

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 Zimbabwe?

Yes, it is because of high percentages of morbidity and deaths as a result. There has been a sharp increase in unwanted pregnancies of these adolescent girls in my country. This has also exacerbated the increase in HIV transmission, abortions and adolescent violence. This has been due to lack of information and advocacy activities to sensitize the youth on the dangers of early pregnancy.

Assignment story - Teenage pregnancies cause many health, social problems

What are the three main factors that contributed to this?

1. Lack of information and peer pressure.
2. Upbringing of the adolescents and cultural beliefs.
3. Lack of informed decision-making and guidance.

What can be done to prevent this from happening?

- Need for community and family support systems.
- Proper guidance on the dangers of adolescent pregnancies.
- Set adolescent support groups to discuss these issues.
- Proper information dissemination and sharing with the adolescents.
- Political commitment from governments to support families and communities in this endeavor.

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.](#)