New Yolk Times

Dear Editor,

It has come to my attention that the rates of adolescents’ pregnancies have increased in our community. It is devastating to see very many pregnant teens when one walks around the community. Pregnancy is good when it is gotten at the right time of the human growth. At the adolescent age, the girl has a lot to achieve in her future, and thus the pregnancy may ultimately impair their dreams for the future. The first obvious person affected by the pregnancy is the victim (girl) because she may not be able to continue with her normal activities such as attending school, going out with friends, among others. The pregnancy also causes a psychological problem to the girl hence making it difficult for them to live peacefully in the community. Likewise, the family and the community, in general, is affected when a girl becomes pregnant during the adolescent age. One of the ways through which we can sustain our community development is by ensuring that all the future generations will be educated and hence secure jobs for themselves. The early pregnancy hinders the girl from accessing education and hence dragging the community and family behind.

 One party can not offer the solution to the pregnancy problem; rather it requires all the involved parties to play their parts in curbing the early pregnancies. The parents, for example, have a role in teaching their children about what behaviors are acceptable, consequences of early pregnancy, choosing friends, among others. Most of the early pregnancies are avoidable if the parents pay a role in educating and monitoring the behaviors of their children. For instance, the parents who allow their girls to go to parties until night in clubs with boys put their girls under high risks of getting pregnancy.

 The government and local authorities also have a role to play in curbing the early pregnancy cases. The local authorities should pass laws that limit the time when the teenagers can be outdoors, particularly during the night. The government should also declare some areas such as partying in clubs as a no-go zone for the adolescents. For instance allowing the adolescents to attend parties in clubs until late night would likely expose them to the risk of having sex and consequently resulting in unnecessary pregnancies.

 The teachers also have a role to play in curbing the menace. It is a fact that all adolescents are school-goers. The teachers should take the responsibility of teaching the children the risks that they present themselves under when they engage in sex at their age. They should explain the girls that; early pregnancy would most likely cost them their education, and thus rendering them unproductive to the community in the future.

Finally, the adolescents have a role to play too. The girls should take the responsibility of avoiding the high risk areas. For instance, the girls should avoid visiting the boys in their homes or bedrooms when they are alone at home. The girls do contribute to their pregnancies, by knowingly or unknowingly putting themselves in risky scenarios such as visiting boys in their houses.

According to a study by the Department of Health & Human services, there were 24.2 births for every 1000 adolescent girls. This was equivalent to 249,078 children born to the adolescent girls. The study further revealed that over 90% of the girls were not married, and they conceived when they were still students. The author pointed that, a significant percentage of girls who give birth during their adolescent age, hardly resume schooling after the birth. From these statistics, it is clear that the adolescents’ pregnancy is a major problem in our communities, and thus, there is a need for a quick remedy.

Sincerely,

Jiayi Zhou