

## Recommendations Made To Reduce Teenage Pregnancies

In 1978, an estimated 1,743 teenagers in Mecklenburg County became pregnant. Of that number, 1,007 gave birth.

Statewide more than 26,000 teenagers, ages 10 to 19, became pregnant in 1978, according to a report presented by the Governor's Advocacy Council on Children and Youth (GACCY) at its meeting Tuesday, May 13, in Raleigh.

A full one-third of those teenagers in the state who became pregnant underwent abortions. The remainder -- some 17,335 teens, half unmarried -- gave birth to children. Some of these children were kept, some were given up to relatives or foster or adoptive parents.

"Anyone can look at these statistics for Mecklenburg County and the state and see clearly that adolescent sexuality and pregnancy are real problems," said Mrs. Ruby Milgrom, chairperson of the GACCY.

The GACCY made a number of recommendations aimed at increasing the public awareness of the teenage pregnancy problem and encouraging more communication between teens and their parents about sexuality.

Mrs. Milgrom said the recommendations made by the council May 13 were based on a report which evaluated services for sexually active and pregnant teens and teenage parents in North Carolina.

"The council hopes that these recommendations will help local communities reduce the rate of teenage pregnancy in Mecklenburg County and other counties in the state," Mrs. Milgrom added.

Key among the GACCY report's 12 recommendations is that county health departments become the lead agency, working particularly with the public schools, citizens, parents and youth.

The report recommends the implementation of comprehensive, age-appropriate family life education programs in kindergarten through twelfth grade in all public schools.

It also recommends parenting education especially for pregnant teens and teen parents to help prepare them for the responsibilities of adulthood.

In addition to the training in the public schools for teens, the report recommends that churches, PTAs and other youth and community groups routinely provide human sexuality and sex education classes and workshops for teens and their parents.

Some of the other recommendations concern an ongoing public awareness campaign to increase awareness of the pregnancy problem and increases in the availability and accessibility of family planning and other medical and non-medical services especially for sexually active and pregnant teens and teen parents, ages 15 and younger.

The recommendations were based on findings from a seven-month study conducted in nine counties, according to Mrs. Milgrom. Project counties were selected as being representative of the state based on population, geographic location and adolescent-sexuality and pregnancy-related health indicators and estimated numbers of adolescent women who are likely to become pregnant.

The project included interviews and questionnaires involving directors and staff from local school systems and other public agencies, as well as private physicians, volunteer youth group leaders and community leaders. No interviews were conducted with teens; teen questionnaires were self-administered.

"While only nine counties were surveyed, the council feels comfortable that the results of the project are representative of the state," according to Chairperson Milgrom.

"Adolescent pregnancy affects thousands of North Carolinians," Mrs. Milgrom pointed out. "Teen pregnancies affect more than just the mothers; they affect the partners, parents, siblings and all other family members. The doctors, nurses, social workers, teachers and others who serve these teens are affected. The neighborhoods and communities in which these teens live are affected. The state and its taxpayers are ultimately also affected."

The report, Mrs. Milgrom said, is not intended to represent the opinions of the governor or state government. It does, however, represent the opinions of the GACCY.

GACCY, established in 1971, is an advocacy program within the N.C. Department of Administration. Among its goals is the evaluation of services for young people in North Carolina.

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WOMEN'S DAY OBSERVANCE

Shiloh Institutional Baptist Church Saturday crowned Gloria Tillman queen of the annual Women's Day observance. Annie Blackmon was the first runner-up. Mrs. Heppie Davis, wife of Shiloh pastor Tommy G. Davis was the guest speaker. She spoke on the theme "Building a Home in the 80s," stressing the role of women in the home.

Seated in the picture are the Women's Day Committee members. The captains who were the contestants are standing. Chaired by Gwen Workman the committee chose Ms. Tillman because she raised the most money to benefit the church.

## Druid Hill Club Plans Attic Sale

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and Mrs. Druid Hills crowning were scheduled for June 8 from 4 to 8 p.m. at Mrs. Minnie Connor's home located at 1007 Druid Circle.

Members set the attic sale for Saturday, June 8 and 15. The flower show

and Mrs. Druid Hills attended the meeting were as follows: Mrs. Inez Ellis, Hattie McCree, Saphese Blackman, Mrs. Sadie English, Mrs. Dora McGill, Mrs. Rebecca Patterson, Mrs. Minnie Connor, Mrs. Edna Gaston, Mrs. Emma Wade and Mrs. Eva Wiley.

## Black Businesses Show Healthy Growth Rate

Despite soaring inflation and interest rates, black businesses grew 17.5 percent to reach \$1.22 billion in 1979, according to the Eighth Annual "Be 100" Black Enterprise Magazine's listing of the nation's top 100 black-owned companies.

The increase in gross sales, reported in the June issue, exceeded last year's 13.3 percent rate of inflation by 4.2 percent. The cut-off point for inclusion on the 1979 "Be 100" increased 24 percent - \$5.2 million from \$4.2 million in 1978.

The top five "Be 100" companies retained their 1978 standings. Holding first place for the eighth consecutive year is Motown Industries (Los Angeles) which posted revenues of \$64.800 million; second place, Johnson Publishing Company (Chicago) reported revenues of \$61.005 million; third place, Fedco Foods Corporation (New York) posted \$45.000 million; H. J. Russell Construction Company, Inc. (Atlanta) moved from fifth to fourth place with revenues of \$41.000 million; and Johnson Products Company, Inc. (Chicago) fell to fifth from fourth

place with total revenues of \$35.458 million.

"In their 1979 sales performance, the 100 largest black companies once more managed to stay ahead of inflation by a narrow but significant margin," said Earl G. Graves, editor and publisher of Black Enterprise. "Regrettably, there are also numbers in these reports that tell a very different story. When one looks at black business as part of the nationwide economy, the picture becomes grim. When sales are adjusted for inflation, black business lost ground in the 1970s despite the tremendous upsurge in the number of companies," he continued.

Auto dealers, one of the largest groups on the list, lost ground in 1979—dipping both in revenues and total number of companies from 1978.

Cool Appliances Cool appliances before cleaning and storing them. Follow manufacturer's cleaning instructions as found in the instruction book.

Read The Post

## Mechanics And Farmers To Open New Branch

Mechanics and Farmers Bank, the state's oldest and largest black-owned bank has received approval to establish an office in Winston-Salem. The new branch will be on Claremont Avenue near 7th St.

Local prominent black leaders began efforts over a year ago to establish the branch.

In announcing final approval, J. J. Sansom Jr., president of Mechanics and Farmers said, "We are delighted to be in the position to proceed with our plans to enter the Winston-Salem market and look forward to serving the banking needs of the east Winston community."

Mechanics and Farmers was established in 1908 and has eight branches in Durham, Raleigh and Char-

lotte. It ranks sixth in deposits among all black-owned banks in the nation.

Melvyn White, a native of Moxley, will oversee all the bank's activities in that area. White is a career banker with 16 years of banking experience in New York and Florida. He is a graduate of the Stomier Graduate School of Banking, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J. He was listed in Who's Who among black Americans 1977-78 and Who's Who in the South and Southwest 1978-79.

The bank expects to begin construction soon.

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