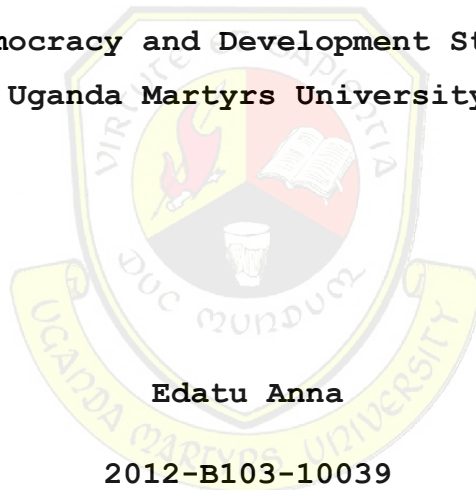


**AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHALLENGES FACED BY
TEENAGE MOTHERS**

Case Study: Otuboi Sub-County Kalaki Kaberamaido District

**A Dissertation Submitted to the Institute of
Ethics and Development Studies in Partial Fulfilment of the
Requirements for the Award of Degree of
Arts (Democracy and Development Studies) of
Uganda Martyrs University**



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DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to my beloved Husband Rev. Orono Girifansio, my children, Akiru Lilian, Idiedu Miriam, Orono Jesse Trinity, Orono David Levi, my brothers, Engitu Simon Joseph, Ekomu Sam, Olobo Amos, Opolon Emmanuel, sisters, Rose Ajiko, Alobo Faith, Amado Susan, my father and mother, Ebulu Levi, Idiedu Melda and my friends, Okello Joseph Eingu, Oriokot Aivan and Okiror Markay for their great support.

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Above all let credit, praise, glory and honor, power and strength be to our God forever, for enabling me finish this dissertation.

ACRONYMS

COU:	Government of Uganda
UNPFA:	United Nations Population Fund
HIV:	Human Immune Virus
AIDS:	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
STDs:	Sexual Transmitted Infections
NGO:	Non Governmental Organization
LRA:	Lord's Resistance Army

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ABSTRACT

The study was intended to establish the socio-economic challenges, why teenage mothers get pregnant at the early stage and appropriate intervention teenage mothers faced by teenage mothers in Otuboi Sub-County Kalaki County Kaberamaido district. The general objective was to explore the socio-economic challenges faced by teenage mothers in Otuboi sub-county, Kaberamaido district. The specific objectives were, to find out the reasons why teenage girls get pregnant, to assess the social challenges faced by teenage mothers, to establish the economic challenges faced by teenage mothers, and to give appropriate interventions for curbing teenage mother's challenges in Otuboi sub-county.

The study adopted a cross-sectional design and data were collected from a sample of 64 respondents out of 100 targeted respondents through questionnaire methods. The findings showed that a majority of the respondents were between the age bracket of 12-18 years and this was because most of them would want to venture on sexual activity hence making them not able to handle pregnancies increasing the death rate of teenage mothers.

The study revealed early pregnancy has the major hindrance to girl child education, highly caused by peer influence, coupled by diseases such as malaria, lack of access to productive assets like Land, Lack of financial resources, and lack of trust to control resources like income, business, Low education, unemployment and poverty. Sexual abuse like rape, defilement, peer pressure, Exposure to television, love of boyfriends [love for money], and lack of parental sex education, harsh treatment of girls, poverty, and cultural norms among others. Among those who end back to school, payment of fees by their parents, themselves or by their husbands proved to be the main challenge, socially and economically affected the teenage mothers. Majority of the teenage mothers had negative attitude towards early motherhood.

The study concludes that majority of the teenage mothers failed to revive their aspirations; they are dedicating most of their efforts on taking care of their children. The study recommends that the government, NGOs, community and families should dedicate efforts to address the challenges facing teenage mothers in society.

CHAPTER ONE

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

The study intended to look at challenges that teenage mothers face right from the conception of their child and after they give birth. The motivation for this study arose from the personal observation the researcher made among teenage mothers at Kaberamaido Otuboi Sub-County. The researcher's village was no exception to this problem, and was prompted to investigate the matter further in order to find out the challenges teenage mothers face as they go back to schools and those teenage mothers who fail to go back to school and is also supported by various researchers, who studied topics related about teenage mothers.

1.2 Background of the problem

A teenage mother denotes a person between 13-19 years of age. That is, a girl whose age has not yet reached legal adulthood who begins to bear children or become pregnant. Most people become sexually active before their twentieth century birthday, with 49% of girls marry before they turn 18 years. 10% to 40% young unmarried girls have had an intended pregnancy and 14 million children worldwide are born every year to young married and unmarried women aged 15-19 years. According to the Uganda National Adolescent policy (2011), young women become sexually active at the age of 10-19 years, when expected to be busy in class preparing for their future and participating in the development of the country.

Teenage pregnancy, resulting under normal circumstances into teenage motherhood is and has been a social and health problem

in many industrialized countries; this is an issue that needs to be addressed (Shaw, Lawlor & Najman, 2006). According to Vinnerjung, Franzen and Danielsson (2007), the United States of America (USA) has the highest teenage birth rate per 1000 women (52,1%) aged between 15-19 years, when compared to other developed countries, followed by the United Kingdom in Europe (30,8%), Canada (20,2%) and Australia (18,4%). In many social democratic countries an increase in teenage motherhood has been found to be associated with the existence of an elaborated welfare system, for example, in the USA, it has been reported that approximately one-half of teenage mothers go on welfare within one year of birth and 77% within five years of birth (Makiwane, Desmond, Ritcher & Udjo, 2006). According to Carter and Spear (2002), teenage motherhood continues to be a community health problem warranting attention, especially in the rural areas.

Historically, teenage childbearing was a common, non-problematic feature of social life with well-established, coherent cultural traditions for guiding new mothers in the skills and meanings of parenting. It was only with industrialization that adolescence emerged as a distinct life stage in which youth were prepared through formal education to select an identity from a range of opportunities. In the industrialized world, teenage childbearing is now believed to jeopardize the trajectory to adulthood by interrupting education, thereby curbing success in the labor market and ultimately leading to the persistent poverty associated with welfare assistance or low-skill jobs (Smith and Lee, 2000).

Globally, about 16 million of teenage girls become mothers every year, teenage mothers account for more than 30 births per minute (WHO, 2009). This is despite the significant drop in teenage pregnancies in most countries in the past 20 to 30 years. The regional average rate of births per 1000 women aged

13-19 years, is 115 in Africa, 75 in Latin America and the Caribbean, and 39 in Asia, compared to the world average teenage fertility rate of 54 births per 1 000 women aged 15-19 years (WHO, 2009). Girls under the age of 15 years account for 2 million of the 7.3 million births to all girls under the age of 18 years every year in developing countries. According to DHS surveys, 3 per cent of young women in developing countries say they give birth before age 15 (UNFPA, 2013). Incidence of very early childbearing (i.e. giving birth by the age of 15), while not as common, is substantial in several countries.

In Uganda, many women begin childbearing in their teenage years. Overall, 23% of women aged 12-18 years are pregnant or already have children. Young women living in Kaberamaido are younger to begin childbearing in their teenage years. Teenage pregnancy and motherhood are more common among young women living in rural areas and those from poorer families. Among Ugandan young women aged 12-18 years, their age-specific fertility rate is 116 births per 1 000 women (UDHS, 2010).

Child bearing is a crucial period of human development. However, child bearing for teenage mothers might have serious consequences on their livelihood. It can limit educational attainment, restrict the skills young women acquire for the workforce, limit their capacity to support themselves financially, negatively affect their healthy, and reduce their quality of life. Moreover, their families may disown teenage mothers who gave birth before marriage since virginity is still considered important to a first marriage. Therefore, many are left with the responsibility of raising the children themselves that lead to prostitution among these abandoned teenage mother. Besides these challenges, school girls are not allowed to attend school when they are pregnant; therefore, many of them might perform illegal abortion, which can cost their life so as to remain at school.

Medically, teenage mothers are at a risk of obstetric complications since their pelvises are not yet well developed. Other complications include, prolonged labor, still birth, hemorrhage, maternal distress and fistulae. A fistula is a condition where perforations between the vagina and the bladder result into continuous loss of urine and feces which does not only torment the woman's life but leads to rejection by husbands and society, (GOU-UNFPA gender project (2007). These young mothers suffer from diseases such as malaria, Typhoid, Anemia to mention. About 45% of the teenage mothers choose to have abortion as soon as they discover they are pregnant. Unfortunately, may die in the process.

In Africa, for example, the teenage mothers who return to school are laughed at by fellow students because of their state and are ridiculed in front of classmates when they do not satisfy the class requirements. Journal of education for international Development (September, 2011) There is also domestic physical violence as indicated by (2004) report of African Health Science, Makerere medical school on experiences of pregnant adolescent's voices from Wakiso District. Besides that, some of the teenage mothers are overworked with domestic chores and have little food to eat yet their condition requires good feeding (Kaberamaido District welfare and probation report, 2012).

Economically, teenage mothers are affected with challenges, some of which include drop out of school, leading them to attain little or low quality education ending up into unemployment, low or poor standard of living. Those who get engaged in small scale business, their incomes are controlled by their parents or those men who abuse them sexually (child protection unit Kaberamaido district central police station report, 2013). There has been no systematic study conducted on

these challenges in the area of study and little information is provided pertaining these challenges.

1.2 Problem statement

Globally, there are too many challenges faced by teenage mothers, that is, Teenage parents are often excluded from education, training and employment, particularly when they are already socially disadvantaged (Harden *et al.*, 2006). At the age when most of their peers are working towards further and higher education and a future career, teenage mothers can find them left behind. A Lack of family support and poor education can leave them socially isolated, dependent on benefit and constrained by the responsibilities of caring for child alone (Evanse and Slowley, 2010). Hallan (2007) said that, mothers under the age of 20 are youth women who are faced with multiple difficulties, childhood poverty and lack of academic success at school and temporary low pay work, making it more difficult for both of them and their children to escape long term poverty. Because teenage mothers often lack work experience, educational skills, and job training, they are less competitive in the labor market. As a result, a large number of teenage mothers are disproportionately poor, depend on public assistance to support themselves economically. Married or not married teen mothers quickly find themselves marginalized, they are expected to remain at home to take care of their children and have virtually no avenue for continued personal growth. Teen mothers felt alienated from the interests and concerns of their age mates who are not parents (Mayzer, 2013).

According to the Kaberamaido District Welfare and Probation Report, (2008), 35% of the girls of Kaberamaido district dropped out of school to look after their siblings because the parents were killed by LRA rebels or were forced into marriages or got pregnant because of curiosity to find what

sex is. Despite the vulnerability of teenage mothers, in Kaberamaido, few programs are dedicated to support teenage mothers to come out of their challenges, though trainings have been conducted on education and career aspiration of their future. However, no research has been conducted to establish the magnitude of the challenges faced by teenage mothers in Otuboi Sub-County in Kaberamaido district. It is against that background, that the researcher had taken the initiative to study the socio-economic challenges faced by teenage mothers in Otuboi Sub-County as a case study area.

1.3. General Objective

To explore the socio-economic challenges faced by teenage mothers in Otuboi sub-county, Kaberamaido district.

1.4. Specific Objectives

1. To find out the reasons why teenage girls become mothers in Otuboi sub-county.
2. To assess the social challenges faced by teenage mothers in Otuboi Sub-County.
3. To establish the economic challenges faced by teenage mothers in Otuboi Sub-County.
4. To give appropriate interventions for curbing teenage mothers socio-economic challenges in Otuboi sub-county.

1.5 Research Questions

- I. What are the causes of teenage pregnancy?
- II. What are the social and economic challenges faced by teenage mothers in Otuboi Sub-County?
- III. What are the perceptions of the society towards teenage mothers?

IV. What are the interventions for curbing teenage mothers socio-economic challenges in Otuboi sub-county

1.6 Justification/Significance of the study

Given the increasing challenges encountered by young people especially teenage mothers, it's imperative that the study be done to establish the magnitude of the problem in the Sub-county.

The results of the study would be used in designing appropriate interventions for curbing the problems of teenage mothers in Otuboi sub-county- Kaberamaido district.

The research would also provide secondary data importantly for future researchers in the area and world over.

This study if carried out can come up with findings which may guide policy makers, planners in forging ways of improving the situation.

If this study is not carried out, it may not be easy to establish the magnitude of the problem. Otuboi sub-County may not see it as a problem and so may tend to under look and not budget for teenage mothers or not give teenage mother's opportunity for empowerment hence making the teenage mothers continue to suffer.

In conclusion, this chapter covers the background of the study, problem statement, General objectives of the study, specific objectives and finally significances of the study. Meaning that the background of the problem was outlined, followed by the main objective and specific objectives of the study and lastly, the significance of the problem was discussed to highlight why this study is important. Thou several studies have been conducted on teenage pregnancy and teenage motherhood in Sub Saharan Africa with a focus to identify dominant practices which influence this social

economic challenges. Poverty has been often reported as the main reason for teenage pregnancies in these developing countries. Many interventions have focused on building hostels and provision of food or bursary support for schoolgirls in order to rescue them from the challenge (Kiluvia, 2011). However, less has been studied on what happened to a teenager who becomes mothers. This study aims at exploring the socio-economic challenges faced by teenage mothers in Otuboi Sub-County.

Figure 1: Conceptual Frame work

Dependent Variables

- Social Economic Factors
- Poor Infrastructures
- Traditional Norms and Government policies

Independent Variables

- Improvement on Health Facilities like Hospitals and schools
- Luck of parental support
- Luck of ownership/property ownership

Intervening Variables

- Parental care to the young ones
- Guidance and counseling is needed
- Supportive programs like vocational training and skill building for Income generating activities

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

Teenage mother

According to researchers, a teenage mother denotes a person between 13-19 years of age. Teenage mother is a girl who has not yet reached legal adulthood, she begins to bear children or become pregnant usually within the age of 12-18 years which ages vary across the world. According to the Ugandan constitution [2005].

Teenage pregnancy

According to the world Population Day Report [2008], teenage pregnancy is a pregnancy among girls between the ages of 13-19.

Adolescent

The term is defined as any person aged 10-19, in the group of adolescent there are three levels, a child, teenager and youth. A child is any person under age of 18 years, while a teenager is defined depending on the puberty age, mostly between 13-19 years. And youth is a person between 15 to 24 years (Maro, 2011).

Aspiration. The word aspiration is "a desire or ambition to achieve something". The word thus signifies some aim or target and a desire or wish to attain that goal. The meaning also suggests, rather implicitly, that some effort would be exerted to realize the desired aim/target (Bernard and Taffese, 2012). According to Sherwood (1989), Aspirations have two distinctive aspects. First, they are future oriented; they can only be satisfied at some future time. This distinguishes them from 9 immediate gratifications.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introductions

This section of the study contains review and critical analysis of the existing documented information related to the topic under study which was exploring the socio-economic challenges faced by teenage mothers in Otuboi Sub-County Kaberamaido district. Intended to find out the reasons why teenage mothers get pregnant, assess socio challenges and establish the economic challenges faced by teenage mothers, and give appropriate interventions for curbing those challenges in Otuboi Sub-County Kaberamaido district.

2.1: why teenage mothers get pregnant in Otuboi Sub-County

According to Wright and Randall, [2013], on their study of parental communication about sex and the association between exposure to television and Pregnant/Teen Mom and female students' pregnancy-risk behavior, said that there was no relationship between mothers and the effects of sexual media on their daughters' sexual behaviors; conversely, there was a correlation with fathers. Teenage girls who watched the televisions often had an increased engagement` in sexual intercourse; though frequent viewing was associated with a decreased probability of having engaged in recent intercourse for females whose fathers often communicated about sex with them while growing up. Wright, et. al. (2013, p. 50). Like Ditsela and Van Dyk (2011) presented that lack of parental support is related to risky sexual behavior.

Experiences show some forms of discrimination like suspension of girls from class (Ministry of Education, 2000). Although it may be illegal to refuse pregnant girls an opportunity to complete their schooling, since education is their human right

(UNESCO 2003), authors like Wolpe et al (1997), lamented that some school committees in South Africa like Uganda are often unwilling to allow the girls to continue attending classes for fear that they may contaminate other girls and encourage them to become pregnant.

Grant and Hallman [2006] report, situations relating to pregnancies and schooling disturbances are inevitably associated with societal problems ranging from ignorance, moral collapse and public ignorance about early menarche to the sexual abuses of powerless female adolescents.

According to Grant and Hallman (2006), the birth of a baby marks the end of schooling for the teen mothers. Due to factors that influence whether or not a teen mother is able to continue schooling after the birth of the baby. These factors depend on the girls' ability to manage logistics and finances associated with mothering and schooling simultaneously. In the 2000 Commission on Gender Equity report, a number of complaints received from pregnant learners concerning the manner in which their schools treated them harshly.

Dilworth, (2001), reported that the reasons why teenage women become pregnant or give birth are difficult to categorize, however, he said, the rise in rates of teenage motherhood in South Africa was due to the fact that more teenagers were sexually active, were using less contraception, or an individual had a desire to become pregnant. And estimated 12% of boys 13% of girls had sexual intercourse by ages 14 or 15. Poverty, school achievement and self-esteem, lack of opportunity and socioeconomic disadvantage significantly contributes to teen age pregnancy and motherhood. Poverty can be both the consequences and the causes of teenage pregnancy and childbearing. For teen pregnancy is highly correlated with living in poverty, teens living in poverty were more likely to

get pregnant than teens who do not, also teen parents often had lower lifetime earnings and more social problems throughout life. Motherhood for teens represented an acceptable solution that would compensate for a life of moral, family, social hardship and psychological challenge.

Researchers like Cavazos-Rehg, et. al. (2013) of US, also looked at teenagers' attitudes about adolescent pregnancy. And found that 16% of the girls who were sexually active, were pleased, 11% a little pleased, 5% very pleased if they became pregnant. They found a correlation between the pleased attitude towards pregnancy and prior pregnancy, and also a relationship between young women's attitudes toward pregnancy and their parents. As Girls discussed sexual health.

Agency for cooperation and research in development [ACORD] and Defense in International, [2007] reported that, 30% of women who return from abduction had become mothers as a consequence of sexual violence and without proper financial, physical and emotional support for themselves and their children; they failed to return to school.

Sexual abuse was and is one of the challenges affecting girls and women because they are particularly vulnerable to sexual violence including rape, sexual mutilation, forced prostitution and forced pregnancy. As a result, there was/ is increased risk of exposure to sexually transmitted diseases, such as HIV/AIDS [Agatha Christine, 1994].

2.2: The assessed social challenges faced by teenage mothers

According to Larok, [2000] stigma and discrimination are particularly the strong consequences of teen pregnancies that disrupts the feelings and education of the youths. In Otuboi sub-county, this is paired with improper educational support for teenage girls who returned home pregnant, with children, compromised education of girl child, culcating a culture of

negativity towards girl child education leading them to lose hope. Attending school is still important in Uganda, early pregnancies, forced marriages, formal education always manifests as inaccessible goal. Even The children who are able to pursue their professional desire for education, the quality of instruction hinders their performance. According to Machel, [1993] psychologically, children are exposed to situations of terror when they are disowned.

According to Machel (1996) teenage motherhood had particular effect on children because they were forced to develop within contexts of permanent social economic challenge. Experiences like these, left enduring impacts in the life of teenage mothers. Disruption of their future lives led to high rates of depression and anxiety. These impacts might be prolonged by exposures to further privations and violence in married relationship situations and are vulnerable to abuses. According to the United Nations study on children in early pregnancies.

In regard to Michel, [2001] of London, the teenage motherhood challenges had created additional negative feelings in their education especially when pregnant, defiled or raped, returning to school was and is challenging that some teens were unable to overcome. Often these young people were oldest in their respective classes, which resulted in low self-esteem, teasing and poor performance rates in school.

Here, Machel and other researchers urged that teenagers in situations of institutionally structured violence generally experienced higher than usual levels of fear, anxiety, insecurity and aggressiveness. They frequently had difficulties in expressing themselves corporally or emotionally, often experienced nightmares, chronic head and stomach aches and regressive behaviors like crying. This is true.

Pillow (2004), found that many teen mothers return to school because of their babies, they are determined to complete schooling for the sake of their babies. However, the girls sometimes found it difficult in coping with schooling attributed to their babies also to the fact that educators and parents often give up on them and fail to take their plans seriously once the girls had children (Schultz, 2001:598). This shows that both pregnancy and parenting are the leading reasons girls give for dropping out of school.

Typically adolescent mothers are characterized as having poor family structures, lack of social support and elevated rates of stress that raises the risk of postpartum depression (Lanzi, et. al., 2009, p.200), mental health counselors, professionals, as well as other school and community resources, help with Social support, they can act as a stress-buffers, which can have a positive effect on the mental health and parental behaviors of the teen parent. These behaviors may include staying in school or using more positive parenting practices, As a result, this has positively impacted the development of mother-child relationship harboring the future of teenage mothers. (Lanzi, et. al., 2009, p.200).

According to Poole et al, [2006], sexual abuse exposed [s] girl children to sexually transmitted diseases like HIV/AIDS], gonorrhoea, unwanted pregnancy, often during abduction, forced marriages, prostitution and as a result, they die when giving birth or poor medical treatment leading to increased infant mortality rate and maternal death rates. According to Uganda Human Right Network, [2008], isolation and rejection determine the response of loss as punishment for wrong doing; girls recognize that people around them are sad.

Finally, Lain (2007), Teenage motherhood had led to the family breakdown that is generational. This is in line with Chevalier and Viitanen, (2001) of South Africa who said that, teenage

motherhood as imposed long term consequences on the career development transmitting poverty from generation to generation, youth crimes like drug addiction and alcohol, incidences of unwanted and unintended pregnancies, increased risks of child bearing and incidences of increased sexually transmitted affections continues from generation to generation. I agree with them for the case of Otuboi Sub County. If this study is not conducted, the situation will be worse.

2.3: The established economic challenges faced by teenage mothers.

According to Chevalier and Virtanen (2001), teenage motherhood reduces the chances of post compulsory schooling by 12% to 24% and the long term consequences are imposed on the career development of the young mother, leading to transmitting of poverty from generation to generation. And policies to prevent these long term consequences of teenage motherhood would focus on to help teenage mothers to succeed in their education.

More so, continuing with schooling for teen mothers may sometimes be an unyielding burden, more especially for those living in unstable home environments. Due to over whelming number of difficulties like parental and peer pressures are far more common than support and understanding. Mature, adult decisions are required of emotionally pressured adolescents. For managing to care for an infant and devoting adequate time to school work is a great challenge for the teen parents (Arlington public school, 2004).

Pillow (2004), discovers the discourses surrounding teen mothering and effects they have on educational experiences, for example, discourse of education as a responsibility based on argument that obtaining education is not a right to teenage mothers but something that teen mothers owe the society if

they are not to be welfare dependent and a burden to the taxpayers.

In many situations, teenage mothers are subjected to greater risks of socio-economic disadvantages throughout their lives than those who delay childbearing until their twenties. They are generally less educated and tend to have beggar families, and have high levels of extra-marital unwanted births (McDowell, 2003). In addition, Chevalier and Virtanen, (2004), urged that the negative impact of teen motherhood on various adult outcomes is not due to some pre-motherhood characteristics. Promoting this study would lead to policies that encourage a return to school and participation in the labor market as an efficient way to reduce the long-term consequences of teenage pregnancies.

Furthermore, Parenting as an adolescent increases the teenagers stress level, especially if that pregnancy is unwanted or unintended. Research has shown that being a teen parent can be stressful due to educational disruptions, being unprepared for parenthood, disruption in their life plans, sudden monetary burden, realization that the teen will have a lifelong connection with parents ending the relationship with the other parent (East, et. al., 2012). This is true; the consequences of teenage pregnancy lead the teen mothers to regret for their children's well-being. This indicated that, some young women adjusted to parenting especially those who self-reported their pregnancy as highly wanted and intended. And those who evaluated their pregnancies as highly unintended and unwanted appeared to experience an initial problematic adaption to parenting.

Dilworth (2000) and other researchers said, young mothers face a life of poverty, have lower levels of education and have less opportunity in workplace than non-parenting teens

According to Fredericton (2000), the costs of adolescent parenthood for society are numerous. Teen mother's education often is interrupted or terminated, leading to a loss or reduction in future earning power and a life of poverty. Young parents are always criticized and blamed for causing adult poverty, welfare dependence. These beliefs are ultimately very harmful because, they obscured the important fact that teen mothers tend to be overwhelmingly poor even before they get pregnant. Also these beliefs lead to the creation of policies that may punish the teen mothers when they are already facing the hardships contributing to living in poverty, unreliable child care, inadequate housing and lack of health care.

BN. Saint John (2000) said, economically, a number of teen pregnancies are as result of rape, incest, violence and long term poverty which is multiply faced by most individuals and families that are vulnerable to long term poverty leading to low income depriving teen mothers an opportunity to develop their capabilities, having a lack of financial resources to make choices that is necessary for life. For example, women with low incomes cannot afford to pay child care, food and housing.

Andrew Heinz (1980-2000), evaluated the census in Canada between groups who are at a risk of low income and lone-parent families. Out of 27 censuses, 7.3% lone-parent families, 19.3% of low income population by 1980 and in 2000, 46.6% to 54.2% of lone-parent families and 62% to 62.4% of low income population were vulnerable teen mothers. Those teen mothers who get employed are trapped in jobs that offer little or low pay in the end them receive training on job and afford skills-upgrading courses to help them get out of their predicament. They Lack capital and networks that are found key to getting ahead in life, like, Bonding network and family, friends of the same social and economic background brings strong and

critical representation in finding jobs and advancing ones' career.

And Dilworth (2005) reported that bonding network was important to the people of the neighborhood. The children of the teen mothers would attend school were they face social exclusion. As a group they stick together and kids from the neighborhood who are not being cared for by their parents are fed, clothed and looked after by other neighbors. Everyone knows everyone, friends look after friends and the children of friends.

Some of the young mothers do not own property, those who engaged in small scale business face challenges of husbands or relatives controlling their incomes [2013] report from child protection unit Kaberamaido district central police station.

Briggs [2005] said that negative perceptions of girls who had been sexually abused in Africa led [s]to damage of social values and customary practices especially due to forced marriages since they are forced to engage in sexual activity for fear of being punished, this kind of perception makes girls to look at education as something of no value since they are damaged sexually and stigma limits or retards their studies and development.

Women's commission for refugee women and children, [2003], reported that although the government of Uganda has put in place programs for education like UPC for girl child in Uganda, accessibility of education for girls has been limited, even individuals are unable to find a school, instability, lack of resources result into overcrowded conditions and difficulties in attaining education and development.

2.4: The given interventions for curbing teen motherhood challenges.

According, Ettinger, (2001), the outlook for teen mother with educational deficiencies and employment barriers is not good, the teen mothers need help in all areas of career preparation, academic, vocational education, employability and life skills development to help them overcome the difficulties that hinder their success to adulthood.

Chevalier and Virtanen, (2000), the teen mothers challenge consequences transmitted poverty from generation to generation. It would thus appear that policies preventing the long term consequences of teenage motherhood be focused to help teen mothers succeed in life.

According to the researcher, some teachers and parents were not sure how to handle teen mothers at school and at home. This is unfortunate as it is assumed that teachers and parents would support and encourage the teen mothers to deal with their situations, making them learn as people with special needs.

Some teachers and parents see teenage motherhood as a private issue, none of their concern and treated teenage mothers as other students or persons. Chegona, (2007) added that teachers and parents needs to know guidance and counseling and training skills so as to teach teenage mothers to gain self-esteem and self-confidence.

Dilworth (2001), supported Olivia (2000) that parents are not keen to organize counseling for their daughters when they return to school or to live in the community for they do not want to publish the situation of teen mothers. But they make decisions on behalf of their pregnant children in society. To them parents and teachers needed to provide proper training,

guidance and make lessons and time available for teen mothers to succeed in life.

The negative challenges affected the teen mothers' feelings, making them frustrated and unable to pursue their ambitions or future, resulting to poor performance, poverty, unemployment. With counseling the teen mothers would be able to face fellow students, teachers, parents and people without being emotionally hurt and become overwhelmed with situations.

Teachers and parents needed to equip teenage mothers with life skills which would enable them to live better lives and have knowledge about teen motherhood in order to support them if they are to complete school.

The researchers also said that, there are preventive measures that can also be taken to decrease the likelihood of teenage pregnancy. In addition to encouraging parents to develop a strong relationship and have open communication about sex and contraceptives with their teenagers, as mentioned earlier, schools can do several things. For example, Bausch (2011, page 617) suggested school to consider including in their programs and policies that serve teens and their families, the State-of-the-art, evidence-based sex education that gives students knowledge, attitudes, skills, and motivation to avoid teen pregnancy, Youth development activities that build on student assets and enhance their self-identities and future aspirations, Enhancement of school connectedness, Linking students to reproductive health services, either in school clinics or in community, Linking students to mental health and social services and Providing parents education, helping them to develop skills to share their values with their children and teach them to avoid pregnancy.

Cavazos-Rehg, et. al. (2013) also said, educating students, prior to pregnancy, the potential loss of educational and financial opportunities. The researchers acknowledged that

doing this may not be as beneficial for some groups, like low income and minority girls until barriers to educational and economic opportunities are alleviated. (Cavazos-Rehg, et. al.,2013, p.475).

In conclusion, the results of the study showed that, the teen mothers need help in all areas of career preparation, academic, vocational education, employability and life skills development to help them overcome the difficulties that hinder their success to adulthood. Teachers and parents needs to know guidance and counseling and training skills so as to teach teenage mothers to gain self-esteem and self-confidence. I agree with the researchers above, Parents are not keen to organize counseling for their daughters when they return to school or to live in the community for they do not want to publish the situation of teen mothers.

thus, making the study very important to the policy makers, government understand the relevance on taking care of teenage mothers in the community and in particular Otuboi Sub-County in Kaberamaido District.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0. Introduction

This chapter contains the methodology and procedures utilized to conduct this study as well as the delineated area and site. In addition, data collection tools and analysis are explained, enhanced by a description of the instruments' construction. Finally, ethical considerations as well as the validity and reliability of the study are expounded.

3.1 Research Design

The qualitative research approach was employed to comprehend and explore the challenges faced by teenage mothers in Otuboi Sub-County; this was gleaned from the teenage mothers. Qualitative research is a method of inquiry which aims to gather in-depth understanding of human behavior, it investigates the why, and how question (Creswell, 2003). A qualitative approach was used because the researcher wanted to grasp the teenage mothers' socio-economic challenges first hand, so the optimum way was personal involvement from within their natural setting (Bailey, 1994), unlike using a quantitative approach where you cannot make follow up questions direct to the response of the participant because it has close ended questions. Through qualitative approach the researcher produced findings beyond the immediate boundaries of the study (Denzin & Lincoln, 2000).

A case study was conducted as a basis for identifying and understanding the challenges faced by these mothers in Otuboi Sub-County Kaberamaido district. According to Thomas (2011), case studies are analyses of persons, events, decisions, periods, projects, institutions, or other systems that are studied holistically by one or more methods. Case studies

provide an understanding of why the instance happened as it did, and what might become important to look at more intensively in future.

3.2 Area of study

The research was conducted in Otuboi Sub-County, Kalaki County, and Kaberamaido district in the Eastern part of Uganda on the subset of selected midwives, teachers, teenage mothers and parents. The researcher chose Kaberamaido district and particularly Otuboi Sub-County because she comes from the area and a resident of the place, which reduced on the costs in carrying out the study. The other reason was that the researcher observed some of the challenges that the teenage mothers faced since she lived with them in the area.

3.3 Targeted population

The study population comprise of teen mothers, these are the most vulnerable group of people whose standard of living has been reduced to socio-economic challenges affecting them. Otuboi Sub-County is one among the six sub-Counties of Kalaki County, which include, Bululu Sub-County, Kakure Sub-County, Anyara Sub-County, Apapai sub-county, Kalaki Sub-County. With Otuboi Sub-County where the research was done has a population of about 5.541 people of which $\frac{3}{4}$ of the population comprises of the youths from whom were interviewed in order to get relevant information about the topic. Among other interviewed clusters were midwives, teachers and parents.

3.4 sample area

In relation to the study population, the researcher had targeted a total population of 100 respondents, out of that the accessible population included forty respondents who are teen mothers, 20 out of school, 20 in school, these respondents were children of age 12- 18 year, Ten parents,

four teachers and two midwives and are residents of Otuboi villages of, Opilitok- Abia village, Lwala village, Adiye-Amoru village and Ojukot village. Some key information was collected from local government officials of whom have been involved in the study. The households targeted were the Teenage headed family households, female headed households and male headed households.. The essence of caring out this kind of selection was to get an understanding of the study of the socio- economic challenges faced by teenage mothers in Sub-County.

3.5 Sampling

Out of 100 people in the four parishes, the study sampled sixty six used for the study. This sampling was random sampling were each one of the respondents was given opportunity without favoring. The sampling was used due to respondents having the same features this eased data collection. Castillo (2009) urges that an unbiased random selection is important in drawing conclusions from the results of the study. This is reasonable to generalize the results of the sample back to the population.

3.6 The reason for respondent's selection.

Grouping for respondents	Reasons for selection of respondents
Teenage Mothers	They were persons who could explain the causes of teenage pregnancies, they have experience of the challenges of early pregnancies and they give firsthand information hindering their access to education, employment, resource ownership to mention.
The Midwives	They work in antenatal section for teenage mothers and they are more involved in the management of teenage mothers during delivery, care and counseling.
Teachers	They have direct contact with students at school including teenage mothers and they are more involved in the management of teenage mothers after delivery when they rejoin school.
Parents	They are the one who have produced the teenage mothers.

This selection above was guided by the Resiliency Model to investigate the socio-economic challenges faced by teenage mothers in Otuboi Sub-County. According to Gonzales (2003) as cited by McGaha (2012), there are three main elements that are essential to characterizing resilient youth: (a) risk factors, (b) protective factors, and (c) personal characteristics. In this study, socio economic challenges such as role of taking care of the child, stigma, financial credits, family structure and financial status are independent variable.

3.6 Data Collection methods and Instruments

According to Koul [1998, 2000], an instrument is a tool or technique used to collect particular data and must be

dependable and reliable. In this study questionnaire was used to collect data. Questionnaires were designed regarding the topic with instructions clearly explained on how to answer the questions. This method was good also in helping confidentiality and personal questions were answered faithfully. It also allowed the respondents to consult from each other. Proctor (2000) affirms this method saying that questionnaires reduce biasness. And the opinion of the researcher would not influence the respondents to answer questions correctly. The researcher preferred to use Questionnaires because they are effective, efficient and left room for respondents to freely view their opinions. Very convenient and covered larger areas within a relative short time. And they are sensitive to issues that are not meant to be disclosed like names.

The questions helped guide the researcher in both the primary and secondary data collection. Primarily, a group of 20 teenage mothers at school and 20 teenage mothers out of school were interviewed. The interviews encouraged two way communications between the researcher and respondents to follow up as a way of exploring the challenges faced by teenage mothers but made sure they remained focused on the main objective of the study in order to address specific objectives. 1 (to find out reasons why teenage mothers get pregnant), 2 (assess the socio challenges faced by teenage mothers), (establish the economic challenges faced by teenage mothers) and (give interventions for curbing those challenges faced by teenage mothers in Otuboi Sub-County Kaberamaido district).semi-structured interviews with teenage mothers were conducted.

Secondarily, data was collected from significant books, journals, publications, reports and articles from the library and internet. Some of which had relevant stories to the study

area, and helped the researcher to get rich information that catered for the time scope set for the study.

3.7 Authorization to carry out research

The researcher accessed a letter from the university authority at the department of Ethics and Development Studies. This letter introduced the researcher to the chairperson LC three Otuboi sub-county, the in charge of the two health centers in the sub-county, the head teachers of the secondary schools, chairpersons LC ones of the parishes under the study.

3.8 Data analysis

The data analysis was done by editing the data, parching the data together and finally analyzing the data through tables or frequency distribution. The researcher made relevant comparisons to check whether there were mistakes in the completion of questionnaires by editing the row data immediately in order to avoid forgetting to correct mistakes if noticed. A descriptive method was used to interpret and describe the data obtained from questionnaire under qualitative research approach Also this was based on the objectives of the study, based on the categorized various responses in the study.

3.9 Ethical considerations

The researcher bore in mind the interests of the teenage mothers in the study. Ensured strict confidentiality and all respondents were informed clearly on the purpose of the study prior confidentiality and their consent to participate.

The researcher explained clearly the intentions of the study to the respondents and promised them that the information would be kept confidential and will be used for the purpose of the study.

Rightful procedures were also used to collect data that the researcher needed. First the researcher obtained the introductory letter from the Uganda Martyrs University department of Ethics and Development administrator which she presented to the Sub-County Chief of Otuboi Sub-County.

3.10. Challenges anticipated by the researcher

The biggest challenge during the research was the unwillingness of the respondents to give information. This was done by the researcher persuading the respondents to give relevant data and the researcher had to motivate respondents to release information.

Language was one of the challenges the researcher encountered during data collection. The respondents new the local language "Ateso and Kumam", yet the questionnaires were designed in English, so, translation of questionnaire from English to Ateso was a solution to this challenge.

Financial problem when conducting the study was a challenge and the time frame that is, beating the deadline was another challenge. Data collection was expensive for the student and the local people sometimes expected money from the researcher. Also the parishes covered in the study are distanced from each other. This was costly to connect and the means of transport. However, the researcher solved the problem of inadequate funding by soliciting for financial support from parents, well-wishers, guardian husband who helped to support the researcher.

There was also challenge of respondents becoming non-responsive or felt threatened or embarrassed due to the nature of the research problem. This was however solved by the researchers' explanations of the research problem.

There was delay in submission due to the range of issues that the questionnaires would cover in the study, transitions, and

natural hazards. However, this challenge was solved through the researcher's driving force; attitude and life at job after the studies was key motivating factor

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION OF FINDINGS

4.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the findings, interpretation, and discussion of the data obtained about the socio economic challenges faced by teenage mothers in Otuboi sub county, Kalaki County, Kaberamaido district and caution is needed in attaching importance to the figures, numbers, especially percentages given in tables and figures because of the small samples used in the study. Also the names used in this study when analyzing data were not real names of respondents but are synonyms.

Background information

4.1. Age Range

According to the study, the age of the respondents was from 12-18 years represented 36 frequency of 66.7%, other age groups were deemed necessary by the researcher when carrying the study, like, 19-25 years represented the frequency of 4 with 7.4% , 26 years above were respondent's frequency of 14[25.9%]. This showed that the greatest age group of teenage mothers with multiple challenges in Otuboi sub-County is those between the ages of 12-18 years, because they are the most vulnerable age group in society. The research also reveal that teenage mothers between 12 and 18 years are disturbed by age of adolescent, that is, one grows with a lot of physical and intensive development of sexual organs. The adolescent seeks their gratification of relating to the opposite sex and actually indulging into sex.

Table 4.1: showing marital status of respondents (teenage mothers out of school)

Responses	Frequency	Percentage %
Singles [not married]	08	40
Married	02	10
Cohabiting	10	50
Total	20	100.0

The table above reveals that 10 (50%) of the respondents are cohabiting, 8 (40%) of respondents are singles [not married] and 2 (10%) of respondents are married. This shows that the highest number of teenage mothers is being cohabited. The findings during research was that that teenage mothers were being cohabited because at that time when one produced men who pregnant them would not be willing to take them as wives. Some their parents rejected them and chased them out of home, they move to small centers where they would wish to get men who can give them support. For example, one respondent 'A' of Opilitok Abia village [May 2016] reported, 'I had to find my level to the center in search for support were someone came my way when Parents chased me'.

The findings on the singles (not married) teenage mothers was reported that some of the teen mothers got pregnant with teen boys who are not ready for marriage, deny the pregnancies and they continue with their studies. Some respondents said, some teen mothers tried married but since they are young, they are immature to handle marriage challenges so they come back home to their parents. Some are reported refused studies due to guilt and shame of pregnancy, in fear for another embarrassment try to wait for proper marriage.

To the married teens represented 2[10], the respondents said, some of them got married to mature men who are responsible.

Some respondents also reported that some teen mothers got married out of cultural norms, some their parents failed to pay their fees, and some lost their parents. For example, one respondent 'C' of Adiyeh parish said, 'my parents passed on when I in primary left me with no one to continue paying my school fees so married was the solution.'

Table 4.2: showing educational status of respondents out of school

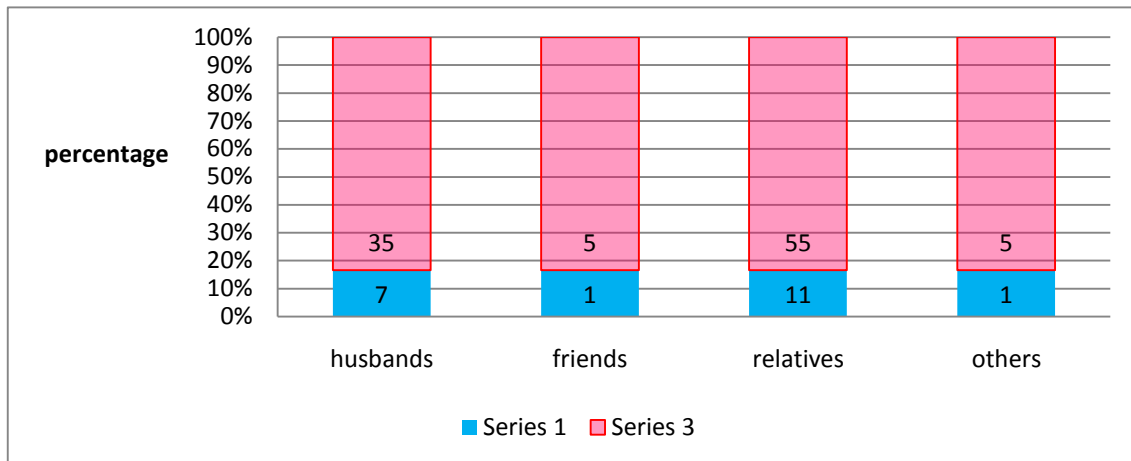
Responses	Frequency	Percentage %
Primary	10	50
Ordinary	08	40
Advance	00	00
Tertiary	02	10
Total	20	100.0

In the study the research revealed that the majority of the respondents were in Primary with 10 (50%) represented teenage mothers who stopped in primary, they were closely followed by teenage mothers who remained in Ordinary class with 8 [40%], The teenage mothers who stopped in tertiary had 2 (10%) of the respondents and, none of the respondents reached the advanced level. Details can be seen from the table above. The researcher found out that very few teenage mothers reached tertiary level of learning because very few parents reconsider returning their daughters who get pregnant to school. And also very few girls learnt a lesson out of pregnancies and got focused.

Concerning the primary and ordinary, the respondents reported that the number was high, because at primary especially primary 5-7 most teens begin to experience adolescent period where there are a lot of physical and intensive development of sexual organs. The adolescent seeks their gratification of

relating to the opposite sex and actually indulging into sex. At the advanced level, respondents said that most teen girls are influenced by peer pressure like boyfriends, boy lovers who teach teen girls sexual intercourse end into pregnancies.

Figure 4.1.2: The graph showing who respondents are staying with.



The figure above reveals that 11 (55%) of the respondents stay their relatives. The fact is teenage mothers get un planned or un wanted pregnancy while they were with their biological parents 1 (5%) stay alone. Details can be obtained from the table still, 7[35%] stay with their husbands due to forced marriage and another 1[5%] stay with others like friends who have the common understanding.

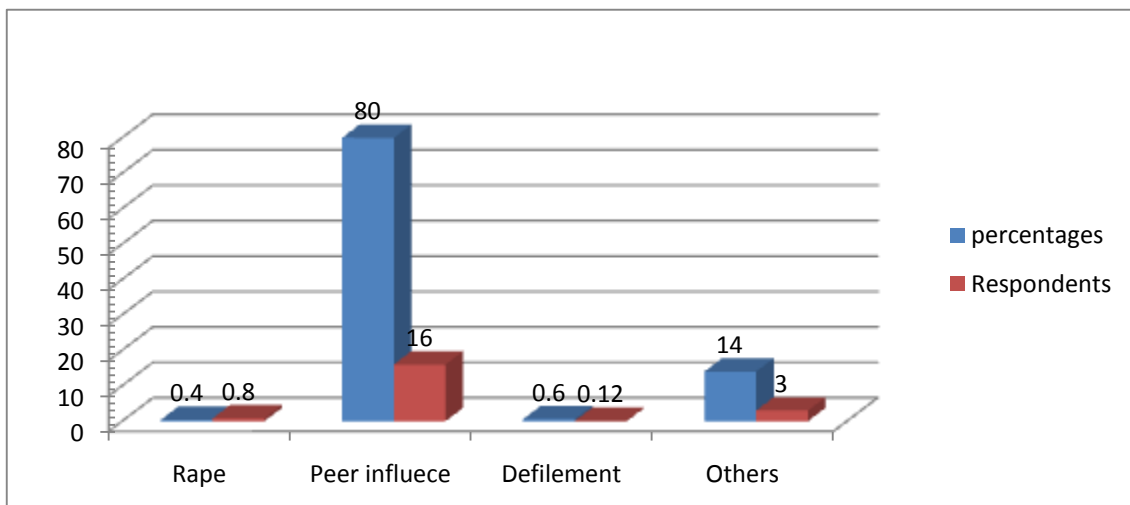
4.1: Causes of teenage pregnancy

According to the findings, a teenage pregnancy is a hindrance to the parents as they try to educate their girls and have a big plan for their future. Teenage pregnancy has made parents think that it is waste of time and money to pay school fees for girls. Teenage pregnancies are a major threat to education, employment, development and better life. Early pregnancy was found to be the common trend to both girls at school and those girls out of school. This has affected parents, the performance of the girls. The number of the

pregnancies was not established easily. Most parents are frustrated whenever UNEB Examinations arrive that their daughters do exams when they are pregnant. This has made some parents to send their daughters to boarding schools in fear of their girls getting pregnant. Others send their children to single sex school in fear of pregnancy.

The study showed that there were many causes of teenage motherhood, among others includes, Sexual abuse like rape, defilement, peer pressure, Exposure to television, love of boyfriends [love for money], lack of parental sex education, harsh treatment of girls, poverty, cultural norms among others. Below is the bar graph showing causes of teenage pregnancy in Otuboi Sub-County.

Figure 4.1.3: A bar graph showing causes of teenage pregnancy



Source: Primary data

The graph above indicates that 16 (80%) of the respondents mentioned peer influence as the highest cause of teenage pregnancy, 3 (14%) of the respondents cited other causes like desire for money. Failure to know danger days and 0.6 (0.12%) of respondents mentioned defilement as one of the cause of teenage pregnancy. While 0.8(0.4%) said they got pregnant

because of rape. 03(14%) are respondents who said cultural norms and poverty were some of the root causes of teenage pregnancy. However, below explained details of some causes of teenage pregnancies in Otuboi Sub-County.

4.1.1 Defilement

During the interviews, defilement had caused disappointments to parents, teenage mothers were open to interviews but bitter, the teachers had tried to counsel them. Teenage mothers had sad experience and parents were worried their daughters in return got pregnant and acquired HIV/ AIDS. Men involved in this act are the old teachers, business men, drivers and soldiers. Both the teenage mothers and some of the parents interviewed were also defiled and raped their lives never looked the same.

Honorable councilor of Otuboi Sub-County Said, defilement is a terrible incident that sets back the wellbeing of a person and education of girls in Otuboi Sub-County. One teenage mother responded being raped and defiled by her uncle and the uncle promised to pay her fees until she completed studies after delivery. But after delivery her uncle rented her a house in the center of Lwala and abandoned her, her life became difficult. One teenage mother responded she was raped and defiled by her father, she said her father had vowed to kill her if she told anyone. This was hard for the head teacher to report to police since the girl seemed unwilling to say more.

More was noted that parents were discouraged with their daughters, instead of condemning the act they parents would condemn their daughters. To others, they responded that girls were meant for sex not age. The issue of defilement and rape has continued to increase, for example the media houses constantly warn parents, teachers and older men of defiling girl children instead guide them to their career. One of the parents Odilet David from Abia village in May [2016] commented

that, teachers no longer respect their profession instead of providing environment for learning and the young boys and girls sort their confusion and grow into responsible people, teachers end up defiling girls and set bad example to the young generation of boys.

Another scenario was cited in Amoru village of a soldier who returned home from Karamoja barracks, defiled a girl and killed her. In that village girls who have been defiled feared to go to school, they live in isolation, some have committed suicide, and some have given up with life. For example Arebo Demeter said, I have feared curses of having sexual relationship and producing with my relative, going for proper married would be the best but with some ones child was hard for her to get a solution for marriage and even school.

To the researcher, measures have to be put in place and implemented to help combat cases of defilement and rape. However so discouraging because some people believe that girls are meant for sex and marriage. This has humiliated the teenage mothers and it is why defilement and rape are constantly reported, law implementers like the police are corrupt and are not helpful, this has made the raped or defiled to keep quiet, parents tend to negotiate outside courts in fear of girls and family name get spoilt.

4.1.2: Peer influence

According to the study, 16 (80%) of the respondents were highly influenced by peer pressure because this age the growing young people have a desire to discover and experience issues of life like, sex, boyfriends or boy lovers, love for money, [peers], while 3 (15%) of the respondents who loved the boyfriends, and 2[10%] of the respondents said that they lacked support by parents, lacked sex education this gap of lack of knowledge about sex was advantageous for peers . This shows that teenage pregnancies are highly influenced by the

issues of love courted for sex without considering the consequences like pregnancy and HIV/AIDS but merely for pleasure. Some respondents reported that at this age the teens can be taken advantage of by teachers, business men, old men who deceive the teenage girls with money.

4.1.3: Poverty

Poverty was noted to be one of the causes of teenage pregnancies. The research revealed that as the respondents go higher in their education, they start declining and some of the reasons given by respondents were that most of them dropped out of school because there was no body to support them in paying school fees and buying other necessary requirements needed by respondents in order to stay in school. This led them to get pregnant in search for financial support and basic needs from old sugar daddies, business men who use them sexually in return for the support they give to the respondents ending up getting pregnant. One respondent 'Itingu' from Abia village, May 2016 said, 'In my family we are three, me and my two children, one is a boy, the other is a girl. We are so poor, my husband chased me, my father chased me from home with my children, I am not working, I have no land, am staying at the center, my children need school, need food, need clothing, dressing, treatment, am finding difficulty in getting money but there are some men who come around they would give little support later demand sex in return now am pregnant".

In spite of the teenage woman willingness to educate and take care her children and herself, monetary poverty and rejection forces her to make no choice.

In the researcher's observation, a good number of teen mothers know the importance of abstinence, education, employment but have no choice because of monetary poverty and rejection that hinders their wellbeing and influences them to

drop out and have monetary sex and hence pregnancies. Besides girls tend to mature early in terms of being responsible and most times are seduced into early sex and early marriages- Eerdewijk (1994, 45), quoted, when women enter into marriage before 18 years, the ``destiny of girls being marriage" and the ``earlier the better" some people said early sex and early marriages is quite common. May be that's why parents chase them from home expecting to marry and join other clans or get for their parents bride price. It has also been noted that poverty leads to the widening of gaps between the rich and the poor due to an equal opportunity of treatment, of education, employment and resources.

Poverty was reported by most respondents as both the consequence and the cause of teenage pregnancy and childbearing. The study found out that teen pregnancy is highly correlated with living in poverty, teens living in poverty were more likely to get pregnant than teens who do not, also teen parents often had lower lifetime earnings and more social problems throughout life. Motherhood for teens represented an acceptable solution that would compensate for a life of moral, family, social hardship and psychological challenge. Therefore, below found looked at respondents on the social challenges faced by teen mothers in Otuboi Sub-County.

4.2: The social challenges faced by teenage mothers in Otuboi Sub-County

The research revealed that most teen mothers were affected by the following social challenges, Social stigmatization and discrimination, affected by diseases, abused by neighbors, harassed by classmates, dropping out of school, chased from home, cultural norms in community, no access for school, forced marriage, lack of parental love, care and counsel among others. However, this research was not able to explain the

details of all these mentioned social challenges faced by teenage mothers of Otuboi Sub-County but a few as seen bellow.

4.2.1 Social stigmatization

According to the research, it revealed that number of the respondents reported stigma and discrimination were particularly the strong consequences of teen pregnancies that disrupts the feelings and education of the youths. Some respondents said that, stigma was a social effect out of improper educational support for teenage girls who returned home pregnant, with children, compromised education of girl child is inculcating a culture of negativity towards girl child education leading them to lose hope. Some respondents noted that, attending school is still important in Uganda, early pregnancies, forced marriages, formal education always manifests as inaccessible goal. Even The children who are able to pursue their professional desire for education, the quality of instruction hinders their performance. Machel, [1993] observed that, psychologically, children are exposed to situations of terror when they are disowned.

Some respondents reported that, the child experiences sadness from unwanted pregnancy, forced marriage this affected their feelings. Resulting to negative impact on the feelings of girls, such as stress increasing the separation anxiety, nightmares, sleep disturbances, decreased appetite, withdrawn behavior and lack of interest in participation.

The study findings from the Midwives, revealed that there were various ways in which teenage mothers are socially stigmatized, 1 midwife cited harassment by parents, 1 mentioned abandonment by their husbands and stress from having left school, 1 mentioned that society looked at these teenage mothers as spoilt ones. One respondent mentioned more than one reason for stigmatized.

Table 4.3: showing how respondents (teenage mothers) are stigmatized

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Rejected by parents/husbands	05	25
No support care or support given	06	30
Chased me from home	04	20
Forced me to stay with a man [into married]	03	15
Affected by diseases	02	06
Abused by neighbors and others	01	04
Total	20	100

Source: Primary Data

In the table above, respondents who received no support from parents constituted 6 (30%), according to the findings 5 (25%) had no access to education 5 (25%), of the respondents talked of being chased from home and 3 (15%) of the respondent were forced to stay with a man who impregnated her, 3(15%) respondents chased . The study revealed that all respondents said they were stigmatized on one way or the other, some said when their parents refused to pay or return them to school, some when their parents and husbands did not give them the care and support needed, some when chased from home, some when forced into married, some when they constructed HIV/AIDS, and some when abused and harassed by neighbors, classmates and society. Those who constructed HIVADS are reported to have gotten stigmatized because they had no hope in life and they would soon die due to infection. Those chased from home got stigmatized because they had nowhere to stay, felt denied and rejected, those respondents whose parents refused to return them to school were stigmatized due to loss of future career, respondents forced into married felt violated, respondents abused and harassed by neighbors, classmates, parents and society felt discriminated, hated, isolated. The respondents

reported this reduced their concentration at school, increased their loss of relationships and love. And Machel, [1993] quoted that, psychologically, children of this nature are exposed to situations of terror when they are disowned.

4.2.2: The challenge in accessing education

The study revealed that most girls dropped out of school due to parents lack of interest to pay their fees, also other neighbors criticized the parents when found paying fees for the a comebacks or spoiled girls, parents not giving their daughters chance to study, stigma as others laughed at them. However the rest of the respondents urged that their social economic challenges consequently ruined their future life as well as the general development of the Sub-County, district and Country as a whole.

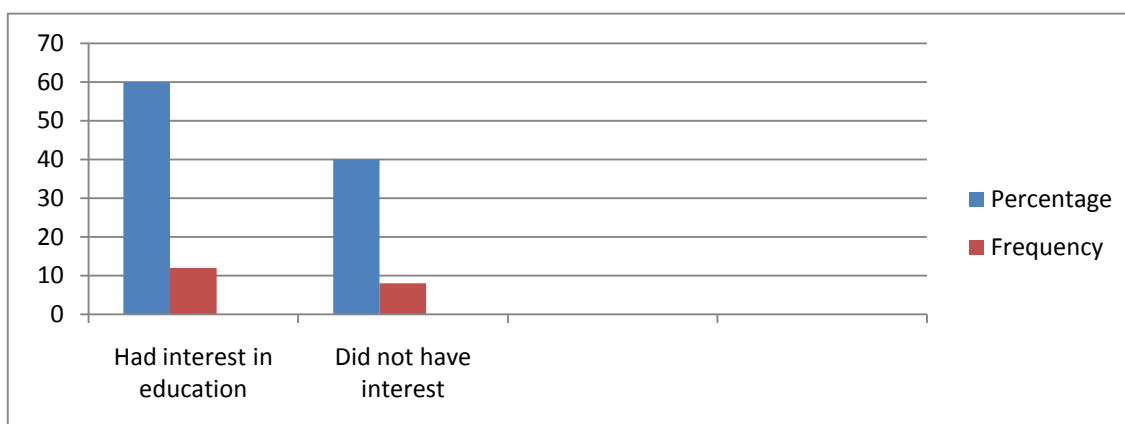
Table 4.4: showing challenges faced by teenage mothers in accessing education

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Difficulty in getting fees	10	75
Parents not giving daughters chance to go to school	5	12.5
Stigma e.g. other students laughed at them	5	12.5
Total	20	100

Source: primary data

As far as problems faced by teenage mothers in accessing education is concerned, the study found out that 10[75%] respondents had difficulty in getting fees due to poverty and they are respondents with high percentage, 5[12.5%] respondent stated that some parents don't give their daughters chance to go back to school in fear of shame from neighbors and friend who laughed at them for paying returning a comebacks to school, 5[12.5%] response was for that respondent who cited stigma out of those students who laughed at them and teased them.

Figure:4.1.4 Respondents out of school



Source: Primary data

The study also indicates that 12(60%) of the respondents out of school had interests in school while 8(40%) of the respondents did not have interests in education. The study revealed that the respondents with 60% are the majority of the respondents who had interest in education but did not have chance due to poverty, frustration of lack of school fees since their economic activity was farming.

Table 4.5: Showing why respondents have not returned to school

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Have no money	09	45
Now married	07	35
Have to look after my children	04	20
Total	20	100

The study reveals that respondents had various reasons why they did not return to school as mentioned above. From the results, 9(45%) of the respondents had no money, 7(35%) of the respondents got married, 4(20%) of the respondents had to look after the children. This can be seen from the table above.

4.2.3: Perception and relationship of the society with teenage mothers

1. Relationship with other students

In the study findings with teachers of Trinity college school May[2916], teachers reported that, the relationship of other students with the respondents indicated that 8 (40%) of the teenage mothers who returned to school were laughed at by other students, 6 (30%) had no response, 5 (25%) of the respondents were teased, and other ways in which other students related with respondents of frequency 1 and 5%, called teenage mothers all sorts of names such as second hand,

off layer. The study showed that teenage mothers culturally were not meant to go back to school after producing but marriage instead.

Another study found from Comprehensive sec, school teachers revealed that 16 (80%) of the respondents associated freely with other students, 2 (10%) of the respondents decided to be alone and 2 (10%) of the respondents provided other ways of relationship such as being in their group due to stigma.

Table 4.6 showing teenage mothers relationships with other students

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Associate freely	12	75
Isolate themselves	04	12.5
Group themselves	04	12.5
Total	20	100

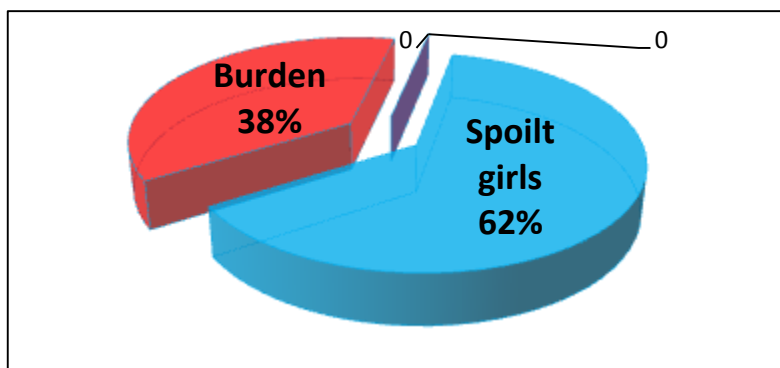
Source: primary data.

The table above reveals that majority of the teenage mothers 12(75%) associate freely with other students because they got counsel from teachers, 4(12.5%) of the students tend to isolate themselves and 4(12.5%) of the respondents gave other ways for example teenage mothers grouping themselves together due to discrimination

2. Relations of teenage mothers with society [neighbors]

The pie-chart and the table showed the perception of teenage motherhood by neighbors as shown in the above reasons for teenage stigma.

Figure 4.1.5: pie-chart showing how society perceives a girl child who has dropped out of school due to pregnancy



Source: primary data

The pie-chart above reveals that a majority of respondents 5(62.5%) looked at pregnant girls out of school as spoilt/immoral while minority of the respondents 3(37%) looked at the teenage mothers as a burden.

Table 4.7: showing the way teenage mother are looked at by neighbors

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Spoilt girls	11	55
Burden	07	35
Others	02	10
Total	20	100

When the respondents were asked to find out how neighbors looked at them during the time of pregnancy, the study found out that 11(55%) said they were regarded as spoilt girls, while 7(35%) said the neighbors look at them as burden and 2(10%) said the community saw them more of reliabilities than useful resource. Giving birth to a child while still a teenager does not grant a girl a high status; instead she is looked down upon and disrespected by men. In Uganda, and Otuboi Sub-County for example, men believe that anyone, who is silly enough to

get pregnant in her teens, must be sexually loose, stupid, ill-bred and now spoilt. Teenage mothers are seen as a means of sexual gratification and men will not spare her a second thought when they have satisfied themselves (Chapati; 2009).

Teenage mothers in the study explained,

"Teenage motherhood does not give any teenager a high status. It is a big stumbling block in our education, gives parents more financial burden and society looks at us as spoilt girls".

Another teenage parent in the same study (*Ibid*: 64) elicited, "giving birth to an illegitimate baby while at school is a disgrace to me, my parents and my community". She added, "The stigma attached to teenage pregnancy tended to cling to the young mother and her family". Two teenage mothers in the same study related that their parents insisted they should terminate their pregnancies as they regarded it as a disgrace.

The matter of teenage motherhood not being a status, but a disgrace was taken further by Dlamini et al (2003). Motherhood is a disgrace to the community (according to Iteso and Kumam culture), which deprived them of many opportunities like participating in the traditional reeds dance and reduced their bridal price. A girl who becomes pregnant before marriage is a disgrace to the family, is regarded spoilt by the community. This fact was also alluded to by a teenage mother in the study Sharon (May, 2016),

"My father did not want me at home and my clan people did not want me from the society because I was pregnant. They said I did not belong to their clan anymore and would have nothing to do with me anymore".

In many countries, having children outside marriage is considered to be a social problem and the children are termed illegitimate, when this happens to teenagers, the matter is considerably worse (De Villiers & Kekesi, 2004). According to

Boulden (2001) teenage mothers portray a bad image on non-parenting learners, they degrade the image of the school and also society.

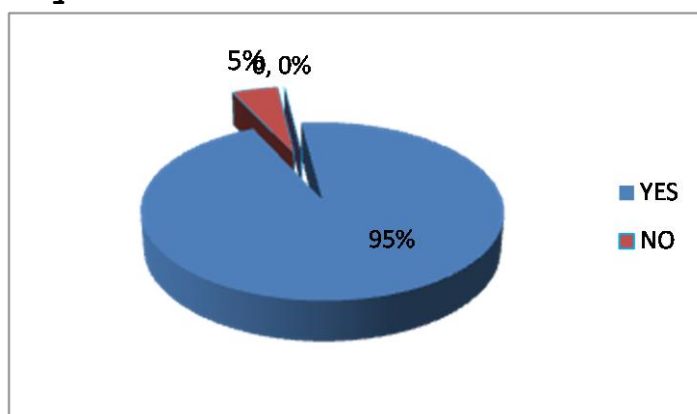
It was not easy to establish why teenage mothers should return to school. But the possible reason was the national gender sensitization which was ushered by the NRM government. For example, one teacher "Mr. Eugu" [May 2016] from Lwala girls school said, 'it is not news for women and girls who give birth to attend school'. After all he contended, 'Museveni liberalized education, anyone can go to school as long as she has the money. "Finance and not age or pregnancy or motherhood determines whether to go to school or not". There is possibility and hope on this that some parents will allow their teen mother daughters to go to school. It was also noted that girls who got pregnant and had children when given second chance they study greatly with commitment. Thou tradition did not accept.

However, some schools were reported secretly admitting once pregnant girls to school. For example, one respondent who had returned to school 'Sharon' said in an interview, "I have learnt a lesson, now am transformed person, am determined to work hard and perform highly. Another one who her parents accepted to take back to school after delivery responded that, I am grateful to my parents, I now understand the problems girls go through with sympathy. However, this looked to be greater development, teenage pregnancies continue to be a problem in Otuboi Sub-County.

4.2.4: Diseases affecting teen mothers

According to the midwives, teachers, parents and teenage mothers interviewed by the researcher, the respondents affected by diseases were married, single and cohabiting teenage mothers as a result of pregnancy or causes of pregnancies as seen from the above. The study revealed that all the respondents suffered from a disease. 18 (90%) of the respondents who were highly affected by diseases were single teen mothers, 1 (5%) of the respondents showed that they were married and 1 (5%) of the respondents were cohabiting. From the findings, the single teenage mothers were the highly affected by diseases because they are most vulnerable to sexual violence like rape, defilement, forces prostitution, sexual mutilation among others. Some respondents said that single teenage mothers usually had no body to support them, are for them and counsel them while the cohabiting and married teenage mothers were few in number those suffered of diseases due to some support given. However the chart below showed the diseases suffered by teenage mothers.

Figure 4.1.6: Pie - chart showing whether the respondents suffered from any disease or not



Source: primary data

The pie chart above reveals that 19 (95%) of the respondents suffered from diseases while 1 (5%) of the respondents stated that she had not suffered from any disease.

Table 4.8: Showing the diseases suffered by respondents during their pregnancy

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Malaria	13	75
Typhoid	01	05
Anemia	00	00
Ulcers	01	05
HIV/AIDS	05	15
Total	20	100

Source: Primary data

The table above reveals that 18(90%) of the respondents suffered from malaria, 1(5%) of the respondents suffered from typhoid, while 1(5%) of the respondents suffered from other diseases such as ulcers, 5(15%) respondents suffered from HIV/AIDS. The study revealed that the majority of the respondents suffered of malaria due to lack of information on prevention since they were isolated, some them said they had financial support to purchase prevention materials like nets, respondents suffered from HIV/AIDS said, they were more vulnerable to sexual abuses, affected by stigma and shame and were exposed to sexually transmitted diseases. And hence their development got returned.

4.2.5: Cultural Norms

Cultural norms were yet another social challenge affecting teen mothers, according to the study. For example, a respondent Odongo [May,2016] from Opilitokvillage, reported that some parents were not interested in taking their children back to school after pregnancy and spend money on them because of cultural biases. Some people believe that educated women have difficulty in being good wives and give their husbands headache, others say it is awash of time and money to take back a girl who has known men to school. In Africa likewise, cultural factors often affect the wellbeing of teenage

mothers. For example, some cultural values and practices are judged to be more important than wellbeing of a person. However, this becomes a crucial need for parents, community leaders, and clan leaders to share about the cultural values and norms with the teenage mothers including their perception on teenage motherhood, early pregnancy, moral behaviors and hence empowering teenage mothers into meaningful development.

The findings also show that cultural norms value against the wellbeing of a person like teenage mother, makes teen mothers more vulnerable to move out of home to lead their lives the way they want. Yet it would be an opportunity to provide them school fees or startup kit program that would train them. And this support would boost their capacity and enables them get involved in productive activities which in return would increase their knowledge, income and improve their standard of living. Thus helping reduce on the causes of pregnancies, the social and economic challenges in the areas of unemployment, crimes, poverty, and violence among others.

Some respondents noted that the cultural leaders of Otuboi needed to promote a culture of tolerance. One respondent Ejotu of Ojukot village, May 2016, said 'one challenge affecting teenage mothers is intolerance of parents to their daughters when they make mistakes'. Some respondents said, if a culture of violation that has lived in the society for years, a fundamental transformation is required therefore. The researcher added that, NGOs, government, educators, parents need to promote a culture of tolerance hence prevent the causes and the social challenges affecting teens.

4.3: Economical challenges faced by teenage mothers

Economically the study revealed that a number of teen pregnancies are as result of rape, incest, violence and long term poverty. The research showed that most individuals and families were vulnerable to long term poverty which led to low

income, deprivation of teen mother's opportunity to develop their capabilities, lack of financial resources to make choices that is necessary for life. For example, respondents with low incomes did not afford to pay child care, food and housing. Machel, [2002] reported that, the consequences of economic challenges of teenage motherhood included not only high rate of illiteracy, ensured poverty and economic despair. Also, this effect extends to increased gender inequality and loss of safety zone and environment that allows children to hope for an improved future and maintain a normal and healthy childhood. Some respondents said that, the young mothers do not own property, those who engaged in small scale business face challenges of husbands or relatives controlling their incomes.

The research found out that the economical challenge affecting teenage mothers in Otuboi included, lack of access to productive assets like Land, Lack of financial resources, and lack of trust to control resources like income, business, Low education, unemployment and poverty.

Table 4.9: Shows economic challenges faced by respondents (teenage mothers)

Challenges	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Unemployment	4	20
Lack of financial resource	1	5
Poverty	2	10
Low education/illiteracy	10	50
Lack of access to productive assets/No control over property	3	15
Total	20	100

Source: Primary Data.

The research revealed that a majority of the respondents experienced all the above economic challenges with Low education had the highest challenge of 10(50%) respondents, seconded by unemployment with 4(10%) respondents affected, 3(15%) respondents affected by lack of access to productive assets, property control, 2(10%) respondents affected of poverty and 1(5%) respondents affected of lack of financial resources. Below explain why the respondents had the above challenges.

4.3.1: Unemployment Challenge

The research findings revealed that, teenage mothers faced the challenge of employment due to government laws of Uganda that do not allow the employment of teenage children of age below 18. The respondents said that thou teenage mothers get jobs but of low payment like baby sitting or house maids, bar maids that exposed them to sexual harassment like rape, defilement leading to early pregnancies and early marriages.

According to the teachers who were interviewed on unemployment, out of 8 teachers stated the reasons for

unemployment as, low level of education, 3 cited biasness by employers to employ mothers with children and one respondent stated lack of information by teenage mothers on existing jobs. Some teachers mentioned more than one difficulty.

The study findings with teen mothers out of school, also revealed that 11 respondents mentioned low level of education as one of the problem faced, 4 cited employers being biased to employ respondents mentioned taking care of their child as an obstacle to accessing employment, 2 respondents stated corruption as one reason and 1 respondent revealed that husbands don't allow them to be employed.

This showed that in all respondents interviewed, low level of education stands out to be the main cause of unemployment for the teenage mothers in Otuboi Sub-County, seconded by biasness by employers to employ teen mothers with children, then refusal by husbands to allow them get employed and Lack of information about job, illiteracy. However, below discusses lack of financial resource by the respondents that is teenage mothers.

4.3.2: Lack of financial support

Lack of financial support was widely cited as a setback in teenage motherhood development. Respondents also said it was the root cause of teen motherhood due to dropping out of school, early pregnancy and rejection by parents, husbands and boyfriends. The parents, midwives and teacher during the interviews reported that, this problem had frustrated teen mothers and their parents. The parents failed to pay fees for their children, so they could not attain their academic /future. One respondent Sharon from Opilitok village [12, May, 2016] said, "I got disappointed when my parents did not provide me with essential needs and did not pay my fees, a sugar daddy answered this problem by providing me the basic

necessities- this led to unwanted pregnancy". Some respondents said, in most cases this led to early marriages.

4.3.3: Long term poverty

The research study revealed that the respondents were more vulnerable to long term poverty due to rejection, denial to have access to productive assets like land refusal of husbands to allow them do business, own property, leading to low income depriving teen mothers an opportunity to develop their capabilities, having a lack of financial resources to make choices that is necessary for life. For example, respondents with low incomes were cited not able to afford to pay child care, food and housing.

4.3.4: Low education

The study findings showed that low level of education of the teenage mothers was a consequence in contrast to those who have attended school. As observed by Eerdwijk that women who have attended school are more capable to defend their rights and have full participation in society development and are capable to earn themselves income. However, those teenage mothers who dropped out of school have limited chances for economic, social development. And hence literacy among all has a positive effect on the economic and social wellbeing of society.

The researcher during the study cited that, the head of state and society

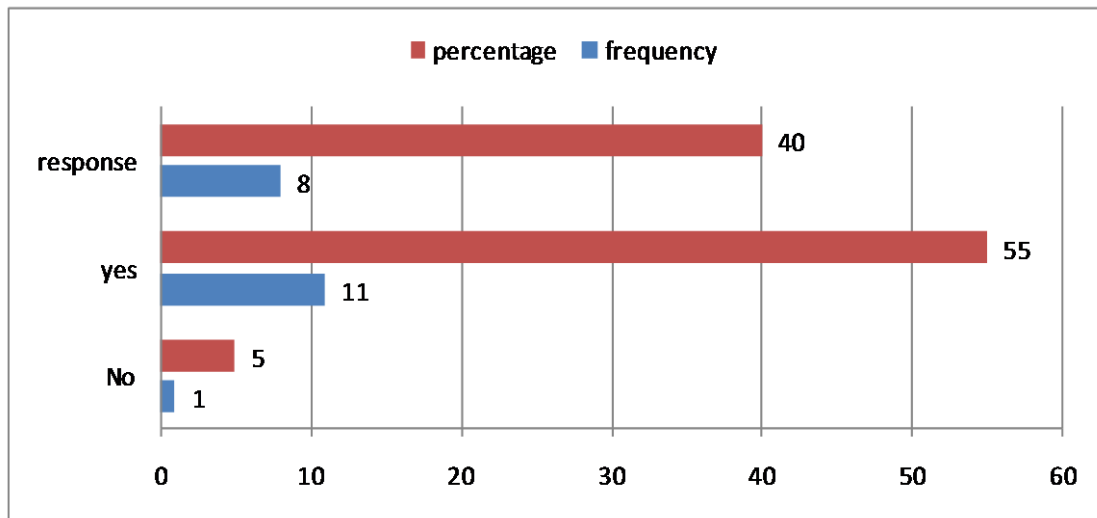
4.3.5: Lack of access to production assets or lack of ownership of assets

The research findings also showed that the respondents had problem of no access to ownership of property and no access to productive assets like land, also the respondents said they have to access to get loans or open up account due to

consideration that they are young. But loaded with much work and responsibility to manage their lives and children. One respondent said they cannot own property; they are mistrusted with in the name of being immature enough to do progressive businesses, to be given startup capital and no ownership of income. Also concerning land, one respondent living with her parents reported that, her parents could not let her own any land, resource and all that is produced was for family.

The researcher noted that, there was a need for the NGOs, government to put in place supportive programs which provide teenage mothers opportunity for technical training and skill building related to small business startup, agriculture and livestock management. Like government of Uganda has programs that encourage youth participation in vocational training in order to learn skills and competence that enables them to lead a productive and a meaningful life. Technical trade like brick laying and concrete practices, carpentry and joinery, tailoring, motor vehicle mechanics, hotel management and catering among others. This would help better teenage mothers for self-employment.

Figure. 4.1.7: Graph showing whether husbands/relatives/friends/ controlled respondents income



The figure above reveals that a majority of the respondents that is, 11 (55%) have their incomes not controlled by husbands / relatives or friend, while 8 (40%) of respondents did not respond to the question.

The study also revealed that 1(5%) of the respondent cited the husband controlled the income because she would misuse the money in excessive drinking and giving out to friends who may not pay back.

4.3.6 Income generating activities engaged by teenage mothers out of school

Among other things that the researcher found in the study was teenage mother's involvement in income generating activities for their livelihood as a result of unemployment, no access to education, abandonment or rejection to mention.

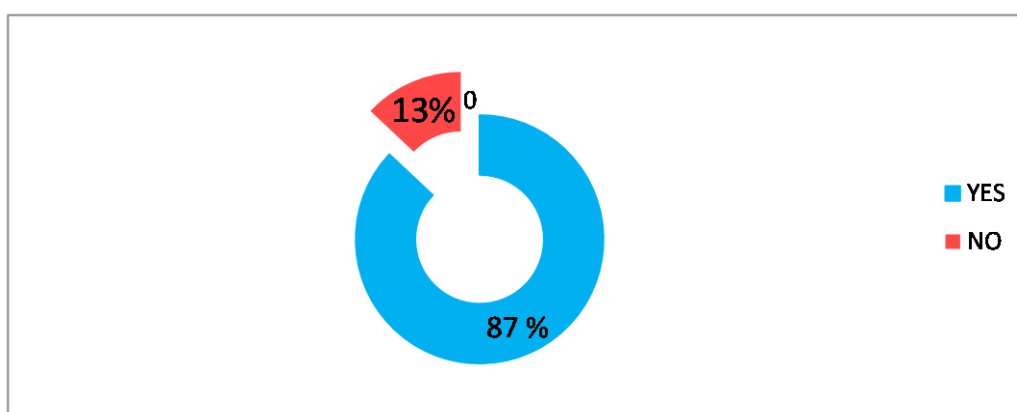
Table 4.10: Showing whether the respondents are engaged in any income generating activity

Respondents	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Has a money generating activity Yes	04	20
Has not money generating activity	13	65
No response	03	15
Total	20	100

Source: primary data

The above shows that 13(65%) of the respondents had no income generating activities, 4(20%) were engaged in generating activities. Among respondents who cited having income generating activities were involved in selling food stuffs, represented by 1(5%) with 1(5%) response was for one who was selling fruits, 1(5%) of the response was for one who engaged in brewing alcohol and 1(5%) of the respondents was involved in playing football so as to earn a living.

Figure 4.1.8: doughnut chart whether teenage mothers are engaged in income generating activities or not



The figure above reveals that 7 (87%) teachers stated that teenage mothers engaged in income generating activities while 1(13%) cited that teenage mothers are not involved in any income activities. 4 teachers mentioned that teenage mothers

are not engaged in brewing alcohol, 3 stated that teenage mothers are engaged in selling food stuff, 2 mentioned young mothers involve in selling second hand clothes, 2 responses were for those who worked as casual laborers in restaurants and 1 response was for those engaged in saloon work. Most of the respondents mentioned more than one income generation activity.

Table 4.11: Types of income generating activities involved by the respondents out of school

Response	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Sales of food staffs	07	40
Tailoring/design	05	25
Brewing	06	30
Charcoal, Clothes, frying cassava	02	5
Total	20	100

Findings in the study indicated that 7[40% of the respondents were involved in the sale of food stuffs, 5[25%] were engaged in tailoring, 6[30%] were engaged in brewing, sold fried cassava, sold charcoal and sold second hand clothes were 2[5%]. Respondents could give more than one income activity. All these are out of unemployment, drop outs and no access to education in order to earn a living.

4.4: Interventions for curbing the teenage mother's challenges

Table 4.12: Showing response on how to curb the causes of pregnancy, social and economic challenges faced by teenage mothers.

Response	frequency	Percentage%
Positive attitude	13	65
Counseling, trainings	6	30
Others	1	5
Total	20	100

The table above reveals that 13 frequency of 65% of the respondents have positive attitude towards government, teachers, religious leaders, parents and the society to be involved in giving appropriate ways of curbing the causes and the challenges of teenage motherhood with 6[30%] supports through mentioning counseling's and training as one way, while 1(5%) of the respondents represented other reasons such as community sensitization. Details as obtained from the table above.

The study findings noted that, the NRM government who has for the 27 years changed the tide of women [all] both the married, singles, teen mothers, girls, widows and unmarried for launching the emancipation of women rights in 1995 constitution article 33 which states that,

Women shall be accorded full and equal dignity of the person with men. The state shall approve the facilitation and opportunities necessary to enhance the wellbeing and fairness to enable women realize their full advancement. Women shall have the right to equal treatment with men and equal opportunities in politics, economic, social activities. The law, culture, customs and traditions against the dignity interest of women or which undermines their status are

prohibited by the constitution. In the same article women shall not be discriminated on the basis of their unique status and natural maternal functions. However, this constitution has not been explained to the people so parents and any other persons do not understand the article.

The research also revealed that, there is need for government, society clan leaders and NGOs to address the diverse livelihoods for teenage mothers through alternative livelihood options like various income generating activities as, bee keeping, tree/orange nursery, business, micro entrepreneurship, fish selling, poultry rearing and selling, tomatoes, onion [small] scale selling to mention. This support would not only increase the household expenditure but provides self-sustainability hence reducing social, economic challenges of teenage mothers. Also the finding is that, it will improve the living standards of teenage mothers who are already in difficult situations, medically, domestically, socially and economically.

CHAPTER FIVE

DISCUSSIONS OF FINDINGS SUGGESTIONS SUMMARY RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

5.0 Introduction

In this chapter, the Main and specific objectives of the study as outlined in chapter one are repeated, followed by the discussion of the key findings identified from interviews. The chapter also compares the findings of this study with that of others, and then looks at the implications of the study to the relevant structures, methodological limitations acknowledged and finally a concluding paragraph followed.

The main objective of the study was to explore the socio-economic challenges faced by teenage mothers in Otuboi sub-county, Kaberamaido district. The specific object of the study were,

To find out the reasons why teenage girls get become mothers in Otuboi sub-county.

To assess the social challenges faced by teenage mothers in Otuboi Sub-County.

To establish the economic challenges faced by teenage mothers in Otuboi Sub-County.

To give appropriate interventions for curbing teenage mothers socio-economic challenges in Otuboi sub-county.

5.1 Discussion of results

The study covered the teenage mothers out of school and those in school and comparison of the results was carried out. For example, whereas for teenage mothers in school by far the most important influence for them to get pregnant is the love

between boy and girl friends, for teenage mothers out of school, by far the most influence is by peers. The difference is that those in school get attracted to the boy friends due to the adolescent period while those out of school tend to get influenced by peers who dropped from school and look at getting married.

As far as stigmatization of teenage mothers is concerned, the findings revealed that 8 (40%) of the respondents were chased from home by their parents while 5 (25%) of the teenage mothers in school were likewise chased from away by their parents. The reason for chasing out teenage mothers from home could be Due to anger that parents develop as they start to look at the resources that they committed to educate those girls go in vain. Some parents end up forcing some of them into pregnancy in order to claim back some resources and to enable the cause of pregnancy, shoulder his responsibilities.

The study also found out that 8 (40%) of teenage mothers who join school tend to be laughed at by other students. This is because these young mothers are perceived as mother who are not expected to enroll for studies, according to schoolmates and are expected to be at home performing duties of a wife. This kind of stigma affects somehow their concentration in school as some of them would want academic help from their fellow schoolmates. This is in accordance to Taylor (1997), who cited fear and loneliness, which leads to social regression. This results of the study on stigma indicated that teachers did not show any kind of mistreatment to teenage mothers who joined school. This was contrary to what Kaufman (2001), noted that some teachers ridiculed these young mothers in front of classmates whenever they did not satisfy the class requirements.

The study also found out that 9 (45%) of the teenage mothers who returned to school had difficulty in payment of fees and

other requirements despite government providing Universal Secondary Educations. This applies to those who are in school constituting 6 (80%) having a problem of always not paying fees or other school requirements in time. Despite government effort of introducing USE, many parents do not have enough money to pay for scholastic materials, uniform, PTA, teacher's welfare, etc.

Neighbors looked at these young mothers as spoiled girls and disgrace to society and this represented 11 (55%), 7 (35%) looked at those girls as a burden to family and society and 2 (10%) said that the community saw them more of liabilities than assets. The reason for neighbors having such a perception is that they saw these girls as people who have violated the society norms regarding marriage, as it is believed that children are got in marriage when one has matured not when one is immature.

According to the results of the study, malaria has been cited as the leading disease commonly affecting the health status of teenage mothers despite the existence of other diseases like anemia, typhoid and HIV/AIDS, malaria is a deadly disease, which leads to still birth, miscarriages, and even death of teenage mothers.

5.2 Conclusion

The study concludes that, majority of the teenage mothers were engaged in various economic activities in taking care of their child/children. In addition, the study concludes that, teenage mothers devote various actions in order to revive their aspiration like getting back to school, engaging in petty business, involving in 70 agriculture and petty business at the same time and seeking for employment in the formal sectors. The study further concludes that socio-economic factors such as age and education of parents/guardians of the teenage mothers, marital status, education and teenage

mother's access to financial credits and family financial status were significantly affecting teenage mother's aspiration achievement. Other socio-economic factors like stigmatization, lack of property ownership and organization support were significantly effecting the teenage mother's aspirations.

Furthermore, the study concludes that majority of the teenage mothers scored below the average score, which means they had unfavorable/negative attitude towards their early motherhood while very few of them scored above the mean showing that they had positive/favorable attitude towards their early motherhood. Majority of the teenage mothers still had some objectives to achieve; they have ambitions to engage in education and employment, although their objectives were generally dampened by mediating social and economic conditions affecting them like stigmatization as it is their mistake to become young mothers. Most of the teenage mothers commit low efforts on their objectives while dedicating most of their efforts on taking care of their child. In turn most of them fail to achieve their objectives as they are not investing enough efforts, an objectives failure occurs when the individual does not anticipate the feedback of her current efforts on her objectives across periods.

5.2 Recommendations

5.2.1 Government level

Since teenage pregnancy is more prevalent in rural areas and in regions with poor economic bases, there is a clear emphasis on rural development strategies which are relevant to them. The government should activate the policy that allows girls to continue with schooling after delivering. As for now the policy is just said in political platforms, in real practice, the heads of schools do not have the provision which allows them to re-admit a girl who was pregnant and gave birth. In

addition, the government should introduce schools which are friendly to teenage mothers, meaning that, the schools which will have the baby care service for the babies of teenage mothers when the mothers are in classes. These special schools will reduce stigmatization as most of the students will be teenage mothers. The government in collaboration with development partners (National and international non-governmental organizations) should design and implement projects for supporting teenage mother's dreams. In their design, they should use appropriate approach for teenage mothers, the kind of approach that would be most successful would be the one which proposes to younger mothers an opportunity to plan for their children's future. The government should support income generation activities especially for teenage mothers, due to economic hardship to some teenage mothers; otherwise such mothers may engage in sex for money, a situation which will put them in danger of HIV infection as well as getting second or more child.

5.2.2 District level

Every District should conduct a simple survey to identify all teenage mothers in their district, instead of using only the list of school drop outs. Each district through its social welfare office should conduct need assessment for teenage mothers so that they are in a position to address their real issues. The districts should promote teenage mothers to formulate their own groups so that the groups can amplify their voices in different ways; the groups can help teenage mothers to be reached by different interventions like financial loans. Districts should ensure availability of counseling or psychotherapist personnel in their districts and villages.

5.2.3 Recommendation to Communities

In order to address the issue of stigmatizing teenage mothers, the community should develop and reinforce by-laws that prohibit stigma to teenage mothers. The by-laws should force families and relatives of teenage mothers to support them get back to school or to their other objectives. Community should motivate teenage mothers to formulate their groups through which they can be supported to develop income generating activities to reduce their poverty and vulnerability to sex business. Through the groups resources like piece of land from the community can be given to teenage mothers.

5.2.4 Recommendation to Family

First the efforts to stop teenage pregnancy should be dealt at family level. When it happens that a teenage become pregnant no one should be pointing fingers at her. It should be taken as an accident so that each of the family members should be responsible for supporting that teenage mother to meet her and her child's needs and dreams. If the family does not be cooperative, teenage mother and her child will never be able to escape from the circle of poverty as will always be lacking education qualifications and work experiences.

5.2.5 Recommendation to Teenage Mothers

Teenage mothers should not be demoralized by the community and other socioeconomic factors; they have their capacities through which they can create their future. Teenage mothers should organize and initiate their groups for supporting each other as well as for income generating activities. Teenage mothers should adhere to counseling provided by parents, organizations and institutions on different aspects of their life.

5.2.6 Recommendations to Teachers

This study should be an eye opener to those educators, who insult and embarrass teenage mothers, because they will realize that these teenage mothers also belong at school. The study should assist educators to accommodate teenage mothers and support them when and where necessary. Educators should be flexible and willing to attend in-service training on how best to support teenage mothers in schools and also to refer them to other structures, such as clinics, social services etcetera, to obtain help.

5.2.7 Recommendation for further research

The study recommends the following for future research:

(a) The findings presented in this study are a result of a cross sectional survey conducted in Kaberamaido District. The major limitation of micro studies is that they cannot be representative of the entire population. In this case, there is a need for more studies on the subject in other parts of the country like areas that are more vulnerable to teenage motherhood to enable generalization of the observations.

(b) This study focused only on teenage mother's aspiration revival, there can be another study to concentrate on how young women/teenage mothers have faced the challenges of meeting their children's needs and fulfilling their own objectives.

(c) Also there is a need to conduct a study on the experiences, objectives and social inclusion outcomes for young fathers.

(d) A study on systematic evaluations of impact of programs for younger mothers, that aims to improve their social, health, educational and employment.

(e) Further research should be in sexual and reproductive health and issues relating to sex among young people.

(f) Research should also be on behavior change and positive prevention of early sex life, including investing health seeking behavior in young people.

5.3 Conclusion

After analyzing the related literature and the research findings of the study, suggestions, recommendation, the following conclusion on the Socio-economic challenges faced by teenage mothers in Otuboi sub county, Kalaki county, Kaberamaido District, can be arrived at:-

As the population increases every year, young people happen to be contributing to this population increases, as they are involved in early sexual activity, which results into dropping out of school and many ending up as teenage mothers. As result of this scenario, they suffer from stigma in society as they are perceived as spoilt girls and also as a burden to respective families. Teasing of young mothers who have returned to school and calling them all sorts of names such as; second hand, off layer, coupled with difficultly in paying of fees and other essential needs affects their concentration and determination to complete school and achieve their dreams.

Teenage mothers who are vulnerable to diseases such as malaria, typhoid, HIV / AIDS, fistula, anemia, hepatitis B and other pregnancy related complications such as obstructive labor, still birth, hemorrhage, etc, which can lead to death.

Teenage mothers who are out of school find it difficult to support themselves and children as more are not involved in income generating activities and cannot access jobs due to their low levels of education hence forcing them to live in the poverty circle.

To reduce teenage mothers from such challenges, parents, teachers, policy makers, and religious leaders non-governmental organizations, community leaders have to join hands to address the causes of early sex life among young people and also come with preventive measures to reduce these challenges. Lastly, the psycho-social program me recovery should be included in the process and counseling service.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Questionnaire for Teenage Mothers

Introduction

Dear respondent, my name is Edatu Anna, I am a student of Uganda Martyrs University pursuing a Bachelors of Arts Degree in Democracy and Development Studies. The researcher is administering this questionnaire to collect data on the topic "A Socio-economic challenges facing teenage mothers in Otuboi Sub-County, Kaberamaido District". You have been selected to take part in this study by responding to this questionnaire. As you have been randomly selected, I highly appreciate for your willingness to participate in this study. There is no correct or wrong answer in this study and participation is voluntary. All the information will be treated as confidential as possible and will only be used for the purpose of this study. Your names will not be used in report of this study.

Background information

Sex: Male Female

Age [i] 12-18

[ii] 18-24

[iii] 24+

Marital status

[i] Single

[ii] Married

Level of education

[i] Primary

[ii] Ordinary level

[iii] Advanced level

TEENAGE MOTHERS OUT OF SCHOOL

Questions: tick where appropriate

1. What are the causes of teenage pregnancy among adolescent?

[i] Rape

[ii] Peer pleasure

[iii] Defilement

[iv] Others specify-----

2. How did you become pregnant?

[i] Influenced by a friend

[ii] I love my boy friend

[iii] Others specify-----

3. When your parents learnt that you were pregnant, what was their reaction?

[i] Chased me out of home

[ii] Counseled me

[iii] Forced me to get married

[iv] Others specify-----

4. How did the neighbors and the people around your home look at you when you became pregnant?

[i] Spoilt girl

[ii] A burden to the family and society

[iii] Others specify-----

5. What should be done to stop stigmatization of teenage mothers?

[i] Have positive attitude towards teenage mothers

[ii] Counsel them

[iii] Others specify-----

6. Do you have interest in education?

[i] Yes

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does your husband/relative/friend control your income? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) No <input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, why? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Wants to show that he is the head of the family (ii) Fear that I will send money to our home (iii) Others specify 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the problems that teenage mothers face in accessing employment? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since you became a teenage mother, have you suffered of any diseases? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) No <input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, which ones are these diseases? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Malaria <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) Typhoid <input type="checkbox"/> (iii) Anemia <input type="checkbox"/> (iv) Others specify.....
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TEENAGE MOTHERS IN SCHOOLS 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Questions: tick where appropriate 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the name of your school? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which class are you? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When you became pregnant, how did your parents react? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Counseled me <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) Provided support <input type="checkbox"/> or me (iii) Chased me from home <input type="checkbox"/> (iv) Others specify.....
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who took you back to school? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Parent <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) Relative <input type="checkbox"/> (iii) Husband <input type="checkbox"/> (iv) Others specify.....
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How do you relate with other students? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) I associate freely <input type="checkbox"/> with them

		(ii) I tend to be alone <input type="checkbox"/> (iii) Others specify.....
•	How do other students relate with you?	(i) Tease me <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) Laugh at me <input type="checkbox"/> (iii) Others specify.....
•	Do you have other challenges you face in your education?	(i) <input type="checkbox"/> s (ii) <input type="checkbox"/>
•	If yes, what are those challenges / problems you face in education?	..... .....
•	Are you engaged in any income generating activity besides education?	(i) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) No <input type="checkbox"/>
•	If yes, which ones are these activities?	..... .....
•	What are the challenges faced by teenage mothers in accessing employment?	..... .....
•	As a teenage mother though at school, have you suffered of any diseases?	(i) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) No <input type="checkbox"/>
•	If yes, which ones are those diseases?	(i) Malaria <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) Typhoid <input type="checkbox"/> (iii) Anemia <input type="checkbox"/> (iv) Others specify.....
•	TEACHERS	
•	Questions: tick where appropriate	
•	What is the name of your school?	.....
•	Does your school have teenage mothers? (students who produced and have returned to school)	(i) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) No <input type="checkbox"/>
•	If yes, how do they relate with other students?	(i) Associate freely with thee them (ii) Isolate themselves (iii) Others specify.....
•	How do other students relate with them?	(i) Tease them <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) Laugh at them <input type="checkbox"/> (iii) Others specify.....
•	How does society perceive a girl who has dropped out of school due to	(i) Spoilt/immoral <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) Burden <input type="checkbox"/>

	pregnancy?	(iii) Others specify.....
•	Do these girls face problems in accessing education?	(i) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) No <input type="checkbox"/>
•	If yes, what are those problems?	..... .....
•	Are these teenage mothers also engaged in income generating activities?	(i) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) No <input type="checkbox"/>
•	What are these income generating activities?	..... .....
•	What challenges do teenage mothers normally face?	..... .....
•	Which diseases do these teenage mothers face?	..... .....
•	MIDWIVES	
•	Questions: tick where appropriate	
•	What is the name of your health center?	.....
•	How many clients do you always receive in a week?	.....
•	Do you have teenage mothers among them?	(i) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) No <input type="checkbox"/>
•	How many of them are teenage mothers?	.....
•	What type of diseases do teenage mothers face?	(i) Typhoid <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) Malaria <input type="checkbox"/> (iii) Anemia <input type="checkbox"/> (iv) Others <input type="checkbox"/> specify.....
•	Do they seek medical attention early?	(i) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) No <input type="checkbox"/>
•	If No, why are they not seeking medical attention early?	(i) Have no money <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) Tend to take <input type="checkbox"/> in killers (iii) Others specify.....
•	Do teenage mothers frequently seek antenatal care?	(i) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) No <input type="checkbox"/>
•	If No, why do they not frequently come for antenatal care?	..... .....
•	How teenage mothers are socially stigmatized?	..... .....

•	In your opinion, what are the problems that teenage mothers face in accessing education?	..... .....
•	Do they engage in any economic activities for their livelihood?	(i) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) No <input type="checkbox"/>
•	If yes, which economic activities are those?	..... .....
•	In your view, what are some of the challenges teenage mothers face in accessing employment?	..... ..... .....
•	PARENTS	
•	Questions: tick where appropriate	
•	Have you ever had a daughter who became pregnant at a teenage age?	(i) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) No <input type="checkbox"/>
•	If yes, how did you react when you discovered that she was pregnant?	(i) Chased her out <input type="checkbox"/> home (ii) Counseled her <input type="checkbox"/> (iii) Forced her <input type="checkbox"/> marriage (iv) Others specify.....
•	Did you take her back to school?	(i) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) No <input type="checkbox"/>
•	If No, why did you not take her <input type="checkbox"/> back to school?	(i) I lost interest <input type="checkbox"/> educating her (ii) Limited resources <input type="checkbox"/> (iii) Others specify.....
•	What do you think are problems faced by teenage mothers in accessing education?	..... .....
•	What income generating activities are teenage mothers engages in for their livelihood in your area?	..... .....
•	What problems do they experience in accessing employment?	..... .....
•	Which kind of diseases are faced by teenage mothers in your community	..........

[ii] No

7. If yes, why then don't you return to school? -----

[i] Have no money

[ii] Now married

[iii] Have to look after the child

[iv] Others specify-----

8. What do you think are the problems faced by teenage mothers in accessing education?

9. With whom do you currently stay with?

[i] With my husband

[ii] Friend

[iii] Relative

[iv] Others specify-----

10. Are you engaged in any income generating activity?

[i] Yes

[ii] No

11. If yes, which ones are these?

[i] Brewing alcohol

[ii] Selling food stuff

[iii] Others specify-----

Appendix 11: work plan for conducting the research

NO	DATE	ACTIVITY
1	JULY 2015	Meeting area LC 1, LC3, H/Teachers, inspectors, Logistics
2	AUG-Dec 2015	Meeting supervisor, Distribution of questionnaire/data collection
3	JAN 2016	Analyzing data, writing and Submitting full draft to supervisor
4	FEB 2016	Return draft for correction and adjustment from UMU
5	MAR-JUN 2016	Correcting draft, editing and final hand in for examination
6	JULY 2016	Return Dissertation for final correction
7	AUG 2016	Submit the final spiral Bound copy and a soft copy on a CD.

Appendix 111: proposed budget for research

NO	PARTICULARS	QUANTITY	UNIT COST	AMOUNT
1	Transport, field and UMU	12 Days	40,000	480,000
2	Stationary	10 Pcs	2,000	20,000
3	Ream of paper		20,000	20,000
4	Secretariat work	60 Pages &2Pcs	100& 10,000	80,000
5	Meals in the field& UMU	12 Days	15,000	180,000
6	Research assistant	1 Person	100,000	100,000
7	Miscellaneous			88,000
	Grand Total			968,000

Appendix IV: Research Introductory Letter