

SOCIOMETRICS PROJECT No. 77

EVALUATION OF THE TEENAGE PREGNANCY PREVENTION (TAPP) PROGRAM IN VALLEJO, CALIFORNIA

During the summer of 1996, the Vallejo City Unified School District (VCUSD) received a five-year grant from the California Department of Education to implement and evaluate a teenage pregnancy prevention program. The District selected two interventions to implement in two types of settings: (1) *within school*, Postponing Sexual Involvement; and (2) *within after-school programs*, SMART Moves. Both programs were selected for their demonstrated, positive impact with teens of similar demographic characteristics to those of Vallejo.

To evaluate the effectiveness of the Vallejo initiatives, teams from Sociometrics and VCUSD began working together during the fall of 1996. During the first year of the grant, these teams designed an evaluation research plan and developed and pilot tested instruments for the study. The evaluation followed two cohorts of youth (selected from the 6th, 8th and 10th grade student population in Vallejo) from the fall of 1997 through the conclusion of the project in the spring of 2001. Measurement focused on sexuality-related values, attitudes, skills, intentions, and behavior, as well as items relevant to the substance abuse prevention objectives of the SMART Moves curriculum. The design included both treatment (N=500) and comparison (N=250) groups. Throughout the project, Sociometrics collaborated with VCUSD staff to collect, manage and analyze survey data and prepare reports summarizing evaluation research findings.

Related work preceding this project was carried out by Project No. 61.

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