



TV

# UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

## UN IN ACTION

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Release Date: May 2010

Programme No. 1238

Length: 5'16"

Languages: English, French, Spanish, Russian

### JAMAICA: TEEN PREGNANCY

#### VIDEO

ANTOINETTE AT HOME

AT WORK

PICTURES OF ANTOINETTE IN  
SCHOOL

ANTOINETTE ON CAMERA

#### AUDIO

##### NARRATION

Twenty-eight year old Antoinette Sykes is a successful young woman. She owns her own home in this new development – Caribbean Estates. (8.6)

Antoinette works as a secretary at the Women's Centre of Jamaica Foundation, WCJF, a government initiative. (6.6)

She's also a graduate of the Centre. (2)

But life for Antoinette wasn't always easy. She became pregnant at fifteen. Still in high school, it wasn't good news. (9.59)

ANTOINETTE: (English) F

*"...everything would be set back for me. My future...I was just having those negative thoughts..."* (4.5)

##### NARRATION

In the Caribbean country of Jamaica, a girl is

SCHOOL CHILDREN IN STREET/  
ANTOINETTE AT WORK

barred from going to school if she becomes pregnant. Antoinette had no choice. Desperate to finish her education, she turned to the women's centre for help. (14)

ANTOINETTE ON-CAMERA

ANTOINETTE: (English) F

*"The women's centre really played a role for me. They teach us about our childcare, how to take care of our babies, take care of ourselves when we go to school and basically just how to be a better mom for our child."* (14.6)

EXTERIOR CENTRE/ KIDS IN CLASS  
INTO TO WEIR

NARRATION

Over 1,000 girls are helped each year by the Centre. Founder, Beryl Weir, says they're often shunned by society. (7.8)

WEIR ON CAMERA

WEIR: (English) F

*"When we get them, they would have discovered the pregnancy. They would have gone through all the jeering and possibly children setting up on them in school and the teachers saying unkind things to them. So when we get them, they have already gone through that and feel it is the end."* (18)

ENGLISH CLASS IN SESSION

NARRATION

The Centre offers hope for the girls and gives them a chance to finish high school. (5)

ANTOINETTE TALKING WITH GIRLS

Antoinette shares her story with young teens who are new to the programme. (4.4)

SOUND UP

## (NATSOT – TELLING HER STORY)

### GIRLS LISTENING

Her story both motivates them and raises their self esteem. (4.45)

### NARRATION

These girls are taking final exams in Food and Nutrition. If it weren't for their pregnancies, they would be taking the test in high school. (8.45)

### COOKING CLASS

### UNFPA BUILDING/FLAGS

The United Nations Population Fund, UNFPA, supports the work of the Centre. Deputy Director of the Sub-regional Office for the Caribbean, Dr. Hernando Agudelo says changing attitudes of parents is difficult. (13.9)

### INTRO TO AGUDELO

### AGUDELO ON CAMERA

AGUDELO: (English) **M**

*"...Sometimes they have misunderstandings. They think that the schools are going to teach the children how to have sex. It is not how to have sex. It is how to be responsible with their sexuality." (9.72)*

### NARRATION

### JORDAN AT HOME WITH MOM

Like Antoinette, sixteen year old Kazan is also benefiting from the Centre. He is the father or "baby father" as they say in Jamaica, of a four- month old baby girl, Shakira. (12)

### KAZAN PLAYING SOCCER

It happened when he began dating his 14 year old girlfriend, Nathalie. Kazan claimed

he didn't know anything about protection methods. (8.75)

KAZAN ON CAMERA

KAZAN: (English) **M**

*"Actually, I never knew what was taking place. I knew late. So, nothing could have been done about it."* (7.30)

COUNSELLING

NARRATION

Each week he goes to the Women's Centre for counseling to become a good father. (4.59)

(NATSOT OF SESSION)

His parents have also given him sound advice. (3.28)

KAZAN ON CAMERA

KAZAN: (English) **M**

*"They sat down with me and talked to me and said 'Look dear, you have a child coming. You need to take responsibility. You need to be a man and stand up to your own destiny.' So from that I just looked into myself, and planned to stand up as a man."* (16.8)

AT CENTRE

NARRATION

Nathalie's parents were not that forgiving. They were very upset because she's their only daughter. (6.06) Besides, sexual intercourse at such a young age is an offense under Jamaican law. (5.84)

COUNSELLING

MS COUNSELLOR

Meanwhile, Kazan's life grew complicated.

He now faces difficulties juggling school and his new responsibilities as a parent. (10.3)

He advises his peers not to make the same mistake he did. (4.07)

KAZAN: (English) **M**

KAZAN ON CAMERA

*"I want to say to every young individual, you must use a condom. And abstinence makes sense." ///Because being a young father is not that easy in our society." (12.1)*

KAZAN'S WITH HIS MOM

### NARRATION

SOCCER GAME

Kazan still finds time to practice soccer, his favorite past time, during the week. Weekends are saved for quality time with baby Shakira. (11.5)

WOMEN'S CENTRE

The women's centre is playing a key role in shaping policy and attitudes regarding teen pregnancy in Jamaica. It's also finding a way to channel information on reproductive health and services to adolescents so they can avoid unplanned pregnancies in the future. (20)

UN LOGO

This report was prepared by Mary Ferreira for the United Nations. (3.8)