

**EFFECTS OF PREMARITAL SEX ON ACADEMIC  
PERFORMANCE OF SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN  
EGOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, EDO STATE**

**DUKU GODSPROMISE OCHUKO  
EDU2010740**

**UNIVERSITY OF BENIN  
BENIN CITY**

**MAY, 2024**

**EFFECTS OF PREMARITAL SEX ON ACADEMIC  
PERFORMANCE OF SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN  
EGOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, EDO STATE**

**DUKU GODSPROMISE OCHUKO  
EDU2010740**

**A RESEARCH WORK SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT  
OF HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION,  
FACULTY OF EDUCATION, UNIVERSITY OF BENIN. BENIN  
CITY IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT  
FOR THE AWARD OF B.Sc (Ed) DEGREE IN HEALTH  
EDUCATION**

**MAY, 2024**

## **CERTIFICATION**

This is to certify that this research work was carried out by **Duku Godspromise Ochuko** with matriculation No: **EDU2010740** in the Department of Health, Safety and Environmental Education, in Partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc/Ed) degree in Health Education.

**MR. O.D. ORONSAYE**  
Project Supervisor

-----  
**Signature and Date**

**DR. E.O. IGUDIA**  
Project Coordinator

-----  
**Signature and Date**

**DR. S.O. OLIKIABO**  
Head of Department

-----  
**Signature and Date**

## **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.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am grateful to God Almighty for a fruitful and productive stay in school throughout my course of study in this great institution.

My profound gratitude goes to my project supervisor Mr. O.D. Oronsaye for his advice, comments, corrections and contributions which has led to the successful completion of this project work.

I declare my thanks to the head of department Dr. E.O. Igudia and also to all the lecturers in the Department of Health, Safety and Environmental Education for nourishing me intellectually for the past four years. These include; Dr. H. Obasuyi, Mrs. M. Onobumeh, Dr. Olikiabo Samuel amongst others.

My gratitude goes to my parents, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Duku who are always ready to sacrifice everything in their quest for me to succeed my university education. My appreciation also goes to my siblings; Precious, Prosper, Prince, Prudence, Princess, Peace and Presley Duku, I am grateful.

Also to my friends; Osasogie, Thelma, Henrietta, Sonia, Joseph Otuedon and to my very good friend Mr. Ese Idahosa, God bless you all.

## TABLE OF CONTENT

	<b>PAGE</b>
TITLE	i
CERTIFICATION	ii
DEDICATION	iv
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	v
ABSTRACT	viii
 <b>CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION</b>	
Background to the Study	1
Statement of the Problem	6
Research Questions	7
Purpose of the Study	7
Significant of the Study	8
Scope of the Study	8
 <b>CHAPTER TWO: REVIEW OF RELATED LITRETURE</b>	
Concept of Premarital Sex among Students	9
Causes and Influence of Premarital Sex	13
Factors that has Increased the Acceptance of Premarital Sex	22
Consequences of Premarital Sex	33
Summary of Review of Related Literature	47

### **CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

Research Design	48
Population of Study	48
Sample and Sampling Techniques	49
Research Instrument	49
Validity of Instrument	49
Reliability of Instrument	49
Administration of Instrument	50
Method of Data Analysis	50

### **CHAPTER FOUR: PRESENTATION OF RESULT AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS**

Research Questions	51
Discussion of Findings	53

### **CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION**

Summary	57
Conclusion	58
Recommendations	58

<b>REFERENCES</b>	60
-------------------	----

<b>APPENDIX</b>	68
-----------------	----

## **ABSTRACT**

This research work was designed to assess the effects of premarital sex among secondary school students in Egor LGA. A sample of one hundred respondents was randomly selected. The questionnaire was designed based on the research questions and simple percentage.

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 schools 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

#### **Background of the Study**

Premarital sex is generally used in references to individuals who are presumed not yet of marriageable age or between adults, who will presumably marry eventually, but who are engaged in sexual activity prior to marriage. More than 13 million youths, representing 7% of the population aged 15 to 24, are pursuing University education in Nigeria (Ayodele, 2001). For most of these youths, university represents a shift towards greater independence from home, and school settings offers an opportunity to form new friendships, as well as new subculture with divergent norms and values. While for others, school represents an opportunity to experience romantic and/or sexual relationships and experiment new ideas. Throughout the world, the trend towards an increasing number of young people is reported.

Having sex before marriage. Research indicates that as far back as 1950's, the phenomena attracted a lot of public attention both in the United Kingdom and United States of America (Olugbenga, 2009). For example, in 1954 a study in Manchester revealed that between the years 1950-1954 more than a quarter of underage girls were reported to have had sex before the age of 19. It was also noted

that the girls came from a particular background (from broken homes or bad parental influence).

Similarly, an analysis of the demographic health survey found that in 58.6% of the 41 countries studied, women 20 to 24 years of age were more likely than women of 40 to 44 years of age report having premarital sex. According to Ayodele et al. (2006), the rise in premarital sex in Africa has resulted from a sexual revolution that came with western culture (Scott, 2006). Sex in traditional societies use to be regarded as sacred and limited only to adult males and females within the institution of marriage. It is unfortunate that sex before marriage in Nigeria is still frowned at. A child learns through the mass media and peers unguided. Children learn the important topic of sex education in negative manners, rather than having proper sex socialization at home or in schools. According to Asuzu (2005), premarital sex is increasingly considered a modern way of testing a girl's fertility before marriage.

Similarly, Data from the 2002 survey conducted in Owerri south eastern Nigeria by centre for reproductive health indicated that by age 20, 77% of respondents had premarital sex. Even among those who abstained until at least age 22, 81% had had premarital sex by age 44. Among cohorts of women turning 15 between 1964 and 1993, at least 91% had had premarital sex by age 30. Among those turning 15 between 1954 and 1963, 82% had had premarital sex by age 30, and 88% had done so by age 44. The phenomenon has been reported as being common among Nigerian University undergraduates (Alo, 2008).

Corroborating this view, Ayodele et al. (2011), carried out a study to determine the prevalence of this phenomenon among adolescence in tertiary institution. The conclusion of the study indicates that premarital sex is highly normative behaviour among university students.

A significant (85.6%) number of the respondents see nothing wrong with sex before marriage. The study also identifies cohabitation as one of the primary influence on premarital sex among students in tertiary institution. Cohabitation of opposite sex is a predisposing factor to the initiation of sexual activities. 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 back street clinics (Alo, 2008). It is against this background that this paper seeks to ascertain the effect of premarital sex on university students in contemporary Nigeria.

Public opinion polls have consistently shown that premarital sex is wrong and dangerous to health, resulting in abortions, teenage mothers, and sexually transmitted infection (Aaron, 2006; 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 *et al.*, 2004).

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, a 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.

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).

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. 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 behaviour.

### **Statement of the Problem**

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 the students. Premarital sex 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 harrowing 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.

## **Research Questions**

The following research questions were raised to guide the study research work.

1. What is the effects of pre-marital sex among secondary school students in Egor LGA?
2. Do financial gains influence premarital sex among the secondary schools in Egor?
3. Do the media influence the occurrence of premarital sex among secondary schools in Egor?

## **Purpose of the Study**

The purpose of this research work is the assessment of the effects of premarital sex among undergraduate students of the secondary schools in Egor LGA.

The effect of premarital sex and possible suggestion, for preventing or curbing this menace.

This research work will help school authorities to identify measures to be put in pace that will help to curb the incidence of premarital sex among secondary school students.

If this study is properly utilized, it can help the school authority and the public in general on better approach to teaching sex and sex education.

### **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 schools.

### **Scope of the Study**

This research study is focused on the secondary schools in Egor Local Government of Edo State Nigeria. Delimited to senior secondary schools in Egor LGA.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **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 among Secondary Schools Students
- Causes and Influence of Premarital Sex
- Factors that has Increased the Acceptance of Premarital Sex
- Consequences of Premarital Sex

#### **Concept of Premarital Sex among Secondary Schools Students**

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, 2001). According to Ibrahim (2003), 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 (2005); Orji, Adegbenro, Olalekan (2005); Iyaniwura and 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 (1980) 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, 1998). About 15 million young women ages 15 – 19 years give birth every year (United Nations Population fund, 1998). 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 & 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.

Janus and Janus (1975), and Kaplan (1979) explain that students engage in premarital sex for material goods. 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, 2007). 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 office regarding underfed 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.

### **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, Harjati, Chai, Clorazon and Shyam (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 underlying 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 examined, 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 predictors 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 than 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, 2002; Morokkla, 2003). 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 16.74years. The average age for males and female were 16.45 and 16.8years, respectively. Majority (55.6%) of those with previous sexual exposure had one partner and 35.6% had 2 to 5 pertaining daughter 8.8% students had more than 5 partners (Girma, Assefa, 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 motive 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 adolescent 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 substance such as alcohol and lack of self-regulation seem to contribute to the problem (Dingeta *et al.*, 2012). Studies also suggested that adolescent have limited knowledge about sexual and reproductive health and know little about the natural process of puberty. This lack of knowledge may have serious consequence (Seme & Wirtu, 2008).

According to Nunn and Andrew, (1994) young adult 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.

### **Monetary influence**

In reference to a study by Rames (2004), 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 is this case could be to have sex. Some youth these day who has a lot of money to spend like to spend it an 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 which young people cannot protect or control themselves (Dittus & Jacquard, 2000).

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, 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 females 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 relationship 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 Tarzania, 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).

### **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 & Crockett, 2003). In the same vein, 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 & 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.

### **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, L'engle, Pardon, Guo, Kenneary and Jacksons (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 (2002) 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 & 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 start engaging in premarital sex. Early sexual intercourse is also associated with chat chewing, watching pornographic movies below 18years, living away from parent and having boyfriends (Seme & Wirtu, 2008; Mazeorgia & Worku, 2009).

## **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, Moussa, Petterson, Asamoah, 2012; Seme & Wirtu, 2008). The first sexual practices in Ethiopia are often unplanned (Mazengia & 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.

## **Factors that has Increase the Acceptance of Premarital Sex**

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 youth's 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 & 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.

#### **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 & 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 persons 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, Florence, Elizabeths, Kristin, 2006; Byamugisha, 2006; Abiodun, Adisa, Aderem, 2001; Nworah. JAO, Sunday, Joseph, Monday, Josephat, 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 oftentimes self-centered (Abiodun *et al.*, 2001; Baker & Rihoh, 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 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.

### **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 dating behaviour of the children particularly 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 reason 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 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 their wrong 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 refrain from sexual behavior. The double standard, for example, has consisted of judgment that many specific sexual behavior are acceptable for men but unacceptable for women (e.g. D'Emillio & freedman, 1997; Whyte, 1978) which is one sign that some message of sexual restraint have 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 & 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 a more liberal attitude towards casual sex than women.

### **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 & Hikner, 1997; Tafia, Johannes Sundby, Carol Holm–Hansen & 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 & 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 & Newcomer, 1991; Peterson & Khan, 1984; Strouse & Buerkel–Roth Fuss, 1987) have found that exposure to sexually suggestive maternal 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).

### **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 & 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.

## **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 (and other 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 relation” (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 & 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 & Wirtu, 2008). The first sexual practice in Ethiopia are often planned (Mazengia & 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 hopes 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 (UNAIDS, 2008b). 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 & 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 of 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.

## **Other sexually transmitted infection (STIS)**

UNFPA (2003) estimates that everyday more than a quarter of a million young people will become infected with an STI. It has been documented in literature (Kaestle, Halpein, Miller & 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 million 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 (2008), premarital sex exposes young people to high risk of sexually transmitted infection (STIs) such as pelvic inflammatory diseases (PID), gonorrhea, syphilis, herpes, (sores and painful swelling of genital), gonorrhea, (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 gonorrhea a level four female discussants argued are common with female students. These disease are life threatening, painful and can cause infertility.

### **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; UNAIDS & WHO, 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 how 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, 2003).

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, 2005). 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, 2000). 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 & Eisenberg, 1994; Maynard, 1996).

Within the past one year, over 500 pregnant teenagers have seen 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 teenager's 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.

### **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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 & 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 housewives.

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).

### **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 & Rees, 2009). Studies reveal that there is relationship between students sexual relationship and their academic performance (Sabia & 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 & 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).

## **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**

### **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

#### **Research Design**

The descriptive survey research design 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.

#### **Population of the Study**

The population of the study involves all students of secondary schools in Egor LGA which comprises of 32,251 (Ministry of Education 2023).

### **Sample and Sampling Technique**

The simple random sampling technique was used to select respondent for this study. A sample of 100 students was randomly selected that represents the entire population.

### **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.

### **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.

### **Reliability of the Instrument**

The test re test method of reliability was used to determine the reliability of the instrument. A group of secondary students numbering (20) in total were

administered the questionnaire once and the reliability coefficient was determined using Pearson Moment Correlation Coefficients.

### **Administration of Instrument**

The researcher administered the questionnaire to the student of various secondary schools that form the sample and the instrument was retrieved immediately after filling.

### **Method of Data Analysis**

The items were analyzed using frequency count and simple percentage.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### 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 students. 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.

#### Research Questions

**Research Question 1:** What is the effects of pre-marital sex among secondary school students in Ego LGA?

**Table 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 6.91% of the respondents agreed that students are engaging in premarital sex due to peer group influence while 9% disagreed. 63% of the respondents agreed that they have friends who are sexually active, while 37%

disagreed 46% of the respondents agreed that they have friends who are already engaging in premarital sex, while 54% of the respondents disagreed. 77% of the respondents agreed that having friends who are already engaging in premarital sex influence one to have sex, while 23% of the respondents disagreed. 64% of the respondents agreed that friends, who always talk about sexual pleasure encourage one to have sex, 36% disagreed.

**Research Question 2: Do financial gains influence premarital sex?**

**Table 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, 89% of the respondent agreed that some student engage in premarital sex to make money/ earn a living while 11% disagreed. 78% agreed that student engage in premarital sex for academic purpose while 22% disagreed. 97% agreed that some students engage in premarital sex to get money from their rich boyfriends/ girlfriends, while 3% disagreed. 90% agreed that some student engage in premarital sex because of love of money while 10% disagreed.

### **Research question 3: Does Curiosity have any Effect on Premarital Sex?**

**Table 8:**

<b>S/N</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>%</b>
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 92% of the respondent agreed that the desire to experiment lead some student to premarital sex, while 8 disagreed. 87% agreed that some student engage in premarital sex in order to know what other people are enjoying, while 13% disagreed. 85% agreed that some students engage in premarital sex because of what they have heard about sex, while 15% 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 91% agreed that students are engaging in premarital sex due to peer groups influence 63% agreed that they have friends who are sexually active 46% agreed that they have friends who are already engaging in premarital sex, 77% agreed that having such friends influence one to have sex and 64% 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 & 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 & Furrow, 2004).

From research question 2: do financial gain influence premarital sex revealed that financial gains does influence premarital sex 89% of the respondent agreed that some students engage in premarital sex to make money/ earn a living. 78% agreed that some student engage in premarital sex for academic purposes, 97% agreed that some student engage in premarital sex to get money from the rich boyfriends/ girlfriends, and 90% 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? 92% of the respondents agreed that the desire to experiment lead some student to premarital sex. 87% of the respondent that some student engage in premarital sex in order to know what other people are enjoying, and 85% 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, 99% agreed that pornographic videos from the internet encourage premarital sex among students, 98% agreed that frequent

exposure to sexual stimulating picture/ object from print media/ magazines reinforce some students desire to engage in premarital sex, and 84% agreed that the media does encourage premarital sex through music, videos, reality TV shows etc. Brown, L'engle, Pardon, GUO, Kennneavy and Jackson (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 & Wirilu, 2008, Mazeorga & Worku, 2009).

## CHAPTER FIVE

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

#### Summary

This research work is aimed at assessing the effects of premarital sex on academic performance among secondary school students. 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 behaviour 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.

## **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.

## **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 students so as to make appropriate adjustment on time.

2. During orientation programs for 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.

## REFERENCES

- Aaron, N.G. (2006). Premarital sex whose burden retrieved January 2008 from <http://www.singarpoleangle.com>.
- Abdullahi & Umar (2008). Factors associated with engaging in premarital sex among the students of University of Maiduguri. *International Journal of Humanities and Social Science Invention*, 2: 40-49.
- Abiodun, P.A., Adisa, A.F., Aderemi, I.M. (2001). Knowledge and previous contraceptive use by pregnant teenagers in Ilorin. *Nigerian Trop J Obstetgynecol*, 18(2), 73-77.
- Abraham, L., & Kumar, A. (1999). Sexual experience and their correlate among college students in Mumba city. *International Family Planning Perspective* 25(3), 139-152.
- Adolescent dating, genetic social, general psychology monographs, 1272, 211-234.
- Agu, B.N. (2012). Awareness level of health consequence of commercial sex work among secondary school adolescents in Oguta LGA of Imo state. *Nigerian Journal of Health Promotion*, 5(1) 105-121.
- Ahmed, F.A., Moussa, K.M., Petterson, K.O., Asamoah, B.O. (2012). *Assessing knowledge attitude and practice of emergency contraception: A Student's BMC Public Health*, 12(110).
- Akerlof, G.A., Vellan, J.L., Katz, M.L. (1996). An analysis of cut of wedlock childbearing in the United States. *QJ Econ*, 11: 227-317.
- Akkuto, F.O. (1987). Teenage pregnancies and school dropout: The relevance of family education and vocational training to girls employment opportunity. In (ed) Oppore (1987) *Sex Roles, Population and Development 1 West Africa*. Portsmouth: Heinemann.
- Alexander, E., Hickner, J. (1997). First coitus for adolescent: understanding and when J. Am. Board Fam. *Pract.*, 1092: 96-103.
- Alo, A.O. (2008). Socioeconomic determinant of unintended pregnancies among Yoruba women of South West Nigeria. *International Journal of Sustainable Development*, 7(4), 145-154.

- Aubrey, J.S., Harrison, I.K., Kramer, L., & Yellin, J. (2003). Vanity versus timing. Gender differences in college student's expectation as predicted by exposure to sexually oriented television. *Communication Research*, 30, 432-460.
- Ayanwale, J. (2001). Experts from interview: The scalpel (A Publication of Lagos State University Medical Students Association).
- Baginsk, L.J. (2007). Pregnancy planning, medicine home, women health, page 1996-2007. Medicine Net.
- Baran, S.J. (1976A). How TB and film portrayals affect sexual satisfaction I college students. *Journalism Quarterly*, 53, 468-473.
- Bender, D., & Leone, B. (1995). Sexual values opposing new points. San Diego: Green Haven Press.
- Biddlecom, A., Gregory, R., Mensch, B., Lloyd, C. (2006). Premarital sex and schooling transitions in four sub-saharan countries. Paper presented at the IUSSP seminar sexual and reproductive transition of adolescents in developing countrie Cholula, Puebla, Mexico.
- Blake, Susan, M., et al. (2003). Condom availability programs in Massachusetts high school: Relationship with condom use and sexual behaviour. *America Journal of Public Health*, 92(6) 955-962.
- Briggs, L.A. (2001). Adolescent pregnancy: A worldwide concern. Lagos: Timi Hajacinth Enterprise.
- Brown, J.O., L'Engle, R.L., Pardién, C.J., Guo, G.O., Kenneary, K., & Jackson, C. (2006). Sexy media matter exposure to sexual content in music, movies, television and magazines predicts black and white adolescents' sexual behaviour. *Pediatrics*, 117, 1018-1027.
- Burns, M.A. (1970). Students activism in America higher education. Washington, America College Personal Association Press.
- Campos, D. (2002). Sex, youth and sex education. A reference handbook. Santa Barbara. A: ABC. CIIO, Inc.
- Carew, F.C. (1986). A study of educational values towards discipline society. *Nigerian Journal of Counseling and Development*, 1.

- Centers for Disease control and prevention (CDC) (2001). Sexually transmitted diseases surveillance two, Atlanta CDC 2001.
- Central statistical agency (2012). Ethiopian Demographic and Health Survey 2011. ICF International Calverton, Maryland, USA.
- Charrie, A., Berhane, Y. (2012). Peer pressure is the prime driver of risky sexual behaviours among school adolescents in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. *World J. AIDS*, 2: 159-164.
- Chirwa, A.S., & Kudzal, A.C. (2001). Report on assessment of youth friendly health services in Malawi National Youth Council of Malawi, Lilongwe.
- Choe, K., Harijah, H., Char, P., Corazon, M., & Shuam, T. (2004). Substance use and premarital/sex among adolescents on Indonesia, Nepal, Philippines and Thailand. *Asia-Pacific Journal*, 19.
- Clinard, M.B., & Meier, R.F. (1998). Sociology of deviant behavioural, forth worth: Harcourt Brace College Publishers.
- Commercial sex work among secondary school adolescent in Otua LGA of Imo State. *Nigerian Journal of Health Promotion*, 5(1), 105-121.
- Cornwall, A., Correa, S., & Jolly, S. (2008). Development, encounter with sexuality, essentialism and beyond, development with a body: Sexuality, human rights and development. Zed Books. London: 22 – 42.
- D’Emilio, J.D., & Freedman, E.B. (1997). Intimate matters: A history of sexuality in America. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Ding Juhingzhan Xiaoling, & Zhang Huifang et al. (2002). Reproductive health of unmarried youth. Status, perspective and strategy of reproductive health among adolescent and unmarried youths Shanghal. The Second Military Medical University Press, 57-60.
- Dingeta, T., Oljira, L., Assefa, N. (2012). Patterns of social risk behaviour among undergraduate university students in Ethiopia: across sectional study, Haranaya University, Harar. *Pan Afr. Med. J.*, 2: 72: 33.
- Dingeta, T., Oljira, L., Asseta, N. (2001). Pattern of sexual risk behaviour among undergraduate university students in Ethiopia: a cross sectional study, Heranaya university students in Ethiopia: a cross sectional study, Haranaya University, Hara. *Pan Afr. Med. J.*, 2, 12: 33.

- Dittus, P., & Jacard, J. (2000). Adolescent perceptions of material disapproval of sex: relationship to sexual outcomes. *Journal of Adolescent Health, 26*, 268 – 278.
- Eze I.R. (2014). Adolescent attitude towards premarital sex. *Mediterranean Journal of Social Science, 5*(10), 491 – 499.
- Eze, I.R. (1989). Teenage pregnancy unpublished M.Ed, thesis university of Benin.
- Finer, L.B. (2007). Trends in premarital sex in the United States, 1954-2003. *Public Health Reports, 112*(6), 29 – 36.
- Ford Foundation (2005). Sexuality and social change-making the connection Ford Foundation New York. Accessed at [http://www.fordfound.org/pdfs/impact/sexuality\\_social.change.pdf](http://www.fordfound.org/pdfs/impact/sexuality_social.change.pdf). Retrieved on 12-12-08.
- Girma, B., Assefa, D., Tushuniek (2004). Determinants of condom use among Agaro high school students using behaviour models. *Ethiopia J. Health Dev. 18*(1), 25-30.
- Glemm, M., Merz, J. (2002). Abortion. Encyclopedia.
- Hartigan, John, D. (1997); Accessed (2000). The disastrous results of condom distribution programs (online).
- Hassen, F. (2000). Analysis of factors for unwanted pregnancy among women in the reproductive age group attending health institutes in Jimma town. Report. Feb.
- Heid, L., Suzanne, M., Maligo, K., & Jessie, M. (2004). Exploring the association between HIV and violence, young people experience with infidelity violence and force sex in Tanzania. *Health Transition Review, 7*.
- Henshaw, S.K. et al. (1998). *The Incidence of Induced Abortion in Nigeria, Intentional Family Planning Perspective, 24*(4), 156 – 164.
- Ibrahim, G. (2003). Education and responsibility in university community: A paper presented at the 2003/2004 students orientation week at University of Maiduguri, Maiduguri.

- Ifejika, N.T. (2006). The determinants of teenage pregnancy in Abraka clan of Ethiope East Local Government Area of Delta State. Unpublished Projects, Department of Physical and Health Education, Delta State University Abraka.
- Igbudu, U. (2008). Premarital sex: An overview of causes, consequence and control measures. *Nigerian School Health Journal*, 20(1), 89 – 90.
- Ikpe, E.B. (2003). Sexual negotiation in tertiary institution in Nigeria. *Lagos Journal of Interdisciplinary Journal of Natural Association of Academics*, 1.
- Inazi, J. (1980). Maternal influence on the sexual behaviour of teenage daughters direct and indirect sources. *Journal of Family Issue I*, 81 – 102.
- Ivan, J.A (2000). What is wrong with premarital sex? Retrieved September 2009 from <http://www.watchtowers.org/e/20047229arhcleol.htm>
- Jaccard, J., Blanton, H., & Dodge T. (2005). Peer influences on risk behaviour: An analysis on the effect of a close friend. *Developmental Psychology*, 41(1), 135 – 147.
- Jeje, J.J. (2001). Teenage pregnancy and abortion: the scalpel (a publication of Lagos state university medial students association.
- Josaphat, B., Florence, M., Elisabeth, F., Kristin, G. (2006). Emergency contraception and fertility awareness among university students in Kampala, Uganda test. *Afr. Med. J.*, 6(4), 194 – 200.
- Kaestle, C.E., Halpern, C.T., Miller, W.C., & Ford, C.A. (2005). Young age at first sexual intercourse and sexually transmitted infections in adolescent and young adults. *AM. J epidemiology*, 161(2), 774 – 780.
- Kaman, J., Zulkiffi, S.N., & Low, W.Y. (2007). Sexual practice in Malaysian adolescent *Malaysian Medical Journal*, 6(2), 4 – 10.
- King, P.E., & Furrow, J.L. (2004). Religion as a source for positive youth development: Religion. *Social, Capital and Moral Outcome Development Psychology*, 40(5), 703-713.
- Lamesgin, A. (2013). HIV/AIDs and sexual reproductive Health among University Students in Ethiopia: A policy intervention frame work. Health Policy Project, Washington DC.

- Mazengia, F., Worku, A. (2009). Age at sexual initiation and factors associated with it among youth in North East Ethiop. *Ethiop J Health Dev.*, 23(2), 154 – 62.
- Mensch, B.S., Clark, W.H., Clord, C.B., & Erulkan, A.S. (1999). Premarital sex and child development in Kenya: Can schools make a difference; population council working paper No. 124. New York: Population Council.
- Miriam, J.I. (1999). Perception on sexual behaviour and knowledge about sexually transmitted diseases among adolescents in Benin City, Nigeria. *International Family Planning Perspective*, 15(4), USA.
- Moronkola, O.A., & Okanlawon, F.A. (2003). Fundamentals of Public and Community health education. Ibadan Royal People Ltd.
- Nunn and Andrew (1994). Risk factors of HIV-1 Infection in adults in a rural Uganda community. A population study.
- Ogbuji, C.O. (2005). Knowledge about HIV/ADS and sexual practice among University of Ibadan students. *Afr. J. Med Sci.*, 34(1), 25-31.
- Olugbile, S., Abu, F., & Adalakun, A. (2008). Prostitution takes on New Garb on campuses: the Punch.
- Oluira, L., Berharne, Y., Work, A. (2012). Premarital sexual debit and its associated factors among is school adolescents in Eastern Ethiopia. *BMC Public Health* 12:375.
- Onuzulike, O. (2002). Entry permit in changing attitude Africa heritage. *J Pan- Afri. Circle Artiste*, 21 – 26.
- Petterson, J.L., & Hyde, J.S. (2010). A meta-analysis review of research on gender differences in sexuality. 1993-2007. *Psychological Bulletin*, 36 (1), 21-38.
- Qianx, Tang, S., Garmer, P. (2004). Unintended unmarried women in China a systematic review. *B.M.C health services*, 4(1), 1.
- Raffaelli, M., & Croketts, L.I. (2003). Sexual risk taking in adolescence: the role of self regulation and attraction to risk. *Development Psychology*, 39(6), 1036-1046.
- Ramesh A, (2008). Factors affecting premarital sex among male colleague student to kathmandi, Mahandrarotra campus. Tuibbhuan University Kathmandu Wepa.

- Ramex.L (2000, Nov/Dec) Oral sex among Adolescents is it sex orals it abstinence. *Family Planning Perspectives*, 32, 298 – 304.
- Rector, R., & Johnson, K.A. (2005). Teenage sexual abstinence and academic achievement the ninth annual abstinence clearing conference.
- Romeo, F.F. (2004). Acquaintance rape on college and university campuses. Retrieved June 6, 2004 from <http://www.splc.org/newsflash.asp?id:768>
- Rotermann, M., & McKay, A. (3009). Condom use at last sexual intercourse among unmarried, not living common law 20 to 34 year old Canadian young adults. *The Canadian Journal of Human Sexuality*, 18(3), 75 – 88.
- Sabia, J.J., Rees, D.I. (2009). The effect of sexual abstinence on females.
- Save the Children UK (2000). A situation analysis of young peoples access to utilization of and need for reproductive health services in traditional authority Zulu, MChinji District, Lilongwe, save the children.
- UNAID (2001). Malawi epidemiological factsheet on HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infection 2000 update Geneva UNAID/ WHO.
- UNAID/WHO (2006). Epidemiological fact sheet in HIV and Aids are detains epidemiology and response Malawi 2008 update accessed.
- UNFFA Annual Report (2003). [www.uniffa.com](http://www.uniffa.com).
- Ward, L.M. (2002). Does television exposure affect emerging adult attitudes and assumptions about sexual relationship? Correlational and experimental confirmation. *Journal of Young Adolescence*, 31, 1 – 15.
- WHO (2005). WHO facts sheet on STD. WHO Geneva.
- WHO (2012). From evidence to policy: expanding access to contraceptive service for adolescent: World Health Organization General.
- WHO (2012b). Early marriage, adolescent and your tutor guidance for policy. WHO consultation prevention and control of sexually transmitted diseases in population group at risk. General Switzerland: Author.
- WHO (2005). Sexually transmitted and other reproduction tract infections. Geneva, WU.

- Wiener W.L. (1973). *American life: Dream reality*. Chicago University of Chicago Press.
- Wirtu, D. (2008). Premarital sexual practice among school adolescents in Nekemt town, East Wollega. *Ethiopia J. Health Dev.*, 22(2), 167 – 172.
- World Health Organization (1993b). *The health of young people, a challenge and a promise* Geneva WHO.
- World Health Organization (2001). *Sexual risk among young people in developing countries: evidence from WHO case studies*. General.
- World Health organization (2006). *The prevention and management of unsafe abortion. Report of a technical king group*. <http://whqlibdorwho.inthq1992/who.sm.925> (assessed July 6, 2006).
- Yanke, Lorrch, D. (1981). *New ruler searching for self-fulfillment in a world instrumentation*. New York: Random House.

## 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 students.

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

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.

### 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?		

S/N	Questions	Yes	No
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 to 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 your role model on television approves or say so.		
20	Can you engage in premarital sex if your boyfriend/ girlfriend pressure you to do so?		