

## Sexuality, Relationships and Factors Leading to Teenage Pregnancy among Students in Glan - Padidu National High School

Lynn Marie Simporios Infante  
Glan-Padidu National High School

**Corresponding Author:** Lynn Marie Simporios Infante  
[lynnmariesimporios2591@gmail.com](mailto:lynnmariesimporios2591@gmail.com)

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### ABSTRACT

This study aimed to find out the context of sexuality, relationships and factors leading to teenage pregnancy among students of Glan - Padidu National High School. The researcher used descriptive-quantitative research design. The respondents of the study were nine (9) students who were identified using purposive random sampling method. The data showed that respondents' parents were mostly elementary level, earning P5,000 below monthly and most were self - employed. As to context of sexuality and relationships, most of the respondents engaged in sex when they were 14 - 16 years old, with partners 20 years old and above. Because of physical attraction, expression of love, and curiosity they engaged in such activity. Various factors lead students to get involve in premarital sex. Home factors such as parents lack of supervision; environmental factor such as TV show, movies and peer pressure; and emotional factor such as to satisfy the sexual needs. With this, it is recommended to create an effective program such as parental seminar, no to teenage pregnancy campaign, true love waits seminar and development of an IEC material to at least lessen the growth of statistics if not totally eliminate pre - marital sex among students at a very early stage.

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## **INTRODUCTION**

World Health Organization defines Teenage Pregnancy as “any pregnancy from a girl who is 10-19 years of age”, the age being defined as her age at the time the baby is born. Often the terms “Teenage pregnancy” and “Adolescent pregnancy” are used as synonyms (Gazala, et. al 2013).

Teenage pregnancy is a serious problem that affects the community, school and society. Teenagers nowadays tend to be more liberated about their sexual relationship and sexual activities. The books, magazines, newspapers, and other forms of media influenced the teenager’s idea of sex, giving rise to sex experimentation and unprotected sexual intercourse (Ericta, 2010).

In the Philippine setting, teenage pregnancy has lots of effects on Educational Development of teenagers who are victims of this phenomenon. These are many factors which have been recognized by researchers and authors as being responsible for teenage pregnancy. It has been noted and well documented that today’s teenagers face more sexual temptation than previous generations. They seem to be more aware of sex and susceptible to the dangers of illicit sex. Today’s society is more bombarded with sexually oriented materials in the environment. The teenager are more vulnerable to sexual temptations (Retazo, 2014).

Alarmed over the number of cases of teen pregnancies in Glan - Padidu National High School, a good school program for teenage pregnancy prevention must be established. Thus, this study aimed to serve as source for the creation of an effective program to at least lessen the growth of statistics if not totally eliminate pre - marital sex among students at a very early stage.

## **THEORETICAL REVIEW**

According to Singson (2014) that Filipino teens get a higher exposure to sex from the internet, magazines, TV shows, movies, and other media than decades ago, yet without any corresponding increase in information on how to handle the input. In fact, female adolescents whose engage in sexual behaviour were found to be more likely to do the same compared to those who do not associate with such peers. If the teens perceive her peers to look negatively at premarital sex, she was more likely to start sex at a later age.

## **METHODOLOGY**

### ***a. Participants and/or other Sources of Data and Information***

The respondents of the study were taken from the list of individuals who were identified to be pregnant or have been pregnant enrolled in Glan - Padidu National High School S.Y. 2016 - 2017. There were nine (9) female students who became respondents of this study. Beforehand, the researcher secured a parent’s consent. Each of them were personally interviewed and given questionnaire.

### ***b. Data Gathering Methods***

This action research utilized quantitative research design. The respondent’s profile and factors leading to teenage pregnancy were determined through survey. This study utilized survey questionnaire. These questionnaires were adapted from the study of Zapanta (2014). When everything was set, the

researcher administered the questionnaire one by one in their respective homes to secure confidentiality.

The data gathered were treated statistically with the use of frequency count and percentage. To describe the profile of teenage pregnant, frequency count, and percentage were used. To determine the reasons in engaging in sexual intercourse/teenage sex relative to home factors, environmental factors, and emotional factors, frequency count and percentage were used.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter presents, analyzes and interprets the data gathered in this study. The different results are presented with the following tables:

Table 1a. Demographic Profile of the Students

Variable	Frequency		Percentage	
	Father	Mother	Father	Mother
<b>Educational Attainment of Parents</b>				
College Graduate	0	0	0	0
College level	0	0	0	0
High School Graduate	2	0	22.22	0
High School Level	2	3	22.22	33.33
Elementary Level	5	6	55.56	66.67
No Schooling	0	0	0	0
<b>Number of siblings in the family</b>				
10 & above		2		22.22
7 to 9		3		33.33
4 to 6		2		22.22
1 to 3		2		22.22
<b>Parent's Monthly Income</b>				
Below P 5,000		6		66.67

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P5001 – P10,000	3	33.33
P10001 – P15,000	0	0
P15,001 – P 20, 000	0	0
P20, 001 – P25,000	0	0
More than P25, 000	0	0

<b>Parent's Occupation</b>	Father	Mother	Father	Mother
Government employee	0	0	0	0
Private employee	0	0	0	0
Self - employed	7	2	77.78	22.22
None	2	7	22.22	77.78

**Family Structure**

Other relatives	2	22.22
Both mother and father present	5	55.56
Mother/Father only	2	22.22

**Childhood Financial Situation**

Having basic needs growing up	5	55.56
Not having basic needs when growing up	4	44.44

Table 1a shows that most of the respondent's fathers are elementary level (5 or 55.56%) and most of their mothers are also elementary level (6 or 66.67%); 3 or 33.33% having 7 to 9 siblings and have a fair distribution of 22.22% of 1 to 3, 4 to 6 and 10 & above siblings respectively; and parents are earning below 5,000 (66.67%). When in terms of the employment, it shows that most of the parents are self - employed, 7 or 77.78% respectively. Moreover, 5 or 55.56% of the respondents said that both mother and father are present in their family. There are 4 or 44.44% who claim that they don't have basic needs when growing up.

Table 1.b.Context of Sexuality and Sexual Relationships

Variable	Frequency	Percentage
<b>Age of first engagement in sex</b>		
11 - 13 yrs. Old	2	22.22
14 - 16 yrs. Old	5	55.55
17 - 19 yrs. old	2	22.22
<b>Age of Partner</b>		
11 - 13 yrs. Old	0	0.00
14 - 16 yrs. Old	2	22.22
17 - 19 yrs. Old	2	22.22
20 & above	5	55.56
<b>Number of Partner</b>		
1	9	100
2	0	0.00
3	0	0.00
<b>Number of Years in Relationship</b>		
0 - 1 year	7	77.78
2 - 3 years	2	22.22
4 - 5 years	0	0.00
<b>Boyfriend/Relationship</b>		
Yes	5	55.56
No	4	44.44
<b>Using Contraceptives</b>		
Yes	7	77.78
No	2	22.22

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**Comparison of Love and Sex**

Yes	9	100
No	0	0.00

**Events/Social Activities that lead to teenage sex**

Fiesta	2	22.22
Barkada's Birthday	2	22.22
Valentine's Day	2	22.22
No event	3	33.33

**Opinion toward sex**

Sexual pleasure/satisfaction	2	22.22
Physical attraction	4	44.44
Can bear a child (affirmation)	0	0.00
Expression of love	3	33.33
Easy job to raise money	0	0.00

**Reasons in engaging teenage sex**

Love	2	22.22
Peer Pressure	1	11.11
Curiosity	3	33.33
I want to be married to my boyfriend	2	22.22
Frequent dating	1	11.11

**Events/Social Activities that lead to teenage sex**

Fiesta	2	22.22
Barkada's Birthday	2	22.22
Valentine's Day	2	22.22
No event		

Table 1.b. shows the context of sexuality and sexual relationships. It shows that more than half of the respondents (5 or 55.55%) engaged in sex when they were from 14 - 16 years old; 5 or 55.55% of the respondents said their partners in sex are 20 years old and above; while 9 or 100% of the respondents said that they were involved only with one guy when they got pregnant. 7 or 77.78% of the respondents also affirm that their relationship with their partners are 0 - 1 year. The results implied that most of the teenage pregnant engaged in sex in the early months of the relationship. On the opinion toward sex, 44.44% of the respondents said that it is because of physical attraction, 33.33% engaged in sex as an expression of love, while 22.22% engaged in sex because sexual pleasure/satisfaction. As for the reasons in engaging teenage sex, 3 or 33.33% said out of curiosity why they engaged in such activity. Moreover, majority of the respondents (3 or 33.33%) claim that there was no event in particular that lead to teenage sex. More than half of the respondents (5 or 55.55%) affirm that boyfriend relationship is discouraged at home. When in terms of using contraceptives, 7 or 77.78% of the respondents engage in sex without the use of contraceptives. Furthermore, 9 or 100% of the respondents believe that sex also means love. This implies that when doing sex, they are expressing love to their partner.

**Table 1.c. Factors Leading to Teenage Pregnancy**

<b>Factors</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>A. Home Factors</b>		
Parents lack of supervision	3	33.33
Family violence or sexual abuse during childhood	0	0.00
Unstable housing arrangements	2	22.22
Low socio - economic background	0	0.00
Living in out of home care		
Family history of pregnancies at young age	2	22.22
	2	22.22
Low level of maternal education		
Broken family/family problem	0	0.00

	0	0.00
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**B. Environmental Factors**

Alcohol/drugs	0	0.00
TV show, movies, etc.	4	44.44
Friends (peer pressure)	2	22.22
Curiosity (experimentation)	3	33.33
Presence of prostitution in the vicinity	0	0.00

**C. Emotional Factors**

Personal gain (finance)	3	42.86
To satisfy sexual needs	4	57.14
Poor school performance and attendance	0	0.00
Low self - esteem	0	0.00
Having a mental health diagnosis	0	0.00

Based on the table 1.3. Several factors lead to teenage pregnancy. Home factors such as parents lack of supervision, 3 or 33.33% and low socio - economic background, living in out of home care and family history of pregnancies at young age, 22.22% respectively. The environment can be considered as one of the factors in teenage pregnancy such as TV show, movies, etc. 44.44% followed by curiosity (3 or 33.33%) and peer pressure (2 or 22.22%). And, one of these factors is the emotional factor where 4 or 57.14% of the respondents claim in order to satisfy their sexual needs.

**CONCLUSIONS**

Most of the that respondents' parents were mostly elementary level, earning P5,000 below monthly and most were self - employed. Most of the respondents are having basic needs when growing up.

As to context of sexuality and relationships, most of the respondents engaged in sex when they were 14 - 16 years old, with partners 20 years old and above. Because of physical attraction, expression of love, and curiosity they engaged is such activity without the use of contraceptives.

Various factors lead students to get involve in premarital sex. Home factors such as parents lack of supervision; environmental factor such as TV

show, movies and peer pressure; and emotional factor such as to satisfy the sexual needs.

### **FURTHER STUDY**

Based on the results above, pregnancy rates are higher among teenagers who live in a low socioeconomic background. It is also striking that peer pressure is prevalent among their peers and curiosity is real in engaging premarital sex. It is recommended that school, community and families must work hand in hand to shield their teenagers against these phenomena. Increases in both health and social problems are products of uncontrollable sex among teenagers. Mainly because the youth cannot control their emotional feelings, they rush into untimely sex, in the belief that the act will be undetected. Schools could try interventions to get a better point across to teens about how a child will affect their lives.

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