

*PEAS organizer*

**Problem: Teenage Pregnancy**

**Evidence:** From 1990-2002, teen pregnancy increased 36% (Guttmacher Institute). There are 5 girls in our senior class currently expecting babies. The U. S. has a teen pregnancy rate twice as high as Canada and 1.5 times as high as England. This is a problem that is national and also right here at this school.

**Argument:** The only sure way to avoid pregnancy is abstinence. All birth control methods can fail. Teen mothers have a higher rate of dropping out of school and lower incomes than older and/or married mothers. Therefore, no teenager should get pregnant. Waiting to have sex until you are in your 20s and/or married is the best option.

**Solution:** abstinence until financial security is certain and/or you are married

**Problem: Clothing Students Wear to School**

**Evidence:** In our school system this year, there have been 20 incidents of students being hurt because of something they wore. This includes t-shirts with offensive slogans or pictures and also students trying to take athletic shoes from other students.

**Argument:** The school board wants to require all students in the district to wear uniforms next year to avoid all these problems. This argument has some merit but is not the only answer.

**Solution:** Schools should each choose their own uniforms or dress code under general guidelines from the district. The district should have harsh penalties for students fighting or causing injury to others as related to clothing. This will stop the foolishness.