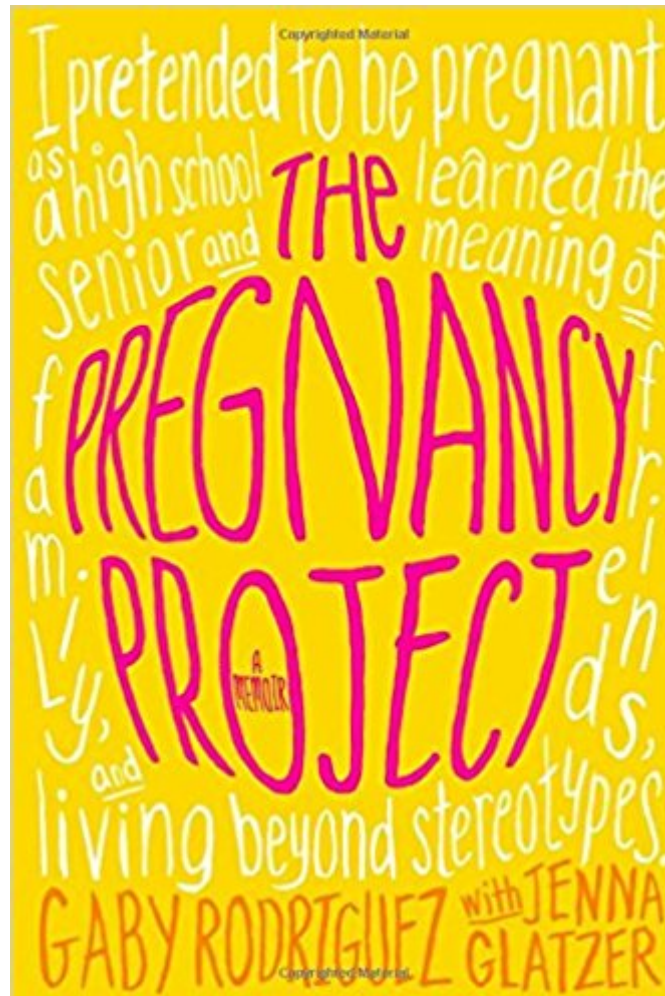




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The Pregnancy Project: A Memoir



Synopsis

>Growing up, Gaby Rodriguez was often told she would end up a teen mom. After all, her mother and her older sisters had gotten pregnant as teenagers; from an outsider's perspective, it was practically a family tradition. Gaby had ambitions that didn't include teen motherhood. But she wondered: how would she be treated if she "lived down" to others' expectations? Would everyone ignore the years she put into being a good student and see her as just another pregnant teen statistic with no future? These questions sparked Gaby's high school senior project: faking her own pregnancy to see how her family, friends, and community would react. What she learned changed her life forever and made international headlines in the process. In *The Pregnancy Project*, Gaby details how she was able to fake her own pregnancy—hiding the truth from even her siblings and boyfriend's parents—and reveals all that she learned from the experience. But more than that, Gaby's story is about fighting stereotypes, and how one girl found the strength to come out from the shadow of low expectations to forge a bright future for herself.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Gaby's story is vividly told with a strong voice and a great story arc that begins with her parents and ends with a call to other teens and adults to stop the cycle of teen pregnancy, motherhood and poverty. *THE PREGNANCY PROJECT* is not just a good read, but an important one as well." — BookReporter.com

Gaby Rodriguez made national headlines in 2011 when, as a seventeen-year-old high school senior from Toppenish, Washington, she revealed she had faked a pregnancy for a class project. Her experience inspired a Lifetime movie, also titled >. Her grades were in the top 5 percent of her graduating class, and she was a commencement speaker. She was also in the ASB Leadership group and president of the school's chapter of M.E.Ch.A (Movimiento Estudiantil de Chicanos de Aztlán: Chicano Student Movement of Aztlán). She was raised by her single mom and has seven brothers and sisters. She is currently attending college. Jenna Glatzer wrote the text of Celine Dion, which is produced by becker&mayer. Jenna is the author of 11 books and countless articles in national, regional, and online publications. The writer recently worked extensively with Jamie Blyth of The Bachelorette on Blyth's autobiography. Jenna operates several writing-related businesses, frequently appears as a guest on radio and television shows, and is a columnist for both MSN.com and Match.com.

This seems like an ideal book to have students read in a debate class. There have been plenty of discussions regarding the ethics of what Gaby did, but I personally feel she made a great contribution to non-fiction teen literature. The harassment that her boyfriend (Jorge) had to endure really did highlight reasons why boys leave teen moms. If anything, this book shows that we as a society contribute greatly to the problems of pregnant teens. There is a place between celebrating teen moms (via shows like Teen Mom) and casting them out in the streets and treating them like garbage. We need to be more supportive of our girls and give them confidence they will need in order to be good mothers. One of the characters I was most conflicted about in this book was Gaby's sister, Jessica. At first, I really disliked her for what she put Gaby through when she was younger. But, during the project, Jessica was one of her few allies. I think that through the pregnancy, Jessica changed for the better. Instead of rubbing Gaby's face in her mistake, she showed support for Gaby that Jessica herself did not receive when she was pregnant.

This is a really great and inspiring story. I read this for a school project and it's one of the few books for school that I read that's not horribly boring. There are parents and few friends saying this book isn't appropriate for my kids my age. I'm an incoming freshman. They are very wrong. Kids my age and probably younger need to be educated more on this subject. In the book she talks about how her mom got pregnant and dropped out at my age. Her mom's not the first person in the world to have to go through that. That fact alone is enough reason why younger kids need to read this book and know about this stuff. I recommend this book to everyone.

The book is something a teenager could relate to. It brings back those harsh memories in high school where you didn't really fit in, or felt alone. The stereotypes, rumors, and hurtful words that are said in the hallways, classrooms, facebook and twitter really do get to you. Those words hurt. I will never understand why people speak so badly of people they don't know, or backstab their bestfriend of so many years. It takes a lot for me to sit still long enough to read a book for 20 minutes, but I did love this book, and managed to sit a couple hours. It's a story of this girl's life, her background, her history. This girl, like everyone else, has a story to tell. Get to know the people around you before you talk a word about others, because people can surprise you. This book is a great way to understand someone who has so little, and breaks those stereotypes, racial comments, and the bad reputation a person can have in high school.

Interesting book.

I could really relate to this book, I loved it! I also grew up in a single mom household with two brothers and three sisters; I was the oldest. I was also a teen mom and I beat the stereotype of a high school dropout and I graduated with my class on time with a two year old daughter on my own. I always tell my siblings to learn from my mistakes and make better choices for their lives! And they are!! We all are still going to college today!! With ALL the support from our Mother!! Love you mom!!

Great book! I really enjoyed it.

This book is totally awesome. This book is like some sort of reminder, reminding people, especially teenagers about the society. Teenagers tend to get pregnant at a younger age nowadays and get drop out from the high school. This story told us how it would affect one's life, family, and kids if one got pregnant at an early age; besides, the author also told us how the society will treat those pregnant teens differently. An inspiring and touching book. "I pretended to be pregnant in high school and learned the meaning of family, friends, and living beyond stereotypes." (Gaby Rodriguez)

Great book

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