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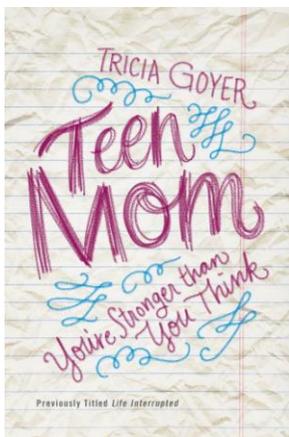


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PRESS RELEASE

Putting an arm around teen moms

Tricia Goyer fills new book with encouragement and help based on personal experience



Seattle: According to the National Center for Health Statistics, more than a quarter of a million babies are born to teen moms in the U.S. each year. Best-selling author Tricia Goyer has written ***Teen Mom: You're Stronger than You Think*** (Zondervan/March 3, 2015/ISBN: 978-0310338871/\$15.99) because she doesn't want one of them to fall through the cracks of the culture.

Everything changes the day these young girls discover they're going to be moms, and the pressures they're under can be crushing. The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy reports teen moms are more likely to drop out of high school and nearly half of them live below the poverty line.

Tricia Goyer understands. Born to a single mom, Tricia found herself pregnant at 17, and she remembers what it felt like to carry the weight of the world on her shoulders. "My boyfriend was out of the picture, and I faced raising a child alone with little education, no money and maybe, according to the world, little hope for my future," Goyer admits. "Yet, I am not a statistic. And you know why I'm not a statistic? Because God doesn't do them."

Goyer has gone on to be an award-winning author and popular speaker. She's also been the coordinator of a teen MOPS group for more than 12 years and has cheered on many young mothers — from all walks of life — through their journeys. "Every moment I've spent volunteering in these teen mom support groups is worth it. I remember being the one who needed to hear about Jesus' love and forgiveness. Somebody talked to me, and it cost them too. There is someone in your community who needs to hear too."

While most young moms would never trade their children for the world, some days are just *hard*. Baby-daddy drama, dealing with their parents, and worries about the future slam them. They find their friends can't relate to their little family, and some girls will begin to wonder if God has turned His back on them. In *Teen Mom*, Goyer pours out her heart and provides encouragement to these young, single mothers, reminding them they can be the mom their children deserve — not in their own strength, but in the strength God provides.

In addition to encouraging these moms, Goyer says she hopes *Teen Mom* will equip church leaders, pregnancy crisis centers, counselors and anyone involved in the lives of young mothers to broach challenging topics such as purity, sexual abuse and bad boyfriends. Questions found at the end of every chapter will help them discuss these difficult issues, while giving teens a chance to open up and share their experiences.

Teen Mom ultimately serves to remind us all that every young mom is worthy of the love, forgiveness and hope for the future that can only come from God's love.

Learn more about Tricia Goyer and *Teen Mom* at www.triciagoyer.com and on [Facebook \(authortriciagoyer\)](#) or [Twitter \(triciagoyer\)](#).

About the Author



Tricia Goyer is a busy mom of six, grandmother of two and wife to John. A best-selling author, Tricia has published 50 books to date and has written more than 500 articles. She is a two-time Carol Award winner, as well as a Christy and ECPA Award Nominee. In 2010, she was selected as one of the Top 20 Moms to Follow on Twitter by SheKnows.com. Tricia is also on the blogging team at MomLifeToday.com, TheBetterMom.com and other homeschooling and Christian sites.

In addition to her roles as mom, wife and author, Tricia volunteers around her community and mentors teen moms. She is the founder of Hope Pregnancy Ministries in Northwestern Montana, and she currently leads a Teen MOPS Group in Little Rock, Ark. Tricia, along with a group of friends, shares ideas about simplifying life at www.NotQuiteAmishLiving.com.

Keep up with Tricia Goyer by visiting www.triciagoyer.com, liking her on [Facebook \(authortriciagoyer\)](https://www.facebook.com/authortriciagoyer) and following her on [Twitter \(triciagoyer\)](https://twitter.com/triciagoyer) and [Pinterest \(triciagoyer\)](https://www.pinterest.com/triciagoyer/).

Suggested Interview Questions

- This book, *Teen Mom: You're Stronger than You Think*, comes from a very personal place for you — share a little bit of your own story.
- What are some of the challenges unique to single moms?
- Why do you say God doesn't "do" statistics?
- What do you think about how the MTV show *Teen Mom* portrays this experience? Do you think it glamorizes it at all?
- Why is ministering to teen moms through Teen MOPS so important to you?
- Based on your experience, both personally and with young moms, what do you think their single greatest need is?
- Some people, particularly in the church, have trouble differentiating between helping young teen moms by providing for their needs and openly condoning and supporting out-of-wedlock pregnancy. What would you say to those people?
- What would you say to encourage people to reach out to young moms?
- What can people do on a very practical level to help teen mothers in their community?
- This book is written specifically to teen moms, but how do you see its impact reaching beyond that?

To request a review copy of *Teen Mom*, schedule an interview with Tricia Goyer or for more information, please contact Audra Jennings, audra@liffusegroup.com.