

**CAUSES OF SEXUAL BEHAVIOUR AMONG UNDERGRADUATE
STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BENIN**

BY

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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION,
FACULTY OF EDUCATION,
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BENIN CITY.**

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**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT
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REQUIREMENT FOR THE AWARD OF B.Sc (Ed) DEGREE
IN
HEALTH EDUCATION**

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research work was carried out by with matriculation No: **EDU1511152** in the Department of Health Safety Environmental Education, in Partial Fulfillment of the fulfillment of the requirement the award of B.Sc Health Education (Ed) Degree.

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DEDICATION

This research work is dedicated to God Almighty and the Holy Spirit for his wisdom, guidance and grace upon me to successfully and excellently complete this work.

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ABSTRACT

This research work was designed to assess the causes sexual behaviours among undergraduate students of the University of Benin. In order to assess these causes, further research questions were formulated and the researcher designed questionnaire to elicit information from the respondents. A sample of one hundred respondents was randomly selected comprising of (53) male students and (47) female students. The questionnaire was designed based on the research questions and simple percentage formula was used to analyze the data collected.

At the end of the research, the following findings were made: peer group influence contributed to the occurrences of premarital sex, financial / gains influence premarital sex, curiosity have an effect on premarital sex, the media influence the occurrence of premarital sex.

Based on the findings the following recommendation were made by the researcher: parents or guidance should know the kinds of friends or roommates their wards have in the University so as to make appropriate adjustment time, during orientation programs, in the classrooms or in teaching sex education, the student should be taught on how to control their curiosity and the effect of this curiosity if not well managed, also parents or guardians should ensure that the needs of the awards are adequately met with emphasis on financial needs.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Study

It has been observed that opposite sex attracts, that is, man to woman, young boys to young girls, male child to female parent (Oedipus complex) and female child to the male parent. This could be for sexual gratification, feeling of belonging. Literature has shown that these two parties (male and female) have always had a strong connection that is beyond the ordinary. Something, someone or an idea has drawn them together (Little, 2014).

Sexual behaviour is generally used in references to individuals who are sexually active not yet of marriageable age or between adults, who will presumably marry eventually, but who are engaged in sexual activity prior to marriage (Ramesh, 2008).

Public opinion polls have consistently shown that premarital sex is wrong and dangerous to health, resulting in abortions, teenage mothers, and sexually transmitted infection (Finer, 2007). Premarital is sex before

marriage, and is generally found among the youth. It involves fornication, rape defilement and incest. The cause behind it have been established including curiosity among the youth, proof of manhood, lust, pornography and its adverse effects, insanity and sex promiscuity as well as moral decadence among the youths, (Choe etal 2011).

Premarital sex is perceived and seen as a taboo in many culture and considered a sin against man and God in most religion, it has become more commonly accepted by large portions of populace in developed countries within the last few decades. The risk in premarital sex in Africa has resulted from a sexual revolution that came with the western culture (Scott, 2005). A 2014 few study of global morality found that premarital sex was considered particularly unacceptable in predominantly Muslim nations such as Indonesia, Jordan, Pakistan and Egypt each having over 90% disapproval whilst many people within western European nations were the most accepting with Spain, Germany and France having less than 10% disapproval.

According to a 2001 UNICEF survey, in 10 out of 12 developed nations with available data, more than two thirds of young people have had sexual intercourse while still in their teens in Denmark, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Norway, The United Kingdom and the United States, approximately 25% of 15 years old, an 50% of 17 years olds have had sex. This goes a long way to prove that even before the students gain admission into the university a handful of them are already familiar with the experience of sexual intercourse and so the trade to continue even at the university level (Vasilenko, 2012).

Sexual activities among students have been reported to be increasing worldwide. Several studies in sub Saharan African have also documented high and increasing premarital sexual activity practiced by persons who are unmarried and it has been considered taboo in some culture and sin in numerous religion.

Mehmet (2006) concluded that among the background variables considered, mother education, age, ethnicity and employment status were among the most important predictors of attitudes towards women

premarital activity. Allen (2003) had earlier reported that several polls have indicated peer pressure as a significant sexual activity predictors, while on the contrary, sexually inducing drugs and alcohol have been identified as factor which may encourage unintended sexual activities (UNICEF 2001).

Premarital cohabitations has been reported as a common phenomenon among Nigeria university undergraduates because sex is a predisposing factor in the initiation of sexual activities (Alo, 2008). Furthermore, Ibrahim (2003) opined that the lifestyles of university students, have changed over the years because students seem to value free sexual life on campus.

Worldwide rates, sexually transmitted infection (STIs) among the youth are soaring; one third of the 340 million new STD, each years occur in people under 25 years of age (Fernandez et al, 2010). There are many behavioral problems among the adolescents that Nigerian society today has to contend with. Such problems, include truancy, disobedience, drug offences, assault, insult, stealing, violent demonstration, vandalism, examination malpractice, robbery and secret cult activities (Nnanchi, 2002) Apart from these widely publicized behavioural problem, heterosexual

activities, are listed among types of behavioural problem, prevalent in Nigeria secondary schools. These are variously named, in the literature as sex abuse, sex offences, sexual misconduct, sexual immortality, sexual promiscuity, and sexual maladjustment (Adegboyega, 2017). When these individuals graduate from their secondary school, they do not only graduate, with learned behaviour and new ideology which they bring in to the university to explore their new gained freedom.

Sexual intercourse from observation and from the reports and witness of people who engaged in them attest to the fact that it is highly pleasurable, both during and after the act, and as such an average person would be attracted to activities that induce pleasure. People engaged in premarital sex, in this case university undergraduate for several reasons, whether out of curiosity, for pleasure sake or a feeling of achievement etc. The case of premarital sex among undergraduate student of the university of Benin one can say has been on and is gradually becoming a part of the norm in the society and the university communities. In an occasion, a roommate of the researcher attest to an incident where he caught some students, in the act

around the dark corners, in his faculty, one thing lead to the other and the case got to the security department, university of Benin.

According to Abdullahi and Umar (2008), “sexual behaviour among the students in our university is speculatively very rampant and worrisome. In this contest, it is important to understand why youth engage in risky sexual behaviour and to understand the influencing factor for the behavior. Also, taking out time to meditate on why in this present time the issues of sex has become an issues of grave concern, one would observe that the media has somehow succeeded in creating in our subconscious pictures of sex, sexual feeling and sexual arousal. Careful observation would reveal the fact that in almost all television station you turn to there is either a “beautiful damsel” who is half naked intentionally showing off her cleavage, the size of her breast or her hip just to get your attention to a particular product or service. This is also the case for the opposites sex who would flaunt his muscles and six pack” just to sell underwear’s. Access to the internet (which is actually a great thing) have heightened this issues of sexual feeling and arousal most especially among undergraduates who at the click of every link is beckoned to subscribed to a porn site or watch a phonographic video,

or hookup newspaper, magazines and other book materials are not left out in this jingles of sex and sexual activities.

A look at all the facts and speculation that has been built around premarital sex among individual in the society at large and among undergraduate students of the university of Benin in particular, one can conclude that it is a matter that need to be addressed and causes carefully assessed to get better understanding or insight into these causes and possibly provide alternative activities or suggestions that can help address this issues for the benefit of the individuals, the university community and the nation at large.

1.2. Statement of the Problem

This research work is designed to assess the causes of sexual behaviour among undergraduate students, of the university of Benin. From observation, a walk and a careful survey of the environs of the university community, one would find packs of already used condoms, littering the ground even though it is not that rampart it could be possible that these

packs, was used as instructional materials or for the primary purpose for which it was made.

Student lives in the community where they meet people from different background and as such they are exposed to peer influence and a desire to meet up with certain standard. All of this and more can lead to premarital sex which culminate in various problem such as unwanted pregnancy, exposure to sexually transmitted infections, poor academic performances, school dropout and a host of others.

All of these problem associated with premarital sex are preventable or at least the effect on a large majority of study can be reduced to the barest minimum. Accessing the causes can help us better understand ways to prevent and check mate the occurrence of premarital sex among undergraduate students of the University of Benin.

Sexual behaviour pose a great threat to the future of the numerous naïve students, admitted yearly into the university and also to the name of the school, because if this act increases, various consequence will inevitably follow and it can grow into becoming a part of the culture among the

students, taking a cue from arrowing which means to throw abusive word on passerby from the flyover to have fun and make them feel embarrassed. From this, one can see that there is need to carefully assess the causes of premarital sex among undergraduate student of the University of Benin.

1.3. Research Question

In a view to reach a meaningful and an objective result/conclusion, the following question were drawn to guide the research work.

1. Does peer group influence contribute to the occurrence of sexual behaviours?
2. Do financial gains influence sexual behaviour?
3. Does curiosity have any effect on sexual behaviour?
4. Do the media influence the occurrence of sexual behaviour?

1.4. Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this research work is the assessment of the causes of sexual behaviour among undergraduate students of the university of Benin.

1.5. Significance of the Study

The conclusion reached and the result gotten from this research will provide additional knowledge to past research findings already done on premarital sex, provides the university of Benin with an arsenal of knowledge about the causes of premarital sex in her institute and also would be very beneficial to the numerous student admitted yearly to be better equipped against the pressure and occurrence of premarital sex among undergraduates.

This study will help to identify how peer influence contribute to premarital sex, the influence of financial gains on premarital sex, how curiosity or desire to experiment affect student decisions to engage in sexual intercourse before marriage.

Finally, the results of this study can be used to strategize for better alternative on educating the students on sex, and how to go about the unavoidable pressure associated with sex in the university community.

1.6. Scope of the Study

This research study is focused on the prestigious federal University of Benin located in Egor Local Government of Edo State Nigeria. The research shall be carried out using a descriptive survey research design. This study is focus on the causes of premarital sex among undergraduate students with the students, of university of Benin as the main respondents.

CHAPTER TWO

2.0. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter presents the review of related literature on premarital sex and other factors surrounding it. It is presented under the following subheadings.

- Concept of premarital sex
- Causes and influence of premarital sex
- Factors that has increased the acceptance of premarital sex
- Consequences of premarital sex.

2.1. Concept of Premarital Sex

From the look of things, one can say that the rate of sexual activities has spiraled up within the last decades. Several studies in sub – Saharan Africa have also documented high and increasing premarital sexual activities among adolescents (World Health Organization, 2011). According to Ibrahim (2010), students seem to value free sexual life on campus. Our schools most especial our universities seem to be an environment marked for

freedom of decision even those that have adverse health effect implications even for the students. According to (Ogbuji, 2010; Orji, Adegbenro, Olalekan 2012; Iyaniwura & Salako, 2005), student in Nigeria indicate high rate of sexual activities as well as limited knowledge and use of condom among secondary school as well as undergraduate.

Akinboye (2015) observed that sex is a powerful force and as such must be handled wisely and with self-restraint if its true meaning is to be realized. In Africa for example, research indicate that most people become sexually active at about the age of 12 – 13 years, by 15 years, 56% of them had 15 regular unprotected premarital encounters leading to unintended pregnancy, unsafe abortion, sexually transmitted illness including HIV infections and other social consequences such as school dropout and early marriage (WHO, 2010). About 15 million young women ages 15 – 19 years give birth every year (United Nations Population fund, 2011). The age bracket would tell that majority probably not all of this young women are those who got involved in pregnancy.

According to Haruna and Ibrahim (2014) one of the major theories of personality used to explain premarital sexual behavior is the social learning theory. Sexual behaviour depends not only on learning and pleasurable reinforcement but also an opportunity and limitation including those established by the individuals own standard and concept. Values are influenced by social perception which provides students with a set of basic precepts by which they discern the behaviour and belief of others. Carew, 1986, further observed can create an escape route for student who desire premarital sex. Adolescence is the time of transition from childhood to adulthood during which young people changes following puberty (Seme & Wirtu, 2008). The common risky sexual practices in this age group include early sexual intercourse, multiple sexual partners, unprotected sexual intercourse, engaging in sex with older partners and non-regular partners such as commercial sex workers (Dingeta Oljira, & Assefa. 2012). There is no doubt that there is within every man this natural urge for sexual gratification which is primarily desire by the Id (pleasure principle) and as such values which encourage such pleasure to be expressed will create an escape route for this pent up energy produced by the id.

Warner (1973) observed that sex before marriage is seen as normal and a pleasurable satisfaction which young adults experience. Meekers (1994) and Orubuloye et al (1997) observed that some students engage in promiscuous behavior without even at first recognizing just how far they have fallen. Miriam (1999) in her study on perception of sexual behavior in Benin city observed that some students gave reasons for the high degree of sexual activity including the perception that sex was a way to act like a grown up. Sex is an easy way to behave like mummy and Daddy. A lot of perception has been built around sex and premarital sex and the concept and understanding varies widely among different individual group and society.

According to Benda and Leon (1995), student in institutions of learning are in a transitional stage of life, they are socially mobile and have permissive sexual behaviour and lifestyle which are learned by interaction within the multi-ethnic composition of university environment. In Nigeria, there is a lot of pressure on girls by boyfriend to have sex in exchange for gifts or favor or just as a form of assurance that the boy would not leave them, these adolescents also face similar pressure from their parents, teachers and abstinence programs in schools to keep their virginity (Cornea

and Jolly as cited in Cornwall et al., 2008). Ikpo (2003) concludes that in university of Lagos, students negotiate sex for money. This could also be in the form of prostitution or other vices

According to Olugbile, Abu and Delakun (2008) for example many undergraduates have resorted to full time prostitution in their campuses under the guise that they are hustling

This is almost becoming a common place in our institution. Students engage in premarital sex because they need money and material goods while at school and not all of them are favorably disposed to acquire this goods and money legitimately.

World Health Organization (1998), define prostitution as a process that involves a transaction between a seller and buyer of a sexual service. The joint United Nation programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)(2002) defined a sex worker as female, male and transgender adults and people who receive money or goods in exchange for sexual services either regularly or occasionally and who may or may not consciously define those activities as

income generating. The NADI – IS(2005) explains that students between the ages of 15 – 29 engaged in sex for material goods in Nigeria.

Premarital sexual activity is not a recent occurrence. Worldwide – research indicates that as far back as 1980s, the phenomena have attracted public attention both in the United Kingdom and United States of America (Teenage pregnancy, 2017). For example in 1954, a study in Manchester revealed that between the years 1937 and 1954 almost a quarter of underage girls coming to the attention of a certain female police officer regarding underaged girls revealed that the girls came from a particular background, either broken homes, or of bad parental influence (Teenage pregnancy, 2007). Examining trends in premarital sex in USA concluded that premarital sex is not surprising in an era when men and women typically marry in their mid to late twenties and they are sexually active as singles for extensive periods. Sex was reported by finer to be nearly universal in USA by age 30, but also very common at younger ages.

2.2. Causes and Influence Premarital Sex

People get involved in a number of activities for a number of reasons whether as an act of obligations, a sense of duty, desire for knowledge, craving for experience or for recreational, funfair or curiosity purpose whatever the reason may be this causes them to act in a manner that such occasion demands.

Premarital sex has had and is still having its fair share of reign among teenagers, adolescents, youth and adult etc. according to Choe K., Harjati H., Chai P., Clorazon M. and Shyam T. (2004) the causes behind premarital sex have been established including curiosity among the youths proof of manhood, lust, pornography and its adverse effects insanity and sex promiscuity as well as moral decadence among the youths. However this cannot be considered the only causes of premarital sex as there may lie some other underlining causes which are not yet obvious to the eyes and also with the advent of time new issues crop up and cause and effect relationship tends to shift from one position to another.

In a research paper on the prevalence, associated risk factors and consequence of premarital sex among female students in Alefawondo high school, Ethiopia, among 394 female student who were never married 72 (18.3%) had premarital sexual intercourse and 51.4% of the student did so without condom. The increase in premarital sexual intercourse was higher among grade 9 student, with magnitude of 83(32.4%). When the relationship of the population to their sexual practices was examine, about 37 (51.4%) of the study participants who had premarital sex had no boyfriend. The main reason for having sexual intercourse were lack of confidence to refuse 26(6.6%), peer – pressure 14(3.6%), desire to practice sexual intercourse and falling in love 10 (2.5%), money 7 (1.8%) and rape 4(1%). Four prediction namely age of the respondent, having a boyfriend, going to night clubs and family residence emerged as independent predictors of premarital sexual intercourse from the logistic regression analysis. Logistic regression analysis showed that the odds of premarital sex increased with an increase in age of the study participants. For every year, increase in the age of the study participants, the odds increase by 33%; (AOR (95%CI) = 1.33 (1.05,1.7)). The odds of having a boyfriend was more than four times higher among

unmarried female students who have premarital sexual intercourse that unmarried female students without premarital sexual intercourse than unmarried female experience student (AOR(95% IL, 4.4 (4.24, 7.36))

Residence of parents was associated with premarital sexual intercourse, with lower odds of premarital sexual intercourse among students whose parents are in the urban area where the school is found (AOR (95% CI) = 0.41 (0.230, 0.79)). Similarly, the odds of premarital sex was statistically significantly lower by 79% among female students who did visit night clubs (AOR (95% CI) = 0.22 (0.10, 0.45)).

A lot of young people, not all are usually sexually active. This is due to the fact that they are at a phase of development characterized by intensive sexual drive, peer pressure, perverse social environment and poor reproductive health knowledge (Tinuola, 2012; Morokkla, 2013). According to the study conducted among students in Agaro High school, 25% had history of sexual intercourse for the first coitus, the mean age was 16.74 years. The average age for males and female were 16.45 and 16.8 years, respectively. Majority (55.6%) of those with previous sexual exposure had

one partner and 35.6% had 2 to 5 partners. Only 8.8% of students had more than 5 partners (Girma B. Assefa D., Tushenike, 2004). According to a survey in Nekemit high school, the magnitude of premarital sex stands at 21.5%. About 57.1% had their first sexual intercourse between the age of 15 and 17 years. The main motives for initiation of sexual intercourse were falling in love (33.8%), desire to practice sexual intercourse (30.3%), peer pressure (17.2%) and to get money or gifts (7.6%). Also, the prevalence of premarital sexual practice in Addis Ababa was 39.8% for males and 5.6% for females. But, the national finding of the prevalence of premarital sex among high school adolescents was 19% (Lamesgin, 2013).

Several factors are involved in the process of the decision for sexual experimentation among youth. Sensation seeking, impulsivity, curiosity, use of substances such as alcohol and lack of self-regulation seem to contribute to the problem (Dingeta, et al, 2012). Studies also suggested that adolescents have limited knowledge about sexual and reproductive health and know little about the natural process of puberty. This lack of knowledge may have serious consequences (Seme and Wirtu, 2008). According to Nunn and Andrew, (1994) young adults act in their own best interest when deciding to

engage in premarital sex. From their own point of view, they would weigh the benefit or consequence of the decision they are making to engage in premarital sex and would always go for that which put that at the most advantageous position, even though we can believe that their decision may most likely meet a dead-end as they are not yet objective enough to consider the full weight of the consequences that can be met with the decision of lie. Burns (1970), points out that young people have exalted notions because they have not yet been humbled by life or learned their limitations of life.

2.3. Monetary Influence

In reference to a study by (Rames, 2014) it was assumed that consumption of alcohol is considered as an activity which is mostly influenced by peers and friends as the result revealed, drinking alcohol was a significant predictors for boys to have premarital sex. One would beg to ask if the alcohol should be held responsible or the individual decision to both alcohol and engage in premarital sex, as different people take alcohol for various reason. Whether for fun, to prove manhood, to forget the sorrows of life, to gain boldness to act in a way one would not normally act without any

influence which in this case could be to have sex. Some youth these days who has a lot of money to spend like to spend it on alcohol with their friend. This could be a high risk factor for early initiation of sexual behaviour because of the lack of a normal reasoning process due to which young people cannot protect or control themselves (Dittus and Jacquard, 2010).

Premarital sexual intercourse is more common among the following group of adolescent: those whose parents live in urban areas, those who receive higher pocket money per month, those who perceive low self educational rank and those who live in rented houses (Central Statistics Agency, 2012; Oljira L., Berhaney, workup 2012). From this one can say that the amount of money that one has can influence or affect his reason to engage in premarital sex even though it has been observed that some other folks engage in premarital sex for the money they can get out of it. Because some female folks or even the male counterpart who come from humble background also get involved in premarital sex as a means to making up for their financial inadequacy. The girls whose parents are economically disadvantaged or less empowered are often times unable to adequately provide for their daughter and thus, their daughters are exposed to seek

financial favor elsewhere. In this regard, research has shown that the most likely sources of obtaining such financial favors are from young and older men who in turn ask for sexual favors from such girls.

According to Ankomah (1999), observed that some females entered into premarital sexual relationships ostensibly for financial rewards because the parents could not meet their basic needs such as paying for tuition fees.

From Ikpe (2003) observation earlier mentioned concludes that in university of Lagos, students negotiate sex for money. In Tanzania, Heidi et al (2004) argues that while some students rape girls, other use money power to engage in sex.

Some student would do anything just to have their needs met, and this is not just for pleasure sake, but also sometimes as a matter of necessity. Whether to pay school fees, buy books or even to secure shelter (accommodation). Moreover, due to the fact that majority of higher education students and high school students are economically insecure, they are susceptible to economic incentives that can lead to higher risk sexual practices (Lamesgin, 2013).

2.4. Peer Group Pressure/Influence

Peers like Casates classmates, club associates and other members of one's social group members equally influence one to be a deviant or conformist. Most times the decision we make are greatly influenced by our friends /peer group who we see as trustworthy. Ramesh (2008) founded that peers behaviour has a positive effect on increase of premarital sex. Research has also shown that some students engage in one form of premarital sex or the other as a result of the influence of their mates. A friend who has had experience with premarital sex is more likely to encourage towards premarital sex rather than an abstinence. As students begin to socialize with their peers, they tend to shift the values they learnt from home socialization to reliance on their peer. Ibrahim (2004) argued that student are confronted with peer pressure and some fall into promiscuous behavior without even first recognizing just how far they have fallen. Individual characteristics such as alcohol consumptions, smoking habit, drug use, attitude towards male and female virginity, family characteristics such as parental status, fathers and mother's educational status, religion and sources of family income and peer characteristics such as peer smoking and drinking habits,

peer sexual behavior have significant association with experience of premarital sex of the boys (Inazi, 1986).

Individual's decision to engage in premarital sex can greatly be influenced by their friends. Several studies have indicated that peer's sexual attitudes are closely associated with an adolescent sexual behaviour (Raffaelli and Crockett, 2003). In the same vain, evidence suggests that one of the most consistent predictors of an adolescents risky behavior is whether the individual has friends who also engage in that behavior (king and Furrow, 2004). As the Adage goes, show me your friends and I will tell you who you are. In addition, peer pressure, specifically negative peer pressure may increase risk taking such as engaging in sexual behavior (Jaccard, Blanton and Dodge, 2005). With such evidence on ground, various researchers has come to the conclusion that adolescents' sexual behavior is influenced by their peers. So an individual who has a friend involved in premarital sex is most likely to be involved in it.

2.5. Media Influence

Apart from peer pressure/influence, there are some other things that really include the decision we make and our way of life. Brown JD, L'engle, K.L., Pardon, C.J., Guo, G., Kenneary, K., and Jacksons, C. 2006) admonish the academic community and policy makers “not to wait decades” to conclude that the mass media are an important factor of the youth behavior. So the earlier we accept the fact that the media has a strong grip on the decision we make, the better for us in helping to understand how to prevent curtail or control sexual behaviour as influenced by the media. Female undergraduate in an experiment carried out by Ward (2012) were more apt to look at dating as a “prime time dramas and sitcoms.

Similarly, females who watched more sexual television expected sex to occur earlier in a relationship than females who watched less television in a survey study of undergraduate's sexual expectation (Aubrey, Harrison, Kramer and Yelling, 2003). Several studies suggest that heightened perceptions of mass media, sexual realism among young people increase the

likelihood of sexual socialization (Baran, 1976a; Olson, 1994; Taylor, 2005; Ward, Meriwether, Caruther, 2006).

The mind is a powerful tool, that is why even the bible says ‘guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life, Proverbs 4:23 (NLT). The fact is that what we allow the media to install in our mind will alternatively affect our decision. Declining influence of family, increasing urbanization, migration and exposure to the mass media collectively contributed major changes in adolescent social and sexual behavior (World Health Organization, 1989). The mass media can even include the age range at which a person starts engaging in premarital sex. Early sexual intercourse is also associated with chat chewing, watching pornographic movies below 18 years, living away from parent and having boyfriends (Seme and Wirtu, 2008; Mazeorgia and Worku, 2009).

2.6. Curiosity

From research, one can see that the causes of premarital sex are numerous ranging from the above stated to something I would say that cannot be primarily blamed to any external factor.. casual curiosity and casual impulse were the main reasons leading to premarital sexual behavior among adolescent (Zhang Zhlong et al, 2002; Zhang Xueqing et al, 1998, Qiantianzhu et al., 2000). Some studies have found that respondents engage in sexual symptoms due to drug use and most stated that their involvement due to peer influence and curiosity. Previous studies in Ethiopia among students indicated that from 14 to 23.45% of female adolescent had premarital sexual intercourse (Olijira et al., 2012: Ahmed FA, Moussa K.M.Petterson KO, Asamoah BO 2012; Seme and Wirtu (2008). The first sexual practices in Ethiopia are often unplanned (Mazengia and Viwrku 2009).

So far one can see that the causes of premarital sex are not farfetched, the factor that influence it are both within us and outside our environment. Sex which may always be an issue to contend with must be skillfully tackled

as people's views and perception differ from one environment to another and as such even some underlining causes may also differ with environment and community.

2.7. Factors that has Increase the Acceptance

Premarital sex is increasingly gaining ground in becoming an issue of great concern, both at the family unit, institution and the community at large. The rate at which young people are embracing acceptance is becoming quite alarming and worthy of attention. Comparatively, little is known about what mechanism shape premarital sex behavior among youth (Campbell, 2003) and even less in the context of Nigeria. The theory of planned behaviour asserts an adolescent's intention to engage in premarital sex flows from a youths attitude toward, premarital sex, his or her perception of the subjective (cultural) norms associated with such behavior, and his or her beliefs regarding his or her ability to engage in sexual activity. How these factors are influenced by relationships with peers and stressful life events are also central to the dynamics of when, how and to what degree youth engage in premarital sex. Previous research in the Philippine and Taiwan identifies

perceived sexual activity by best friends as an influential factor in the initiation of sexual activity in an adolescent's own life. Premarital sex appears to be increasingly common in the romantic relationship of the Taiwanese young populace. The increased acceptance of more liberal and permissive sexual attitudes to associated with the increased likelihood of sexual activity among Taiwanese youth. In a study of Kenyans engaging in premarital sex and the behaviour is on the increase. In the like manner, Mensch, Clark, Liod and Erulkar (1999) reported from another study conducted in Kenya that a school characterized by girls friendly teachers and a gender neutral atmosphere and a home containing female role model and the supports of the two parents reduce the risk of premarital sex. Recent time, the rate of premarital sex among student has become quite alarming, this has not always been the trend one thing or another has led to this "madness". The rise in premarital sex in Africa has resulted from a sexual revolution that came with western culture (Scott, 2005).

In a research carried out in the south-western part of Nigeria, it was stated that not much has been done on premarital sexual activity in Nigeria particularly in the south western part of the country where data for this study

was collected. For instance, the last two population censuses (1991 and 2006) conducted in the country contained no information on premarital sex. Four demographic and the health surveys have been conducted in Nigeria between 1986 and 2008; none of them contain any information on premarital sexual activities in the country. Percentage of female respondents reporting premarital experience in Africa ranges from 14 in Zimbabwe, 26 in Kenya, 28 in Gambia, 39 in Nigeria, 50 in guinea and 63 in Tunisia (Mensch et al., 1999; Wahare, Kragu and Zabin 1994). In Africa, research has shown that most young people became sexually active at about age of 11 – 13 years, by 15 years, 56% of them have regular unprotected premarital encounters leading to unintended pregnancies, unsafe abortion, sexually transmitted illness including HIV infection and other social consequences such as school dropout and early marriage (WHO 1998). I do not think that it has always been like this, from what I can recall, our culture frown strongly against premarital sex which in some place is seen as a taboo and a sin against God and man. In a thesis submitted to Louisa state university, it was cited that it was not until the middle of the sexual revolution that spanned from 1948 to 1999, that there was an increase in prevalence of premarital sex (Powell and

CaJosaphatB01). In 1967, the large majority of society (85%) still considered premarital sex as morally wrong, this figure plummeted to 39% about decade later (Yankelovich, 98). There was the time when sex was seen as sacred and the first night of marriage was used to determine if one has made the right choice. Ukachi (1980:14) clearly pointed that the ancient African was far from being an abode or laissez faire mortality. What we do with our life was not just our personal concern as the society looked out for one another, helped to groom one for the future and tried to make sure one live an honorable life. There were different types of punishment lying in wait for brides who were not virgin on their wedding night and as such, young girls thought it twice before making any decision that will make them loose their virginity. They strive to maintain the good names of their families (Eze, 1989).

From the findings of Olubunmi (2011), it is obvious that home type significantly contribute to the prediction of involvement in premarital sex of adolescents. Earlier findings indicated that teenagers whose parents are still married to each other are far less likely to have underage sex. Lammers et al., (2000) found that student ages 13 to 18 attitude of not imitating sex was

associated with having a two parent family and higher socio economic status, residing in a rural area, performing better in school, feeling greater religiosity, not having suicidal thoughts and believing parents care and hold high expectation for their children. One can through deductive reasoning say that the reverse is the case. Council of Economic Advisors (2000) indicated that among teenagers who did not feel close to their mother and/or father, 70.6% had sex by the age of 17 to 19 compared to 57.9% who felt close to mother and/or father. According to Dittus and Jaccard (2000), teens who reported being highly satisfied with their relationship with parents were 2.7 times less likely to engage in sex than teenagers who had little satisfaction with their parental relationship. Relationship satisfaction if the two parents are available was associated with a lower probability of engaging in sex, higher probability of using birth control if sex occurred, and lower probability of pregnancy during the ensuing 12months.

The advent of Christianity further empowered the belief of the sacredness of sex with many of its doctrines talking against sexual immorality, fornication and sexual lust such as I Cor. 6:18 (esv). flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commit is outside the body, but

the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. I Thessalonians 4: 3 – 5 (ESV) for this is the will of God, your sanctification; that you abstain from sexual immorality; that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor not in the passion of lust like the gentiles who do not know God.

With all this on ground militating against premarital sex or any other kind of unwholesome sex, ranging from our ancient tradition to Christianity frowning against the deviant act, why does it seem as though the rate of premarital sex by young people has greatly increased.

A lot of factors has encouraged the increase in the acceptance of premarital sex ranging from promotion of the use of condom, male permissive attitude towards premarital sex, the media influence on society.

2.8. Promotion of the use of Condom (Safe Sex)

Ikpe (2003) Twa – Twa (1987) and Johnson (2007) studied and reported the existence of sexual activities among undergraduate and they all advise on the need to use condom. This can be considered a very good precautionary measure. According to Campos (2002, p.6) condoms tend to

have a 31% failure rate. As reported in different studies, the condom use rate was very low, 44.4% in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (Charie and Berhane, 2012); 46.94% in Agaro, Ethiopia (Girma et al, 2004) and 47.8% in Gondar, Ethiopia. Individual are not just getting involved with premarital sex just because they made the decision on their own, but also because the society is making a big bang on the need to use condom with little emphasis on abstinence and the sacredness of sex. This has somehow shifted our attention from the fact that the very act should be rebuked to thinking that it is acceptable. Youth practicing premarital sex have been lured into the act due to condom introduction (centre for disease control and prevention, 2002). A lot of person are of the opinion that the use of pornographic materials as well as knowledge and use of contraceptive especially the condom that has been excessively advertised has contributed immensely to the involvement of adolescents in sexual practice (Onozulike, 2002).

As with previous studies (Josaphat. B., Florence M., Elizabeths, F., Kristin G: 2006; Byamugisha, 2006; Abiodun P.A., Adisa A.F., Aderem, I.M: 2001; Nworah. JAO, Sunday U.M., Joseph O.V., Monday O.O., Josephat C.A: 2010), the commonest source of information about

contraception was friends and rarely health institution and family planning,clinics despite the fact that these are dedicated specifically to such duties. Information obtained from friend about the use and practice of contraception is often misleading as they contain a lot of misinformation distortion, falsehood and misconception and often times self-centered (Abiodun et al, 2001: Baker and Rioh, 1992). One cannot deny the fact that the introduction of the first and approach to the advertisement of the importance of condom use intended for the greater good of those who cannot “zip up” in reducing the chances of unwanted pregnancy, transmission of STIs etc. we cannot also neglect the fact that this introduction may have also lead to the increase in acceptance/embrace to engage in premarital sex by young people. Even though it is perceived as myth that asking about condoms or giving people condom will make them sexually promiscuous (Hartigan, 1997), it has also been found out that easy access to condom will encourage condom use among teens that are already sexually active (Blake et al., 2003). One can say that the reason why people are beginning to accept premarital sex as part of the norm is because of lot of organization are advertising and encouraging the use of condom with almost no or little

emphasis on the best way abstinence. According to S. D. Wire (2008), an author for the Los Angeles Times, congress in 2008 agreed that abstinence should be the core of any sex education program for teens. The concern lies when individuals were talking about how much information students should receive such as condom use and protection against sexually transmitted disease.

2.9. Male Permissive Attitude towards Premarital Sex

Premarital sex which is considered a taboo in most culture has somehow gained more acceptance from a large number of individuals most especially the male counterpart. Although it takes two of opposite sex to have premarital sex it seem as though the male is less frowned out as compared to the female folk.

Mangu (2003) have reported such attitudes in Nicaragua. He observes that societal pressure on young men to have sex and failure to hold them responsible for the consequence of their sexual activities is been discouraged from having sex by their mothers, whereas a greater proportion of men than women reported that their mothers encouraged them to have sex or leave

them alone, (Mangu, 2003: 179) McDougall (2000) notes that in many developing countries, the perceived threat of sexual abuse in part, lead parents to necessarily restrict their daughters mobility and education.

In modern Nigeria, there is little or no parental control on datingbehaviour of the childrenparticularly those in institutions of learning. Clinard and Meier (1998) argue that weak parent control of dating behavior further contributes to and reinforce a normative climate permissive toward easily sex. This is actually more prominent among the male prominent who easily quickly want to take the role of a man. Some students gave reasonfor the high degree of sexual activity, including the perception that sex was a way to act like a grown up sex is an easy way to behave like mummy and daddy. A girl who is having sex is more seen as loose as compared to a man some claim that a man is naturally promiscuous just to cover up for theirwrong of which there may not be any scientific proof to it.

By way of definition, we understand the suppression of female sexuality as a pattern of cultural influence by which girls and women are induced to avoid feeling sexual desire and to refrainfrom sexual behavior.

The double standard, for example, has consisted of judgment that many specific sexual behaviors are acceptable for men but unacceptable for women (e.g. D'Emillio and Freedman, 1997; Whyte, 1978) which is one sign that some message of sexual restraint has been aimed primarily at women. There is a common assumption that use of sexually explicit material is more common among men than women. Peterson and Hyde (2010; 2011) found an effect size of 0.63 indicating that men are more likely to access pornography than women. Peterson and Hyde (2010; 2011) found a small to medium effect size of 0.36 for gender differences in number of sex partners with men reporting somewhat more sex partners than women. In a study of currently sexually active Canadians aged 20 to 34 who were unmarried not living common law, 35.9% of men reported more than one sex partner in the previous year compared to 29.1% of women (Rlotermann and McKay, 2009). In sum, the research suggests that men are likely to have a higher number of sex partners than women but that the difference between men and women in this regard is considered in the small to medium range.

Peterson and Hyde (2010; 2011) also looked at gender differences in attitude towards casual sex, which they defined as "sexual behavior in a

casual dating relationship or among partners who are not committed to each other”. On this measure, they found a medium effect size of 0.45 indicating that men tend to have more liberal attitude towards casual sex than women.

2.10. Media Influence on Society

It is true that the Nigerian cultural code forbids premarital sex; although it has been quite permissive if not encouraging towards a moral sexual in recent years (Igbudu, 2008). According to Finemike (1981) forces fanning the natural desires for sexual pleasure are unceasing and unavoidable in any economy that uses sex to sell everything from automobiles to toothpastes. The permissiveness of modern society, however, appeared to have contributed to the increase premarital sex in the urban area of Nigeria (Alo, 2008).

Young people often face enormous pressure especially from peers to engage in sex, unlicensed erotic video films and the desire for economic gain. As a result of this, significant number of adolescents are involved in sexual activities at an early age (Alexander and Hikner, 1997; Tafia N., Johannes Sundby, Carol Holm – Hansen and gunner, Blune, 2002). Young people in

Ethiopia are also exposed to various risk such as unprotected sex, early marriage, early pregnancy and STIs/HIV/AIDS. Studies have shown that in Ethiopia 60% of pregnancies are unwanted or unintended (WHO, 2001). While this drive is licensed by the impact of permissive western culture transmitted through the sexual stimuli conveyed by the mass media. Denga (1983) pointed out that sexually explicit movies expose young people to adult issues at an impressionable age”. Others opine that the use of pornography materials as well as knowledge and use of contraceptives especially the random that has been excessively advertised has contributed immensely to the involvement to adolescents in sexual practices (Onuzulika, 2002).

Streusel states that research has been found in one experimental study (Gleeson and Williams, 1986) that seventh and ninth grade adolescent who were exposed to less than an hour of MTV were more likely to approve of premarital sex than were adolescents who were not exposed to MTV.

Similarly, Calfin, Carroll and Schmidt (1993) found that colleges student who were exposed to a music video exhibited more liberal attitude toward premarital sex than did unexposed students”

Findings like this suggest that media influence can alter adolescents view or perception. Jeremiah S. Strouse, a researcher in the field of psychology and the media, at least the idea in his statement “a number of surveys (Brown and Newcomer, 1991; Peterson and Khan, 1984; Strouse and Buerkel – Roth Fuss, 1987) have found that exposure to sexually suggestive material especially music television (MTV), and R – rated films is significant associated with premarital sexual permissiveness (PSP) among youth.

People are influenced by what they see, read or hear. In true senses, the media houses cannot be exonerated from causing the problem given their penchant for pornographic picture, sexually stimulating discussions and stories. Even the kids are known to practice what they see people do on television (Saka, 2001).

2.11. Consequences of Premarital Sex

Premarital sex is not left without its effects or consequence and by consequence we do not mean that everyone who is engaged in premarital sex must and would be faced with such consequences as a repercussion. The high rate of sexual transmitted infection among the 15 – 24 years old and an increasing number of girls dropping out of school due to unintended/unwanted pregnancies over half of all new HIV infection worldwide (6,000 a day) occur among those between 15 and 24 years of age (Ivan, 2000) people who engage in unprotected or unsafe sexual intercourse are most likely to face such consequence. An awareness of these consequences may help to empower an individual decision to embrace abstinence rather than safer sex. These days, a reasonable number of people admitted into the university are young. The population includes adolescents, youth and adults. At this time of their majority of young people becomes sexually active as a result, youths have multitude of reproductive problems, including HIV, other STIs, unwanted pregnancy, induced abortion and dropping out of school (Tamire and Enqueselassie, 2007; WHO 2012). This

unwanted early pregnancy is associated with increased maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality (WHO, 2012b).

In the research conducted in Alefawonde high school, sidama zone, Ethiopia, out of those who had premarital sexual intercourse 15.3% of the women faced unwanted pregnancy, and those with unwanted pregnancy, 82% had an induced abortion, magnitude of premarital sex was higher among students whose resident in rural areas compared to their counterparts from urban areas. Many other consequences accompany premarital sex.

2.12. Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) Transmission

HIV AIDS is a very serious infection worldwide causing millions of death yearly. Like other STIs, HIV/AIDS remain a global health problem of unprecedented dimension (UNAID, 200a). adolescent and youth (ages 15 to 24) is the time when majority of youths become sexually active; however majority of them lack sufficient knowledge about human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) transmission (population conference Bureau, 2013). The world has begun to recognize that the HIV pandemic land either

sexually related health problems) cannot be confronted simply by applying a disease based biomedical, technological model of intervention a new model must be applied that addresses sexuality, sexual rights and gender power relative” (the /ford foundation 2005:17). The concern about adolescent sexual and reproductive health has grown following reports that sexual activity, early pregnancies and sexually Transmitted Infection (STIs) including HIV infection rate are increase of unprecedented rates among adolescent (Hughe and McCauley 1998; UNFPA, 2003; UNICEF 2007; Sandoy et al 2007).

HIV transmission is one of the consequence that can follow in protected premarital sexual intercourse. In Ethiopia, most HIV related interventions targeting the general public do not respond to the needs of students because they are considered to have knowledge AIDS and other reproductive health issues (Lames gin, 2013). Although, most unmarried adolescents are sexually active, many of them do not use prevention measures for sexual reproduction health problems (save the children UKS, 2000, MOEST 2002; MOESC, 2000). Approximately half of the new

immune deficiency virus (HIV) infections globally occur in the group 15 to 24 years (Dingeta et al., 2012).

A lot of research has been carried out on sexual intercourse and the world. Previous studies in Ethiopia among students indicate that from 14 to 13.4% of female adolescent had premarital sexual intercourse (Olijira et al., 2012), Ahmed et al, 2012, some and Wirtu, 2008). The first sexual practice in Ethiopia are often planned, Mazengia and works 2009), increasing young people risk of having HIV and other STIs prevalence of HIV among female youths ranges from 0.2 to 9% in the country by region (central statistical agency 2012).

The students in the university are relatively detached from family network and have the opportunity to build their own subcultures in their own ways. As Romeo (2004) observed; each year young women leave the security of their familiar surroundings and attend college and universities in distance cities and locations. These women are embarking on a journey, filled with loops for key and happiness, as they seek an academic education. Many of them are also to find the “special” someone with whom they will

share her future lives. The campus environment, therefore provide for academic stimulation, as well as variety of activities and opportunities for socialization (Romeo, 2004:1). The issue of HIV transition by sexual intercourse in mostly affected by women have certain physical peculiarities that increase the risk of infection. The vaginal surface exposed to semen is large and semen have greater concentration for HIV than vaginal fluid (AIDS, 2002). While HIV infection occur among the youth (13 – 24) the infection rates higher amongst female than males (UNAIDS2008b). Other reports suggest that HIV infection rates are 46 times more among girls than boys in the same age group (UNAIDS, 2001).

From report in Malawi and some other parts of sub Saharan Africa, many unmarried adolescent are sexually active and do not practices safer sex. Because of such unsafe sexual practices most adolescents n Malawi are vulnerable to early pregnancies and STI including HIV/AIDS (Chirwa and Kudas 2001, UNFPA 2003; Kaler 2003; 2003). Although prevalence is currently stable in Malawi. The HIV prevalence rate among adolescents are estimated to be higher than the national HIV prevalence rate f 14% (NA, 2003; UNFPA 2003 UNAIDS, 2003b)

The desire to prove nature through premarital by several youth has got a hand in the spread of HIV/AIDS (Lucas, 2000). According to the Uganda aids commission annual reports of 1999 – 2001), sex is a major cause of HIV/AIDS infection amongst population.

2.13. Other Sexually Transmitted Infection (STIS)

UNFPA (2003) estimates that everyday more than a quarter of a million youngpeople will become infected with an STI. It has been documented in literature (Kaestle, Halpein, Miller and ford, 2005) that younger age at first intercourse were associated with higher odds of STIs in composition with older ages. Ramis (2000) found out that one of the consequences of premarital sex was the possibility of contracting disease. Abraham and Juma (1999) and Burbwa (2001) observed that higher percentage of males keep multiple partners. This kind of lifestyle will foster the spread of STIs from one person to multiple individuals. World Health Organization (2006) estimates that over 340 millions new cases of STIs are reported of which more than half occur among young people. In accordance with Monrokola and Okanolowon (2003), ene (2004) and Agu (2012), STIs

can exist due to unprotected, earlier initiation into sexual activity, promiscuity, multiple sex partners, untreated conditions, body piercing, lack of immunity, poor access to contraception and treatment facilities

WHO (2005) stated that STIs are spreading at an alarming rate all over the world especially among young people. Each year up to 100million adolescent ages 15 – 19 years become infected with curable STIs (UNAIDS, 1997). The prevalence of STIs is highest in developing countries, and youths are particular valuables (Agu, 2012). That this statistics is founded around young people is a reproof of premarital sex. Media resources (2001) observed that sexual activity and contact are the most common way for STIs to be spread. Without doubt, any learned man world agree that premarital sex is one quick way to transmit STIs among people of group of people especially those who are highly promiscuous.

According to Igbudu (2010) premarital sex exposes young people to high risk of sexually transmitted infection (STIs) such as pelvic inflammatory diseases (PID), gonorrhoea, syphilis, herpes, (sores and painful swelling of genital), gonorrhoea, (pelvic pain and painful urination) and HIV

(a virus that kills immune system) which are in existence among students. They further explained that those who engage in group sex, sharp – sharp sex and sodomy account for a greater proportion of STIs victims (Chlamydia and gonorrhoea a level four female discussants argued are common with female students. These disease are life threatening, painful and can cause infertility.

2.14. Unintended or Unwanted Pregnancy

There is the very likelihood that those who get involved in premarital sex may end up becoming pregnant and this pregnancy may either be unintended or unwanted. Unwanted pregnancies are affected by number of factors including personal beliefs, social service, religious and cultural values as well the existing laws in the community. Most of the time unwanted pregnancies started as unplanned pregnancy, but occasionally the unplanned pregnancy may end up into being unwanted pregnancy (Boginsk, 2007). It is estimated that about 40% of women in the developing countries give birth before the age of twenty years, ranging from a low of 8 percent in fast Asia to a high of 56 percentage in west Africa (Noble et al, 1996). In

research carried out by Abdullahi and Umar (2013) the findings of the study show that 68% of respondents posited that engaging in premarital sex can led to unwanted pregnancy. Discussants argued that ether were cases where students dropped out of university of Maiduguri because of being pregnant where caught in the attempt to abort pregnancy or abandon babies on campus the practice of sharp – sharp sex was said to contribute for some unwanted pregnancy among student sharp-sharp is carried out mostly in party venues and some of them are drunk and engage in sex without condom, and with non-dating person, as argued by most of the discussants across groups. Today millions of adolescent face many sexual and reproductive health risk including unwanted pregnancy abortion and STIs including HIV/AIDS (WHO, 1993b, UNFPA, 2003; UNAIDS 2004; 2004, UNAIDS AND WHO 2004; 2004). That one practices safe sex does not entirely mean that one is 100% guarantee not to have unintended/unwanted pregnancy. Even if all contractive users were to use their methods correctly at all times. Still there will be nearly six million accidental pregnancies annually which may end up in unwanted pregnancy (WHO, 2003).no matter are careful one can be, engaging in premarital sex can come with its unintended

consequences. It is shown that two in every pregnancy worldwide are unplanned and reported that 16.14% of young unmarried women around the world has unwanted pregnancy (UNFPA, 2010).

The chances of unwanted pregnancy are even worst for younger people who get involved with premarital sexual intercourse much earlier, early sexual activities pose health risk for youth as most of them enter into sexual relations for the first time without using any form of contraception, leaving them vulnerable to unplanned pregnancy (Allan Guttmacher Institute, 2015). Even though young people are most likely to have unintended/unwanted pregnancy due to lack of inexperience or other factors, it has been said that premarital sex is not confined to teens alone, a good number of people who are not married are also vulnerable to premarital sex. This is evidenced by the large number of unintended/unwanted pregnancies many of which get terminated in base stress clinics (Alo, 2008)

This threat that premarital sex pose is seen worldwide was every part of the world you go premarital sex is always lived with unintended/unwanted pregnancy. Nigeria has a high incidence of unwanted

pregnancies and unsafe abortions, particularly among adolescent (Hassen, 2010). Even in china with the gibing incidence of premarital and extramarital sex in young people unintended pregnancy and abortion have become seriously social and health issue in the country.

A teenage girl Briggs (2001) posited may become pregnancy as on result of many different situations, some teenage, girls became pregnant while being involved in along terms dating relationship others as a result of rape situation. Teenage pregnancy which according to Broggs (2001) is usually the result of sexual activities has several causes, including ignorance, poverty, lack of sex education, exposure to pornographic material, peer group pressure derivable from sexual intercourse (Brigs, 2000; Best, 2001; Mornkola, 2003; Brown ad Eisenberg, 1994; Maynard, 1996).

Within the past one year, over 500 pregnant teenagers have been observed along the streets of the five villages that make up Abraka clan, the host communities of Delta state University (Ifeshua, 2006). One should not also neglect the fact that a lot of teenagers are being admitted into the university yearly and as such this teenagers girl who is pregnant as a result

of engaging in premarital sex, may not just be indigene of the host communities but also students of the university.

2.15. Induced Abortion

Young people who get involved in premarital sex who end up becoming pregnant may be faced with the choice of aborting the pregnancy for a number of reasons. Abortion is the expulsion of the fetus from the womb during the first twenty eight (28) weeks of pregnancy (oxford Advanced learners dictionary 5th edition). To some people in the society particularly the religious, it is a vice affecting every nook and cranny of the world (Jeje, 2001). According to Igbudu(2002) premarital sex also leads to unsafe abortion as the shame of being caught pregnant make some young girls to engage the service of quacks public opinion polls have consistently shown that the premarital sex is wrong and dangerous to health result in abortions, teenage mothers and sexually transmitted infectious (Anan, 2006; fine, 2007). It is estimated that 46 million abortions are performed each year, 20 million of which occur in countries where abortion is prohibited by law (Glenn, 2002). Abortion still carries a very high stigma in Nigeria society,

girls that engage in abortion normally lose their self-esteem and prestige due to the negative reaction towards them by other members of the society (Saka, 2001).

It has been estimated that about 12% of all pregnancies in Nigeria (not including those that results in spontaneous abortions) end in induced abortion, and another 9% result in unplanned births. In the United State for example 9% of adolescent between the ages 15 to 19 years become pregnant each year and about half of those pregnancies end in abortions (Damoch, 2001). Nigeria has a high incidence of unwanted pregnancies and unsafe abortions, particularly among adolescent (Hassa, 2000). Today, millions of adolescent face many sexual reproductive health risks including unwanted pregnancy, abortion and STIs including HIV/AIDS (WHO 1993b; UNFPA 2003; UNAIDS 2004; 2007 UNAIDS and WHO 2004,, 2006).

The issue of abortion has attracted substantial attention in recent times in Nigeria and everywhere in the world; abortion there for become a global issues (Alimson, 2001). Even though all of the abortion cases may not be from individuals who are involved in premarital sex, one can say that

premarital sex takes a large chunk of the cake, both male and female students are supposed to be sexually responsible since a lot of students in today's society are already sexually responsible since a lot of student in today's society are already sexually active, but females always carry the bulks of the responsibility as they are the ones who would be greatly affected by any mistake (Alimson, 2001). That is probably because female students who fail to take careful precaution and ends up getting pregnant, would want to resort to abortion as the way out.

Undergraduate student resort to abortion for a number of reasons

- To complete her education.
- To avoid being negatively labeled by the society as loose.
- Fear of having a child out of wedlock (Alimson, 2001:3)

George (2004) has already observed that about 72.5%of those involved in abortion are female student, 17.5% are unmarried women while about 43 house wives. He also found out that student indulge in abortion in order to avoid been mother unexpectedly at a tender age.

World Health Organization (WHO 2004) estimates that 9 million unsafe abortion occur around the world annually and that 68000 of these results in the woman's death. Abortion during adolescents has led to deaths and health consequences such as bareness, sterility, infection of the womb, perforating of the uterus, amongst others. Nevertheless, adolescent in Nigeria have continued to seek for abortion will unqualified physicians providing the services in private clinics and hospital where in most cases unsafe methods are used resulting to severe health consequences or even death among the adolescents (Ayanwale, 2001). In Nigeria, 50% of maternal deaths are adolescents to due to illegal abortion while abortion complications account for about 72% of all death girls under the age of 19(Saka, 2001).

2.16. School Drop out

Student who get involved in premarital sex are likely to get pregnant and for those who are noble enough not to resort to abortion. They are also faced with the consequence of raising up a child a tender age. This in turn may also cause them to drop out of school because of the stress involved in

raising a child and going through school. Parents' sexual activity has resulted into increased cases of unplanned pregnancies, poor academic performance and eventually school dropout (Miyakado, 2013, 2013a).

Prevention has always been better than cure and there is a while benefit attached to practicing abstinence. In the United States, a number of studies have shown that, teenager who abstain from sex are more likely to graduate from high school and attend college than their sexually active peers (Sabia and Rees, 2009). Studies reveal that there is relationship between students sexual relationship and their academic performance (Sabia and Rees, 2009).

It was found that high school students who were dating exhibiting consistently and significantly lower levels of academic achievement and significantly lower levels of academic achievement and academic motivation (Quatman et al, 2001). Another study on teenage sexual abstinence and academic achievement revealed that, teens who abstained from sex during high school by 60 percent, 50 percent less

likely dropout of high school and almost twice as likely to graduate from college (Rector and Johnson, 2005).

There has been empirical evidence in sub-Saharan Africa showing that girls appear vulnerable to dropping out of school once they become sexually mature and engage in premarital sex (Biddlecom et al., 2006)

2.17. Summary of Review of Related Literature

This chapter reviewed related literature on assessing the causes of premarital sex among undergraduate students of the university of Benin. It covered the concept of premarital sex, the causes of premarital sex, factors that has increase its acceptance and the different consequences associated with engaging in premarital sex.

Premarital sex is sex before marriage and is our days and times this act has greatly increase among individuals. Some of the factors or causes of premarital sex in our community include monetary influence, peer pressure/influence, media influence and curiosity. That premarital sex has increased may be due to the fact that is acceptance has increased among our youth due to promotion the use of condom which seem embraces safe sex

male permissive attitude towards premarital sex and also media influence on our society.

All of these have led to various consequence which include HIV/AIDS transmission and other STIs unwanted/unintended pregnancy, included abortion and school dropout. It has been variously stated by different scholars that premarital sex is bad and also following its various consequence affects both the party involved and the society at large.

CHAPTER THREE

3.0. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter three describes the method and procedure that were used in the study, having reviewed related literature on premarital sex. It shall be done under the following heading:

- Research design
- Population of the study
- Sample and sampling technique
- Research instrument
- Validity of the instrument
- Reliability of the instrument
- Administration of instrument
- Method of data analysis

3.1. Research Design

The descriptive survey research was used in this study. This method was adopted for this study as it helps to study the view/ state of people involved in the research study.

3.2. Population of the Study

The population of the study involves all undergraduate students of various faculties of the University of Benin which comprises of 32,251 (thirty two thousand, two hundred and fifty one) (source: academic planning unit of student affair).

3.3. Sample and Sampling Technique

The random sampling technique was used to select respondent for this study. A sample of 100 students in various faculties of the University of Benin was selected through the procedure.

3.4. Research Instrument

The questionnaire is the research instrument that were used in collecting data from the sample population. The questionnaire was drawn to cover the research question.

The questionnaire was in two (2) section, section A concentrated on the demographic data of respondents such as range, faculty etc. while section B was made up of 20 items of the causes of premarital sex and other item bothering around premarital sex.

3.5. Validity of the Instrument

The instrument was validated by my project supervisor and two other experts in the department of health safety and environmental education. Their critics and suggestion were used to make the final draft of the instrument.

3.6. Reliability of the Instrument

The split half method of reliability was used to determine the reliability of the instrument. A group of undergraduate students numbering

(20) in total were administered the questionnaire once and the reliability coefficient was determined using spearman brown's correlation formula.

3.7. Reliability

The test-retest reliability method was adopted for this study. The instrument was administered to 20 respondents and after an interval of 2 weeks, the instrument was administered to the same set of respondents. The results obtained from the two tests were correlated using Pearson's product moment correlation co-efficient. A co-efficient value of 0.821 was established and the reliability of the instrument was ascertained.

3.8. Administration of Instrument

The researcher administered the questionnaire to the student of various faculties in the university.

3.9. Method of Data Analysis

The items were analyzed using frequency count and simple percentage.

CHAPTER FOUR

4.0 PRESENTATION OF RESULT AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

This chapter represents data presentation analysis and discussion of result collected from the study carried out to assess the causes of premarital sex among undergraduate students of the University of Benin. A total number of one hundred questionnaire was administered and completed by the respondents. The responses to the question were carefully examined and analyzed to answer the research question.

Table 4.1: Distribution of Respondents by Sex

Sex	Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Male	53	53%
Female	47	47%
Total	100	100%

From table 4.1, it could be observed that 53% of the total respondents were male, while the other 47% of the respondents were female.

Table 4.2: Distribution of Respondents by Age

Age	No. of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
15-18	20	20%
19-22	68	68%
23-26	12	12%
Total	100	100%

From table 4.2, it is evident that 20% of the respondent were between the ages of 15-18 years, 68% of the respondent were age 19-22, while 12% of the total respondent are between the ages of 23-26.

Table 4.3: Distribution of Respondents by Faculty

Faculty	No. of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Life science	10	10%
Engineering	14	14%
Social science	8	8%
Basic medical science	4	4%
Arts	9	9%
Pharmacy	6	6%
Law	2	2%
Education	27	27%
Management science	12	12%
Physical science	8	8%
Total	100	100%

From table 4.3, it could be observed that 10% of the respondents are from life science, 14% are engineering students, 8% are from social science, 4% from basic medical science 9% are students from the faculty of art, 6% from

pharmacy, 2% from law, 27% from the faculty of education, 12% from management science, and 8% from the faculty of physical science.

Table 4.4: Distribution of Respondents by Marital Status

Status	No. of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Single	99	99%
Married	1	1%
Total	100	100%

From table 4.4, it could be observe that of the respondents were single and 1% of the respondent were married

Table 4.5: Distribution by Religion

Religion	No. of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Christian	88	88%
Muslim	12	12%
Traditional	0	0%
Others	0	0%
Total	100	100%

From table 4.5, it could be observed that 88% of the respondent were Christian, 12% Muslim, 0% traditional and 0% others.

Research Questions

Research Question 1: Does peer group influence contribute to the occurrence of pre-marital sex?

Table 4.6:

S/N	Item	Yes	%	No	%
1	Are students engaging in premarital sex due to peer pressure	60	53.2	40	33.1
2	Do you have friends who are sexually active	70	61.1	30	22.4
3	Do you have friends who are already engaging in premarital sex	90	80	10	2.2
4	Does having such friends influence you to have sex	30	30	70	66.4
6	Friends who always, talk about sexual pleasure encourage you to have sex.	80	77.4	20	16

From the result obtained in table 4.6, 53.2% of the respondents agreed that students are engaging in premarital sex due to peer group influence while 33.1% disagreed. 61.1% of the respondents agreed that they have friends who are sexually active, while 22.4% disagreed 80% of the respondents agreed that they have friends who are already engaging in

premarital sex, while 2.2% of the respondents disagreed. 30% of the respondents agreed that having friends who are already engaging in premarital sex influence one to have sex, while 66.4% of the respondents disagreed. 77.4% of the respondents agreed that friends, who always talk about sexual pleasure encourage one to have sex, 16% disagreed.

Research Question 2: Do Financial Gains Influence Premarital Sex

Table 4.7:

S/N	Item	Yes	%	No	%
7	Do some students engage in premarital sex to make money earn living	90	88.1	10	5.3
8	Do student engage in premarital sex for academic purposes	45	40.5	55	45.1
9	Do some students engage in premarital sex to get money from their rich boyfriend/ girlfriends	90	88	10	7.6
10	Do some students engage in premarital sex because of love of money	80	78.2	20	14.2

From the result obtained from table 7, 88.1% of the respondent agreed that some student engage in premarital sex to make money/ earn a living while 5.3% disagreed. 40.5% agreed that student engage in premarital sex for academic purpose while 45.1% disagreed. 88% agreed that some students engage in premarital sex to get money from their rich boyfriends/ girlfriends, while 7.6% disagreed. 78.2% agreed that some student engage in premarital sex because of love of money while 14.2% disagreed.

Research Question 3: Does Curiosity have any Effect on Premarital Sex?

Table 4.8:

S/N	ITEM	Yes	%	No	%
11	Does the desire to experimental lead some students to premarital sex.	50	45.1	50	45.1
12	Do some students engage in premarital sex in order to know what other people are enjoying	30	23.4	70	66.4
13	Do some students engage in premarital sex because of what they have heard about sex	60	54.3	40	36.4

The result obtained from table 8 above state that 45.1% of the respondent agreed that the desire to experiment lead some student to premarital sex, while 45.1 disagreed. 23.4% agreed that some student engage in premarital

sex in order to know what other people are enjoying, while 66.4% disagreed. 54.3% agreed that some students engage in premarital sex because of what they have heard about sex, while 36.4% disagreed.

Research Question 4: Do the Media Influence the Occurrence of Premarital Sex?

Table 4.9.

S/N	ITEM	Yes	%	No	%
14	Do pornographic videos from the internet encourage premarital sex among students	67	56.7	33	26.8
15	Does frequent exposure to sexual stimulating reinforce some student desire to engage in premarital, sex	53	42.1	47	33.6
16	Does the media encourage student to engage in premarital sex through music video reality TV shows etc.	14	8	86	77.3

The results obtained from table 9 above shows that 56.7% of the respondents agreed that pornographic videos from the internet encourage premarital sex

among students, while 26.8% of the respondent disagreed. 42.1% agreed that frequent exposure to sexual stimulating picture object from print media/ magazine reinforce some students desire to engage in premarital sex, while 33.6% disagreed. 8% agreed, that the media encourage premarital sex through music, video, reality TV shows etc. While 77.3%disagreed.

Discussion of Findings

The scope of this research work was to access the causes of premarital sex among undergraduate students of the University of Benin. From detailed analysis of the finding in accordance with postulated research question, the findings revealed as follows:

From research question 1, does peer influence contribute to the occurrence of premarital sex the findings revealed significantly that peer influence does contribute to the occurrence of premarital sex 53.2% agreed that students are engaging in premarital sex due to peer groups influence 61.1% agreed that they have friends who are sexually active 80% agreed that they have friends who are already engaging in premarital sex, 30% agreed that having such friends influence one to have sex and 77.3% agreed that

having friends who always talk about sexual pleasure encourage one to engage in premarital sex. Ibrahim (2004) argued that students are confronted with peer pressure and some fall into promiscuous behaviour without even first recognizing just how far they have fallen several studies have indicated that peers sexual attitudes are closely associated with an adolescent sexual behaviour. (Raffaelli and Crocket, 2003). In the same vain evidence suggest that one of the most consistent predictors of an adolescent risky behaviour is whether the individual has friends who also engage in that behaviour (king and Furrow, 2004).

From research question 2: do financial gain influence premarital sex revealed that financial gains does influence premarital sex 88.1% of the respondent agreed that some students engage in premarital sex to make money/ earn a living. 40.5% agreed that some student engage in premarital sex for academic purposes, 88% agreed that some student engage in premarital sex to get money from the rich boyfriends/ girlfriends, and 78.2% agreed that some student engage in premarital sex because of love of money.

Ikpe (2003) concludes that in University of Lagos student negotiates sex for money. According to Olugbile, Abu and Delakun (2008), for example many undergraduate have resorted to full time prostitution in their campuses under the guise that they are hustling. Moreover, due to the fact that majority of higher education students, and high school student are economically insecure, they are susceptible to economic incentive that can lead to higher risk sexual practices (Lamesgin, 2013).

From research question 3, does curiosity have any influence on premarital sex the finding indicated that curiosity does have influence on premarital sex and off course contribute to the occurrence of premarital sex. 45.1% of the respondents agreed that the desire to experiment lead some student to premarital sex. 23.4% of the respondent that some student engage in premarital sex in order to know what other people are enjoying, and 54.3% agreed that some students are engaging in premarital sex because of what they have heard about sex. Casual curiosity and casual impulse were the main reasons leading to premarital sexual behaviour among adolescents (Zhang Zhilong et al, 2002, Zhang Xueging et al, 1998, Diantianzhu et al, 2000).

From research question 4, do the media influence the occurrence of premarital sex? The findings revealed that the media influence the occurrence of premarital sex. From the respondents, 56.7% agreed that pornographic videos from the internet encourage premarital sex among students, 42.1% agreed that frequent exposure to sexual stimulating picture/object from print media/ magazines reinforce some students desire to engage in premarital sex, and 8% agreed that the media does encourage premarital sex through music, videos, reality TV shows etc (Brown et al, 2006) admonish the academic community and policy makers not to wait decades to conclude that the mass media are an important factor in youth sexual behaviour. Early sexual intercourse is also associated with chat chewing, watching pornographic movies below 18 years, living away from parents and having boyfriends (Seme & Wirlu, 2008, Mazeorgra & Worku, 2009).

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.1. Summary

This research work is aimed at assessing the cause of premarital sex among undergraduate students of the University of Benin. The research work covered background of the study, stating that premarital sex is generally used in reference to individual, who are presumed not yet of marriageable age or between adult who will presumably marry eventually, but who are engaged in sexual activity prior to marriage. According to Abdullahi and Umar (2008) “sexual behavior among the students in our university is speculatively very rampant and worrisome. This research work further went on to state the statement of the problem, the research question. This followed the purpose of the study, significant of the study and the scope of the study. It presented the review of related literature on various sub heading such as the concept of premarital sex, causes and influence of premarital sex, factors that have increased the acceptance and consequence of premarital sex.

The survey research design was used in this research the questionnaire was used to collect data and the items were analyzed using simple descriptive statistics, such as simple percentage. The following finding emerged from the study.

1. Peer influence contributes to the occurrence of premarital sex.
2. Financial gains influence premarital sex.
3. Curiosity has an effect on premarital sex
4. The media influence the occurrence of premarital sex.

5.2. Conclusion

From the findings of the research one would concluded that peer groups influence (Friends) contributes to the occurrence of premarital see and to a very large extent the kind of friends we keep has a way of influencing our decision and actions whether positively or negatively as it concern premarital sex, the need or desire for money also contribute to the causes of premarital sex, and this could either be because the individuals has no other reliable means of getting money or because of the crave for more money which could be seen as greed a strong desire to know or learn

something (Curiosity) and also the mass media which display, pictures and video, of sexual erotic object and which is also a very accessible source of such picture, and videos are all direct or indirect causes of premarital sex among undergraduate students of the university of Benin.

5.3. Recommendations

From the conclusions of the study, the following recommendation were made:

1. Parent or guidance should know the kind of friends or roommate their wards have in the university so as to make appropriate adjustment on time.
2. During orientation programs for undergraduate students should be taught on how to choose the right friends, that will reduce the chance of them engaging in premarital sex.
3. Parents or guardians should ensure that the needs of their ward are adequately met with emphasis on financial needs.

4. The cost of living should be reduced in the university environment and special aids, grant or scholarship should be given to students who are facing financial difficulties, with ease and on time.
5. During orientation programs in the classroom, or in teaching sex education, the students, should be taught on how to manage their curiosity and the effect of this curiosity if not well managed
6. Student should be well informed that people would most likely talk about the pleasure of sex rather than the consequence that come with it.
7. Student should be informed beforehand on the consequence of premarital sex such as unwanted or unintended pregnancy, abortion, school dropout, human, immunodeficiency virus/ acquired immune deficiency syndrome, transmission and other sexually transmitted infection.
8. There should be mechanism to check the way students access pornographic videos and other sexual, stimulating pictures magazine to help reduce the circulation.g like the restriction placed on computers, in MTN library on access to only just academic resources.

9. The films, music, videos, reality TV shows produced within and outside the country should be well scrutinized.

5.4. Further Research

1. Further research could be carried out on the topic with more emphasis on curiosity and the media as accuse.
2. Lecturers' involvement in luring students into premarital sex and possible solution
3. Factor that has increased the acceptance of premarital/ sex among students in the 21st century.

The impact of religion on premarital sex.

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APPENDIX
UNIVERSITY OF BENIN, BENIN CITY, EDO STATE
FACULTY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION

Questionnaire

This study is designed to enable the researcher assess the causes of premarital sex among undergraduate students of the University of Benin.

The result of this research will increase our knowledge and understanding of premarital sex and the cause among undergraduate students of the University of Benin.

Kindly supply the required to provide any information in the sections below you are not required to provide any information that can directly identify you and all answer provided will be treated in strict confidence. Thanks for your understanding and cooperation.

Substance abuse Scale: ALL VARIABLES

Case Processing Summary

	N	%
Cases Valid	20	100.0
Excluded ^a	0	.0
Total	20	100.0

a. Listwise deletion based on all variables in the procedure.

Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha ^a	N of Items
.821	20

Section A

Instruction; mark [] in the appropriate space and number provided

Sex: Male [] Female []

Age: 15 – 18 [], 19 – 22 [], 23 – 26 []

Faculty: _____

Marital status: Single [], Married []

Region: Christian [], Muslim [], Traditional [], others []

Section B

S/N	Questions	Yes	No
1	Do you know what premarital sex is?		
2	Is there anything wrong with premarital sex?		
3	Are students engaging in premarital sex due to peer pressure?		
4	Do you have friends who are already engaging in premarital sex?		
5	Do you have friends who are already engaging in premarital sex?		
6	Does having such friends influence you to have sex?		

7	Friends who always talk about sexual pleasures encourages you have sex?		
8	Do you see premarital sex as a show of loyalty to your peers?		
9	Do some students engage in premarital sex I to make money/earn a living?		
10	Do students engage in premarital sex for academic purposes?		
11	Do some students engage in premarital sex to get money from their rich boyfriends/girl friends?		
12	Do some students engage in premarital sex because of love of money?		
13	Does the desire to experiment lead some students to premarital sex?		
14	Do some students engage in premarital sex in order to know what other people are enjoying?		
15	Do some students engage in premarital sex because of what they have heard about sex?		
16	Do pornography videos from the internet encourage premarital sex among students?		
17	Does frequent exposure tom sexual stimulating pictures/objects from print media magazines reinforces some students desires to engage in premarital sex		
18	Does the media encourage students to engage premarital sex through music videos, reality, TV shows etc.		
19	Can you engage in premarital sex if yours role model on television approves or say so.		
20	Can you engage in premarital sex if your boyfriend/girlfriend pressure you to do so?		