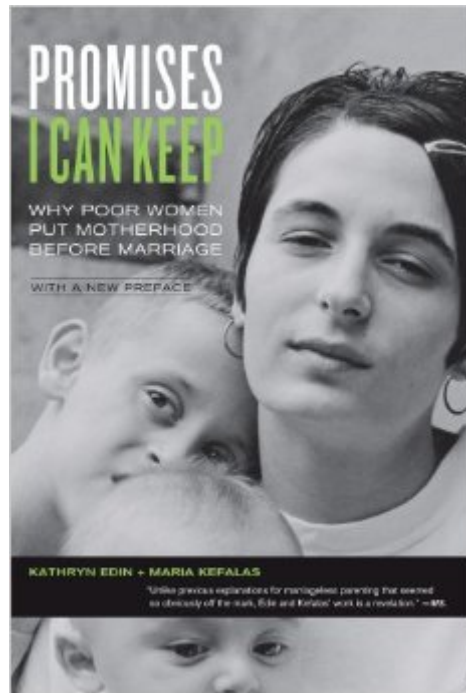


The book was found

Promises I Can Keep: Why Poor Women Put Motherhood Before Marriage, With A New Preface



Synopsis

Millie Acevedo bore her first child before the age of 16 and dropped out of high school to care for her newborn. Now 27, she is the unmarried mother of three and is raising her kids in one of Philadelphia's poorest neighborhoods. Would she and her children be better off if she had waited to have them and had married their father first? Why do so many poor American youth like Millie continue to have children before they can afford to take care of them? Over a span of five years, sociologists Kathryn Edin and Maria Kefalas talked in-depth with 162 low-income single moms like Millie to learn how they think about marriage and family. *Promises I Can Keep* offers an intimate look at what marriage and motherhood mean to these women and provides the most extensive on-the-ground study to date of why they put children before marriage despite the daunting challenges they know lie ahead.

Book Information

Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: University of California Press; Revised edition (October 4, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0520271467

ISBN-13: 978-0520271463

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.9 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (16 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #126,146 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #142 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Poverty](#) #207 in [Books > Textbooks > Social Sciences > Gender Studies](#) #221 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Sociology > Marriage & Family](#)

Customer Reviews

I couldn't put it down. The book was very well written. I found the book to be very objective primarily. The author is trying to make sense of why women in underprivileged communities choose to bear children but also choose for the most part to forgo marriage indefinitely. There are a few salient points she really drives home. 1. These women really love their children and would not be the women they are today without them (does that give them a right to screw up a future adults life to save their own?) 2. The men that impregnate these women are not marriageable material (domestic violence, drugs, incarceration, etc.) in any sense of the word for the overwhelming majority (half of those children born to these women are those same men) and 3. They see marriage as something

they aspire to someday when they have a house, a career, an education, and some material comfort. In the event the marriage doesn't work out they can kick the guy to the curb and still have their stuff intact to care for the children. As with any good social science book, it begs more questions than answers. That is where I part ways with the soft brushstrokes of this book. My questions are ones that disturb me. A fifteen year old teenage girl wants nothing but to leave her home, strike out on her own, have independence, not be under anyone's rule. That is a typical teenager under the best of circumstances in any class in America. The big difference is these kids have no parental guidance at that point. The easiest thing in the world to do is be a bad parent. All you have to do is nothing. When a teenager becomes too hard to deal with by a person who was never allowed to fully mature herself, let her get pregnant and start a whole new life cycle.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Promises I Can Keep: Why Poor Women Put Motherhood before Marriage, with a New Preface
Marriage: How To Rescue Your Marriage: Proven Advice To Help Overcome Conflicts And Save Your Marriage Forever (Marriage Help, Marriage Advice, Overcome Conflicts, Marriage Book) Why Can't My Child Behave?: Why Can't She Cope? Why Can't He Learn? The Feingold Diet updated for today's busy families IS THIS WHY AFRICA IS? (Why Africa is poor, Why Africa is not developing, What Africa needs, What Africa needs to develop): Africa, Africa, Africa, Africa Africa, Africa, Ebola, Ebola, Ebola, Ebola Missional Motherhood: The Everyday Ministry of Motherhood in the Grand Plan of God Poor-Quality Cost: Implementing, Understanding, and Using the Cost of Poor Quality (Quality and Reliability) Portfolios of the Poor: How the World's Poor Live on \$2 a Day Marriage: How To Save And Rebuild Your Connection, Trust, Communication And Intimacy (FREE Bonus Included) (Marriage Help, Save Your Marriage, Communication Skills, Marriage Advice) Caribbean Women at the Crossroads: The Paradox of Motherhood Among Women of Barbados, St Lucia and Dominica Women Strike for Peace: Traditional Motherhood and Radical Politics in the 1960s (Women in Culture and Society) Promises to Keep : Crafting Your Wedding Ceremony (Rites to Remember Series) Promises to Keep: Technology, Law, and the Future of Entertainment (Stanford Law Books) Attract Women: Inside Her (Mind): Secrets of the Female Psyche to Attract Women, Keep Them Seduced, and Bulletproof Your Relationship (Dating Advice for Men to Attract Women) Don't Let Your Emotions Run Your Life: How Dialectical Behavior Therapy Can Put You in Control (New Harbinger Self-Help Workbook) Marriage: How To Be A Better Wife: The Ultimate Guide To Mastering Marriage For Women When Bad Things Happen to Good People: Twentieth Anniversary Edition, with a New Preface by the Author The American Musical Landscape: The Business of Musicianship from Billings to Gershwin, Updated With a New Preface (Ernest Bloch

Lectures) *The Dirty Dozen: How Twelve Supreme Court Cases Radically Expanded Government and Eroded Freedom*, With a New Preface *In Defense of Anarchism* (with a New Preface) 1st (first) Edition by Wolff, Robert Paul (1998) *Arms and Influence: With a New Preface and Afterword* (The Henry L. Stimson Lectures Series)

[Dmca](#)