

## **U.N. IN ACTION**

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## **TEENAGE PREGNANCY IN MANILA**

<u>VIDEO</u> <u>AUDIO</u>

**NARRATION** 

JANICE WALKING WITH HER BABY

Teenage parenthood is widespread in the Philippines, especially among the poor. Two thirds of the country's poorest girls give birth before age 20. This helps to perpetuate poverty in the slums of Manila. (14")

VIEW FROM BRIDGE / POOR HOMES

One hundred and thirty families, about 700 people, live beneath a bridge in the notoriously poor Tondo district. Locals call them the 'bat people.' (10")

JANICE AND JOELL AT HOME

Janice Banaag, age 18, her husband Joell, and newborn daughter Janelle occupy a tiny, windowless room. (8")

JANICE: (Tagalog)

JANICE TALKING

"I counsel teenagers about avoiding pregnancy.

Think before you act is my advice." (6")

## NARRATION

CLINIC SHOTS OF YOUNG MOTHERS, PRENATAL EXAM

The Tondo community group ZOTO responds to teenage pregnancy by providing health information and services. Every day, dozens of young mothers visit ZOTO's health clinic for preand post-natal exams. Some, like Janice, give birth at the clinic. And many come for family planning services. (19")

JANICE ON CAMERA AT HEALTH CENTRE

JANICE: (Tagalog)

"I don't want another baby until we can afford it. I'll

get an IUD." (5")

**NARRATION** 

MORE CLINIC SHOTS Many other Manila women don't have that option.

The city's conservative mayor has banned contraceptives in public health centres and

hospitals. (8")

CLINIC PHARMACY Condoms are not available in government-run

health centres, but young people can usually get them at the ZOTO clinic, depending on supplies.

(9")

JANICE AT HOME Before she had Janelle, Janice was part of the

ZOTO performance group. One song they sang contrasted the hard lives of urban squatters to

those of people who live in large houses. (11")

JANICE SINGING (NATSOT)

STREET SCENE With less to worry about, Janice is focusing on

charting the course for her young family. (6")

UN LOGO

This report was prepared by William Ryan for the

United Nations.

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