

Yet every year, approximately one million teenagers in this country become pregnant and 90 percent of those pregnancies are unintended.

Teenage girls have a higher risk of pregnancy complications, including maternal mortality and morbidity, miscarriages, still births, premature births and nutritional deficiencies than adult women.

Fewer than 60% of these teen mothers graduate from high school by age 25, and in addition to a lower educational status, early childbearing has an impact on the economic status of teens by affecting employment opportunities, marital options, and family structure.

Teen mothers are four times as likely as women who have their first child after adolescence to be poor in their 20's and early thirties, and are likely to have lower family incomes later in life.

In my home state of Texas, the birth rate for teenagers 15-18 years of age is 78.9%.

Although this is a decrease by 3.9% since 1991, far too many of our communities' children across the United States are having children of their own.

Teenage pregnancy and childbearing come hand in hand with a levels of risk for all involved.

We all carry the potential burden when children themselves have children, personally, societally and economically.

Our country spends more than \$20 billion dollars each year assisting teen parents and their children.

Only through education and programs such as campaigns such as The National Campaign to Prevent Pregnancy, and a similar program through the Texas Southern University in Houston, Texas that focuses on the prevention of pregnancy in pre-adolescents and adolescents.

Our children and our adolescents carry the future of tomorrow. We must do everything we can to help our children prolong childbearing and parenting until they can truly be responsible adults and parents.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. MCINNIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MCINNIS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mrs. CAPP) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. CAPP addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. METCALF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. METCALF addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRANKS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FRANKS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. BROWN addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. RIGGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. RIGGS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. CHRISTIAN-GREEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. CHRISTIAN-GREEN addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SMITH addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

JASON HU—A MODERN DIPLOMAT WITH VISION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. SOLOMON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, in the April 10 edition of the Central Daily News, published in Taipei, there was an excellent article about Taiwan's Foreign Minister Jason Hu. Jason was the former Taiwan representative in Washington, D.C. and a friend to many of us on the Hill.

I would like to ask the permission to print the article, in an English translation by Professor N. Mao, for the reference of my colleagues and friends.

JASON HU—A MODERN DIPLOMAT WITH VISION

Will Jason Hu be the ruling Kuomintang candidate to run for Mayor of the city of Taipei?

This topic stirred up considerable speculation in the offices of the Taipei Economic Cultural Representative Office in Washington, D.C. Most of Jason Hu's former assistants professed high confidence in Jason Hu's waging a successful campaign for the job, but they would prefer to see Jason stay on as the Republic of China's Foreign Minister.

One close aide of Jason's commented that the Republic of China's diplomatic work needs someone like Jason, a non-career but highly innovative diplomat with fresh ideas and vision. Nearly all of Jason's former aides expressed the view that they would not want to see Jason leave his current post as Foreign Minister.

BREAKTHROUGH IN TAIPEI-U.S. RELATIONS

Will Jason Hu run for the office of the Mayor of Taipei? Someone who knows Jason

well commented that Jason would not have any intention of running for the office, but if Jason were asked by the Kuomintang, Jason will run. Why? Jason is very loyal to the party.

If the Kuomintang can't find any other candidate to run for the office and if the Kuomintang leaders keep asking Jason to run, Jason will run.

Jason is not a career diplomat. During his tenure as Taipei's highest ranking diplomat in Washington, D.C., Jason shed outdated conventions and emerged a winner in gaining new friends for his country during a period of diplomatic low tide between Washington and Taipei.

In June 1996, Jason assumed the post as Taipei's representative in Washington, D.C. Immediately after arrival in Washington, he was an enthusiastic participant in activities sponsored by other diplomats, the U.S. Congress, think-tanks, international organizations, U.S. Government officials and any other persons or groups, whether or not their countries recognize Taipei.

He would meet with anyone if he thought that person would enhance Taipei's diplomatic interests. Jason is a man full of self-confidence, wit, humor, sincerity and considerable personal charm. During his short tenure in Washington, he was a highly visible diplomat and even earned the admiration of diplomats in the U.S. State Department for his professionalism. In fact, during Jason's fifteen months in Washington, he won the confidence of the United States Government, acceptance of the diplomatic corps, respect of the overseas Chinese in the United States and loyalty of his colleagues. He was also popular with the press.

It has been less than 8 years since Jason Hu entered government office.

When he first served as the government's spokesman, he impressed everyone with his leadership abilities. But what distinguished him the most was his service as Taipei's top diplomat in Washington. Before he came to Washington, Taipei maintained low-level contacts with the U.S. Government. But with Jason's efforts, within half a year after Jason's arrival in Washington, the level of contacts between Taipei and Washington was significantly upgraded. Moreover, being a non-career diplomat, Jason was an innovative diplomat with new ideas.

His activities in Washington extended far beyond traditional diplomatic circles; he had direct contacts with many international organizations stationed in Washington.

PERSISTENT JASON HU

A man full of self-confidence Jason is gifted with the ability to foster a favorable environment for talks with friends and strangers. For protocol reasons, he could not be formally addressed as "Ambassador Hu" in Washington but could be properly addressed as "Doctor Hu" of Oxford University.

No one could ignore his impressive Oxonian credentials. In 1995 Jason held a face-to-face dialogue with Dr. Kissinger and he equaled Kissinger in terms of knowledge and sharp analytical ability. Jason is a confident man but definitely not an arrogant man.

In fact, Jason can make any adversary happy to be in his company.

After a few witty introductory remarks, Jason will make his listener eager for more conversation. When the "chemistry" is right, Jason tries his best to persuade his adversary of his viewpoints. Even though differences of opinion may persist Jason never allows his adversary to feel confrontational.

Even though Jason Hu has left Washington for more than six months, friends still talk about his innovative personal style in approaching friends and foe.

Another characteristic of Jason's is his persistence. In April 1997, during Speaker

Gingrich's Asian tour the Speaker and his delegation made a whirlwind 4-hour stop in Taipei.

At first, everyone, including Gingrich himself, believed that it was not possible to add Taipei to the Speaker's Asian itinerary, but Jason Hu persisted in asking the Speaker to reconsider his itinerary. Finally, he convinced the Speaker of the uttermost importance for the delegation to stop in Taipei. Gingrich relented and squeezed in four precious hours in Taipei.

At about the same time, in a number of articles the New York Times mentioned the "Taiwan factor," implying Taiwan was a troublemaker in U.S. relations with China. Jason Hu repeatedly communicated with the editors of the New York Times, trying to convince them of Taipei's perspectives. As a result of Jason's efforts, the New York Times has not again mentioned the "Taiwan factor."

JASON HU—A MAN OF POTENTIAL

After the 1996 U.S. elections, Jason Hu visited former Senator Robert Dole, former National Security Advisor Tony Lake and former Secretary of Defense William Perry, briefing them of the developments in Taiwan.

It appears that Messrs Dole, Lake and Perry all have now developed a good understanding of the issues affecting Taiwan. Jason Hu deserves credit for making these opinion-makers aware of Taiwan's developments.

Will Jason Hu run for the Taipei mayoral seat? The answer will come in May of this year. Considering Jason Hu's electability and potential, he will be a winning card for the Kuomintang.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. CRANE (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of illness.

Mr. BATEMAN (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today and the balance of the week on account of medical reasons.

Mr. MEEKS of New York (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week on account of family matters.

Mr. UNDERWOOD (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week on account of official business.

Mr. McNULTY (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of family business.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. REYES) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. EDWARDS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. CLAYTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FALOMAVEGA, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. CAPPS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. BROWN of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. CHRISTIAN-GREEN, for 5 minutes, today.

The following Members (at the request of Mr. MORAN of Kansas) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:

Mr. KINGSTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HUTCHINSON, for 5 minutes each day, today and on May 20, 21 and 22.

Mr. PAUL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCINNIS, for 5 minutes each day, today and on May 20.

Mr. METCALF, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey, for 5 minutes each day, today and on May 20, 21 and 22.

Mr. EHRLICH, for 5 minutes, on June 2.

Mr. RIGGS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan, for 5 minutes each day, today and on May 20.

Mr. SOLOMON, for 5 minutes, today.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. REYES) and to include extraneous matter:)

Ms. ESHOO.

Mr. KIND.

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island.

Mr. HALL of Ohio.

Mr. BONIOR.

Mr. SHERMAN.

Mr. VISCLOSKEY.

Mr. KILDEE.

Mr. EDWARDS.

Mr. SKELTON.

Mr. THOMPSON.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York.

Ms. PELOSI.

Mr. SCHUMER.

Mrs. CAPPS.

Ms. SANCHEZ.

Mr. STARK.

Ms. HARMAN.

Mr. RUSH.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. MORAN of Kansas) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. RADANOVICH.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

Mr. NEY.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.

Mr. ARCHER.

Mr. GILMAN.

Mr. MCCOLLUM.

Mr. WALSH.

Mr. HORN.

Mr. SHAW.

Mr. DELAY.

Mr. PORTMAN.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan, in two instances.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. MORAN of Kansas) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. REYES.

Mr. HALL of Texas.

Mr. GOODLATTE.

Mr. GILLMOR.

Mr. LAZIO of New York.

Mr. BLUMENAUER.

Mr. CLYBURN.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas.

Mr. PAPPAS.

Mr. KILDEE.

Mr. CONDIT.

Mr. PAYNE.

Mr. PACKARD.

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 1723. An act to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to assist the United States to remain competitive by increasing the access of United States firms and institutions of higher education to skilled personnel and by expanding educational and training opportunities for American students and workers; to the committee on the judiciary, and in addition, to the Committee(s) on Education and the Workforce, and the Committee on International Relations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Oversight, reported that that committee had examined and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 3565. An act to amend Part L of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The SPEAKER announced his signature to enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 1605. An act to establish a matching grant program to help State and local jurisdictions purchase armor vests for use by law enforcement departments.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 19 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until Wednesday, May 20, 1998, at 10 a.m.