

**IMPACT OF TEENAGE PREGNANCY ON ADOLESCENT IN EGOR
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF EDO STATE.**

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BENIN CITY**

DECEMBER, 2024

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**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUMMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL WORK, FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF
BENIN IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE
AWARD OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (B.S.C.) DEGREE IN SOCIAL
WORK)**

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CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this project was carried out by **Gift Nmesioma ANOPUEME** under my supervision in the Department of Social Work, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Benin, Benin City.

Prof. E.O Ugiagbe
(Project Supervisor)

Date

Dr. S. Yesufu
(Ag. Head of Department)

Date

DEDICATION

This project is dedicated to God Almighty who in his mercy has made it possible for me to complete this work.

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Firstly, my thanks go to God Almighty who had been my strength, help and support throughout the period in the university. I say may His name be praised forever.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title Page	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	i
Certification	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	ii
Dedication	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	iii
Acknowledgements	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	iv
Table of Contents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	v
Abstract	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1	Background of the Study	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1.2	Statement of the Problem	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
1.3	Objectives of the Study	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
1.4	Research Questions	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
1.5	Scope of the Study	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
1.6	Justification of the Study	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
1.7	Operational Definition of Concept	-	-	-	-	-	-	7

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1	Review of Relevant Concepts	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
2.1.1	Teenage Pregnancy	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
2.1.2	Adolescent Sexuality	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
2.1.3	Teen Pregnancy - The Grim Fact	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
2.2	Attitudes of Contraception/Contraceptives	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
2.3	Measures to Avoid Adolescent Pregnancy (Solutions)	-	-	-	-	-	-	22

2.4 Impact of Early Pregnancy on Adolescent - - - 24

2.5 Theoretical Frame Work - - - - 25

CHAPTER THREE: METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research Design - - - - - 28

3.2 Population of the Study - - - - - 28

3.3 Sampling Technique - - - - - 28

3.4 Sample Size - - - - - 28

3.5 Research Instrument - - - - - 29

3.6 Validity and Reliability of Instrument - - - 29

3.7 Method of Data Collection - - - - - 29

3.8 Method of Data Analysis - - - - - 30

3.9 Ethical Consideration - - - - - 30

CHAPTER FOUR: DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

4.1 Discussion of Findings - - - - - 41

CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.1 Summary - - - - - 42

5.2 Conclusion - - - - - 42

5.3 Recommendation - - - - - 42

REFERENCES - - - - - 44

APPENDIX - - - - - 46

ABSTRACT

This study examines the impact of teenage pregnancy on adolescent in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State. The survey research design was adopted for this study, the population of study consists of teenagers from 13-19 years. The simple random sampling technique was adopted for this study. Primary and secondary sources were the main method of data collection. Data were analyzed using SPSS and descriptive statistics. The findings showed that lack of parental care and guidance lead to teenage pregnancy. The study recommended that parents should teach their children sex education as early as possible to prevent unwanted pregnancy.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

In modern industrial societies adolescent pregnancy is looked upon as a moral decadence or attitudes, if a girl is brought up in a proper way by her parents, such incidence would be rare, Adolescents ought to be allowed to grow up fully before getting involved in such matters as pregnancy, besides adolescent is believed to be in stages when a young person is ushering into an adulthood or full maturity. Maturity comes when a person becomes fully matured, a matured woman will be in a better position to give birth without having difficulties and unwanted circumstances and also give proper care to the baby. These qualities are believed to be lacking in adolescent (Houlard, 2014)

The Nigerian society, like every other African society are faced with a lot of social problem which impelled its social political and economic development. One of such problem, is the menace of teenage pregnancy and its attendant problems sexual activity is the outcome of moral physiological changes occurring in adolescents. The world health organization (WHO) 2017 defines adolescent as a person within the age group of 10-19 years. Adolescent, is characterized by rapid risk of physical growth, social and psychological development. Adolescent is a time of opportunity and risk. A time of opportunity because during this time, attitudes, values and behavior that determine a young person's future begin to

crystallize and take shape. It is also a time of risk because as young people they have greater exposure to the world. They are also likely to succumb to peer pressure and experimentation that may impede their physical and social development. They are particularly at risk because the society does not provide them with the information, skills, health services and supports needed to make well-informed and responsible decisions about their desires, expectation, value and conducts, teenage sexual activity is fast increasing globally with a trend towards early onset. In developing countries, such as Nigeria, factors such as early onset, menarche changing values to rapid urbanization, exposure to foreign culture through increased migration, tourism and the influence of mass media, erosion of traditional norms and values governing social conducts, peer influence, absence of parental control and the harsh economic situation have indicated that more than 50% of secondary school girls are already sexually active or have had sexual relationship at least once.

Pregnancy among teenage girls is a growing public concern the world over. The consequences is that it resort to the termination of such pregnancies, these situation (unwanted pregnancy and unsafe abortion) have been identified as currently competing with some of the greatest challenges associated with women's reproductive health and gender party worldwide. For instance Johnson (2018) reports that 50,000 maternal deaths occur in Nigeria annually. Nearly 20,000 are attributed to complications arising from unsafe abortion. In addition, induced

abortions have been implicated as cause of chronic pelvic inflammatory disease, infertility, pregnancy, secondary infertility, secondary amenorrhea a spontaneous abortion and pre-maturity in Nigerian women. Adolescents are not socially and emotionally mature enough to take good care of themselves when pregnant and after the birth of the child, they are not able to meet the intense demands and support themselves and the child financially. This problem associated with caring for the child and themselves prompt them to seek abortion which involves risks including the death of the teenager.

The centre for disease control (2013) reports that approximately six (6) deaths occurs for every 10,000 legal abortion done in the United States. Abortion then is of the most widely performed operation in the world and involves some physical and emotional consequences for the teenager, her partner, her family, her friends and the society. It is therefore disheartening that in spite of the high leave of immediate and long term complication arising from the unwanted pregnancies and induced abortion among teenagers in Nigeria, there has been very little documentation of relevant epidemiological and social science data for designing appropriate intervention policies and programmes to address these problems. In particular, there is lack of substantive community based on the prevalence of unsafe abortion, the shortage and lack of contraceptive use factors leading to unwanted pregnancies, the numbers of women seeking induced abortion and the circumstances surrounding the decision to carry out induced abortion.

Adolescents are usually not targeted for family planning programmes and their use of contraceptives is low in Nigeria. In 1990, the demographic and health surveys (D.H.S) confirmed that only 11% of singles sexually active women age 15-19years use modern method and 22% uses traditional methods (rhythm and withdrawal) those rates are much lower than in the industrialized countries, where 58% of adolescent in the U.S and up to 90% in Sweden, uses contraceptive method (Bureav 2014). If the adolescent girls gets pregnant and gives birth, the partner involve usually absconds, the girls are then forced to stay with the parents These problems arises because the partners most times are not financially and otherwise to cater for a family. The situation becomes more pathetic when viewed in relations to the fact that over 80% of the Nigerian populace live below the poverty line. Thus having a baby not planned for amount to over stretching of family resources.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The incidence of teenage pregnancy has manifold consequences on the individual involved, the family, the government and the general society. On of the part of the individual, it could impede the health and care over development of teenage girls. Most families, already impoverished have had to battle with the traditional burden which incidence of unwanted births causes. This has resulted in more pathetic circumstance for both the teenager involved and the family, it has resulted in the transfer of addition responsibility to significant others in terms of resources both in kind and cash. Teenage involvements in sexual activities have

often been associated with several Health hazards like vesco virginal fistual and high maternal deaths. It has also necessitated additional budgeting allocating on the part of government in terms of health facilities and orphanages (Akingha, 2013).

Teenager pregnancy has equally melted the concerns of public-spirited individuals and corporate bodies who are perturbed about the consequences of the menace both for individuals, government, their families and the general society. Therefore, the desire to enlighten individuals and the general public on harmful effects of this phenomenon makes this study both desirable and inevitable.

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The main objective of this study is to find out the impact of teenage pregnancy on adolescents in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State while the specific objectives are as follows;

1. To find out if lack of parental care and guidance can lead to teenage pregnancy.
2. To find out if total abstinence from sexual intercourse can prevent teenage pregnancy.
3. To determine if peer group pressure is responsible for teenage pregnancy.
4. To find out if government and parents have failed in their responsibility to prevent teenage pregnancy.

1.4 Research Questions

The following under listed research questions shall guide the course of this study

1. Do you think lack of parental care and guidance can lead to teenage pregnancy?
2. Do you think total abstinence form sexual intercourse can prevent teenage pregnancy?
3. Do you think peer group pressure is responsible for teenage pregnancy?
4. Do you think government and parents failed in their responsibly to prevent technique pregnancy?

1.5 Scope of the Study

This research work focuses on the impact of teenage pregnancy on adolescent. It will be limited to Egor Local Government area of Edo State.

1.6 Justification of the Study

This study will be beneficial to the society by bringing into vivid perspective the impact of teenage pregnancy on adolescent which affect the girl, her family and society at large. The study would contribute in the enlightenment of young adolescents' girls on the need to prevent actions that would be detrimental to actualizing their dreams and aspirations, and for their future success.

The research would help proffer some suggestions that would assist parents, policy makers, government and the general public in making the necessary policies

and decisions as well as providing the needed facilities and environment that would help to bring up responsible and decent adolescent into adulthood in the society.

1.7 Operational Definition of Concept

Teenager. A person between the onset of puberty and maturity.

Adolescents: He is a boy or girl who is changing into a young man or woman. The physical changes that take place at this time are known as puberty.

Teenage pregnancy: is defined as a teenaged or under aged girl usually within the ages of 13-19 who become pregnant.

Impact: To have an effect or influence on someone or something's this can either be positive or negative.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Review of Relevant Concepts

2.1.1 Teenage Pregnancy

Teenage pregnancy is formally defined as a pregnancy in young women who has not dated when the pregnancy ends, not by the estimated date of conception.

Teenage pregnancy is formally defined as a pregnancy in young woman who has not reached her 20th birthday when the pregnancy ends regardless of whether the woman is married or is legally adult (age 14-21 depending on the country), in everyday speech, the speaker is usually referring to unmarried minors who became pregnant unintentionally. The average age of menarche (first menstrual period) was 12-13 years old in the United States, France, Italy, Spain and Greece girls in the early 2000s, though this figure varies by ethnicity and country and during human history, and ovulation occurs only irregularly before this. Whether the onset of fertility in young woman leads to pregnancy depends on a number of factors, both societal and personal. Worldwide, rates of teenage pregnancy range from 143 per 1000 in some sub-Saharan African countries to 2.9 per 1000 in South Korea.

Pregnant teenagers face many of the same obstetric issues as women in their 20's and 30's. However, there are additional medical concerns for mothers age 14 or

younger, especially if they live in a developing country. For mothers between 15 and 19 years, age in itself is not a risk factor, but additional risks may be associated with socio-economic factors in developed countries, teenage pregnancies are associated with many social issues including lower educational level, higher rates of poverty and other poorer "life-outcomes" in children of teenage mothers. Teenage pregnancy in some developed countries usually outside of manage, and carried a social stigma in many communities and cultures.

Many studies and campaigns have attempted to uncover the causes and limit the numbers of teenage pregnancies. In other countries and cultures particularly in the developing world teenage pregnancy is usually within manage and does not involve a social stigma. Among developed countries, the United States and United Kingdom have the highest level of teenage pregnancy while Japan and South Korea have the lowest. Teenage pregnancy is a pregnancy occurring in a young girl between the age of 13 and 19 years. According to the website for the national campaign to prevent teen and unplanned pregnancy, as of 2006 and estimated and 9 million of US. tax payer money is spent annually towards health care, criminal justice and foster-care programs as a result of teenage pregnancy.

2.1.2 Adolescent Sexuality

According to Hess, Markson and Stein (2013) all the information available on sexual experience during adolescent include data from national and specialized survey between 1970 and 1989, indicate that teenagers are indeed becoming

sexually active at earlier age forest and sign (1990), with large increase for boys and girls under age 16, in one recent study of junior high school students in Idiana polis, 53 percent had already had sexual intercourse more than half the boys age 13, and other girls by age 15 (National Centre for Health statistics, 2018).

Among the boys self-esteem was related to sexual experience but for girls, being sexually active was associated with low-self sexual experience. Although, there are they face issue such as pregnancy and other. According to Amako and Nkeyiyana (2015) teenagers make up a quarter of all over other mothers in Transket, South Africa and well over 75% of them are unmarried such as a high rate of teenage pregnancy is indicative of high level of unprotected adolescent sexual activities. The examiner such behavior knowledge and attitude to sexuality among adolescent school girls in Transket using a self-administered questionnaire, in other to established the incidence of sexual activity and associated risk factors of the 1072 respondent 74.0% were already sexually experienced and 21% and 40% were voluntarily terminated Henshaw and Vantert (2012).

Adolescent birth rate is higher in the south and west, were abortion service are least available, physicians. These states also have the least developed education programs. In general African American youth are more likely to have contraceptive information or access to family planning services sign and Daroh (2017). They are also more likely than non-minority evidence that honour levels at puberty are associated with an early age sexual intercourse for some adolescent males (Dry and

Bill 2011), the socio-cultural content of the teenagers lives also has a powerful effects (Furstenburg, 2014) even though the rate of which teenagers become sexually active appears to have off reversal of trends is highly unlikely, given all the sexual cues and incentives to which a young person is exposed, such as the normalizing and the glorification of sex on day time and prime television, in movies with teenager appeal and in shows high level of support for such programs up to 85 percent of favour in 1988. With smaller majorities approving information birth control, abortion and homosexuality, even for twelve years old Sorenson (1993) in fact, support for sex education in the schools reflect increasing alarm over the spread of AIDS and the risk in adolescent pregnancies.

Strouclémires (2013) noted that during the period of adolescent males and females may engage in self-stimulating sexual behavior as well as sexual drive, and as youths to become parents. Despite the educational level in the United States compared to other modern industrial society's teenagers have the highest rate of unwanted pregnancies, abortion and birth Jones (2014) the difference is almost entirely. A result of African youth; Lack of knowledge about birth control and limited access of low cost family planning services. These findings have been confirmed in few American cities with school based pregnancy prevention clinics. Where student seek clinical help have more likely than non-seekers to delay sexual activity and for pregnancy planning clinics have been successful in limiting federal and state funding for such programmes.

Sign and Darriah (2017) noted that adolescent pregnancy occurs in all societies, but the level of teenage pregnancy and child bearing varies from country to country. A cross country analysis of birth and abortion measure is available and valuable for understanding trends, for identification or for identifying country (ies) that are exceptionally affected, for seeing where - Further in-depth studies are needed to understand observe patterns. Birth, abortion and population were obtained from source. Such as National vital statistics offices. Trends data and adolescent birth rate were available for the 46 counting over the period 1970-1995, abortion rate for a recent year were available for a recent year were available for 33 out of the 46 countries. The result were that, the level of adolescent pregnancy varies by a factor of almost 10 across the developed countries, from a very low rate in Notherlands, (12 pregnancies per pregnancies per 1,000 adolescent per year) to an extremely high rate in the Russian Federation (more than 100 per 1,000). Japan and most western European countries have very low pregnancy rate (under 40 per 1,000), group of five countries, Belarnis, Bulgaria, Romania, the Russian Federation and United States have pregnancy of 70 or more per 1,000 the adolescent. The conclusion therefore is, that the trends towards lower adolescent birth rates and pregnancy rate over the past 15 years is widespread and occurring across the industrialized world, suggesting that the reason for the general trends are broader than factors limited to one country, increased importance of education, increased motivation of young people achieve higher level of education and

training, and greater centrality of goals other than motherhood and family formation for young woman.

According to Sigh and Darroh (2017), it is interesting that most of the British teenage women, or their partners were unaware of the possibility of pregnancy (Awake October 8, 2004) and the use of some forms of contraceptive, although couples among them use unreliable method, usually with drawn the older the teenager the more likely were the couple to use reliable contraceptives. These most favoured were the condom and pill. According to Celles and Levin (1993) the United States has the highest rate of teenage pregnancy of any Western nation, even teenagers in Canada and Europe have higher rate of sexual activities (Pitnan 2009). A number of factor contributing to the higher rate of pregnancy among American teenagers. Teenagers are becoming sexually active at young ages, at the same time teenagers like other age groups are delaying manage in the past most teenagers like other age group in the past, most teenager who are most at risk for unwanted pregnancy are the young ones, members of a majority (birth rates are twice as higher for African American and Latin teenagers as for white girls who are likely to have abortion for they come from poor families, lives in poor neighborhood and attend segregated schools and those who perform poorly in schools.

Pitman (2014) not means that teenagers pregnancy is or "ghetto" or underclass problem only. Although the rate of pregnancy is higher to low income minority teenagers, has out of three (3) births are of white teenagers who are not

poor and live in small towns and cities. Moreover, the birth rate of white teenager is growing that of minority teenagers has level off. Of all teenagers who do not want to get pregnant only in three (3), however use contraceptive meaning that more than two third ($2/3$) risk of becoming pregnant.

One reason for the not using contraceptive may be the fact that one-half of the pregnancies among unwed teenagers occurs within the first month of sexual activity (Zabin 2011). Among teenager who never used contraceptive, the pregnancy rate jumped perhaps because they were also up among teenager who said they used contraception, especially withdrawal before ejaculation, decidedly risk method Zelin and Kantner (2013). Having sexual relations without contraception, even though one does not want to go get pregnant may be explained by several factors. Teenagers may lack knowledge about how one does and does not want to get pregnant. They may lack access to effective method of contraception, most of which require medical examination and prescription, of procure. Such a requirement may be too expensive or too difficult for teenagers to manage. In certain areas, the availability of contraceptive, information and material, especially to teenagers is limited by laws. The belief of teenagers themselves may also contribute to high pregnancy rate. One survey reveal that nearly one-third of all adolescent believe that if a girl truly does not want to have baby, she won't get pregnant even though she may have sex without taking birth control precautions

Sorenson (2014) Girls cannot become pregnant the first time they have sex. If they have sex only occasionally or if they have it while standing (Kister 2017).

The inability of these belief to affect the outcome is vividly reveal in the large number of premarital pregnancies and birth among teenage in an age of economic uncertainly high technology and increase high technology and increasing stringent educational requirement jobs, early parenthood places significant social education and economic strains on teenager. Teenage mothers are also more likely to have miscarriage, still born babies, low-weight babies with defects than mothers in their twenties party because one five pregnant teenagers under the age of 17 receive any premarital care (Awake October 8 2013) asserted that more than half the illegitimate birth now are occurring to teenagers, a shift from pattern that pre ikdjiis a fw years ago. One enlightening study was done in 1990 and 2000, involving three geçs rc (1, 17 years old, California, the first group (contraception) consisted of 2110 mi i unplanned parenthood teen centres who had been pregnant.

The second (2) group (abortion) consists of 100 girls seeking ahQrliD counseling. The thing group (maternity) was made up of six girls living in boy area maternity homes. Most of the girls were poorly informed about sex in general birth control in particular many girls become that most teenage boys need to have sexual intercourse regularly popular music west (200), Faced with these realities, researchers on adolescents' sexuality are in strong agreement over the need for extended sex education in schools, beginning long before secondary level public

opinion polls that no birth control can be trusted and that fertile period occurs around the time of ovulation. Although most girls have used contraceptive, at the same time, about half had used no method at all or had used the most ineffective method (double and rhythms).

Robertson (2012) stated, the new sexual freedom has not always been accompanied by responsibility more than one third of mothers living under twenty four are named, Sharon Porchn and Saul (2017) asserted never before in human history have sexual choice been as difficult and complex as in the 1990s on the one hand, we live in a sex saturated culture each hour, on TV alone, USA teenagers see nearly 14,000 sexual activity among these teens are high with the majority having sexual intercourse before the age of nineteen. Studies have shown that adolescents engage in unprotected sex. A well-established fact is that adolescents engage in

2.1.3 Teen Pregnancy - The Grim Fact

Four in ten girls become pregnant before the age of 20 in the United States by extension most other part of the world over 900,000 pregnancies annually, and 40% of the teen mothers under 18 years. Children of teen parents suffer higher rates of "abuse and neglect than children of older parents. Only one out of four teen mothers under the age of 18 finish high school. Nearly 80% of the fathers do not marry the teen mother of their children, only 30% of teen mothers who marry after their child is born remain in those marriages in which the women is at least 25 years old. Children of teen mothers are likely to be born prematurely and in fact death,

blindness, mental retardation, mental illness, cerebral palsy, dyslexia and hyperactivity (The National campaign to prevent teen pregnancy (February 2016).

2.2 Attitudes of Contraception/Contraceptives

Ezimokan (2015) in his study of unwanted adolescent pregnancy in city reported that only a small percentage of adolescents seek contraceptive advice or service. Although one may expect that the initial sexual intercourse may be more planned or expected by thought to involve the use of contraception. Adolescent girls and boys given a variety of reasons for not using contraception with pill, which may account for the discrepancy between knowledge about contraceptive technique or device. (Sorenson, (2014)

Moreover, the idea of planning sex means admitting that you are a sexual person, 'a task that is very difficult for adolescent females who are at a greater risk of pregnancy to admit. In support of their analysis CHILMAN noted that the ability to accept one's sexuality increases the ability that the female adolescent will use some form of contraception. In addition, females who are in love and have some education are more likely to be consistent contraceptive users (National campaign to prevent teen and unplanned pregnancy (1988-2006). Other factors responsible for not using contraception may be seen from adults' point of view, to be immaturity. For example, a substantial percentage of unvirgin females agree that sometimes they do not have sex if they get pregnant. Others believe they don't want to get pregnant because they cannot get pregnant. While yet others believe that they do not have sex often

enough for them to get pregnant. Due to these misconceptions. There is low use of contraception. Consequently, these adolescents suffers consequences of unplanned sex, premarital pregnancy etc. Often unwanted pregnancies are terminated by quacks.

Historically abortion has the solution for women who do not wish to bear the child they have conceived, and experience indicates that they will continue to attempt to achieve this solution which whatever the laws of their country may say for obvious reason, these are no good statistics on the prevalence rate of abortion is at best on intelligent guess because the operators are as diverse as the method used. The type of procedure used for aborting a pregnancy depends on the questions age that is the light of time the women has been pregnant. It is because of differences in these procedures that abortion at later question stage involves more difficulties an increased risk to the individual. Age is an important consideration because adolescent are much more likely that older women to obtain abortion after three months of pregnancy. To support this claim, in 1999, Fourteen percent of the abortion to women aged nineteen or younger were after three months of pregnancy compared to seven percent women, twenty years of younger accounted for about half of the abortions performed after a gestation of eight weeks (Centre for Diseases control). To better understanding these statistics. It is imperative to look at abortion per one hundred live births to women to comparable age in America for women, less than the age 15, the abortion, and rate is 1:5058 indicating that there

were more abortion than live birth for these age group. In Nigeria studies have shown that abortion constitutes a substantial proportion of gynecological and obstetric admission in hospital Unighe (2018). These data show that reach the hospital with serious complications are adolescents. since 1987, approximately two thousand have been and twenty three percent were under twenty years in fact, study that focuses on six thousand youth 17-19 years' show that of the woman surveyed more than four (4:33%) percent has an abort-ion. Of those who had been pregnant about 18.5% sufficient data to highlight that "induced abortion among adolescent girls are more extraordinary high in Nigeria, compared with other developed countries' like' the united kingdom. Sweden and demark.

Impacts of Teenage Pregnancy -

Effects of Early Pregnancy on Academic Performance of Female Students -

Pregnancy in, young girls otherwise known as adolescent pregnancy, just like other social vices when indulged in, will definitely affect either the educational continuity of the female students or lead, to poor academic performance of the student. Among other effects of early pregnancy ones' educational pursuit is the set-back.

What then is the set-back? The concept of set-back could be described according to the Oxford advanced Learners Dictionary, 7th Edition, as the difficulty that causes delay on something. Set- back as one of the major challenges the female student might be exposed to, will have direct hindrance on their

academic pursuit. Early pregnancy while still in school will make the student quite uncomfortable attending academic work. Research has revealed that even if the pregnant female students continues her education there is the tendency of passing out with poor grades, Another effect of early pregnancy on academic performance of the female student could be ill- health which might perhaps be in the form of physical, psychological or emotional trauma (Okonofua, 2011)

According to the Pointer Newspaper (2014), "Getting married at an early age, I was destined to suffer a lot of hardships. I now have severe back problem, I used to sweep a lot and consequently I faced problems with my eyes and had to undergo an eye operation. Besides my husband married three times after me, presently, he lives with his youngest wife and I had to suffer a lot. I wish I had not given birth to any Child. Thinking about my past sufferings make me wish not to see my husband again. I do not want him to die because I don't want to lose my married status," says Ozioma. Also, the adolescent might become mentally disorganized as a result of the early pregnancy. As a result of mental and emotional stress, the female student might take to abortion as the only automatic solution to get rid of the stigma associated with the pregnancy (Okonofua, 2011).

ii. Effects of Early Pregnancy on the Individual

The effect of adolescent pregnancy on the individual is that the female student particularly will become a subject of ridicule. That is, she will be seen as a laughing stock. Another effect of early pregnancy on the female individual could be

perceived from the angle of the young girl being a mother whereas she is not yet matured to pilot the activities or functions of a mother. Also, there is always the risk of miscarriage by the young girl simply because her womb might not yet be matured to carry babies (Akingba, 2013)..

iii. Effects of Adolescent Pregnancy on the Community

The community itself could be obviously affected by this ugly trend, since a greater percentage of the expectant early mothers are apparently residing in the community. Early pregnancy will increase the reduction of highly placed female indigenes in exalted positions of authority. The community also could be spotlighted in low esteem when virtually every female students is pregnant, thus creating the impression that the community is full of bunch of irresponsible girls and parents. And lastly the community might witness an uncontrolled influx of illegitimate children or babies as the case may be (Akingba 2013).

iv. Effects of Early Pregnancy on the Unborn Baby

As in the case of the mother, early pregnancy will have adverse effects on the unborn child (baby). One of the effects is that the child stand the chance of lacking proper upbringing which tends to manifest in the educational live of the child. Another side effect of adult pregnancy or early birth on the child is that the child is likely to fall sick and probably die in the process as the mother who is inexperienced and may not be financially balanced to cater for both the medical and material needs of the child (Hoviard, 2015).

v. Effects of Early Pregnancy on the Peer Group of the Young Mother

Conversation may cease to exist between the young mother and their friends (schoolmates) who may initiate the break-down of communication as one solid measure to avoid being categorized as partners in progress. This is done in order to save their face from the stigma necessitated by the pregnant condition of their friend (Akingba, 2013).

vi. Effects of Early Pregnancy on the Family

The family names of the teenagers concerned tend to be brought into mess as their daughters who are involved in this pregnancy at an unripe time has succeeded in subjecting them into ridicule. Also the family might be perceived or rather tagged as an irresponsible family that lack proper conduct and training (Akingba, 2013).

2.3 Measures to Avoid Adolescent Pregnancy (Solutions)

As analysts especially the economists will always posit, there is no problem without solution. Hence, the researcher has been able to highlight vividly the causes and effects of teenage pregnancy either on the individual community, the unborn baby or the family. Some of the suggested solutions to the social vice that has eaten deep into the fabrics of our society (adolescent pregnancy), are as follows:

Sexual Education: There should be consistent sexual education by parents to their children particularly the daughters. This is because if the girls are not properly educated on the concepts of sex, they may end up becoming prostitutes with the

eventual contact of one sexually transmitted disease such as Gonorrhoea, Syphilis, HIV/AIDS etc (Obong and Osagie, 2013).

Proper Parental Upbringing: Proper parental upbringing involves all the processes which the parents use to trim and tailor the behaviour, character, attitude and the entire exposure of their children towards the right direction in life. Therefore, proper parental upbringing is very necessary for children in order to avoid the risk of early pregnancy among the female students and non-students (Okonofua, 2010).

Positive Religious Influence: Parents and guidance should at all times engage their children with positive religious influence through persistent exposure to the moral teachings of the Bible. Adequate knowledge of the scriptural teachings, to a large extent regulates the activities of 'the children towards being decent and unspoil (Proverbs Chapter 22 Verse 6).

Positive Social Influence: Parents and guidance should always guide their female children especially, against keeping unnecessary friends. In line with the Bible's discipline (1 Cor. 15:33), bad association spoils good habit. Bad friends can influence one into indulging in certain activities that may lead to early pregnancy. Take for instance a situation where you as a female, your female friend is befriending a boy and that guy has a friend running after you to become his own girlfriend may be used to influence you to accept the risk. Therefore, parents should

always advise their children on the risk involve in keeping a wayward friend (Akingba, 2013).

Intimacy: Both parents should be very close to their children if the tendency of teenage pregnancy is to be avoided. A greater number of female children would not have taken the step that they took, if their parents were close to them to monitor, care and provide for them. The parents should be mindful of the kind of cassette and video games they play and watch because watching anything that has to do with pornography can also expose or lure them into adolescent pregnancy (Akingba, 2013).

Family Unity: Husband and wife must keep to religious terms or principles by avoiding divorce or separation in their marriage, because when divorce befalls a marriage, the children irrespective of sex are likely not to be properly cared for and trained. The result and effect of this on the children is that they (female) may carelessly get hooked up to a boy who does not have the wherewithal that is the money or skill needed to face the challenges of family life (Hovlard, 2015).

2.4 Impact of Early Pregnancy on Adolescent

The impact of early pregnancy on the adolescent includes the following

School Dropout: According to Akingba and Gbajumo (2009) most schools in Nigeria do not allow pregnant girls to remain enrolled and thus resulting in premature drop out from school and this, reduce their opportunity for upward social economic mobility, and unfulfilled future ambitions.

Medical Complication: Qkonofua and Snow (2012), were of the view that there is an evidence that adolescents who decide to carry, their pregnancies to term are more likely to develop severe complication of pregnancy and delivery. The high frequency of Vessico Vagina Fistulae (WE) in this group of adolescent is well known. Moreover, these adolescents can contacts deadly sexually transmitted diseases like HI V/AIDs etc.

Emotional Stress and Frustration: Another impact of early pregnancy on the adolescent is the fact that she becomes an inexperienced and un-matured young mother whereas she is not ready or prepared physical, emotional and psychologically to face the challenges and activities or functions of a mother. She might decide to take to the option of either abortion (which might negatively affect her future chance of having children) or abandon the baby after given birth to it (Akingba, 2013).

2.5 Theoretical Frame Work

Structural Functionalism

According to Theoderson (1969) structural functionalism is the analysis social and cultural phenomenon in terms of the functions they perform in socio-cultural system. In structural functionalism, society is conceived of as a system of interrelated parts in which no part can be understood in isolation from the whole.

A change in part is seen as leading to a certain degree of imbalance which is turn, result in change in other part of the system and to some extent a re-

organization of the system and to some a reorganization of the system as a whole. The work of Robert K. Merton (1910) has been found useful and as such selected in the explanation of the phenomenon of teenage pregnancy as a social problem. He was one of those who nurtured and consolidated on the structural functional theory, He devoted more of his attention on what he called the codification of functional analysis, in sociology (Merton, 1957:73). Through his codification, Merton Clarified and refocused some major aspects of the functionalist theory. The most relevant to this study are his dysfunctions between manifest and latent functions and dysfunctions.

According to Merton, manifest functions are objective consequences for the system which are indeed, expected or recognized by the various relevant participant while latent functions are those consequences that are neither internal but which nonetheless also do occur and abound in human societies. Form the foregoing, it can be explained that the manifest function of teenage sexual activity can be said to be the emotional satisfaction which they derive from the act. The latent function can said to be the phenomenon under study which is usually unintended, not expected to happen to by the teenager when the act (sexual act) is being performed. On the other hand, functions are activities which contribute to the survival of social system patterns, like Merton emphasized the existence of dysfunctional admonishes sociologist to be active in identifying them, we use the dysfunctional aspect to explain the social phenomenon of teenage pregnancy.

The reason for teenage pregnancy being termed dysfunctional is not fetched in that various social, cultural, economic, religious, health and even political consequences which have negative impact on teenagers, one may argue that the social phenomena could also be functional in that it brings the focus of parents and government to the teenage who at this junction passes through a lot of emotional and psychological stresses unknown to parents and society.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

This chapter of the work present the method and procedure used in gathering and analyzing relevant data for this study.

3.1 Research Design

The survey research method was used in this study, survey research has to do with the study of group of people or items by collecting and analysis data from only a few people or items considered being representation of the entire group Omorogiuwa, (2006). This implies that data will be derived and analyzed only from a few individuals, (sample) considered to be a representative of the entire population in Egor local Government Area of Edo State.

3.2 Population of the Study

The population of this study consists of Teenagers who resides in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State. The age range is 13 – 19 years.

3.3 Sampling Technique

In this study simple random sampling was adopted in selecting the respondents for this study. The choice of the simple random sampling was justified due to its representation, unbiased selection, transparency and applicability.

3.4 Sample Size

According to Odo (1992) sample size is a process of selecting a proportion of the population considered adequate to represent all existing characteristics.

Ninety respondents were randomly selected from the population to ensure effective management of the study and to give a fair representation to all the respondents.

3.5 Research Instrument

The main instrument used for the study was the structured questionnaire. The choice of the questionnaire as the research instrument was due to the fact that it was cost effective, it saved time and was suitable for reaching out to many respondents. The instruments have two sections A and B. A focused on the socio – demographic characteristics of respondents. Section B eliated information from respondents on the impact of teenage pregnancy on adolescent.

3.6 Validity and Reliability of Instrument

The research questionnaire was subjected to content validity. This is to ensure whether questions in the questionnaires were adequate to address what they intended to address. It was scrutinized by the senior lecturers in social work to ascertain the validity of the measuring instrument. To achieve reliability of the questionnaire by way of internal consistency, the Cronbach alpha technique was used to assess the internal consistency of the questionnaire items.

3.7 Method of Data Collection

The data generated in this study were collected through primary source which consist of questionnaire while secondary source included relevant materials from journals, books and articles.

3.8 Method of Data Analysis

That data collected were analyzed using the Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) version 23.0. The data were presented in the form of frequency tables, cross tabulation and percentages.

3.9 Ethical Consideration

The research was mindful of the sensitive nature of the study. The consideration of basic ethical issues with regard to the people involved was put in place. Their right, dignity, integrity, privacy and safety were protected by being discreet, respondents were duly informed that the study is strictly for academic purpose and not for any other purpose.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION

This chapter deals with the presentation, analysis and interpretation of data collected for this study.

Section A

Socio-economic and demographic characteristic of respondents,

Table 4.1: Age of respondents

Age	Frequency	Percentage
13-15	40	0.44
16-19	50	0.55
Total	90	100%

Source: Field survey 2024

Table 4.1 above shows the age distribution of the respondent. The data shows that majority of the respondents are within age group 16-19 years while 40% of the respondent were within the age of 13-15years.

Table 4.2: Sex of Respondents

Sex	Frequency	Percentage
Male	30	0.33
Female	60	0.66
Total	90	100%

Source: field survey 2024

The sex distribution of respondents showed a total number of male respondents as 30 (0.33%) while the female respondents were 60 (0.66%).

Table 4.3. Educational Qualification of Respondents

Educational Qualification	Frequency	Percentage
Primary	11	12%
Secondary	77	86%
Tertiary	1	1%
None	1	1%
Total	90	100%

Source: Field survey 2024

Table 4.3 above shows that majority of the respondents, 77 of them representing 86% have secondary school certificate 11 of them representing 12% have primary, school certificate 1 representing 1% ternary degree while I of them representing 1% have none of the above certificates (either she is a primary school dropout or never went to school at all).

Table 4.4: Religion of Respondents

Religion	Frequency	Percentage
Christianity	88	98%
Islam	1	1%
African traditional religion	1	1%
Others	-	0%
Total	90	100%

Source: Field survey 2024

Table 4.4 above show that 88 of the respondents representing 98% of them are Christians, 1 of men representing 1% of the total respondents is a Muslims, the remaining 1 of them representing 19% of the total member believe in African tradition, with 0% (none) of the respondents representing others.

Table 4.5: Occupation of Respondents

Occupation	Frequency	Percentage
Student	77	86%
Apprentices	13	14%
Others	-	1%
Total	90	100%

Source: Field survey 2024

The table 4.5 above shows that 77 of the respondents, representing 86% of them are students. 13 of them representing 14% of the total respondents are apprentice, while none (0) of the respondents representing 0% belong to other occupation.

Analysis of Research Questions

This section of the research report presents an in-depth analysis of research question used in this study.

Research Question One

Do you think that lack of parental care and guidance can result in early pregnancy and promiscuity among adolescents?

Table 4.6: Responses on relationship between lack of parental care/guidance and early pregnancy in children (adolescent)

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	87	97%
No	3	3%
Total	90	100%

Source: Field survey 2024

Table 4.6 above shows that out of the total respondent's majority of them 87, representing 97% are of the opinion that lack of parental care and guidance can lead to early pregnancy in their children (adolescents). The remaining 3 of them representing 3% of the total respondents do not agree with the notion.

The above analysis shows that majority of the adolescent (respondents) are aware of the importance of parental care and guidance in the life and achievement of the adolescent. It therefore means that parents should be very much available to discharge their duties and care of their children and wards in order to avoid or minimize the issue of early pregnancy in adolescents in our society.

Research Questions Two

Is it possible for a girl (adolescent) to get pregnant the first time she has sexual intercourse?

Table 4.7: Responses on possibility of an adolescent getting pregnant during the first sexual intercourse.

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	78	87%
No	12	13%
Total	90	100%

Source: Field survey 2024

Table 4.7 above shows that out of the total number of respondents, 78 of them representing 87% (majority) are of the opinion that is possible for an adolescent to get pregnant during her first sexual intercourse, while the remaining 12 of them representing 13% do not agree on this possibility, but rather disagreed.

The above analysis shows that most of the respondents (majority of them) strongly believe or are aware of the danger of pre-marital sex or unprotected sexual intercourse, even if one is experiencing it for the first time.

Research Question Three

Do you think that parents and government sometimes fail in their responsibilities to prevent teenage pregnancy?

Table 4.8 Responses en relationship between parental and governmental in their responsibility to prevent teenage pregnancy.

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	68	76%
No	22	24%
Total	90	100%

Source Field survey 2024

Table 4.8 above shows that out of the total respondent 68 of them representing 76% are of the opinion that parents and government can sometimes fail or be limited in their responsibilities due to over population of the home and society, while the remaining 22 of them representing only 24% of the respondents do not agree, or otherwise believe that over population do not affect or hinder parental and government functions.

The above analysis shows that most of the respondents believe that over population of the home can hinder or limit parental care and guidance, while over population of the society can limit governmental functions and provisions therefore, there is need for the parents, government and policy makers in their various sphere

of authority, to put in place necessary decisions and plans to control or check the population growth in the country.

Research Question Four

Do you think there are various ways in which an adolescent (teenager) can avoid getting pregnant?

Table 4.9 Responses on awareness of information

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	37	41%
No	53	59%
Total	90	100%

Source: Field survey 2024

Table 4.9 above shows that the respondents who are aware of or taught ways of avoiding or preventing pregnancy (sex education) are 17 of them, representing 41% of total respondent while the majority of them, 53 representing 59% are unaware of ways of preventing pregnancy or lack sex education.

The above analysis therefore implies that most of the respondents are not given sex education by their parents, guardians, teachers and the society. This is really alarming because one expects that these days, most parents should understand the need to teach their adolescent girls sex education and ways of avoiding pregnancy. This therefore reveals the reason why there are still many cases of adolescent's pregnancy in our society.

Research Question Five

Are you aware of the risk of indulging in Abortion?

Table 4.11: Response on awareness about risks of indulging in abortion

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	36	40%
No	54	60%
Total	90	100%

Source: Field survey 2024

Table 4.11 above shows that out of the total number of respondents, 36 of them representing 40% said they are aware of the risk involved in abortion, while majority of them, 54 of them representing 60% are not aware of the risks involved in indulging in abortion.

This analysis therefore shows that majority of the respondents are unaware of the risks of abortion in young women and the implication this can have on their future, chance of having children.

Research Questions Six

Do you think total abstinence from sexual intercourses is the best means of preventing early pregnancy among adolescent?

Table 4.12: Responses on views about total abstinence from sexual

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	58	64%
No	32	36%
Total	90	100%

Source: Field survey 2024

Table 4.12 above shows that out of the total number of respondents 58 of them representing 64% believe in the practice of total abstinence from sexual intercourse as the best option against early pregnancy, the remaining 32 of them representing 36% however do not believe in the practice of total abstinence from sexual intercourse. The above analysis shows that the majority of the respondents believe in and practice total abstinence from sexual intercourse although, the number of them who do not believe in total abstinence from sexual intercourse as the best option against early pregnancy in adolescent, may be smaller, but this is quite worrisome because, for young girls of their age to believe in other means of preventing pregnancy, means that they indulge in sexual activities, using other preventive means of getting pregnant. This shows that there is need for actions that will help to discourage these youths (adolescents) from practicing pre-marital sex.

Research Question Seven

Do you think that parents, government, religious bodies, NGOs and the community have contributed through their actions and inaction to the occurrence of teenage pregnancy?

Table 4.13: Responses on whether parents, government, religious bodies, NGOs and the community have contributed to teenage pregnancy.

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	51	57%
No	39	43%
Total	90	100%

Source: Field survey 2024

Table 4.13 above shows that out of the total number of respondents, 51 of them representing 57% are of the view that parents, government, religious bodies, NGOs and the community they live in have contributed through their actions and inaction towards the recurrence of teenage pregnancy, through their actions and inaction. The above analysis reveals that the majority of the respondents believe that parents, government, religious bodies, NGO's and the community where they live have not done enough to prevent the occurrence of early or adolescent pregnancy. They feel that parents, government and other relevant bodies have failed in their duties in preventing the occurrence of teenage pregnancy.

Research Question Eight

Do you believe that some deadly diseases can be transmitted through sexual intercourse?

Table 4.14: Responses on awareness about the transmission of deadly diseases through sexual intercourse?

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	87	97%
No	3	3%
Total	90	100%

Source: Field survey 2024

Table 4.14 above shows that majority of the respondents, 87 of them representing 97% are aware and believe that deadly diseases can be transmitted through sexual intercourse, while the remaining 3 of them representing 3% do not know or believe that deadly diseases can be transmitted through sexual intercourse.

The above analysis shows that majority of the respondents are aware of the danger involved in sexual intercourse or unprotected sex. It is therefore surprising that despite their awareness about the possibility of transmission of deadly diseases through sex, some of them still indulge in the act, probably because they feel safe through the use of contraceptives.

Research Questions Nine

Do you believe that peer pressure can be lead to early pregnancy?

Table 4.15: Responses on relationship between peer pressure and early pregnancy

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	79	88%
No	11	12%
Total	90	100%

Source: Field survey 2024

Table 4.15 above shows that out of the total respondent 79 of them (majority) representing 88% are of the view that peer pressure can lead to early pregnancy, while the remaining 11 of them representing only 12%, disagreed.

The above analysis shows most of the respondents are aware and believe that peer pressure can be detrimental and can lead them astray. There is therefore need for parents to advice their adolescent children (girls) on the kind of friends to keep.

4.1 Discussion of Findings

The findings revealed that female was more in numbers than male who participated in the research and accounted for a total number of 66 percent of the total respondents.

The finding revealed that Christian faith were more in number which was 98 percent than Muslim and other unspecified faith. The finding revealed that majority of the respondents falls within the age bracket of 14 – 20 years which accounted for 91 percent it was revealed majority of the respondents are students and accounted for 86 percent of the total respondents.

The finding revealed the academic qualifications of respondents the total number of secondary school students accounted for 86% of the total population. The finding revealed that majority of the respondents 87% stated that adolescent are likely to get pregnant during her first sexual intercourse. The finding revealed that majority of the respondents 64, stated that total abstinence from sex by adolescent will prevent early pregnancy. The finding showed that 97% of the respondents opined that adolescent who engage in sexual intercourse can contract sexually transmitted disease such as HIV/AIDS, syphilis, gonorrhea, etc. The finding revealed that most of the respondents 88% behaved that peer pressure can lead to early pregnancy among adolescent.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.1 Summary

This study was aimed at determining the impact of teenage pregnancy on adolescents in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State. In this regard attempts have been made to find out the causes of teenage pregnancy on adolescent, the survey method was used to elicit information from the respondents. Based on this study, the findings revealed that lack of parental care and guidance can lead to teenage pregnancy. The findings revealed that total abstinence from sexual intercourse can prevent teenage pregnancy.

5.2 Conclusion

Based on the survey, it is clear that unwanted pregnancies are highly associated with various kinds of risk and problem. Such as abortion which (Akingba, 2012) cited as causes of death among most Adolescents. Most teenage mothers do not cater for their Children. The resultant effect is that they grow up to become delinquent, some are jobless, prostitutes and armed robbery.

5.3 Recommendation

Based on the findings of this study, the following recommendations are put forward.

1. Parents should always strive to build in their females children the confidence that they are always welcome to discuss every issue that troubles them with (their mother).
2. Parents should start giving their children sex education as early as possible (usually ranging from 11 years).
3. Awareness of the use of contraceptive along with sex education should be included in secondary school curriculum
4. Parents and guidance should always guide their female children against keeping unnecessary friends.
5. Government and other relevant agencies should create more awareness through the mass media on the consequences of teenage pregnancy.
6. Government and NGO's can also organize outreach workers who may be peer or non-peer to reach adolescent especially those who are not in school or have dropped out of school system.
7. Government should look into the problem of unemployment as most teenager take to hawking which exposes them to unwanted pregnancy in a bid to augment family income.

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APPENDIX
QUESTIONNAIRE

Department of Social Work
Faculty of Social Sciences
University of Benin,

Dear Respondents,

I am a student of the above named department I am conducting a study on the impact of teenage pregnancy on Adolescent in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State.

Please kindly respond to the questions raised in the questionnaire by ticking the questions below () the exercise is purely for academic purpose and every information given will be treated in strict confidence.

Thank you,

Gift Nmesioma Anopueme

(Researcher)

SECTION A

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS

1. Age: 14-20yrs [] 21-30yrs [] 31-40yrs []
2. Marital status: married [] single [] divorced [] widowed []
3. Educational qualification: primary [] secondary [] tertiary [] none []
4. Religion: Christianity [] Islam [] African traditional religion [] others specify

5. Occupational status: Student [] apprentice [] others specify

SECTION B

6. Do you think that lack of parental care and guidance to their children (girls) can result in early pregnancy and promiscuity in their children? Yes [] No []

7. Is it possible for a girl (teenager) to get pregnancy the first time she has sexual intercourse Yes [] No []

8. Can you say that parents and government sometimes fail in their responsibilities due to over population of the home and society? Yes [] No []

9. Do you think there are various ways in which an adolescent (teenager) can avoid getting pregnant? Yes [] No []

10. If your unmarried teenage girl-friend get pregnant, would you advise her to have the baby? Yes [] No []

11. Are you aware of the risks involved in procuring abortion? Yes [] No []

12. Have you ever been pregnant? Yes [] No []

13. Do you believe in total abstinence from sexual intercourse as the best means of preventing early pregnancy as an unmarried teenage girl? Yes [] No []

14. Do you enjoy reading and watching pornographic magazines and video? Yes [] No []

15. Do you think parents, government, religious bodies, NGO's through their actions and inaction contributed to the occurrence of teenage pregnancy? Yes [] No []

16. Do you believe that some deadly diseases can be transmitted through sexual intercourse Yes [] No []
17. Does the social, cultural and traditional norms prevalent in your community encourage early pregnancy? Yes [] No []
18. Do you believe that peer pressure can lead to early pregnancy? Yes [] No []
19. Does early pregnancy hinder a teenager's educational and future ambition? Yes [] No []
20. Is it possible for a teenage single mother to attain a bright and successful future? Yes [] No []