A. Cherry, M. Dillon (Eds.)

International Handbook of Adolescent Pregnancy

Medical, Psychosocial, and Public Health Responses

► Comprehensive examination of globally recognized values and best practice principles for studying and responding to adolescent pregnancy
► Chapters on boys, parenting, sexual behavior, immigration, religion
► Organized by region, identifies national and international trends and policies that affect the rate of adolescent pregnancy

The rates are on the decline worldwide. But adolescent pregnancies still occur, placing millions of girls each year at risk for medical complications and social isolation, and their babies for severe health problems—especially when prenatal care is inadequate or nonexistent.

But as the opportunity for young women and girls increases around the world, adolescent pregnancy will continue to decline. Featuring reports from countries across the developed and developing worlds, the International Handbook of Adolescent Pregnancy analyzes the scope of the problem and the diversity of social and professional responses. Its biological/ecological perspective identifies factors influencing childhood pregnancy, as well as outcomes, challenges, and needs of very young mothers as they differ across nations and regions. Salient comparisons are made as cultural contexts and community support vary widely, and attention is paid to issues such as child marriage, LGBT concerns, and the impact of religion and politics on health care, particularly access to contraception, abortion, and other services. This global coverage heightens the understanding of readers involved in care, education, and prevention programs, and otherwise concerned with the psychosocial development, reproductive health, and general well-being of girls. Included in the Handbook:

- Biological influences of adolescent pregnancy.
- Adolescent maternal health and childbearing.
- Adolescent pregnancy and mental health.
- International perspectives on adolescent fathers.
- Adolescent pregnancy as a feminist issue.
- Adolescent pregnancy as a social problem.
- Plus viewpoints from more than thirty countries.

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