


**TEXAS HAS THE HIGHEST  
TEEN PREGNANCY RATE  
IN THE COUNTRY.**



**JANE'S DUE PROCESS, INC.**

is the only organization in Texas  
ensuring legal representation for  
pregnant minors in Texas.

# 8 YEARS STRONG.



**Jane's Due Process, Inc.** enters its eighth year as a stronger, more vibrant organization. The organization continues its outstanding record of ensuring legal representation for pregnant minors in Texas. Our goal is to have every pregnant teen in Texas know that she has a right to seek legal representation, be treated with respect and sensitivity by those who work in the legal system and participate in legal proceedings where everyone is interested in following the law. Jane's Due Process, Inc. is the only organization in Texas ensuring legal representation for pregnant minors in Texas.

The core of the organization's program continues to be its statewide toll-free legal hotline, lawyer referral service and website. Legal referrals for pregnant minors are made to attorneys who are recruited by Jane's Due Process and provided with resources and training. To maintain a high level of attorney participation each caller is screened by the Executive Director, who is an attorney, to determine whether the caller meets statutory requirements. Jane's Due Process has a 98-99% record of success in judicial bypass hearings when the minor is represented by its network attorneys. Additionally, legal referrals on the hotline are also made to pregnant minors who wish to carry to term for emancipation, protective order, adoption and violation of Title IX.

## BELOW ARE SOME HIGHLIGHTS AND IMPORTANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE PAST YEAR:

### BOARD EFFICACY AND DEVELOPMENT



Caroline Mithoff, a small business owner in Austin, was elected Board President. Her leadership of the Board has resulted in growth, renewed energy and greater success in fund raising at events that were held in Houston and San Antonio. The Board and Executive Director completed a strategic planning session where they reviewed the organization's accomplishments on the 2004-2007 strategic plan and created an ambitious plan for 2008-2010. They have also spearheaded efforts to improve our donor database in FileMaker Pro, a valuable tool in our fund raising and development efforts.

To keep the momentum of growth going forward, Board Development remains an important initiative. New Directors include Jay Blazek Crossley, former Finance Associate at Jane's Due Process when he was attending The University of Texas at Austin's LBJ School of Public Affairs. Jay is presently employed at The Gulf Coast Institute in Houston. Amber Hausenfluck, an Austin lobbyist, is a former summer law clerk at Jane's Due Process and a recent graduate of St. Mary's University School of Law. Pamela Isaacson and Scott McMichael are network attorneys in Dallas who have been volunteering with Jane's Due Process for several years. Gloria Cockerell is Professor and Chair of the Management and Marketing Program at Collin County Community College in Plano, Texas. Louise Hytken is an attorney at the Department of Justice and former president of the Dallas Women Lawyers Association. Stephanie Hunter, an Austin business woman, has fund raising and development experience with NARAL Pro-Choice Texas and The Humane Society. Kristin Etter, an Austin attorney, is a partner at Sumpter & Gonzalez and a lobbyist for the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association.

Herb Brown, MD has joined our Legal Advisory Board. Dr. Brown has committed his career to family planning and reproductive issues. He has testified on behalf of pro-choice organizations at hearings before the Texas Medical Board on the parental consent forms, and at legislative hearings on our behalf for many years.

## UNRESTRICTED FOUNDATION SUPPORT

Shelia Cheaney, Executive Director, has achieved continued success in securing grants. With ongoing support from the Mithoff Family Foundation and the Smothers Foundation and a number of new grants from foundations both in Texas and out-of-state in 2007, our unrestricted grant funding has doubled from the amount received in 2006. This success has made it possible to hire our first part-time Hotline Coordinator, Tina Hester. Tina's experience includes positions with Planned Parenthood of Kentucky and New York. She was the Teen Pregnancy Coordinator for Kentucky and has served on the Board of NARAL Pro-Choice Texas. Other part-time staff members include Program Associate Linda Rondinelli, a student at The University of Texas at Austin's LBJ School of Public Affairs, and Research and Development Associate Caitlin Styrsky, also a student at UT-Austin. This is Caitlin's fourth year to work at Jane's Due Process, Inc.



## RESTRICTED FOUNDATION SUPPORT

Grants received this year from the Trull Foundation and the Alice Kleberg Reynolds Foundation have allowed the Executive Director to continue her efforts in outreach and education on the Texas-Mexico border, in south and west Texas. These foundations also provided funding to translate our handbooks, The Rights of Pregnant Teenagers in Texas, into Spanish and to print color posters about our services, in both English and Spanish. The Travis County Women Lawyers Foundation awarded a restricted grant to Jane's Due Process to pay for an increase in Spanish translation services on our legal hotline.

Many teens on the Texas-Mexico border are still becoming parents. The numbers are startling. The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy estimates that 51% of Latina teens get pregnant at least once before the age of 20. The Latina teen birth rate is nearly two times the national average. Young women on the Texas-Mexico border have limited access to transportation, meager financial resources and little education. A combination of these factors contributes to making Texas one of the states reporting a rising rate in Latina teen pregnancy and childbearing. A recent report from the Annie E. Casey Foundation issued in conjunction with the Center for Public Policy Priorities found that Texas has the highest teen pregnancy rate in the country.

## STATISTICS REGARDING JANE DOES SCREENED FOR JDP SERVICES

1/1/07 – 12/31/07  
Representing 316 Minors:

- 65% are 17 years old, 16% of which report being within two months of their 18th birthdays
- 28% are 16 years old
- 5% are 15 years old
- 38% are of Anglo descent
- 34% are of Hispanic descent
- 22% are of African or Caribbean descent
- 76% are attending high school, being home schooled, or getting their GEDs
- 5% are high school graduates, while 6% are high school drop outs
- 55% are unemployed
- 29% are working and attending school
- 5% are working but not attending school
- 13% are already mothers supporting at least one child
- 19% have had at least one prior pregnancy
- 7 weeks is the average stage of pregnancy reported at the time if the first call
- 60% have yet to confirm the stage of pregnancy by a clinic
- 46% are fast approaching or already in their second trimester at first contact
- 3 days to 1 week is the range of time a minor prepares and participates in the judicial bypass process depending on the number of barriers to navigate
- 15% report having experienced physical or emotional abuse by a parent or legal guardian
- 29% report having been threatened by a parent or legal guardian to be kicked out of the home or disowned for being pregnant or have already been kicked out
- 20% report the high probability that family members will force or pressure them to continue an unintended pregnancy
- 27% report not knowing how to contact at least one parent because she or he is missing, deceased, or incarcerated
- 16% report being unable to contact either parent
- 5% of minors contacting the hotline indicate the intention to seek consent from a parent or legal guardian for an abortion at the end of the screening process
- 3% report birth control failure, 36% report condom failure
- 18% report knowing about parental consent law prior to pregnancy
- 7% report knowing about parental consent law due to experience with prior pregnancy

## Board of Directors

**Caroline Mithoff**  
President, Austin

**Sherri Cothrun**  
Vice President, Houston

**Susan Kennedy**  
Treasurer, Houston

**J. Scott Chase**  
Secretary, Dallas

**Gloria C. Cockerell**  
Plano

**Jay Blazek Crossley**  
Houston

**Kristin Etter**  
Austin

**Amber Hausenfluck**  
Austin

**Stephanie Hunter**  
Austin

**Louise P. Hytken**  
Dallas

**Pamela Isaacson**  
Dallas

**Scott McMichael**  
Dallas

**Gwen Richard**  
Houston

**Ruth Rodriguez**  
Dallas

## Legal Advisory Board

**Sarah Weddington**  
Austin

**Herb Brown, MD**  
San Antonio

**Susan Hays**  
Dallas

**Michael Lowenberg**  
Dallas

**Rita Lucido**  
Houston

## Staff

**Shelia Enid Cheaney**  
Executive Director

**Tina Hester**  
Hotline Coordinator

**Linda Rondinelli**  
Program Associate

**Caitlin Styrsky**  
Research & Development  
Associate

JDP PROGRAM OUTCOMES	2007
Minor referred to JDP lawyer referral program	121
Minor referred to clinic-recruited attorneys or court appointed systems	38
Minor referred for assisted pro se by executive director	3
Minor referred to explore pregnancy options – outcome unknown	123
Minor indicated intent to seek consent from a parent after hotline screening	16
Minor indicated intent to seek services outside of state	0
Minor indicated intent to seek services after 18th birthday	9
Minor indicated intent to continue pregnancy after discussing abortion option through hotline screening	4
Minor was emancipated and could seek services without a parent or legal guardian being notified	0
Minor referred to clinic for emergency contraception	0
Minor had miscarriage before participating in judicial bypass process	2
<b>TOTAL MINORS SCREENED FOR SERVICES</b>	<b>316</b>

## Actions Taken After Minors Call the JDP Legal Hotline

1/1/07 – 12/31/07, Our estimates:

- 51% of minors seek judicial bypass with the assistance of a JDP attorney or through a recognized court appointed system that is both convenient to the minor and confidential.
- 5% of minors intend to seek consent from a parent for an abortion at the completion of the screening process.
- 5% of minors acquire emergency contraception, experience miscarriages, seek abortion services outside of the state, wait until their 18th birthday to obtain services, or decide to continue their pregnancies.
- 39% of minors are referred to clinics or other agencies to explore their pregnancy options; their outcomes are unknown.

More than 279,500 minors in Texas have neither parent present. They are being raised by a grandparent or another relative.

51% of minors sought a judicial bypass in 2007 compared to 42% in 2006.

P.O. BOX 685137, AUSTIN, TX 78768-5137

PHONE: 512-444-7891

TOLL-FREE LEGAL HOTLINE: 1-866-WWW-JANE (999-5263)

WWW.JANESDUEPROCESS.ORG

2  
0

All statistics were prepared by Caitlin Styrsky, Research and Development Associate, Jane's Due Process, Inc.