

Research and discussion questions for the film, “Experiencing Tradition”

ORIGINAL RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- What resources are available for young mothers such as: family support, health benefits, shelter/housing, childcare, schooling (for mother and baby), jobs, and financial support?
- After the child is born does the trouble in the families stop?
- How many teen mothers can finish high school after getting pregnant?
- How does getting pregnant at an early age affect teens?
- Did they ever wish they hadn't gotten pregnant in the first place?
- What are the benefits that undocumented and documented teens get from the health insurance or other things that will help them during pregnancy?
- Why do immigrant girls get pregnant at a young age?
- What happens after they have their babies?
- What is the first thing that comes to any young girl's mind when she learns she is pregnant?
- What happens to them during pregnancy?
- How does pregnancy affect families? What roles do parents play once they find out their child is pregnant?
- What roles do friends play? Do they support young mothers having the baby or do they do give them ideas about aborting?
- What is the most logical or practical choice that a young immigrant girl would choose: having the baby or aborting the baby?

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS AFTER VIEWING THE FILM

- How does your family see teenage pregnancy?
- How does your community see teenage pregnancy?
- Are young girls in your community encouraged to start families while still in school? Why? Why not?
- What is difficult about being a teenage mother?
- What are the advantages of being a young mother?
- What is difficult about being an immigrant teenager in the Bronx?
- What pressures are put on teenage girls by their family/community?
- What supports does your community provide for young mothers?
- What supports does your school provide for young mothers?
- What is the best age to have children?
- What does "family planning" mean to you?
- What ideas or quotes in the film can you relate to?
- What ideas in the film do you disagree with?