Financial and Educational Assistance

Michelle Buenrostro · Maria Ault · Robert N. Rust

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Multiple speakers
It is a hyperfixation on only one pregnancy outcome, and to me, it just feels like political theater. Oh, that's pretty powerful stuff. Maria, I toss the ball back to you. What practical assistance do pregnant teenagers, low-income women, and students need to make informed decisions? And which interventions have evidence of improving maternal, educational, and economic outcomes?

Michelle Buenrostro
Yeah, I love this question so much. So a well-informed choice means that she understands all her options and resources available to her. And it's important to note that every mother has different needs. When I was pregnant, I attended a school for parenting teenagers, and we all had various levels of support.

Michelle Buenrostro
Some of us had our family support, some only had support from their boyfriends, and there were moms there that were in the foster care system with their babies. So customized one-on-one support can help identify targeted help to ensure that she completes her education. And research shows us that having access to reliable childcare and financial support can benefit school completion.

Michelle Buenrostro
And school completion is important because that translates into higher lifetime earnings for the mom and a better quality of life for herself and her baby.

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