

## What drives pregnancy intentions among Latino youth?

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## Presenter Disclosures

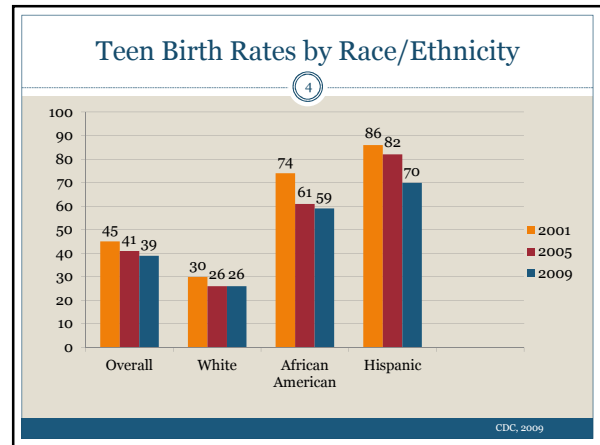
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**(1) The following personal financial relationships with commercial interests relevant to this presentation existed during the past 12 months:**

**“No relationships to disclose”**


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## Pregnancy and Latinos

- 1 in 2 Latina teens will become pregnant by age 20.
- 1 in 4 becomes a mother before age 20.
- 69% percent of Latina teen moms drop out of high school.
- Nearly 80% of teen moms never marry the father.



## What are the characteristics of Latino youth who desire a pregnancy during their adolescent years?

**Main predictors:**


- Age
- Acculturation (language)
- Generation
- Living Arrangement
- Permanent Residence Status
- Religion's Importance
- Mother's Education
- Contraception

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**PWS**

### Pregnancy Wantedness Scale (PWS)

- Developed by authors.
- Measures the multi-dimensional nature of pregnancy intentions.
- 19 attitudes about childbearing & childrearing.
- Items selected from the literature, interview with experts and key informants, and focus groups with 64 Latino youths.
- Used a 5 point 'Strongly Agree' – 'Strongly Disagree' response scale.



### Theme of the Items in PWS

- **Emotional and Relationship Motivators**
  - Ok If We Love Each Other
  - Ok If Married
  - Have Someone To Love
  - Would Have Baby If Partner Wanted
  - Partner Would Stay With Me
  - Make Me Happy
- **Specific Reasons to Have a Baby**
  - Because Friends Have One
  - I Can Leave House
- **Negative Outcomes of Childbearing**
  - Would Cause Trouble Between Partner
  - Can't Hang Around Friends
  - Would Need To Work
  - Would Be Very Worried
  - Would Be Embarrassing Me
  - Get In Way Future Plans
  - Dropping School Make Me Sad
  - Worst Thing Can Happen To Me
  - Difficult For Me
  - Family Be Disappointed
- **Removed after factor analysis**
  - I Love Children


For a copy of the full scale, please contact Dr. Martinez-Garcia

### PWS Psychometrics

- **Reliability**
  - Cronbach's  $\alpha = .887$
- **Factor Analysis**
  - Principal Component Analysis (oblimin oblique rotation)
  - Three Factors Extracted and 19 items retained
    - Emotional and Relational Motivators (7 items)  $\alpha = .872$
    - Negative Outcomes of Childbearing (10 items)  $\alpha = .855$
    - Specific Reasons to Have a Baby (2 items)  $\alpha = .777$
- **Scores**
  - Range: 19-95
  - Midpoint= 57

### Methods

- **Recruitment:**
  - Self administered, paper & pencil survey in Spanish or English
  - 949 Latino youths recruited, ages 14 to 19
  - Central locations in a Mid-Atlantic county (parks, retail areas, health/Latino fairs, etc).
  - Used 20 Latino male and female youth recruiters.
- **Missing values:**
  - Final sample was 672 after missing value analysis and exclusion of incomplete surveys.
  - Group mean imputation used to correct remaining missing values.
  - No statistical significant difference between retained sample and
- **Analysis:**
  - PWS Factor psychometric analysis.
  - Categorical variables were dummy coded to be used in a linear model.
  - Univariate analysis conducted between PWS score and each predictor.
  - Multiple linear regression with forced entry.
  - Data was split by gender and sexual experience for all analyses.



### Sample Demographic & Acculturation Indicators

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Total Sample (n=672)</b></li> <li>• Females: 43%</li> <li>• Mean age: 16.8</li> <li>• Lawful resident/citizen: 74%</li> <li>• <b>Marital Status:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Single: 86.8%</li> <li>○ Married/ living w/ partner: 11.1%</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Vaginal intercourse: 60%</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Generation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 1: 15.8%</li> <li>○ 1.5: 46.6%</li> <li>○ 2: 35.9%</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Foreign born: 62%</b></li> <li>• <b>Spanish survey: 41.4%</b></li> <li>• <b>Country of Birth:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ US: 38.3%</li> <li>○ El Salvador: 26.4%</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Language Acculturation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mean 3.0 (SD 0.93)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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### Sample SRH Indicators for the Sexually Experienced (n=403)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mean age first sex:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Males: 14.8    Females: 15.8</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Sex before 13:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Males: 41.1%    Females: 19%</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>First sex partner's age:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Males: 14.9    Females: 17.1</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Contraception at last intercourse</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Male Condom: 60.9%</li> <li>○ None: 14%</li> <li>○ Hormonal (BCP): 11%</li> <li>○ Withdrawal: 10.5%</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ever pregnant:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Total sample: 11%</li> <li>○ Sexual experience: 18%</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Mean age pregnancy:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Males: 16.03</li> <li>○ Females: 15.89</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Parenting:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Total sample: 7.5%</li> <li>○ Sexually experience: 12%</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>PWS mean</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Males: 52</li> <li>○ Females: 47</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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**RQ:1 What are the characteristics of Latino youth who desire a pregnancy during their adolescent years?**

	Males	Females
<b>No Sexual Experience</b>	Religion Unsure (+8.52)* Religion Important (+7.15) Generation 1 (-7.09) Generation 1.5 (+8.83) Mother's Education Don't Know (+5.25) Living with Mom (-6.11)	Religion Unsure (+12.55) Religion Very Important (+11.54) Religion Important (+9.71) Religion Somewhat Important (+9.41) Mother's Education Don't Know (+8.26) Lawful Citizen or Resident (+6.87) Age (+1.72) Acculturation (-3.26)
<b>Have Sexual Experience</b>	Religion Important (+5.92) Living with Mom (-4.88) Living with Mom & Dad (-4.56)	Generation 1 (+9.80) Lawful Citizen or Resident (+6.01) Acculturation (-2.87) Living with Mom & Dad (-8.63) BCP used at last sex (-7.80)

\*Unstandardized B coefficients are shown.

**Factors associated with pregnancy wantedness**


- **Higher pregnancy wantedness**
  - Religion Important or Unsure (+)
  - Mother Education "don't know" (+)
  - Foreign born (+)
  - Lawful Citizen or Resident (+)
- **Lower pregnancy wantedness:**
  - Living w/ Mother (-)
  - Living Mother and Father (-)
  - Acculturation (language or contact culture)(-)
  - BCP use (for females) (-)



N=672

**Programmatic Implications:  
Reducing pregnancy wantedness**

- Consider participants' characteristics:
  - Gender and sexual experience
  - Acculturation/ generation
- Involve parents
- Involve the faith community
- Support educational attainment
- Address traditional gender roles
- Use a positive youth development approach




**Strengths & Limitations**

Strengths	Limitations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highly relevant to community.</li> <li>• Community-driven study.</li> <li>• PWS addresses complexity of pregnancy intentions construct.</li> <li>• Recruitment strategy included at risk youth.</li> <li>• Sample:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ large, both male and females</li> <li>○ exclusively Latino, understudied Latino population.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cannot establish predictive validity of model.</li> <li>• Cannot be generalized to different population.</li> <li>• Sample bias:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Self selection &amp; self response</li> <li>○ Social desirability bias.</li> <li>○ No refusal rate data.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**Further Research**

- Validate the PWS with other populations.
- Longitudinal research
- Explore the role of parents and religion
- Replicate study in other counties and states
- Administer PWS jointly with multi-dimensional measures of acculturation and a traditional gender role scales



**Questions?**