

Teenager's Knowledge and Perspectives on Teenage Pregnancy at Selected Barangay of Echague Isabela Philippines

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Abstract: *Teenage pregnancy has long been a global issue. This may be due to the fact that the knowledge and use of contraception are lowest among adolescents. Moreover, some researchers concluded that very young pregnant women had a positive perception of their pregnancy, anticipating that the child would have a positive impact on them. Therefore, the researchers conducted the study to assess the teenagers' knowledge and perspectives on teenage pregnancy at selected barangay of Echague, Isabela, Philippines in order to determine various areas of competency that was lacking in this population. Non-probability sampling method was used under convenience sampling to gather a total of 95 sample size. A slightly modified survey questionnaire was also used. The result of the survey and statistical analysis using Pearson Correlation Coefficient showed that there was no significant relationship between teenager's perception of their knowledge on reproduction, contraception and perspective on teenage pregnancy when group according to their age and educational attainment because they lack of firsthand experience regarding these matters. Moreover, with the use of Independent Sample T-test, it was revealed that there was no significant difference when grouped according to sex because females outnumbered the males by almost half.*

Keywords: teenage pregnancy, knowledge, perspectives

I. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Teenage is a period marked by delinquency, particularly sexuality (Kumalasari et al., 2020). Hence, most teenage girls' futures are disrupted and destroyed by pregnancy, as they are the ones who experience pregnancy and its consequences throughout the entire pregnancy process (Maravilla et al., 2017).

Teenage pregnancy has long been a global issue (Salvador et al., 2016). In developing countries, approximately 12 million girls aged 15–19 years and under 15-year-old girls give birth to at least 777,000 babies annually. Moreover, at least 10 million unintended pregnancies occur each year among adolescent girls aged 15–19 years (World Health Organization (WHO), 2020). The Philippines is one of the Asian countries that is experiencing a similar problem. According to data from the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics System of the Philippine Statistics Authority, the nation saw 180,916 live births among teenagers aged 10 to 19 in total in 2019. This is equal to 495 live births each day (Gita-Carlos, 2021). The Philippine Commission on Population (POPCOM) (2021) reported that in the teenage pregnancy rate (TPR) in region 2, Isabela had the highest TPR in 2020 among the five provinces, at 2.3. Based on the data of the Rural Health Unit of Echague, Isabela in the year 2017-2020, three barangays with highest incidence of teenage pregnancy namely Barangay X with 43 cases, Barangay Y with 41 cases, and Barangay Z with 39 cases.

This might be as a result of adolescents having the lowest rates of understanding and usage of contraception (Bitzer J., 2016). In addition, they may not be able to avoid teenage pregnancy because of misconceptions about where to get contraception and its usage. (World Health Organization (WHO), 2020). Moreover, some researchers concluded that very young pregnant women had a positive perception of their pregnancy, anticipating that the child would have a positive impact on their relationship with the child's father and that their pregnancy would strengthen family ties and improve social conditions (Bałanda and Bałdyga, 2020).

Despite recent declines in Asia, the prevalence of child marriage and early union in Southeast Asia remains significant. The data of birth rate in Asia last 2018 shows that Lao People's Democratic Republic (94), Cambodia (57), Thailand (50), Indonesia (48), and the Philippines (47) have the highest adolescent birth rates at the country level (UNESCO, 2018). While in 2020, Bangladesh had the largest number of births per thousand women aged 15-19, with roughly 82.96, according to the adolescent fertility rate in the Asia-Pacific region. While having the Philippines on top 5 as it ranked number 4 with 54.15 births per thousand teenage women. Lastly, South Korea had the lowest adolescent fertility rate in that year, with 1.38 births per thousand women aged 15 to 19. (Kameke, 2022).

The Philippines is one of the Asian countries that is experiencing a similar problem. According to data from the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics System of the Philippine Statistics Authority, the nation saw 180,916 live births among teenagers aged 10 to 19 in total in 2019. This is equal to 495 live births each day (Gita-Carlos, 2021). The Philippine Commission on Population (POPCOM) (2021) reported that in the teenage pregnancy rate (TPR) in region 2, Isabela had the highest TPR in 2020 among the five provinces, at 2.3. While, based on the data of the Rural Health Unit of Echague, Isabela in the year 2017-2020, there are three barangays with highest incidence of teenage pregnancy namely Barangay X with 43 cases, Barangay Y with 41 cases, and Barangay Z with 39 cases.

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In order to prevent teenage pregnancy, teenagers should be educated about their lifestyles, contraceptive use, and other issues related to teenage pregnancy. Thus, teenage pregnancy can be avoided by raising educational standards (Tomar, 2017). Therefore, the researchers conducted the study to determine the knowledge and perspective on teenage pregnancy among teenagers at selected barangay of Echague, Isabela, Philippines. This study will also serve as a basis in conducting programs to reduce or prevent teenage pregnancy especially in areas with the highest incidence, as proper knowledge must be taught to the youth to control teenage pregnancy in society.

1.2 Purpose

The researchers conducted the study to determine the knowledge and perspective on teenage pregnancy among teenagers at selected barangay of Echague, Isabela, Philippines. This study will also serve as a basis in conducting programs to reduce or prevent teenage pregnancy especially in areas with the highest incidence, as proper knowledge must be taught to the youth to control teenage pregnancy in society.

II. METHODS

The study utilized a descriptive-correlational method type of research design as the main tool for gathering data to determine the relationship between the profile of the respondents and their knowledge and perspective on teenage pregnancy at selected barangay of Echague, Isabela, Philippines.

The researchers used convenience sampling in gathering the respondents who are 13 to 19 years old from Barangay X, Y and Z who are available and agrees to take the survey. Data from the Rural Health Unit of Echague, Isabela was the basis to select the three (3) barangays who have the highest combined number of teenage pregnancy incidences from 2017 to 2020. A total of 95 teenagers served as the respondents in this study, 32 is from Barangay X, 32 is from Barangay Y and 31 respondents is from Barangay Z.

A slightly modified survey questionnaire was used which was adapted from the studies of Lee et al., (2017) entitled "A Survey of Sexual Knowledge, Attitudes, Desire and Behavior Among University Students" conducted at Tainan, Taiwan University of Medical Technology; and Mgbokwere et al., (2015) entitled "Perception and attitudes of parents towards Teenage Pregnancy in a rural community of Cross River State, Nigeria", carried out in Cross River State, Nigeria".

The survey of the respondents was arranged, tabulated, and statistically treated based on meaningful analysis and interpretation of data. Frequency and Percentage were used to get the distribution of respondents according to their age, gender and educational attainment. Mean and Standard Deviation were used to measure the spread or dispersion of the responses of respondents around the mean to know its corresponding descriptive statistics. Pearson Correlation Coefficient was used to know the significant relationship between the knowledge and perspective on teenage pregnancy among teenagers when grouped to their age and educational level. Independent Sample T-tests were used to know the significant difference between the knowledge and perspective on teenage pregnancy among teenagers when grouped according to their sex.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Profile of the Respondents

Table 1. Profile of the Respondents

	Frequency	Percentage
Age		
13-15	22	23.16
16-17	24	25.26
18-19	49	51.58
Sex		
Male	38	40.0
Female	57	60.0
Educational Attainment		
Osy	2	2.1
Jhs	30	31.6
Shs	34	35.8
College	29	30.5

As shown in table 1, in relation to the profile of the respondents, in the age level of the respondents a frequency of 49 or a percentage of 51.58 was garnered by those in the 18 to 19 years old bracket, those in the 16 to 17 years old bracket got a frequency of 24 or a percentage of 25.26 and those in the age bracket of 13 to 15 years old got a frequency of 22 or a percentage of 23.16.

It can be gleaned that majority of the respondents are in the late stage of being teenagers, entering into early adulthood, making them more experienced on the problems encountered by teenager. As mentioned in the study of Santhya KG et. al., (2018) adolescents' lifestyles, behavior, growth and development change fast throughout this transition thus adolescent students' sexual conduct is evolving as a result and add to it their exposure to the internet and mass media they experience more compared to the earlier generations. Moreover, there is emerging agreement that an individual at age 18 is not the same as they will be at age 25, young people at the age of 11 will not be the same as those who are 18 years of age. They are not the same in terms of how they appear, feel, think, or act (R. Simpson, 2018).

As to their gender, majority are female with a frequency of 57 or a percentage of 60.00 while their male counterparts got a frequency of 38 or a percentage of 40.00, implying that there are more female respondents of the study evidenced by being almost twice the number of their gender counterparts.

As to the educational attainment of the respondents' majority are in the Senior High School Level with a frequency of 34 or a percentage of 35.8, followed closely by Junior High School with a frequency of 30 or a percentage of 31.6, and college level with a frequency of 29 or a percentage of 30.5. There are 2 or a percentage of 2.10 out of school youth in the respondents. The educational attainment of the respondents implies that they are educated enough to understand

things about teen pregnancy from the knowledge they may have gained from their school. As mentioned in the study of Mushwana et al. (2015) lacking information on the causes of pregnancy by either lack of sex education, lack of discussion on sexual topics, because of non-societal support and restricted to access to health support system regarding reproduction can be causative to more teenage pregnancy and the current opening up of the Philippines thru the Reproductive Health bill, not only helping lactating mothers but also changes in the educational system are opening up teenagers to more information regarding reproduction thus helping them better understand teenage pregnancy.

3.2 Level of Knowledge on Reproduction

Table 2. Level of Knowledge on Reproduction

Knowledge on Reproduction	Mean	Descriptive Interpretation
Pregnancy is impossible if the sperm do not enter the vagina	3.35	Neither Agree/Disagree
Men less than 16 years old still have reproductive capability	3.40	Neither Agree/Disagree
Pregnancy is possible if sexual intercourse does not reach climax (orgasm)	2.85	Neither Agree/Disagree
Pregnancy is possible if sexual intercourse occurs only once	3.07	Neither Agree/Disagree
Pregnancy is possible if sexual intercourse occurs during the two weeks before the menstrual cycle	3.24	Neither Agree/Disagree
Overall Mean	3.18	Neither Agree/Disagree

As shown in table 2 in relation to the knowledge on reproduction of the respondents' majority answered neither agree on the different matters asked on their knowledge of reproduction. In their understanding that pregnancy is impossible when the sperm does not enter the vagina a mean of 3.35 or an interpretation of "Neither Agree/Disagree" was garnered. In knowing that men less than 16 years old have reproductive capability a mean of 3.40 or an interpretation of "Neither Agree/Disagree" was garnered. Believing that pregnancy is possible if sexual intercourse does not reach climax (orgasm) a mean of 2.85 or an interpretation of "Neither Agree/Disagree" was garnered. Thinking that pregnancy if possible is sexual intercourse occurs only once a mean of 3.07 or an interpretation of "Neither Agree/Disagree" was garnered. Believing that pregnancy is possible is sexual intercourse occurs during the two weeks before the menstrual cycle a mean of 3.24 or an interpretation of "Neither Agree/Disagree" was garnered.

It can be gleaned from the perception of the respondents regarding their knowledge on reproduction that majority of them are still unsure of what they understand in their knowledge of the reproductive system with most of them unsure of their knowledge, either agreeing to what they have learned or unsure of it maybe because of their lack of experience on the matter. The table implies that majority of the respondents are not really confident on their knowledge regarding reproduction, they may lack firsthand on how reproduction really works and relies on what they have learned from school rather their own experience.

From the study conducted by Geda (2019) knowing how to use contraceptives and access family planning services were less likely to be teenage parents. As found in the study being exposed to reproductive health education may reduce the number of teenagers becoming pregnant. As supported by the study of Mezmur H. et. al. (2012) one of the risk factors for a dangerous pregnancy is knowledge, high risk pregnancies are more common if there is a lack of awareness of inadequate knowledge on the dangers a high-risk pregnancy may experience.

Also, according to the study of Bolshakova et al. (2020) in Russia, the lack of sex education in schools has long been a problem, owing to conservative reluctance or it being a social taboo to freely share appropriate sexual information results to the population having misconceptions about sex and contraception, such is the situation in the Philippines being it considered a very conservative country with majority of the Population being Catholics.

3.3 Level of Knowledge on Contraception

Table 3. Level of Knowledge on Contraception

Knowledge on Contraception	Mean	Descriptive Interpretation
Oral contraceptives (eg. Trust Pills) should be taken only before every sexual intercourse	2.95	Neither Agree/Disagree
All contraceptive methods are not 100% effective	3.22	Neither Agree/Disagree
We can buy oral contraceptives and condoms in the drug store	3.62	Agree
Overall Mean	3.26	Neither Agree/Disagree

As shown in table 3 in relation to the knowledge on contraception of the respondents three matters were discussed. Knowing that oral contraceptives should be taken only before every sexual intercourse got a mean of 2.95 or an interpretation of “Neither Agree/Disagree”. Belief that all contraceptive methods are not 100% effective a mean of 3.22 or an interpretation of “Neither Agree/Disagree”. Knowing they can buy oral contraceptives and condoms in the drug store a mean of 3.62 or an interpretation of “Agree”.

It can be gleaned from the table that the respondents are unsure when to properly take oral contraceptives, some thinking that taking oral contraceptives before intercourse could be a safeguard for them getting pregnant. Some of them are also not reliant on the effectiveness of contraceptive methods in the prevention of unwanted pregnancy. Most of them know that they can buy condoms and other oral contraceptives from drugstores and pharmacies without prescription.

As mentioned in the study of Bitzer J. (2016) contraceptive knowledge and use are the lowest among adolescents, in support of the concept, the study of Shrama A. et. Al. (2021) it shows that when it comes to contraception, barriers to access, awareness and knowledge there still exists a gap among adolescents and young adults, that could may be causative to what one of this studies main hurdles, teenagers are not knowledgeable enough on the proper use and utilization of proper contraceptive methods.

Also, according to the World Health Organization (2020) knowledge gaps and misconceptions about where to get contraceptive methods and how to use them, adolescents who want to prevent pregnancies may not be able to do so.

3.4 Perspectives on Teenage Pregnancy

Table 4. Perspectives on Teenage Pregnancy

Perspectives on Teenage Pregnancy	Mean	Descriptive Interpretation
A teenage pregnant girl is a deviant	2.88	Neither Agree/Disagree
A teenage pregnant girl will not have a bright future	2.23	Disagree
Teenage pregnancy means that parents have failed	2.46	Disagree
Teenage pregnancy results in stigmatization (eg. Discrimination, stereotype)	3.17	Neither Agree/Disagree
Teenage pregnancy hinders education	3.12	Neither Agree/Disagree
Teenage pregnancy results in early marriage	3.20	Neither Agree/Disagree
Teenage pregnancy results in abortion	3.21	Neither Agree/Disagree
Teenage pregnancy forces the man/boy to be responsible for the pregnancy and accept responsibility for her care	3.47	Neither Agree/Disagree
Overall Mean	2.97	Neither Agree/Disagree

As seen on table 4 on the Perspective on Teenage Pregnancy of the respondents there are matters for discussion. In how they view a teenage pregnant girl not having a bright future a mean of 2.23 or an interpretation of “Disagree” was perceived. Believing that teenage pregnancy means that parents have failed got a mean of 2.46 or an interpretation of “Disagree” was perceived. Thinking of all teenage pregnant girls to be a deviant got a mean of 2.88 or an interpretation of “Neither Agree/Disagree” was garnered. Perception of stigma to teenage pregnancy got a mean of 3.17 or an interpretation of “Neither Agree/Disagree”. Believing that teenage pregnancy hinders education got mean of 3.12 or an

interpretation of “Neither Agree/Disagree” was garnered. Early marriage caused by teenage pregnancy got a mean of 3.20 or an interpretation of “Neither Agree/Disagree” was perceived. Abortion caused by teenage pregnancy got a mean of 3.21 or an interpretation of “Neither Agree/Disagree” was believed. Teenage pregnancy forcing man or boy to be responsible for the pregnancy and accepts the responsibility for the care of his partner got a mean of 3.47 or an interpretation of “Neither Agree/Disagree” was perceived.

It is implied in the table that most of the respondents disagree on the matters concerning the failure of parents and the pregnant girl not having a bright future because of teenage pregnancy, with most not believing that although being pregnant early in your teenage could be a hindrance to being successful in the future, many opportunities are abound now compared to before to teenage parents. As mentioned in the study of Balanda and Baldyga, (2020), teenage pregnancy specially the mothers have a positive outlook on their pregnancy, anticipating that the child would have a positive impact on their relationship with the child’s father and that their pregnancy would strengthen family ties and improve social conditions. Social acceptance and employment and educational opportunities are being opened up to this segment of our society to give them more advantages compared to the previous generations. The table also implies that the respondents are not really steadfast in their perception on their beliefs on teenage pregnancy, with some still willing to change their views on teenage pregnancy and not always looks on the negative side of teenage pregnancy but on the changes undergoing the community’s opinion on teenage pregnancy. Most of the respondents are undecided on the possible consequences of being pregnant on their early teenage life. According to Tomar (2017) Guide programs, policies, messages and school curricula were improved for teenagers to go through the physical, cognitive, emotional and behavioral changes to gain more autonomy, and better understand their role in their own communities.

3.5 Significant Relationship Between the Knowledge and Perspectives on Teenage Pregnancy When Grouped According to Age and Educational Attainment

Table 5. Significant Relationship Between the Knowledge and Perspectives on Teenage Pregnancy When Grouped According to Age and Educational Attainment

		Age	Educational Attainment	Interpretation
Pregnancy is impossible if the sperm do not enter the vagina	Pearson Correlation	.219*	.246*	Weak
	P-value	.033	.016	
	N	95	95	
Men less than 16 years old still have reproductive capability	Pearson Correlation	.187	.354**	Weak
	P-value	.069	.000	
	N	95	95	
Pregnancy is possible if sexual intercourse does not reach climax (orgasm)	Pearson Correlation	-.014	.038	Very Weak
	P-value	.893	.716	
	N	95	95	
Pregnancy is possible if sexual intercourse occurs only once	Pearson Correlation	.265**	.339**	Weak
	P-value	.009	.001	
	N	95	95	
Pregnancy is possible if sexual intercourse occurs during the two weeks before the menstrual cycle	Pearson Correlation	.257*	.267**	Weak
	P-value	.012	.009	
	N	95	95	
Oral contraceptives (eg. Trust Pills) should be taken only before every sexual intercourse	Pearson Correlation	.018	.164	Very Weak
	P-value	.864	.112	
	N	95	95	
All contraceptive methods are not 100% effective	Pearson Correlation	.097	.239*	Weak
	P-value	.350	.020	
	N	95	95	
We can buy oral contraceptives and condoms in the drug store	Pearson Correlation	.111	.235*	Very Weak

	P-value	.284	.022	
A teenage pregnant girl is a deviant	N	95	95	
	Pearson Correlation	.162	.136	Very Weak
A teenage pregnant girl will not have a bright future	P-value	.117	.190	
	N	95	95	
	Pearson Correlation	-.126	-.112	Very Weak
Teenage pregnancy means that parents have failed	P-value	.223	.278	
	N	95	95	
	Pearson Correlation	.015	-.130	Very Weak
Teenage pregnancy results in stigmatization (eg. discrimination, stereotype)	P-value	.886	.210	
	N	95	95	
	Pearson Correlation	.161	.207*	Weak
Teenage pregnancy hinders education	P-value	.120	.045	
	N	95	95	
Teenage pregnancy results in early marriage	Pearson Correlation	.124	.059	Very Weak
	P-value	.230	.573	
	N	95	95	
Teenage pregnancy results in abortion	Pearson Correlation	.272**	.223*	Weak
	P-value	.008	.030	
Teenage pregnancy forces the man/boy to be responsible for the pregnancy and accept responsibility for her care.	N	95	95	
	Pearson Correlation	.101	.174	Very Weak
	P-value	.329	.092	
	N	95	95	
	Pearson Correlation	.058	.081	Weak
	P-value	.579	.433	
	N	95	95	

As seen in table 5 in relation to the significant relationship between the knowledge and perspective of the respondents when grouped according to their age and educational attainment, Weak and Very weak relationships were determined from the different statements. From these perceptions of the respondents a risk for pregnancy exists whenever a girl engages in vaginal intercourse with a man (Dowshen, 2017). As shared by both Mogotsi (2021) and Shrestha (2012) knowledge, plays an important role in decision-making that affects health and development. Because sex education and family, such as the use of contraceptives, is still lacking in many countries, there is a lack of skills to put knowledge into practice among teenagers. Significant relationship is seen on the grouping on age regarding the possibility of pregnancy if sexual intercourse happened during the two weeks before the menstrual cycle. Belief that all contraceptive methods are not 100% effective shows significant relationship when grouped according to the respondents' educational attainment. As mentioned by Tabai et. al., (2017) contraception knowledge was a risk factor for teenage pregnancy Buying oral contraceptives and condoms in drug stores got significant relationship when grouped according to educational attainment. Teenage pregnancy resulting in stigmatization has significant relationship when grouped according to educational attainment. Significant relationship was noted in the grouping in their age in relation to teenage pregnancy resulting to early marriage, and when grouped according to their educational difference there is also a significant relationship. As reflected on the study to Tabai et. al., (2017) sexually active adolescents may have gained more knowledge about contraceptive methods but have not fully implemented them. As a result, regardless of their knowledge of contraception, their chances of becoming pregnant become more relatively high because of their knowledge but not able to use these knowledges during coitus.

The table implies that most of the tables results whether grouped according to their age or educational attainment shows no significant relationships in the perception of the respondents either because of their lack of knowledge and first-hand experience on teenage pregnancy or they are not yet decided on their beliefs on pregnancy because of the fact that most of the respondents are still on their early stages of adulthood and have not yet experienced the struggles with

teenage pregnancy within their own communities. From the findings of the study of Geda (2019) showing that teenagers knowledgeable on the use of contraceptives and are able to access family planning services were less likely to become pregnant.

3.6 Significant Difference Between the Knowledge and Perspectives on Teenage Pregnancy When Grouped According to Sex

Table 6. Significant Difference Between the Knowledge and Perspectives on Teenage Pregnancy When Grouped According to Sex

	Age	Educational Attainment	Interpretation
Pregnancy is impossible if the sperm do not enter the vagina	-0.548	0.585	Mobile
Men less than 16 years old still have reproductive capability			
Pregnancy is possible if sexual intercourse does not reach climax (orgasm)	-1.371	0.174	Very Weak
Pregnancy is possible if sexual intercourse occurs only once	-0.459	0.648	Strong
Pregnancy is possible if sexual intercourse occurs during the two weeks before the menstrual cycle	-1.307	0.195	Very Weak
Oral contraceptives (eg. Trust Pills) should be taken only before every sexual intercourse	-2.072	0.041	Very Weak
All contraceptive methods are not 100% effective	-0.395	0.694	Strong
We can buy oral contraceptives and condoms in the drug store	-0.471	0.639	Strong
A teenage pregnant girl is a deviant	-0.85	0.397	Weak
A teenage pregnant girl will not have a bright future	-1.233	0.221	Weak
Teenage pregnancy means that parents have failed	-0.664	0.508	Mobile
Teenage pregnancy results in stigmatization (eg. discrimination, stereotype)	1.089	0.279	Weak
Teenage pregnancy hinders education	-1.016	0.312	Weak
Teenage pregnancy results in early marriage	-2.025	0.046	Very Weak
Teenage pregnancy results in abortion	-1.536	0.128	Very Weak
Teenage pregnancy forces the man/boy to be responsible for the pregnancy and accept responsibility for her care.	-1.446	0.152	Very Weak
	0	1	Very Strong

The table 6 shows that in the perception of the respondents regarding their knowledge in reproduction, contraceptive, and perspective on teenage pregnancy when grouped according to sex, Very Weak differences were determined from statements 2, 4, 5, 14, 14 and 15. Weak differences on statements 8, 9, 11 and 12 were determined. Strong Differences were determined from statements 3, 6 and 7. Mobile differences from statements 1 and 10 were determined and statement 10 got a Very Strong Difference.

The knowledge of the respondents on reproduction, specifically about the possibility of pregnancy during intercourse and the ability of men to impregnate have no significant difference. Although, their knowledge about the probability of pregnancy in relation to the menstrual cycle has a significant difference. In studies conducted in Malawi and Ghana, women who knew their ovulatory cycle had a higher chance of using contraceptives than women who didn't know their ovulatory cycle (Geda, 2019).

On the other hand, the following statements pertaining to knowledge on contraception have no significant difference specifically, as to when to take oral contraceptives, its effectivity, and where to buy these.

Additionally, the following statements concerning their perspective about teenage pregnancy have no significant difference such as their perceptions about a teenage pregnant girl, its consequences, and the parents' involvement. However, when it comes to its effects on education, it has a significant difference. According to Kumar et al. in 2017, teenage mothers are unable to take on responsibilities because they do not complete their education.

The table implies that due to the fact that majority of the respondents of the study are female, it conflicts with the significant difference when grouped according to sex.

IV. CONCLUSION

Based on the findings, the following conclusion was reached:

Profile of the Respondents

The respondents are in the age bracket of 18 to 19 years old, female and in the Senior High School Level.

Knowledge on Reproduction

Basing from the responses of the respondents regarding their knowledge on reproduction with most of them giving answers in the neutral range, meaning they are unsure of the validity of their answers, with them only being sure on pregnancy being impossible when sperm does not enter the vagina and men less than 16 years old having reproductive capabilities. This implies that most of them have not had enough sexual experience to understand how a person gets pregnant, with most of the statements regarding reproduction being possible but is dependent on some factors regarding mainly on the fertility of the person they are having sexual intercourse with.

Knowledge on Contraception

From the descriptive interpretation of the answers of the respondents which makes them knowledgeable but unsure if what they have learned about contraception is accurate, implies that they are still unsure if using contraceptives ensures that although they are having sexual intercourse it will be with peace of mind because they know they will not get pregnant. This means that their knowledge about contraception is limited and more information is needed for them to understand how it works and how it must be used.

Perspective on Teenage Pregnancy

On the perception of the respondents towards their attitude on teenage pregnancy, some of them do not agree that teenage girls who got pregnant will not have a bright future, and not all of them put all of the blame on the parents when teenagers get pregnant. Although it can be gleaned that most of their attitude on teenage pregnancy is unsure. Majority of them are still not really knowledgeable about the consequences teenage pregnancy might bring about. This means that the respondents are not really well oriented on the possible consequences of them or their partners getting pregnant.

Significant relationship between the knowledge and perspective on teenage pregnancy when grouped according to age and educational attainment.

It can be generalized from what the respondents perceive on their knowledge on reproduction, contraception and perspective on teenage pregnancy when group according to their age and educational attainment that there was no significant relationship because of the simple fact that they have not had much experience on the different matters being discussed, maybe because most of them are still trying to figure out what is truth or what are misconception about the matter being studied because of lack of firsthand experience regarding these matters.

Significant difference between the knowledge and perspective on teenage pregnancy when grouped according to sex.

The findings implied that there was no significant difference regarding the knowledge and perspective on teenage pregnancy when grouped according to sex, mainly because females outnumbered the males by almost half.

V. ACKNOWLEDGMENT

This paper aimed to determine the knowledge and perspective on teenage pregnancy among teenagers at selected barangay of Echague, Isabela, Philippines. The researchers truly express their admiration and gratitude to the persons

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VI. RECOMMENDATIONS

In light of the findings and conclusion of the conducted study, the following recommendations are worth considering:

For the Department of Health more programs for integration of more lessons regarding reproductive health must be included in the school curriculum so as to give the younger generation a better grasp on what teenage pregnancy is all about and could also be used to ensure that unwanted pregnancies are prevented.

For the Echague Local Government Units must develop programs for information dissemination on a barangay level must be done to better inform not only teenagers but also the adult population on the proper use and misconceptions on different contraceptive methods to give way for better understanding and prevention of unwanted pregnancies and better family planning methods.

For teenagers teaching materials must be designed for the better understanding of the younger generation especially multimedia presentations that are easier to understand and also much more enjoyable to the younger generations.

For the Community, seminars and trainings regarding reproductive health must be given to members of the community. Parents are highly encouraged to join the seminars and trainings to better equip themselves in the inquiries of their children and also to help them to guide their young ones to understand the consequences of unprotected sex and have a better perspective towards teenage pregnancy.

For Teachers Association, an open communication regarding reproductive health, teenage pregnancy statistics in their communities must be regularly conducted to develop programs in which the teachers can devise intervention programs for the prevention of unwanted pregnancies and give support for teenage parents within the school premises.

For future researchers, they must have an equal number for both male and female to have more reliable data.

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