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

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What are the three main factors that contributed to this?

- Literacy (Low level of Education).
- Social life (Rural Dwellings).
- Low economic conditions (Low income).

What can be done by families and communities to prevent this

happening to other girls?

- Provide opportunities for study and work (gainful employment) to the adolescents.
- Provide information and education regarding adolescent pregnancy, its consequences, etc.
- Provide health services, information and make health products widely available and accessible.
- Providing safe abortion services (where legal) or providing effective post-abortion care.
- Support pregnant woman's plans during pregnancy, childbirth & the postpartum period.
- Advocate and facilitate preparedness and readiness actions.
- Break the silence against sexual coercion and fight it vigorously by bringing perpetrators to justice, mobilizing public opinion to be intolerant of it protecting girls/women from sexual harassment & coercion in educational institutions, work places & in other community settings and empowering them to protect themselves, and to ask for & get help when needed.

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?

• The Ministry of Health has its immense role in giving special attention towards adolescents and their health to achieve the MDGs. Therefore, the health care system also needs to be reoriented/focused in the manner which would meet the needs of girls such as the one in the story.

• Teen pregnancy tends to be a problem for the mother as in one case it is a social stigma while in other she is deprived of needed care and support. Ministry of Health can provide a special focus on awareness and educational activities to prevent the adolescent pregnancy through integrating with other regular FP and RH program.

Assignment document

1. <u>Camacho AV, Chandra-Mouli V. Adolescent pregnancy: a global perspective. Paper</u> presented at: <u>Training Course in Sexual and Reproductive Health Research; 2010 Sep 18;</u> <u>Geneva.</u>