



1. Vol. 25 No. 5s (2021): Special Issue /

2. Articles

Influence of socio-economic factors on prevalence of teenage pregnancy in Nigeria

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Abstract

The study utilized the theory of fertility as initiated by Davis and Blakes (1956) and developed by Bongaarts in 1978 to underscore why teenage fertility has remained high in Nigeria. This study investigates women socio-economic factors influencing pregnancy in Nigeria. A total sample of 8448 female teenagers with pregnancy experiences were extracted from the 2018 Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS). The study revealed that 19% of young girls with 15-19 years have experienced teenage pregnancy in Nigeria. More importantly, the socio-economic factors with significant influence on teenage pregnancy are: respondents with age 18-19 years (33.2 percent), rural (27.2 percent), Islamic religion (25.2 percent), North-west (28.5 percent), poorest (32 percent), no educational (43.7 percent), married/living with partners (73.9 percent), employed (21.5 percent), visited any health facility in the last 12 months (42 percent) and those who were informed about family planning at a health facility (84.3 per cent) . There is need for sound education for females in Nigeria that will equip girls and women with adequate knowledge needed to make informed

decisions on matters relating to sexual and reproductive health, hence resulting in the actualization of the SDG 5. (*Afr J Reprod Health* 2021; 25[5s]: 138-146).

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