

Module 4: Adolescent pregnancy - Adolescent health and development with a particular focus on sexual and reproductive health - Assignment

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Is adolescent pregnancy a public health priority in your country?

Yes, it's, and the facts that supporting my answers are:

- High maternal mortality 1107/100000, and morbidity rates especially in country side, rural areas, nomadic groups and pastoralists, and war affected and conflict areas, where early marriage, illiteracy, GBV and coerced sex are common.
- Many civil societies are fighting the bad and harmful habits, such as early marriage, genital mutilation, etc.
- There is plan to include some lectures on the hazards of early marriage and its impact in basic schools, beside encouragement of female education.

Assignment Story

What are the three main factors that contributed to this?

- Lack of sexual and reproductive health awareness.
- Stigma from surrounding community and colleagues, towards teenagers if they got unintended pregnancy particularly extra marital.
- Low socioeconomic status also might be considered.

What can be done by families and communities to prevent this happening to other girls?

- Families should conduct sexual education to their kids, in every stage while they are growing up till puberty, and close understanding and relationship between parents and their kids is recommended.
- Community should plan to involve adolescents in livelihood activities.
- Social and cultural norms should not prohibit adolescent's ability to access services.

What can the ministry of health do to reorient the health care system to meet the needs of girls such as the one who story you have heard?

- Ministry of Health to ensure accessible ANC services and free accessibility is recommended.
- Health care providers, who provide RH & ANC services, should be trained on how to respond to adolescents competently and with sensitivity.

- RH & adolescent care should be included in the school health system, especially in the advanced basic classes.
- National policies and laws should be modified to reach the adolescents health care through Ministry of Health advocacy.

Assignment document

1. [Camacho AV, Chandra-Mouli V. Adolescent pregnancy: a global perspective. Paper presented at: Training Course in Sexual and Reproductive Health Research; 2010 Sep 18; Geneva.](#)