



[www.teenwire.com](http://www.teenwire.com)



You must go [www.teenwire.com](http://www.teenwire.com) to see all question--and answers from your Planned Parenthood friends.

**teenwire is Planned Parenthood's web site design to provide age-appropriate sex information to the world's teens (and pre-teens).**

Dear Experts,

Will having an abortion affect me when I want children?

Teen22

Dear Teen22,

Abortion is a very safe procedure. It is about twice as safe as having tonsils removed, and is much safer than giving birth. In fact, it is 11 times safer than giving birth if it is performed before the 18th week of pregnancy. Most abortions, 90 percent, are performed in the first 12 weeks of pregnancy. An early abortion (up to 14 weeks after the last period) that is performed by an experienced clinician and that is not followed by any complications, such as infection, does not make it more difficult to carry a later pregnancy to term. Early abortions, with no complications, have no harmful health effects for the woman and do not increase the possibility of future miscarriages, ectopic pregnancies, birth defects, or low infant birth weight. Even if a woman has more than one early abortion, her ability to carry a later pregnancy to term is not endangered.

Abortions after 14 weeks are also very safe, but health risks increase the longer a pregnancy goes on.

Abortion poses little danger to a woman's emotional and mental health. Although a woman may feel some regret or remorse, the most common emotion after an abortion is relief. Severe emotional and psychological reactions to abortion are rare.

If you need to talk with someone in person, you can call: 1-800-230-PLAN and you'll be connected to the nearest Planned Parenthood. They will be able to help you set up an appointment if needed.

If you want more information about abortion, visit [www.plannedparenthood.org](http://www.plannedparenthood.org), go to the site index or home page, and click on "abortion."

We hope this information is helpful to you and answers your questions.

Take care,  
Teenwire® Editors

Dear Experts,

Can me and my girlsfrind masturbate each other??  
tenno

Dear tenno

Yes, many people enjoy mutual masturbation — using their hands to simulate a partner's sex organs. Any sex play without vaginal intercourse is called outercourse. And there are many ways to be sexual without intercourse — such as body rubbing ("humping"), masturbation, deep kissing, erotic massage, oral sex play, role-playing, and sharing fantasies with a partner.

Outercourse offers nearly 100 percent protection against pregnancy. But pregnancy is possible if semen (cum) or pre-

ejaculate (pre-cum) gets onto the vulva or into the vagina. Pre-ejaculate is similar to semen, but it leaks from the penis before a man "comes," and it may carry sperm.

Outercourse can also greatly reduce the risk of HIV and many other sexually transmitted infections — unless body fluids are exchanged through oral or anal intercourse. But some infections, like herpes and HPV, can be passed by skin-to-skin contact.

Hope this information helps!

Take care,

Teenwire® Editors

Dear Experts,

Me and my boyfriend are sexually active and we decided to buy birth control pills for me. do you have to be a certain age to buy the pill?

soccer\_gal

Dear soccer\_gal,

No, there's no age requirement for obtaining the birth control pill, or any other form of birth control. However, a woman who wishes to start the Pill must see a clinician first to get a prescription. To make an appointment for confidential birth control counseling at a Planned Parenthood near you, call 1-800-230-PLAN.

Hope this information helps!

Take care,

Teenwire® Editors

**Many more questions and answers can be found on teenwire under the following topics.**

