

# Teens & Sex

## WHAT PARENTS THINK

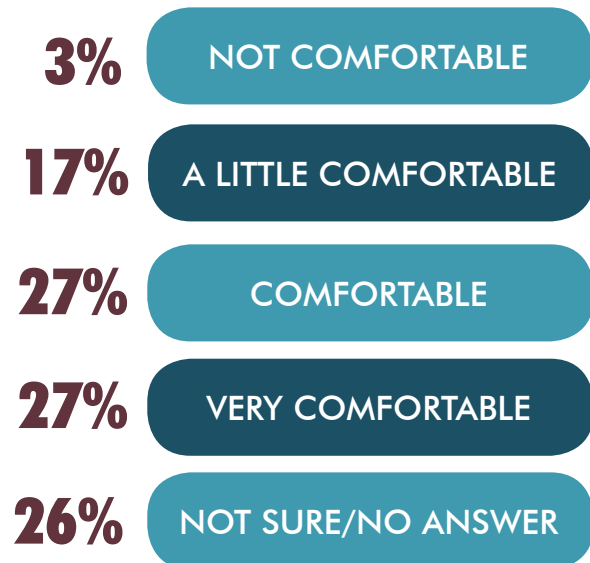
Last year, we met with 120 parents to talk about teens, sex and pregnancy. During our time together, we asked them questions, and talked together in small groups about how teens learn about sex, sexual health services and ways to prevent teen pregnancy. This is what we learned from them, and what they suggested we do to help parents and teens in our community.



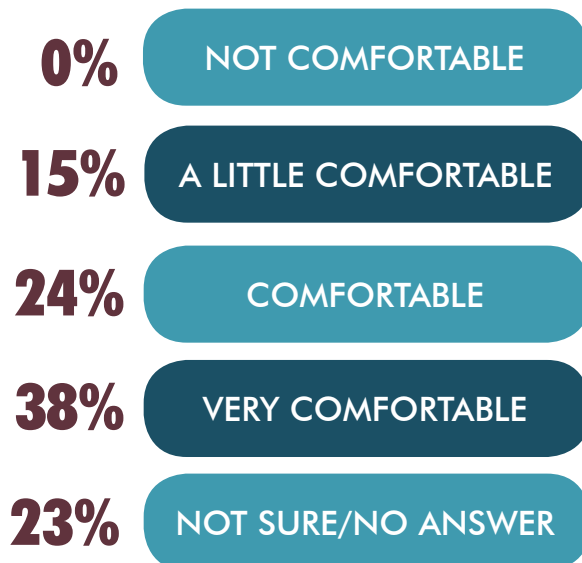
TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION

# The 10 QUESTIONS We Asked Parents

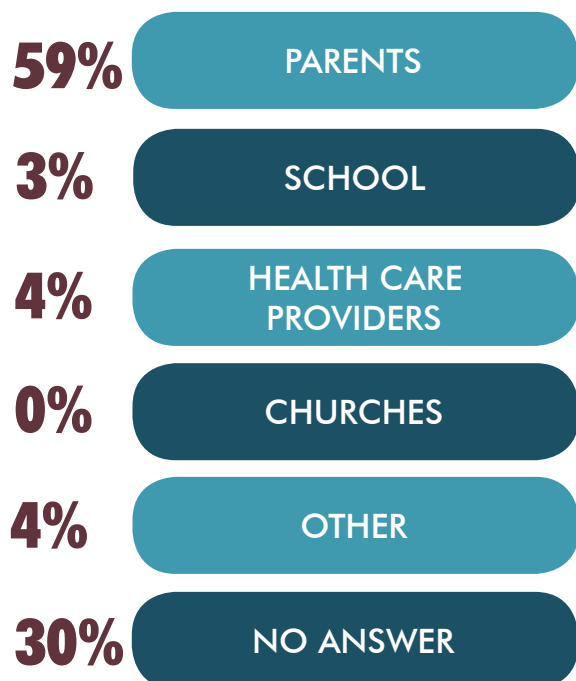
**1** I feel comfortable talking with my teen about sex.



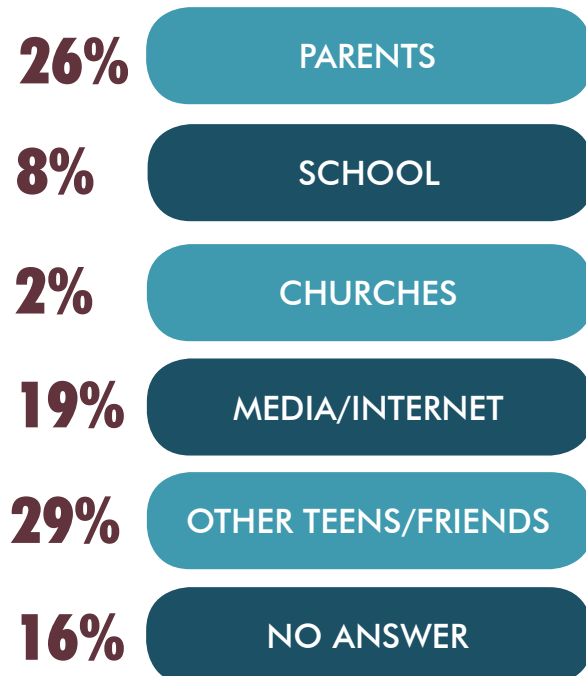
**2** I feel comfortable talking with my teen about birth control and condoms.



**3** As a parent, I think \_\_\_\_\_ should be the main/only sexual educator for teens.



**4** I believe teens learn about sex mostly from \_\_\_\_\_.



**5**

**I have talked with my teen about sex.**



**71%**  
Yes



**2%**  
No



**27%**  
Not Sure/  
No Answer

**6**

**I think teen pregnancy is a problem in my community.**



**53%**  
Yes



**6%**  
No



**41%**  
Not Sure/  
No Answer

**7**

**I would attend a sex education session for parents.**



**73%**  
Yes



**2%**  
No



**25%**  
Not Sure/  
No Answer

**8**

**I think my teen is having sex.**



**16%**  
Yes



**49%**  
No



**35%**  
Not Sure/  
No Answer

**9**

**As far as I know, my teen has attended a program focused on pregnancy and/or HIV/STI\* education.**



**36%**  
Yes



**20%**  
No



**34%**  
Not Sure/  
No Answer

**10**

**I think it is important for teens to have access to services for sexual health, STIs, pregnancy prevention and/or birth control.**



**80%**  
Yes



**1%**  
No



**19%**  
Not Sure/  
No Answer

\*STI = sexual transmitted infection

# WHAT WE LEARNED From Parents

## What we heard during our small group talks:

- Parents want to be involved in their teen's sex education, but many feel that their kids don't want to talk to them about sex.
- Parents said they are willing to talk about birth control options, but most of them want to encourage their teens to wait to have sex.
- Most parents were OK with teens getting sexual health services without their consent (permission).
- Overall, parents just want their teens to be safe about sex.

## The ways parents would like us to help:

- Create programs and educational material for parents.
- Make key messages simple.
- Get input from parents and other concerned people when planning ways to help teens.
- Use TV, radio, texting and the Internet to reach teens.



## WHAT WE ARE DOING ALREADY

The Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program helps local teens make better choices about sex. The program was created by the Southern Nevada Health District in 2010. It is supported by grant money from the federal government. We are active in the community with these projects/groups:

- "Be Proud! Be Responsible!" classes for teens
- Teen Sexual Health .
- "Use Condom Sense" media campaign
- Teen Pregnancy Prevention Youth Council
- Southern Nevada Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coalition
- Educational outreach to caregivers, parents and professionals