Dads Still Bungle Discussions About Condoms With Their Sons

Researchers conducted interviews with two dozen pairs of Black and Latino fathers and sons in New York City.

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Fathers report being ill equipped to discuss condom use with their sons, according to a recent qualitative study of Black and Latino fathers and sons, Medscape reports. These young men and their fathers lived in a neighborhood of New York City with high rates of teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

Publishing their findings in the journal Pediatrics, researchers interviewed 25 pairs of such fathers and sons, who had average ages of 44 and 17 years old, respectively.

While most of the fathers reported talking with their sons about sex, the men reported having trouble going into the finer details of condom use. In particular, the fathers reported being unprepared to discuss the late application, breakage or slippage of condoms. In fact, they hoped such conversations with their sons would actually improve their own use of condoms.

Meanwhile, the sons, who largely said they wanted their fathers to initiate a discussion about condoms with them, reported a shallow understanding of the benefits of delaying sex and using condoms.

To read the study, click here.

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