Pregnancy intentions and social well-being

Approximately 50 percent of all pregnancies in the United States are unintended. It has been suggested that some women may become sexually active or pregnant to fill a gap in their lives. This pilot study examines the relationship between pregnancy intentions and social well-being, specifically by looking at perceived loneliness and social support among a sample of low-income pregnant women. Approximately 80 pregnant women were interviewed at WIC and prenatal clinics. Perceived loneliness and social support were measured by use of the UCLA Revised Loneliness Scale, the Multidimensional Scale of Perceived Social Support, and the Index of Family Relations. Correlations between pregnancy intention and social well-being will be examined and discussed in the context of targeting efforts to reduce unintended pregnancy.