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## ABSTRACT

- Objective** : To determine the factors associated with teenage pregnancies.
- Design** : A case control study.
- Setting** : Wd 17 Colombo South Teaching Hospital, Kalubowila.
- Subjects and Methods** : Subject were selected from the delivery book of the unit during the 8 month period from 1<sup>st</sup> December 2003 to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2004.
- Cases** : All primigravid mother under age of 19 yrs (n = 148)
- Control** : Primigravid mother between the age of 20 -24 yrs (n = 148)
- Result** : Teenage pregnant mothers were less educated and 31% of them were not even educated up to grade 5 (P < 0.001). Teenagers had late 1<sup>st</sup> contact (POA 13-28, 62.2%) with health services and inadequate antenatal visits. 24% of teenagers are aware about contraceptives and 93.2% of them are not using contraceptives.
- Conclusion** : Teenage pregnancies are strongly associated with low educational level, poor socio economic back ground, inadequate ante natal care and poor knowledge in contraceptives.



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