



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
May 16, 2005

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Emily Snooks: (214) 363-2004

Press Release

May: National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month *Texas has the highest number of teen births in the nation*

DALLAS – According to the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, 425,493 teens ages 15-19 gave birth in 2002, the most recent year for statistics. More than an eighth of those births (52,142) were from Texas teens, more than any other state in the nation - including the most populous state California.

What's happening in Texas?

- ✓ Texas teens have more births than Oklahoma, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana and New York teens combined.
- ✓ In November 2004, the Texas State Board of Education approved public high school health textbooks that contain no information on contraception as a way to prevent unintended pregnancy or sexually transmitted infections (STI). These textbooks will be used for the next ten years.
- ✓ In 2002, 50% of Texas high school students reported having sexual intercourse.
- ✓ Nearly half of all new cases of STI, including HIV, in the U.S. occur among youth ages 15-24. (www.cdc.gov)
- ✓ An August 2004 Scripps Howard poll found 90% of Texans favor schools providing “students with age-appropriate, medically accurate sex education that includes information on abstinence, birth control and prevention of STDs and HIV.”

Please visit the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy at www.teenpregnancy.org for more information.

For 70 years, Planned Parenthood has provided compassionate health care in North Texas. In 2004, Planned Parenthood of North Texas clinics served more than 82,000 patients in its 28 clinics. PPNT also provides health education outreach to 12,000 individuals a year.

*“Celebrating 70 years of providing compassionate health care in North Texas communities.”
(1935-2005)*

-30-