

**TEENAGE PREGNANCY AND ITS IMPACT ON THE EDUCATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT OF TEENAGERS  
(A CASE STUDY OF EKOSODIN SECONDARY SCHOOL, BENIN CITY)**

**BY**

**FASORO TAIWO MORAYO  
EDU1703632**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION**

**UNIVERSITY OF BENIN,**

**BENIN CITY, NIGERIA.**

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**BEING A PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,  
SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION, FACULTY OF EDUCATION,  
UNIVERSITY OF BENIN, BENIN CITY, EDO STATE, NIGERIA IN PARTIAL  
FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF BACHELOR  
OF SCIENCE (EDUCATION) B.Sc. (Ed) DEGREE IN HEALTH EDUCATION.**

**DECEMBER, 2022**

## **CERTIFICATION**

We certify that this project work titled "**Teenage Pregnancy and Its Impact on the Educational Development of Teenagers (A Case Study Of Ekosodin Secondary School, Benin City)**" was carried out by **FASORO TAIWO MORAYO** with matriculation number **EDU1703632** and the research work is adequate in scope and quality in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of Bachelor of Science (Education) (B.Sc (Ed) degree in Health Education.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DR. S.O. OLIKIABO**  
**(PROJECT SUPERVISOR)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DR. E.O. IGUDIA**  
**(PROJECT COORDINATOR)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DATE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DATE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**PROF. O.K. OMOROGIWA**  
**(DEAN, FACULTY OF EDUCATION)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DATE**

## **DEDICATION**

This research work is dedicated to almighty God for his grace and protection over my life throughout the duration of my programme. I want to dedicate this work to my sweet mum Mrs. Fasoro Orente who laid a solid foundation of my education, for her tireless efforts, unquenchable love and support throughout the programme. May God reward you Ma.

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## ABSTRACT

This research focus on teenage pregnancy and its impact on the educational development of teenagers in Ekosodin Secondary School, Benin City has become increased as a result that teenage girls do not have adequate knowledge of protecting themselves from unwanted pregnancy due to lack of sex education at homes, churches, and also in the schools. The aim of this study is therefore was to examine teenage pregnancy and its impact on the educational development of teenager in Ekosodin Secondary School, Benin City.

The research design is a descriptive type of survey design and the study population consisted of a total of 147 students of the study (Ekosodin Secondary School Principal, 2022). A sample size of 100 respondents was selected using convenient sampling technique. The instrument for data collection was a well-designed structured questionnaire which was validated by the project supervisor and two other lecturers from the Department of Health, Safety and Environmental Education. Collected data was analyzed using descriptive statistical tools such as frequency and percentage tables. The impact of teenage pregnancy on the educational development was established to help reduce and prevent teenage pregnancy among the students and also increase the teaching of sex education in schools. Also finding shows that teenage pregnancy affects teenagers educational performance in school which can leads to poor academic performance, isolation from friends and family and also leads to drop out, lack of information, community and social pressure to marry, sexual violence social media influence, peer pressure and others are some of the leading causes of teenage pregnancy, teenage mothers faces a lot of challenges which includes, health challenges, premature labour, poverty and providing adequate information and contraceptive, making emergency contraceptive accessible, teaching of abstinence and introduction of sex education in the curriculum will help in the reduction of teenage pregnancy among teenagers. And It is thus recommended that the health educators should encouraged to give emotional support to pregnant teenagers by showing them love and empathy, sex education should be introduced in the Curriculum, health care professionals can help in improving the knowledge and understanding on the uses of contraceptive in order to prevent teenage pregnancy and abstinence should also be encouraged as the most effective method of preventing teenage pregnancy.

## CHAPTER ONE

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background to the study

A teenager is an individual between age of 13-19 years. A teenager could be regarded as a youth, minor, adolescent and even a juvenile until he or she turns 20 years. Watson and Lindgren (2015) gave the definition of a teenager simply as the period or stage of development that separates childhood from adulthood. They said it is also difficult to indicate the limits of a teenager; at what point does it begins and what point does it end, they said the characteristics of a teenager first shows themselves about 10, 11, or 12 years of age with the subtle changes in behaviour and appearance, then it becomes most obvious at puberty with the start of the menstrual cycle in girls. Teenage pregnancy is when a woman under 20 years gets pregnant. This usually refers to teens between the age of 15-19 but may include girls as young as 10 years. This is called teen pregnancy or adolescent pregnancy.

According to Kanku and Mash (2010), teenage pregnancy can be defined as a teenaged or under-aged girl within the ages of 13–19 years becoming pregnant. Globally, the world’s population comprises 1.2 billion young people between the age of 15–24 years; the majority of these young people live in Sub-Saharan Africa and are susceptible to teenage pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

World Health Organization (2014) opined that a teenager is a person between 15-19 years of age, they said it is a period where an individual is shaped and prepared for adulthood responsibilities, they said also that there are advantages and disadvantages of teenage pregnancy or having a baby at one's teenage stage, they went ahead to say that when you are younger the benefits are usually associated with greater fertility a healthier pregnancy and a quicker recovery after birth. But the down side is that your social life, education and training can be severely disrupted just when it might be taking off into an interesting direction. Moreso, WHO said some teenagers are much more capable of looking after a child than the older women because late motherhood or late pregnancy has a greater risk of complications in the pregnancy and reduced fertility.

Pregnancy can occur with sexual intercourse after the start of ovulation, which can be before the first menstrual period (menarche) but usually occurs after the onset of periods. In well-nourished girls, the first period usually takes place around the age of 12 or 13. Pregnant teenagers face many of the same pregnancy related issues as other women.

Teenage pregnancies are associated with social issues, including lower educational levels and poverty. These social issues constitute the devastating effects of teenage pregnancy on girls. Teenage pregnancy in developed countries is usually outside of marriage and is often associated with a social stigma. According the World Health Organization (2015), early pregnancies among adolescents have major health

consequences for adolescent mothers and their babies. Pregnancy and childbirth complications are the leading cause of death among girls aged 15–19 years globally, with low- and middle-income countries accounting for 99% of global maternal deaths of women aged 15–49 years. Adolescent mothers aged 10–19 years face higher risks of eclampsia, puerperal endometritis and systemic infections than women aged 20–24 years. Additionally, some 3.9 million unsafe abortions among girls aged 15–19 years occur each year, contributing to maternal mortality, morbidity and lasting health problems. Early childbearing can increase risks for newborns as well as young mothers. Babies born to mothers under 20 years of age face higher risks of low birth weight, preterm delivery and severe neonatal conditions.

## **1.2 Statement of the problem**

This study was concerned with the advantages and disadvantages of teenage pregnancy and its impact on the educational development of students of Ekosodin Secondary School in Benin City, Edo State.

Teenage girls do not have adequate knowledge of protecting themselves from unwanted pregnancy due to lack of sex education at home, church and also in school so that their male counterparts would take advantage of them by abusing them sexually. Thus, they will eventually leave school because of unwanted pregnancy which has affected their education. Many teenagers have dropped out of school because of

unplanned pregnancy and many careers have been distorted. Many parents give their teenage daughters out in marriage early to prevent them from engaging in prostitution and getting pregnant even when their reproductive organs have not fully developed.

Previous studies have discussed diverse effects of teenage pregnancy with little or no significant attention paid to the effects of teenage pregnancy on educational career of the teenagers and how the knowledge and understanding of sex education, use of contraceptives and abstinence will help students, parents and the community at large to reduce the teenage Pregnancy and its advert effects on the educational career and health of the teenagers. This is an integral part of the whole academic discourse and a gap this research work intends to fill.

### **1.3 Research Questions**

In order to effectively guide this Study, the following questions were raised;

1. Does teenage pregnancy affect teenager's educational performance in school?
2. What are the causes of teenage pregnancy?
3. What are the challenges of teenage motherhood?
4. Will sex education reduce the high rate of teenage pregnancy?

#### **1.4 Purpose of the Study**

The purpose of this study is to examine the effects of teenage Pregnancy in Ekosodin secondary school. Other specific objectives are;

1. To determine if teenage pregnancy affect teenager's educational performance in school.
2. To examine the causes of teenage pregnancy.
3. To find out the challenges of teenage motherhood.
4. To look into how sex education will reduce the high rate of teenage pregnancy.

#### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

This study will serve as a pioneer effort towards the understanding of teenage pregnancy among Ekosodin Secondary School students. The finding of the study would help policy makers particularly educational planners in Edo State to design more appropriate instructional Programmes on sex education.

The finding will also help to highlight some of the diseases that are associated with teenage pregnancy like Vesico Virgina Fistular (VVF) and Rectal Virgina fistular (RVF). The study may also provide the basis for further research on teenage pregnancy.

## **1.6 Scope and Delimitation of the study**

The scope covers teenage pregnancy and its impact on the educational development of teenagers in Ekosodin Secondary School.

This study is delimited to teenagers (aged 13 - 19 years) in Ekosodin Secondary School.

## **1.7 Definition of Terms**

### **Teenager**

Teenager is someone between the age of 13-19 years of age.

### **Teenage Pregnancy**

Teenage Pregnancy is also known as adolescent pregnancy is when a girl under 20 years of age gets pregnant. It usually refers to teens between the ages of 13 -19 years.

### **Adolescent**

An individual who has reached puberty but not yet an adult. A person usually aged from 13 to 19 years.

## **Educational Development**

Helping colleges and universities function effectively as teaching and learning communities. The practice of helping those who teach, be better at what they do through resources, workshops, or one- on -one assistance.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

This chapter will be viewed under the following subheadings;

- Concept of Teenage Pregnancy.
- Social Life of Teenagers.
- Causes of Teenage Pregnancy.
- Effects of Teenage Pregnancy on Education.
- Remedies of Teenage Pregnancy.
- Summary of Reviewed Literature

#### **2.1 Concept of Teenage pregnancy**

The United Nations Children Fund (2014), defines teenage Pregnancy as a teenage girl, usually within the age range between 13 and 19 years becoming pregnant and denotes girls who have not attained the mandatory age of adulthood which varies across the world. The World Health Organization (WHO) defines a teenager as any person between the age of 10 and 19. It is a period of life with specific health and developmental needs and rights. In some cases, this age group is referred as adolescence. It is a time when an individual starts to develop knowledge and skills, learn to manage emotions and

relationships and acquire attributes and abilities that will be important in assuming the different roles of adults.

According to the Cambridge Dictionary, a teenager is a young person between 13 and 19 years of age. All obtainable literature suggests that a teenager is a young person and by virtue of the fact that a teenager is a young person, they have specific physiological needs which require a lot of attention and or guidance. One of the physiological needs that stands out clearly is sexual activity which has numerous consequences, both intended and unintended including pregnancy. Teenage pregnancy and childbirth to women less than twenty years of age continues to be a major global public health concern, affecting more than sixteen million girls and young women worldwide (WHO, 2014). Although it is considered to be such a serious public health and social problem globally. Teenage girls aged 15 years to 19 years are twice more likely to die during pregnancy and childbirth compared to women in their twenties, whereas those under the age of 15 years are five times more likely to die. One of the reasons why such girls are likely to die is because their bodies have not grown enough to accommodate pregnancy let alone giving birth as their birth canal is still developing and so are their bone structure. Teenage pregnancy has remained a major health and social concern in the Africa countries. The health concerns associated with teenage pregnancy include obstructed labour, eclampsia, fistula, low birth weight, stillbirths, and neonatal death. In addition, the risk of maternal death is higher in teenagers than

older women because they have not yet developed the physical maturity required for a healthy pregnancy. The reproductive health of teenage girls is thus affected by unsafe abortion, sexually transmitted infections, sexual violence and limited access to medical services (Josephine & Premark, 2016). The social concerns related to teenage pregnancy include high rate of unemployment, school failure and or drop-outs and limited future career opportunities. In fact, teenage pregnancy often leads to inability to complete secondary education, a fact that reduces the potential of victims to find meaningful employment upon dropping out of school (Wallace, 2011). Teenage pregnancies are associated with social issues, including lower educational levels and poverty. WHO (2018), Teenage pregnancy in developed countries is usually outside of marriage and is often associated with a social stigma. Teenage pregnancy in developing countries often occurs within marriage and half are planned. However, in these societies, early pregnancy may combine with malnutrition and poor health care to cause medical problems. When used in combination, educational interventions and access to birth control can reduce unintended teenage pregnancies. United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO, 2018).

Teenage pregnancy is linked to a number of physiological risks and there is a negative effect on the socioeconomic status of the teenage mother and the child because current school policy is to have pregnant girls terminate their education. Nigeria has one of the highest rates of teenage pregnancy in Sub-Saharan Africa with 24 percent of

teenage girls becoming pregnant before the age of 19 years (Nigeria demographic and health survey, 2011). This is very high given that such girls almost lose hope for their socio-economic lives.

Pregnant teenagers face many of the same pregnancy related issues as other women. There are additional concerns for those under the age of 15 as they are less likely to be physically developed to sustain a healthy pregnancy or to give birth. (Mayor, 2014), For girls aged 15-19 years risks are associated more with socioeconomic factors than with the biological effects of age. Risks of low birth weight, premature labor, anemia, and pre-eclampsia are connected to biological age, as they are observed in teen births even after controlling for other risk factors, such as access to prenatal care.

Adolescent pregnancies are a global problem occurring in high-, middle-, and low-income countries. Around the world, however, adolescent pregnancies are more likely to occur in marginalized communities, commonly driven by poverty and lack of education and employment opportunities. (UNICEF, 2013). Several factors contribute to adolescent pregnancies and births. In many societies, girls are under pressure to marry and bear children early. WHO (2013), In least developed countries, at least 39% of girls marry before they are 18 years of age and 12% before the age of 15. In many places girls choose to become pregnant because they have limited educational and employment prospects. Often, in such societies, motherhood is valued and marriage or union and childbearing may be the best of the limited options available. (UNFPA, 2015).

## **Signs of pregnancy**

You will probably first realize you are pregnant when you skip a regular period. But if you get a very light period around the time, you expect it, do not assume you are not pregnant. It is possible to have very light bleeding in the first few weeks of pregnancy.

Signs of pregnancy include:

- Missed or very light period
- Breast tenderness
- Nausea, often in the morning
- Vomiting
- Feeling lightheaded
- Fainting
- Weight gain
- Feeling tired
- Swelling abdomen

## 2.2 Social Life of Teenagers

The Social life of the teenagers has to do with the social interaction and relationship of teenagers with their friends, family and society. There is a need for teenagers to be with friends because they believe that friends are the most important people in their lives than family. The need for adolescents to be with friends is perhaps hardwired in the brain. Pew research (2012), reports that being with peers after a stressor is associated with lower sadness, worry and jealousy compared to being alone, and lower sadness compared to being with family. The need for peer interaction has not changed, but the tools for it have. The teenager has now added social media as an important tool for interaction and conversation with peers. A growing child looks up to their family, parents and siblings, largely to meet his or her emotional and physical needs .Ashavidya (2020),is of the opinion that social life of the teenagers is influenced by social media networking and it make a significant contribution on the teenagers through their social network platforms such as Facebook, wikipedia, twitter, WhatsApp, Instagram linkedin and so on.However,it is of the facts that social network has both positive and negative effects on teenagers in our contemporary societies. Although entirely population-based research proposed a correlation between a social media and academic discomfort among teenagers. The influences of such technology can also differ between individuals. Girls prefer to invest more time on social media than boy. Thus, the female teenagers are prone to different form of sexual abuse that owning the attraction people devoted from the uses

of several social media. Solid networking of adolescent has a vital role to play in the advent and development of psychopathology which has to do with the mental health issues.

Social media sites allow teens to accomplish certain tasks that are considered important to them such as staying connected with friends and family, making new friends, sharing pictures and exchanging ideas. On the other hand, social media participation also can offer adolescents deeper benefits that extend into their view of self, community and the world. This becomes more beneficial if adults get involved with children and guide in the use of media through visit to quality websites by engaging the use of educational software and view of TV shows that offer extra learning opportunities, when these adults watch TV and movies together with kids, discussing plot, how children feel about the happenings in the movie and compare with the real-life consequences of wrong and illegal actions create a balance in the child's development into society (Undiyaundeye, 2014).

## **2.3 Causes of Teenage Pregnancy**

### **Low Educational Level**

Low educational expectations have been pinpointed as a risk factor. A girl is also more likely to become a teenage parent if her mother or older sister gave birth in her teens. (East & Jacobson, 2002) Majority of respondents in a 1988 Joint Center for Political

and Economic Studies survey attributed the occurrence of adolescent pregnancy to a breakdown of communication between parents and child and also to inadequate parental supervision.

### **Sexual Abuse.**

Existing studies from South Africa have found that 11–20% of pregnancies in teenagers are a direct result of rape, while about 60% of teenage mothers had unwanted sexual experiences preceding their pregnancy. Before age 15, a majority of first-intercourse experiences among females are reported to be non-voluntary; the Guttmacher Institute found that 60% of girls who had sex before age 15 were coerced by males who on average were six years their senior. One in five teenage fathers admitted to forcing girls to have sex with them. (Speizer ,Pettifor, Cummings, Macphail,Rees, 2019).Multiple studies have indicated a strong link between early childhood sexual abuse and subsequent teenage pregnancy in industrialized countries. Up to 70% of women who gave birth in their teens were molested as young girls; by contrast, 25% of women who did not give birth as teens were molested.

### **Childhood environment**

Girls exposed to abuse, domestic violence, and family strife in childhood are more likely to become pregnant as teenagers, and the risk of becoming pregnant as a teenager increases with the number of adverse childhood experiences. According to a 2004 study,

one-third of teenage pregnancies could be prevented by eliminating exposure to abuse, violence, and family strife. The researchers note that "family dysfunction has enduring and unfavorable health consequences for women during the adolescent years, the childbearing years, and beyond." When the family environment does not include adverse childhood experiences, becoming pregnant as an adolescent does not appear to raise the likelihood of long-term, negative psychosocial consequences. (Tamkins, 2004). Studies have also found that boys raised in homes with a battered mother, or who experienced physical violence directly, were significantly more likely to impregnate a girl.

### **Media influence**

Existing study reveals that, adolescents who were more exposed to sexuality in the media were also more likely to engage in sexual activity themselves. Teens exposed to the most sexual content on TV are twice as likely as teens watching less of this material to become pregnant before they reach age 20. (L'Engle,Kumar,Mohase, 2016).

### **Lack of Contraception.**

Adolescents may lack knowledge of, or access to, conventional methods of preventing pregnancy, as they may be too embarrassed or frightened to seek such information. Contraception for teenagers presents a huge challenge for the clinician. Young women often think of contraception either as 'the pill' or condoms and have little knowledge about other methods. They are heavily influenced by negative, second-hand

stories about methods of contraception from their friends and the media. Prejudices are extremely difficult to overcome. Over concern about side-effects, for example weight gain and acne, often affect choice. Missing up to three pills a month is common, and in this age group the figure is likely to be higher. Restarting after the pill-free week, having to hide pills, drug interactions and difficulty getting repeat prescriptions can all lead to method failure. (Adams, D'Souza 2009).

### **Rebellion**

Youthful exuberance has long been identified by scholars as part of the process of adolescence as it seen teenagers rebel or agitate against the control or dependence on their parents and seek to indulge in acts that will cause pain and embarrassment for their parents. one of these acts is unprotected sexual practices that can invariably lead to pregnancy. (Ayuba & Gani, 2012).

### **Alcohol and Drug Abuse.**

The impact of drugs and alcohol on the lives of teenagers cannot be qualified. Scholars highlights that drug and alcohol use increases the probability of teenagers been expose to rape and exploited in the sense that if a teenager is under the influence of drugs, they can easily be subduing into sexual activities that increases their risk to teenage pregnancy. (Alabi & Oni, 2017).

## **Peer Pressure**

Peer pressure continues to destroy teenagers all over the world friends are critical instruments of socialization and establish standards of behavior while serving as role models hence altering the sexual behavior and beliefs of the teenagers. In most cases they allow their decisions regarding sex be influenced by their peers (Hashmi, Chiazor, mayor, 2017).

## **Early Puberty**

Girls who mature early (precocious puberty) are more likely to engage in sexual intercourse at a younger age, which in turn puts them at greater risk of teenage pregnancy. (Deardorff, Gonzales, Christopher, Roosa, Millsap, 2015).

## **2.4 Effect of Teenage Pregnancy on Education**

### **Psychological issues**

Pregnant students face depression in and out of schools. Once a student becomes pregnant, she is normally affected psychologically due to thoughts about the consequences, particularly among younger adolescents, especially if the pregnancy itself may be a result of rape or incest. These issues occur mainly when their partners run away or are unwilling to take family responsibilities. Existing research reveals that some students stigmatize pregnant learners through hurtful comments, avoiding them in group

work, playing etc., which make them uncomfortable and perform poorly. School heads and teachers acknowledge stigma and trauma accompanying being a mother at school: a young mother is offensively called mzazi, which means a parent or guardian (Maluli & Bali, 2014).

### **School Dropout**

Existing study reveals that many teenage mothers drop out of school as a result of teenage pregnancy. School dropout is seen as a cause as well as effect of teenage Pregnancy. It is therefore revealed that some teenage mother's dropout of school due to the pregnancy while others became pregnant because they drop out of school. Thus, most pregnant girls' dropout of school to deliver and after delivery they feel shy and do not return to school thereby serving as a baseline for other teenagers with similar problems to imitate and that pregnant act as a catalyst that speeds up the rate of school dropout especially in poor families. (Charles, 2013).

### **Early Marriage.**

Early motherhood can affect the psychosocial development of the infant. The children of teen mothers are more likely to be born prematurely with a low birth weight, predisposing them to many other lifelong conditions. Children of teen mothers are at higher risk of intellectual, language, and socio-emotional delays. Developmental disabilities and behavioral issues are increased in children born to teen mothers. (Gibbs,

Hobcraft, Kieman, 2012). They suggested that adolescent mothers are less likely to stimulate their infant through affectionate behaviors such as touch, smiling, and verbal communication, or to be sensitive and accepting toward his or her needs. Another found that those who had more social support were less likely to show anger toward their children or to rely upon punishment.

If young mothers are forced into early marriages, this makes them feel rejected or isolated. These experiences resulted in low self-esteem, inferiority complex, poor performance in their academic work, and identity crises in the young mothers. ((Nkwemu & Obi2019).

### **Maternal and Paternal Health**

Maternal and prenatal health is of particular concern among teens who are pregnant or parenting. The worldwide incidence of premature birth and low birth weight is higher among adolescent mothers. Teenage mothers between 15 and 19 years old were more likely to have anemia, preterm delivery, and a baby with a lower birth weight than mothers between 20 and 24 years old (Banejee, Pandey, Dutt, Sengupta, Mondal, Debs, 2009). Risks for medical complications are greater for girls aged under 15, as an underdeveloped pelvis can lead to difficulties in childbirth. Obstructed labour is normally dealt with by caesarean section in industrialized nations. However, in developing regions

where medical services might be unavailable, it can lead to eclampsia, obstetric fistula, infant mortality, or maternal death. (Mayor, 2004)

### **Malnutrition**

Compared to adult mothers, adolescent mothers are shorter, more likely to be underweight and anaemic, less likely to access health services, and have poorer complementary feeding practices. Studies have suggested that adolescent girls (aged 12–19 years and 13–17 years, respectively) stop growing in response to pregnancy: the change in height was approximately zero in pregnant adolescent girls, but was positive and significant in non-pregnant adolescent girls matched on age and menarcheal age. Anaemia mainly due to lack or deficiency of iron is the commonest prenatal complication seen in teenagers, (Nguyen, Scott, Neupane, Tran & menon, 2019).

### **Poor Academics performance**

Poor academic performance in the children of teenage mothers has also been noted, with many of the children scoring lower on standardized tests, and/or failing to graduate from secondary school. Daughters born to adolescent parents are more likely to become teen mothers themselves. It was observed that sons born to teenage mothers are three times more likely to serve time in prison. (National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, (NCPTP) 2002).

## **Miscarriage**

Risk of miscarriage is seen as high and consistent in girls under 15 years, intermediate in 15-17 years, and lowest in higher ages. Pregnancy and childbirth complications are among the leading causes of death in girls aged 15-19 years. Cross-sectional data on adolescent married women shows that stillbirths are more prevalent among younger adolescents than among older adolescents, and among all adolescents than among adult women (Patra, 2016).

## **2.5 Remedies of Teenage Pregnancy**

### **Emotional support**

The educators should consider giving emotional support to pregnant teenagers by showing them love and empathy. Negative remarks about pregnant learners in the classroom situation should be avoided at all costs, advices or corrections pertaining to the state of affairs of pregnant teenagers should be done privately by the teacher, not in the presence of other learners who are not pregnant, and this will promote good relationship between educators and pregnant teenagers. (Pandy,Makiwena,Ranchod & Letsoalo, 2009).

## **Comprehensive Sex Education**

Sex or sexuality education should be included in the senior secondary school curriculum which should be taught at every level integer school so that teenagers will have the adequate knowledge about sexuality, and sexual behaviors. Abstinence should be taught as the most effective method of preventing teenage pregnancy but also discuss contraception as the appropriate strategies of preventing teenage pregnancy for teenagers who are sexually active. (Gyan, 2013).

## **Sex and Contraceptive Counseling**

A health care professional can play a key role in improving the teenager's knowledge and understanding on contraception use in order to prevent teenage pregnancy. The health care professionals can be a trained nurse, medical doctors or a health educator should be invited to schools, churches and mosques by the principal, pastors and clerk to enlighten teenagers as they grow about sex and the difference methods of contraception as well as how it can be effectively use which includes, the emergency pill (postinor 1& 2), male and female condoms, cervical cap, spermicidal foam, diaphragm and lot more. (Maemako,Nkengbeza, Chokomisi, 2018).

## **2.6 Summary of Reviewed related Literature.**

In this section the researcher reviewed literature studies carried out by previous researcher on the effect of teenage Pregnancy on the educational development of teenager and provide some remedies that should be adopted. The researcher also identified some common causes of teenage Pregnancy such as rebellion, lack of contraception, media influences childhood environment, sexual abuse, low Educational Level and lot more. The researcher also looks at Teenage Pregnancy and its impact on the educational development of teenager. The researcher looks at the concept of teenage pregnancy as a teenage girl usually within the age of 13 to 19 years becoming pregnant. The social life of teenagers which has to do with the social interaction and relationship of teenagers with their friends, family and society, effects of teenage pregnancy such as school dropout, poor educational performance, early marriage, psychological issues, causes of teenage pregnancy which are, low educational level, sexual abuse, childhood environment media influence and so on. The researcher concluded this chapter by providing remediation that should be taking to prevent teenage pregnancy.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **METHODOLOGY**

This chapter described the procedure adopted in this study under the following subheadings;

- Research Design
- Population of the study
- Sample and sampling Techniques
- Research Instrument
- Validity of the Instrument
- Reliability of the Instrument
- Method Of Data Collection
- Method of Data Analysis.

#### **3.1 Research Design**

This study adopted the descriptive survey research design. The design was chosen because it allows the researcher to collect data from sampled population as representative of the entire population within relatively short period of time. This method is appropriate

in the study of Teenage Pregnancy and its impact on the educational development of teenager on Ekosodin Secondary School, Benin City.

According to Owie (2016) this design is considered suitable because a descriptive survey is aimed at collecting data, analyzing data and describing data in a systematic manner, the characteristics and facts about the population of the study.

### **Population of the Study**

The population of the study comprises of one hundred and forty-seven (147) female teenagers in Ekosodin Secondary School.

### **3.3 Sample and Sampling Technique**

A sample size of hundred (100) respondents was collected out of the one hundred and forty-seven (147) of the population. Convenient sample was used to select respondents for the study.

### **3.4 Research Instrument**

The instrument used in generating the data for this study is the questionnaire which was constructed by the researcher was made up of two sections (A and B), Section A covered the demographic information of the respondents while section B covered the topic for the study.

### **3.5 Validity of the Instrument**

The questionnaire was given to the project supervisor and two lecturers in the Department of Health Safety and Environmental Education in the Faculty of Education, University of Benin for scrutiny, correction and suggestions. Their corrections and criticism made were incorporated in the final copy of the Instrument.

### **3.6 Reliability of the Instrument**

In order to ascertain the reliability of the Instrument the researcher used the split half method of reliability. The researcher administered the instrument once and score two equivalent halves of the item by numbering odd items and even item and compute the correlation coefficient between the two halves and then correct reliability to fit whole test by using cronbach Alpha which measure the internal consistency, that is, how closely related a set of items are as a group.

### **3.7 Method of Data Collection**

The administration of the questionnaire was done by the researcher with the help of two research assistant by giving out the questionnaire to the teenagers in Ekosodin Secondary School and then collected them back on the spot. This was done in order to ensure that no item was missing.

### **3.8 Method of Data Analysis**

In analyzing the data, the descriptive statistical procedure was employed. The response to the questionnaire items were analyzed using frequency count and percentage.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### PRESENTATION OF RESULTS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

This chapter presents the analysis of data collected. The purpose of this research was to investigate teenage pregnancy and its impact on the educational development of teenagers in Ekosodin Secondary School .The questionnaire was distributed to one hundred students (100) who are secondary school students.

#### SECTION A: Demographic Data

**TABLE 1: Gender**

Item	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Female	100	100%
Total	100	100%

From the table above, it can be seen that all the respondents are only female students.

**Table 2: Age Distribution**

<b>Age</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
10 - 13	22	22%
14 - 16	48	48%
17 - 19	23	23%
20 - above	07	7%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

Age Distribution: The age distribution indicated that majority of the sampled respondent's age 48% falls between 14 - 16 years. This was followed by respondents in the age group of 17 - 19 years 23%, followed by respondents in the age of 10 - 13 years 22% while 20 years and above were 7%.

Those respondents whose age falls within 14 - 16 years were the majority in this study.

**Table 3: Class Data**

Class	Frequency	Percentage (%)
J S S 1 - 3	42	42%
S S S 1 - 3	58	58%
TOTAL	100	100%

Class Data: The class Data shows that the majority of the sampled respondent's 58% are from the senior secondary school students S S S 1 - 3 and 42% are from the Junior secondary school students J S S 1- 3. The respondents from senior secondary school were the majority in this study.

**SECTION B**

**Table 4: DOES TEENAGE PREGNANCY AFFECT TEENAGER'S EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE IN SCHOOL?**

S/ N	ITEMS	STRONGLY AGREE		AGREE		STRONGLY DISAGREE		DISAGREE		TOTAL POP (%)	
		F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%		
1	Teenage pregnancy affects teenagers educational performance in school	70	70%	27	27%	1	1%	2	2%	100	100%
2	Teenage pregnancy disrupts teenagers	68	68%	22	22%	9	9%	1	1%	100	100%

	attendance in school							
3	School dropout is one of the reasons for teenage pregnancy	20 20%	40 40%	18 18%	22 22%	100 100%		
4	Teenage pregnancy can lead to poor academic performance	37 37%	55 55%	0 0%	8 8%	100 100%		
5	Isolation of pregnant teenager affects their academic performance	68 68%	26 26%	2 2%	4 4%	100 100%		

From the table above, it is seen that item 1, 70% of the respondents strongly agreed that teenage pregnancy affects Teenagers Educational performance in school, 27% agreed, 2% disagreed and 1% strongly disagreed .This indicates that teenage pregnancy affects teenagers educational performance in school.in item 2, 68% strongly agreed,22% agreed,9%strongly disagreed and 1% disagreed. This indicates that majority of the respondents strongly agreed that teenage pregnancy disrupts teenagers' attendance in school. In item 3, 40% of the respondents agreed 20% strongly agreed,22% disagreed and 18% strongly disagreed. This shows the majority of the respondents agreed that school dropout is one of the reasons for teenage pregnancy. In items 4, it is seen that 55% of the respondents agreed,37% strongly agreed, 8% disagreed and nor of the respondents strongly disagreed. This indicates that majority of the respondents agreed that teenage pregnancy can leads to poor academic performance. In items 5, it is seen that 68%of the respondents strongly agreed, 26% agreed ,4% disagreed and only 2%of the respondents **disagreed.**

**TABLE 5: WHAT ARE THE CAUSES OF TEENAGE PREGNANCY**

S/ N	ITEMS	STRONGLY	AGREE	STRONGL	DISAGRE	TOTAL
		AGREE	F %	Y	E	POP %
		F %		DISAGRE	F %	
				E		
				F %		
1	Lack of information about sexual and reproductive health leads to teenage pregnancy	63 63%	32 32%	2 2%	3 3%	100 100%
2	Community and social pressure to marry	17 17%	23. 23%	24 24%	35 35%	100 100%

	promote teenage pregnancy								
3	Sexual violence leads to teenage pregnancy	58 58%	41 41%	0 0%	1 1%	100 100%			
4	Social media influence or exposure promotes teenage pregnancy	21 21%	44 44%	10 10%	24 24%	100 100%			
5	Peer pressure leads to teenage	25 25%	37 37%	18 18%	22 22%	100 100%			

	pregnancy					
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From the analysis above it's can be seen that in item 6, 63% of the sampled population strongly agreed, 32% agreed, 3%disagreed and only 2% strongly disagreed. This clearly indicates that majority of the sampled population strongly agreed that lack of information about sexual and reproductive health leads to teenage pregnancy. In item 7, 35% of the respondents disagreed, 24%strongly disagreed, 23%agreed and only 17% of the respondents strongly agreed. This clearly indicates that majority of the respondents disagreed that community and social pressure to marry promote teenage pregnancy. In item 8, 58% of the respondents strongly agreed, 41% agreed, 1% disagreed and none of the respondents strongly disagreed. This indicates that majority of the respondents strongly agreed that sexual violence can leads to teenage pregnancy. In item 9, 44% of the sampled population agreed, 24% disagreed, 21% strongly agreed and 10% strongly disagreed. This shows that the majority of the respondents agreed that social media influence or exposure promotes teenage pregnancy. In item 10, 37% of the sampled population agreed, 25% strongly agreed 22% disagreed and 18% strongly disagreed. This shows that majority of the sampled population agreed that peer pressure can leads to teenage pregnancy.

**TABLE 6: WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES OF TEENAGE MOTHERHOOD**

S/ N	ITEMS	STRONGLY AGREE		AGREE		STRONGLY DISAGREE		DISAGRE E		TOTAL	
		F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	POP	%
1	Teenage mothers face more health challenges than adult mothers	55	55%	28	28%	7	7%	10	10%	100	100%
2	Teenage pregnancy leads to pre mature labour	22	22%	48	48%	12	12%	18	18%	100	100%
3	Teenage mothers faces stigma and rejection from friends and family	35	35%	59	59%	4	4%	2	2%	100	100%

4	Children born of teenage mothers are most time malnourished	24 24%	26 26%	31 31%	29 29%	100 100%
5	Poverty is one the challenges faced by teen mothers	46 46%	43 43%	2 2%	9 9%	100 100%

From the table above, In item 11, 55%of the sampled population strongly agreed, teenage mothers face more health challenges than adult mothers,28% agreed,10% disagreed and 7% strongly disagreed. This indicates that the majority of the sampled population strongly agreed that teenage mothers face more health challenges. In item 12, 48% of the sampled population agreed, 22% strongly agreed, 18% disagreed and 12% strongly disagreed this clearly shows that majority of the sampled population strongly agreed that teenage pregnancy can leads to premature labour. In item 13, 59%of the total sampled population agreed, 35% strongly agreed, 4%strongly disagreed and only 2% disagreed. This shows that most of the sampled population agreed that teenage mothers face stigma and rejection from friends and family. In item 14, 31% of the respondents strongly

disagreed, 29% disagreed, 26% agreed and 24% strongly agreed. This therefore shows that majority of the respondents strongly disagreed that children born of teenage mothers are most time malnourished. In item 15, 46% of the respondents strongly agreed, 43% agreed, 9% disagreed and 2% strongly disagreed. This therefore shows that poverty is one the challenges faced by teen mothers.

**TABLE 7: WILL SEX EDUCATION REDUCE THE HIGH RATE OF TEENAGE PREGNANCY**

S/ N	ITEMS	STRONGLY AGREE		AGREE		STRONGLY DISAGREE		DISAGREE		TOTAL	
		F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	POP	%
1	Adequate information on contraception reduces teenage pregnancy	53	53%	37	37%	3	3%	7	7%	100	100%

2	Emergency contraceptive accessible to teenagers can help control of teenage pregnancy	21 21%	49 49%	24 24%	6 6%	100 100%
3	Teaching of abstinence can help in the reduction of teenage pregnancy	77 77%	18 18%	2 2%	3 3%	100 100%
4	Making teenagers aware of their sexual behavior can help to reduce	39 39%	30 30%	23 23%	8 8%	100 100%

	teenage pregnancy										
5	Introduction of sex education in the curriculum will help in the reduction of teenage pregnancy	64	64%	29	29%	2	2%	5	5%	100	100%

From the table above, it is seen that in item 16, 53% of of the sampled population strongly agreed, 37% agreed , 7% disagreed and just 3% of the sampled population strongly disagreed. This shows that adequate information on contraception can help in reduces teenage pregnancy. In item 17, 49% of the respondents agreed,24% strongly disagreed, 21% strongly agreed and only 6% disagreed. This shows that majority of the respondents agreed that emergency contraceptive accessible to teenagers can help in control teenage pregnancy. In item 18, 77% of the respondents strongly agreed, 18% agreed, 3% strongly disagreed and 2% disagreed. This indicates that most of the

respondents strongly agreed that teaching of abstinence can help in the reduction of teenage pregnancy. In items 19, 39% of the sampled population strongly agreed, 30% agreed, 23% strongly disagreed and 8% disagreed. This therefore shows that most of the sampled population strongly agreed that making teenagers aware of their sexual behavior can help to reduce teenage pregnancy and lastly in item 20, 64% of the respondents strongly agreed, 29% agreed, 5% disagreed and only 2% strongly disagreed. This therefore indicates that majority of the respondents strongly agreed that introduction of sex education in the curriculum will help in reduction of teenage pregnancy.

## **DISCUSSION OF FINDING**

From the data collected and analyzed, the following are the findings:

In research question one: Does teenage pregnancy affect teenagers' educational performance. It is seen that teenage pregnancy affects educational performance. It was revealed that majority of the respondents agreed that teenage pregnancy disrupts teenager's attendance in school. It was seen that school dropout is one of the reasons for teenage pregnancy. It was seen the teenage pregnancy can lead to poor academic performance in schools and isolation of pregnant teenager can affect their academic performance.

In research question two, What are the causes of teenage pregnancy: it is seen that lack of information about sexual and reproductive health leads to teenage pregnancy, It is seen

that majority of the sampled disagreed that community and social pressure to marry also promote teenage pregnancy, It is also seen that sexual violence can leads to teenage pregnancy, It is seen that majority of the respondents agreed that social media influence/exposure promotes teenage pregnancy and that peer pressure can also leads to teenage pregnancy

In research question three: What are the challenges of teenage motherhood: it is revealed that the respondents strongly agreed that teenage mothers face more health challenges that adult mothers, it is seen that teenage pregnancy leads to premature labour. It is seen that majority of the respondents agreed that teenage mothers face stigma and rejection from friends and family members. It is seen that majority of the respondents disagreed the children born of teenage mothers are most time malnourished, and it is seen that poverty is one of the challenges faced by teen mothers.

Based on research question four: Will see education reduces the rate of teenage pregnancy. It is seen that providing adequate information on contraception reduces teenage pregnancy.it is also seen that majority of the respondents also agreed that making emergency contraceptive accessible to teenagers can help in control of teenage pregnancy, it is also seen that teaching of abstinence can help in the reduction of teenage pregnancy, It is revealed that majority of the respondents also strongly agreed that making teenagers aware of their sexual behavior can help in reduces teenage pregnancy. It seen that

majority of the respondents strongly agreed that introduction of sex education in the curriculum will help in reduction of teenage pregnancy.

## CHAPTER FIVE

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

#### 5.1 Summary

This research focus on teenage pregnancy and its impact on the educational development of teenagers in Ekosodin Secondary School, Benin City has become increased as a result that teenage girls do not have adequate knowledge of protecting themselves from unwanted pregnancy due to lack of sex education at homes, churches, and also in the schools. The aim of this study is therefore was to examine teenage pregnancy and its impact on the educational development of teenager in Ekosodin Secondary School, Benin City.

The research design is a descriptive type of survey design and the study population consisted of a total of 147 students of the study (Ekosodin Secondary School Principal, 2022). A sample size of 100 respondents was selected using convenient sampling technique. The instrument for data collection was a well-designed structured questionnaire which was validated by the project supervisor and two other lecturers from the Department of Health, Safety and Environmental Education. Collected data was analyzed using descriptive statistical tools such as frequency and percentage tables. The impact of teenage pregnancy on the educational development was established to help reduce and prevent teenage pregnancy among the students and also increase the teaching

of sex education in schools. Also finding shows that teenage pregnancy affects teenagers educational performance in school which can leads to poor academic performance, isolation from friends and family and also leads to drop out, lack of information, community and social pressure to marry, sexual violence social media influence, peer pressure and others are some of the leading causes of teenage pregnancy, teenage mothers faces a lot of challenges which includes, health challenges, premature labour, poverty and providing adequate information and contraceptive, making emergency contraceptive accessible, teaching of abstinence and introduction of sex education in the curriculum will help in the reduction of teenage pregnancy among teenagers. And It is thus recommended that the health educators should encouraged to give emotional support to pregnant teenagers by showing them love and empathy, sex education should be introduced in the Curriculum, health care professionals can help in improving the knowledge and understanding on the uses of contraceptive in order to prevent teenage pregnancy and abstinence should also be encouraged as the most effective method of preventing teenage pregnancy.

## **5.2 Conclusion**

From the analysis carried out in the study, it can be concluded that;

It is seen that teenage pregnancy affects teenagers' educational performance in school.it is also seen that teenage pregnancy disrupts teenagers' attendance in school and it is seen

that school dropout is one of the reasons for teenage pregnancy is revealed that teenage pregnancy can lead to poor academic performance. And it is seen that when teenagers get pregnant they tend to isolate themselves which later affects their academic performance. It revealed the causes of teenage pregnancy. It is seen that lack of information about sexual and reproductive health leads to teenage pregnancy. It is seen that sexual violence led to teenage pregnancy. It is seen that social media influences /exposure promotes teenage pregnancy and peer pressure leads to teenage pregnancy. It revealed the challenges faced by teenage mothers which are health challenges, teenage pregnancy leads to premature labour, stigma and rejection from friends and family and poverty. It also revealed that teaching of sex education can help in reducing the high rate of teenage pregnancy. It is seen that adequate information on contraception can help in reducing teenage pregnancy, it is also seen that teaching of abstinence can help to reduce teenage pregnancy. It is seen that introduction of sex education in the curriculum will help in reducing teenage pregnancy.

### **5.3 Recommendations**

The following are recommended based on the findings and conclusion of the study:

1. The health educators should give emotional support to pregnant teenagers by showing them love and empathy. Advice and corrections concerning the affairs

of pregnant teenagers should be done privately by teacher not in the presence of other learners who are not pregnant in order to promote good relationship between educators and pregnant teenagers.

2. Sex or sexuality education should be introduced in the secondary school curriculum and should be taught at every level of education so that teenagers will have adequate knowledge about sexuality and their sexual behaviors.
3. Abstinence should be encouraged as the most effective method of preventing teenage pregnancy.
4. A health care professionals can help in improving the teenager's knowledge and understanding on contraception uses in order to prevent teenage pregnancy.
5. Health educators can be invited to schools, churches and mosques by the principals, pastors and clerks to enlighten teenagers as they grow about sex and the difference methods of contraception as well as how it can be effectively use.

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## **APPENDIX**

### **Questionnaire Administration**

**University Of Benin**

**Faculty of Education**

**Department Of Health, Safety and Environmental Education**

Dear respondent,

I am an undergraduate student of the above named department and am carrying out a research on the topic "Teenage Pregnancy and Its Impact on the Educational Development of Teenagers in Ekosodin Secondary School, Benin City.

Please endeavor to complete the questionnaire by ticking the correct answers from the options or supply the information where necessary, using the following option: Strongly Agreed (SA), Agreed (A), Strongly Disagreed (SD), Disagreed (D).

#### **SECTION A: DEMORGRAPIC DATA**

1. Gender : Male ( )          Female ( )

2. Age: 10 -13 years ( )    14 -16 years ( )    17-19 years ( )    20 years & above  
( )

3. Class: J S S 1 - 3 ( )                      S S S 1 - 3 ( )

**SECTION B: RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

R.Q 1: DOES TEENAGE PREGNANCY AFFECT TEENAGER'S EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE IN SCHOOL?

s/n	item	SA	A	SD	D
1	Teenage pregnancy affects teenagers educational performance in school				
2	Teenage pregnancy disrupts teenagers attendance in school.				
3	School dropout is one of the reasons for teenage pregnancy				
4	Teenage pregnancy can leads to poor academic performance				
5	Isolation of pregnant teenager affects their academic performance.				

R.Q 2: WHAT ARE THE CAUSES OF TEENAGE PREGNANCY ?.

s/n	Items	SA	A	SD	D
6	Lack of information about sexual and reproductive health leads to teenage pregnancy				
7	Community and social pressure to marry promotes teenage pregnancy				
8	Sexual violence leads to teenage pregnancy				
9	Social media influence/exposure promotes teenage pregnancy				
10	Peer pressure leads to teenage pregnancy				

R.Q 3: WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES OF TEENAGE MOTHERHOOD?

s/n	Items	SA	A	SD	D
11	Teenage mothers faces more health challenges as adult mothers				

1 2	Teenage pregnancy leads to premature labour				
13	Teenage mother faces stigma and rejection from friends and family				
14	Children born of teenage mothers are most time malnourished				
15	Poverty is one of the challenges faced by teen mothers				

R.Q 4: WILL SEX EDUCATION REDUCE THE HIGH RATE OF TEENAGE PREGNANCY

s/n	Items	SA	A	SD	D
16	Adequate information on contraception reduces teenage pregnancy				
17	Emergency contraceptive accessible to teenagers can help in control of teenage pregnancy				

18	Teaching of abstinence can help in the reduction of teenage pregnancy				
19	Making teenagers aware of their sexual behavior can help in reduces teenage pregnancy				
20	Introduction of sex education in the curriculum will help in reduction of teenage pregnancy				