

Teen Pregnancy and Sexual Education in Thailand



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Teen pregnancy in Thailand is an ongoing issue. With 315 out of 1000 girls between 15-19 years old experiencing unintended pregnancies, Thailand's rate is significantly higher than the Pacific, 43 births per 1000 girls. The study identifies critical contributing factors, such as inadequate sexual education, limited use of contraception, and prevailing social norms that challenge the implementation of effective sexual education programs in schools. Many studies have proven that applying abstinence-only sexual education, Thailand, for example, does not justify or decrease the risk of adolescents being pregnant. Drawing on comparative data from countries like the Netherlands, Sweden, and South Korea, where comprehensive sexual education has successfully lowered teen pregnancy rates. This paper advocates for policy changes in Thailand which align with SDG goals number 4 and 5, by proposing the implementation of a comprehensive curriculum covering body awareness, consent, relationships, and sexual health from primary through high school. As well as encouraging a safe environment to discuss sexual related topics in the classroom for both genders, this approach aims to reduce teen pregnancy rates and promote healthier outcomes for Thai youth. This study can inform policy makers, educators, school administrators, researchers, and parents who can help prevent teenage pregnancy in Thailand.

Biography:

Nonchanok is a 12th Grade student at Mahidol University International Demonstration School who is passionate about social policies, particularly on women's rights. Under the supervision and support from Yale University and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, she conducted research and wrote articles regarding teen pregnancy, and clean energy policies, respectively. Within 2 years, she was accepted into Columbia University, Harvard University, and Brown University, for pre-college sessions. Her goal is to continue to study in international relations to advocate for effective policies that improve motherhood in Thailand.