 2006, the UK’s Independent Advisory Group on Teenage Pregnancy, which provides advice to Government ministers, suggested that free condoms should be handed to children, possibly as young as 12. Condoms should be distributed in sports halls, stores, and swimming pools, the panel urged. (So, parents, do not be alarmed when a strange adult man approaches your 12-year-old child at the swimming pool. He is only there to give him or her condoms—probably.)

Condoms should be “easily accessible to young people,” the panel said, and “new and creative approaches of getting condoms into the community would be the next logical step.” The group said it is “critical” for the Government to “be brave” and make sex education—personal, social and health education—*compulsory* in schools “at all key stages” of child development.



Five-year-olds should have *compulsory* “relationship lessons” to help decrease the number of pregnant children. By age ten, children should know about menstruation, physical changes in puberty, and correct names for reproductive organs. Detailed discussion of sex would be *compulsory* beginning at age eleven.

“Lessons” on abortion would be included as part of the mandatory education. The panel said lessons currently in place have left pregnant teenagers ignorant regarding how to “assess abortion as an option.” Official statistics have shown an increase in the number of girls under the age of 14 becoming pregnant.

“Despite the best of intentions many couples may not know exactly how to use condoms or may not use them at all in the heat of the moment,” said Ann Furedi, chief executive of the pro-abortion British Pregnancy Advisory Service (BPAS). “Accessing testing for STIs in a

confidential, non-judgmental setting must be made much simpler and easier. At the moment this can be hampered by lack of information or awareness...”

Ad CAMPAIGNS

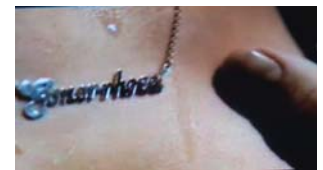
Every advertising campaign for the British Government that deals with sexually transmitted diseases has the same basic goal—*increase condom use by young people*. The condom is seen as the “solution” to an ever worsening problem. The campaign is going to cost British taxpayers dearly. The Government pledged nearly \$1 billion over three years on such advertising.



These are the only print ads we are comfortable showing.

Images of young adults going “on the pull” are at the center of one ad made for television. Several young couples are shown in a club. While they have just met, each respective couple soon departs the club but they do not go home. One couple went to a stairwell; another an alley.

Everyone begins to undress his or her “date.” As they do, the name of a sexually transmitted disease is displayed as jewelry and on pulling pants. A song with the repetitious lyrics “Give me what you got” plays in the background as a voiceover, done by a woman in a sensuous whisper, says, “Sexually transmitted infection is spreading fast. And you can’t always tell who’s got one. So use a condom.” The ad ends with the name of the advertising campaign appearing across the screen: “CONDOM: Essential Wear”.



A woman wears a “gonorrhoea” necklace in this government-sponsored TV ad.



Flint

The ad is intended to show that sexually transmitted diseases are not easy to spot. Images used in magazines and online advertising continue the theme, while radio ads focus on the physical cost of catching a sexually transmitted disease. “This campaign is not about encouraging promiscuity,” said Federal Health Minister Caroline Flint. She said the campaign is sending the message that, “Sex without a condom is seriously risky” to those who are already sexually active. Flint continued:

The aim...is to make carrying and using a condom among this age group as familiar as carrying a mobile phone, lipstick or putting on a seat-belt...The message of this campaign is that you can't tell just by looking whether someone has a STI. Some STIs often have no noticeable symptoms and others

cannot be cured, so taking responsibility for your own sexual health should always be your key priority.



Weyman

Anne Weyman, chief executive of the Family Planning Association (the British affiliate of the International Planned Parenthood Federation), said using a condom “is a very normal and completely essential part” of any sexual relationship.

“The benefits of empowering young people—through this campaign—not only to know this fact but to act on it cannot be overestimated. Sustaining the campaign so it can make the biggest impact possible over the longest period of time will be [the] key to its success.”

The new campaign is part of a wider Government initiative to “improve sexual health and tackle teenage pregnancy.” It is intended to complement other campaigns such as “R U Thinking?” (target: boys and girls aged 15 and under) and “Want Respect? Use a Condom” (target: “socially excluded” 16 to 18 year olds).



Ads promoting condom use include (clockwise from top left) “Condumb: He didn’t have it. So he didn’t get it”; “Want Respect? Use a Condom”; “Pants: No condom in yours, no getting in mine”; and “No condoms means no sex.”

The campaign was the brainchild of Delaney Lund Knox Warren & Partners (DLKW). The advertising agency was hired by the Department of Education and Skills. “This new campaign...targets both sexes and uses the endline [tagline] ‘Want Respect? Use a Condom,’” the agency said in a public statement. “The TV work highlights the loss of respect from one’s peers when not using condoms.” The statement continued:

The two...TV spots are designed to work in tandem in an ad break as they depict a teenage boy recounting his sexual experience to a group of friends. In the first execution, his peers react positively to him as he has used a condom whilst in the second they react in a negative manner because he hasn’t.

Intertwined into the male group conversation, we observe a girl and her friend reacting to the different scenarios accordingly.

DLKW said the agency’s aim was to “motivate young people to use condoms”:

The teenagers who are most likely to get pregnant share certain characteristics; they are socially excluded, have weak family structures and low educational attainment. Despite their low aspirations they strongly seek status amongst peers and through association with specific brands, music and celebrities. Our challenge was to motivate this audience to change their current ingrained behaviour, a particularly difficult challenge given how removed many of these teenagers are from mainstream media and conventional safe sex messaging.

The DLKW campaign marked an entirely new strategy for motivating teenagers. “Through extensive research, we identified the potential for dramatising the social consequences of not using a condom (focusing on peer group disapproval), rather than relying on the biological consequences so often talked about in traditional safe sex advertising (STIs and pregnancy),” the statement said. “The resulting campaign targets both sexes, using niche media and creative tailored to the environment and attitudes of the an young audience that reject mainstream communications. All the work shows the different social consequences of condom use...”

The advertising agency, which has worked for corporations such as Sony, Campbell’s, and eBay, said that talking to the target audience “in a way that they can relate to, about issues that matter to them and through the niche media they consume, has created initial awareness of 83% after just 6 months.” The company claimed that more than 60 percent of those who have seen the advertising said it made them more likely to use a condom in the future.



INTERNET: A CLASSROOM WITHOUT INTERFERENCE

What would a condom campaign be without extensive use of the Internet? Not much, particularly given the amount of time young people spend in front of a computer monitor. This fact has not been overlooked by those who wish to spread their condom doctrine.

Consider the “R U Thinking?” campaign website (ruthinking.co.uk), which makes extensive use of cartoon-like characters. Even a “comic strip” series, “Cassie & Jak,” is used to spread the word. And that is not all. The website is filled with advice from those who are behind the campaign. What would the people at “Dateline NBC” say about the advice given to young people who “date” those who are significantly older?:

Age ain't nothing but a number?

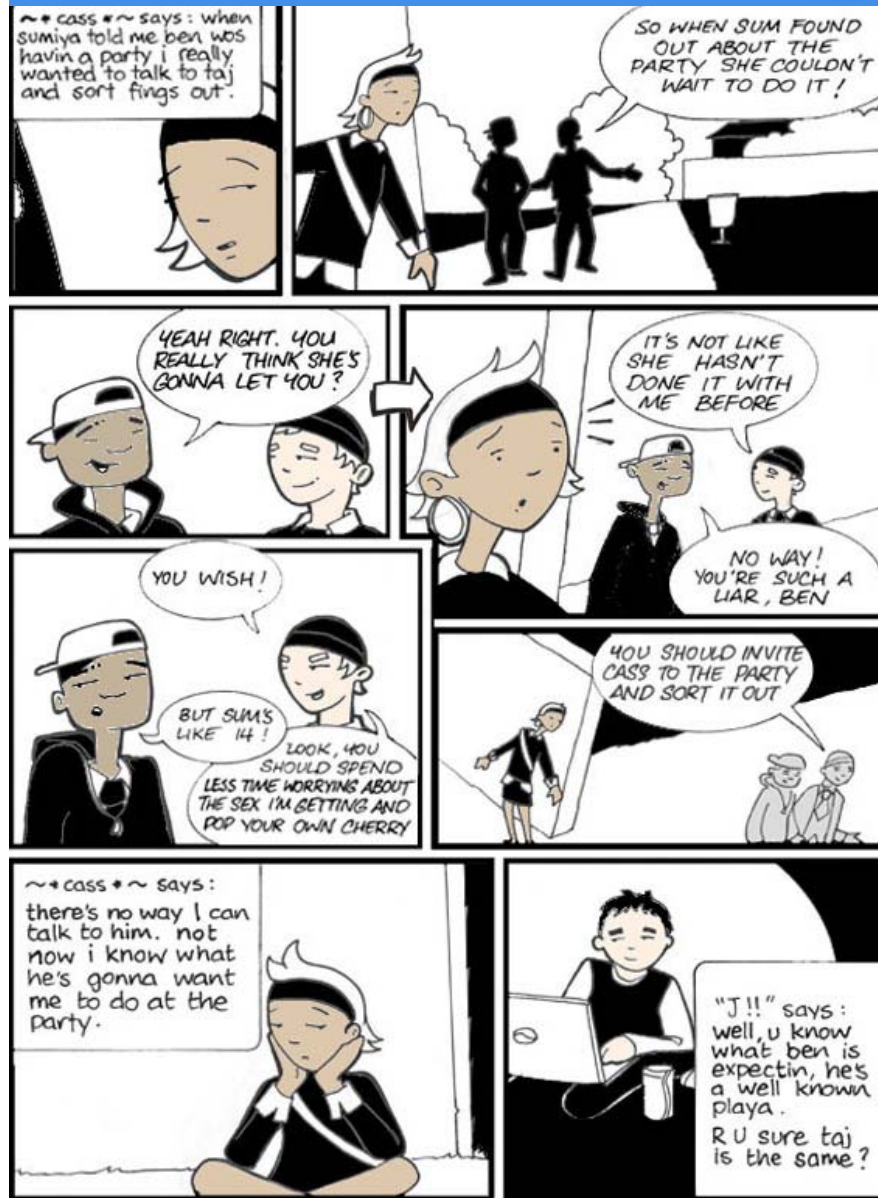
[A]n age gap in a relationship can sometimes be stressful. Even simple things like deciding where to go on a date can end up being difficult when one person is older than the other. Is it worth the hassle...?

If you are in a similar situation...and are involved with an older person you may feel like you are being pulled in different directions by those around you, such as your friends, family and your girlfriend or boyfriend. So how do you manage to keep everyone happy and most of all decide whether that gorgeous older girl or guy is right for you?

It is noted that parents are likely to “freak out” and no one should date an older person just because their peers are doing so. This is followed by the “upside” of dating older:

It can be fun as you may find they are likely to be slightly more mature than your friends or guys/girls your own age. You could also find it interesting spending time with them and sharing their perspective on things.

The best way to approach the relationship with an older person is to take things at your own pace and to trust your instincts. If you feel like things are getting too serious too fast, try talking to them and let them know how you feel. You should never be pressured into having sex just because it's something your partner may have done with a previous boyfriend or girlfriend. If you do decide you're ready, be sure to always use a con-



dom to protect against STIs and prevent unplanned pregnancies. It's... worth remembering that you don't have to continue to have sex once you've started. If for any reason you feel like you've taken a step to far, let your partner know you need some time. There's nothing wrong with calming things down until you feel ready again. If you find you're getting pressured to have sex, then the “older person” may not be as mature as you first thought!

Just how does a young person know if he or she is “ready?” Just take the quiz:

Tick the answers that apply to you:

- It feels like the right thing to do. I know I'm ready.
- I'm 100% sure my partner loves me as much as I love them.
- I've discussed using contraception and condoms with my partner, and we will.
- Nobody is pressuring or forcing me to have sex, I want to do it.
- I'm sure I won't regret it the next day.
- I don't want to do it to be cool or popular.
- I'm not scared that my boyfriend/ girlfriend will leave me if I don't.
- I'm not doing it just to please my partner. I want to have sex.
- I know I can say “NO” at any point, and my partner will be OK with that.

If you ticked most of these you may be ready. If not, you should wait until you are absolutely sure.

Additional advice is given to teens who visit the site:

Even though sex under 16 is against the law...you can still get free and confidential advice about contraception. So if you are having sex make sure you sort out contraception to stop you getting pregnant or catching a Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI). Even if you're under 16, it's legal for your doctor, or a nurse, to give you advice and prescribe *treatments* like the pill without telling your parents. The doctor will want to make sure you understand the decisions you are making and may encourage you to talk to your parents before going any further [emphasis added].

If you're under 16 you can...get free condoms from your local young person's clinic. And it's perfectly legal to buy them from supermarkets, petrol stations or vending machines.

Gay sex is legal between boys as long as both partners agree to it and both are over 16. In Northern Ireland, you have to be 17...and it's 18 in Jersey. The law also says you must have sex in private. As long as girls are over 16 and both agree to it, lesbian sex is legal.

Masturbation (wanking) is not harmful—no matter how often you do it. It is a perfectly natural part of both boys and girls sexual development. It's a personal and private thing to do, though, so you probably won't hear too many people talking about it! Try to be comfortable with whatever you do. If you have any worries you can get free and confidential advice...even if you are under 16.

People lose their virginity when they feel ready and for some people this happens between the ages of 16 to 18. You might think that every teenager on the planet is having sex but the truth is around 70% of under 16s have never had sex...You'll never forget the first time you had sex so aim to make it a good experience with no regrets!

The website includes the story of a girl who had her preborn baby killed:

I was 18 and had been seeing James for 4 months. We went away to a weekend party and I forgot to take my contraceptive pills with me. I missed 2 [doses] in a row. The night of the party we had sex. I knew we should use protection but I just hoped it would be alright instead.

I should have taken emergency contraception the next day, but I just kept my fingers crossed and took the rest of the pills in the packet. I didn't really think about it again until I was a week late for my period, but I put it down to exam stress.

After another week I got freaked...I decided to take a pregnancy test. The doctor confirmed I was 6-8 weeks pregnant and asked what I wanted to do. I wasn't ready for a baby. My ambitions and social life would have to go on hold. My friends would be out having fun while I sat at home with a baby.

I asked the doctor if I could terminate the pregnancy and she ...[referred] me to the local hospital...The doctor asked me why I wanted an abortion so I explained my reasons and he

seemed to agree...A nurse talked to me about the procedure and what contraception I should use in the future...

Afterwards, I wasn't in too much pain—it just felt like bad period cramps. At 2pm the doctor came to check my sanitary pad which was gross. After that I was allowed to leave.

I felt tired for a couple of days and was bleeding, but not very heavily. I had to visit my GP [general practitioner] a few weeks later for a check up, but everything was fine.

I felt quite emotional...the changes in my hormones...were making me moody...Overall I felt a huge sense of relief and really sure I had made the right decision.

James and I are living together. I got my degree and have a great new job. If I got pregnant now I could cope with the responsibility, but I will never regret the choice I made.

Website administrators apparently feel no need to include the story of a person who chose life.

The website for the “Condom: Essential Wear” advertising series (playingsafely.co.uk) is just as shocking as that for the “R U Thinking?” series.

Ads NOT JUST FOR THE YOUNG



Experts want advertising targeting youth. And now they want it for older people—at Government expense. A “study” published in the February 2007 edition of *BJOG: An International Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology* found that 14 to 19 year old females in the UK are no different than adult women when it comes to using birth control; it is poor in all age groups. When it comes to “safe sex,” the common view that teenagers are irresponsible while older women are responsible is “disputable,” the study concluded.

The research was conducted by polling 925 pregnant females (27 percent were teenagers) at a UK hospital. Among the teens, 57 percent admitted to using no birth control at the time of conception. Among women aged 20 to 46, some 51 percent admitted to having conceived after using no or “unreliable” birth control.

Programs designed to increase teenage use of birth control were implemented by the UK Government in the late 1990s. Yet the programs have clearly failed; there has been a steady increase in reported cases of sexually transmitted diseases. What is the recommended “solution?” Simply try harder and include all age groups. Researchers believe that “education initiatives” and “reliable methods” of birth control should be promoted to *all* women throughout their reproductive years and not solely focused during the teenage period. And UK taxpayers would be expected to pay the bill.



Gaudoin

“The findings demonstrate that not only do we have a long way to go in persuading teenagers to use reliable contraception but contraceptive education should also be continued in all women, regardless of their age,” said study author Marco Gaudoin, M.D. “If we promote particularly the use of progestagen-based long acting contraceptives, we can minimize the number of unwanted pregnancies.”

The editor-in-chief of BJOG, which is published by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, said teenagers have been “unfairly criticized” for irresponsible behavior when it comes to sex and birth control. Phil Steer also said Gaudoin’s study shows that if we are going to prevent unplanned pregnancies, women must be educated and “reminded” about the need for “reliable” birth control throughout their reproductive lives. *BJOG* is published by the.

Why were the surveyed females at the hospital in the first place? To abort their children. Consider the scenario—these women and girls were asked if they had used birth control before ending up at the abortion ward. Which answer is going to sound good and responsible? “I was on birth control but *it* failed and I got pregnant” or “I was not on birth control so I got pregnant.” (The next “study” should be about which age group is most likely to tell the truth in such a survey.)

It is important to note how the study defines “reliable” and “unreliable” birth control. “Reliable” refers to “long acting reversible contraceptives...such intrauterine contraceptive devices.” Surprisingly, many forms of “accepted” birth control were categorized as “unreliable,” including condoms and the birth control pill. These methods were placed in the same group as “the rhythm method” (not to be confused with actual Natural Family Planning) and using no birth control at all.

WHAT NOW?

The strategies put into place in the UK have already landed in North America. The only difference is that the UK programs are at a more advanced stage, largely due to wholehearted support from the Government.

In most cases, programs begin on a small scale and if found to be effective they are expanded. But anything done under the banner of “sexually transmitted disease prevention” or “stopping unwanted pregnancy” is judged by a reverse standard. If a new program fails, the response is to expand it.

No thought is given to the morality of supposed “solutions” when it comes to taking on unwanted pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. And the *only* thought given to working toward a change in human behavior involves convincing people to use condoms or take

drugs. The kids in Conyers, Georgia, had been using condoms, so what is the big deal? Hundreds of kids contracted syphilis despite using condoms. Now that *is* a “big deal.” This is the same approach being undertaken in the UK.

Advocates of the kinds of programs adopted in the UK share an identical mentality. They talk about sex on television, in movies, and on public billboards, which they say justifies such programs. But the very thought of trying to curtail sexual content is considered taboo. (At least they think *something* is taboo.) Most of the time, however, “society” is faulted. And blaming “society” is so vague—no one individual or group is held responsible—that nothing ever changes. In fact, when “society” is responsible for a problem, it is inferred that a solution is impossible.

We need a nationwide program that encourages a change in behavior. We need to comprehensive *relationship* education which teaches that some behavior is just plain wrong. It is not in the long-term best interest of the young person, the family, the nation, or society when an unmarried person engages in such behavior. It really is not all that difficult. But efficacy would require the condom crowd to stop undermining every program that does not feed its monster’s belly and ego.

What would such people do if they were proven, without a doubt, to have been wrong all this time? What if it was unquestionably shown that for decades their programs have made matters worse and ruined lives? Would they even care? Would they voluntarily stop spreading their damaging message? Or would they make another excuse and say we need to try harder?

AVERT, an AIDS charity, summarized the UK’s woes:

[M]any teens are having sex for the first time before the legal age of sixteen, with girls twice as likely as boys to lose their virginity before this age. While the government does have some online and print campaigns aimed at younger teenagers, these are very low key, and their reach and impact has never been officially assessed. Encouraging condom use may well be inappropriate for younger teens, but *there is currently little in the way of support for those who wish to wait until they are older to have sex, and indeed many may not recognise it as an option...*(emphasis added).

At least one organization is willing to tell the truth.

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