

Young Men and Unintended Pregnancy: An Educational Resource

Project begins

In this issue

- Project begins
- Meet the team
- Contact Details

Welcome to the first *If I were Jack* newsletter.

The project aims to develop an evidence-informed educational resource on the topic of young men and unintended pregnancy, which will be suitable for use within the relationship and sexuality education (RSE) curricula of post-primary schools in Northern Ireland (NI) and the Republic of Ireland (IE).

Reduction of adolescent pregnancy rates remains on the policy agenda in both the UK and Ireland. In developing educational interventions which aim to reduce rates of unintended adolescent pregnancy, it is increasingly recognised that targeting teenage men is an important yet neglected focus.

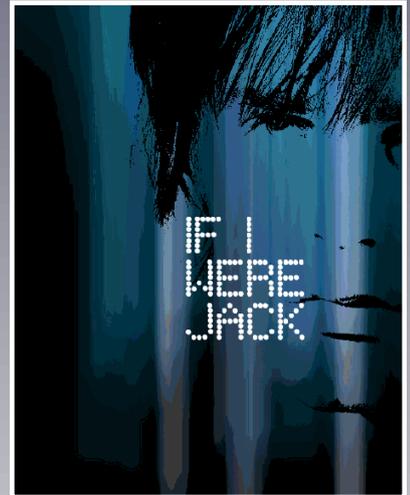
The *If I were Jack* educational resource includes an interactive video drama (IVD) which 'brings to life' a case scenario of an unintended pregnancy from a teenage man's perspective. The resource invites both male and female users to put

themselves in Jack's shoes, encouraging reflection and anticipatory thinking about such a situation in their own lives.

The key educational aims are to help young men and women improve self-efficacy in communicating about unintended pregnancy, to consider the potential consequences of their choices in relation to this, and to gain awareness of the acceptability of help-seeking in such situations.

The IVD will be coupled with a training package for teacher trainers, educational materials to assist teachers in using the IVD in the classroom, and web-based educational materials for parents.

The development of the resource involves partnerships with key health and educational stakeholders from NI and IE. These partners include the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety NI, the Public Health Agency NI, the Council for Curriculum Education and Assessment NI, the Health Services



Executive Crisis Pregnancy Programme IE and the Department of Education and Skills IE.

The project also benefits from the support of an international advisory group who offer expertise in the field of adolescent pregnancy.

The *If I Were Jack* project is funded by the UK Economic and Social Research Council and the HSE Crisis Pregnancy Programme. It will run for 12 months, beginning in April 2012.

We plan an initial release of the resource in pilot schools at the end of the project, with a view to future evaluation and final roll-out of materials.

Meet the Team

Research Team



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Contact Us

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